

# District 303 E-NEWS

**Administration Center**  
201 South 7th St.  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
331.228.2000  
Contact us!

February 16, 2024



St Charles District 303 @StCharlesD303 @StCharlesD303

## 100 Days Smarter

The 100th day of school is an exciting time for many students as they get to participate in a variety of activities revolving around the number 100. For kindergarteners at Wasco and Wild Rose, the day was filled with arts and crafts, math challenges, and creative writing. Students colored their 100th day of school crowns, stacked 100 cups to make a tall tower, counted 100 beads to make bracelets, used cut-outs of the number 100 to make creative art, and answered fun questions. Some students even dressed up as 100-year-old people.



## 2024 Kick-A-Thon Reveal

With your support, the St. Charles East and North Dance Teams raised \$53,812.69 during the 30th Annual Kick-A-Thon! Thank you to all those who joined us and supported this wonderful cause.



## BOUNDARY UPDATE

***Board approves boundaries beginning with the 2024-2025 school year***

The District 303 Board has approved boundary maps for elementary, middle, and high schools. Maps are effective with the 2024-2025 school year beginning this fall. The Board's decision completes a process that began last fall to reduce school overcrowding and help to ensure equitable learning experiences across the District. Please see the [parent notice from Superintendent Gordon](#) to learn more and review the approved maps.

LISTEN LEARN RETURN MEETINGS

# Academics



Join us for our next Listen Learn Return community engagement session to learn more about **Academic** initiatives in District 303.

We look forward to sharing information on curriculum changes, how we are leveraging Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to support each student, and improving the overall learning school experience for each student.

**CLICK HERE  
TO RSVP**

**February 29 | 6 PM**

Haines Center, 305 S. 9th Street, St. Charles, IL  
Open to students, staff, and community members

REUNIONES DE ESCUCHAR APRENDER REGRESAR

# Académico



Acompáñenos en nuestra próxima sesión de compromiso comunitario para saber más sobre las iniciativas **académicas** del Distrito 303.

Esperamos poder compartir información sobre los cambios curriculares, cómo aprovechamos las Comunidades Profesionales de Aprendizaje (PLC) para apoyar a cada estudiante, y la mejora de la experiencia de aprendizaje escolar general para cada estudiante.

**CONFIRME SU  
ASISTENCIA**

**29 de febrero | 6 PM**

Haines Center, 305 S. 9th Street, St. Charles, IL  
Abierto a los estudiantes, miembros del personal y a la comunidad



**W**redling Builders Club students partnered with members from the local Kiwanis club to cut and tie fleece panels to make blankets for the Living Well Cancer Resource Center. Living Well provides services to those impacted by cancer.

For more than a decade, members of the Builders Club at Wredling have completed many community service projects in the school, including making handmade gifts for new teachers, treats for the bus drivers, decorated ornaments and placemats during the holidays for local senior citizens, and other projects to help build a sense of community.

## Newly Named and Renewed Board Certified Teachers

**C**ongratulations to Amy Fronk (Munhall), Grant Jacobsen (St. Charles North), Douglas McCullough (St. Charles East), Jared Wyllys (St. Charles North), and Marisa Zirlin (Davis Richmond) for earning or renewing their National Board certifications! NBC is considered one of the most respected professional certifications available in education and is achieved through rigorous, performance-based assessment of a teacher's skills and content knowledge.

## Wild Rose Celebrates Black History Month Through Art Project

**W**ild Rose 5th graders worked on an art mural to celebrate and recognize Black History Month. During their art class, students used their Chromebooks and worked in small groups to research and write about a prominent historical figure, which they then presented to the class. Then, they followed a key to color the 15-foot mural, which is on display for the school community to admire, learn, and be inspired.





# Kindergarten Enrollment for 2024-2025

Complete kindergarten enrollment for the  
2024-2025 school year online!

**February 26 – March 22**

*For more information, visit the New Student Enrollment &  
Registration page on the District 303 website.*



# Inscripción de Kindergarten para 2024-2025

¡Completa la inscripción para kindergarten  
para el año escolar 2024-2025 en línea!

**26 de febrero – 22 de marzo**

*Para más información, acceda a la página web de Inscripción de Nuevos Estudiantes  
(New Student Enrollment & Registration) en el sitio web del Distrito 303.*

**O**n February 12, Lincoln students had the honor of welcoming two Circuit Court Judges for special read alouds in celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday and Illinois Judges Go to School Day.

