

# DISTRICT 303



## eNEWS



Connect with  
us!

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*February 8, 2019*

## INCubator Students Present their MVP Pitches

St. Charles Community Unit School District 303 introduced a new program for the 2018-2019 school year aimed at providing students with an authentic learning experience around entrepreneurship -- everything from conceiving, developing, and launching a startup business. The program was launched at both St. Charles East and St. Charles North high schools.



Over the course of three days this week, INCubator students from both high schools presented their Minimum Viable Product Pitches to a panel of investors who provided feedback about the products. In addition, students hoped to earn seed money from the investors to launch their businesses. School and community members who serve as mentors and coaches also evaluated students on the content and delivery of their pitches.

The process that got students to this point began in September when students formed groups and discussed everyday problems and ways to solve them. Through further

research, surveys, and small focus groups, students developed solutions in the form of an innovative product or unique service. Following the business model, students then created a presentation about their start-up businesses.

The presentations this week included an overview of the company, the identified problem, and proposed solution, customer persona, an analysis of their competitors, the reasoning behind their unique value proposition, market size, their financial model, the experimentation or implementation plan, and their closing statement, which outlined their next steps and request for seed money to launch their business.

Students also designed and printed business cards, presented their company websites and logos, and even displayed prototypes of their products.

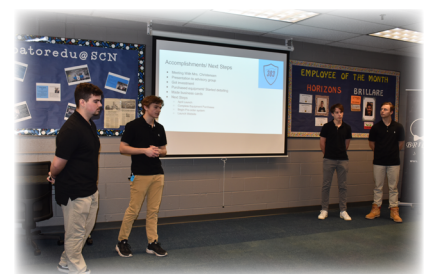
Some of the companies hoped to sell innovative products, such as "Sole Switch," a shoe-making company with removable outsoles for casual and athletic shoes; and "Activ-Aide," focused on creating a golfing tool for individuals with disabilities and individuals with back pain to encourage them to continue to be active. They hoped

to receive funding to attend the Chicago Golf Show to do more research and network. They also have plans to use the 3D printers to construct an improved prototype of their product.

Other companies focused on a local level, such as "303 Auto Service" which hoped to start a mobile car washing and detailing service in St. Charles; and "Set My Future" which is an online site that assists students and young adults with finding their first job and providing assistance with their college and career paths.

After the presentations, the panel of investors and other students had an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

"I have seen huge progress from the students," said Rafi Yitzhaki, a business mentor for St. Charles North students. "I like how INCubator teaches students the step by step process of building a business. Students are thinking differently and developing and growing their ideas."



# Bell-Graham Slingshot Project



After reading the book *Dogzilla* about a dog whose mission it is to break up the First Annual Mousopolis Barbecue Cook-Off, 2nd grade students at Bell Graham Elementary School applied a Project Lead the Way Design Process to design and construct “bone slingers.”

Students gathered in groups to brainstorm and design a slingshot which would allow them to launch dog bones away from “Mousopolis” to save the citizens in the story from a giant dog. Materials used for the construction included metal hangers, cardboard tubes, rubber bands,

plastic spoons and tape. The groups all took different approaches to make their “bone slinger.” Some students simply used a cardboard tube, plastic spoon and some tape, while others used all the materials provided to make an intricate catapult.

As they excitedly tested their bone slingers, students made adjustments to their designs based on how far the bones flew. Each trial was recorded so student groups could compare the launches. Students used their iPads to video tape the launches and share with classmates and parents.



