

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!

October 30, 2020

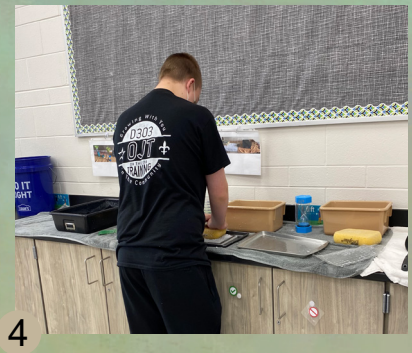
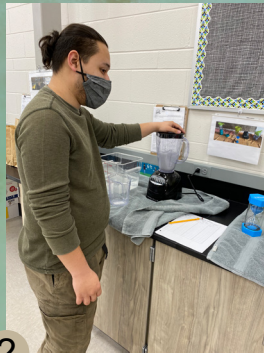


The Business of Papermaking

The District's Transition Program, located at the Haines Center, is the new home to young adults between the ages of 18 and 22 years old. Students in the Transition Program experience a wide range of activities related to their education, current and future employment/training, and daily life. One unique activity for the students is participating in a micro-business, which provides them with hands-on pre-vocational experiences and allows them to strengthen their work-based skills that are transferable to employment or volunteer opportunities.

As part of the micro-business, students use shredded recycled paper and dried flowers to create usable paper products. The papermaking process involves measuring and weighing the shredded paper before it is placed in a blender with water and ground up to create a form of pulp. The end product is poured into a form and pressed with a sponge to remove excess water. Then, it's rolled and flattened to help create a thin piece of paper. After it's dried, it's placed into a paper press for the final flattening process.

Students use a dye cutter to shape the paper into different items, such as gift tags, bookmarks, and notecards, which are sold at the Daily Bean.



Book Characters Come to Life

No other fall activity is more iconic than pumpkin decorating. To make the activity more fun, Norton Creek remote and in-person students participated in the 2nd annual pumpkin character contest. They pick their favorite character from a book and decorated a pumpkin to look like that character.

Students used markers, acrylic paint, yarn, construction paper, feathers, leaves, pipe cleaners, and any other items they could think of to help make their characters come to life. To accompany their pumpkin, students included a card with the character's name and book information.

On October 21, as the virtual book fair was being held, seventy-four pumpkins were placed in front of the school for a school-wide pumpkin parade. After school, parents were also invited to take part in the parade. Among the characters were Harry Potter, Bob, from "Bob" by Wendy Mass, "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, and even Cinderella and her carriage. Students from all grade levels walked through the display and voted on their favorite. Each student received a bookmark and three winners (K-1; 2-3; and 4-5) received virtual book fair certificates.



Corron Writers at Work

Corron 4th graders in Dr. Wojcik's class have been busy writers this school year. As part of their fictional narrative writing unit, students will publish a realistic fiction short story anthology.

"Students have not only been engaged in their writing but have felt empowered to share powerful messages through their stories," expressed Dr. Wojcik. As part of the revision process, the author, Mr. Levin met with them virtually. He shared tips and strategies with students that assisted their revision process and made them become better readers and writers.

"You all have the tremendous power to create any story you want," said Mr. Levin. He encouraged students to let their imagination flow and use words and dialogue to captivate their readers. After the virtual meeting, students made final revisions to their stories so the drafts are ready to send to the printing company

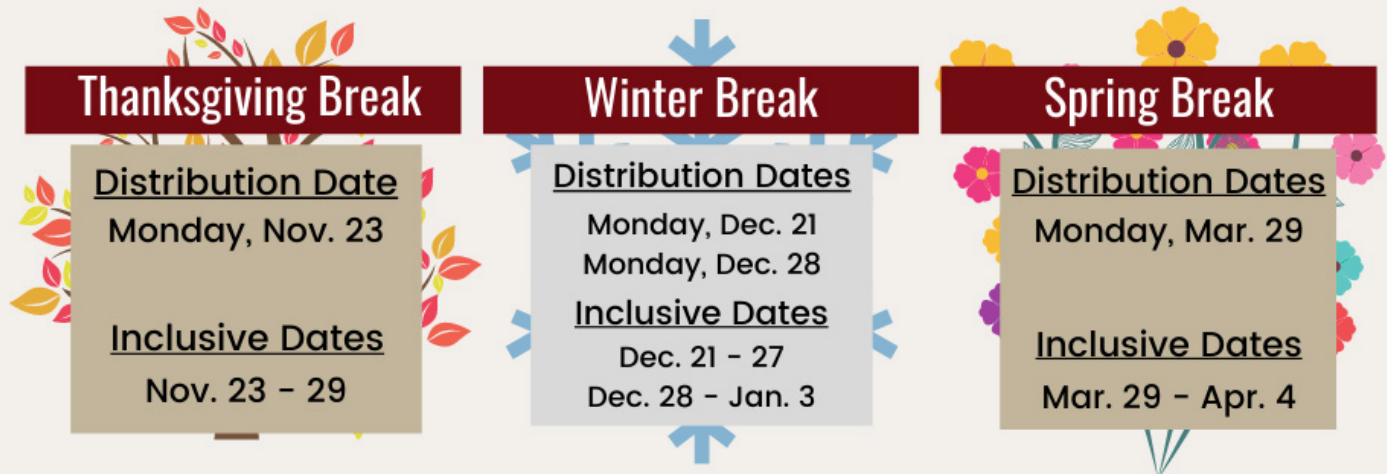
for publication. As part of the process, the printing company sent the proof to the students for their approval prior to final printing.

