



ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School & Home



WWW.SLPS.ORG

WINTER 2006

Celebrating Teachers of the Year

Three teachers from St. Louis Public Schools were honored at a special reception on Tuesday, September 19 at Carr Lane Visual and Performing Arts Middle School. These top three Teachers of the Year for 2006 were among 92 teachers honored in May for their outstanding work in the classroom. The teachers receiving this distinguished honor were Svetlana Nikic from Blow Middle School, Patricia Brown, from McKinley Classical Junior Academy and Hollie Russell-West, principal intern in the LEAD program.

Ms. Nikic, Ms. Brown and Ms. Russell-West were also acknowledged during the regularly scheduled board meeting held that evening.

The honorees were presented with gifts donated from the St. Louis Rams, St. Louis Art Museum, Harris-Stowe State University, Hamilton Jewelers, Humane Society of

Missouri, Missouri Botanical Gardens, Andy's Seasoning, Benees Incorporated, Sodexo, Mosaic Restaurant, Office Max, Clear Channel Radio, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Prairie Farms Dairy, the Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund and Pepsi Cola Company.



Superintendent's Corner

First, I would like to give a sincere thank you to all of the parents, students and community members that I have met since my appointment as Superintendent in July. This issue of School & Home highlights some of the wonderful resources and partnerships that the **community** has made available to our district.



Dr. Diana M. Bourisaw

This is a very exciting time for the St. Louis Public Schools, as we continue to make tremendous strides toward full accreditation. Our immediate goal is to focus on the performance standards established under the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP), including academic achievement for all of our students, career preparation, graduation rates, and attendance rates. I am confident that we will reach our goals in the near future.

Meanwhile, our district continues to make great strides both academically and fiscally. Just recently the district was awarded nearly \$6 million in federal grants. The grants will allow us to focus on three key areas: A three-year \$4.2 million Early Reading First Grant which will help transform early childhood education programs into educational excellence; a \$975,163 grant to help boost participation for students taking advanced courses and tests, and a \$482,273 grant to help enhance and improve the emergency response and crisis management for all of our schools.

As we move forward into this academic school year, our district employees remain focused on academic achievement for the 34,000 students we serve on a daily basis.

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Louis Public Schools and remember, together we can make a difference.

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

President's Corner

Dear SLPS Parents, Football, falling leaves, pumpkins and shorter days. Fall has arrived. What a beautiful time of year! The school year is moving by so quickly, and what a wonderful beginning it has



Veronica O'Brien

been for our district and children. As you read this issue of "School & Home", you'll notice the focus is on the community. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and what better time for us to highlight the many community leaders, corporations, cultural and educational institutions, SLPS alumni and parents who have embraced us and offered amazing support to our children and families. Through their generous efforts and resources, students started the new school year with school supplies, backpacks, haircuts and shoes. Some were treated to a Rams football game. Many of our buildings were brightened with fresh coats of paint, beautiful landscaping, playful murals and safer playgrounds. The list goes on and on, and the support has not ended. There are many others ready and willing to "roll up their sleeves" for the St. Louis Public Schools, and for that we are truly grateful.

As the season of giving approaches, I would like to thank many of our schools, Principals and Parent Teacher Organizations who have been busy planning activities for our students to give something back to our community through canned good collections, mitten drives and toy drives, just to name a few.

As your Board President, I want to personally thank you, our parents, for your support, strength and encouragement. At this time of year, it's very easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of winter concerts, shopping, tinsel, glistening lights, struggling with ribbon for the perfect package, the smell of warm cookies and hot cocoa. Despite all the marvelous distractions of this beautiful season, please make time to enjoy your families, children and grandchildren. They are truly our most precious gifts.

Sincerely,

Veronica O'Brien
President of the Board
St. Louis Public Schools

SLPS 2006 Board Members

Mrs. Veronica O'Brien
President
Mr. William (Bill) Purdy
Vice President
Dr. Robert Archibald
Mr. Peter Downs
Dr. Flint W. Fowler
Mr. Ronald Jackson
Ms. Donna Jones

Superintendent
Diana M. Bourisaw, Ph.D.



Think Your Child Is Gifted??

Have you ever wondered if there's something wonderful hidden inside your child?? Maybe he or she is gifted!!

Your son tells you he's bored. Your daughter finishes all of her assignments way ahead of schedule and makes honor grades. Away from school, your child seems to be much more advanced in their abilities and skills than other children their age. As a parent, you're concerned that they aren't challenged enough at school. There are certain characteristics or behaviors that are indicators of giftedness. Not all gifted children exhibit every characteristic. Some gifted children will exhibit every characteristic all the time. Others will not exhibit any consistently.