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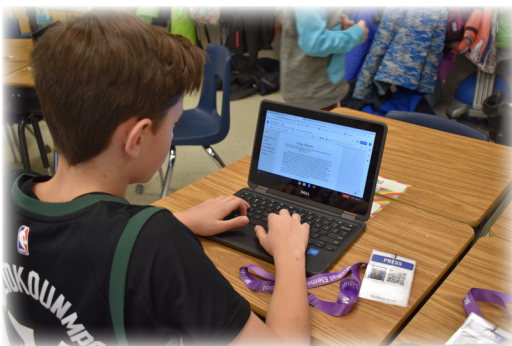
## Munhall’s *Havlik Herald*

Fifth grade student journalists in Mrs. Havlik’s class are using their writing instructional time to write articles that are published in Munhall Elementary School’s *Havlik Herald*. This online newspaper allows students to continuously write and publish interesting stories that keep the Munhall community informed.

The class holds daily “staff meetings” where they share ideas for stories and current school events. For the stories, some students focus on academics and the school curriculum, while others write about movies and books, projects from other classes, after school activities, and sports.

During the writing and planning time, students also prepare questions and take advantage of their lunch time and other classes to interview students and staff to write their stories.

As part of the newspaper staff, three students are assigned the role of editors to check and correct the articles before they are published online. Mrs. Havlik also created “press passes” for students with a QR Code to allow others to easily access the *Havlik Herald*.



Their news and feature stories focus on answering the basic questions of “who, what, when, where, and why,” and follow journalistic guidelines learned in class. “The students are constantly writing and improving, and this gives them an opportunity to write with a purpose in mind,” said Mrs. Havlik.





# St. Charles East Hosts Workplace Olympics, Mock Interviews

St. Charles East High School hosted the second annual D303 On the Job Training Workplace Olympics and Mock Interviews on February 6. Transition students from both high schools gathered in the little theater and moved between stations that were set up with a variety of work-related tasks.

Students brought their prepared resumes to the mock interviews, where they cheerfully answered questions about themselves, the jobs on which they had worked, and their future goals.

In the practice stations, students participated in hands-on activities like sorting mail and organizing office supplies. In the restaurant station, students learned how to set a table, wrap utensils, and practice good hygiene in the kitchen.



As students successfully completed the required activities based on a task analysis checklist, coaches signed their “medals.” Coaches verified that students followed instructions, completed the tasks depending on the individual stations, and evaluated their individual approach to the tasks.

This event allowed students to learn from each other by working in groups and individually. As the students learned to follow instructions, coaches provided feedback and encouraged them to continue to set personal and career goals.

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## Constellation Making at Munhall

Miss Schwartz’s 1st grade class had a blast learning about stars this week. They ended their week with a fun constellation making project.



# Virtual Enterprises International Students

Virtual Enterprises International students from both St. Charles North and St. Charles East High Schools took part in the 2019 Great Lakes Regional Conference and Exhibition at the Donald E Stephens Center on February 1. Students competed against other high school Virtual Enterprise International firms, and also participated in a trade show. The trade show results from North and East can be found below.

## St. Charles East:

### Clever Contraptions:

- 1st place: HR
- 1st place: Newsletter
- 2nd place: Website
- 3rd place: Sales Material



### Electric Avenue:

- 2nd place: Salesmanship
- 3rd place: Website

## St. Charles North:

### Brillare:

- 3rd Place: Finance and Acct Competition

### Horizons:

- Top 10: Website Competition





# Ferson Creek UV Structures



In conjunction with their study of the sun, the moon, and the stars, and as a final project in their Project Lead the Way design process, first grade Ferson Creek students designed and constructed UV-resistant structures to protect animals from the sun's UV rays. All the materials students used were found in the LRC Makerspace. Students did research about different types of animals, and designed unique structures tailored to their needs, such as smaller ones for dogs or horses, and taller ones for elephants and giraffes.

Students used a variety of materials from the makerspace in the LRC, such as cardboard boxes, egg

cartons, tape, glue, aluminum foil, paper plates and cups, and cardboard tubes to construct their shelters. Some structures resembled houses or barns, while another had robot-like features.

During the process, students had to solve problems that arose with their initial designs. Structures that were not as sturdy as they needed to be were modified by adding elements to support the ceiling, such as cardboard tubes and tape. Other students had to create entryways or close off exposed areas. Many students also added aluminum foil all around their structures to help reflect the sun's rays.

