

District 303 E-NEWS

Connect with us!



St Charles District 303



@StCharlesD303

Administration Center

201 South 7th St.

St. Charles, IL 60174

331.228.2000

Let's Talk!

February 12, 2021



Corron Students Organize Food Drive to Help Families in Need

During the week of January 25, Corron 5th grade students helped collect over 1,800 food items through their school-wide food drive, benefiting Food For Greater Elgin.

After learning about poverty, homelessness, hunger, and other social issues in class, and realizing how the current COVID pandemic negatively impacted families, students expressed to their teacher, Mr. Griman, how they wanted to do something to help others.

"At first, they simply wanted to donate money but I asked them to go a little deeper and see what they were truly willing and wanting to do," said 5th grade teacher Mr. Griman. "Students then decided that a school-wide food drive was the answer to help the community."

As a class, they reached out to a couple of local food pantries and, with the guidance of Interim Executive Director, Michael Montgomery, they were able to start the food drive at their school to support Food For Greater Elgin. During their initial phone call, he answered all the questions students had and challenged them to collect enough food items to equate their teacher's weight.

With that goal in mind, students reached out to the principal, Mrs. Balaskovits, who answered additional questions they had about organizing this event at Corron and demonstrated her full support.

"The support from Corron families was also amazing because they helped us surpass our goal," added Mr. Griman.

On February 3, Food For Greater Elgin staff and Michael Montgomery visited Corron to collect all the food item donations. They were extremely grateful for all the food and appreciated how the community came together to help support those families in need during these difficult times.



When Art Reflects Life

When Rebecca Hubbs was an art teacher at Wredling Middle School she would select 10-12 pieces from the school year to be a part of the Wredling Permanent Art Collection. When the students reach their senior year in high school, Mrs. Hubbs retires the piece back to them. This year, a piece done by a student who was new to Wredling in 8th grade seemed to be a sign of things to come.

Valeria Rybkina's piece titled *Colour Windows*, which was created using Crayola Construction Paper Crayons, includes a drawing of a young woman wearing a mask. When Valeria created the piece during the 2016-2017 school year, she could not have known how timely her drawing would be in 2020-2021.

Five years after its creation, Mrs. Hubbs asked Valeria why she drew the figure with a mask. Valeria replied, "I really didn't think I could draw faces that well and so I

drew a mask." She continued to say, "It also represented the fact that I couldn't speak English very well, or at least then I couldn't but now I can."

Valeria's mom said that this piece is one of her favorites, so Mrs. Hubbs is happy to be able to return it home to the artist.



District 303 Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records

The temporary special education records of former students of Community Unit School District 303, St. Charles, records are set to be destroyed. Students who graduated or transferred out of the district with a date of birth year of 1993-1994 records will be destroyed after March 1, 2021. If a parent or student has reason to believe that these records may be of continued usefulness, they are encouraged to contact the District 303, Department of Instruction, Instructional Interventions, at (331)228-6732, to obtain these records.

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. Copies of the Rules and Regulations to Govern District 303 Student Records are available for inspection at each school site and at the District Central Office.

Davis Students Connect with Science Book Author

On February 2, first grade students at Davis Primary had the awesome opportunity to connect with Melissa Stewart, author of over 180 science-themed nonfiction books for children. Her presentation included information about how she finds inspiration for new books and that sometimes it takes up to 6 years to finish one. She also expressed to students that with dedication and hard work, they can achieve anything to which they set their minds.

Mrs. Martinez's students could not contain their excitement, as they asked questions about all their favorite books, with topics ranging from reptiles and birds to fossils and space science. The class wondered how Ms. Stewart knew so much and how she came up with all the interesting facts in her books. She encouraged students to research topics in which they were

interested. She also shared that students should read other books, research on the internet, interview experts, such as scientists, and observe the world around them to better understand what's happening.

Additionally, she provided students with nonfiction writing resources to help them with their nonfiction writing project, and even left some 1st graders inspired to become scientists!



2021 National Merit Scholarship Program

Congratulations to the following District 303 high school students who were recognized as National Merit Finalists. These are students in the top 15,000 of over 1.5 million juniors who took the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT.