Some common characteristics of gifted children are:

- Superior reasoning powers
- Persistent intellectual curiosity
- Wide range of interests
- Markedly superior or quantity of written and/or spoken vocabulary
- Reads avidly and absorbs books well beyond his or her years
- Learns quickly and easily and retains what is learned
- Shows insight to arithmetical problems that require careful reasoning and grasps mathematical concepts readily
- Has a keen sense of humor

- Sets high standards for self
- Gets excitement and pleasure from intellectual challenge

All children may exhibit some or all of these traits. Gifted children possess the characteristics to a much greater extent than do other children of the same age, background and experience. Also, gifted children exhibit them in a more consistent manner and to a degree that they require modifications to their educational experiences so they will be provided an appropriate, challenging learning environment.

The Gifted and Talented Office of the St. Louis Public Schools provides students whose abilities and potential for accomplishment are so outstanding the opportunity to participate in programs to meet their educational needs. If you feel your child(ren) might be in need of such a program, please contact the **Gifted and Talented Office at 345-4548 or 345-2435** for information concerning consideration and application to the program. Many of the gifted services are provided through the district's Magnet Schools, therefore, application to the magnet school program must also be made. Magnet applications are available now for the 2007-08 school year.

Please give us a call. We can help you unwrap your child's amazing potential!

MAGNETS

SLPS offers 24 magnet schools with specialized curriculum in Visual and Performing Arts, Gifted Education, Math and Science Technology, International Studies, Military Science, Early Childhood and Multimedia Electronic Graphic Arts (MEGA). Please make note of these important dates for the 2007-08 school year:



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2006

Second Open House at all Magnet School locations.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2006

Application Deadline for **MAGNET CONTINUITY STUDENTS**, students applying to Kennard C.J.A., McKinley C.J.A., Metro Academic and Classical High School, Central Visual and Performing Arts High School, Cleveland NJROTC High School, Gateway Institute of Technology High School and Soldan International Studies High School to be included in the General Lottery.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2006

Application deadline for general applicants to be included in the General Lottery.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2007

2007-08 School Year Magnet School applications random lottery sort.

For more information about the Magnet program, please contact the St. Louis Public Schools Recruitment and Counseling Center at 633-5200.

The Road to College

College Summit works towards the day when every student who can make it *in college makes it to college*.

In 2006, for the third consecutive year, College Summit received the distinction of being named one of the top 25 groups "changing the world" by a leading business magazine.

College Summit, a national nonprofit organization, was founded in 1993 at a teen center located in a housing project in Washington, D.C. The organization has since served **over 10,000** students across the country, with an ambitious goal of reaching **7,500** in the coming school year alone.

Here's how the program works:

College Summit trains and educates rising high school seniors at summer workshops held on college campuses on the process of how and where to apply to college. These students, specially-selected by their teachers, are "Peer Leaders". They will have the responsibility of

influencing and motivating their friends back at school in the fall and share the process that they have learned.

- At the workshops, students complete several tasks:
- College applications
 - Develop a list of colleges they're going to apply to by meeting one-on-one for a full hour with an expert college counselor
 - Write their college essay
 - Learn about financial aid and scholarships
 - Explore personal obstacles to getting to college

The students are rewarded for their hard work at an elegant banquet, where excerpts from their essays are shared with the audience. After four hectic, busy days, the students and staff are tired, but remain excited and hopeful about the future.

College Summit also helps teachers and counselors coach *all* the seniors in the school on developing a plan for life after high school graduation, including some type of post-secondary education.

The numbers say it all; College Summit is effective! **79%** of Peer Leaders enroll in college, compared to a 46% national average for similar students. Even more impressive is the fact that **80%** stay in college!

The organization has regional offices in Washington, D.C., West Virginia, Missouri, South Carolina, Colorado and California. Three more communities are interested in launching an official College Summit site in the next year or two.

College Summit has won several awards for helping open the doors and putting students on the road to college, including from the U.S. Department of Education and the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

College Summit in St. Louis

Based on the strong results in its pilot year partnership, St. Louis Public Schools has expanded the College Summit program from two of its high schools to nine, reaching, impacting and improving the lives of about 1,050 seniors in 2006-07.

For more information about the College Summit program, please contact Meghan Morgan at 345-2596 or mmorgan@collegesummit.org.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER COLLEGE TIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Complete your **Personal Statement** or college essay by **November 15, 2006**. Have your teacher or guidance counselor review it.