To test the effectiveness of the structure against UV rays, students used color-changing beads and pipe cleaners to make the animals. After putting the animals inside, they exposed the structures to the sun, which allowed students to evaluate how well their structures worked by watching beads change color.

The project provided students with the opportunity to critically think and solve initial design problems they encountered, and work as a team to build a structure that kept their animals safe from the sun's UV rays.



## STCEF Scholarship Deadline - *March 8*



Since 2003 the St. Charles Education Foundation annually awards scholarships to two graduating seniors at each of the two high schools, St. Charles East and St. Charles North. The monetary value of each scholarship will be a minimum of \$1000.00. In order to qualify, seniors are expected to further their education at a 2-year or 4-year college or university, vocational school or post high school institution of higher learning.

The scholarships are a one-time non-renewable award which will be granted on the basis of overall merit. The scholarship applications are available at St. Charles North and East High School guidance offices and [www.stced.org](http://www.stced.org).

## St. Charles Education Foundation's Annual Gala

Mark Your Calendars Now for our Annual Gala and Distinguished Alumni Awards on Saturday, April 6th at Hotel Baker. Hope to see you there!

Already know you can't make it? Please DONATE WHAT YOU CAN to plant the seeds for a beautiful future for D303 schools and students!

Donate to our cause, and find out more about who we are, and all we do, at: [www.stced.org](http://www.stced.org)

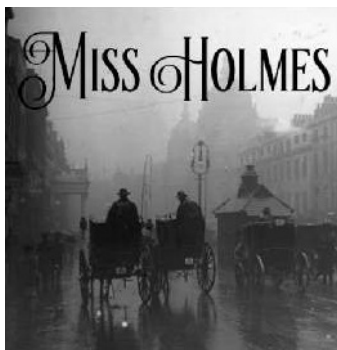
More information on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GSCEF/>



Please verify that your contact information is correct in [Home Access Center \(HAC\)](#) to ensure you receive emergency communication alerts from District 303.

## St. Charles East Winter Play



Remaning Dates:

- Saturday 2/9 at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday 2/10 at 2:00 p.m.

Adult: \$7.00

Senior: Free!

Student/Child: \$5.00



Tickets are available in the [D303 webstore](#) and may also be purchased at the box office on the day of the show. Box office opens one hour prior to showtime.

## NEW 9th Grade Dental Examination Requirement

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, Illinois school code will now require students entering ninth grade to have a dental examination before May 15th of their freshman school year. **Freshman class of 2023 need to submit proof of a dental exam by May 15, 2020.** [Click here](#) download a dental form from the District website.

Illinois Department of Public Health  
PROOF OF SCHOOL DENTAL EXAMINATION FORM

To be completed by the parent/guardian (if applicable)

|                      |                             |          |                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Student's Name: Last | First                       | Middle   | DOB: Month/Day/Year |
| Address: Street      | City                        | ZIP Code | Telephone           |
| Name of School:      | Grade Level:                | Gender:  |                     |
| Parent or Guardian:  | Address of parent/guardian: |          |                     |

To be completed by dentist:

One Health Status (check all that apply)

☐ Yes ☐ No: **Dental Exam/Visit Present**

☐ Yes ☐ No: **Dental Examination / Restorative History** — is a record of dental treatment (fillings, crowns, etc.)

☐ Yes ☐ No: **Unrestored Teeth** — is a record of teeth that are not restored (fillings, crowns, etc.)

☐ Yes ☐ No: **Soft Tissue Pathology**

☐ Yes ☐ No: **Malocclusion**

Treatment Needs (check all that apply)

☐ **Wiggle Treatment** — involves extra visits, additional dental work, braces, or surgery

☐ **Restorative Care** — involves crowns, bridges, etc.

☐ **Preventive Care** — involves dental sealants, fluoride, etc.

