

District 303 E-NEWS



St Charles District 303



@StCharlesD303



@StCharlesD303

Administration Center

201 South 7th St.

St. Charles, IL 60174

331.228.2000

Let's Talk!

October 7, 2022



Compass Academy Students Showcase their Work



Compass Academy students in the Practical Communication seminar put together a Student Work Showcase Event on October 6. As part of the class, students had to plan an event and after much brainstorming, they decided to highlight the excellent work students completed in their classes.

The students planned every step of the showcase from the event layout and soliciting student work to creating flyers, a budget and even arranging the displays like in a museum.



Parents, students, and teachers who visited the community room were able to see and read about the students' first quarter projects. On display were load-bearing bridges made out of popsicle sticks created by students in the Geometry class, putting their math and engineering skills to the test. Students in the Painting class expressed themselves through paintings and artwork

of all shapes and sizes to show what they've learned. The showcase also featured writing pieces by students in the Creative Writing/Publication class, bridges built in the Forces and Engineering Design class, and element diagrams and models, as well as take-home recipes created by students in the Culinary Arts and Appreciation and Culinary Entrepreneurship classes.





[View more photos here!](#)



Homecoming Parade 2022



Gifts of Appreciation

The Davis Richmond staff, in collaboration with their PTO, made small gifts as a way to show appreciation for their fantastic bus drivers and crossing guards this week. During arrival and dismissal time, members of the safety patrol passed out the gifts which included winter hats in preparation for the cooler temperatures and a fun kit to make s'mores. Thank you, bus drivers and crossing guards, for all you do for our students!



Corron Students Connect with Firefighters

Kindergarten students from Corron Elementary had an amazing time visiting the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District on September 30 for a public education visit. Students toured the fire station and were shown their day room and kitchen, workout room, sleep area and offices. This was a great opportunity for students to learn how firefighters work together and collaborate daily, educate others about fire safety and how essential their jobs are in a community.

To the students' delight, they got a tour of fire engine 22 and ambulance 22,

and learned about their equipment. Probationary FF/PM Tony Saccomanno also wore his gear to show what firefighters look like when responding to an emergency.

[View more photos here!](#)



28TH ANNUAL KICK-A-THON

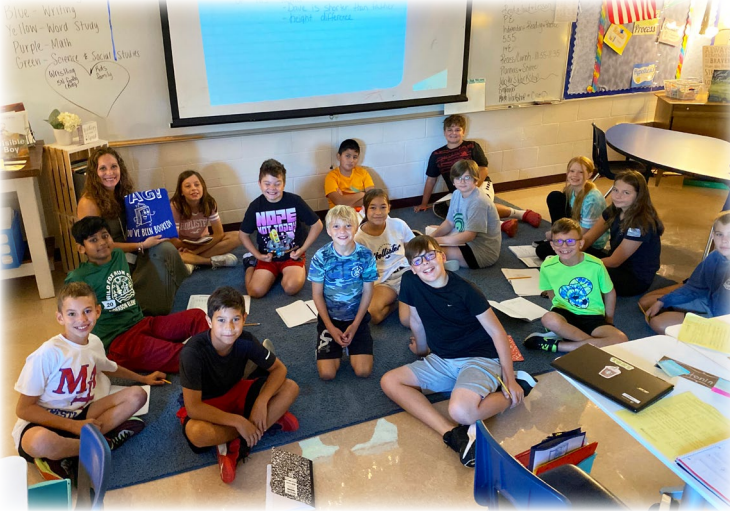
Friday, October 7, 2022, at St. Charles North High School (255 Red Gate Road) at 6:30 p.m. during the crosstown classic football game: East vs. North.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit Fox Valley Food for Health, the Colette A. Miles Foundation (Colette's Crew), and the Justin Hardy Foundation.



Tag! You've Been Booked at Anderson

Anderson LRC and Media Specialist Melissa Majewski started a new program, "Tag! You've Been Booked," to help build school community and motivate students to read. Thanks to a grant she received from the St. Charles Education Foundation, Majewski created three sets of bags for kindergarten and 1st grade, 2nd and 3rd grade, and 4th and 5th-grade.



The bags feature vocabulary cards, an engaging picture book related to that month's theme and fun swag like bookmarks and stickers. Each bag also contains a digital resource board that features more e-books related to the topic as well as activities and games.

"My goal is to sneak in fun and engaging topics that will leave students curious to learn more. This is why I supply the supplemental digital resource board so they can dig further and feed their curiosity," expressed Majewski.