Aim to have all college applications ready to submit by **December 1, 2006**

It's not too late to register for the **December 19 ACT**. This is the last ACT date where scores will count towards **Fall 2007** admissions for most schools.

Continue looking for scholarship opportunities on the internet, with your high school counselor, local service-oriented organizations, your parent/guardian's employer and coaches, teachers and community leaders.

Good Luck on your Road to College!

Macy's Creates A Sensational Day!

Macy's, the newest large-scale retailer in town, went from complete stranger to old friend for St. Louis Public Schools. On Thursday, September 15, over 400 Macy's employees traded in their professional attire for casual and participated in the company's "Give Back Day". The volunteers spent the day creating sensational experiences and activities at four of our schools. Ninety 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Bryan Hill used their creative minds and steady hands to decorate cookies. One Hundred and fifty eighth graders from Compton-Drew Investigative Learning Center headed to the St. Louis Science Center for a field experience. Yellow school buses transported Mullanphy students and Macy's chaperones to a special field trip at the Missouri Botanical Garden, followed by a sack lunch. The volunteers were really kept busy at Carnahan High School of the Future. Students participated in a special athletic day, receiving trophies, lunch bags and t-shirts, all courtesy of Macy's. Other volunteers rolled up their sleeves and worked side by side with Carnahan students and staff, planting trees and mums. As if these two activities didn't keep them busy enough, Macy's volunteers were also responsible for setting up a college resource center for the students.

"We were very excited to have Macy's volunteers work and interact with our students," said Superintendent Dr. Diana Bourisaw. "It was sensational."

Macy's volunteers keep busy at Carnahan on "Give Back Day".



College Summit Word Find:

Find the words that are part of making the jump to college!

ESSAY
ACADEMICS
APPLICATION
FAFSA
EXTRACURRICULARS
RECOMMENDATIONS
GOALSETTING
PLANNING
TRANSCRIPT
FINANCIALAID
COLLEGLIST
SAT
SCHOLARSHIPS
COUNSELING
TOEFL
RESEARCH

NCLRHCIAANPCOLLEGELISTPSLAR
RDA AHTIAIOGSPIHRSRALOHCSNAC
URCRCTPLDIGOYASSERICIAICLN
XTAGRNEIITINACEAALRAROAGIP
EONGAELORAURILRGCAEAEGRLO
SEAAERICNCGSILSPLANNINGHOE
IFDCSNLNFISRLOEEODDLSICAEN
TLIEELRRLNNOAESTSSEOICLNG
SIIARNSDNPTAFNPNTESMOUAES
ASFSOSNFFPNIERNNSAUILLILTCL
EINFRCDLATTRNTOTIONASCRTT
FINANCIALAIIDTEMLHNACGDTSRA
SLRFCCCRARECOMMENDATIONSLF
ACLNCGRPAEIPRGLISYESATOCEP
TRCIHRMSRALUCIRRUCARTXEST
SCPDEEELLNTECFNTRRECLLULHIRT

School Closings

When the weather outside gets frightful, turn to these sources for important **SCHOOL CLOSING** information:

- KMOV-TV
- KSDK-TV
- FOX2-TV
- WB11-TV
- KMJM (104.9 FM)
- KMOX (1120 AM)

For those of you who may be new to the district, the message will appear

St. Louis City Public Schools are closed.

Individual school names will not be announced.



FEATURED STORY



▶ RAMS Offensive Line



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

PHL, Inc.; Improving Football Fields and Lives

Attending a St. Louis Public Schools football game has a new sense of pride for athletes and students this year, thanks to a group of concerned citizens who are improving the athletic conditions for the district's football fields.

Four businessmen from St. Louis and St. Charles counties formed PHL, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, in February 2005 after reading a two part series in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch (October 20, 2004 and October 21, 2004) regarding the deplorable conditions of the football fields in the district. "Their goal has remained the same for nearly two years," said Dave Cook, Athletic Director for St. Louis Public Schools. "And that hope is to improve the conditions of our fields for the students who play sports."

Since its inception in February 2005, PHL, Inc. has repaired or replaced athletic facilities or equipment for five SLPS schools. Their ultimate goal is to improve the facilities at all of the district's athletic fields. "We are not doing this for any attention," said Thom Kuhn, founding President of PHL, Inc. "We're doing this because we believe that every kid deserves an opportunity to succeed, no matter what neighborhood they're from or their economic status."