☐ **Other** — (specify treatment):

Please note: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Dentist: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Oral Health, 515 N. Jefferson St., Springfield, IL 62761  
217-785-4888 • TTY: 217-785-4888 • 800-547-3463 • [www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us)



# Parent Satisfaction Survey - *Feb. 15 Deadline*

Annually, District 303 conducts a satisfaction survey that gives us meaningful feedback from our students, teachers, and parents. For the last decade, we have administered a local survey that has provided us with comparable data.

This year, as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) we will now be participating in the statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.



Please [click here](#) to take the survey. We appreciate your participation in this anonymous tool used to gather information about our schools.



Attain Excellence ■ Learn with Passion ■ Live with Integrity



## Want to stay current with D303?

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**FREE**

Top stories

Easily connect with  
teachers & staff

Integrate with the  
all-in-one calendars



**Search St. Charles CUSD 303 to download**

The official St. Charles CUSD 303 app gives you a personalized window into what is happening at the district and schools. Get the news and information that you care about and get involved.



## PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING BULLYING: LESSONS LEARNED & RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

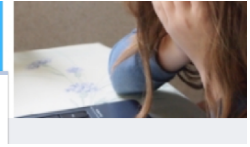
*Rescheduled date* - 3/4/19

Thompson 6th Grade Cafeteria

6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Parent University Bullying

Preventing & Addressing Bullying:  
Lessons Learned and Resources for  
Parents



Faculty from the Psychology Department at Northern Illinois University will present practical information from their research and their work as part of a U.S. Department of Education training grant "Project Prevent and Address Bullying." Thompson Middle School is partnering with NIU on this grant project, bringing resources that will be shared throughout the district. The faculty will present helpful knowledge, tips, and resources parents can use when navigating bullying situations.

[Click here to register.](#)

La interpretación en español estará disponible durante la presentación.

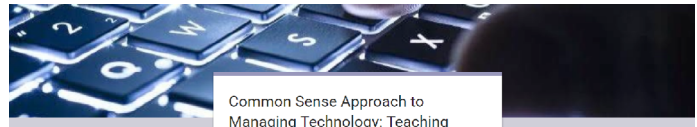
[Detalles y Registro](#)

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## BALANCE & BOUNDARIES: MANAGING TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LIVES

2/20/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Wredling Middle School Cafeteria



Technology is a part of all our lives. From phones to laptops to video games, we are more "connected" or "plugged in" than ever. How do we help our children (and ourselves) find balance when it comes to the use of technology? During this Parent University we will share tools and strategies to help create balance and set boundaries. The night will feature a panel as well as opportunities for interactive discussion. Come "hang up, and hang out"!

[Click here to register.](#)

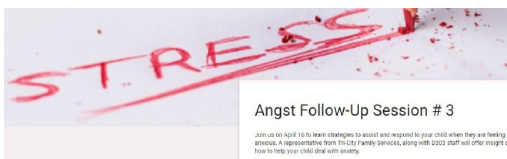
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## FOLLOW-UP ANGST SESSION #3

4/16/19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wild Rose LRC

Join us on April 16 to learn strategies to assist and respond to your child when they are feeling anxious. A representative from Tri-City Family Services, along with D303 staff will offer insight on how to help your child deal with anxiety.

Parent  
University



Angst Follow-Up Session # 3

Join us on April 16 to learn strategies to assist and respond to your child when they are feeling anxious. A representative from Tri-City Family Services, along with D303 staff will offer insight on how to help your child deal with anxiety.

Parent  
University  
Angst Follow-Up #

[Click here to register.](#)



# Community Backpack



## Upcoming School Board Meetings

### February 11

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

### February 19

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.

### February 21

Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

### March 11

School Board Meeting @ Bell-Graham 7:00 p.m.

### March 18

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.

