



ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School & Home



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WINTER/SPRING 2007

Superintendent Announces Plan to Improve St. Louis Public Schools

Dr. Diana Bourisaw, Superintendent of St. Louis Public Schools unveiled an updated Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) for the district.

The updated plan consists of 178 individual strategic goals aimed at:

- Improving academic achievement for all students;
- Providing safe and secure learning environments;
- Ensuring the district continues to have financial resources sufficient to support effective educational services and programs;
- Increasing the district's use of technology to streamline services and improve academics;
- Improving the district's use of existing facilities;
- Providing professional development that increases the competency level of teachers, administrators, and support staff; and
- Increasing the number of certified teachers in SLPS classrooms.

"This Comprehensive School Improvement Plan is aggressive, but it is also a realistic roadmap to improve our schools," Dr. Bourisaw said. "The plan is aligned with

state, federal, and local standards. Further, it includes measurable goals that can be used to determine our effectiveness," she added.

While the CSIP is required of all Missouri school districts, this plan is unique because it is directly linked to the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP). Every strategic goal developed in the revised St. Louis plan is directly tied to MSIP. Because the district will be evaluated in 2009 based on the MSIP standards, the proposed updated plan sets a course of action based on the criteria by which the district will be judged. Additionally, it is aligned with the federal No Child Left Behind Act and the local Desegregation Settlement Agreement.

"The unified goal of our administrators and teachers in the past six months has been achieving full

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Superintendent's Corner

Dear SLPS Parents, Students and Families,

The second half of the school year is in full swing. For our students, that brings many challenges, including the annual Missouri



Dr. Diana M. Bourisaw

Assessment Program (MAP) test. For our senior class members, it means their high school years are drawing to a close and it is time to make serious decisions about the future.

I'm excited about a wonderful new opportunity that will soon be available to our current 9th graders. My goal is to raise \$20 million in scholarships for the Class of 2010. We already have commitments from several colleges, universities, and community partners, that already near this goal.

The 2010 Scholarship Program is rigorous and requires serious work and commitment from the participating students and support from the participant's families. The guidelines for participation in the program include:

- Enrollment at an SLPS high school for three years
- High School G.P.A. of 2.5 (weighted) on a 4.0 scale
- 92% attendance record for four years
- 50 hours of unpaid community service (tutoring younger students under the supervision of a teacher, or service in conjunction with the Community Education Service Learning project)
- Establish a record of good citizenship
- Be alcohol/drug free, including possession, use or distribution
- ACT score on record with the high school counseling office
- Make a demonstrated good faith effort to first secure all available post-secondary student financial aid assistance funds that do not require repayment by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA)
- Meet admission criteria of the university to which the student applied

This is a tremendous opportunity for the class of 2010. I know our high school students are up to the challenge.

Finally, thank you to everyone for their continued support. We are moving this district forward and working hard to ensure that all students receive the education they deserve. **By continuing to work together, we can accomplish great things!**

Diana M. Bourisaw, Ph.D.
Superintendent of the
St. Louis Public Schools

Three Corporations Sponsor Leadership Training for SLPS Principals

Three area companies, Anheuser-Busch, Emerson, and the Harbour Group are contributing to a second Leadership Academy for Character Education enabling all 93 SLPS principals to attend this successful, high quality training over the next five years. LACE is a program offered through the University of Missouri, St. Louis and CHARACTERplus, a program of Cooperating School Districts.

The Leadership Academy helps principals deepen their understanding of character education and shows them how to integrate character education into every aspect of a student's school day. Principals learn to involve not just students, but teachers, parents, and community members in the character building process. The goal of the LACE program is for each principal to design and tailor a quality character education program for their students by the end of the 12-month program.

"We are very fortunate that three corporations have committed to send our principals to this valuable leadership training," said Superintendent Dr. Diana Bourisaw. "From my experience in working with other school districts across Missouri, I know the power of quality character education programs in schools and the impact they can have on student achievement," she said.

Principals will meet once per month, including site visits to exemplary schools, attendance at the local annual CHARACTERplus conference, and participation in workshops by national leaders in the field. In addition, the participants will all be mentored by Dr. Marvin Berkowitz, the Sanford N. McDonnell Professor of Character Education at UMSL.

"I have always had a passion for providing key leadership training for individuals who educate our children," said Sanford McDonnell, founder of the current Sanford N. McDonnell Leadership Academy for Character Education. "I believe that the training will make a tremendous difference in the academic performance and behavior of many of the St. Louis Public School students."

The Sanford N. McDonnell Leadership Academy for Character Education (LACE) is a collaboration of CHARACTERplus and the UMSL Center for Character and Citizenship.

St. Louis Board of Education

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Superintendent

Diana M. Bourisaw, Ph.D.

Superintendent Announces Plan

Continued from cover

accreditation from the State of Missouri," said Bourisaw. "By following this blueprint for improvement, I believe the St. Louis Public School District can be fully accredited by 2009," she added.

Highlights of the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan include:

Academic Achievement

- Sixty-eight percent of students will score at the proficient or advanced level in Communication Arts on Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) test by 2010;
- Sixty-four percent of students will score at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics on the MAP test by 2010;
- Seventy-five percent of all English Language Learners, after five years of receiving services, will score at the advanced level on the MACII examination by 2010; and
- The number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom will increase significantly.

Safe and Secure Learning Environment

- All school facilities will meet a score of 85% or higher during required building inspections.
- The number of serious incidents from behavior infractions will be reduced by 10% each year.

Fiscal Stability

- Expenditures will not exceed revenues in any proposed budgets. The overall deficit will be reduced by the end of the 2006-07 school year.
- Utilization of existing facilities will be fully reviewed.

"While Missouri law requires districts to continuously update their CSIPs, St. Louis has not revised its plan since September of 2004," said Dr. Bourisaw. "This plan cannot sit idle on a shelf. We will continue to modify it with new goals and strategies to move this district forward, especially as we begin meeting our established targets," she said.

The complete updated Comprehensive School Improvement Plan is available online at www.slps.org.



Annual Performance Report For St. Louis Public Schools Issued By State

Superintendent says district is "back on track" towards accreditation.

