



Columbia Elementary School
 3120 St Louis Ave.
 St. Louis, MO 63106
 (314) 533-2750 (office)

Tiffany D. Houston –Principal



Columbia
 Elementary School

Our Mission: Columbia Elementary will be relentless in providing rigorous and robust learning experiences for all students that will empower them to become strategic and independent thinkers who compete globally.

Our Vision: Columbia Elementary will be restored to its original prominence as an integral part of the community by partnering with all stakeholders, empowering students and making academics, attendance and character education our priority.

THE EAGLE ENQUIRER

SEPTEMBER 2024 Edition

SLPS Strategic Values



Arrival

Friendly Reminders:

- Students are not allowed inside the building before 8:05 AM (unless they are enrolled in Before Care).
- Students should enter through the following doors 8:05 AM - 8:15 AM:

Door #7: PreK

Door #9: 1st – 5th grade

Door #13: KG/Inclement Weather Entrance/Exit

- PreK students check-in and report to their teacher’s classroom. 1st - 5th grade students should enter the Gym and be seated in their class lines.
- Classroom teachers will escort students to the cafeteria, through the food service line, and then to eat breakfast in their classroom.
- Students arriving after 8:15 AM should check into the Main Office (enter through Door #1), receive grab-and-go breakfast from cafeteria, and report to class.

Due to safety, parents are NOT allowed to stay with children. Parents must complete a volunteer application, and it must be processed at Central Office prior to volunteering in the classroom

All students must ride the bus/alternate transportation or be picked up by 3:17 PM daily.



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iPads

A contract needs to be signed by each student's parent or legal guardian. iPads cannot be given out to the students until the contract is signed. Hard copies of this form are available in our main office. If you have any questions, please contact our building's Technology Inventory Coordinator (TIC), Ms. Brown (mecha.brown@slps.org). See link below. Thank you for all you do!

<https://signnow.com/s/G6fg3PzG>

Uniforms

Columbia is a uniform school. All students must wear their uniforms Monday-Thursday. Students may wear any color uniform top or bottom. Students can wear the shoes of their choice. Students/Staff may wear jeans every Friday. If you need help with purchasing uniforms, please connect with our Family Support Specialist, Ms. Davis (ebony.davis2@slps.org) and she will connect you to our community resources.

Character Education Word of the Month: Respect

Each month our students will learn the definition of a character education word. Students will be able to understand the meaning and how to display this trait daily.

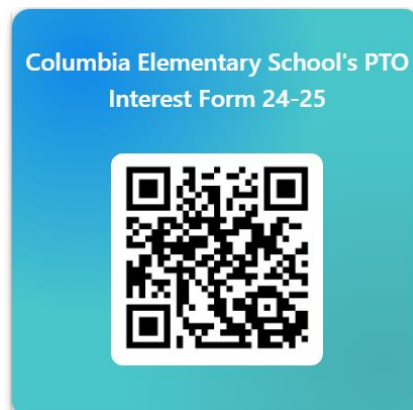
Our students are learning all about R-E-S-P-E-C-T this month. What is respect?

Respect is to honor and to show consideration and value to people, property, the environment, and yourself. It means to treat others well even if they look, act, or believe differently than you do. Please continue to encourage your children to show respect to themselves and everyone around them.

PTO

The PTO is looking for more members (parents/guardians) to add to the Columbia Eagles PTO Squad. Please complete the below interest form to be contacted to join/participate in Columbia Elementary School's PTO.

(click on link and complete form →) [Columbia Elementary School's PTO Interest Form 24-25](#)



Or scan QR code and complete the form.



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Now Enrolling: KG-5th Grade

Columbia Elementary School is NOW Enrolling KG through 5th graders who live in the St. Louis City area. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of new students should come to Columbia Elementary School or go to the enrollment website [SIS K-12 360 \(slps.org\)](https://slps.org) to enroll their child(ren). Please ensure that you have the following documents ready to upload:

- child(ren)'s birth certificate
- immunization records
- proof of address (lease or bill)
- parent/guardian's identification

Please contact the school at: 314-533-2750 if you have any questions or need additional support.

Before Care & After Care Update

Parents/Guardians please sign-up your child for Before Care/After Care services via your parent portal for each child that you would like to enroll. If you need support with registering through the parent portal, please reach out to our Family Support Specialist, Ms. Davis (ebony.davis2@slps.org).

Before Care/After Care (paper-based) applications are available in the main office. Please complete and return the application to the office. Your child will not begin the program until an acceptance letter is given and/or you are contacted.

Monday-Thursdays

Before Care 7:05 AM- 8:05 AM

After Care 3:30 PM-6:00 PM

There will not be aftercare on Staff Meeting Days.

September Staff Meeting: Thursday, September 5, 2024.

Sports Update

Students in grades 3rd -5th are invited to practice and participate on the Columbia Elementary Soccer Team. Students MUST have a physical on file with the nurse prior to participating. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should complete the Soccer Team Participation Forms and Student Code of Conduct Forms and return to Principal Houston (tiffany.houston@slps.org), Coach Sechrest (ashtin.sechrest@slps.org), or the main office.



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District Soccer Team Information

1. All games will be played at Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School (located at 4939 Kemper Ave.).
2. There is an admission charge of \$4 for anyone who wants to attend the games. (the district remains 100% cashless)- there is an option to buy a multiple scan pass for the regular season 6 scans for \$20 or 15 scans for \$40. Please purchase single tickets the morning of the games before arrival so it is a seamless entry.
3. Fans must bring their own chairs/seats as bleachers are not available.
4. Security Policy- Only small clutches for bags are allowed.
5. Sports You for families- This will help catch those families if we need to cancel for any reason or those fans that are not directly in contact with your school, helps promote our sports programming as they can post pictures and comments.
6. Students must have a physical on file with Nurse Dawson.

