

District 303 E-NEWS

 St Charles District 303  @StCharlesD303  @StCharlesD303

Administration Center
201 South 7th St.
St. Charles, IL 60174
331.228.2000
Contact us!



October 20, 2023

Gaga Ball Fun at Davis

A totally new and fun Gaga Ball Pit was just installed on the Davis Primary playground for all to enjoy. Davis Physical Education and Wellness teacher, Nancy Mattson, was recently awarded a \$7,620 grant through Making Kane County Fit for Kids to fund the project.

"I wrote the grant for children to be active and engaged with peers. The Gaga Ball Game is a popular fast-moving and high-energy game that everyone can play. This game helps build better relationships in our whole school community," expressed Mattson.

Playing Gaga Ball gives students more options for games to play during recess or PE, and can also be used by other families and the community after school when the playground is open. The rules for Gaga Ball are displayed but students can choose to play variations of the game and make their own rules. The typical fast-paced and high-energy game is played in an octagonal pit with a soft foam ball. It combines the skills of dodging, striking, running, and jumping, while trying to hit opponents with a ball below the knees. Players need to keep moving to avoid getting hit by the ball. Students have loved playing the game and have enjoyed teaching others how to play and being part of different teams each time they play.





Homecoming Parade 2023



NEW EPISODE!
Listen Now!



FINANCES AND FACILITIES

Chief Operating Officer Justin Attaway shares insights into District 303's budget, the tax levy process, and addresses school finance misconceptions. You'll also learn about finances as they relate to our facilities.

VOICES

OF DISTRICT 303



Orchestra Fest Brings Music Enthusiasts Together

The 8th-grade orchestra students joined students from St. Charles East and North for the annual Orchestra Fest on October 11. This event showcases our high school orchestra programs for 8th grade students and families. Students rehearsed together, had all their questions answered about high school orchestra during the insightful Q&A, and enjoyed a pizza dinner. The evening concluded with a wonderful concert for family and friends, led by Andy Masters (STCN), Angie Wifler (STCE), Don Kovach and Jim Pesek (WMS) and Sandy Pogge (TMS).



Check out the **Community Backpack**

Learn about local events, community organizations, and activities throughout the school year.

CLICK HERE

Fox Ridge Early Childhood Center hosted its very first “Community Swap” event during the October Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences. The event was designed to build community while helping others.

Parent and staff volunteers assisted with the event and Fox Ridge community members participated in one of 3 ways: donate, “shop,” or donate & “shop.” Families and staff donated clothes of all sizes, books, toys and even dishes to create a cost-free shopping experience.

“We received enough donations to fill the entire Community Room with books, toys, games, backpacks, clothing, winter gear, shoes, baby supplies, ride-on toys, and so much more,” said Fox Ridge Social Worker Melissa Plodzien. Readerlink Distribution Center Warehouse in Romeoville donated over 1,000 brand-new books for infants, toddlers, and school age children to help get books into homes. Some children were so excited about their new finds that they rode the toys out the front door.



After the event, the rest of the donations were packed with help from the District 303 Facilities Department and were donated to the St. Charles Salvation Army.

PARENT EDUCATION SERIES PRESENTS



Let's Talk About It: Bullying Prevention Discussion Series

Presented by Impactful, LLC & District 303 Staff

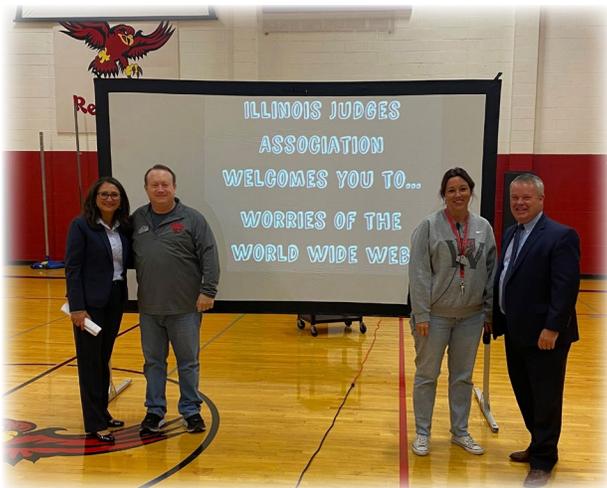
6:00-7:00pm
for all sessions

UPDATE
All sessions will be
VIRTUAL - register
for the link

- **October 18, 2023:**
What is Cyberbullying and Why Does it Happen?
- **October 25, 2023:**
Becoming the Solution: How Can Parents Tap the Upstander in All Children?
- **November 1, 2023:**
Kind Relationships: How Can Parents Support their Children in Caring for Themselves and Others Every Day?

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

Judges Present on the “Worries of the World Wide Web”



As part of their first assembly of the year, Wredling students heard Kane County Judges present “Worries of the World Wide Web,” a program created to address the increasing problem of cyberbullying, electronic harassment, and sexting/pornography.

