



January 2012

Volume 2, Issue 6

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The City of St. Charles Public Schools E-Newsletter

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Board of Education
Election
April 3, 2012
Please be sure to
vote!!



Greetings from the Technology Department!

Our staff works to keep technology equipment in the district running. That equipment includes: desktop computers, laptops, printers, interactive projection systems, phones, cell phones, software, and network infrastructure (switches, servers, etc.). We also manage software systems for our libraries, student information systems, district finances, and for student assessment. Additionally, the department maintains the district web page, coordinates all state-level reporting, and provides many hours of training on a variety of topics throughout the school year. Our first goal is to be "invisible"; allowing teachers to teach and students to learn. While we don't always achieve that, we strive to improve our service to staff and students all the time.

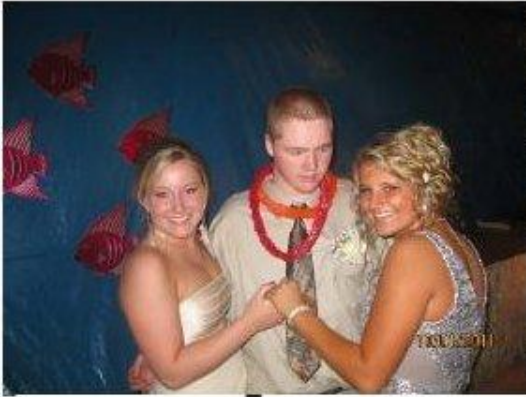
One major initiative that we have undertaken this year is a move toward Google Apps for Education. You can see our "Getting Started" page at: <http://goo.gl/CQyFY>. This page gives our staff links to many areas of Google Apps, as well as access to training videos on the various components. This spring we are gradually rolling out Google accounts for all staff. This gives them access to their new district email and calendars. By the beginning of school next fall all staff will use this new system, and also be able to

access many new software applications to enhance their teaching in the classroom. Students will also be given Google accounts to access Google Docs (similar to Microsoft Office) and other web-based applications. Google Apps for Education includes a multitude of tools for teachers to use that will enhance collaboration in their classrooms and increase student learning opportunities.

Charles Brazeale
Director of Instructional Technology

Inclusion at SCW

Submitted by Margaret Kelpé



My name is Margaret Kelpé and I teach students at Saint Charles West with moderate-severe developmental disabilities in a self-contained classroom. I am also on the St. Charles County Developmental Disabilities Resource Board where our mission is based on full inclusion in our community.

Saint Charles West, with the support of the Circle of Friends club, is dedicated to making sure all students are included in the school community as much as possible. Students with developmental disabilities

participate in any extracurricular activities that interest them and are supported in their endeavors by the whole school. Two students participate in the football program, one is a varsity cheerleader, and one is the varsity girls' softball team's scorekeeper. They are invited to all of the social activities including dances, senior night, pictures before prom, and awards ceremonies. Last year a group of Circle of Friends students picked up one of my students at his home and took him to miniature golf and for ice cream. On another occasion, one of my students expressed interest in going to the homecoming dance but did not have a ride. A group of students picked him up, drove him to the dance and back home. They bought him a new tie and a boutonniere. They included him in their social circles at the dance.

Some of the students in my classroom have very severe disabilities impacting every area of their development. The Circle of Friends club students come to my classroom to help whenever they can. They model appropriate social skills and assist in building their social language/communication skills including helping them utilize augmentative communication devices. The Circle of Friends students have even learned some sign language to enhance their ability to communicate with my students.

The best part about the inclusion at Saint Charles West is that it is very natural. It is the norm. That is what makes it beautiful and effective.

SCHS Writing Winners **Veteran of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy**

Submitted by Kathleen Graham

Two St. Charles High School senior writing students placed in the Veteran of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy contest. **Mason Schmidt** placed second, and **Ashley Holt** placed third. They are to be honored at the annual Americanism Dinner and Awards Program on February 26.

St. Charles West German Students Feast

Submitted by Donna Huster, SCW Principal's Secretary



St. Charles West German students feasted at the Feasting Fox on January 4th. Former and past students chatted, laughed and enjoyed a German sampling of chicken schnitzel, sauerbraten, sausage and sauerkraut, rotkohl, and of course, the beloved potato pancakes and applesauce.

