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September 13, 2019

**Thank You to Our District eNews Sponsor:**



**Timberland Counselor Named Missouri Counselor of the Year**



Tammy Braun, a school counselor at Timberland High, has been named the 2019-2020 Secondary School Counselor of the Year by the Missouri School Counselor Association (MSCA). Braun was eligible for the award after having been named the Secondary School Counselor of the Year in January by the St. Louis Suburban School Counselor Association.

Braun has worked for the WSD since 2007. She is the secretary of the Missouri School Counselor Association, a co-sponsor of Timberland's National Honor Society, and serves on the school's PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) Committee and Trauma Team. She has implemented a number of new programs at Timberland to strengthen connections with parents and students, including "Coffee with the Counselors" meetings each quarter to answer parent questions, a staff support group focusing on self-care, stress management, and avoiding compassion fatigue, online counselor appointment requests, and a "Counselor Cafe" on Fridays where counselors are available during lunch to assist students. [Read the full article](#) on the WSD Website.

[Read More](#) 

## WSD Technology Coach Named METC Spotlight Educator

WSD Instructional Technology Coach Sam Hardesty Knoll has been selected to be part of the 2020 class of Midwest Education Technology Conference (METC) Spotlight Educators by EducationPlus. Hardesty Knoll is one of 10 Spotlight Educators who will be featured presenters at the 2020 METC for K-12 educators, to be held February 10-12, at the St. Charles Convention Center. Spotlight Educators are being recognized for using technology to make a real difference in teaching and learning for their students and fellow teachers.

Hardesty Knoll has given more than 20 years to the education field, and made her way into the WSD as a fourth grade teacher at Peine Ridge Elementary in 2007.



In 2015, she began dedicating her time to integrating tech into the classroom for all teachers as a WSD Instructional Technology Coach. She holds a master's degree in educational technology, is a Google Certified Trainer and Google Certified Educator (Level 1 and 2), an Apple Certified Teacher, and a BrainPOP Educator. A frequent presenter at area educational technology conferences, Hardesty Knoll is passionate about sharing ideas for the betterment of all students.

Liberty High School Librarian Kelly Oliva was recognized as a 2018 METC Spotlight Educator, as well as WSD Instructional Technology Coach Michael McCann in 2016 and WSD Technology Director Greg Lawrence (2013). That

means that the WSD has had four METC Spotlight Educators since its inaugural class of 2013. [Read the full article](#) on the WSD Website.



### Patriot Day in the WSD



Students across the WSD participated in Patriot Day events on September 11 to remember the lives lost on that date in 2001, and to honor first responders and community service providers. Crossroads Elementary, Heritage Intermediate, Discovery Ridge and Wabash Elementary held largescale events this year, while other schools observed a moment of silence and discussed the historic

significance of the events of 9/11. [Watch the video](#) on WSD YouTube to see how WSD students, staff and the community gathered to celebrate patriotism—specifically honoring those first responders who sacrificed on that infamous day, as well as those who protect us on a daily basis, such as our military, St. Charles County Ambulance District, Air Evac Lifeteam, Wentzville Missouri Police Department, Lake Saint Louis Fire Protection District and Wentzville Fire Protection District. Thank you to all who served, and to these heroes who keep us safe every day. [Read the full article](#) on the WSD website.

[Read More](#)

### Dates to Remember

**September 19, 7:00 p.m.**

Board of Education Meeting  
Administrative Center

**September 23**

Late Start Day

**September 26, 3:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades 9-12

**September 27**

No Classes

**October 12, 9:30 a.m.**  
WSD Homecoming Parade

**October 14**  
Late Start Day  
Grades K-12

**October 17**  
Board of Education Meeting  
Administrative Center

**October 18**  
Early Release Day  
Grades K-12

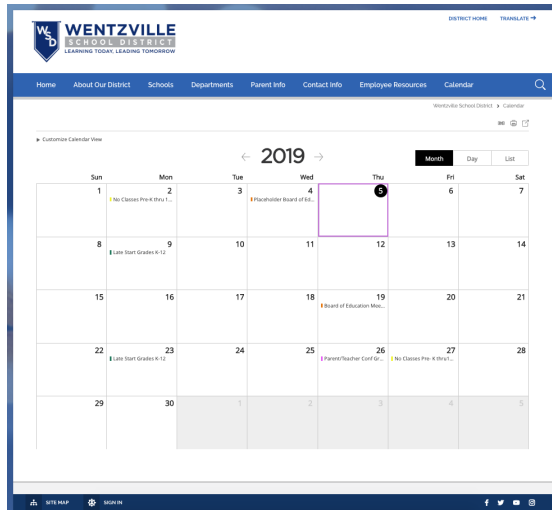
**October 23, 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades Pre-K through 6