The program, geared toward middle school, addresses the social and legal consequences of potentially criminal conduct with the goal of increasing awareness of what cyberbullying, harassment, and sexting is, and how it may impact the lives of those students involved.

Judge Clint Hull and Judge Sandra Parga presented various case scenarios, news articles, and discussed their experiences on the topics. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and engaged in thoughtful discussions about their own cell phone, technology, and social media use. Prior to the assembly, families were also invited to attend a presentation by the judges.

Parga and Hull, both District 303 alumni, created the program after talking to middle school teachers who indicated that their students were being negatively impacted through social media use. Judge Parga and Hull along with other Kane County Judges have been presenting the program throughout Northern Illinois Counties to both students and their parents for the past six years. In 2016–17, the Illinois Judges Association (IJA) worked with Judges Boles and Hull and expanded the program statewide. The first training session for the program was conducted in January of 2017 where over 70 judges were trained to give this presentation.



Important Information

FROM DISTRICT 303

Standard Response Protocol (SRP)

The District adopted the [Standard Response Protocol \(SRP\)](#) from the I Love U Guys Foundation last spring. The SRP is designed to provide consistent, clear, shared language and actions among all students, staff and first responders during emergencies. It is a trusted brand for several preK-12 school districts and higher education across the country. Locally, the SRP is utilized in many area school districts and has the support of the St. Charles Police Department and other local emergency response agencies.

Is Your Contact Information Up-to-date?

Ensure You're Getting Timely District Alerts



District 303 uses Finalsite (formerly ParentLink) to send mass notices to multiple people simultaneously. Informational or emergency messages are sent to the contact information you have on file. While email is the primary way we send communications, text or voice calls may also be sent. To receive emergency or other timely messages, we strongly encourage families to enable text notifications.

Please note, unsubscribing from ParentLink emails or replying "stop" to text messages will disable all informational messages from your child(s) school and the District. You will still receive emergency communications. [Visit the Home Access Center website](#) for information on how to view and edit your contact settings.

Early Release Dates & Times for the 2023-2024 School Year



All Grade Levels (Pre-K-12)

Early Release Days

August 30

September 27

October 25

November 29

January 24

February 21

March 20

April 24

High School Early

Release Days

Every Wednesday

AM Early Childhood: 9:00 - 11:05 a.m.

PM Early Childhood: 12:05 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.

AM Kindergarten: 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.

PM Kindergarten: 11:40 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Transition: 7:45 a.m. - 1:10 p.m.

Elementary School: 8:00 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Middle School: 8:40 a.m. - 2:52 p.m.

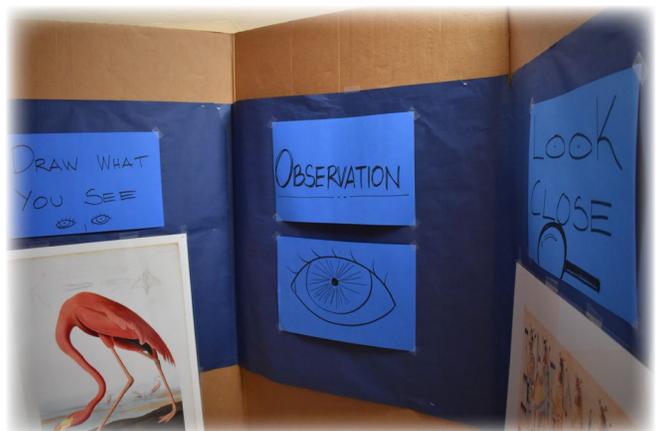
High School: 7:20 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

There are so many great things happening in art classrooms throughout District 303. At Wild Rose, kindness has been the focus this school year. And for a school-wide art project led by Valerie Kelly, students in all grade levels helped create a “Kindness Town” based on the book “The Sound of Kindness” by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater. During their art class, students in each grade level worked on creating different elements of the collaborative mural.

Kindergarten students created the clouds, 1st graders drew abstract trees, 2nd graders drew kites and animals, 3rd and 4th graders worked on drawing and coloring the houses, shops and flowers, and the 5th graders worked on the streets, mountains, rolling hills, ponds, and the people. Students expressed how much fun they had working on their individual projects but loved even more seeing the finished mural, which they can admire every time they walk the hallways.



In the art classroom at Davis, students have to first walk through a new maze to get to their classroom. Davis Art Teacher Joshua Lundquist designed and built the colorful maze to help students who have artist's block. The maze has question prompts, pictures, and keywords to inspire students to come up with new ideas for their art projects, helping them realize that inspiration can come from anywhere.



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>

Upcoming School Board Meetings

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

November 13
School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

November 27
Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

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

December 18
Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

December 21
Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

2023-2024 School Calendar Highlights

October 25
-All Grade Level (PreK-12) Early Release Day
-Parent Education - Let's Talk About It: Bullying Prevention Discussion Series (Part 2)

November 1
-High School Early Release Day
-Parent Education - Let's Talk About It: Bullying Prevention Discussion Series (Part 3)

November 8
High School Early Release Day

November 15
-High School Early Release Day
-DPTO Meeting (9:30 a.m.)



