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July 9, 2020

The WSD Thanks You!



Back in June, WSD voters passed both Props C&S to build a new middle school, expand or renovate existing middle schools, hire additional staff and increase pay for all staff members, as well as provide safety improvements and address maintenance items across the District. Dr. Cain shares <u>this personal message</u> of gratitude to the WSD community.

#### 2020-2021 Free & Reduced Meal Guidelines



The WSD has announced its revised free and reduced price policy for families unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the WSD Board of Education have adopted familysize income criteria for determining eligibility. Visit the WSD website for full

information on Free & Reduced Meal Guidelines.



**Registration Open for 10th Annual Back to School Fair** 



The WSD plans to host the 10th annual Back to School Fair for District families on Saturday, August 15, from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at Liberty High School (new location). Given the current pandemic, we are considering alternate plans for this year's Fair, which may include assigning times for families to attend in an effort to maintain social distancing. The specifics of the Fair will be determined closer to the event date, but for now, we are moving ahead with plans to hold the Fair for our families. The event is free for District families and will feature vendors, free school supplies, and free games and fun activities for children.

Last year, thanks to over 100 vendors and 26 Corporate Sponsors, we were able to give away over \$12,000 in free school supplies to WSD students. As part of the Fair, MoCHIP (Missouri Child Identification Program) representatives will be on hand providing free child ID kits that include a disk with the child's information, digital photograph, digital fingerprints and vital information necessary for

authorities in the event of abduction.

While the event is free, families are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to donate at the door to Operation Food Search, which serves local families in need. For more information, visit the WSD website.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for vendors who want to participate in the WSD's 2020 Back to School Fair. To register as a vendor for the event, please <u>complete this</u> form, or give us a call and we will get you registered. Payment can be made via check, made out to the Wentzville School District or <u>via PayPal</u>. For more <u>information about registration</u>, as well as pricing, please visit the <u>WSD Website</u>. REGISTRATION CLOSES FRIDAY, August 7, 2020.

**WSD Board of Education Election** 



The WSD Board of Education had three open seats on the June 2 ballot. The candidates with the most votes are Erin Abbott (22.42%), Daniel Brice (20.11%), and incumbent Betsy Bates (15.46%).

## WSD Enrollment is Now Open



Do you have a new student to enroll for the fall? WSD schools are enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year. Simply call your child's school to schedule an appointment. Appointments are held in one-hour blocks to accommodate families with multiple students and to ensure we do not have multiple families in the office at the same time. We continue to practice social distancing and ask that you wear a face covering when you

come to the building. Please keep in mind that only the parent and homeowner should attend the appointment. Students and siblings should not attend unless requested to attend by the school. This includes siblings and younger children who are not school age in an effort to reduce exposure and protect everyone involved. High school and middle school students may attend the meeting as required for scheduling and placement. When possible, this may be accomplished through a conference call with the high school or middle school student. If you have any questions, please call your child's school or email <u>info@wsdr4.org</u>.

## 2020-2021 School Supply Lists



2020-2021 School Supply Lists

Barfield Early Childhood Special Education Center Elementary K-3 Elementary 4-6 Middle School 7-8

High School - we do not have supply lists for high school students because course requirements vary. We suggest bringing a notebook and pen or pencil the first day to record specific teacher requests.

WSD Students Earn St. Charles County CAPS Outstanding Associate Awards



Two WSD students, Holt senior Trinity Craig and Liberty senior Henry Young,

earned the St. Charles County Center for Advanced Professional Studies Outstanding CAPS Associate Award, two of only four awards distributed. The award is given to CAPS participants who exemplify CAPS professional skills at a high level on a daily basis. St. Charles County CAPS honors one associate in each of their four strands of career exploration. Craig won the Healthcare Associate Award and Young won the Global Business/Entrepreneurship Associate Award.