**October 23, 3:30 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades 7-8

**October 24**  
No Classes (Parent-Teacher Conferences)

**October 24, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades Pre-K through 8

**October 25**  
No Classes





Connect with the WSD





### Faces of the WSD - Ray Good, Bus Driver Trainer

The WSD Transportation Department has nearly 250 drivers, aides, mechanics, dispatchers and administrators on staff and Ray Good is one of two trainers in the department who ensure our drivers are well prepared to safely transport students. His energy and enthusiasm are contagious and he is just one example of WSD team members who are committed to excellence every day and who help ensure the WSD is a special place to learn, work and grow. [Watch this Faces of the WSD video profile](#) of Ray on WSD YouTube.



## Parents as Teachers Group Connections

Parents As Teachers held their inaugural Group Connection on August 20, and it certainly turned out to be big! Over 90 families with young children came to their Big Truck Event, located at the back parking lot of the WSD Administrative Center. Thanks to our community partners there were several large vehicles from around the Wentzville community on hand for the kids: a school bus; limousine; a tractor; a dump truck; cement truck; phone bucket truck; a street cleaner; an asphalt pothole repair truck; a firetruck; and an ambulance. The children loved exploring and climbing up and into these vehicles, but the event also helped families become aware of many organizations that help our community on a daily basis. Kids love the big trucks, but these close encounters can alleviate fears of the noises they make and might even spur excitement into how the vehicles work. PAT helps serve over 1,000 young families in this fastest growing school district in the state! Learn more about them by visiting [their webpage](#). Their next family Group Connection, with guests from the Parks Department, is September 18, at Quail Ridge Park, from 6-7 p.m.





EDSURGE.COM

## Carmen Sandiego Is Back. But Can She Fix America's Geography Woes? - EdSurge News

### WSD Teachers Featured in EdSurge Article

Two Wentzville Middle School teachers - Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Gilpin - were interviewed [for this fun story](#) about the resurgence of Carmen Sandiego and their use of the character to help teach geography.



## NISC Donates School Supplies

Thank you to National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) for a large donation of school supplies to benefit WSD students! At our 9th Annual WSD Back to School Fair in August, we gave away 2,150 bags filled with school supplies to WSD students. Donations like this one from NISC help to keep a supply closet filled during the school year so that counselors can get school supplies in the hands of students who need them! If your company or organization would like to donate, please [contact the WSD Community Relations Department](#).



## Wentzville Outreach Lions Club School Supply Donation

Thank you to the Wentzville Outreach Lions Club for donating school supplies for WSD students for the third consecutive year! Club President Jimmy Butler and Director Lisa Alexander delivered the supplies to the WSD Administrative Center last week. The Wentzville Outreach Lions Club is devoted to helping our local community through community service projects. Donations like this one help to keep a supply closet filled during the school year so that counselors can get school supplies in the hands of students who need them! If your company or organization would like to donate, please [contact the WSD Community Relations Department](#).



## Lakeview Choir Performed at Cardinals Game

Fans at the Cardinals game on Sunday, September 1, were treated to the sweet sounds of our own Lakeview Elementary School Choir. Under the direction of Denise Bartlow, the Lakeview students sang "God Bless America." Fans were also treated to a Cards win versus the Cincinnati Reds. Way to go, Lions AND Cards!



## World Suicide Prevention Month

Missy Gehrke is a drama teacher at Liberty High School and she recently sat down with LHS junior Lena Granberry to share about her personal loss in an effort to draw awareness to suicide prevention. Missy lost her nephew Matt to suicide earlier this year and says that her family wants to share Matt's story in an effort to encourage students to reach out for help when they need it and to seek help for friends who they are concerned about. In honor of World Suicide Prevention Day and Suicide Prevention Month, we are sharing [Mrs. Gehrke's interview and Matt's story](#).

The International Association for Suicide Prevention estimates that for every person that dies by suicide, 135 people suffer "intense grief or are otherwise affected." This amounts to 108 million people per year. Further, the organization says that for every suicide, 25 people make a suicide attempt and many more have serious thoughts of suicide. If you or someone you know needs help, call the 24-hour National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.



