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# Principal's Newsletter December 2022



ISO State Sendoff



STCE Engine Challenge Team



Model UN participates in Student Leadership Days at the Holocaust Muesuem



Voice Of Democracy Contest Winners  
Joey Varco and Hanna Wojcik

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Girls Tennis Sendoff



STCE Speech & Acting Team



Student Directed  
One Acts



Girls Volleyball State Sendoff - 4th in State!



Girls Swim & Dive Sendoff



Auto students earning ASE/AIIData Certification



Fall Play - *Our Town*



November and December Breakfast of Champions



Orchestra Concert



Jazz Band Concert



Vocal Jazz  
Concert



Boys and Girls State Cross Country Teams

# Principal's Newsletter

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As we finish first semester, I want to wish everyone an enjoyable and well-deserved winter break. I hope you have the opportunity to connect with family and friends and spend time doing the things that bring you happiness.

**Student Recognition** - We are proud to celebrate the 105 Illinois State Scholars we have from the Class of 2023. The [Illinois State Scholar](#) designation is awarded to high school seniors based on ACT or SAT test scores and the sixth-semester class size and unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA). Please see our [11/18 CCR Update](#) for the list of students awarded this designation. The STCE Engine Challenge Team qualified for the National Competition in Indianapolis where they competed against schools from across the nation in the teardown of a Chevy 350 small block engine. In order to qualify, the team had to completely disassemble and reassemble the engine in under 33 minutes. The team placed 17th in the nation at the competition, achieved their best time, and scored a "perfect engine" Elite quality score. Congratulations to Jake Bartalone, Caden Einwich, Mary Ellis, Michael Fulkerson (Team Captain), David Gaertner, Sidney Maloney, Jaiden McCall, Megan Perry, Kevin Reda, Head Coach and Auto Club Co-Advisor Tom Straiker, and Auto Club Co-Advisors Martha Johnson and Jonathan Kittl. Also in our Tech Ed Department, we have several students who earned multiple ASE (+) and/or Alldata CAIS (\*) Credentials, which give our students an advantage as they enter the automotive career field. They are: Jesus Castellanos (+\*), Caden Einwich (+\*), Mason Hubbard (+\*), Andrew Laskosz (+\*), Logan Maas (+\*), Sidney Maloney (+\*), Andrew McSkimming (+\*), Christian Navar (+\*), Zak Rinker (+\*), Andrew Szuch (+\*), Karoll Torres (\*), and Justin Vervynck (+\*). Congratulations to our students who were recognized as part of the VFW's Voice of Democracy contest - Hannah Wojcik earned 2nd Place and Joey Varco received an honorable mention. At the DuKane Art Show, many STCE artists earned awards for their work as they competed against other students from the conference. Madison Bach took 2nd Place in Painting, Madison Cruver took 3rd Place in Ceramics/Glass, Zoe Lotarski earned an Honorable Mention in Sculpture/Jewelry, Danny Vargas took 1st Place in Sculpture/Jewelry, Feida Henig earned an Honorable Mention in Digital Illustration, Grace Stehman took 1st Place in Digital Illustration, Yzabelle DeLuna earned an Honorable Mention in Graphic Design, Aina Smith-Vals earned an Honorable Mention in Time Arts, and Alden VanBeest earned an Honorable Mention and 3rd Place in Time Arts. Finally, in cooperation with the Salvation Army, STCE participated in our annual Turkey Drive and Angel Tree Project, which certainly brightened the holiday season for hundreds of families in our community.

**Instructional Focus** - Krissy White from our Science Department worked with Dr. Melissa Lenczewski from Northern Illinois University to install four groundwater monitoring wells on the grounds of STCE, as part of the initial phase of an outreach program geared towards educating high school students about the importance of water. STCE science students will be able to collect and analyze groundwater samples, measure groundwater levels to track trends over time, and perform aquifer tests to determine the physical characteristics of the ground. Students will be able to connect concepts learned in the classroom with real hands-on experience. The authenticity of this work will allow students to connect their learning to the importance of monitoring the quality of our drinking water and contribute to the field of science.

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**Performing Arts** - Congratulations to our students who will be representing STCE in January in Peoria at the ILMEA All State music event. Megan Kamysz, Nathan Throneburg, Lucy Wilfong, and Cate Winsor will be representing the East orchestra program and Alec Fiden and Hollister Schneider jazz band. Our students performed [Our Town](#) in October, and performed three amazing theatrical shorts during our Student Directed [One Acts](#) in November. Our students are now preparing for our winter performance of *Shakespeare in Love*, which will premiere on Thursday, February 2 in the Norris Cultural Arts Center. We have also had a series of successful performances from our band, orchestra, and vocal music students during the past quarter, capped by our traditional holiday performances in the past few weeks.

