

District 303 E-NEWS

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January 17, 2020



Reptiles in the Classroom

"Snakes get new bodies!" exclaimed one of the Early Childhood students from Ferson Creek when asked what they knew about reptiles. "Excellent!" responded Nancy Krasinski, Volunteer Steward from Campton Township Parks, who visited Ferson Creek on January 15. "And in fact, let me show you," she said as she demonstrated snakeskin shedding to students. She also brought a few insects, a large turtle shell, and three reptiles from Gray Willows Farm.

First, students met Jerry, an Eastern Box Turtle, who was a rescue and now spends most of his time in the woods. As students touched Jerry's shell, they couldn't believe that was his home and that he could tuck away whenever he wanted. "He's a land-base turtle, so you won't see him in the water very often," said Josh Nelson, Ecologist and Program Manager at Campton Township Parks.

Then, students met Rosie, a bearded dragon from Australia. "She likes to eat leafy greens and they need to be fresh. However, she also likes to eat worms and crickets like these," said Josh as he popped a worm and a cricket in his mouth, prompting a chorus of "eww's" from students.

Finally, students met Orin, a corn snake who's about 6 to 7 years old. "He's a bit of an adventurer today," he said as Orin wrapped himself around Josh's arm and continued to move around the back of his neck.



Through this experience, students learned about the environments where those reptiles live, the foods they eat, as well as why their skin texture is so different from one another despite all three of them having scales.

"This complements what we just started learning in class about reptiles and it makes students more excited and curious to learn," said Mrs. Turner from Ferson Creek.

"We enjoy bringing some of nature to you and we hope you can come visit us and meet our other friends," said Josh.

Second Career Pathway Job Shadow Event for High School Students

On their last day of winter break, St. Charles East and North High School students participated in the second Career Pathway Job Shadow event in partnership with the City of St. Charles. Students interested in exploring a career in municipal government professions had the opportunity to rotate through different locations during the morning and afternoon sessions.

New and returning students visited St. Charles City Hall, Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works, meeting one-on-one with staff members for a more personalized experience. Students engaged in in-depth conversations about the variety of duties performed in the different professions and positions such as administrative assistant, police detective, community planner, and elected official.

"I like planning and being a visionary, which is why I am very interested in the Community & Economic Development here in St. Charles," said East junior student, Isaiah, who met with Russell Colby, Assistant Director, Community & Economic Development, and thoughtfully discussed the current and future projects happening in St. Charles. "I enjoy collaborating with other people who also want to have a better future and a desire to improve," Isaiah added.

Mayor Ray Rogina also met with Isaiah and North student, Natalie, and encouraged students to reflect on what they are really passionate about and the difference they want to make in their communities.

There is one additional Career Pathway Job Shadow event planned for April 10. Students who are interested in participating are encouraged to contact the College and Career Readiness Department for the application forms.



◆◆◆◆ We Want Your Feedback! ◆◆◆◆

District 303 participates in the annual Illinois 5Essentials Survey that collects feedback from our students, teachers, and parents. Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will enable you to share your thoughts on important elements of school effectiveness. All responses are confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Parent Survey is currently open and will remain so through February 14, 2020. To take the survey, please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> and select the appropriate survey. Make sure you enter **Kane County** in the box for county even if your home or your child's school is in DuPage County. This will allow you to correctly select your child's school.

Create a Positive Online Presence - Register By January 21 for Free

District 303 hosted national digital citizenship speaker Josh Ochs at both our middle and high schools, and as part of our Parent University series. During his presentation with students, Josh spoke about the importance of creating a positive online profile. His evening presentation to parents on October 30, 2019, focused on ways to keep children safe online, including what apps children can use safely and which ones to avoid.

Because he spoke in our district, all our families have the opportunity to register for a free one-year subscription to his SmartSocial.com Digital Driver's Ed program. **You must register by January 21, 2020 to take part in the free 12-month offer.** This resource provides information about current social media trends, statistics, and app guides. In addition, there are webinars that teach both parents and students about how to create a positive online presence.

Here's how you can access this resource:

- Download the SmartSocial app on either your iPhone or Android device. Use the code *STCHARLES* to unlock the program. <https://smartsocial.com/app>
- Access on a desktop/laptop using this link <https://smartsocial.com/stcharles/>

You will be given a username/password to log into the program. Your login information provides you with access to the videos and online workshops.

If you were unable to attend Josh's presentation, there are links to both an audio and video version in the membership area of his website.

