

District 303 E-NEWS

 St Charles District 303  @StCharlesD303  @StCharlesD303

Administration Center

201 South 7th St.
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331.228.2000
Contact us!



April 26, 2024

Banquet Celebrates Student Achievements and Partnerships



On April 26, St. Charles East High School hosted the Employer Appreciation Banquet, a celebration to culminate the work and involvement of students in the Cooperative Education program. More than 50 St. Charles East and North High School students were partnered with over 40 community employers who serve as mentors to students. For more than 20 years, students in Co-op have connected with local community employers for an opportunity to develop workplace skills and analyze career choices and options.

Cooperative Education Coordinator, Shannon Stone, delivered an emotive speech remarking how supportive the community, the school, and the district have been toward the program. She emphasized how valuable these experiences have been for students, as she's witnessed incredible growth in each and every student.

Two employers and two students also shared their experiences, with one student noting how she "not only earned a paycheck but acquired practical skills and knowledge that are transferable to any aspect of life," and thanked Ms. Stone for her unwavering commitment and support to students and the program.



Inspiring Others With Green Habits



The Anderson Green Team, composed of enthusiastic kindergarten through 2nd grade students, has been working hard to promote environmental awareness and empower the school community to become responsible stewards of the planet.

The group has gone far beyond the usual seed-planting by introducing a variety of native plants to the schoolyard. This was done in collaboration with St. Charles East High School student, Ryan Tobin, who organized the process for building the raised garden beds as part of his Eagle Scout project. Students have been actively educating their classmates about water conservation and have spearheaded daily informative announcements, providing valuable tips on how each student can make a positive difference.



For Earth Day on April 22, the Green Team promoted an interactive and engaging scavenger hunt through the Goosechase digital platform. This activity encouraged students and their families to connect with the environment in a playful way by completing challenges and logging in their progress through videos or photos. Challenges encouraged users to pick up litter, reduce their plastic usage, switch to reusable products, and come together as families to help the planet.

"We're incredibly proud of the Green Team's initiative and dedication. They're not just learning about environmental responsibility; they're actively educating and inspiring others to take action," said Anderson LRC/Media Specialist, Melissa Majewski, who is a co-sponsor of the group alongside Jennifer Simmons. Simmons has written grants and spent a lot of time helping to develop these great opportunities for students and the entire Anderson community.

CBS TV Chicago Visits Corron

CBS News Chicago Climate Watch Reporter Tara Molina visited Corron Elementary and met with 5th graders in Erik Robinson's class who are making a difference. Every Friday, students collect plastics for recycling, helping keep about 100 pounds of plastic from reaching landfills weekly in their community. [Read the CBS News article](#) and [watch the video here](#). We're pleased to see these students highlighted by our media partners to bring even more awareness to their incredible achievements! This initiative was also featured in the [March 1st edition of the D303 eNews](#) and celebrated on our social media platforms ([Facebook](#)).





2024-2025 School Year

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

OPENS APRIL 22



Families of current District 303 Kindergarten–11th grade students can view registration instructions, important due dates and fee waiver details online.

CLICK HERE
for more
information

Other Important Dates

JUNE 1

Elementary and Middle School Online Registration due

JULY 1

High School Online Registration due

JULY 8

2024–2025 Fees posted in PushCoin

JULY 8

Fee Waiver Applications available online

JULY 31

Early Bird discount if fees paid by July 31

AUGUST 14

First Day of School

Fechas Importantes

1º DE JUNIO

Plazo de inscripción en línea para los estudiantes de primaria y secundaria termina

1º DE JULIO

Plazo de inscripción en línea para los estudiantes de preparatoria termina

8 DE JULIO

Las cuotas para el año escolar 2024–2025 se publican en las cuentas de PushCoin

8 DE JULIO

Las Solicitudes de Exención de Cuotas están disponible

31 DE JULIO

Descuento por pago anticipado si las cuotas se pagan antes del 31 de julio

14 DE AGOSTO

Primer día de clases



Año Escolar 2024-2025

LAS INSCRIPCIONES PARA ESTUDIANTES QUE REGRESAN

ABREN EL 22 DE ABRIL



Las familias de estudiantes actualmente en Kindergarten a 11º grado en el Distrito 303 pueden ver las instrucciones de inscripción, fechas de vencimiento importantes y detalles de exención de cuotas en línea.

HAGA CLIC AQUÍ
para más información

Check out the Community Backpack

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

CLICK HERE

North Art Student Earns State Recognition

Congratulations to St. Charles North High School student Gianna Hillebrenner for being awarded 3rd place for Drawing at the Illinois High School Art Exhibition at Bridgeport Art Center in Chicago. This is the largest state show for art students and is akin to winning 3rd in state for her respective category. She was also recognized as one of the Top 5 Early College Portfolio artists.



Drawing Category Winners

Bronze:

Gianna Hillebrenner
St. Charles



Judge Comments:
I love that your risky and balanced composition beautifully reflects a complex human paradox... what we see on the outside isn't always what's going on inside.



ECP Top 5 Award

JUDGE'S NOTES:

The work shows an in depth understanding of three-dimensional form, light and shadow. The meticulous attention to detail and the artist's ability to render it in the selected medium was fantastic.



Gianna Hillebrenner- St. Charles North HS

Roaming Robots at Ferson Creek

Young engineers at Ferson Creek are putting their STEM skills to the test, taking part in a robotics module in their Empower classes.

