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District eNews - August 9, 2019

Welcome Back!

It's time for another school year, and the WSD is happy to be back! Students will soon be filing through the doors, finding their new classroom, making new friends and learning new skills. To share our excitement for the new year, the District showed the following video featuring our District Teacher of the Year and Support Staff Employee of the Year at the annual Back to School events, held for all staff members. We hope you and your students have the same feeling of joyful anticipation as the first day of school approaches! [Watch the video on WSD YouTube.](#)





Presidential Award Finalist

Lisa Waltenberger, a math and Project Lead the Way teacher at Timberland High School, has been selected as a Finalist for the 2019 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). The award is the highest recognition that a K-12 mathematics or science teacher can receive for outstanding teaching in the United States.

The awards are given to mathematics and science teachers from each of the 50 states and four U.S. jurisdictions. It recognizes those teachers who develop and implement a high-quality instructional program that enhances student learning. Waltenberger is only one of two math teachers in Missouri selected to represent the state as finalists for the PAEMST. "I am incredibly honored to be a state finalist for this award," said Waltenberger. "I am thankful for the opportunities in the Wentzville School District to grow professionally and the ability to incorporate various teaching methods into my classroom. I am looking forward to another great school year with the amazing students at Timberland High School!" [Read the full article](#) on the WSD Website.

Read More



Thank You to Our District eNews Sponsor

For more information about Country Club Car Wash, [visit their website](#). Their sponsorship helps support WSD activities.



Dates to Remember

August 13

First Day of School

August 15, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting
Administrative Center

August 26

Late Start Grades K-12

September 2

No Classes Pre-K-12
Labor Day Holiday

September 9

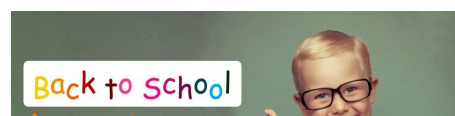
Late Start Grades K-12

September 19, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting
Administrative Center

September 23

Late Start Grades K-12





Are Your Child's Immunizations Up-to-Date?

Are your child's immunizations up-to-date? While planning for the start of the new school year, please make sure your child's vaccines are up-to-date according to the [Missouri State requirements](#),

Children must be up-to-date on immunizations before attending on the first day of school, August 13, 2019. Immunizations help provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Missouri state law requires children enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade be immunized against certain preventable diseases. You can contact your physician to see if your child needs immunizations. The St. Charles County Health Department offers vaccine clinics, [visit their website for dates and times of their clinics](#).

Ninth Annual WSD Back to School Fair

The ninth annual WSD Back to School Fair was another huge success thanks to our caring community. Over 3,000 people attended this year's event where we gave away over 2,100 bags of school supplies to WSD students. Thank you to all our corporate sponsors, the 100+ vendors who participated, MoCHIP for processing over 100 free child ID kits, the Wentzville and Lake Saint Louis Walmart stores for their continued partnership and support, and the scores of volunteers who make the Fair possible for our families. [Watch the video](#) on WSD Youtube.



WSD Announces Free & Reduced Meal Guidelines for 2019-20

The Wentzville School District has announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. [To see the full article, including the family-size income criteria for determine eligibility](#) (adopted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the WSD Board of Education), please visit the WSD Website.



Connect with the WSD





Curriculum Committee Seeking Parents and Community Members

The WSD is looking for interested parents and/or community members within our District to serve on the Curriculum Committee. The purpose of this committee is to provide feedback to the [Teaching and Learning Department](#) regarding curriculum and coursework.

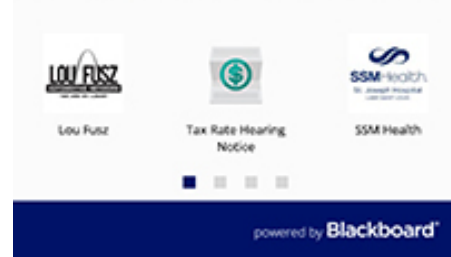
The Curriculum Review Committee meets twice a year (additional meetings may be scheduled if needed). The first meeting is in the fall and takes place face-to-face in the Wentzville School District. The second is a meeting by email in late spring.