PHL, Inc. has completed the following projects since February 2005:

- Built a new practice field with an irrigation system on a vacant lot at the Vashon High School campus.
- Re-graded, re-planted and repaired the irrigation system on the fields at Gateway Institute of Technology, Soldan International Studies and Roosevelt High Schools.
- Installed new goal posts and player benches at Vashon, Gateway, Soldan and Roosevelt High Schools.
- Repainted the fences, stadiums and bleachers at Soldan and Roosevelt, the fences, ticket booths, press box and concession stand at Gateway IT and the fences at Cleveland NJROTC.
- Installed safety handrails on the steps at Roosevelt.

▶ Central VPA bleachers before and after PHL, Inc.



AFTER

- Re-paved with asphalt the deteriorated area in front of the Roosevelt concession stand.
- Removed unsafe bleachers at Roosevelt.
- Planted five Bradford Pear trees on the grounds of Soldan stadium.

PHL, Inc. has aggressive goals for the 2006-07 school year, including installing a new roof on the concession stand at Roosevelt, and working with the City of St. Louis and Sumner High School Alumni Association to redevelop Tandy Park in to a multi-use facility for the school and community.

"We are grateful for what PHL, Inc. is doing for our district and community," said Superintendent Dr. Diana Bourisaw. "Our plans are to continue to work with PHL, Inc. until all of our facilities are where they should be."

For more information on PHL, Inc. log onto www.phlinc.org or www.slps.org.



▶ NFL Alumni 2005

Service First

Fabulous Freshmen; an accurate way to describe the Washington University students who literally rolled up their sleeves in support of our schools over Labor Day weekend. More than 1000 Washington University students participated in Service First, an annual day-long community service event funded by Washington University, private donors, the Women's Society of Washington University and local businesses.

The ambitious volunteers traveled in yellow school buses to Kennard CJA, Clay, Columbia, Oak Hill, Roosevelt, Fanning, Stowe, Farragut, Walbridge, Humboldt and Euclid/Washington Montessori school. Armed with paint brushes, rollers, paint, landscaping materials, bulletin board supplies, wheelbarrows, coolers loaded with soda and water and snacks to keep their energy level super-charged, they came adequately prepared to tackle the "to do" and "wish lists" submitted in advance by Principals and their staffs.

WU students did everything from haul mulch and landscaping to cleaning out classrooms. Some worked more creatively, painting beautiful murals, decorating bulletin boards, painting restrooms, and doing whatever it took to make the school buildings more welcome and inviting for returning SLPS students and faculty.

"The University supplies all the necessary materials, but the principals are essential partners in creating ideas to brighten their schools and engaging our students in conversation about their school and neighborhood," said Stephanie Kurtzman, Director of the Community Service Office and Associate Director of the Richard A. Gephart Institute for Public Service. "Service First tries to teach our students something about the community in which they now live. If we at the University can do anything, we want to increase our students' level of sensitivity, knowledge, and awareness of what the St. Louis community is about and the resources it has to offer."

The volunteers didn't seem to mind sacrificing part of their long Labor Day weekend. The program is so dynamic, even some Washington University upperclassmen returned from previous years. The students were also accompanied by Resident Advisors, Washington University faculty, staff, their spouses and families. Several SLPS families and children joined in the work, which really seemed more like fun.

Merry Denny, Principal of Kennard CJA said, "We were anticipating a good day, but the Washington University Service First Project exceeded our dreams. We were able to make our school more inviting, which would have taken all year had we not had these students and our parents working together to make this happen. Our school looks great! We are very appreciative."



Community Coalition Offers FREE Tax Preparation

Mark your calendars for February 1, 2007!

The Gateway EITC Community Coalition (GECC) is gearing up to provide free tax preparation to low income individuals, helping them utilize the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and tax credits benefiting people with disabilities. This program, now in its fourth year, has been a tremendous success. More than 17,000 people were served by the GECC last year.

The GECC is a community coalition including United Way, Mers Goodwill, Salvation Army, Vita, IRS, St. Louis Public Schools, AARP Foundation, ACORN, St. Louis Association of Black Accountants, Tax Counseling for the Elderly and others.

The Gateway EITC Community Coalition was formed in St. Louis to assist low income individuals with getting tax refunds. The coalition focuses on individuals who may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Employees receiving W2 income may be eligible for additional money from the federal government, depending on their income level. Some people may also qualify for the Additional Child Tax Credit.

