

SLPS Spotlight News

September 24, 2010

Weekly Edition

Attention SLPS! Did you know that honorees for the *Spirit of Excellence Award* come directly from Spotlight News? Did you know that ideas for *district press releases, media advisories, and web postings* come from Spotlight News as well? Did you know that Spotlight News is shared with *more than 4,500 recipients* on a weekly basis?

The Office of Public Information wants to publicize your school, but is only able to do so with your help. Please send information to Patrick Wallace by emailing Patrick.Wallace@slps.org. All information submitted about the success of students, staff, programs, etc. will be included in Spotlight News unless previously published.

SLPS News

“State of the District” Town Hall Meeting Set for October 16 at Vashon

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 16 from 9am – 12pm for a special “State of the District” Town Hall meeting. Participants at the meeting include Special Administrative Board members, Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams, Cooperating School District Executive Director John Urkevich and a representative from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Town Hall meeting will be held at Vashon High School, 3035 Cass Avenue. The agenda includes updates on the District’s progress towards regaining accreditation, information about the District’s academic achievements, the District’s plans and initiatives for the 2010/11 school year, and a report on future facility improvements to be funded by the recently passed \$155 Million Bond Issue Proposition S.

In addition to the presentations and reports, community members will have an opportunity to participate in a question and answer session with members of the Town Hall meeting panel.

District High School Students Eligible for A+ Scholarships

St. Louis Public School graduates now have an added financial incentive to continue on to higher learning. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has confirmed that the District has submitted all of the documentation necessary for all of the District’s high schools to become A+ designated. Graduating seniors this spring who have met all A+ scholarship requirements will be eligible to receive the A+ scholarship.

The A+ scholarship provides high school graduates with free tuition to eligible community colleges and vocational schools. Students qualify for the scholarship by accumulating a 2.5 grade point average, posting a 95% or better attendance average, demonstrating good citizenship and performing 50 hours of tutoring.

Roosevelt Color Guard Team Marches in Labor Day Parade

Members of the Roosevelt High School Marine Corps JROTC Color Guard Team helped celebrate Labor Day by participating in the annual parade in downtown St. Louis. The Color Guard Team members enjoyed the

opportunity to march in front of thousands of spectators. The students were greeted by St. Louis Mayor Slay, Police Chief Isom and Fire Chief Jenkerson.

Grant Opportunity for Writing Teachers

Attention teachers: Here is an opportunity to apply for a grant valued at up to \$3,000. The Bob Costas Awards for the Teaching of Creative Writing grants are available to exceptional teachers who motivate their students to write through innovative teaching methods. Winning teachers are awarded grants to enhance successful projects currently underway. Projects can be carried out in school, through an after-school writing workshop or during a summer program.

This grant is available for teachers from all academic disciplines in grades 6 – 12. The deadline to apply is November 19, 2010. Visit <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/costas> for more information.

Clyde C. Miller Celebrates End of Course Exam Success

Who says it doesn't pay to study? Clyde C. Miller High School students and staff recently celebrated the school's success on the End of Course exams taken last spring. All students scoring at the Proficient or Advanced level on the state exams received a certificate and final exam pass. In addition, four lucky students each won an IPOD as part of the celebration raffle.

Gateway Tech Pre Vet Teacher Named Volunteer of the Month by Pet Organization

Kara Dalton is a teacher by day, a pet lover by night. Dalton's devotion to animals has earned her the Gateway Pet Gazette's Volunteer of the Month award for September. In naming her the winner, the Gateway Pet Gazette described Kara as one of the organizations most cherished volunteers, who is always willing to help with anything they need. The Gateway Pet Gazette also called her an amazing asset to the group.

Dalton began volunteering with the Gateway Pet during the summer of 2008 when her family adopted a black lab mix puppy from the organization. Dalton also contributes articles to the Gateway Pet Gazette monthly newsletter.