The robots come in several shapes and sizes and include Code & Go mice, Spheros, Code-a-pillars, and Dash robots. Students in 2nd through 5th grade start out by learning basic directional coding to influence how the machines move. Once they've mastered that, they can create obstacle courses and use different inputs to help the robots navigate them. The goal is to progress to more advanced coding over the course of six weeks through communication, collaboration, and problem-solving. Empower teacher Lauren Schaaf says she likes to save this module until the end of the school year, as it typically garners an overwhelmingly positive student response.



Stock Market Simulation Nets Thousands for Middle School Team

When it comes to the stock market, Thompson 8th graders in Brandon Petersen's class understand it very well. So much so that three teams placed in the top 10 in the state out of the 580 teams that participated in the "Stock Market Game."

As a class, they participated in an online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing, and personal finance. The game has prepared nearly 20 million students for financially independent futures.

In the fall, after completing the Financial Literacy unit, students were divided into teams and were allocated \$100,000 in funny money to invest. Students traded in real-time and made (fake) money via investments in stock, mutual funds, or bond purchases. Through this project, students learned how to adopt the role of investors and how financial risk can produce positive and negative results. Analyzing potential growth in the free market for stock choices was encouraged for all students. In addition, capitalistic principles of innovation, risk management, and economic growth could be seen when studying the Industrial Revolution and the Great Depression.

"It really is a fun learning activity over the course of the majority of the year which the kids enjoy, and some really excelled at," said Brandon Petersen, 8th Grade US History teacher, who noted that his class also got 1st place four years ago.

The team, Field Workers, placed 1st and ended with a balance of \$167,163.93, which was quite the return. The team attributes their success to the thorough research they made prior to investing, which even inspired them to invest in real life and have a desire to learn more about that career path. Team Chicka Llamas placed 3rd and commented on how much they enjoyed learning about popular companies. Team Peager Meagers finished in 8th place and expressed how interesting and fun it was to invest in tech companies, apply the concepts they learned in class, and participate in the competition.



Team Field Workers



Team Chicka Llamas



Team Peager Meagers



incubatoredu.

FINAL PITCH NIGHT

MAY 10, 2024

St. Charles East High School
Norris Cultural Arts Center
1040 Dunham Rd, St. Charles, IL
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Hear the pitches of potential
businesses from five high school
teams as they compete to earn
seed money for their enterprise!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S

95TH

ANNIVERSARY & END OF
THE YEAR CELEBRATION

Friday, May 10, 2024

**5-6 pm | Open house for all, including
alumni, former staff, and community
members**

**6-8 pm | Event for Lincoln families and
community**

*211 South 6th Avenue
St. Charles, IL 60174*



Celebrating Arbor Day at Davis Primary

To celebrate Arbor Day, the City of St. Charles selected Davis Primary for a tree planting ceremony on April 26. Students, staff, District Administrators, St. Charles Mayor Lora Vitek, City of St. Charles Natural Resources Commission and Public Works Department staff all gathered at the school for the event.




The Brownies Troop 536 presented the colors, followed by an Arbor Day proclamation by Mayor Vitek. Student Council members read two beautiful poems, one in English and one in Spanish. Natural Resources Commissioner Suzi Myers then highlighted how important trees are, not just for people but for animals, such as birds, squirrels, and even insects, as they get to call trees their home. To conclude the event, students sang "A Trillion Trees," and while they didn't have an opportunity to help plant the Heritage River Birch tree in the Davis garden because of the rain, students commented how excited they were to see it grow into a tall and beautiful tree.


Notice to Destroy Special Education Records

Community Unit School District 303, in St. Charles, Illinois, set to destroy temporary special education paper records for former students. Temporary records of students who graduated or transferred out of district, and/or had inactive special education records, will be destroyed after June 1, 2024. Included in the destruction are documents from the school years of 2000-2010, and with the birth year of 1997. Also, included in the destruction are temporary records that have been digitized from the school years of 2018-19, 19-20, 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23. Also included are health records for students that graduated in 2020, 2021, and 2022 these records are maintained electronically. If a parent or student has reason to believe that these records may be of continued usefulness, they are encouraged to contact C.U.S.D. #303, Department of Student Services, 331-228-6732, to obtain a copy of these records, 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. 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.

NEW EPISODE!


Listen Now!




VOICES

OF DISTRICT 303

THE POWER OF PLCS

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Christine Igoe, ELA Coordinator Dr. Amanda Wojcik, and ISC Meghan Madigan discuss how a renewed emphasis on Professional Learning Communities has led to better English/Language Arts outcomes for students in District 303.



8

View Upcoming School Board Meetings

Note: District 303 Board and Board Committee meetings will be held at Thompson Middle School in the LRC (705 West Main Street, St. Charles, IL). A permanent meeting venue will become available later this year.

April 29

Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.
Special School Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.*

*The meeting will begin immediately after the Business Services Committee Meeting, however no earlier than 6:30 p.m.

May 13

School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

May 21

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

May 30

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

2023-2024 School Calendar Highlights

May 1

High School Early Release Day

May 8

High School Early Release Day

May 15

High School Early Release Day

May 20 – D303 High School Graduation Day

May 22

High School Early Release Day

May 27

Memorial Day Holiday (No School, Offices Closed)

May 30

Last Day for Students (3 “Emergency Days” used)