St. Louis – The St. Louis Public Schools met five accreditation standards according to the Annual Performance Reports (APR) released by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The five met standards include:

- MAP test results in Grades 3 through 5 in Mathematics;
- MAP test results in Grades 3 through 5 in Communication Arts;
- Advanced courses;
- Career education courses; and,
- Career education placement.

"While St. Louis is not where it needs to be in educating all students, this report shows that we are back on track towards accreditation," said Dr. Diana Bourisaw, Superintendent. "Our performance report for 2006, which reflects information from the 2005/2006 school year, would have likely been considerably worse if our current staff had not validated data that had been sent over the past several years," she said.

For example, the District would not have met the standard for career education courses based on data that had previously been submitted to DESE as previous reports failed to include courses offered at Clyde C. Miller Career Academy and the St. Louis Public School's Construction Careers Center.

"The administration of the St. Louis Public Schools has worked hard since this summer to evaluate the challenges related to accreditation and to validate the district's data from previous years.

We appreciate their cooperation and willingness to work with the Department to focus on the district's needs," said Stan Johnson, assistant commissioner of DESE's Division of School Improvement.

The annual report also reveals that St. Louis Public Schools have made progress in five key areas, including:

- MAP test results in Grades 6 through 8 in Mathematics (20 progress points);
- MAP test results in Grades 6 through 8 in Communication Arts (10 progress points);
- MAP test results in Grades 9 through 11 in Communication Arts (10 progress points);
- The percent of graduates scoring at or above the national average on the ACT (one progress point); and,
- The graduation rate (2 progress points).

"We are pleased to have made additional progress in these areas," Dr. Bourisaw said. "The increase in the number of students testing at the proficient or advanced levels is a good sign for our incoming high school students, and the increase in high school students who scored well in Communication Arts is notable for a district that has struggled to improve achievement at the high school level," she said.

This year's APR for St. Louis does not yet have performance data for the percent of graduates who enter college. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, at the request of the District, is waiting for additional data to be submitted by the District.

College Summit Financial Aid Tips

High school seniors in the College Summit program are starting on their **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**. The FAFSA is the first and most important step to getting money for college. Almost all colleges and universities base their financial aid contributions (grants, scholarships, loans, work-study) on your FAFSA data.

What is FAFSA??? FAFSA is a legal, U.S. government form where you list personal and family income information. The Federal Government uses your income data to calculate the dollar amount you and/or your family can contribute towards your college education. Without the FAFSA, neither the government nor colleges will be able to provide your student with financial aid. This dollar amount is called your **Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)**. Colleges use your EFC to calculate your financial need which determines your financial award. They use a process called Institutional Methodology.

INSTITUTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Cost of Attendance

– Estimated Family Contribution
= *Financial Need*

Your calculated financial need is usually the amount you can expect to receive in the form of grants, loans and/or work-study.

Where do you get the FAFSA?

There are two ways to complete the FAFSA:

1. **Online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>**
2. **On a paper form, available from your high school counseling office or local library**

The safest way to complete the FAFSA is online. By doing this, you can be informed of any mistakes, indicate what colleges you want to view your FAFSA, and your Student Aid Report (SAR) is sent to you via email, which is faster and more convenient than the postal service. You can also update and make corrections quickly.

You will need a **Personal Identification Number (PIN)** to fill out the FAFSA online. The PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal information in various U.S. Department of Education systems. The PIN is like the Personal Identification Number (PIN) you get from the bank that enables you to access your account. Anyone, including parents of dependent students, who has a valid Social Security Number and is a U.S. Citizen, or eligible non-citizen, may apply for a PIN. To learn more about the Federal Student Aid's PIN visit www.pin.ed.gov.

How do you get started??

The FAFSA has two sections you need to complete: the student and parent/guardian section. To complete these sections, you'll need the following: (some of these documents may not apply to you)

- Your Social Security Number

- Your driver's license (if applicable)
- Your 2006 W-2 Forms and other records of money earned
- Your (and your spouse's, if married) 2006 Federal Income Tax Return IRS Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, foreign tax return, or tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated Stated of Micronesia or Palau
- Your parents' 2006 Federal Income Tax Return (if you're a dependent student)
- Your 2006 untaxed income records; Social Security, Assistance to Needy Families, welfare, or Veterans benefits records
- Your most recent bank statements
- Your most recent business and investment mortgage information, business and farm records, stock, bond, and other investment records
- Your alien registration number or permanent residence card if you're not a U.S. Citizen

Because the FAFSA requires tax and income information, it may seem complicated. Take your time reading the FAFSA. Most of it is self-explanatory and very clear. Once you've obtained all your necessary documents and read the FAFSA, you can start the process. If you need additional help, start by talking with your high school counselor. The U.S. Department of Education can also help with your FAFSA questions. Call them toll-free at **1-800-4-FED-AID**, or online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

Most colleges want you to submit your FAFSA by February 15, but some might require it earlier. Be sure and check deadlines at each of your colleges.

Where do I look for Scholarships???

Each year, literally hundreds of thousands of different scholarships are given to college bound students. Scholarships are awarded for academic achievement, athletic achievement, extracurricular activities, musical and artistic talent, and community service. Here are some of the best places to search for scholarship opportunities:

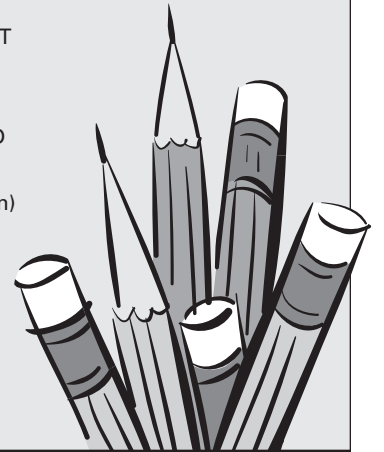
- The Internet
- Books
- Your High School Counselor
- Friends and Family
- Coaches, teachers, community leaders, religious leaders