## **WSD HOSA Students Advance to International Competition**



Students in the Holt, Liberty and Timberland high school HOSA chapters competed in the Missouri HOSA State Leadership Conference, which was held virtually from April 13-27 this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Seven students brought home an award and qualified to move on to the HOSA 43rd Annual International Leadership Conference (ILC), which will take place virtually this year June 24-27. Read the full article on the WSD website to learn more.



Molly Kleiber Named Teacher of Excellence



Molly Kleiber, a teacher at Liberty High School, is one of five driver education teachers from throughout the U.S. to be selected by their peers as Teachers of Excellence. The honor, which carries with it a cash stipend, comes from the American Driver & Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) and The National Road Safety Foundation. <u>Read the full article</u> on the WSD website.



WSD Teacher Awarded Emerson Gold Star Grant



Kaci Lueking, a first grade teacher at Wabash Elementary, has been named the recipient of the 2020 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Gold Star Grant in the amount of \$7,500 for her stEMPOWER initiative, an after-school club that will encourage girls in grades 4-6 to explore STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) subjects while developing leadership skills and confidence as critical thinkers and problem solvers. <u>Read the full article</u> on the WSD website.



**District Summer Reading Program Information** 

https://mailings.marketvolt.com/401404/oP7loxk.html



District librarians have planned fun activities and are coordinating summer reading challenges to encourage and reward readers this summer in order to promote literacy and encourage students to continue reading during the summer months. Summer reading is proven to maintain and possibly even advance reading levels of children and help prepare them for back to school in the fall. For a complete list of summer reading program information, <u>visit the District</u> <u>website</u>.

## **WSD Back to School Plans Update**



Dr. Cain tells the Wentzville School District community what the desired direction of the District is looking forward to the 2020-2021 school year. <u>Watch the short video</u> to learn more. #WeAreWentzville

**New WSD Director of Special Education** 



Congratulations to Vanessa Fritsche for being named the new Director of Special Education effective July 1. Vanessa has worked in Special Education for the Wentzville School District since 1999. During this time, she has served as a Speech and Language Pathologist, a Special Education Department Chair, and a Process Coordinator. As a Process Coordinator, she has been responsible for ensuring best practice and compliance of our IEP processes. She has been responsible for federal programs monitoring and other initiatives with significant responsibilities that make her well prepared to assume this position. Ms. Fritsche has a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Disorders from Southeast Missouri State University, and she holds a Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology from Truman State University. This is a new position that was contingent on the passing of Proposition S.

# New WSD Director of Custodial Services



Congratulations and welcome to Diana Moore - she has been hired as the new Director of Custodial Services. Diana holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Communication and has been in a manager or director role since 1988. She is currently the Director of Environmental Services for Aramark Healthcare at Blessing Hospital where she manages a department of 100+ employees and a budget of \$2M. Her tenure at Aramark has included roles as an Operations Manager, a Director of Central Transportation, and an Assistant Manager of Clinical Engineering. Each of these roles has involved all aspects of management to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of employees and patients. Ms. Moore replaces Hasan Nasufovic, who resigned in May.

## New WSD Community Relations Coordinator



Congratulations to Kathy DeLaquil for having been named the new Community Relations Coordinator effective July 8. Kathy has worked for the District since 2010 as a division secretary at Discovery Ridge Elementary and the Community Relations Assistant since 2015. She served as a Board of Education Director from 1995-2001 and has over 30 years experience in various customer service and event management roles. This is a new position that was contingent on the passing of Proposition S. She will oversee all the Districtwide events and outreach efforts.

**WSD** Internet Resources for Families in Need



There are a number of internet providers currently offering free service or special offers for families and educators during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you know someone who doesn't have internet access, please share <u>this important</u> <u>information</u> with them.