East High School

Shae Atkins
Henry Nunns
Aidan Szuch

North High School

Brett Barnes
Ryan Forester
Nathan Hanselman
Grace Lucchesi
Anastasia Smith-Becker
Riley Trendler

Additionally, the following students were recognized as National Merit Commended Students, putting them in the top 50,000 of juniors who took the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT.

East High School

Sarah Brunson
Bennett Cassata
Amelia Chipman
Teagan Ditsworth
Liam Fronk
Michelle Giovacchini
Nikhil Jain
Jason Kroeker
Janina Mangulabnan
Edward Nawrocki
Sage Overstreet
Mason Peterson
Emma Santos
Megan Sreniawski
Ethan White

North High School

Andrew Balster
Joseph Cipriano
Hayden Dal Degan
Emma Fang
Ajay Girish
Morgan Isacson
Kevin Jun
Zachary McCormick
Cole Miller
Emily Oh
Zeno Ruttens
Paranshu Shah
Pratim Vasireddy
Mauricio Vazquez

INCubator and ACCEerator Students Move Forward with Business Ideas

St. Charles East INCubator and ACCEerator students met virtually with community mentors and judges for a live Q&A to help them improve their innovative business products and ideas in preparation for the Final Pitch Night. Prior to the virtual meeting, students shared their MVP video pitches with mentors and judges. Student entrepreneurs detailed information about their product or service, customer persona, and their plans to continue to move forward with their businesses: What Not Flower Shop, Shoe Stop, Fog Shield, ForEx, ThermoStick, and Xtended Comfort.

During the virtual meeting, Business Education teacher, Mr. Glavan welcomed judges and consultants Christine Flood, (St. Charles Public Library Business Reference Librarian); Michael Kayman, (Special Opportunity Value Fund LC President); and Laura Mackline-Purdy (St. Charles Business Alliance Tourism & Sales Manager). Although not in attendance, Brent Nakayama (Program Manager & Energy Consultant at Leidos Engineering) provided great feedback and support to students prior to the virtual meeting. Community mentors Lula Cassidy (President and CEO of InnTerActive Marketing), and Eric Jens (Frehner Jens LCC Co-founder and Managing Partner), as well as Business Education teacher, Mrs. Stone were also involved.



For some students, the current COVID-19 pandemic presented an opportunity to develop new ideas to help people based on their current lifestyle changes. One group developed Fog Shield, a thin film placed on glasses to prevent them from fogging when wearing glasses with a face mask.

Xtended Comfort (with their unique armrest design), had to modify their initial product to take into consideration the safety protocols in place during flights and appeal to people's concerns for cleanliness and disinfection.

The constructive feedback received from the judges will help students refine their business products and services before moving into market research, product adjustments, and prototype samples.



Elizabeth Seeger working at a vaccine clinic

District 303 Nurses Continue to Serve the Community During the COVID Pandemic

Administering the COVID-19 Vaccine to the very staff members they work side by side with each school day has marked a milestone toward pandemic recovery for our district nurses. School nurses in D303 have volunteered before and after their school work day to provide vaccines and monitor participant response at the Kane County Vaccine Clinics. Many of our school nurses belong to the Medical Reserve Corps which has provided them with extensive emergency training.

Norton Creek in-person and remote students had an incredible time during their "Dogsledding Virtual Assembly," an online expedition guided by explorers Dave and Amy Freeman. Through their presentations and online expeditions, they seek to inspire kids to get outside to explore, learn about nature and the world, all while learning valuable life skills.



Not only were students able to learn about what it's like to explore the winter wilderness by dogsled, but they also learned about the dogs, how they're trained, and the equipment and gear Dave and Amy use to keep warm in the below-freezing temperatures. Students were very excited when they met sled dog, Iris. They learned all about how strong she and the other dogs are, how they fit into their harnesses, and the long training process.

As Dave talked about their adventures and trips, he also shared how important their Expedition ABC's are: Attitude, Believe, Care, Do your Best, and Exercise. He believes these life skills help students develop important characteristics inside and outside of the classroom. While dog sledding, Dave, Amy, and the dogs need to work together, maintain a positive attitude, and believe in each other to reach their destination.