🔍 *Surfing the web for scholarships!*

College Summit Financial Aid Word Search

D G G C B D R W X K V S N R S W B M T I
R I R V S V N Z O T C S E R A F F T N A
O R A O M Q X M X H O T A S F A F Q E B
F A N L Z E G P O H T O P A D W D A D M
F A T J A O R L D E Z I D I S B U S N U
A T S Q X I A I L T N E D N E P E D E D
T I N I B R C D T W J T C W C Q B P P W
S S V A S D R N O B S R F D I C Y I E D
U P U H R A N R A E A P E L S S Q R D C
M S I L W G K V R N Z S O B U R Y R N B
P P Q A P S L E R C I A E L B I X P I V
S X G U T S T L C O N F H D S G T U I K
W G W U C N A P E S L P E D I W D M N B
V Y D X I D J X E P J A F X D D W R U W
L Y C O L L E G E R U T M C I O B B C J
F Y K R Y E L P S C K G T U Z K X F B P
N E G J O J Y T K A Q I Z B E N E J Y R
G S K B F T V Q F V O R N M D C V X X Q
W X X C L Q M H O O L K H S N H B E I P
F E D E R A L A I D B O I N Y G G U D Q

AWARD LETTER	SCHOLARSHIPS
COLLEGE	STAFFORD (loan)
DEPENDENT	SUBSIDIZED (loan)
EFC	UNSUBSIDIZED (loan)
FAFSA	WORK STUDY
FEDERAL AID	
FINANCIAL AID	
GRANTS	
INDEPENDENT	
INTEREST	
LOANS	
MERIT BASED	
PELL GRANT	
PERKINS (loan)	
PLUS (loan)	



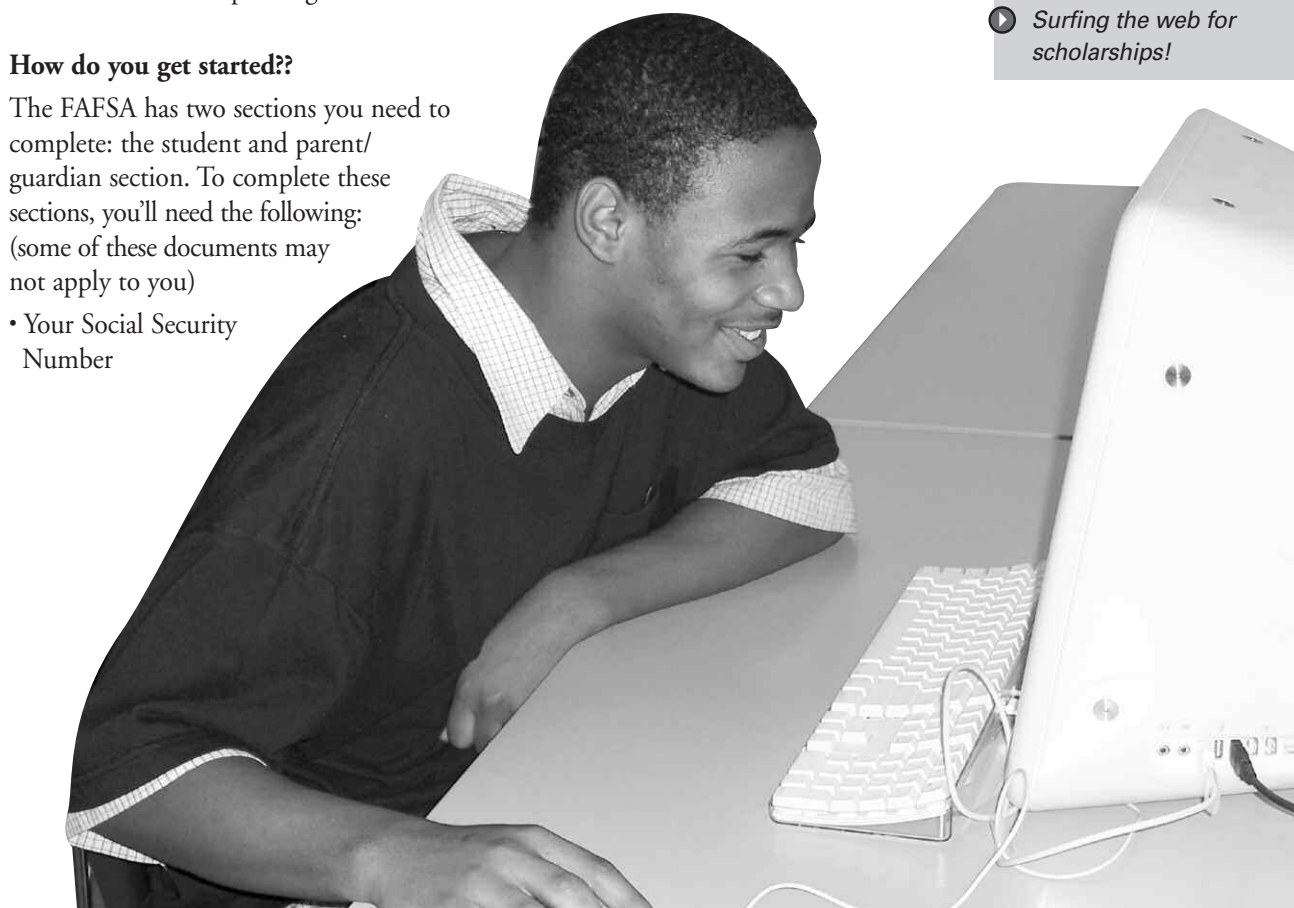
Helpful Scholarship Websites:

- FastWEB <http://www.fastweb.com>
- Scholarships.com <http://www.scholarships.com>

Be cautious of any organization that asks you to pay for their services in finding scholarships for you; **it's probably a scam!**

SAT Words of the Month:

1. **elucidate**, *v.*, to make free from confusion or ambiguity; to make clear; to shed light
2. **rectitude**, *n.*, 1. moral uprightness; righteousness; 2. the quality or condition of judging correctly
3. **incipient**, *adj.*, 1. beginning to exist or appear; only partly in existence; 2. imperfectly formed
4. **drudgery**, *n.*, tedious, menial, unpleasant work
5. **inexorable**, *adj.*, incapable of being persuaded by entreaty; relentless



Community Education

Student Ambassadors Club

Students from across the District were inducted as Community Education (CE) Student Ambassadors on November 1, 2006 at the monthly Chairpersons' Council Advisory Meeting held in the St. Louis Public Schools' Administrative building at 801 N. 11th Street. The Community Education Student Ambassadors' Oath was administered by Pierre Blaine, Chairperson, City-wide Chairpersons' Council. Students were awarded a Certificate and an official Student Ambassador's Polo Shirt and then proceeded to their first meeting where they discussed community service project possibilities.