If you are interested in giving your time to this important work, please indicate your interest by [completing this online form](#).



2019 MAP Scores

The state has released the 2019 MAP scores. This year we will communicate student scores to parents/guardians via email by the end of August.



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



inger tips. The app is available for both android devices and iPhones.



WSD Summer STEM Camp Video

From July 8 through July 18, more than 400 students were at Discovery Ridge Elementary participating in the [2019 WSD STEM Camp](#) (watch the video on WSD YouTube). It was a summer enrichment camp for kids entering kindergarten through sixth grade. Classes were designed and implemented by WSD teachers from all over the District, and ranged from Novel Engineering (solving problems that characters encounter in stories) to LEGO Robotics. Also highlighted in the video was a "Movie Magic" class, where students made short stop-motion films that were uploaded to YouTube (link is below). Though learning retention is being fulfilled through these classes, it's just as important that our students are having fun while learning through these hands-on, engaging lessons and activities. To see the [movies \(as well as some fun trailers\) the students made](#), visit this Boone Trail teacher Sarah Boyer's YouTube page.



THS Cheer Squad Wins Awards

Congratulations to the Timberland High School Varsity cheer squad, who came away with multiple awards from the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) Masters Camp held June 13-15 at St. Louis College of Pharmacy in St. Louis, MO. Eight Timberland cheerleaders received the All-American Award: seniors Jordan Grassmuck, Corey Tritsch, AJ Dizillo, Will Huelskamp, Gavin Kelly, Amelia Bakker, Abby Kirchner, and Maddy Lucas. "While we were there, we won the 'Top Banana' award two out of three days, which means that out of everyone at camp we excelled in skills, spirit, attitude, teamwork, and performance," shared Erica Wagner, Timberland Varsity Coach. "Winning one day is awesome, but two days is a HUGE accomplishment."



WSD Teacher Named Canvas Teacher of the Year

Jennifer Willis-Nichols, a science teacher at Holt High School, has been named the 2019 Canvas High School Teacher of the Year. The announcement was made by Instructure at its annual InstructureCon edtech conference held in Long Beach, California July 9-11. This is only the second time Instructure has selected recipients for Educator of the Year Awards, which recognizes outstanding educators working to further teaching as well as shape the next generation of students in both K-12 and higher education fields.

Jennifer, who has worked for the WSD since 2016, integrates technology into her classroom in a manner that serves a purpose: to heighten the educational experience. She understands the importance of students engaging with tools like Canvas (the District's



US Marine Gives Presentation at Timberland

Sgt. Rocky Sickman was a guest at

students engaging with tools like Canvas (the District's learning management system) in preparation for what is to come as many colleges and careers have their own learning platforms.

[Read More](#)



WSD High School Journalism Students Earn National Awards

All three high schools in the WSD earned state and national journalism honors over the course of the year, including one yearbook entry from Timberland High School that finished in the top three in the country in the Quill and Scroll competition.

To [read the full article](#), as well as a full list of [Timberland awards](#), visit the WSD Website.

[Read More](#)

Timberland High School in late April and gave a presentation to the U.S. History students about his experience as a U.S. Marine. Sgt. Sickman is a Lake St. Louis resident and one of the 52 Americans held hostage for 444 days in Iran following the Iranian takeover of the US Embassy in 1979. "He focused his presentation on the idea that "Freedom Isn't Free," citing the eight US servicemen that perished while trying to rescue the hostages during Operation Eagle Claw, as well as the countless other servicemen and women that risk their lives, or make the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom," shared Assistant Principal Dr. Keith Sanders. "This was a great experience for our students and staff, one that they will remember for a long time." The U.S. hostages were released in 1981, and Sgt. Sickmann was able to take the diary he had been writing while in captivity with him. On May 21 on a subsequent visit, Sgt. Sickmann donated a signed copy of his diary, "Hostage," to the Timberland library.



