

Principal's Newsletter December 2023



ILMEA Jazz Band (L) and Vocal Jazz (R) at STCE on Nov. 4



STCE South Asian Student Association Hosts Garba Event



College Signing Day



Nov. (R) and Dec. (L) Breakfast of Champions Recipients





German Exchange Students on a Trip to Naper Settlement



Advanced Healthcare Concepts Students Practice Taking Vital Signs



Advanced Healthcare Concepts Students on a Field Trip to the Kane County Coroner's Office



Celebratory Breakfast for our Mid-Year Graduates



Student-Directed One Acts



VEI Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Winter Recognition Assembly



Principal's Newsletter



As we finish first semester, I want to wish everyone an enjoyable and well-deserved winter break. I hope you have the opportunity to connect with family and friends and spend time doing the things that bring you happiness.

Student Recognition - The STCE Student Council worked on several service projects over the course of the past few months, including the STCE John Baird Turkey Drive, where the STCE community came together to provide over 70 local families with a full Thanksgiving dinner. Following that, our community provided dozens of families with holiday gifts as part of our Angel Tree project in collaboration with the Salvation Army. In another act of service, the STCE Baseball team collected coats from our community for a Coat Drive event put on by Random Acts Matter of STC. The STCE community donated 234 of the 372 coats collected!

STCE is extremely proud of our 86 students from the Class of 2024 have been designated as **Illinois State Scholars**. Please see the complete list of designated students on the last page of this newsletter. Congratulations to the following students for winning an award at the National Journalism Education Convention in Boston In November: Brynn Copp - Honorable Mention in Literary Magazine: Poetry; Sonali Shah - Honorable Mention in Portrait Photo; Aundrea Woods - Honorable Mention in Sports Writing. At the DuKane Art Show, several East students won awards for their pieces. Maddie Bach was awarded 1st Place in Painting for her work titled, "False Perception." Yzabelle De Luna was awarded 3rd place in Sculpture/Jewelry for her work titled, "Unearthed," and an Honorable Mention in Digital Illustration for her work titled, "Log 3/15/22." Also earning Honorable Mention in Sculpture/Jewelry were Ether Jankowski's "Hand-Burger" and Alec Renz's "Dragon's Cradle."

Instructional Focus - Having an opportunity to engage in authentic learning experiences is an extremely important part of equipping students with the skills necessary to excel in their post-secondary plans. Such experiences are happening in every learning area within our school. One that has been a tradition at STCE is *Government for a Day*. Students, in collaboration with the City of St. Charles, conduct mock city council meetings to propose, discuss, and vote on opportunities to improve the city. As part of the learning process, students research a potential problem or improvement to the city, design a solution, and give a presentation with an opportunity for a Q&A session from our student alderman. In addition to sharpening their problem solving skills, students gain valuable experience with conducting research, collaboration, and giving a formal presentation.

Principal's Newsletter



Performing Arts - After outstanding performances at our fall play, *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, our students involved in our drama department put on outstanding Student-Directed One Act plays just a few weeks after the closure of the fall play. In addition to the many amazing performances from our various music ensembles, STCE is proud to announce that Senior Matthew Brunson, freshman Kenny Chang, and senior Megan Kamysz, all cellists, have been selected to perform with the Honors Orchestra. This experience for these students will conclude a four month process that began in early October with ILMEA district-level auditions. The students then participated in the ILMEA District 9 festival in mid November where they rehearsed and performed with the top high school musicians from the west-suburban area. These students are a small number that were then selected from the district groups to continue on to the state level. At the All-State Conference they will rehearse for two days with the best high school musicians from across the state under the direction of top music educators and professional musicians. The conference will culminate with a performance Saturday afternoon in the Peoria Civic Center. In addition, Mary Kate Schoessling was selected out of over 500 applicants who auditioned to sing the National Anthem at the Chicago Bears game on Sunday, December 24. Her performance will be televised as part of the pre-kickoff show from 3:00 - 3:25 on local Fox channel 32! Tune in to see Mary Kate perform in front of a national audience!