As local community education youth leaders, Student Ambassadors work with their local communities as champions for improvement. Supported, in part through a grant from The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, CE Student Ambassadors will be meeting in February to identify a city-wide community service project.

The CEC Student Ambassadors' Club consists of two representatives from each of the 16 St. Louis Public School Community Education Centers. **These Ambassadors are students who represent their communities and articulate the benefits of Community Education at local and city-wide events. They also serve as youth representatives on the Community Education Council at their school.**

Student Ambassadors were recognized by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen on November 17, 2006, in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall and acted as greeters at the National Community Education Showcase on November 12.

Other CE Student Ambassador events include:

- Pre-Game Recognition at the 5th Annual CEC Family Night at St. Louis University Women's Basketball, January 12, 2007
- Local leadership roles during the annual District-wide Hearts of Hunger Canned Food Drive, February 5 – 16, 2007
- Pizza Party and Community Service Project Planning, Wednesday, February 7, 2007, 6:00 pm, 801 N. 11th Street.

This year's CE Student Ambassadors are **Jared Fulks, Nunade Wills, Wesseh, Amber Dinwiddie, Miyel Putman-McCoy, Aaliyah Scott, LaKeySha, Bosley, Alex Harwell, Brianna Johnson, Shannon Wyatt, Denise Holmes, Kadijah Syms, Lauren Stuertz, Talia Bennett, Jamauria Bradford, Paul Gmoser, Cameron Ming, Genevieve West, Brianna Crump, Alyssa Payne, Dineisha Sparks, Anton Ballard, Erica Walker, Jason Chapel, Coco Channel, Donovan Reese, Zakiyyah D. Walters, Isreal Brindley, Lawanda Muhammed, Courtney Wheeler and Mathew Barry.**



FEATURED STORY



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Today An Education, Tomorrow A Career



February is national Career and Technical Education month. Did you know that there are 11 million secondary and postsecondary career and technical education students in the United States? Across the country, career and technical education programs are offered in about 11,000

comprehensive high schools, several hundred vocational-technical schools, and about 1400 area voc-tech centers. About 9,400 postsecondary institutions offer technical programs, including community colleges, technical institutes, skill centers and other public and private two and four-year colleges.

Career and technical education prepares youth and adults for a wide range of careers, from registered nurse to computer technician. Careers may require varying levels of education - from high school to postsecondary certificates to two- and four-year college degrees.

St. Louis Public Schools has a dynamic Career and Technical Education Division comprised of the following departments: Adult Basic Education & Literacy, Adult Technical Education, Career and Technical Education, Practical Arts Curriculum, and the St. Louis Internship Program.

The department of **Career and Technical Education** has several activities scheduled for February. The theme of this year's CTE month is **Today an Education, Tomorrow a Career.**

■ Kicking off on February 2, 2007, Groundhog Job Shadowing Day is a part of a yearlong national effort to enrich the lives of high school juniors and seniors by acquainting them with the world of work through on the job experiences and a carefully crafted school curriculum that ties academics to the workplace. Through job shadowing, students are given the opportunity to go into work sites and shadow "career mentors," volunteers who discuss their careers and the education and skills necessary to do them.

The local kick off of the Groundhog Job Shadowing for the St. Louis Public Schools in conjunction with Junior Achievement of Mississippi Valley, Inc. and a wide variety of community partners will be the week of February 5 to 9, 2007. Over 50 companies have agreed to participate by hosting students. Many of the companies will host students for half of the day, concluding the day's activities over lunch with the student while allowing the student to interview the host more in-depth about their particular career.

Companies that have agreed to participate in this year's Job Shadowing include:

Anheuser Busch, Nestle Purina, Mallinkrodt, Edward Jones, AG Edwards, METRO, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Drug Enforcement Administration, Barnes Jewish Hospital, Colliers Turley

Martin Tucker, Deloitte & Touche and IBM.

■ Other activities in February, as well as the entire school year, include College Majors Conferences for high school students, 8th grade College and Career Exploration Conferences, 6th grade Future Trek program featuring careers in math, science and technology, Careers on Wheels at the elementary schools for students to learn about careers involving vehicles and transportation, plus numerous classroom speaker events on topics such as how school subjects are used in the workforce, job readiness and life skills, and college expectations. The Career and Technical Education Department also offers teachers classroom curriculum activity guides for each grade level, K-12. These guides enhance classroom academics and support all career related experiential activities. The guides are non sequential so teachers may select topics, at any given time, on subjects related to their classroom lessons.

■ Teachers can expect to receive a February Career Activity Calendar for their classroom. It contains daily career activities that can be done in the classroom or at home. Parents can help prepare their children for the future job market by showing an interest in their schoolwork, being a positive role model, and encouraging them to stay in school and graduate with high expectations to be the best person they can.

■ On March 6 & 7, 2007, the Career and Technical Education Department will hold its 24th annual Career Awareness Fair. This year's theme is "Investing in a World Class Workforce." Since 1982, over 175,000 city and county eighth graders have had the opportunity to interact face to face with and learn from thousands of business and tradespersons under one roof at this 2-day event. This year, approximately 8,000 city and county 8th grade public school students from 46 schools representing 20 school districts will have the opportunity to plan for their futures, explore and understand a variety of career options, and meet people who perform these jobs on a daily basis. All St. Louis Public Schools' eighth graders attend the Fair. About 800 role models representing approximately 130 companies and organizations will participate in this year's Fair. A sampling of companies with a national presence that participate include: Ameren, Anheuser-Busch, Inc., BJC Health Care, Edward Jones, Enterprise Rent-A- Car, Federal Aviation Administration, FBI, IBM, MasterCard Worldwide, Monsanto, National Association of Women in Construction, National Weather Service, Pepsi Americas, Pfizer, Inc., Proctor & Gamble, SBC, Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, St. Louis Baseball Cardinals, U.S. Department of Labor, and Walgreens. These businesses and organizations help the community invest in its future as they share tools, vehicles, equipment, products and expertise with curious and inquisitive city and county eighth graders. Some careers represented will be: hospital X-ray technologists, city building inspectors, radio broadcasters, conservationists, engineers, restaurant managers, and systems analysts. The Fair reinforces the importance of staying in school, mastering basic skills and the students' motivation to learn. Students witness the academic skills needed on the job,

what people like about their jobs, and the necessary education or training needed for each career field.