- **Video:** <https://smartsocial.com/social-media-webinar/>
- **Audio:** <https://smartsocialpodcast.com/episodes/social-media-parent-speech-by-josh-ochs>

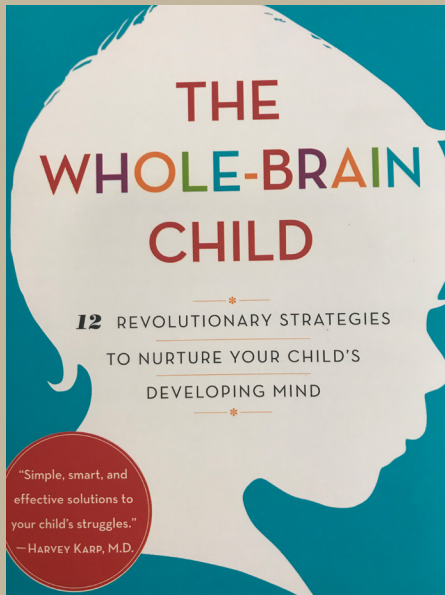
Colonial Chest

Munhall students in Mr. Blake's class traveled back in time during their social studies class to create a "Colonial Chest." As part of the project, students researched different databases to find items and facts that represent the colonial time period to include in their project, such as interesting facts about the Jamestown and Plymouth settlements as well as ten items the early colonists might have used in their daily lives.

Students reflected on what items are necessary for survival, such as food, shelter, and clothing, and also thought about

how those things were made without the technology that we have today. "You couldn't just go to the supermarket or online to buy clothes and food," said Mr. Blake, as students struggled to describe how they could make sweaters or shoes for winter. Students engaged in thoughtful discussions about how communities develop before presenting their final "Colonial Chests" to the class.





The Whole Brain Child Book Study

District 303 Parent University presents our second annual book study. In *The Whole Brain Child*, Daniel J. Siegel (neuropsychiatrist and author of the bestselling book *Mindsight*) and parenting expert, Tina Payne Bryson, demystify the meltdowns and aggravation, explaining the new science of how a child's brain is wired and how it matures. The "upstairs brain," which makes decisions and balances emotions, is under construction until the mid-twenties. Conversations will be based upon the book as well as supplemental workbook activities.

If you registered for the book study, please remember to pick up your book at the Administration Center, 201 S. 7th Street, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

✚ The first book study session will be on February 13, 2020:

9:15–10:30 a.m. at Baker Community Center, (101 S. 2nd Street, St. Charles)

6:30–7:45 p.m. at Fox Ridge in the LRC (1905 Tyler Road, St. Charles)

Middle School Intra-District Transfer Window

Intra-District Transfer Requests must be submitted to the District between:

Feb. 2, 2020 from 8:00 A.M. to Feb. 28, 2020 by 4:00 P.M.

A link to the request form will be posted on district.d303.org. Please click here to view the [Intra-District Transfer page](#) and [School Board Policy 7:30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer/Choice](#).

If approved, please note that:

- Siblings are not guaranteed placement due to fluctuating class sizes at schools and each grade level
- Transportation is the responsibility of the parents
- The transfer remains in effect during your child's time in middle school as long as you reside in District 303
- Upon completion of middle school, your child will attend the high school assigned to your home attendance area



QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CALL THE DISTRICT
OFFICE AT 331.228.2000

It's not too late to register for Little Saints Preschool!

The Little Saints program is scheduled from Tuesday, January 28, 2020 until Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at St. Charles East High School. It will continue to be a FOUR DAY PROGRAM and the cost will remain at \$125.

This preschool experience runs in conjunction with the Early Childhood Practicum classes where the high school students perform the roles of the "teachers." The students plan, create, and lead various age appropriate learning experiences that foster growth in the different developmental areas.

[Click here for more information and to register for the Little Saints Preschool.](#) Contact Erin Linde, at erin.linde@d303.org for any questions or concerns.



Too Good For Drugs Graduation at Wild Rose

Wild Rose families attended the "Too Good For Drugs" 5th-grade graduation ceremony on January 10. The program seeks to provide students with knowledge and substance abuse prevention skills to help them make healthy choices.

Judge Flood from the Kane County 16th Circuit Court welcomed everyone to the ceremony and spoke about the new responsibilities students will have as they advance to middle school and high school. She also reminded students about the challenges they will face and advised them to always make good decisions.

Deputy Jamie Gartland, who worked with students through the program, spoke about the important skills this nation-wide program brings to students. He noted how it's not just a drug prevention program that provides students with the knowledge and tools they need to make better choices, but it also helps students set smart goals and develop their communication skills.

Before students received their graduation certificates, two students from each 5th-grade class shared their reflection essays and the valuable lessons they learned.

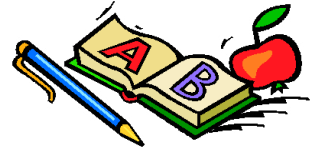
"I didn't realize how much I didn't know. Now, I know more about how the real world is like, how to stand up for myself. And if they ask me if this program should continue, I would not hesitate to say yes!" said 5th-grade student, Kayla.





Kindergarten Enrollment

February 5, 2020



If your child will be 5-years old on or before September 1, 2020
it's time to register for kindergarten.

DO NOT WAIT until summer to enroll your new kindergarten student. Kindergarten enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year will be at all Community Unit School District 303 elementary schools on **February 5**. Enroll at the elementary school where children in your area currently attend.