WSD Summer Journey Program and Credit Advancement/Recovery Courses

The WSD offered several Summer School programs for incoming Grades K-8 and high school students - free of charge to any student enrolled in the District. At Liberty High, more than 600 students are taking advantage of both credit advancement and credit



Liberty Cheer Squad Wins Awards

Liberty High School cheer squads came away with multiple awards from the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) Masters Camp held June 17-20 at St. Louis College of Pharmacy in St. Louis, MO. Liberty's Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Freshman squads received the Leadership Award for the entire camp, five first place trophies, three second place trophies, one third place trophy, and one most improved trophy in their divisions. Three Liberty cheerleaders received the All-

recovery classes. For our students in elementary and middle school, the Summer Journey program is engaging them in core subjects - with fun, hands-on activities driving the lessons. More than 2,200 students participated this year in Summer Journey at six schools - Duello (473), Prairie View (454), Lakeview (353), Stone Creek (403), Wabash (412) and Frontier Middle (116). [Watch the video](#) to get an inside look!

American Award: senior Megan McVey, junior Ruthie Clancy, and sophomore Ella Hillgartner. Liberty cheer squads earned the "Top Banana" spirit award on the first day of camp. In addition, senior Megan McVey was selected to try out for UCA staff. Way to go, Liberty cheer squads!



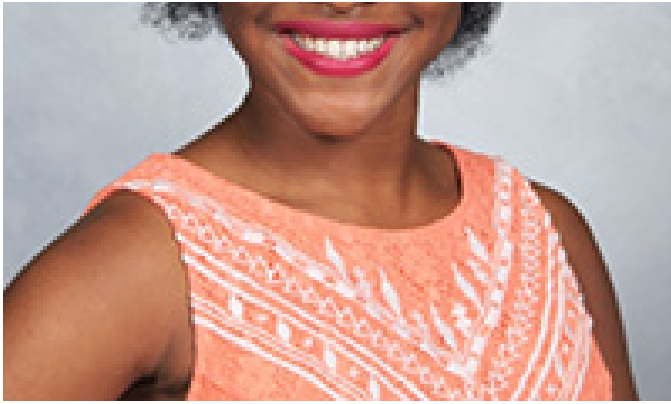
WSD Student Receives Second Place at HOSA International Competition

Timberland High School junior Jenna Davis received second place on the Bioengineering Academic test at the HOSA (Future Healthcare Professionals) International Leadership Conference (ILC) held June 19-22, in Orlando, Florida. Davis was one of 24 Missouri students who placed in the top 10 at the International Conference attended by over 8,100 students from around the world.



Heritage Primary YouTube Channel Teaching Reading Skills

The Heritage Primary YouTube Channel is on the air! Learning retention over summer breaks has always been a challenge for schools; as students go on break, learning often does, as well. According to many studies, one of the best ways to help kids retain knowledge and learning skills is to have kids read - or have parents read to them. Sometimes parents just aren't up to it, especially after a hard day's work and other duties that adulting require. Well, Heritage Primary has parents covered. Every week, HP's new YouTube Channel (link at the end of this post) has teachers and staff – even their SRO Wentzville Police Department Officer Mark – reading popular children's stories. In addition, the teachers offer advice on reading strategies so parents can be active in their child's education, further promoting success, as well as hopefully helping parents make the story more interesting to their child(ren). Heritage Primary principal Megan Sutton said, "This is great for our kids because they're excited about YouTube, they watch YouTube all the time, so this reaches them where they are. It's a way to get them excited about continuing their reading over the summer in a fun and engaging way; and to help parents learn more about reading instruction to help their kids."



Liberty Senior Elected 2019-20 Governor at Missouri Girls State

Liberty High School senior Aminhan Lobster was named the State Governor of Missouri Girls State at this summer's conference, held at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg from June 24-30. As governor, Lobster will be the Girls State "official head of state," and participate in various Missouri Girls State activities – including presiding over all of next year's sessions. [Read the full article](#) on the WSD Website.



instruction to help their kids. Watch this sample video with kindergarten teacher Ms. Bode, and [visit the Heritage Primary YouTube channel](#) to see the rest of the readings.