Athletics - Our fall athletic teams finished their seasons with several celebrations and our winter teams have been off to a great start! Our Boys Soccer team were DuKane Conference champions, as well as Regional and Sectional champions! Our Boys Cross Country team were DuKane Conference champions and also qualified for the state meet in Peoria, finishing 14th overall. Marley Andelman from our Girls Cross Country team qualified for the state meet as an individual, earning her fourth trip to the state finals and finishing 42nd. From our Girls Tennis team, Kelsey Jacob and Sofia Radovic qualified as Singles for the state tournament. We also had a great cap to our Girls Swim season with the 200 Freestyle Relay team consisting of Payton Dorman (Sr.), Kate Lewandowski (Sr.), Ella Mruk (Sr.), and Lulu Negro (Fr.) qualifying for the state meet. The 400 Freestyle Relay team consisting of Payton Dorman (Sr.), Ella Mruk (Sr.), Lulu Negro (Fr.), and Leanna Swenson (Sr.) qualified for the state meet as well. Finally, Lulu Negro qualified in the 200 Freestyle, and Payton Dorman qualified in the 50 and 100 Freestyle!

Kicking off our winter season, we have teams that have already earned first place finishes at competitions. Our Dance team finished 1st at the Oswego Invite, and our Wrestling team just won the prestigious Dvorak Tournament. They are currently undefeated after winning the State Title last season and are ranked 19th in the country. Our Saints ISO Basketball team has been competing against other teams as well as in Regional Skills Competitions. In early December, Julian Aguirre and Teagan Syzdek each earned a Gold, Ola Boniak earned a Bronze, and Nolan Karrick earned a Participation Award! Our ISO Big Game is scheduled for Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30 in the STCE gym - come and cheer on our athletes!

Attendance Matters - We need your help! The research is clear - when students attend school regularly, their outcomes are improved! STCE strives to instill a sense of belonging in our community members by accepting, validating, and appreciating them, and by treating every individual fairly. There are hundreds of adults at East who are eager to invest in our students to help them realize and strive to become the best version of themselves. However, our ability to accomplish all of this is significantly impacted when students are not present. There are reasons why students should be absent from school, but over time, consistently missing days of school results in a significant loss of learning opportunities. We have placed similar posters around our school to remind students that what might seemingly be an insignificant amount of time of school missed adds up over time. Please partner with us to reinforce good attendance patterns that will include opportunities for students to improve their learning outcomes and contribute to a well-rounded high school experience.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days of school a month...	When a student misses 4 days of school a month...
They will miss 20 DAYS a year.	They will miss 40 DAYS a year.
They will miss 16 HOURS OF MATH instruction over the school year.	They will miss 32 HOURS OF MATH instruction over the school year.
They will miss at least 16 HOURS OF READING AND WRITING instruction over the school year.	They will miss at least 32 HOURS OF READING AND WRITING instruction over the school year.
They will miss nearly ONE SEMESTER OF HIGH SCHOOL by graduation.	They will miss nearly ONE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL by graduation.

High

Parent Involvement Opportunities - There are also lots of opportunities for parents to get involved at STCE! There are three great organizations that work to make the school and experience for students more exciting. Please consider joining the [STCE PTO](#), [Athletic Boosters](#), and the [Music Boosters](#). In addition, D303 is offering many opportunities for parents to engage in learning through their [Parent Universities](#) as well as offer opportunities for community feedback for D303 regarding [boundary updates](#).

Building Safety and Security - As a safety and security measure, we are reminding students to present their current school IDs as they enter the building. We have been making it part of our morning routine. Please remind them to bring it with them. Furthermore, as you drive in and around the East/Wredling campus, please be cautious and give right of way to our students as they are walking. Please stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks near East and observe the speed limits. As a reminder, there is also a "No Left Turn" sign from Fighting Saints Drive onto Dunham Road. This is for the safety of our drivers and our students using the crosswalk at that location.