Stevens Middle Science Teacher Selected for Leader in Education Award

Margaret (Peggy) Presley is an 8th grade Science teacher at Stevens Middle School. She is also a member of a very select group of only 20 educators to win a 2010 Peabody Logos Leader in Education Award. Presley received her award, and a \$1,000 prize, from Missouri Governor Jay Nixon at a ceremony held recently at the Ballpark Hilton Hotel.

Peabody Logos Leader in Education award winners are selected each week during the school year. Award winners are nominated by the public and recognized for being exceptional educators or mentors

Miller Academy Librarian to Walk the Fashion Runway

In SLPS, we know that educators are superstars. Now, the whole world is going to know. Clyde C. Miller Career Academy librarian Izetta Johnson will walk the fashion runway at Macy's in West County Mall on Saturday, October 23rd at 2pm. Izetta is one of six local educators selected to serve as a supermodel for the event and receive a makeover by Jones New York.

Flu Shot Clinics Set for 13 CEFSS Sites

St. Louis Public Schools is partnering with SARA Health Services to offer Flu Shot Clinics during the week of October 4th at all 13 Community Education Full Service School sites. The immunization services will be available to all SLPS staff and all community residents age 18 or over. There is no appointment necessary and the process should take only a few minutes.

For more information, including locations and times, visit flushotstoday.com, call (636)751-1080, or contact your local CEFSS Community Collaborative Specialist.

Rams Host NFL Play 60 Clinic at International Welcome School

St. Louis Rams players visited the International Welcome School this past Tuesday to help celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The players provided instruction and handed out free footballs with bilingual hang tags on them featuring information on how to view basic football instruction videos in English and Spanish on NFLRUSH.com.

Gateway Tech FFA Students Celebrate BioScience Day at Busch Stadium

Thanks to the generosity of the Monsanto Company, members of the Gateway Tech High School FFA Club celebrated BioScience day in style. The students and their chaperones were given tickets to the Cardinals game against the Padres on Sunday, September 19. They also had the opportunity to visit various science booths set up by Monsanto and other local bioscience companies. And, to make the day a total success, the students were featured during the game on the Busch Stadium video scoreboard.

SLPS in the News

- http://www.zwire.com/site/dav.cfm?brd=3157&dept_id=694223&ssid=18726&ssp=18&pag=1027
- http://www.zwire.com/site/dav.cfm?brd=3157&dept_id=694223&ssid=18726&ssp=23&pag=1027
- http://www.zwire.com/site/dav.cfm?brd=3157&dept_id=694223&ssid=18726&ssp=35&pag=1027
- http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/education/article_aa59861d-a3d0-56c9-8d76-1b8073e5d2ea.html
- <http://www.kmov.com/video/featured-videos/Go-Green-Dewey-Schools-learning-garden-103179479.html>
- <http://www.ksdk.com/news/education/story.aspx?storyid=218052&catid=21>

Upcoming Events

5th Annual Big Read Festival Scheduled For October 9

Central Avenue in Clayton will be the hot spot for book lovers of all ages on Saturday, October 9th as the 5th Annual Big Read Festival is held. This free event runs from 9am – 4pm. Teachers, students, parents and community members are invited to enjoy this amazing festival.

More than 40 nationally known authors will be on hand, with book signings, readings, panel discussions, workshops, demonstrations and hands-on projects available. There will be an interactive children's area with costumed characters to engage the young readers.

The Big Read provides a platform for education, volunteerism and literacy promotion and is a springboard for "bookish" behavior. For more information, visit http://www.culturalfestivals.com/big_read_home.html.

Dairy Fully Fueled Tour to Visit Dewey International Studies

Date: October 15th

Location: Dewey International Studies, 6746 Clayton Ave.

Spotlight Photo of the Week

Roosevelt Marine Corps JROTC Color Guard at Labor Day Parade



Roosevelt High School Marine Corps JROTC with the Mayor, Police Chief and Fire Chief as they led the Labor Day parade. If you would like to submit a photo for Photo of the Week, send it to Patrick.Wallace@slps.org with a caption. Submitted photos will be featured in future Spotlight News issues.

Author's Note

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