Stone Creek Dragon Summer Reading

Teachers and staff from Stone Creek Elementary have mobilized their outreach efforts and have been reading to children through their "Dragon Summer Reading" program at Memorial Park each week. About a dozen teachers from the the school have volunteered their time to read and visit with students on Thursdays throughout the summer. "Staff have been meeting with kids again this summer to help foster relationships outside of the school year," said Stone Creek Counselor Alexa Hanna. "We bring books, popsicles, games, and laughter with us each week to our students. It's been a wonderful time getting to see our kids outside of the school day all while growing trusting and long lasting relationships!" #WSDlearns #WSDcommunity



Boundary Update

The 2019 WSD Boundary Committee met twice in May to begin work on new boundaries for the District with two new schools underway. At the last meeting on May 21, Dan Schmidt and Lara Opheim from MGT Consulting, presented two scenarios as a starting point for the committee to review for elementary, middle and high school boundaries. The scenarios were organized in a north/south and east/west fashion crafted by MGT to begin the conversation. The committee worked in groups to review each scenario and react with their initial impressions as to what they liked and to identify areas they felt should be improved. All of the feedback was compiled and reviewed and revisions are currently being made to the scenarios based on the committee's work and input. It is important to note that the



Green Tree 10-Year Anniversary

scenarios presented at the May meeting were merely a starting point and they have already been adjusted based on the committee's work.

"We certainly understand that the prospect of changing schools can be difficult and extremely personal, but we are very early in this process and nothing has been decided at this point as to our new school boundaries," said Chief Communications Officer Mary LaPak. "The committee work has just begun and we are confident the Boundary Committee will work within the established criteria and carry out its task with diligence; mindful of the impact new boundaries have on students and families."

This fall, once the committee has landed on a draft boundary scenario, parents, staff, students and community members will have an opportunity to make comments, ask questions and make suggestions through a series of community forum meetings. The Board of Education is scheduled to vote on the new boundaries at the December 19, 2019 meeting.

[For more information](#), including the MGT presentations, Frequently Asked Questions, the Boundary Timeline, and the complete list of Boundary Committee members with contact information, visit the WSD website.



Elementary Schools Welcome New Kindergartners

For the fifth consecutive year, staff members at several WSD elementary schools spent time over the last two weeks visiting the homes of their new kindergarten students to make them feel welcome. Discovery Ridge held an ice cream social as a welcome to the new kindergarten students as well. Whether they're tying a balloon to a mailbox, placing a sign in the student's

Teachers and staff members at Green Tree Elementary celebrated a special anniversary with a party at O'Fallon Lakes Apartments in July. Green Tree staff members have volunteered their time weekly for 10 years to bring reading, math, and physical activity stations to students where they live in the apartment complex not only during the school year, but through the summer months as well. The program was started by Green Tree teacher Bobbi Love, who has since retired from the WSD. It is now coordinated by Reading Specialist Donna Clark. "We are very excited to celebrate the 10th year of our O'Fallon Lakes program," shared Clark. "Green Tree teachers and staff have had the privilege of working with over 180 students and their families at the apartment complex during the last 10 years. Not only do our students benefit academically from the instruction that we provide, but more importantly, the relationships that we develop with these children can have a life-changing impact on them." Dardenne Presbyterian Church provides a bag of non-perishable food for each child who attends the summer outreach program, extending the Operation Backpack program they provide for Green Tree students during the school year, which provides a bag of food every Friday for students in need so they have something nutritious to eat over the weekend.