She starts by tagging a classroom, who then go through the book and activities before passing them on to the next class. The classes have had fun sneaking up and tagging each other to build excitement for this new reading initiative.

The theme for the first month was superheroes, which aligned with the school theme and included the books: "There's A Superhero in Your Book," "Manny Stands Up" and "Even Superheroes Have Bad Days." The theme for the next month will be picture books about famous inventions such as video games, pizza and bubble gum. Throughout the year, more books will be included with themes to support background knowledge, social-emotional learning, fiction and non-fiction books, and other interest areas based on student and teacher input.

"I think it is important to have books at every corner to build a love of reading and an atmosphere filled with literacy. I love that this connects the school together while also differentiating for the various grade levels."



NEW EPISODE!



VOICES OF DISTRICT 303

BLUE RIBBON ACHIEVED

Norton Creek Principal Tony White and St. Charles North High School Principal Shanna Lewis discuss how they were notified of the honor, the celebrations that ensued, and how this recognition speaks to the strengths of the District and community as a whole.





PARENT UNIVERSITY

The first Parent University session of the 2022-2023 school year was held 6
on September 29. Carrie Amaya and Steve McHugh with the BeSMART
campaign presented on gun safety through proper gun storage in homes
and ways to communicate to your children and fellow parents on the
subject. Watch the recording at district.d303.org/parent-university and learn
more about our next session below.

"Amy has given every parent a great gift—but a more important gift to the kids,
if their parents would just follow her advice. Great principles to empower your kids."
—Dr. Henry Cloud, psychologist and author

13 Things Mentally Strong PARENTS Don't Do

RAISING
SELF-ASSURED
CHILDREN
AND TRAINING
THEIR BRAINS
FOR A LIFE OF
HAPPINESS,
MEANING,
AND
SUCCESS

AMY
MORIN
AUTHOR OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER
13 THINGS MENTALLY
STRONG PEOPLE DON'T DO

JOIN US FOR A BOOK STUDY SESSION!

13 Things Mentally Strong Parents Don't Do

Raising Self-Assured Children and
Training Their Brains for a Life of
Happiness, Meaning, and Success

October 19
Chapters 1-4

October 26
Chapters 5-8

November 2
Chapters 9-13

◆ Day time session
9-10:15am - Haines
Center, Community
Room 140

◆ Evening session
6-7:15pm - Haines Center,
Community Room 140

Visit district.d303.org/parent-university for more information.

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¡ÚNASE A NOSOTROS PARA UNA SESIÓN DE
ESTUDIO DEL LIBRO!

13 Cosas que los Padres Mentalmente Fuertes No Hacen

Cómo criar a niños seguros de sí mismos
y cómo entrenar sus cerebros para una
vida de felicidad, significado y éxito

19 de octubre
Capítulos 1-4

26 de octubre
Capítulos 5-8

2 de noviembre
Capítulos 9-13

◆ Sesión del día
9-10:15am - Haines
Center, Salón comunitario
140

◆ Sesión de la tarde
6-7:15pm - Haines Center,
Salón comunitario # 140

Visite district.d303.org/parent-university para obtener más información.

Members of the St. Charles High School class of 1972 recently gathered to celebrate their 50-year reunion. Between September 16-18 they connected with former classmates, teachers, and community members, visited local businesses and attended the St. Charles East homecoming parade. After the parade and much to their delight, they also toured Thompson Middle School, their old high school, with Principal Steve Morrill.

As they walked the hallways of what once used to be the St. Charles High School, they marveled at all of the changes and preservation of its original elements, such as arches above what used to be the theater and at the building's former entrance.

"We were so impressed with the innovative remodeling, additions and incredible opportunities for the middle school students who are fortunate to attend Thompson!" expressed Shelley Best Ellerston, a member of the St. Charles High School Class of 1972. "The last time I visited Thompson was in 2013 but the place has really changed since then! It was nice to see that a few of our memories were still in the building, and we laughed remembering the DQ runs."

The class reunion celebration also included a tour of the St. Charles History Museum, a Golf Outing at Pottawatomie, a reunion with members of the classes of '70, '71, '73 and '74, and the celebratory dinner on Saturday night.