The Career Awareness Fair is unique because it is a comprehensive educational experience for the students. Prior to attending the Fair, each student receives a Career Fair Student Booklet from an educator at school. Students complete an interest inventory and determine which booths and business role models they'll visit and interview at the Fair, utilizing the interview forms provided in their booklets. Business role models provide sample activities for students to practice to see the relationship of school skills and career skills. After the Fair, the students complete post-Fair activities related to the Show-Me Standards and evaluate what they've learned about themselves as a result of participating in the Fair.

The goal of the **Division of Career and Technical Education** is to provide technical training and resources that promote high academic achievement while preparing students for a successful career. To this end, the technical programs developed and implemented by the division provide the students with rigorous and relevant instruction, job shadowing opportunities and, in many of the programs, industry-based internships.

The department's instructional staff consists of approximately 80 teachers and provides more than 30 programs within the following technical subject areas:

- Agriculture Animal Science
- Architectural Engineering
- Business Management
- Business Education
- Computer Graphic Design
- Computer Networking
- Construction Management
- Culinary Arts
- Database Management
- Electricity/Electronics
- Family & Consumer Science
- Health Occupations
- Hospitality/Tourism
- Human Services
- Industrial Technology
- Manufacturing
- Marketing Fashion Design
- Multimedia Technology
- PLTW (Project Lead the Way)
- Pre-Engineering
- TV/Radio Broadcasting

St. Louis Public Schools Division of Career and Technical Education Staff

Frank J. Logan, Executive Director
Pamela Shanks-Bryant, Secretary
Shirley M. Reynolds, Secretary
Paul Cady, Financial Affairs

Bob Weng.....Adult Basic Education & Literacy
 Tim MurrellAdult Technical Education
 Cathy Gutjahr,
 Teena Weathersby-
 HamptonCareer Education Programs K-12
 John Petsch.....Technical Education Curriculum
 Specialist
 Shanise Johnson.....St. Louis Internship Program

Career & Technical Education Coordinators

LaVelda ReeseBeaumont High School
 Patty HalterClyde C. Miller Career Academy
 Wilhelmina RodneyRoosevelt High School
 James (Bob) GreenSumner High School & Metro
 High School
 Glory UdohSoldan Int'l Studies High School &
 Central VPA High School
 Jerry TerryVashon High School & Cleveland
 NJROTC High School

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Helping students build their dreams for tomorrow!

In addition, most of the high schools have been assigned a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator that oversees the school's CTE programs.

The Practical Arts Curriculum Supervisor also works very closely with **Project Lead the Way (PLTW)**, a pre-engineering program at Gateway Institute of Technology High School. Now in its second year at Gateway, this national program is in forty-eight states and thirty-one local high schools. The program provides students with development of advanced problem solving skills, and rigorous, relevant, reality-based knowledge necessary for pursuing engineering or engineering technology programs in college. Gateway's program will be certified this school year by the national and local panel which determines the quality of the program and its effectiveness as based on yearly exit exams and teacher training.

Current plans are underway to begin the PLTW program at Carnahan School of the Future and center the program as a core focus of the building allowing students to gain knowledge in courses that cover engineering design, architectural engineering design and development, principles of engineering and digital electronics. The skills gained in the program, as shown by national data collection, will allow students to excel in math, science and technology and increase chances for successful post-secondary and employment opportunities.

For more information about Project Lead the Way:
<http://www.pltw.org>

The St. Louis Police and Firefighter Training Program (SLPFTP), developed through a partnership among the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the St. Louis Fire Department, St. Louis Community College at Forest Park, and the Saint Louis Public Schools Career and Technical Education Division, is an after school program that enables students, beginning in their junior year of high school, to earn high school credit, college credit and to receive training at both the police training academy and the fire training academy. At the end of the student's senior year, he or she will have earned 5 high school credits and 13 college credits and, in addition, will have received the training necessary to earn Emergency Medical Technical (EMT) certification.

The initial SLPFTP Class completed its first semester of police and fire academy training and college coursework in December of 2006. The program, free to high school students who are St. Louis City residents, will begin recruiting for the 2007-2008 junior class in March of 2007.

The St. Louis Internship Program (SLIP) also falls under the umbrella of the Division of Career and Technical Education. The mission of the St. Louis Internship Program (SLIP) is to provide hope, support, assistance and inspiration to high school students by helping them develop life skills necessary to expand educational and employment opportunities. SLIP provides