Wentzville Middle Teacher Wins KPLR Tools for Teachers

Our very own Kaycee Dragone, Wentzville Middle School 7th grade science teacher and cheer coach, was on KPLR 11 on July 19 to accept her \$500 Tools for Teachers Award sponsored by Weber Chevrolet. Mrs. Dragone was chosen as this month's award

yard, or personally saying hello, WSD teachers and staff are expanding our caring community. More importantly, the students get to meet new friends, and feel they are a part of something special - WSD schools!

chosen as this month's award winner following a nomination by her mom, Kelly Ewing, who was also on the show. Since 2015, KPLR11 and Weber Chevrolet have teamed up to tell the local stories of teachers making a difference in the lives of young people all over the Metro Area. According to the KPLR website, they receive over 100 nominations monthly. "At only 27 years old, Kaycee has accomplished more in this short time than most," wrote Kelly in her nomination. "If she impacts one child to do the right thing, make better choices, or help them through a crisis, she is completely fulfilled." Mrs. Dragone shared that she plans to use the funds to purchase school supplies for her students who need assistance this year.



Timberland Grad Earns Ronald Reagan Leadership Award

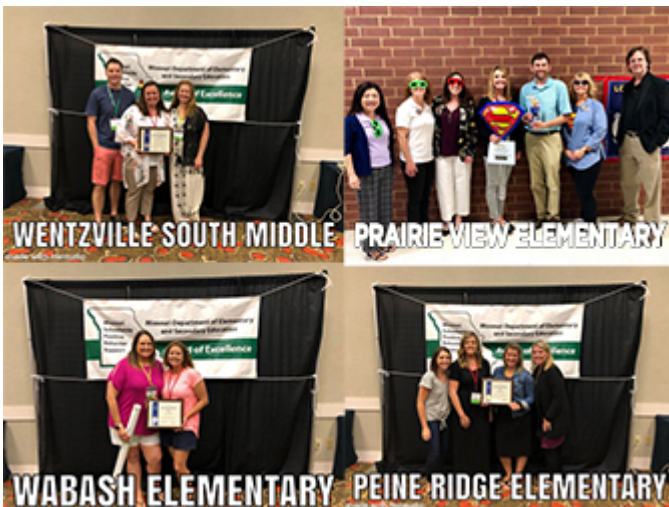
2019 Timberland High graduate Jonathan Paneitz has been selected as the 2019 recipient of the Ronald Reagan Leadership Medal. Bestowed by the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute, the award is given to students who exemplify the program's pillars - drive, humility, and service before self.

[Read the full article](#) on the WSD website.



Pearce Hall Appreciation Barbecue

The WSD Pearce Hall Alternative Program hosted a barbecue last Thursday to honor everyone—all the support staff, maintenance workers, custodians, and painters—who worked there this summer to prepare the building for the upcoming school year. The honored guests enjoyed burgers, hotdogs, chips, and cookies; and also had the opportunity to take a look at the refurbished amenities at Pearce, including the gym and bathrooms, as well as the newly painted hallways and freshly waxed floors. "They have done some great work this summer, especially in the gym," said Pearce Hall Director Dr. Ben Hebisen, who also took on cooking duties at the barbecue. "This school would not be anything close to being as successful as it is without help from each and every one of these people. We just want them to know how much their hard work is



Four Schools Earn Recognition for SW-PBS Implementation

Implementation

Kudos to the four WSD schools that were recognized for exemplary implementation of Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support (SW-PBS) June 11-13 at the 14th annual Missouri SW-PBS Summer Institute at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri. Peine Ridge and Prairie View elementary schools received gold level recognition, and Wabash Elementary and South Middle School received silver level recognition. SW-PBS is an evidence based, proactive approach to teaching and reinforcing behavioral expectations in order to improve student behavior, maximize instructional time, and increase student engagement.

appreciated."



Holt Cheer Squad Wins Awards

Congratulations to the Holt High School Varsity Cheer squad, who came away with multiple awards from the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) camp, held July 8-11, at Lindenwood University! The squad earned a Technical Excellence Award for tumbling, the NCA Top Team Chant, and a spirit stick award. Their performances earned them a bid to the NCA Cheerleading Nationals to be held February 28 - March 1, 2020, in Dallas, Texas. Junior Brandon Truong received an All-American Award, and junior Nina Fay received the Top All-American Award for the entire camp.