DISTRICT 303 IS HIRING BUS DRIVERS AND ASSISTANTS!



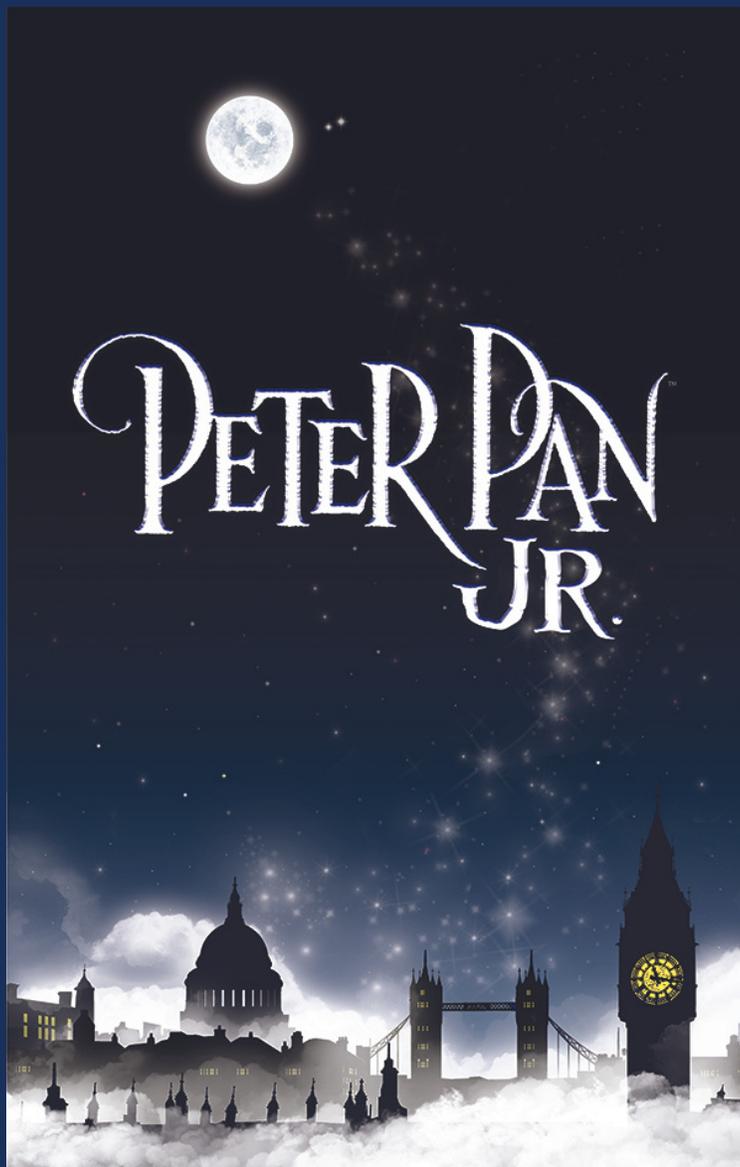
- > **Starting pay:**
Drivers: \$22.86 | Assistants \$18.75
- > **All drivers are guaranteed 6 hours per day and are eligible for insurance and pension**
- > **Obtain your CDL – District 303 will train qualified candidates who want to obtain their Commercial Driver's License**

Apply Online:
district.d303.org/employment

Call: 331-228-5180

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

The Wredling Theater Department
proudly presents



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

AT 7 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

AT 4:30 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

AT 2 PM AND 7 PM

TICKETS ARE \$5.00

SOLD AT THE DOOR

Produced in collaboration with MTI International
Based on J.M. Barrie's classic tale and featuring an unforgettable score by Morris "Moose"
Charlap and Jule Styne with lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, Betty Comden and Adolph Green





STC CARES

Cheer Exhibition

Benefitting:

M Northwestern
Medicine®

Living Well Cancer Resources

Admission:
\$5
Kids 10 and
under: Free!



Wednesday, November 1, 2023
7:00 p.m. at Wredling Middle School

50/50
Raffle

Cheer and Dance teams from
East, North, Thompson, and
Wredling will perform.

Teams from Geneva High School,
Geneva Middle School North and South,
and Tri-Cities Chargers will join us!



Come support the Annual STC CARES Event!



random
acts
matter



COMMUNITY COAT DRIVE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4th
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

ST. CHARLES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL GRAVEL LOT
(Located on the north side of Red Gate Road)

We Need Your Help Keeping Our Neighbors Warm This Winter!

Collecting Gently used & Clean or NEW:

- Winter Coats
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Backpacks

Women's: Small, Medium, Large

Men's: Large, XL, XXL

Children's: All Sizes

Benefitting: Juvenile Justice Center, Tri-City Health Partnership, CAAN, LightHouse Recovery,
KC Veterans Assistance, KC Jail Corrections, Tri-City Family Services, Homeless Shelters, Salvation Army

No Act of Kindness is Too Small