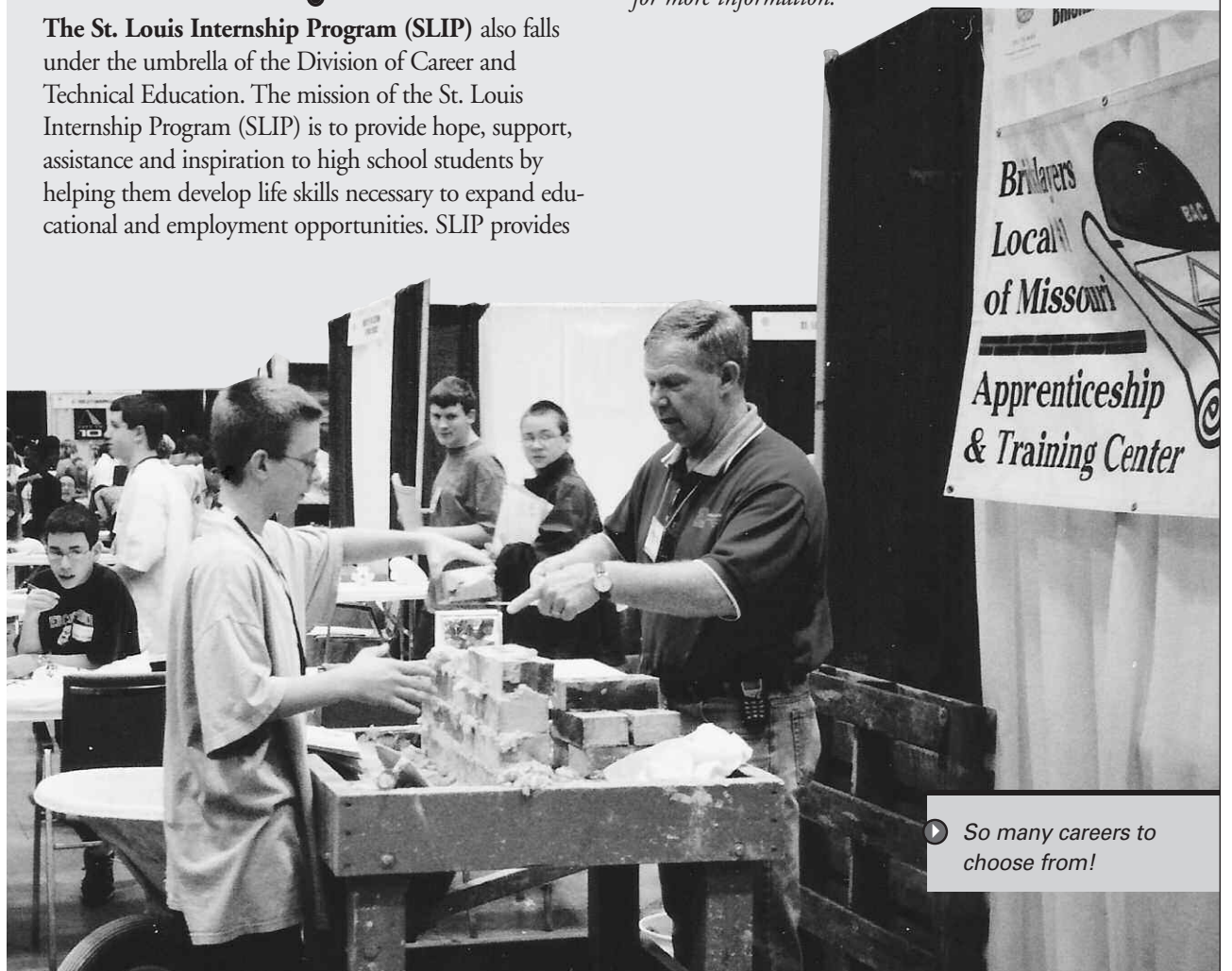
St. Louis Public School students with employment preparation training and places them in eight-week paid summer internship positions that prepare them for corporate and community leadership. The program opens new worlds of opportunity for students and also contributes to workforce development and business diversity in the St. Louis metropolitan area. SLIP also assists with planning and financing post-secondary career goals. Since its inception in 1992, over 2,700 area students have completed the SLIP program with more than 98 percent of the interns graduating high school and going on to college or other post-secondary training programs.
www.stlouisinternship.org

Career education does not stop with the K-12 students. Established in 2005, the **Division's Department of Adult Technical Education** provides the opportunity for people to improve themselves through continued education. Learning is a life-long process: the adult technical education program offers several courses throughout the year at Clyde C. Miller Career Academy for individuals 18 years of age and older. With classes offered in a variety of areas (for example, the culinary arts, computer technology, fitness, investment and financial planning, medical terminology, sign language, and legal studies), there is something for everyone. Course brochures are available in January and in August of each year.

The Department of Adult Technical Education also offers online courses through Ed2Go that you can take in the comfort of your home (or wherever you have computer and Internet access), at your own pace and on your own schedule. All of the online courses, covering hundreds of topics, are project-oriented and run for six weeks. For detailed descriptions of the courses and enrollment procedures, go to: www.ed2go.com/slpsadted.

Assisting adults is the **Department of Adult Basic Education and Literacy** which serves adults in seven school districts in the area. Services include Adult Basic Education, GED Preparation, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Family Literacy, and Workplace Literacy. Over sixty class sites and 80 teachers provide opportunities for 6,000 students to improve their skills and reach their goals each year. Cooperating agencies include community education centers, International Institute, Missouri Career Centers, various youth programs, churches, and community based organizations. GED Online and a fast-paced 15 hour GED Preparation program are also available.

Call 314-367-5000 or e-mail Robert.Weng@slps.org for more information.



▶ So many careers to choose from!

College for ALL at Clyde C. Miller Career Academy

College Summit and Clyde C. Miller Career Academy are taking extra steps to send students to college. Since the school year began, Clyde C. Miller Career Academy has been on track to meet its 2006-07 goal of sending ALL of its 154 seniors to college. To date, the school has already surpassed its fall College Summit classroom goals. With over 100 partner schools, Clyde C. Miller is among the highest ranking high schools in College Summit's national network based on mid-year performance measures.

Ask teachers and counselors at Clyde C. Miller what they think has gotten them this far. They'll tell you the success is the result of the hard work and dedication of their College Summit Advisors (CSAs) who have been trained in College Summit's college-planning curriculum. These teachers meet with students 2-3 times per week, not just to educate them about the college enrollment process, but about potential career fields and prepare them for internships.

Getting to this point was not an easy task! For a long time, making sure that the students were informed about the college planning process was "hit and miss", according to Clyde C. Miller's principal, Steve Warmack. "In order to get the students who are better than their numbers (grades), we realized that we need to be hitting everyone (with the College Summit curriculum)." To achieve this goal the CSAs, Principal Warmack, and English teachers decided to make it a school-wide effort by merging career and technical education with academics. The English teachers, along with the CSAs assistance, obtained training in the College Summit college-planning curriculum. Using their expertise in writing and time set aside during the class time, they helped the seniors write their personal statement for college.