2019 WSD Band Camps

Band Camp for all three high schools transpired from July 22 through August 1. The first week covered and reviewed the basics of being a band member; students learned how to line up as a team, both in their sections and as a whole unit. Holt had 171 students take part, Timberland 132, and Liberty had around 90 participants. [Here is a link](#) to a folder of a few photos from each camp.



A Voice for Dyslexia

Stone Creek sixth grader Aiden Harr is on a mission to teach us all about dyslexia, and to inspire our legislators to offer support to students who persevere through the learning disability. Recently returned from a meeting with Missouri Governor Mike Parsons on July 22, Aiden has been



WSD Technology Responsible Use Policy

Elementary Policy

Please note that the Responsible Use Policy (RUP)

Please note that the Responsible Use Policy (RUP) must be signed before your child(ren) can log into district technology resources. The RUP can be signed online through the Tyler SISK12 Student360 website. The portal will open on Friday, August 2. Please complete the required form(s) before the start of the school, so that your child(ren)'s access is not disabled.

[The Tyler SISK12 Student360 website](#) can be accessed from the homepage on the district website. Building Admin: Please do not share links to the RUP, as they are linked online through Classroom360, when parent's view/complete the forms.

Policy for Secondary Students

Beginning this school year, the Responsible Use Policy (RUP), Access Initiative (1:1) Agreement, and Device Insurance forms will all be completed online through the Tyler SISK12 Student360 website.

The Responsible Use Policy (RUP) must be signed before your child(ren) can access district technology resources. Please complete the required form(s) before the start of the school, so that your child(ren)'s access is not disabled.

Please note that device insurance is not active until the \$20 payment is sent into your child(ren)'s school.

[The Tyler SISK12 Student360 website](#) can be accessed from the homepage on the district website. Building Admin: Please do not share links to the RUP, 1:1 agreement, or Insurance forms, as they are linked online through Classroom360, when parent's view/complete the forms.

On July 22, Aiden has been testifying before the Missouri Senate and House committees throughout the past year, courageously sharing how hard he works to achieve in the classroom in spite of his personal struggles with dyslexia, and specifically seeking to bring awareness to the need for advance screenings for the learning disability, as well as his desire for an inclusive curriculum for his peers. Aiden has made multiple trips to Jefferson City, and was given a proclamation by State Representative Justin Hill earlier this year for his efforts to raise awareness about dyslexia to help other children. Aiden says he shares his story because he doesn't want other children to experience the failure and frustration that he felt as early as 5 years old. Governor Parsons said on his Facebook page, "[Aiden's] parents can be very proud of the work he has done advocating for his fellow students." The Harr family put together [a video](#) on YouTube about their recent trip.

WSD Welcomes 113 New Teachers



The Wentzville School District is welcoming 113 new teachers to our district! In order to get them better prepared for our students on the first day of school, new teachers attended district workshops

led by our Literacy Coaches, Content Leaders, Special Education Coordinators, Technology Coaches and district administrators. These workshops were designed for teachers to learn theories and experience strategies for developing teacher-student relationships and engaging our students with the district curricula. "We want new teachers to know we have high expectations for our students and give them the tools to help students achieve their goals," said Dr. Karen Hill, Director of Professional Learning. The Wentzville School District is committed to being a model of excellence that sets the standard and maximizes the potential of every student. The best way to do that is to have the best teachers who are prepared for our students!

WSD Videos

Visit the WSD YouTube Channel for more videos. Here are some recent productions about students and teachers.

New Elementary School Construction



Construction for the new WSD elementary school has been underway, and the project is literally taking shape. You can already begin to imagine where students will be arriving to their school in 2020, coming to learn, play, grow, and positively affect their community. [This is footage](#) was taken via drone (owned and operated by WSD Marketing Director Derrick Docket) on July 8, 2019.

New High School Construction Video



Construction for the new WSD high school has been underway, as well. Set to open in 2021, this is the site where students will be coming to learn, play, grow, and positively affect their community. [This is footage was taken via drone](#) (owned and operated by WSD Marketing Director Derrick Docket) on June 12.

WSD NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

[View the policy on the WSD Website.](#)