

DISTRICT 303



eNEWS



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us!

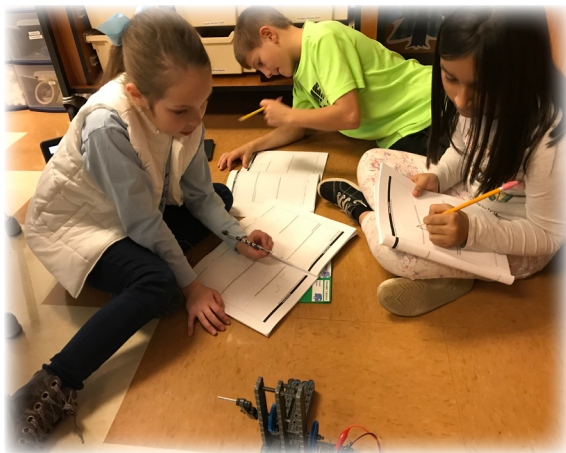
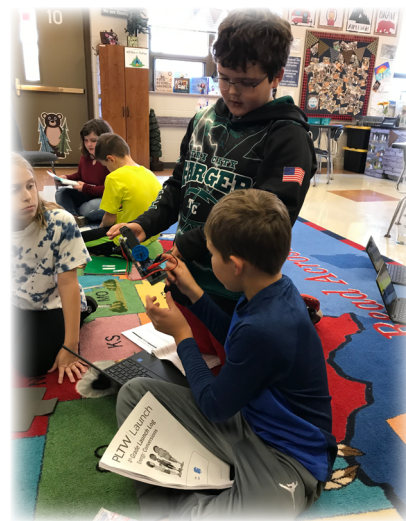
Administration Center
201 South 7th Street
St. Charles, IL 60174
331.228.2000
JustAsk@d303.org

November 16, 2018

■ Innovative Problem-Solving at Norton Creek ■

District 303 is fortunate to be able to provide students with the opportunity to engage in Project Lead the Way from Kindergarten through their high school career. Project Lead the Way creates hands-on authentic learning experiences through exposing students to multiple pathways that include engineering, computer science, and biomedical sciences. Through Project Lead the Way, students are simultaneously discovering, collaborating, and thinking critically in order to innovatively solve problems.

Fourth grade students at Norton Creek Elementary School were recently learning about the different types of energy and applying that knowledge to STEM activities. Students built a generator with a hand crank that turned on different



colored lights depending on the type of energy being produced. Other students learned about the science behind hand warmers,

while a third group manipulated videos on their Chromebooks to assist them with building a bicycle. As these fourth grade scientists and engineers worked on each activity, their growing knowledge of concepts related to energy conversion and passion they have for science was increasingly evident in the conversations they had with one another. They collaborated to solve problems and answer questions. After they complete this module on energy conversion, fourth graders will begin learning about the human brain.

Davis Students Speak with Author

The students in the bilingual program at Davis spoke with author Jacqueline Jules about how she gets her ideas for books and what they like to eat on Thanksgiving. Prior to her visit, students read her book *Duck for Turkey Day* about a family who does not eat the traditional foods on that holiday. Ms. Jules is an award-winning author of 40 children's books. Her poems have appeared in over 100 publications, including *Cricket*, *Cicada*, *Germ Magazine*, *YARN*, *The Poetry Friday Anthologies*, and *One Minute Till Bedtime*. She lives in Northern Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C.



Munhall Students Demonstrate Self-Assessment Tool

Students at Munhall were eager to demonstrate how they self-assess themselves during PE classes at Monday's board meeting this week. Students showed board members how they use technology to record videos of themselves performing physical skills to help them become more self-aware.

Students then watch their video and complete a self-assessment Google Form taking note of components of skills they are trying to develop. Students set goals of which component(s)



Board Member Ms. Carolyn Waibel

they want to work on during skill development days in PE. After a week, students repeat the process of recording a video to track their growth and see if they've met their goals. Analyzing video has proven to be a powerful tool when it comes to developing physical skills in PE class.



Board Member Mr. Ed McNally

Kindness Rocks at Ferson Creek

In October, teachers at Ferson Creek all adopted Kindness Mottos for their classrooms as a means to inspire random acts of kindness during the school year. LaRage Quarry donated river stones and Art Volunteers in the Classroom (AVIC) helped students paint messages such as, "Bee Kind, Smile, You Can Do This and Make Today Awesome." At the end of the year, Ferson Creek students hope to move the rocks to Gray Willows Farm.



2-1-1 Now Available in Kane County



Need Help?

Kane County 2-1-1 can put you in touch with organizations ready to help you with:

- Emergency Shelter
- Health Resources
- Rent or Utility Assistance
- Food Pantries
- Elderly Care
- Employment Assistance

... and more. It's Easy and Free!

CALL 2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers.
There's always an answer 24/7!

Kane County
2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers.