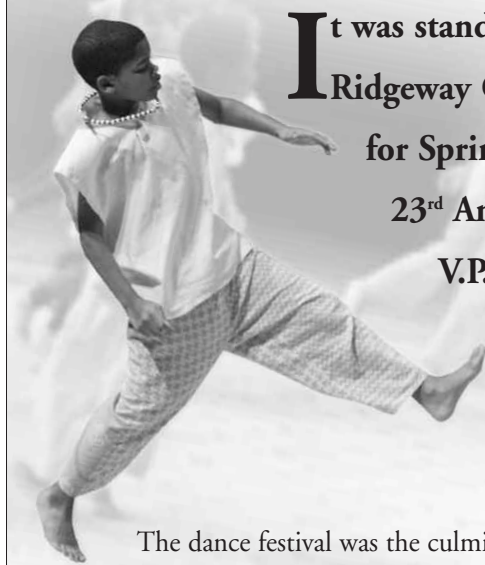
With the determination, dedication, and innovation displayed by the Clyde C. Miller Career Academy staff, more than 150 seniors are well on their way to making it to college!

To learn more about
College Summit, contact
Meghan Morgan at
mmorgan@collegesummit.org,
or (314) 345-2596.



SLPS Students Showcase Their Talents at the 23rd International Dance Festival

It was standing room only at the Missouri Botanical Garden's
Ridgeway Center Auditorium on Thursday, December 14, 2006
for Springboard to Learning and Young Audiences of St. Louis'
23rd Annual International Dance Festival. Students from Ames
V.P.A., Bunche I.S.S., Mark Twain Elementary, McKinley
CJA, Mullanphy ILC, Peabody, Woodward, and Shaw
V.P.A. joined students from Archdiocesan and Parkway
School Districts in this special event.



The dance festival was the culmination of 14 weeks of work with a Springboard & Young Audiences teaching specialist. During this time, students studied and embraced the culture of Guadeloupe, Japan, Africa and Ireland, learning movements of traditional dances and experiencing the dress, food, and language.

At the festival, students were dressed in traditional costumes; vibrant Japanese kimonos, flowing Indian Saris, exotic masks, etc. The audience was treated to songs performed in native languages and the sound of traditional instruments during the dance routines. The grand finale gathered all students on stage, singing as a reflection of unity between cultures of the world.

Barbara Carswell, Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis' executive director said, "The International Dance Festival is a remarkable event. The pride in the students' faces is unmistakable! Not only do students have the opportunity to perform for their families, classmates and other community members, but they also share what they have learned throughout their semester-long program. The International Dance Festival is an exciting and significant culmination of their efforts."

The 23rd Annual International Dance Festival was

presented in honor of Shellie Hexter. As the former executive director of Springboard to Learning, Hexter served the organization for 18 years, believing the key to educating students was to inspire their imaginations. Many of the costumes for the festival were handmade and individually fitted to each child by Hexter.

Springboard to Learning & Young Audiences of St. Louis is the region's largest provider of in-school enrichment programs. The nonprofit organization has a special mission to provide services to underserved schools. Financial assistance for the Festival is provided by the Missouri Arts Council (a state agency), Saint Louis Public Schools, and the Regional Arts Commission.

► Students shine at the Dance Festival



Rap Superstar Bow Wow WOWS Beaumont

Students at Beaumont High School received the surprise of a lifetime on November 30 when Bow Wow, a nationally known rapper and actor, visited their school during a special assembly. Bow Wow, who was in town promoting his new album, suggested to Craig Blac, morning show host on radio station Hot 104.1, that he wanted to visit a local high school.

"We decided the best way to choose a high school was to let our listeners vote," said Blac. Hot 104.1 opened their phone lines to find out which high school in St. Louis was the hottest, and Beaumont High School received the most votes.

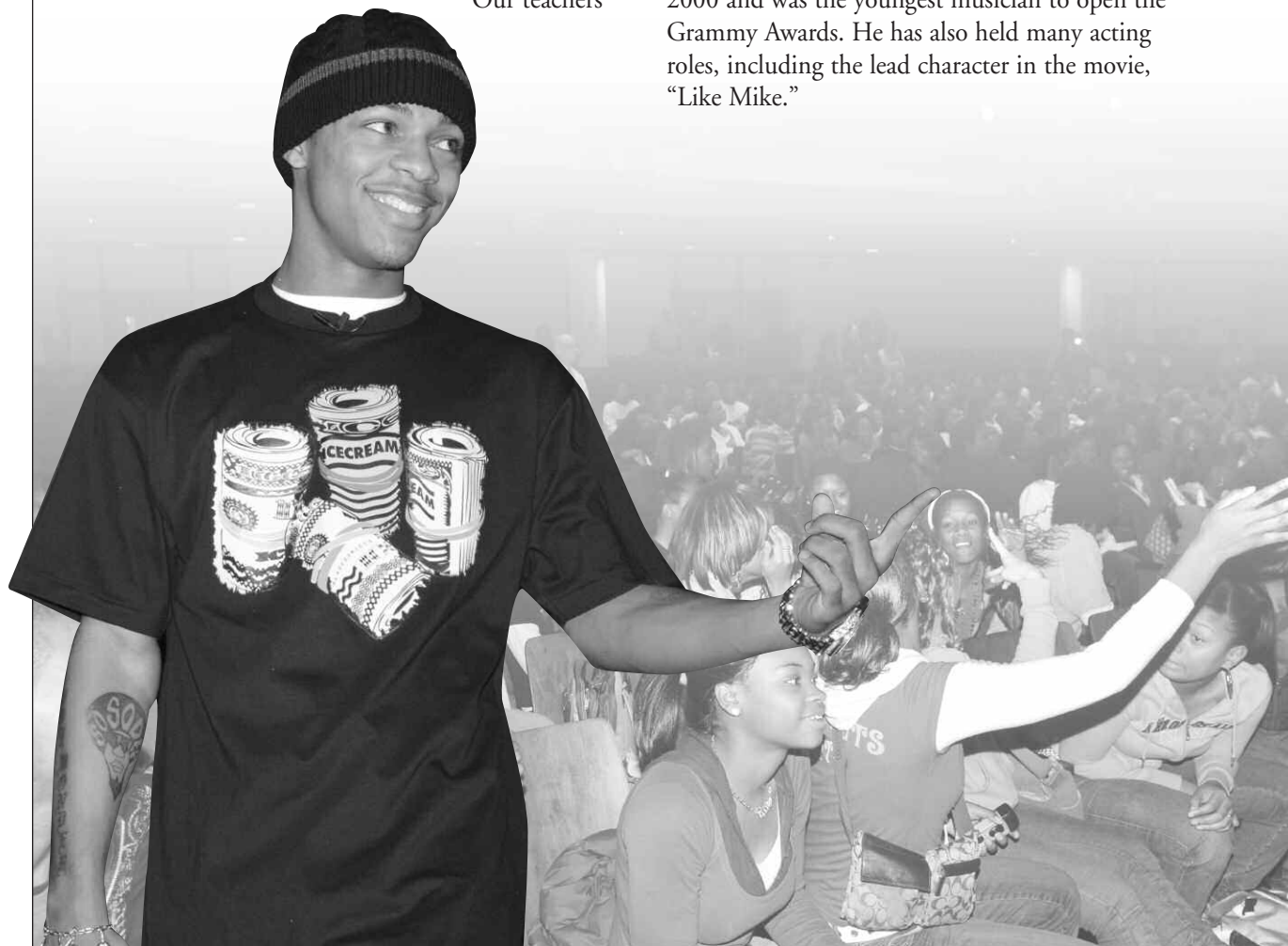
Principal Travis Brown selected 200 students who were either on the honor roll or had perfect attendance to attend the last-minute assembly. "We were honored that Bow Wow visited our school," said Principal Brown.