2012-2013 EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL

Submitted by Jeanie Mohrman, Executive Assistant, Student Services

Applications for the 2012-2013 Early Childhood Preschool are now available!

Classes are offered at all six elementary schools.
Three-hour sessions (Monday through Friday).
Full day and extended-day child care options available*.

*Extended child care sites will be dependent upon enrollment numbers.

Applications are **DUE BY February 29th** for first round consideration of Title I funds. Applications received after this date, will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. After slots are filled, applicants will be placed on a waiting list.

The application packet, with additional eligibility information and program descriptions are available at the Administration Building, all district elementary schools, on the District website www.stcharles.k12.mo.us or call 636-443-4087.

Board Candidates

Submitted by Susie Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent

The District has four candidates that filed for the two Board of Education seats that become open in April 2012. Those candidates are:

Dr. Marita Malone

Dr. Wayne E. Oetting

Mr. Tim Bekebrede

Mrs. Sheri Bickmeyer

The election will be held on April 3, 2012. Anyone wanting to register to vote may do so at any of the District school buildings. Voter registration for this election will close on March 7, 2012.

St. Charles High School Project Graduation

Sponsored by the St. Charles High Pirate Boosters
725 N. Kingshighway | St. Charles, MO 63301

Dear Parents:

Graduating from high school is a lifetime achievement and should be celebrated. For the past 26 years, the parents of St. Charles High School have offered an **all night, chemical-free** graduation celebration. This type of party emphasizes to all SCHS students that drugs and alcohol are not necessary to have a good time celebrating as they close this chapter of their lives.

This event, which will follow the graduation ceremony on May 24, has increased in popularity with each year and we hope our plans for this year's graduating class are our best ever. We have again reserved the St. Peters Rec Plex, which will allow our seniors a variety of sports and entertainment activities. Food will be served throughout the night and activities will be supervised by parents, teachers, administrators, and some Rec Plex employees.

We are asking for any help you may be able to provide this year to ensure the evening is a great success. Donations can be made in the form of cash, gift cards, and items suitable for college bound graduates, and/or suitable for those entering the workforce. If your employer has a charitable fund or matching program, we would be happy to contact them under your advisement.

Please offer your support by completing the form below and returning it to the office, mailing it or by contacting one of the representatives below. Thank you, in advance, for supporting this worthwhile event and helping to make Project Graduation a success.

Recommended Donations:

Senior Parents	\$25
Junior Parents	\$20
Sophomore Parents	\$15
Freshmen Parents	\$10

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

_____ I will sponsor Project Graduation 2012 and have enclosed \$_____ to help cover the cost of rentals, prizes, and entertainment. *(Make checks payable to SCHS Pirate Boosters)*

_____ I would like to donate gifts and/or gift cards. Please contact Belinda Lassanske or Kristin Whiteside for pickup if necessary. *(See contact information below) Storage is available.*

_____ I would like to volunteer to work the night of Project Graduation. Workers are needed in shifts the entire night and next morning through pick-up.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Time Available _____ (3 hour shift is requested between 10pm and 5am)

Donation Description _____

For more information or to arrange for pick-up of your item(s), please email or call:
Belinda Lassanske: belindalassanske@yahoo.com 636-219-2912
Kristin Whiteside: kwhiteside@mynewplace.com 314-657-8032

Click here for [Company Donation Form](#)

Coverdell's Top 3 Spelling Bee Winners

Submitted by Leslie Spears, Coverdell Instructional Coach



From left to right: Cece Zarkie (3rd), Izzy Schiffer (2nd), and Kimberly Willis (1st)

They will attend the district spelling bee on February 22nd along with the top 3 winners from each of the other elementary schools.

St. Louis Iraq War Vet Parade Set for Jan. 28

Written by Sheri Gasaway, <http://stcharles.patch.com>

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What started as a social media campaign to welcome home troops from Iraq is now a reality. A grassroots effort that began just a couple of weeks ago to welcome home troops from Iraq with a parade in downtown St. Louis is now a reality.

The group has announced that it has met its goal of raising \$25,000 to honor the veterans on Jan. 28. It is set to meet with St. Louis officials regarding plans on Tuesday.

Organizer Craig Schneider, of St. Charles, told KMOX-AM that the parade is not just a way to welcome veterans back home and to say thank you. It's to help them adjust and to allow them to put their military skills back to work in the community.