**DISTRICT 303 IS HIRING
BUS DRIVERS AND
ASSISTANTS!**



**JOIN
NOW**

Apply Online:
**[district.d303.org/
employment](https://district.d303.org/employment)**



Call: 331-228-5180

Visit our Transportation Office:
901 S. Peck Rd., St. Charles, IL

MunRun and Slime Time at Munhall

Munhall Elementary students reached their fundraising goal of \$5,000! All funds raised go towards Munhall's favorite events: Fall Festival, One Book One Munhall, Lip Sync, Bingo Night and more. It was an eventful day with students, families and staff participating in the morning run. Parents cheered as students ran or walked, and some family members even joined them. As the music blasted, students laughed and posed for pictures and some even challenged their friends to run faster.

The highlight of the afternoon, however, was the Slime Time event. One student from each grade was randomly chosen for the opportunity to "slime" Principal Zac Minelli with a bucket of thick green slime.

Their applause and screams of excitement could be heard throughout the neighborhood. This was a fantastic way for students, families, and staff to come together, build school community and have fun. [Check out all of the photos here!](#)



Tackling Fitness in PE at Wasco



Wasco 4th graders had a surprise visitor on September 29 during their PE class. Campton Hills Village President Mike Tyrrell joined students for an opportunity to play tag football and practice throws, and worked in small groups to test their skills in football. Mayor Mike also took the opportunity to share with students how he's part of a nationwide challenge to spread awareness about heart health and encourage others to stay active and lead a healthier lifestyle. [View all the photos here.](#)

On September 30, 4th and 5th grade students also enjoyed several opportunities to show off their athletic abilities at the Chicago Bears Mini Monsters Clinic. The students rotated through stations with obstacles, drills and agility challenges like throwing, catching and diving through tackle inflatables.

The highlight of the afternoon was meeting and practicing with former NFL player Ray McElroy. McElroy played cornerback from 1995 to 2001 with the Chicago Bears, Detroit Lions and Indianapolis Colts. He is also a licensed minister with a master's degree in theology and is the current Team Chaplain for the Chicago Bears football club. Everyone was thrilled to meet McElroy and students benefited from his advice and encouragement at each station. [View all the photos here.](#)



FREE COVID TEST KITS



Take-home rapid COVID test kits are now available upon request at all District 303 schools while supplies last. These are rapid test kits that include two per box. Students can request take-home kits from the school nurse, or families can make a request by contacting the school.

KITS DE PRUEBA DE COVID GRATUITOS



Los kits de pruebas rápidas de COVID para el hogar están ahora disponibles a petición en todas las escuelas del Distrito 303 hasta que se agoten las existencias. Estos son kits de pruebas rápidas que incluyen dos por caja. Los estudiantes pueden solicitar los kits para llevar a casa con el/la enfermero(a) de la escuela, o las familias pueden hacer una solicitud poniéndose en contacto con la escuela.

Does your District 303 Student Have a Library Card?

District 303 students who live outside of the St. Charles Public Library District can receive a Student Library Card if they are not eligible for a card at another public library. The partnership between SCPL and District 303 is now in its fourth year. With a Student Library Card, users can access library resources, including checking out books, accessing eBooks, and using research databases. Those who are interested and eligible can opt-in during the school registration process or contact the District during the school year.

For more information, visit the [SCPL's Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage, or [read more here](#).

Upcoming School Board Meetings

October 11
School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

October 17
Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.
Special School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

October 27
Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

November 14
School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

November 21
Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

2022-2023 School Calendar Highlights

October 10
Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day Holiday (No Students, Offices Closed)



October 12
High School Early Release Day

October 19
Parent University: Book Study - [Register Here!](#)

October 26
All Grade Level (PreK-12) Early Release Day
Parent University: Book Study - [Register Here!](#)

Submit to the Community Backpack

District 303 distributes information electronically from non-profit organizations, intergovernmental agencies and business partners for which it grants approval. Information can be posted on this Community Backpack webpage throughout the school year. Those wishing to submit information to be posted must do so electronically by emailing a completed [CB Flyer Request Form](#) and a PDF of the requested posting to the District 303 Administration Center, in care of [Janelle Magana](#) at least ten days in advance of the desired posting date. Additionally, when submitting the first posting request of the school year, a completed [Certificate of Not-For-Profit Status Form](#) must also be completed and submitted with a copy of the groups 501(c)3 certificate.

Prior to submitting, please [read details regarding our distribution guidelines](#). The decision to post is at the discretion of District 303 administrators, based on these guidelines.



McKinney-Vento Children— Who are they?