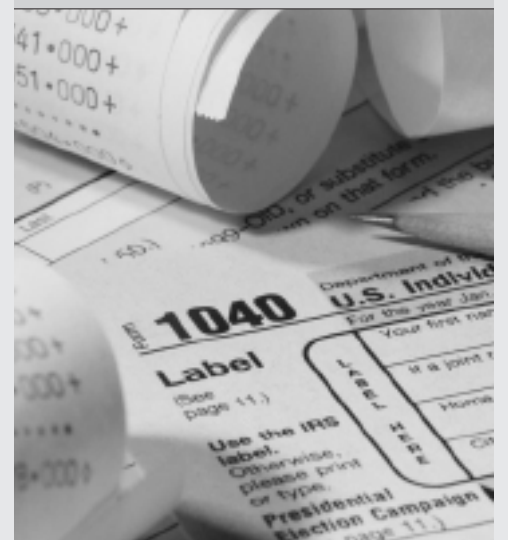
Many families in the St. Louis metropolitan area don't know about this great free tax preparation service. It might be to their advantage to file, (even if they normally don't file or have to pay taxes), because they may be eligible for refunds through certain tax credits.

If you are qualified, please take advantage of this free service. There are more than 40 GECC and AARP free sites throughout the St. Louis region, conveniently located. Most sites have electronic filing available, so your refunds are received within one to two weeks. At many sites, they can help clients set up a free bank account to use for direct deposit of their refund. Having a bank account allows for an even faster refund!

FREE tax preparation begins on February 1, 2007.

For more information about site locations, dates and times for GECC Free Tax Preparation, please contact:

**Debbie Fagin at the United Way
(314) 539-4089 or
e-mail: fagind@stl.unitedway.org**





Gaining Success with SES

St. Louis Public Schools Office of State and Federal Programs (Title I) hosted a Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Provider Fair on Tuesday, September 26, at the St. Louis Science Center. Among colorful balloon bouquets, candy, great giveaways and refreshments, 16 organizations were on hand to showcase the great free educational support programs available to our students. Here is a highlight of some of the SES Providers from the fair:

- **ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** The St. Louis Public Schools program offers support to students K-8 in Reading and Math. Students meet at the school site for four weeks of large group, small group and individual instructional sessions, each lasting approximately 60-90 minutes. Instructors are Missouri certified/licensed teachers employed by St. Louis Public Schools. Instruction is based on the State of Missouri Show-Me-Standards and the District's newly developed CLEAR curriculum. The program supplements the CLEAR curriculum with a highly successful researched-based SRA reading/math program. Teachers develop personalized learning plans for each student to ensure that their individual strengths and weaknesses are addressed. In addition, students have many opportunities to use CD-Roms in the school. Instruction is also offered to students with disabilities and Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Parents and teachers receive monthly progress reports from the provider. Free snacks and transportation are provided to all students participating in the program. The program welcomes the involvement of parents and other significant caregivers.
- **JUNTOS DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS, LLC:** The word Juntos means "people coming together for a common purpose." This provider has a very unique approach, because they take care of the student's whole family. Juntos utilizes a national program for reading and math support. Smart Way Reading and Spelling and MathLine tutoring programs are offered to students K-12 at convenient locations in the city and county; community and recreation centers, churches and after-school programs. Juntos welcomes low-income, minority, migrant, and Limited English Proficiency students. Parents and teachers receive monthly progress reports via mail and phone calls. Free transportation is provided. In addition to the student support, Juntos also offers foster care and adoptive home

transitional counseling, the New Horizons Aging program, individual and family counseling, mentoring, academic testing and evaluation, and drug/alcohol abuse counseling. They work with participating families to create Individual Development Accounts (IDA).

- **CLUB Z:** The big benefit of the Club Z program is that they come to you! Club Z provides in-home tutoring before school, after school, weekends and summer for PreK-12. Instructors have undergraduate degrees and are certified and licensed in the state of Missouri. They have staff proficient in Spanish, German, Creole, French and Japanese. Club Z services low-income, minority, migrant, LEP and Special Education students. They provide weekly progress reports to parents and school staff via mail and phone calls. Instruction in Reading, Writing and Math is done individually, or in small groups. Students participating in the Club Z program showed a one-grade level gain in Reading and Math. They also tutor high school students in high level math (algebra, calculus, geometry and trigonometry) and ACT and SAT college entrance exam test preparation.
- **CATAPULT ONLINE LEARNING:** Catapult is an online, in-home tutoring program in Reading and Math, available to students K-12. Catapult provides a free in-home computer and internet access to every child in their program. All tutoring is done on-line by instructors with undergraduate degrees or certified teachers with a minimum of two years classroom teaching experience. Catapult provides monthly progress reports to parents by letters, phone calls and online communication. Students successfully completing the tutoring program get to keep the computer for free.

Catapult reports one grade level of growth over the course of the school year.