The class received 25 copies of their anthologies so each student was able to take home a copy to share with their families. Additionally, they will be dedicating copies to Corron's LRC and to each of the 4th grade classroom libraries. And, as a surprise, they will be sending Mr. Levin a copy of their book to thank him for all his tips, advice, and words of encouragement.



Holiday Break Meal Distribution

District 303 will be providing children from ages 1 to 18 with 7 days worth of free meals over the upcoming holiday breaks:



Location:

Time:

Anderson Elementary	9:00–10:00 a.m.
Thompson Middle School	9:00–10:00 a.m.
Wredling Middle School	9:00–10:00 a.m.
Cumberland Green	11:00–12:00 p.m.
St. Charles Place Apartments	11:00–12:00 p.m.
St. Charles East High School	8:00–9:00 a.m.
St. Charles North High School	12:00–1:00 p.m.



Student Photography Contest

Congratulations to St. Charles North students Marissa Covello and Sarah Traver, and St. Charles East student Kaylee Sever for placing among the top 10 for Week 4 of the Kane County Regional Office of Education's Student Photography Contest! [Click on this link](#) to see their great photos.

St. Charles East student Sam Bischof, and St. Charles North student Leigh Vandehei also placed among the top 10 for Week 5 of the contest. [Check out their spooky Halloween-themed photos!](#)

Important dates to remember!

- > **November 3 - Election Day**
(no student attendance) - **NEW THIS YEAR!**
- > **November 9 - Remote Learning Planning Day for Staff**
(non attendance day for all students)
- > **November 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break**

Parent University: Technology Talk

Monday, November 2

7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

District 303 is committed to providing families support with their child's learning. In this upcoming Parent University session, families will familiarize themselves with the 3 digital platforms teachers may use in the district: Seesaw, Google Classroom, and Schoology. Each digital platform will have its own 30-minute session. During these sessions, families will learn how best to support their child with their classwork. They will see where assignments are posted, how teachers communicate and collaborate with their child, where students turn in their work, and the many ways teachers can utilize the platform. Please fill out this form to indicate which session you are interested in attending.

~Sessions will be organized as follows:

7:00-7:30-Seesaw

7:30-8:00-Google Classroom

8:00-8:30-Schoology

It's Showtime for East Students

As they say in theater, "the show must go on," and that has been the mindset of St. Charles East students. This fall, students have been working tirelessly to continue to produce pieces that reflect their talents and creativity, by putting together productions of "Dracula," "Frankenstein," and "War of the Worlds."



"We have found a way for our students to produce a piece of theater while wearing masks and maintaining social distance," said St. Charles East teacher, Mrs. Bundy.

Before Labor Day, students turned in audition recordings of their rehearsals. Once the school reopened for in-person after-school activities, students began their rehearsals.

The two casts, Omega and Alpha, composed of 20 cast members and 7 crew members, rehearsed in different locations, to ensure they had enough space to be socially distanced. One cast rehearsed outside in the courtyard area while the other cast rehearsed on stage with the equipment and foley artists, being sure to wear their masks. After rehearsing for two weeks students recorded the shows that include student-created sound effects and student-produced commercials.

"There was a bit of trial and error with recording at first, but we have learned many new skills that we will use for future productions," added Mrs. Bundy.

Use [this link to access the daily self-certification form](#) that needs to be completed prior to your child attending school in-person.

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.



Upcoming School Board Meetings

November 9

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Thompson Middle School

November 16

Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Thompson Middle School

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

Thompson Middle School

November 23

Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.
Thompson Middle School

December 14

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Thompson Middle School

2020-2021 Calendar Highlights

November 2

Parent University: Technology Talk

November 3

Election Day Holiday (no students, offices closed)

November 9

Remote Learning Planning Day for Staff
(non attendance day for all students)

November 23-27

Thanksgiving Break



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.