The Mission Continues, a national veteran's nonprofit organization, has agreed to assist the group with the parade. According to the group, St. Louis will be the first major American city to officially welcome the troops home from Iraq.

"Anheuser-Busch and Mayflower were the first two major corporate donors to step up to the plate," Schneider said in a news release. "When the Mission Continues came on board, we knew this dream that started just a few short weeks ago would quickly become an incredible reality."

Organizers will need more help in the next couple of weeks to make the parade a success. To find out how you can help, visit [Mission Continues](#).



Foundation Grant Patrol Winners

Submitted by Susie Lewis, Assistant to the Superintendent

Tuesday, January 24th, Foundation members and central office administrators visited schools to surprise teachers with Foundation grant awards. This year the Foundation received a record number of grant requests. Thank you to all of those teachers with innovative learning ideas for students that took the time and made the effort to submit a grant request. Below are listed the lucky winners.

Grant Title	Grant Amount	Teacher	School
"Need to Read"	\$632.50	Kim Morgan, Jack Hall	Coverdell
"Kids Discover Nonfiction"	\$471.68	Kate Cox	Jefferson
"Opening the Lines of Communication"	\$710.00	Christie Hawkins	Blackhurst
"Student Response System-Student Feedback"	\$420.00	Heather Horstmann, Ann Rakers	SCW
"iPod Touch to Increase Subject-Specific Vocabulary Skills through Multiple Modalities"	\$428.99	Tricia Kaelin	Blackhurst
"Kindles for Kids"	\$447.57	Kathy Barnett	Monroe
"iPods & Software to Improve Learning Outcomes-Functional Academics & Training"	\$1,025.94	Margaret Kelpé	SCW
"Integrating Music into the Elementary Classroom"	\$1,925.00	Carol McDowell	Coverdell
"Innovative Assessment"-Health	\$830.51	Casey Lober	L&C
"Egg-cited About Reading"	\$1,211.20	Christie Hawkins	Harris
Total	\$8,103.39		



Christie Hawkins, Stephen Jacob, Dale Hallemeier



Casey Lober, Steve Grote



Steve Grote, Carol Mcdowell



Steve Grote, Heather Horstmann, Ann Rakers, Stephen Jacob



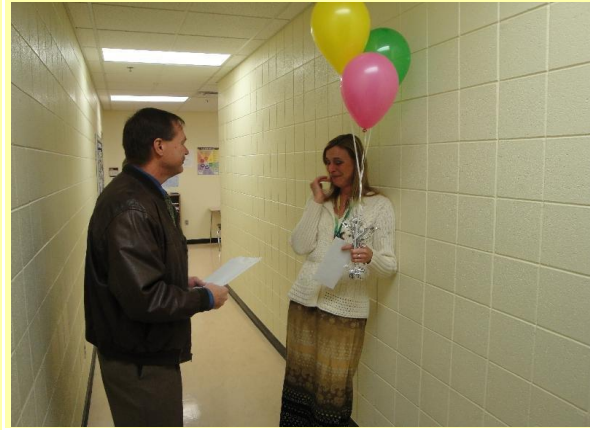
Kim Harris, Kate Cox, Stephen Jacob



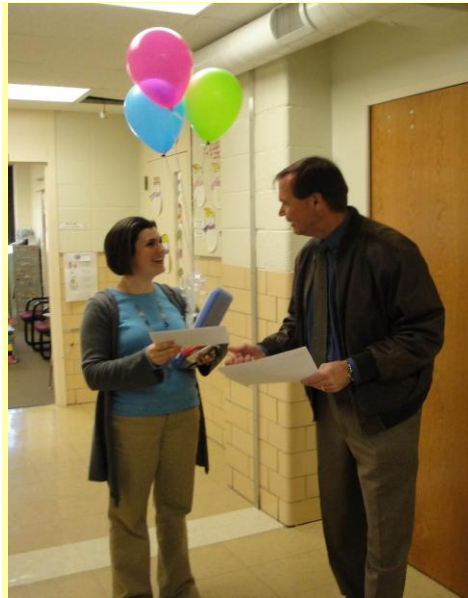
Dale Hallemeier, Stephen Jacob, Kathy Barnett, Susan Rhoads



Jack Hall, Kim Morgan



Steve Grote, Margaret Kelpé



Tricia Kaelin, Steve Grote

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