- **BEST EDUCATION AND SPORTS TODAY, INC. (B.E.S.T., Inc.):** Get your game on! These folks have an innovative approach to learning for students K-12. The program offers two to five weekly individual, small group, large group and online/web-based instructional sessions. Their focus is to integrate sports and learning. Students might learn about geometry by studying a basketball court! Teachers certified and licensed in the state of Missouri with at least five years teaching experience provide instruction using a research based national reading and math program. B.E.S.T., Inc. offers their program to low-income, minority, migrant, LEP and Special Education students. Teachers create a plan of action with the parents. Students earn the opportunity to attend sports camps during the program. Parents and school staff receive monthly and bi-monthly progress reports by mail and telephone. Program participants have shown an 18% increase in reading and a 21% increase in Math. Transportation is not offered for the program.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) mandates that Supplemental Educational Services (SES) after school programs be provided for students attending schools that have been identified for school improvement for two or more years. Parents of students in these schools have the option of selecting from DESE approved providers for tutoring services. Title I funds must be used to cover the costs for tutoring.

For more detailed information about the SES Provider program, please contact Doretta Walker, Title I SES Coordinator at 345-4426, or Deloris Green, Interim Title I Director at 345-4517.

Parents receive tips on tutoring at the SES Provider Fair.





Do You Know The School Nurse At Your Child's School?

The St. Louis Public Schools District is committed to ensuring the health and welfare of students it educates and other school district employees by providing a competent group of professional registered nurses who are assigned to all the school sites.

This team of nurses works very hard to provide healthcare services in the schools and in the community.

Some of the activities they engage in are:

- Serve as the health care expert in the school building
- Promote a healthy school environment through regular school inspections
- Provide direct health care to students and in cases of emergency to staff
- Track and monitor the immunization status of students
- Provide first aid and emergency services
- Develop individualized health care plans for students
- Provide routine treatments, as prescribed by physicians, for students
- Participate in Individualized Education Plan meetings
- Assist with the development of 504 Plans for students
- Conduct routine screenings and make referrals as needed
- Conduct health education and health promotion activities
- Coordinate other health care services brought to the school site by community health partners, i.e. dental education and screening
- Report and participate in control of communicable diseases in the school sites
- Coordinate and participate in health fairs
- Develop community partnerships
- Serve as a member of the care coordination team of each school with the school counselor and social worker to provide comprehensive services to students and families

The practice of school nursing began over 100 years ago. Although the role of the school nurse has expanded greatly over the years, the basics of this form of nursing practice remains the same. The school nurse supports student success by providing health care assessments, interventions, and follow-up for all students within the school setting.

School nurses engage in professional nursing practice, use the nursing process for decision-making, document the care given, and assure privacy and confidentiality.

The ultimate goal of each school nurse is to support student success in the learning process.

To this end, the school nurse provides services to:

- The entire school population, including preschool students
- Children with special health care needs
- Traditional school students
- To a limited degree, adults within the school community in emergency situations.

Get to know your child's school nurse. Take time to introduce yourself and always share any and all health related information about your child to help the nurse be better prepared to provide support in the event of a health care need.

Any time your child will be absent from school due to illness or any health related reason, contact the school and report the absence to the school nurse. The report of absence will be shared with all appropriate staff, but most importantly it allows the school nurse to record the information in the student health record and provide necessary information on what will be required for the student to return to school after the absence.