**Athletics** - We had a very successful fall sports season with many teams advancing deep into the IHSA state series. Kelsey Jacob (singles), Sofia Radovic (singles), and the doubles team of Kate Lauger and Avary Sitarz qualified for state for Girls Tennis, with Kate and Avary earning all-state honors. Our Girls Swim and Dive Team took second place in the DuKane Conference and 3rd place at Sectionals, with Mackenzie Oster finishing 22nd at the State Meet in Diving and Payton Dorman finishing 17th in the 100 Freestyle. Both our Girls and Boys Cross Country teams qualified for the State Meet in Peoria, with both teams finishing in the top 25. Our Girls Volleyball Team had a historic season by winning the Regional, Sectional, and Super Sectional Championships and earning 4th Place in the state! Zach Staker finished 5th in state at the ISO Bowling Meet and Mitchell Hahn and Marion Miller finished 1st in their division in the Unified Doubles State Bowling competition. Finally, I would like to congratulate and say "Thank You" to coaches John Stock (Boys Golf) and Jennie Kull (Girls Volleyball) on your final seasons of coaching during your historic careers! You can follow the STCE Athletic Department's [Twitter feed](#) for updates!

**SEL Information** - Our Student Services Team has also streamlined the process by which students or parents can request support. If you have any concerns that you would like addressed by a member of our team, please fill out this [form](#). This [video](#) provides additional information.

**Parent Involvement Opportunities** - There are also lots of opportunities for parents to get involved at STCE! There are three great organizations that work to make the school and experience for students more exciting. Please consider joining the [STCE PTO](#), [Athletic Boosters](#), and the [Music Boosters](#). Furthermore, here is a message from the St. Charles Education Foundation - *Get to know the St. Charles Education Foundation! Over the past 30 years, the STC Ed Foundation has donated almost \$1.4 million to support D303 students. Last year, EHS staff received a grant that funded digital video presentation equipment. The foundation also gave \$10,000 to improve internet connectivity in school neighborhoods, and funded four scholarships for high school seniors. Please consider supporting this important organization by donating, giving teacher tributes, attending the spring event or all of the above! More information: [stcedfoundation.org](http://stcedfoundation.org)*

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**End of Semester Information** - Teachers will return on Monday, January 9 to finalize grades and plan for the start of second semester with students on Tuesday, January 10. Grades will be posted to HAC on Thursday, January 12.

**East Information** - Stay connected to all things STCE by viewing our [Parent Link communication page](#), subscribing to the [O&B Bulletin](#), reading the [CCR Updates](#), following us on Twitter at our handle [@StCharlesEast](#) and on [Facebook](#), and reviewing our [daily announcements](#). All this information and much more can be found through our [East website](#).

Thank you for your continued partnership and support!

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[Let's Talk](#)

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# Instructional Programs



## Additional Information from our Department of Instructional Programs

### Accessing Grades on HAC

The best way to access your child's grade is to click on CLASSES and the FULL VIEW button at the top right corner of the classwork pane. Under each class on the right side will be an option to SHOW ALL AVERAGES. Clicking that button will bring a pop-up that will display the student's overall grade. Some classes use grade categories that report information about student progress but may not impact the grade. Following these steps will ensure the grade you are seeing is the grade your child has in the class. Please refer to the accompanying screen shots as a guide.

The screenshot shows the HAC interface. At the top, there are navigation buttons: Home, Attendance, Classes, Grades, and Registration. The 'Classes' button is highlighted with a downward arrow. Below this is a 'Classwork' pane with a 'Full View' button highlighted by a downward arrow. Underneath is a 'View Classwork For for Report Card Run 1' section with a 'Show' dropdown set to 'All Classes' and an 'Order By' dropdown set to 'Class'. Below that is a 'Categories' table with the following data:

Category	Student's Points	Maximum Points	Percent	Category Weight	Category Points
Assessment	22.00	25.00	88.00%	68.00	59.84000
Total Points:				68.00	59.84000

Below the table, it says 'Student's overall average is' followed by a 'Show All Averages' button, which is also highlighted with a downward arrow.

The [district website](#) has information about HAC under the FOR PARENTS section of the home page. If you have any questions about your child's assignments or grades, please contact their teacher. If you have any questions about your account or login, please contact Julie Olney at [julie.olney@d303.org](mailto:julie.olney@d303.org) or (331) 228-5675.

### Seal of Biliteracy

D303 is proud to offer qualifying students the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy. The Seal of Biliteracy testing information will be posted on the East High School Website. More information will be coming soon about registration and testing dates.