McKinney-Vento eligible children are those who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime abode. In general, children or youth living in motels, transitional housing, shelters, the street, cars, abandoned buildings, and other inadequate accommodations may be considered eligible for McKinney-Vento services. This includes, but is not limited to, the following groups:

Doubled-up Children	living with another family due to lack of a permanent residence
Children in Shelters	including transitional living programs
Children Living in Motels	due to lack of alternative adequate living situation
Migratory Children	if accommodations are not fit for habitation
Runaways*	children who have left home and live in a shelter or inadequate accommodations, even if parents are willing to provide a home
Lockouts*	children whose parents or guardians will not permit them to live at home

- *These two categories are Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY), child not in the physical custody of their parent or court-ordered guardian and lack a fixed, regular and adequate abode.*

McKinney-Vento Children— What are their rights?

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth program, as part of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ensures eligible children have the right to:	
Choice of School	McKinney-Vento Eligible children may attend their school of origin (school last attended or school attended when child lost permanent housing) or attend the school that serves their temporary living situation. Their Caregiver makes the choice.
Immediate Enrollment	even if medical or other records, birth certificates, transcripts, cannot be produced at time of enrollment
Transportation	if requested, transportation must be provided
Preschool	priority consideration to preschool programs for eligible youngsters
Free Lunch & Fee Waivers	categorically eligible for free lunch
Access to remote learning	including meals, devices and WIFI access
Supplemental tutoring	if needed

If you think you might qualify for McKinney-Vento services please contact your school social worker or the district McKinney-Vento Liaison, Dr. Cindy Ruesch at 331-228-6738, cindy.ruesch@d303.org.

For more information you can access the contact information for your local Regional McKinney-Vento liaison at <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Subgrant-Liaison-Contact-List.pdf>

Niños McKinney-Vento – ¿Quiénes son?

Los niños elegibles para el McKinney-Vento son aquellos que carecen de un domicilio nocturno fijo, regular y adecuado. En general, niños o jóvenes que viven en moteles, en hogares de transición, en refugios, en las calles, en los carros, en edificios abandonados, y cualesquiera de otras acomodaciones inadecuadas pueden ser considerados elegibles para los servicios de McKinney-Vento. Esto incluye, pero no se limita a, los siguientes grupos:

Niños duplicados o agrupados	<i>viviendo con otra familia debido a la falta de una residencia permanente</i>
Niños en refugios	<i>incluyendo los programas de transición de vivienda</i>
Niños viviendo en moteles	<i>debido a la falta de una situación de vida adecuada alternativa</i>
Niños migrantes	<i>si los alojamientos no son aptos para ser habitados</i>
Fugitivos/Que han abandonado su hogar*	<i>niños que han abandonado su hogar y viven en un refugio o alojamientos inadecuados, incluso si los padres están dispuestos a proporcionarles un hogar</i>
Bloqueos/Cierres*	<i>los niños cuyos padres o guardianes no les permiten vivir en casa</i>

- *Estas dos categorías son jóvenes sin hogar no acompañados (UHY por sus siglas en inglés), niño(a) que no está en la custodia física de su padre o guardián ordenado por la corte y carecen de un domicilio nocturno fijo, regular y adecuado.*

Niños McKinney-Vento – ¿Cuáles son sus derechos?

<i>El programa de educación para niños y jóvenes sin hogar, como parte de la Ley de Asistencia a los Desamparados de McKinney-Vento asegura que los niños elegibles tienen derecho a:</i>	
Su elección de escuela	<i>Los niños elegibles para el McKinney-Vento pueden asistir a su escuela de origen (a la última escuela que asistieron o la escuela a la que asistieron cuando el niño(a) perdió su hogar permanente) o asistir a la escuela que sirve a su situación de vida temporal. Su cuidador toma la decisión.</i>
Inscripción inmediata	<i>incluso si los records médicos u otros records, actas de nacimiento, expedientes, no pueden ser producidos en el momento de la inscripción</i>
Transporte	<i>si se solicita, se debe de proporcionar transporte</i>
Preescolar	<i>consideración prioritaria a los programas preescolares para los jóvenes elegibles</i>
Exención de cuotas y almuerzo gratuito	<i>categoricamente elegible para el almuerzo gratis</i>
Acceso al aprendizaje a distancia	<i>incluyendo alimentos, dispositivos, y acceso a internet</i>
Tutoría suplementaria	<i>si lo necesita</i>

Si crees que calificas para los servicios de McKinney-Vento, por favor, contacta al trabajador(a) social de tu escuela o a la persona de contacto del Distrito para el programa McKinney-Vento, la Dra. Cindy Ruesch al 331-228-6738, cindy.ruesch@d303.org.

Para más información, acceda a la información de contacto de su enlace regional local de McKinney-Vento en <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Subgrant-Liaison-Contact-List.pdf>