In the morning, Judge Sandra Parga read a short story to kindergarteners and 1st graders, who then had the opportunity to ask questions about her job and career and even got to use her gavel. Parents then joined the group in the LRC and attentively listened to the kindergarteners present their final research projects on "Careers and Tools." As a special treat, several parent volunteers and District staff shared information about their jobs and careers. Students got to meet nurses, police officers, physical therapists, a musician, a manufacturing engineer, and even a mosaicist, and they showcased some of the tools they use in their jobs.



In the afternoon, Judge Jill Otte and parent volunteers joined the kindergarteners in the LRC for their final research presentations before sharing about their own jobs and careers. Then, 2nd graders joined the kindergarteners and Judge Otte in the LRC for a fun read aloud.



### Art Projects Bring Traditions to Life

**C**orrion art students created colorful dragons, lanterns, and other crafts as a creative way to learn about and celebrate the upcoming Chinese New Year. Students also learned about the traditions associated with this holiday, including special meals, cleaning rituals, and the symbolism of the zodiac animals.

"Incorporating cultural celebrations into the curriculum helps students connect with the world around them and understand the significance of different cultural practices," expressed Corron Art Teacher Rebecca Hubbs.

The Year of the Dragon is especially exciting, as it represents qualities such as energy, intelligence, and power, which can inspire students to embrace these attributes in their own lives. "Hopefully, this memorable and enriching experience will inspire them to continue learning about and appreciating different cultures in the future," she added.



## Braille Activities at Thompson

In honor of National Braille Literacy Month, Thompson Vision Teacher Tara Ozehowski hosted “Boppin’ with Braille” in January to celebrate the incredible code that provides access to reading and writing to millions of people all over the world. During tutorials, students partook in writing Braille with a Perkins Braille Writer, used common tactile adaptations (“bump dots”) to write their name, explored fun Braille Legos, used 3D printed Braille letter stamps, and even interacted with Braille technology that is continuously being advanced.



## Upcoming School Board Meetings

**February 20**

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.  
Special School Board Meeting\* - 6:00 p.m.

\*The Special Board Meeting will begin immediately after the Learning & Teaching Meeting, however no earlier than 6:00 p.m.

**February 26**

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

**March 11**

School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

**March 18**

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

**March 21**

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

**April 8**

School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

## **2023-2024** School Calendar Highlights

**February 19**

Presidents' Day Holiday (No Students, Offices Closed)

**February 21**

- All Grade Level (PreK-12) Early Release Day
- [Parent Education](#) - Let's Talk About It: Race to Be Human Discussion Series (Parts 2 & 3)

**February 28**

High School Early Release Day

**February 29**

- K-5 ONLY: Afternoon Parent/Teacher Conference (K-5 in classes in AM, No K-5 classes in the afternoon; Pre-K no classes)
- Listen Learn Return - Academics

**March 1**

Kane County Institute Day (No Students)/Teacher Work Day PreK-5 (No Students)

## Prevention Week at North Promotes Mental Health



During the week of February 12, St. Charles North High School's HOPE Club sponsored Prevention Week, a time dedicated to providing education to students and staff about the impacts of mental-emotional health disorders on people's lives. Topics addressed included factors that affect mental-emotional health, such as sleep habits, social media use, and bullying, and also shared information about common mental health disorders.

This year's theme, "Be Kind to Your Mind," is tied to the Red Ribbon Week theme they had in October. As the school community focuses on sharing support resources available to students within the school and the local community, they continue to promote the message that "Mental Health Matters." Additionally, a portion of the proceeds of their HOPE gear sales will be donated to Tri-City Family Services, an organization that works with students and families in the St. Charles community.



PARENT EDUCATION SERIES PRESENTS

# Let's Talk About It: Race to Be Human Discussion Series

*Presented by Impactful, LLC & District 303 Staff*



- **January 31, 2024:**  
How Can I Help My Child Learn About and Appreciate Other Peoples' Ethnic and Cultural Identities?
- **February 7, 2024:**  
How Do I Talk to My Child about How Identity Affects People's Lived Realities?
- **February 21, 2024:**  
What Can We Do in Our Communities and Beyond to be More Inclusive?

All Sessions:  
**6:00-7:00pm**  
**Changed to VIRTUAL**

Register at:  
**[district.d303.org/parent-education](https://district.d303.org/parent-education)**

Check out the  
**Community Backpack**

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

[CLICK HERE](#)