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Bell-Graham Elementary	(331) 228-2100	Munhall Elementary	(331) 228-2600
Corron Elementary	(331) 228-6900	Norton Creek Elementary	(331) 228-2700
Ferson Creek Elementary	(331) 228-2300	Wasco Elementary	(331) 228-2900
Lincoln Elementary	(331) 228-2500	Wild Rose Elementary	(331) 228-3000

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Anderson Elementary	(331) 228-3300	Davis Primary	(331) 228-2200
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Community Unit School District 303 offers both Half Day and All Day Kindergarten programs. All Day Kindergarten is a fee-based program for the additional 1/2 day of instruction. Information regarding All Day Kindergarten fees can be found on the District website at district.d303.org in the Schools menu titled "Kindergarten Information".

The following information is **required** when enrolling for kindergarten*:

- Reliable proof of child's identity and age (*birth certificate*+, *passport*, *visa*, *etc.*)
- Verification of Parent/Guardian Identity
- Three documents as proof of residency
- Parcel Identification Number (PIN)

*New student residency and enrollment information, *including links to required notices and kindergarten enrollment forms*, can be found on the District 303 web site (district.d303.org/registration).

+Required to comply with the Missing Children Records Act [325 ILCS 50/5]

Complete information about physical examinations, dental examinations and immunizations will be available at the February enrollment event. Students are expected to have all requirements completed by the first day of school. Student assignments will be available in August.

Enroll on February 5.

Your cooperation will enable the school to better serve your child.



inscripción de kinder

5 de febrero, 2020



Si su hijo/a cumplirá 5 años en o antes del 1^{ro} de septiembre del 2020 es hora de inscribirlo para asistir a la escuela.

NO ESPERE al verano para inscribir a su nuevo estudiante de kinder. La inscripción de kinder para el año escolar 2020-2021 será en todas las escuelas primarias el **5 febrero**. Inscríbase en la escuela primaria a la que asisten los niños de su vecindario.

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Primaria Bell-Graham	(331) 228-2100	Primaria Munhall	(331) 228-2600
Primaria Corron	(331) 228-6900	Primaria Norton Creek	(331) 228-2700
Primaria Ferson Creek	(331) 228-2300	Primaria Wasco	(331) 228-2900
Primaria Lincoln	(331) 228-2500	Primaria Wild Rose	(331) 228-3000

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Primaria Anderson	(331) 228-3300	Primaria Davis	(331) 228-2200
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El Distrito Escolar Comunitario 303 ofrece programas de Kinder de Medio Día o del Día Entero. El Kinder del Día Entero es un programa basado en el pago de las tarifas por el 1/2 día adicional. Información referente a la cuota de tarifas para el programa de Kinder del Día Entero estará disponible en febrero.

La siguiente información es **requerida** a la hora de inscripción para el Kinder:

- Pruebas confiables de identidad y edad (certificado de nacimiento+, pasaporte, visa, etc.).
- Verificación de la identidad de los padres
- Tres documentos como comprobantes de domicilio (p. ej., licencia de conducir, contrato firmado de arrendamiento o alquiler, factura por servicios públicos, etc.)*
- Número de Identificación de Parcela/Lote (PIN por sus siglas en inglés: Parcel Identification Number)*

*Nueva residencia de estudiante e información, **incluyendo enlaces a los avisos necesarios y formas de inscripción de kinder**, pueden encontrarse en el sitio web de Distrito 303 (district.d303.org/registration).

+Requerido para cumplir con la Ley de Registros de Niños Desaparecidos [325 ILCS 50/5]

Información detallada sobre exámenes físicos, exámenes dentales y vacunas estará disponible el día de inscripción en febrero. Se espera que los estudiantes tengan todo los requisitos cumplidos para el primer día de clases. Se harán asignaciones tentativas de los estudiantes en junio. Las asignaciones finales estarán disponibles en agosto.

Inscripción el 5 de febrero.

su coóperacion permítira a la escuela ayudar mejor a su hijo/a.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

January 21

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.
*Thompson Middle School LRC

January 23

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
*Thompson Middle School LRC

January 27

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

February 10

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

2019-2020 Calendar Highlights

January 20

Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday (No Students, Offices Closed)

February 13

Parent University: "The Whole Brain Child" by Dr. Dan Siegel Book Study

9:15-10:30 a.m. at Baker Community Center

6:30-7:45 p.m. at Fox Ridge in the LRC



THE ST. CHARLES EDUCATION FOUNDATION D303 TRIBUTE PROGRAM

Now you can honor or thank a District 303 staff member by making a donation to The St. Charles Education Foundation in his or her name. Throughout the year, your personalized message will be sent to the staff member in a card. Your tax-deductible contribution will help fund grants that benefit District 303 students and classrooms.

Make a donation by visiting www.stced.org and clicking "Ways to Help."

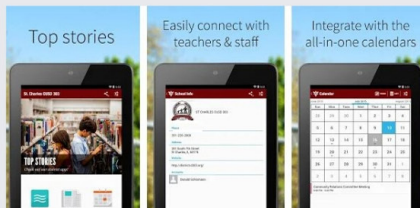
For more information, email tribute@stced.org.



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