Just like you dial 9-1-1 for emergencies, you may now call "2-1-1" in Kane County and be connected to a live specialist, any time of the day or night, to assist you with your human service and resource needs

East H.S. Discover-Y Series

St. Charles East High School has a new career awareness initiative called the [“Discover-Y” series](#). The series provides monthly presentations and guest speakers to expose students to various careers. Each month highlights a different pathway from Finance to Hospitality and Tourism. November focused on Military careers.



Regional Office of Education Photo Contest - Week 6,7

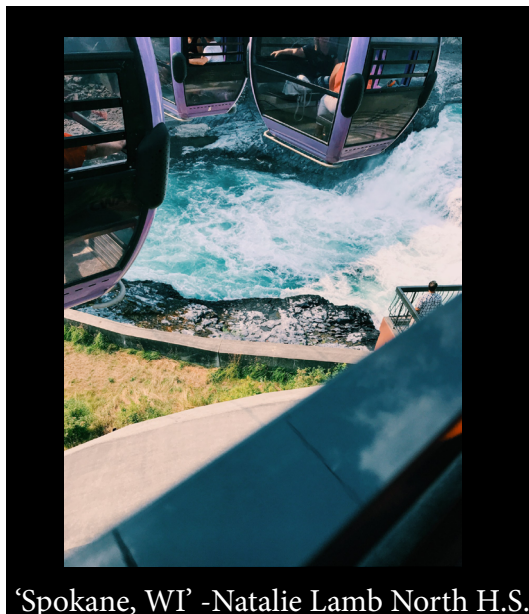
Congratulations to St. Charles East student Gino and St. Charles North student Ava for having their photographs displayed in the Top 10 Photos from [Week 6](#) of the ROE Photo Contest. St. Charles North students Jackie and Natalie also had their photographs exhibited in the Top 10 Photos from [Week 7](#) of the contest.



‘Midnight Pavilion Mist’ -Gino Rotella, East H.S.



‘Trapped in Glass’ - Ava Victor, North H.S.



‘Spokane, WI’ -Natalie Lamb North H.S.



‘Louvre’ -Maddie McLallen, North H.S.

District 303 Seeking 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations

St. Charles Community Unit School District 303, in conjunction with the Distinguished Alumni Award Committee and the Greater St. Charles Education Foundation, are proud to announce the opening of the nomination period for the 2019 District 303 Distinguished Alumni Award. The award will be given to selected nominees who have graduated from District 303 and have demonstrated a high level of achievement in their field of endeavor or in their contributions to their community.

NOMINATIONS
ARE OPEN

Nominations for the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award are being accepted through December 21. Nominations should include the nominee's name, current address, phone, e-mail, the high school from which the nominee graduated and what year, along with details of the nominee's achievements and accomplishments. Those making a nomination are also asked to include their contact information.

The 2019 recipients will be recognized at the [St. Charles Education Foundation's Gala Event](#) which will be held on April 6, 2019, at Hotel Baker. Nominations may be submitted by [clicking here](#).



Attain Excellence ■ Learn with Passion ■ Live with Integrity



*Have a wonderful
Thanksgiving Break!
No School 11/19 - 11/23*

*Don't Forget:
Parent Teacher Conferences are
Monday (K-12) and Tuesday (K-8)*



TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUG & ALCOHOL USE



12/4/18 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
North High School Auditorium



Talking to your Child about the
Dangers of Drug & Alcohol Use



Research shows that when parents talk to their children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, and set expectations with open lines of communication, that children are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol.

On December 4, Matthew Quinn, Licensed Counselor from Rosecrance will be our guest at a Parent University program entitled, "Talking to your Child about the Dangers of Drug and Alcohol Use." Mr. Quinn will provide parents with information and resources that will:

- Help them identify major risk factors for drug use among youth/adolescents
- Teach them the signs of drug use and appropriate responses
- Provide them with tools to implement practical steps that prevent children from gaining access to opioid drugs
- Increase awareness of trends and current terminology surrounding drug use
- Gain awareness of the long term health effects of vaping and e-cigarettes

The abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs are the leading cause of preventable accidents, premature death and disability among young people. While today's youth are among the most vulnerable in our communities for experiencing these adverse effects, research demonstrates that parent awareness and influence is critical in prevention and in getting the right help.

As part of this program, Nicole Cook, Mrs. America 2019 will share her personal story on how opioid abuse impacted her family in a tragic way.

