



Connect with  
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April 18, 2019



## Moose on the Loose at Ferson Creek



“Oh no! Is Moose on the loose? Nope! He’s not loose, he’s just giving a speech to become president of the dogs!” reads one of the stories Mrs. Marvin’s first-grade class wrote about her dog, Moose, which can be found in the new book they created, *Is Moose on the Loose?*

“During their writer’s workshop time, students wrote stories about my adopted dog, Moose,” said Mrs. Marvin. Every student wrote a unique story and adapted original pictures of Moose into his different scenarios and activities. They also created other characters to be part of the stories that followed Moose’s adventures around the world.

The stories included Moose playing with other dogs and eating ice cream, Moose jumping on a trampoline, and even Moose enjoying tacos at a fiesta in Mexico. They each created their own graphics and, with the toolkit they received, they were able to design the book using different layout templates and formatting options.

Students excitedly showed their stories to one another when they finally received the book on April 10. The book also includes a “Meet the Authors” section and they beamed as they each saw their own picture printed in the book they created, exclaiming they were going to read it with their siblings and parents that same night.

The LRC also received a copy of the book for the Ferson Creek community to enjoy.





# 5th Annual HOPE Hustle

The rain did not stop the more than 400 St. Charles students, staff, parents, and community members from participating in the 5th Annual HOPE Hustle on April 7. The goal of the 5K Hope Hustle is to bring the St. Charles community together, promoting positivity through teamwork, as well as promoting suicide prevention efforts and awareness.

Participants chose to either run the traditional 5K Race or take part in a 5K Fun Run/Walk by jogging, walking, or running. Kids from kindergarten through 8th grades were able to take part in the Youth Mile (a one-mile race).

The race began at the Norris Stadium track and participants raced around the St. Charles East campus. Every half mile, volunteers set up different “prize stations” where they gave away items such as Hope bandanas, clappers, sunglasses, and colorful lei necklaces that filled runner’s “Hustle Swag Bags.”

Volunteers and spectators all cheered the racers to the finish line, where they received medals and trophies. HOPE Club encourages students, staff, parents and St. Charles community members to support their suicide prevention efforts and awareness by participating in the different projects, initiatives, and events throughout the school and community.



# The Very Hungry Caterpillar at Ferson Creek

Ferson Creek kindergarten and first-grade students retold the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle using coding BeeBots.

“On Monday he ate through one apple but he was still hungry” read Mrs. Ignoffo, LRC Media Specialist. Students listened to the story and followed along with the illustrations of apples, pears, strawberries and other fruits that decorate the walls of the reading room. They counted everything the caterpillar ate throughout the story and answered questions Mrs. Ignoffo asked.

Then, students had an opportunity to retell the story by coding BeeBots. As they coded, students counted and learned to program the BeeBot to reach a different fruit on a checkered mat. They could not contain their



excitement as they coded correctly and watched each BeeBot reach every fruit like the caterpillar.

## Richmond Chamber Orchestra Visits Davis

Richmond’s Chamber Orchestra visited Davis 2nd grade students on April 11 and shared their knowledge about orchestra and music along with a performance directed by Mr. Pettit.

Richmond 4th and 5th-grade students played pieces, such as “The Nutcracker” and “America.” Davis students enthusiastically clapped and cheered as they recognized several of the melodies while other students sang along.

Mr. Pettit taught students about musical elements, including those in Italian, which students repeated with energy. “When we pluck our instruments like we just did, that’s a very funny Italian word. Repeat after me: pizzicato,” he exclaimed.



He shared information about the orchestra and introduced the students to the different families of instruments being played. After each piece, one student explained the characteristics that make each instrument unique, demonstrating the instrument’s individual sound.

Students learned how the violin, the viola, the cello, and the bass, all work together as essential parts of the group.



# D303 Students Represent the U.S. in Cheer Competition

Getting to compete at Disney World is the dream of cheerleaders around the country. Several District 303 students are part of an elite squad of special needs cheerleaders who will be doing just that later this month when they represent the United States at the World Cheerleading Championships.

Jillian Dennis (St. Charles North '21), Jocie Connolly (D303 Bridges Transition student), and Sophia Spizzirri (St. Charles North '18 and current Mid-Valley SAIL transition student) are part of the Iconic Allstars Wildcats. This is the first year that the International Cheer Union has included special abilities divisions in the competition, and the Wildcats team was one of the four teams chosen. The girls will have the opportunity to march in the opening ceremonies, compete on a world stage, and meet cheerleaders from all over the world.

"We are extremely excited about the representation we will have in the Special Olympics division at the ICU Championships. These athletes, most with disabilities, work tremendously hard and we are happy to assist them to showcase their passion, ability, and energy on the global stage!" says Tony Nash, Director of US National Teams for USA Cheer.



## ATTENTION

# PTO MEMBERS & PARENT GROUPS



When planning end of the year celebrations that include food, please be mindful of students who have food allergies, diabetes or other health issues related to food.

Thank you!



## Parent University Survey

Please take a few moments to complete a short survey that will assist D303 in creating meaningful programming during our 2019-20 Parent University series. We appreciate your assistance in planning sessions that meet the needs of you and your family.

### [SURVEY](#)

A screenshot of a survey form titled "Parent University Survey 2018-2019". The form includes a header with a logo and a list of questions. The first question is "Did you attend any Parent University sessions during the 2018-2019 school year?" with radio button options for "Yes" and "No". The second question is "If you answered no, why not? (check all that apply)" with a checkbox for "I didn't have time to attend".



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## Corron Students Attend ESO Concert

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**T**hird, fourth, and fifth-grade Corron students who attended the Elgin Symphony Orchestra's Ainsworth Concert for the Youth on April 3 were exposed to symphonic pieces from around the globe.