"Our teachers

and staff try to find ways to encourage students who are achieving in the classroom."

Bow Wow, 19, spoke to students about the importance of staying in school. "I didn't get a chance to attend high school because I got started in the business at a young age," said Bow Wow. "I was one of the lucky ones to have fame, but it is really important that you put your mind on achieving great things when you leave school."

The recording artist first burst on the scene in 2000 and was the youngest musician to open the Grammy Awards. He has also held many acting roles, including the lead character in the movie, "Like Mike."



School Closings

Brrr.. it's still winter time! When winter weather approaches, turn to these sources for important **School Closing** information:

- KMOV-TV: Channel 4 (www.kmov.com)
- KSDK-TV: Channel 5 (www.ksdk.com)
- FOX2-TV: Channel 2 (myFOXstl.com)
- CW11-TV: Channel 11 (www.wb11tv.com)
- KMJM Radio (104.9 FM)
- KMOX Radio (1120 AM)

The message will appear

St. Louis City Public Schools are closed.

SLPS does not post individual school names. You can also check for closings on our website: www.slps.org.

Tax Time

Did you know Uncle Sam wants to give you more than \$4000.00 this year?

It's true if you're eligible for the maximum Earned Income Tax Credit!

The Gateway EITC Partnership, a group of St. Louis community organizations, can help you receive this credit and provide free tax preparation. Families earning less than \$38,000 annually, or single individuals with an annual income under \$12,000 may qualify for the credit. Are you interested in learning more? Come to one of the four "Super Saturday Sites" beginning Saturday, **January 27 through February 24**. You can find them at the:

- **Metropolitan Employment Training Center**, located at 6347 Plymouth Ave. in Wellston:
January 27,
February 3,
February 10,
February 17 and
February 24.
- **The Youth and Family Center**, 2929 North 20th Street, St. Louis, MO, 63107:
Saturday, February 3.
- **International Institute**, 3654 South Grand Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118:
Saturday, February 10.
- **Vashon High School**, 3035 Cass Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63106:
Saturday, February 17.

The four Super Saturday Sites will be open at **9:00 a.m.**, beginning January 27. Get there early since space is limited!!

For a more information, call: **(314) 421-INFO** or **1-800-427-4626**.

The Gateway EITC Community Partnership is a coalition of community organizations including the RCGA, United Way, Salvation Army, St. Louis Public Schools and AARP.



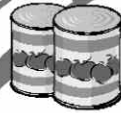
Division of Community Education

In Partnership with Operation Food Search
sponsor the

"Hearts For Hunger" Canned Food Drive

5th Annual

OUR GOAL IS
100,000 CANS!



February 5 – 16, 2007

For More Information Contact: Peg Pedersen, Office of Community Education, 314-345-4592

Calendar of Events

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY					1	2 Professional Development (No School)	3
	4	5	6 SLPS Adm. Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m., 801 N. 11 th Street	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Carr Lane VPA	14 Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 3	15 Parent Assembly Mtg. – 6:30 p.m., Metro High School	16	17
MARCH	18	19 Holiday – President’s Day (No School)	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	1	2	3
	4	5	6 SLPS Adm. Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m., 801 N. 11 th Street	7	8	9	10 *MAC II Ends
	11	12	13 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Carr Lane VPA	14	15 Parent Assembly Mtg. – 6:30 p.m., Metro High School	16 Quarter 3 ends	17
APRIL	18	19 SPRING BREAK (No School) Fourth Quarter begins	20 SPRING BREAK (No School)	21 SPRING BREAK (No School)	22 SPRING BREAK (No School)	23 SPRING BREAK (No School)	24
	25	26 Classes resume MAP Begins	27	28	29	30 Parent Conference Day (No School)	31
	1	2	3	4	5	6 No School	7
	8	9	10 SLPS Adm. Brd. Mtg. 7 p.m., 801 N. 11 th St.	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Carr Lane VPA	18	19 Parent Assembly Mtg. – 6:30 p.m., Metro High School	20 MAP Ends	21
	22	23	24	25 Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 4			

“HEARTS FOR HUNGER” CANNED FOOD DRIVE: FEBRUARY 5 – 16, 2007

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Superintendent’s Corner

By Dr. Diana M. Bourisaw Superintendent of the St. Louis Public Schools

Three Corporations Sponsor Leadership Training for SLPS Principals

District principals will participate in the Leadership Academy for Character Education.

State Issues Annual Performance Report for SLPS

Superintendent says the district is “back on track” towards accreditation.

The Road to College

College Summit offers valuable financial aid tips for seniors and their families.



3 **Community Education**
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An in-depth look at our Department of Career and



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Hearts for Hunger Canned Food Drive

Please give generously!

Editors Box

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For more information please email us at: slpsnews@slps.org

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