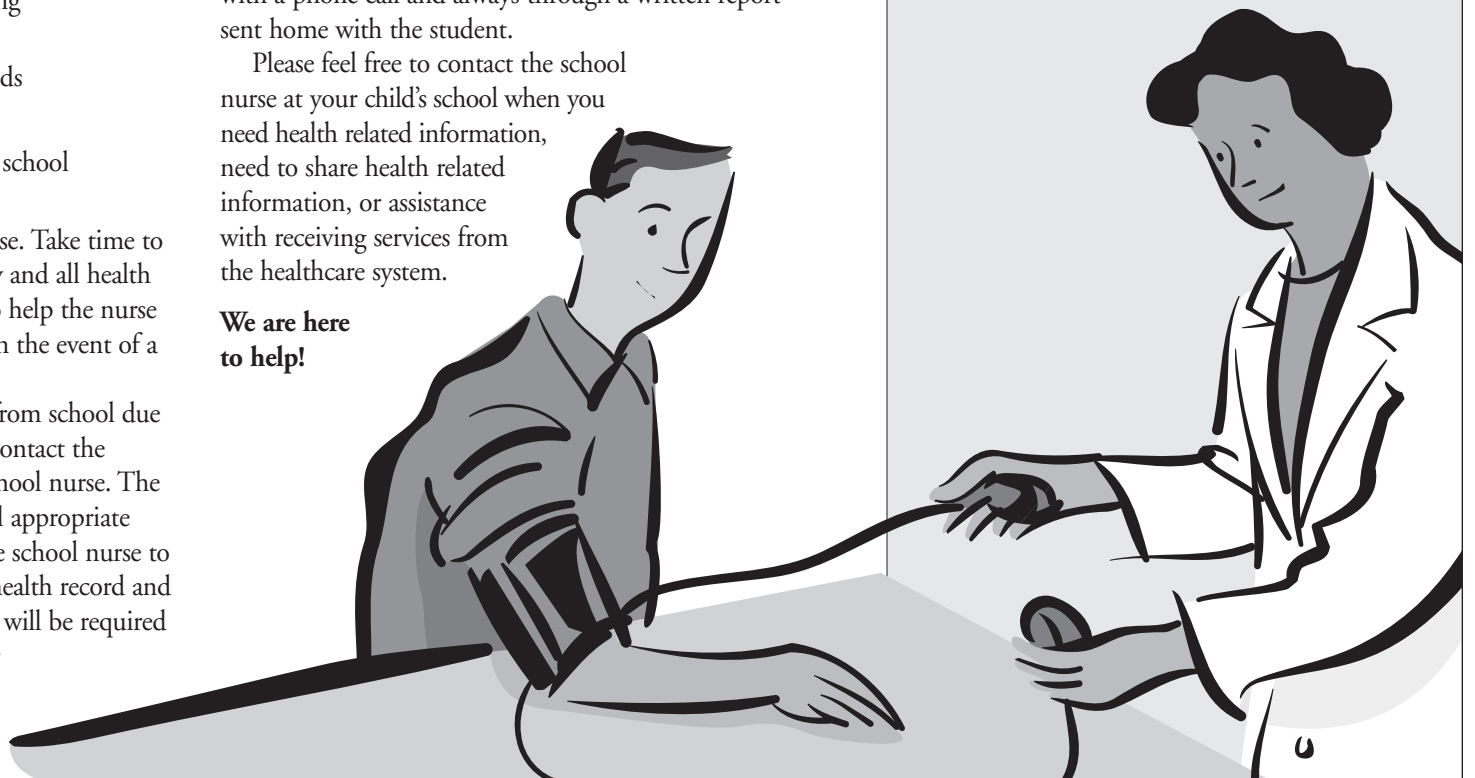
Three years ago the St. Louis Public School District health services unit converted all student health records to a full electronic medical record. When a new student enrolls in the school district for the first time, the school nurse reviews the shot record for the child and once approval is given for enrollment this information is entered into the medical record. Medications, history of chronic diseases, special health care information, results of vision, hearing, and dental screenings are also recorded in the electronic record. This permanent record will always be available for review or be provided as a printed copy when needed for parents or physicians. When the student transfers to another St. Louis Public School, the information automatically transfers within the electronic student information system.

It is crucial that you always provide the school nurse with the accurate contact information for you and other relatives or friends when there is a need to contact parents/guardians because of medical emergencies. Telephone contacts to parents/guardians are always attempted when a medical decision has been made to call 911 for assistance with a sick or injured student. When we don't have working phone numbers or any phone numbers, this causes much concern because we want to make you aware of all emergencies as soon as possible. The school nurse also needs to record the name of your child's primary care provider, dentist, and any other healthcare specialists involved in their healthcare.

The medical consultant for the St. Louis Public School District is Dr. David C. Campbell, MD, President and CEO of the Institute for Family Medicine. We have enjoyed a very positive relationship with Dr. Campbell and his staff over the three years he has been the medical consultant for the district and each year the school nurses have been able to expand services for students, especially those with a diagnosis and history of asthma. Our district is one of several in the metropolitan area that participate in the Asthma 411 project that has proven to produce positive outcomes of reducing absenteeism of students with asthma because of the increased knowledge of the school nurses and access to emergency medications in the school health offices used with standing orders written by Dr. Campbell to help students stay at school and out of the emergency room. He has also provided standing doctor's orders to cover some common over-the-counter medications that can be administered to students after parents have signed the appropriate authorization forms giving the school nurse permission to give the medication after an assessment of the symptoms. Once again, parents will always be notified when a medication is given or used at school, both with a phone call and always through a written report sent home with the student.

Please feel free to contact the school nurse at your child's school when you need health related information, need to share health related information, or assistance with receiving services from the healthcare system.

We are here to help!