East Information - Stay connected to all things STCE by viewing our [Parent Link communication page](#), subscribing to the [O&B Bulletin](#), reading the [CCR Updates](#), following us on Twitter at our handle [@StCharlesEast](#) and on [Facebook](#), and reviewing our [daily announcements](#). All this information and much more can be found through our [East website](#).

Thank you for your continued partnership and support!

Jim Richter
Principal
(331) 228-5704
James.Richter@d303.org

Instructional Programs



Additional Information from our Department of Instructional Programs

Accessing Grades on HAC

The best way to access your child's grade is to click on CLASSES and the FULL VIEW button at the top right corner of the classwork pane. Under each class on the right side will be an option to SHOW ALL AVERAGES. Clicking that button will bring a pop-up that will display the student's overall grade. Some classes use grade categories that report information about student progress but may not impact the grade. Following these steps will ensure the grade you are seeing is the grade your child has in the class. Please refer to the accompanying screen shots as a guide.

The screenshot shows the HAC interface. At the top, there are navigation buttons: Home, Attendance, Classes, Grades, and Registration. The 'Classes' button is highlighted with a downward arrow. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Classwork' section with a 'Full View' button highlighted by a downward arrow. Underneath, there are filters for 'View Classwork For for Report Card Run' and 'Show' (All Classes). Below that is a table with the following data:

Category	Student's Points	Maximum Points	Percent	Category Weight	Category Points
Assessment	22.00	25.00	88.00%	68.00	59.84000
Total Points:				68.00	59.84000

Below the table, it says 'Student's overall average is' followed by a 'Show All Averages' button, which is also highlighted with a downward arrow.

The [district website](#) has information about HAC under the FOR PARENTS section of the home page. If you have any questions about your child's assignments or grades, please contact their teacher. If you have any questions about your account or login, please contact Julie Olney at julie.olney@d303.org or (331) 228-5675.

Seal of Biliteracy

D303 is proud to offer qualifying students the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy. The Seal of Biliteracy testing information will be posted on the East High School Website. More information will be coming soon about registration and testing dates.

Principal's Newsletter



Illinois State Scholars 2024

Andrew Abbott	Amber Ahmad	Kyle Algrim	Yash Amin
Sydney Axelsen	Madison Bach	Angelo Barlan-Pagurayan	Elizabeth Belich
Molly Bishop	Nia Cocroft	Emma Colonna	Griffin Counts
Roshni Dave	Michael DeSoto	Ella Drage	Mia Dufresne
Gwendolyn Erwin	Sophia Fernandez	Trevor Fosser	Nolan Franzetti
Samuel Frausto	Oscar Frontjes	Joseph Gammeri	Alyssa Gennaro
Melanie Gomez	Gabriel Guzman	Bryce Harris	Ume Hashimoto-Jorgensen
Andrew Heilers	Blake Heiliger	Sonali Jain	Abrielle Kapoor
Michael Kaschke	Andrew Kauke	Olivia Kowal	Colin Kuchta
Robert Kutrovatz	Jordan Lack	Ava Larson	Brennan Lemp
Kate Lewandowski	Christian LoFaso	Nicholas Loomis	Connor Lougheed
Om Luhar	Ky McBride	Owen McNally	Logan Misch

Andrew Moran	Meredith Musial	Adi Nakarani	Kenny Ngo
Jackson Niemann	David Ortiz	Erin Paprocki	Hetvi Patel
Khushi Patel	Nihar Patel	Nishi Patel	McGreevy Paul
Gianna Peddy	Dominic Pistilli	Elizabeth Possin	Emily Prell
Mallory Pretkelis	Tiernan Price	Devin Reder	Connor Reed
Ellie Rigsby	Maya Risberg	Tyler Robey	Kendall Saunders
Aadit Shah	Aayush Shah	Chris Souk	Kirsten Staker
Evan Steinhauser	Bennett Stevens	Leanna Swenson	Colleen Thumm
Lyra Tiffin	Anna Timko	Victoria Vogel	
Landon Weidner	Lucia Wilfong	Jedidiah Wilson	