[Click here to register.](#)



FOLLOW-UP ANGST SESSIONS

1/24/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wasco LRC

4/16/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wild Rose LRC

Registration link for 4/16 coming soon

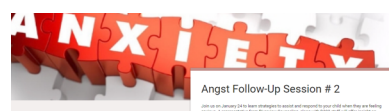


FOLLOW-UP ANGST SESSION #2

1/24/19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wasco LRC

Join us on January 24 to learn strategies to assist and respond to your child when they are feeling anxious. A representative from Riverview Counseling, along with D303 staff will offer insight on how to help your child deal with anxiety

[Click here to register.](#)



Angst Follow-Up Session # 2





Parent University



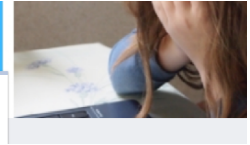
PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING BULLYING: LESSONS LEARNED & RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

1/30/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Thompson 6th Grade Cafeteria

Parent University

Bullying

Preventing & Addressing Bullying:
Lessons Learned and Resources for
Parents



Faculty from the Psychology Department at Northern Illinois University will present practical information from their research and their work as part of a U.S. Department of Education training grant “Project Prevent and Address Bullying.” Thompson Middle School is partnering with NIU on this grant project, bringing resources that will be shared throughout the district. The faculty will present helpful knowledge, tips, and resources parents can use when navigating bullying situations.

La interpretación en español estará disponible durante la presentación.



[Click here to register.](#)

MINDFUL PARENTING BOOK STUDY

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30

Between school pressures, extracurricular activities, homework, and demanding careers, it's hard to find time just to get dinner on the table. In Mindful Parenting, child and family psychologist Dr. Kristen Race speaks directly to today's busy families who make up what she calls “Generation Stress” and presents an alternative – a mindful approach. Drawing on the latest research, she shows how mindfulness helps us – and our children – feel happier, healthier, calmer, less anxious, less stressed, and more focused. Come discuss the book with your fellow parents.

As part of the book study discussions, we will explore:

- How the brain works and why parents and kids today are more stressed, anxious, and angry than ever before.
- Practical solutions that parents can do to create a more relaxed and happier home.

Not able to attend the face-to-face discussions? No problem! We will be offering virtual discussion threads so that people can connect from home. Information about virtual discussion links will be sent to participants in January.



Can't come to all book discussions? No problem! Feel free to join any or all of the discussions.

All parents who register will receive a copy of the book. *Books may be picked up on December 10* in the Administration Center, 201 S. 7th Street, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 5:30-6:30 p.m. If you are unable to pick up your book on December 10, please contact [Dr. Cindy Ruesch](#).

Book discussions will take place in both a morning and an evening session on the following dates:

February 7

9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room
6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC

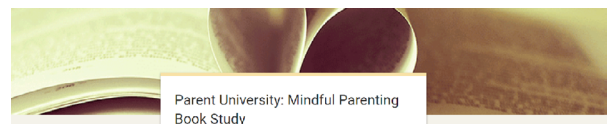
February 21

9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room
6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC

March 7

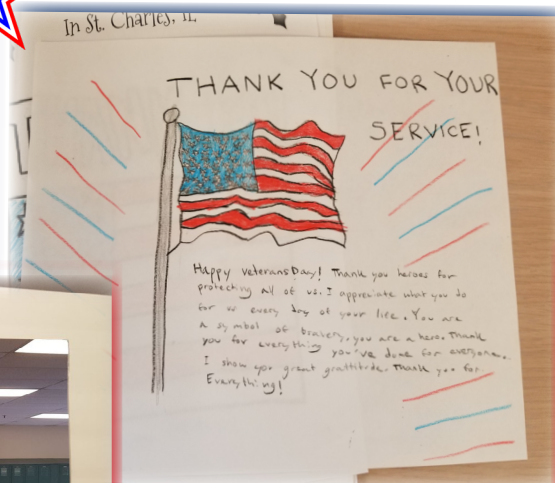
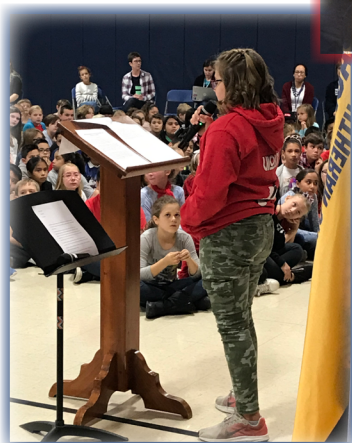
9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room
6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC

[Click here to register.](#)





*Thank you for serving our nation and
visiting our schools!*



Community Backpack



Upcoming School Board Meetings

November 19

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

November 19

Policy Committee 6:30 p.m.



November 27

Community Relations Committee 5:30 p.m.

December 3

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

December 10

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.



December 17

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

2018-19

Calendar Highlights

November 19

K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences (*No School*)

November 20

K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (*No School*)

November 21

No School (*Offices Open*)



November 22-23

Thanksgiving Break (*Offices Closed*)

December 4

Parent University: *Talking to your Child about the Dangers of Drug & Alcohol Use*

December 24-January 4

Winter Break (*No School*)

We're Hiring Substitutes!

Did you know?

We are ALWAYS hiring:

- Substitute teachers (college degree required)
- Substitute teacher aides (no college degree required)
- 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.