District 303 is committed to providing the most up to date information regarding classroom technology tools, services and trends in an easily accessible area for our families. Please [use this link](#) to access the information and support you and your students need for a successful remote experience.



**Call to Artists for SCAC 2021 STUDENT ART SHOW:
Elementary School thru College Students**

Click [HERE](#) for information about our 2021 Student Art Show. Open to all students - elementary through college. DEADLINE TO APPLY: March 12, 2021

Social-Emotional Resources for Families

In partnership with Riverview Counseling, District 303 has posted video resources that support the social emotional needs of families. The videos are found on the [district website here](#) and cover topics such as supporting students with remote learning, strategies for structure and consistency, suicide prevention and awareness, and parent self-care.

The St. Charles Education Foundation Scholarship Deadline is March 10, 2021

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. 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 based on overall merit. The scholarship applications are available at St. Charles North and East High School guidance offices and <https://www.stcedfoundation.org>

Announcing the St. Charles Education Foundation Grant Application 2020-2021

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."

-Albert Einstein

The St. Charles Education Foundation is pleased to announce that 22 grants were funded totaling \$29,000.00 for the 2019-2020 school year. Click here to [view the list of recipients](#).

The goal of The St. Charles Education Foundation is to provide funding that allows talented professionals to utilize their abilities to educate today's students. To facilitate this goal, the Foundation is inviting educators and students to submit proposals for consideration in the 2020-2021 school year. There are a limited number of grants that can be funded so we are looking for the most innovative and first-time projects or programs that have the potential to expand in District 303. The Foundation typically funds projects that may not be able to be funded through conventional means.

The grant application has been modified to make it easier to apply and to keep the focus on exceptional ideas which enhance learning and teaching in our district.

[Making a Difference — St. Charles Education Foundation \(stcedfoundation.org\)](https://www.stcedfoundation.org)

BUS DRIVERS AND ASSISTANTS NEEDED!



- District 303 is currently recruiting bus drivers and assistants
- Starting pay for the part-time positions that are 4-5 hours per day is \$19.68 for drivers and \$15.61 for assistants
- The District will train qualified candidates who want to obtain their Commercial Driver's License
- Interested individuals may apply online at district.d303.org/employment, visit the Transportation Office at 901 S. Peck Rd., or call 331.228.5180

District 303 Meal Distribution Schedule

Breakfast and lunch meals are FREE for all children between the ages of 1 to 18 and can be picked up at any of the locations and times indicated below. No pre-ordering is needed.

Pick up your FREE meals on the dates below:

<u>Pick-Up Dates:</u>	<u>Number of meals provided per child:</u>
* Tuesday, February 16	2 meals
Thursday, February 18	4 meals
Monday, February 22	3 meals
Thursday, February 25	4 meals
Monday, March 1	3 meals
Thursday, March 4	4 meals
Monday, March 8	3 meals
Thursday, March 11	4 meals
Monday, March 15	3 meals
Thursday, March 18	4 meals
Monday, March 22	3 meals
Thursday, March 25	4 meals
Monday, March 29	7 meals *Spring Break

School Locations:

Time:

Elementary Schools	2:00–3:00 PM
Middle Schools	8:45–9:15 AM and 3:45–4:30 PM
High Schools	7:30–8:00 AM and 2:45–4:30PM

Neighborhood Locations:

Time:

Cumberland Green Apartments	11:00AM–11:30AM
St. Charles Place Apartments (Intersection of N. 15th St. & Brook St.)	11:45 AM–12:15PM

Meal Schedule Updated 2/11/2021



Distribución de Comidas del Distrito 303

Los desayunos y almuerzos son GRATIS para todos los niños entre las edades de 1 a 18 y puede recogerlos en cualquiera de los lugares y horarios que se indican en la lista. No se necesita pre-ordenar. Venga a recoger sus comidas GRATIS en las siguientes fechas:

<u>Fechas para recoger:</u>	<u>Número de comidas proporcionadas por niño(a):</u>
* Martes, 16 de Febrero	2 comidas
Jueves, 18 de Febrero	4 comidas
Lunes, 22 de Febrero	3 comidas
Jueves, 25 de Febrero	4 comidas
Lunes, 1ro de Marzo	3 comidas
Jueves, 4 de Marzo	4 comidas
Lunes, 8 de Marzo	3 comidas
Jueves, 11 de Marzo	4 comidas
Lunes, 15 de Marzo	3 comidas
Jueves, 18 de Marzo	4 comidas
Lunes, 22 de Marzo	3 comidas
Jueves, 25 de Marzo	4 comidas
Lunes, 29 de Marzo	7 comidas *Vacaciones de Primavera

<u>Escuelas en las que puede recoger:</u>	<u>Horario:</u>
Escuelas Primarias	2:00-3:00 PM
Escuelas Secundarias	8:45-9:15 AM y 3:45-4:30 PM
Escuelas Preparatorias	7:30-8:00 AM y 2:45-4:30PM

<u>Lugares en la comunidad donde puede recoger:</u>	<u>Horario:</u>
Apartamentos Cumberland Green	11:00AM-11:30AM
Apartamento St. Charles Place (Intersección de N. 15th St. & Brook St.)	11:45 AM-12:15PM



Actualizado 2/11/2021



2021-2022 Kindergarten Enrollment

IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE 5-YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021,
IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN.

DO NOT WAIT until summer to enroll your kindergarten student. Kindergarten enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year will be virtual for all District 303 elementary schools beginning January 19 through March 12, 2021.

Virtual Enrollment

The District 303 Kindergarten enrollment process for the 2021-2022 school year will be virtual! Between **January 19 and March 12**, families will be able to enroll their kindergarten-age children by visiting the Kindergarten Registration & Information page of the District website.

On the site you will find:

- The New Student Intake Form (Coming January 19, 2021)
- The Kindergarten Step-by-Step Guide for registration
- Health and Dental exams and immunization information
- Contact information for all elementary schools
- Information about Full Day and Half Day Kindergarten




2021-2022 Inscripción de Kindergarten

SI SU HIJO(A) CUMPLIRÁ 5 AÑOS EN O ANTES DEL 1º DE SEPTIEMBRE DEL 2021, ES TIEMPO DE INSCRIBIRLO A KINDERGARTEN.

NO ESPERE al verano para inscribir a su estudiante de kindergarten. La inscripción de kindergarten para el año escolar 2021-2022 será virtual para todas las escuelas primarias del Distrito Escolar de la Unidad Comunitaria 303, comenzando el 19 de enero hasta el 12 de marzo del 2021.

Inscripción Virtual

¡El proceso de inscripción para kindergarten del Distrito 303 para el año escolar 2021-2022 será virtual! Entre el 19 de enero y el 12 de marzo, las familias podrán inscribir a su(s) hijo(s) en edad de kindergarten al acceder a la página web de Inscripción e Información de Kindergarten en el sitio web del Distrito 303. En esta página encontrará:

- El Formulario de Admisión para Nuevos Estudiantes (Nuevo para el 19 de enero del 2021)
 - La Guía Paso a Paso para la Inscripción de Kindergarten
 - Exámenes de Salud y Dentales e Información de Inmunizaciones
 - Información de Contacto de Todas las Escuelas Primarias
 - Información sobre Kindergarten de Todo el Día y de Medio Día
- 

Compass Academy Registration Now Open!

Compass Academy will open in the fall of 2021 at the Haines Center, but applications are now being taken for enrollment in this new District 303 program. The program, which is open to all incoming 9-12 grade students, offers flexible scheduling, project-based learning, and competency-based education.

Students interested in registering before the February 12 deadline may complete the application found on the [Compass Academy webpage](#). The webpage also includes the Academy Information Guide, brochure, and Frequently Asked Questions document.

Students who attend Compass Academy will have the opportunity to take some classes and participate in extracurricular activities at their home high school. For more information, please contact Academy Director Sharon Stanley at Sharon.stanley@d303.org or (331) 228-3387.

¡Ya están abiertas las Inscripciones para Compass Academy!