## New Boundaries Approved for the WSD



The WSD Board of Education has approved new boundaries for all elementary, middle and high schools in the District to accommodate continued growth and a new elementary school and new high school under construction. The new schools were part of Proposition E, a \$125 million no-tax-increase bond issue passed by voters in April 2018. The <u>new elementary boundaries</u> will go into effect for the 2020-2021 school year when Journey

Elementary on Interstate Drive in Wentzville is scheduled to open. The <u>new</u> <u>middle school</u> and <u>high school boundaries</u> will go into effect beginning in the 2021-2022 school year when the new high school being built near West Meyer Road and North Point Prairie Road in Wentzville is scheduled to open.

Visit the WSD website to view the new school attendance areas.

2020 Census



The response has been great for the 2020 Census, but not every one has been counted. There is still a chance to respond if you haven't. Every 10 years, the Constitution requires that all who reside in the United States on April 1 be counted. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories and it is particularly important for school districts. The 2020 Census will inform funding for educational programs that benefit our children, such as special education, after-school activities and school meal programs. Each home has received an invitation over the last few weeks to respond to a short questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail. The information you receive has a special Census ID number you will use to respond. All responses to Census Bureau surveys and censuses are confidential and protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Under this law, the Census Bureau is required to keep respondent information confidential. Be sure to take the time to fill out the questionnaire - so everyone in the WSD counts! For more information or to fill out your questionnaire, visit 2020census.gov.

## Return to Play Guidelines ~ July 1, 2020

Student athletes and authorized groups returned to campus beginning July 1. The WSD has shared <u>Return to Play Guidelines</u> with coaches and sponsors that have been developed in conjunction with the St. Charles County Department of Public Health to ensure the safety of all participants. Please review the guidelines and sign the <u>Parent/Student Waiver form</u> to send with your student athlete upon their return. The WSD is requesting that all



student athletes and coaches complete a self assessment at home prior to participating in any activities. All participants will have their temperature taken onsite each day and are encouraged to wear face coverings and exercise social distancing as much as practical out of respect for other athletes, sponsors, and coaches. Attendance will be taken to ensure contact tracing and appropriate notification can be done effectively should an athlete, coach, or sponsor test positive for COVID-19.

The WSD is committed to working together with parents, students, staff, health officials, and the community to ensure the safety and well being of all stakeholders. Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to work through these challenging times. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to your school's activities director or email <u>info@WSDR4.org</u> and we will forward your email to the appropriate administrator.



Tech Tip from WSD Technology Department – Tips for Good Digital Parenting (STEP 5)

In <u>Episode 3</u> of the 7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting video series, viewers watch a family with older kids navigate social media with Steps 5 (Friend and Follow But Don't Stalk) and 6 (Explore, Share, and Celebrate). By respecting your child's online space and encouraging thoughtful interactions on social media, families can learn from each other and have fun online.

- Follow your kids on social media
- Respect their online space and freedom
- Don't flood their accounts with comments

Stay tuned for all seven tips to good digital parenting from the Family Online Safety Institute.



**Connect with the WSD** 



https://mailings.marketvolt.com/401404/oP7loxk.html







Amazon Smile



Did you know if you go to smile.amazon.com you can choose a charity and Amazon will donate \$0.5% of what you purchase to that charity? You still have access to everything on Amazon at the same prices, but the charity of your choice will benefit from your purchase. Some WSD school PTAs have registered on smile.amazon.com and the WSD Foundation is a registered charity too. The WSD Foundation gives teachers and high school seniors over \$30,000 annually in mini grants to support innovative teaching strategies and scholarships to seniors for college. Support your school or the WSD Foundation when do your shopping throughout the year. For the direct link to support the WSD Foundation, go to <u>Amazon Smile</u>.

# Have You Downloaded the WSD App?

Are you new to the WSD? Be sure to download the app to have important information right at your fingertips. The app is available for both android devices and iPhones. On the app, you can:

- View news stories
- View calendar info
- View lunch menus
- · Access school and staff info
- Receive important alerts
- View sports scores
- Locate Directory Information







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