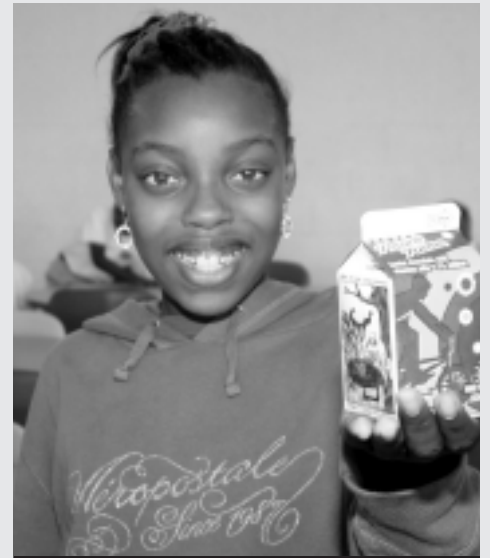


HOLY COW! Milk tastes great!

School cafeterias all over Greater St. Louis and Metropolitan Illinois have been spruced up with brand new chocolate milk cartons! More than 200 students competed in last spring's "HOLY COW! Milk tastes great!" carton contest by drawing a picture showing their favorite way to drink milk. Sponsor, Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc. created the contest as a way to educate students about the role milk plays in leading a healthy, active lifestyle. St. Louis Public Schools has bragging rights to three winners!! Allison Atlas from Gateway Elementary won the Grand Prize in the 1-7 grade category. Her design is featured on the cartons. Two other Gateway students, Bryanna Arnold and Shelby Parnell, received first prize honors in their grade category.

Rita Duncan, Executive Director of the St. Louis Dairy Council said, "getting kids excited about drinking milk means they are more likely to get the essential nutrients their bodies need for good health and growth."

Congratulations to Allison, Bryanna and Shelby!!



▶ Allison Atlas with her winning milk carton.

Calendar of Events

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------|--------|---|---|---|--|---|----------|
| NOVEMBER | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Holiday – Veterans’ Day (No School) | 11 |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 SLPS Administrative Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. 801 N. 11 th Street | 15 | 16 Parent Assembly Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Metro High School | 17 | 18 |
| | 19 | 20 | 21 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Carr Lane VPA | 22 Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 2 | 23 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School) | 24 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School) | 25 |
| DECEMBER | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| | 3 | 4 | 5 SLPS Adm. Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m., 801 N. 11 th Magnet Schools Open House | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Carr Lane VPA | 13 | 14 Parent Assembly Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Metro High School | 15 Magnet Application Deadline* | 16 |
| | 17 | 18 Final High School Exams | 19 Final High School Exams | 20 Final High School Exams | 21 Winter Break (No School) | 22 Winter Break (No School) | 23 |
| JANUARY | 24 | 25 Christmas Winter Break (No School) | 26 Winter Break (No School) | 27 Winter Break (No School) | 28 Winter Break (No School) | 29 Winter Break (No School) Quarter 2 ends Magnet School Application Deadline for Gen. Applicants | 30 |
| | 31 | 1 Holiday – New Years’ (No School) Third Quarter begins | 2 Classes Resume | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | 7 | 8 | 9 SLPS Administrative Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. 801 N. 11 th Street | 10 | 11 | 12 Report Cards | 13 |
| | 14 | 15 Holiday – Martin Luther King Day (No School) | 16 SLPS Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Carr Lane VPA 07-08 Magnet Lottery Sort | 17 | 18 Parent Assembly Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Metro High School | 19 | 20 |
| | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 MAC II Begins | | | | |

* Application Deadline for: Magnet Continuity Students, Kennard CJA, McKinley CJA and the following High Schools: Metro, Central V.P.A., Cleveland, Soldan and Gateway IT to be included in the General Lottery.

School & Home

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Three teachers from St. Louis Public Schools receive the honor of 2006 Teachers of the Year.



Superintendent’s Corner

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

1 President’s Corner

By Veronica O’Brien
President of the Board, St. Louis Public Schools

Important 2007-08 Magnet School Information



2 The Road to College

The College Summit program gets SLPS students headed on a successful road to college.

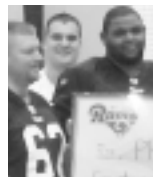
In The Community

Macy’s volunteers create a Sensational Day at Bryan Hill Elementary, Compton-Drew ILC, Mullanphy ILC and Carnahan High School of the Future.



3 In the Spotlight

PHL, Inc. improves SLPS football fields and lives through their generosity.



4 Service First

Washington University Freshmen lend a hand at Service First event.



5 Gaining Success with SES

SLPS Office of State and Federal Programs (Title I) hosted a Supplemental Educational Services Provider Fair at the St. Louis Science Center.



6 Health & Wellness

Get to know your child’s school nurse.



Editors Box

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