### March 21

Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

### April 1

Policy Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

## 2018-19

## Calendar Highlights

### February 18

Presidents' Day Holiday -No School

### February 20

Parent University: Managing Technology in our Lives

### February 21

Parent University: Mindful Parenting Book Study

### February 28

End of 2nd Trimester (Elementary Schools)

### March 1

Teacher Institute Day - No School

### March 7

Parent University: Mindful Parenting Book Study

### March 22

End of 3rd Quarter (Middle, High School)



## We're Hiring Substitutes!

### Did you know?

We are ALWAYS hiring:

- Substitute teachers (college degree required)
- Substitute teacher aides (no college degree required)
- RN certified nurses

NEW this year:

- The pay rate has increased to \$100 daily for teaching. There is also a loyalty bonus that increases the daily teaching rate to \$125 after 31 days.
- The pay rate has increased to \$140 daily for long-term teaching.
- The pay rate has increased to \$92 daily for Teacher Assistants.

### Join Our Team!

If you are interested in substituting, please visit <https://bit.ly/2M4dU4Y> to view our substitute handbook or contact our District Substitute Coordinator at [Julie.Wenger@d303.org](mailto:Julie.Wenger@d303.org) for more details.



# Revised 2018-19 School Calendar

As result of the latest Emergency Days used, the last day of school is now June 7.

**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303**  
201 South 7th Street, St. Charles, IL 60174

July

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

August

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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September

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

October

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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

November

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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

December

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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |

## 2018-2019 School Calendar

### AUGUST

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Teachers' Institute Days (No Students) ..... | August 20, 21 |
| First Day of Classes .....                   | August 22     |
| Teachers' Institute Days (No Students) ..... | August 31     |

### SEPTEMBER

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Labor Day Holiday ..... | September 3 |
|-------------------------|-------------|

### OCTOBER

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| School Improvement Day (No Students) .....      | October 5  |
| Columbus Day Holiday .....                      | October 8  |
| End of 1st Quarter (Middle, High Schools) ..... | October 26 |

### NOVEMBER

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| End of 1st Trimester (Elementary Schools) .....      | November 9      |
| K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students) .....  | November 19     |
| K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students) .....   | November 20     |
| High School Teachers' In-service (No Students) ..... | November 20     |
| Non Attendance Day (Offices Open) .....              | November 21     |
| Thanksgiving Break .....                             | November 22, 23 |

### DECEMBER

|                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Last Day of School in 2018 ..... | December 21             |
| Winter Break .....               | December 24 - January 4 |

### JANUARY

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| School Resumes .....                                      | January 7  |
| Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday .....                      | January 21 |
| End of 2nd Quarter (Middle, High Schools) .....           | January 17 |
| Teachers' Work Day (Middle, High Schools No students) ..  | January 18 |
| Teacher Institute Day (Elementary Schools No Students) .. | January 18 |

### FEBRUARY

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Presidents' Day Holiday .....                   | February 18 |
| End of 2nd Trimester (Elementary Schools) ..... | February 28 |

### MARCH

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Teacher Institute Day (Middle, High School No Students) ..... | March 1       |
| Teacher Work Day (Elementary Schools No Students) .....       | March 1       |
| End of 3rd Quarter (Middle, High Schools) .....               | March 22      |
| Spring Break .....  | March 25 - 29 |

### APRIL

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| School Resumes .....  | April 1  |
| K-5 Afternoon Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5 in classes in AM)<br>(K-5 ONLY-- No students in PM) ..... | April 18 |
| School Improvement Day (No Students) .....  | April 19 |

### MAY

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Memorial Day Holiday ..... | May 27 |
|----------------------------|--------|

### JUNE

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| D303 HS Graduation Day .....                             | June 2  |
| Last Day for Students with four Emergency Day used ..... | June 7  |
| Last Day for Students if 5 "Emergency Days" used .....   | June 10 |

January

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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

February

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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |

March

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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

April

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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

May

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

June

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|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
|    |    |    |    |    |