Columbia Soccer Team Information

1. Soccer Practice will take place Monday-Thursday during after-school hours.
2. Students can wear tennis shoes but are encouraged to wear cleats.
3. Students must wear black shorts/bottoms for all games.
4. Students will not be able to participate in practice/games if they do not have good behavior or have not completed assignments during the school week.
5. Parents/Guardians are required to provide transportation to all games (they occur on Saturdays). Students can be dropped off to games but must be picked up on time (Games typically last 1 hour).

Families can cheer students on during games and can have signs to display and noise makers. Remember this is only elementary school sports, we won't win every game. We are exposing our students to sports and teaching them good sportsmanship, please support this effort.

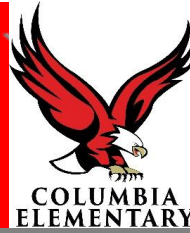
Girl Scouts (KG-5th Grade)

24-25 Columbia Elementary Girl Scouts Applications are available in the main office. Please sign and return a form for any child that you would like to participate. Meetings/activities will begin this month!



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Transportation

Opt-Out from Transportation: We are asking families who can transport students to school on their own to commit to this practice for the school year. Many have already chosen this option, and freeing up the seats on the bus for others will allow for more efficiency. Please go to www.slps.org/optout for more information.

Bus Stop Consolidation: A significant challenge we face in ensuring buses arrive on time is the current number of stops. Our plan includes safely and thoughtfully reducing the number of bus stops to address this issue. We are assessing stops across the district as part of this plan.

Strategic routing: We have been collaborating closely with a transportation consulting firm, 4Mativ Technologies, to analyze our transportation system and develop recommendations for improvements. We will make sure buses are not traveling across St. Louis half empty.

Effective Tuesday, September 3rd, students may experience changes in their transportation routes as the newly revised system goes into effect. This update is essential to expand ridership capacity and address current challenges.

SLPS is actively developing additional routes in partnership with First Student, our main transportation provider. We understand the importance of keeping families informed, which is why we have created a dedicated Transportation FAQ page on our website at www.SLPS.org/FAQ. This "living document" is continuously updated to reflect the latest information and address any new questions that arise. Additionally, we welcome any further questions from families through our online submission form at www.slps.org/questions.

We appreciate the ongoing support and patience of our families as we work together to ensure a smooth transition to these new routes. Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated as our drivers adapt to these changes.

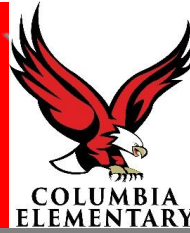
If you have further questions or need additional support, please contact our Transportation Department at 314-633-5107 and/or slpstrans.org.

If you are in transition, please The Office of Students in Transition for additional support at: 314-345-5750.



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FIELD TRIPS AND VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS UPDATE:

Students will attend the field trips for their grade level. An adult should sign the permission slip. No verbal signatures will be accepted. For a student to go on a field trip, the permission slip must be filled out. *Some students will be required to attend with a chaperone (pending behavior) to attend.* **Parents who chaperone will NOT be able to ride transportation with their students.** Parents are required to drive. Parents, who chaperone, must transport any student who requires a chaperone. **All chaperones are required to have a volunteer application on file.** Contact the child’s teacher for more information.

Field Trips by Grade Level:

P4, KG, 1 st Teachers	The Magic House
KG-1 st Grade Teachers	Missouri Botanical Gardens
2 nd Grade Teachers	Zoo
3 rd Grade Teachers	Science Center
4 th Grade Teachers	History Museum
5 th Grade Teachers	Art Museum

Important September Calendar Dates:

- Monday, September 2, 2024: Labor Day (No School)
- Thursday, September 5, 2024: September Staff Meeting (No Afterschool Activities)
- Monday, September 16, 2024: Progress Report Cards Distributed via email
- Friday, September 20, 2024: No School for Students (Staff Professional PD Day)

[Click Here to Connect With Columbia on ClassDojo**](#)**

Update your contact information with the school if anything changes (be sure we have a current phone number & email address). We will continue to send updates via email and ClassDojo. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Columbia if you have any immediate needs or concerns. Thank you for all you do!



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Happy Birthday to ALL students and staff with September Birthdays 😊



SEPTEMBER STAFF Birthdays:

Ms. Howard
 September 13th
 (4th Grade Teacher)

Ms. Sechrest
 September 13th
 (Social Worker)

Ms. Houston
 September 16th
 (Principal)

Ms. Walker
 September 24th
 (Music Teacher)

Ms. Hogue
 September 29th
 (5th Grade Teacher)

Dawson Jamila Frances	01	09/01/2017
Darden Kirk	04	09/02/2014
Dixon Darriell	01	09/02/2017
Sleet Damien Lavall	P4	09/02/2019
Marble Trish'Ton Darnell	05	09/04/2013
Bowden Zion E	04	09/05/2014
Wrice Savannah Marie Yvette	04	09/05/2014
Robinson Zoey Marie	P4	09/05/2020
Holloway William	K	09/10/2018
Hopkins Kaleah	P3	09/14/2020
Hubbard Alexandra	03	09/15/2016
Tomlin Memari	01	09/17/2017
Richardson Mariel	05	09/18/2014
Dawson David	K	09/18/2018
Braxton Deon L	P4	09/18/2019
Braxton Dru L	P4	09/18/2019
Henderson Josiah	03	09/19/2015
Jones Chloe Erica	01	09/19/2017
Frazier Nyla	02	09/25/2016
Nowden Der'eon Lamont	02	09/25/2016
Frazier Mhir	K	09/29/2018