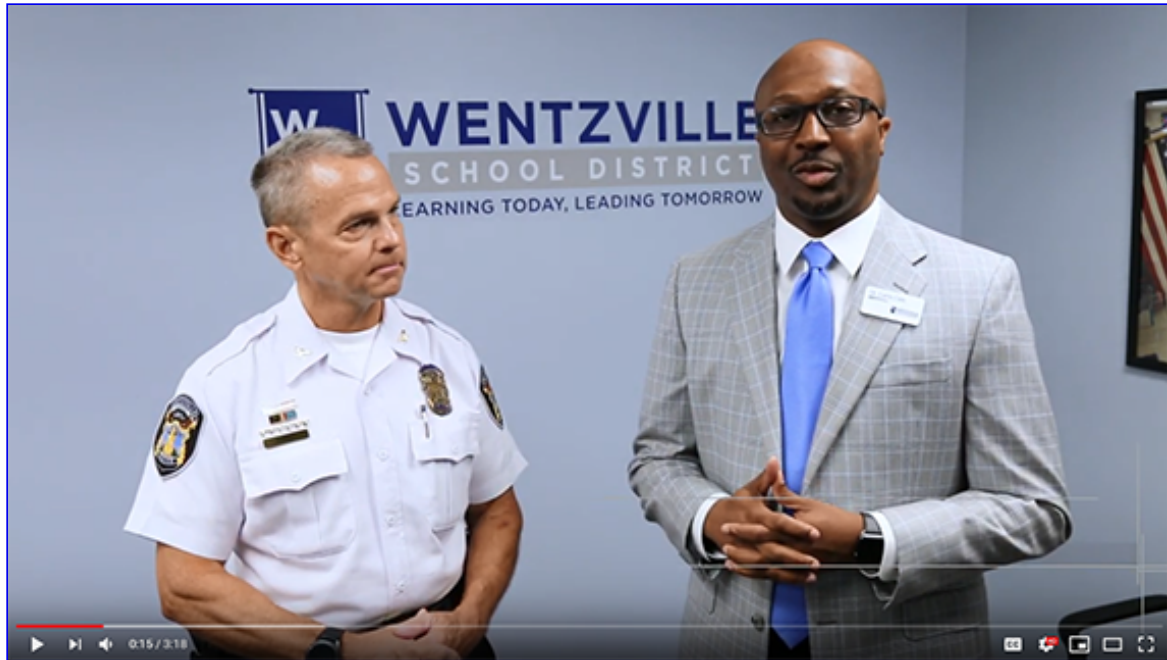
## Late Start Information

The next Late Start is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019. The supervision for students in Grades K-6 is \$10 per child for each late start day. This is separate from our Before Care Program through Chautauqua, and only for students NOT already enrolled in the Chautauqua Before School Program.

Late starts provide valuable collaboration time for our teachers across the District and yet we understand these days can be a challenge for working parents especially. The supervision option was established to assist those parents who need it. Additional information about late start supervision for students in Grades K-6, as well as the link to pay via PayPal can be [found on the District website](#).

## Recent Videos from the WSD

### **Dr. Cain & Chief Frisz Message**



### Portrait of a WSD Learner



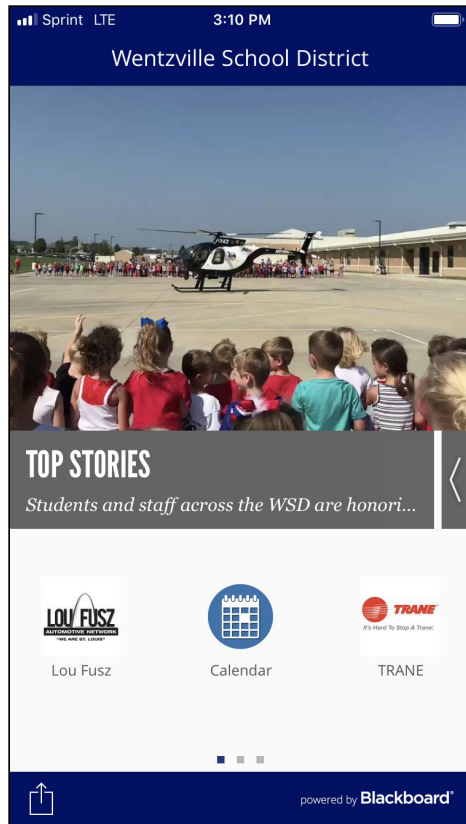
# First Day of School Slideshow



## 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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