Compass Academy abrirá en el otoño del 2021 en el Centro Haines, pero ya están abiertas las inscripciones para este nuevo programa del Distrito 303. El programa, que está abierta para todos los estudiantes entrantes del 9° al 12° grado, ofrece horarios flexibles, aprendizaje basado en los proyectos, y educación basada en la competencia.

Los estudiantes que estén interesados en inscribirse antes de la fecha límite del 12 de febrero pueden completar la aplicación que se encuentra en el [sitio web de Compass Academy](#). La página web también incluye la guía de información, folletos informativos, y un documento de preguntas frecuentes.

Los estudiantes que asistan a la Compass Academy tendrán la oportunidad de tomar algunas clases y participar en actividades extracurriculares en su escuela preparatoria de origen. Para mas información, por favor contacte a la Directora de la Academia, Sharon Stanley, en Sharon.stanley@d303.org o (331) 228-3387.



HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY COVID-19?

11

**DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PAYING YOUR
RENT, MORTGAGE, OR UTILITIES?**

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- **ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD IS ALLOWED.**
- **HOUSEHOLDS IMPACTED BY COVID-19: LOSS OF INCOME, LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT, OR CHILDCARE.**
- **MUST BE AN ILLINOIS RESIDENT.**
- **HOUSEHOLDS INELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL STIMULUS CHECKS AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS THAT HAVE NOT RECEIVED HOUSING FUNDS FROM PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE CARES ACT.**
- **LOW-INCOME, LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT (LEP) INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE NOT RECEIVED HOUSING FUNDS FROM OTHER PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE CARES ACT.**

**THE FAMILY FOCUS ILLINOIS WELCOMING CENTER (IWC)
CAN HELP YOU
RECEIVE FUNDS TO PAY RENT, MORTGAGE, OR UTILITIES!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO
SEE IF
YOU ARE ELIGIBLE,
CONTACT
SAMANTHA ZUNIGA
331-256-5065**



¿TE HA AFECTADO EL CORONAVIRUS?¹²

**¿NECESITA AYUDA PARA PAGAR EL ALQUILER,
HIPOTECA, O LOS SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS?**

¿QUIÉN ES ELIGIBLE?

- **SE PERMITE UNA SOLICITUD POR HOGAR.**
- **HOGARES AFECTADOS POR CORONAVIRUS: PÉRDIDA DE INGRESOS, PÉRDIDA**
- **DE EMPLEO, O CUIDADO DE NIÑOS.**
- **LOS HOGARES QUE NO SON ELEGIBLES PARA LOS CONTROLES FEDERALES DE**
- **ESTÍMULO Y LOS BENEFICIOS DE DESEMPLEO QUE NO HAN RECIBIDO FONDOS**
- **DE VIVIENDA DE PROGRAMAS FINANCIADOS POR LA LEY CARES.**
- **PERSONAS CON DOMINIO LIMITADO DEL INGLÉS QUE NO HAYAN RECIBIDO**
- **FONDOS DE VIVIENDA DE OTROS PROGRAMAS FINANCIADOS POR LA LEY**
- **CARES.**

**¡EL CENTRO DE BIENVENIDA DE ILLINOIS (IWC) EN
FAMILY FOCUS PUEDE AYUDAR
RECIBIR FONDOS PARA PAGAR EL ALQUILER, LA
HIPOTECA O LOS SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS!**

¿QUIÉN ES ELIGIBLE

**PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y
PARA
SABER SI ES ELIGIBLE,
CONTACTE A
SAMANTHA ZUNIGA:
331-256-5065**



Upcoming School Board Meetings

February 16

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Special School Board Meeting following the Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting

February 22

Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Special School Board Meeting following the Business Services Committee Meeting

March 8

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

March 15

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

March 22

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

2020-2021 Calendar Highlights

February 15

Presidents' Day Holiday

February 26

Kane County Institute Day (no students)

March 26

School Improvement Day (no students)



We're Hiring Substitutes!

Did you know?

We are ALWAYS hiring:

- Substitute teachers (college degree required)
- Substitute teacher assistants (need a minimum of Associates Degree)
- 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 for more details.

