

DISTRICT 303



eNEWS *Autumn*



Connect with us!

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September 21, 2018

St. Charles East Homecoming Parade



Go Saints!



#homecoming2018

INCubatoredu Students Solve Everyday Problems

Students enrolled in the entrepreneurial program INCubatoredu at both middle and high schools are well on their way to developing products and services that help solve problems they see in their lives. INCubatoredu is an entrepreneurship course where student teams take business ideas from concept to successful funding in an incubator environment designed to replicate real entrepreneurship challenges.

MXIncubator is the middle school version of the class. Thompson Middle School teacher Gena Olson says the students are excited about developing their products, but, she said, “We are really not focusing on the end product, but the whole process of getting feedback and making the product better.”

As part of that process, students at both Thompson and Wredling learned about budgets and advertising, and a pitch that includes showing a sketch of their product to people who had to answer the questions: What did you like, what would you make better, and how much would you pay for it? Students make adjustments to their product based on that feedback.

This week, students at both East and North High Schools were learning how to research their competition. Instructors at both schools cautioned against an over reliance on Google for all their information, and provided students with ideas about other tools to use when researching competition for their own products.

As students work in rooms whose walls have inspirational quotes, they bounce ideas off each other about the issue their products will solve. One group is creating a dog collar with a GPS device that syncs with a phone app to help you find your dog if she runs away. Another group of students is helping their classmates find work or volunteer opportunities by developing a website and app that pairs companies and non-profits with students.

Coaches and mentors from the community are visiting classes on a weekly basis and working with students on real world skills they can use as they develop their products or services they will “pitch” to a panel of judges in the spring.



East High School

Thompson Middle School

North High School

Wredling Middle School

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists



St. Charles North High School students Adrianna Bugliarello-Wondrich, Kaley Fulcher, and Brigid Millette along with St. Charles East students Neehar Shah, Kayla Villa, and Ryan Wolfsmith have been named semifinalists in the 64th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered in the spring of 2019. There are approximately 16,000 Semifinalists this year.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test—a test which serves as an initial screening of approximately 1.6 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements.

To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship, semifinalists must advance to finalist standing in the competition by meeting high academic standards and all other requirements explained in the materials provided to each semifinalist.

Winners of the National Merit Scholarship have their scholarships funded by either the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, the institute of higher education that they select to attend, or by corporations or foundations who participate in the scholarship fund.



Award of Merit



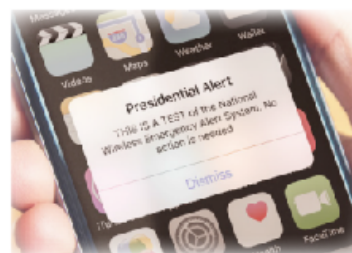
Carol Smith, Director of Communications and Community Relations, accepting an Award of Merit from INSPRA on September 14 for the D303 Annual Report. Please [click here](#) to view our Annual Report.

Emergency Alert Test

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is planning to run a test of the nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on October 3 at 1:18 p.m. Cell towers will broadcast the WEA test for about 30 minutes.

The test was originally planned for September 20, but has been postponed until October 3 due to ongoing response efforts to Hurricane Florence.

The WEA test message will be sent to all cell phones capable of receiving an emergency alert. The text message will read, "THIS IS A TEST of the National Wireless Emergency System. No action is needed." A test of the traditional Emergency Alert System via TV and radio happens the same day at 1:20 p.m. For more information, [click here](#).





Parent University Dates



Safety & Security in D303

Wednesday, 9/26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Thompson Middle School 6th Grade Center Cafeteria

An emergency or disaster can strike a school community at any time and can take the form of natural disasters such as floods, tornadoes, earthquakes or fires, as well as man-made accidents or criminal activity. When an event occurs during the school day, it is the responsibility of District 303 to care for and protect our most valuable resource: children.

On a regular basis, the school district works in partnership with local public safety and law enforcement officials on training and appropriate responses to emergency events.

[Click here to register!](#)



As part of this Parent University program, presenters will discuss:

- Secure Building Entrances
- Visitor Management
- Communication
- Weather Alerts
- Drills and Evacuation Plans
- Lesson Plans



In addition, we will show an interview conducted by the Illinois Principals Association with Dr. Seth Chapman on his research related to school shootings.

Presenters:

- Dr. Seth Chapman, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
- Mr. John Baird, Assistant Superintendent for Operations
- Commander Chuck Pierce, St. Charles Police Department



Attain Excellence ■ Learn with Passion ■ Live with Integrity



Showing & Discussion of the film *Angst*

Wednesday, 10/10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the St. Charles North Auditorium

The purpose of the film *Angst* is to raise awareness and have conversations about anxiety. It features candid interviews with kids who have struggled with anxiety, as well as discussions with mental health professionals. At the end of the film there will be a 30 minute panel discussion led by the D303 Counseling Team.

As part of our agreement with the production company, we are able to show the film in both middle

schools and both high schools during the week of October 8. This will provide parents and students an opportunity to have conversations at home about what they saw.

[Click here to register!](#)



“LAS 12 CUALIDADES PARA ALCANZAR EL ÉXITO ESCOLAR”

miércoles, el 17 de octubre a las 6:00-8:00 p.m.
en la Escuela Davis

El éxito escolar es el resultado de un conjunto de acciones concretas por parte de los padres e hijos, que incluyen reglas claras y firmes, no-negociables que deben establecerse como una prioridad. El estudio y las actividades de la escuela deben ser para los chicos su mayor responsabilidad, por encima de los video-

juegos y otras diversiones. Si esto se da, con seguridad el éxito escolar se obtendrá. Dr. Ferney Ramirez compartirá estrategias para que los padres y sus alumnos logren el éxito escolar.

Registración



**The St. Charles Education Foundation Board of Directors cordially
invites you to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting as it recognizes the 2018 grant recipients.**

Wednesday, October 17th at 7:00 PM

Board Room
201 South 7th Street
St. Charles, Illinois



We support projects and innovative ideas that will enrich D303's students' education.
We are looking forward to having you join our celebration.

*The St. Charles Education Foundation is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization
operating independently of District 303.*

Community Backpack



Upcoming School Board Meetings

September 25

Community Relations Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

September 27

Business Services Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

October 9

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

October 15

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30

2018-19

Calendar Highlights

October 5

School Improvement Day-NO SCHOOL

October 8

Columbus Day-NO SCHOOL

October 26

End of 1st Quarter (Middle & High Schools)

November 9

End of 1st Trimester (Elementary)