The melodies represented every continent and included the piece "Beneath" from female composer, Alex Shapiro. The piece included real whale sounds, which made for a unique and extraordinary learning experience. The program was led by the ESO resident conductor, Stephen Squires, and it also featured young violinist, Claire Arias-Kim, who played a flashy piece by Polish composer, Henryk Wieniawski.

Third grade students were able to connect the music and program to the research they had done in class about different countries. Likewise, the 4th and 5th graders enjoyed seeing all of the instrument families playing together.

"Seeing the orchestra play helps motivate students to continue to practice their own orchestra or band instruments, which allows them to improve every day," said Corron and Ferson Creek Orchestra teacher, Mrs. Saldana.

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## Congratulations D303 Educator of Year Nominees

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REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
KANE COUNTY

The Regional Office of Education holds an award ceremony celebrating education in Kane County on an annual basis. Nominees are "exceptionally skillful and dedicated individuals...have the respect and admiration of students, parents and co-workers...[and] play an active...role in their communities as well as in the schools," states the [Kane County Regional Office of Education](#) website. Congratulations to our D303 Educator of the Year Nominees being recognized at the Annual Kane County Educator of the Year Banquet on May 3, 2019.

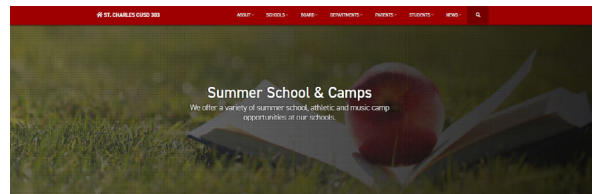
- Sandra Borgstrom-East High School
- Karen Kobler-East High School
- Anthony Cerqua-East High School
- Steve Morrill - Thompson Middle School
- Deanna Benson-Bressler-North High School
- Tanis Simoncelli-North High School
- Denise Leatherman-North High School

[Click here to read more about the D303 EOTY Nominees.](#)



## Summer School & Camps

Visit our [Summer School & Camps](#) page to view brochures that provide detailed information on the various offerings and grade levels served for each offering at each school. Registration can be completed by visiting [PushCoin](#).



## Notice: D303 Set to Destroy Special Education Records

Active temporary special education records of Community Unit School District 303, St. Charles dated 2017-18 school year have been digitized and stored electronically. As a result, the paper copies of these temporary records for students who have active IEP's are set to be destroyed. These paper records will be destroyed after April 15, 2019. However, official copies of all destroyed paper records will be maintained electronically so that a parent or student can request a copy of his/her child's special education record in accordance with the Illinois School Student Records Act, and relevant rules and regulations.

Special Education records may include: reports of psychological or social work evaluations, reports of multi-disciplinary planning conferences, reports of annual reviews, copies of individual educational programs, or

other verified information of clear relevance to the education of the student. If you have questions about the policy and procedures which govern District 303 student records please contact the Patti Palagi, Director of Instructional Interventions at 331-228-6732.

## 2018-2019 Preschool Vacancy Notification

The 2019-20 Community Preschool Program Lottery closed on February 4. To add your child's name to the notification of vacancies list, [click here](#). If you have any questions, please contact the Early Childhood Office at 331-228-4834. You can also visit the [Early Childhood page](#) of our website for more information regarding the D303 Community Preschool Program.







St. Charles  
D303

**4th Annual**  
**Saturday, April 27**  
**10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.**

**Free Admission**

**Location: Wild Rose**

### **What is a Maker Faire?**

A Maker Faire celebrates science, engineering, arts & crafts, and robotics subjects with a hands-on approach. Groups from across the district are hosting booths! We will have 65+ booths for you to explore. See examples of some of our booths below.

#### **Explore Activity Stations:**

- ◇ Hands-on Robotics Stations
- ◇ Experiment with Electronics & Circuits
- ◇ Virtual Reality with Google Expeditions
- ◇ Green Screen Demos
- ◇ Building Challenges
- ◇ Cardboard City Pacman Game
- ◇ Giant Games (Kerplunk, Battleship & more!)

#### **Make and Take Activities:**

- ◇ Bristlebot Robots
- ◇ Lego Jewelry
- ◇ Duct Tape Bows
- ◇ Polymer Clay Charms
- ◇ Ribbon Button Bookmarks
- ◇ 3D Printing Projects
- ◇ Paper Rockets

### **Extras at the Maker Faire (CASH only):**

- Tickets will be required for the **Make & Take Activities ONLY**.
  - Each child will be given **3 FREE** Make and Take activity tickets at the door.
  - Make & Take Activities will cost between 1—5 tickets. All tickets are \$1.
- Raffle Tickets: **\$3 or 2 for \$5** —Proceeds fund D303 Maker Faire.
- **Concessions Available for purchase**

### **Volunteers Needed!**

- Help needed for ticket sales, concessions and Make & Take booths.
- Login to Volunteer spot and sign up for a shift. <https://signup.com/go/HasZsvS>
  - Contact for volunteering: April Claussner (April.Claussner@gmail.com)

**Come and enjoy with the whole family!**

**Questions??** Contact Corrie Clemens (Corrie.clemens@d303.org)

# Community Backpack



## Upcoming School Board Meetings

**May 6**

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

**May 13**

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**May 20**

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

**May 28**

Community Relations Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

**May 30**

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

**June 10**

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**June 17**

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

Policy Committee Meeting will follow

## 2018-19 Calendar Highlights

**April 19**

School Improvement Day - No School

**April 26**

[Notice of Public Meeting](#) 10:30 a.m. at Fox Ridge

**April 28**

[BPAC](#) - Children's Day Event

**May 9**

Parent University: Mindful Parenting Book Study

**May 27**

Memorial Day - No School

**June 2**

High School Graduation Day

**June 7**

Last Day for Students

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