

Mehlville Messenger

A Mehlville School District Publication

New teaching positions were created to better support all students

Mehlville School District has added two new teaching interventionists at each school this year to ensure better support for our students. These positions are being paid for using federal COVID-19 relief funds.

Interventionists are teachers who specialize in certain subjects to help all students improve. Principals evaluated their school's needs and hired interventionists that would be most beneficial for their students. Some schools, like Beasley Elementary, hired a math and a reading interventionist.

"When I go into the classroom, it's a universal learning approach where the teacher and I are teaching all students before breaking into small groups," said Julie Werton, Beasley Elementary math interventionist. During small group time, Werton can determine who understands and who is struggling with what's being taught so she can support and challenge each student.

Schools also had the option to hire social-emotional learning interventionists. The role of a social-emotional interventionist is to help students develop skills to prevent their emotions from getting in the way of their learning.

"Since we're still at the beginning of the year, my job right now is pushing into the classrooms and serving as an emotional coach and talking through the big feelings and problems we may be seeing in classrooms," said Morgan Mueller, Trautwein Elementary social-emotional learning interventionist. "I think it's super important for social-emotional interventionists to push into the classroom because it models for students who are struggling what it needs to look like, while allowing them to still be with their peers. If their classmates have just seen them have a tough moment, they also get to see the resolution."

Social-emotional interventionists also pull students from the classroom at times to provide a neutral space to learn how to manage their emotions, talk through



Trautwein Elementary School social-emotional learning interventionist Morgan Mueller speaks with a student.

their feelings, and develop strategies to better handle challenging situations in the future.

"This position gives us the ability to identify students who are struggling and pour resources and interventions into them and see what progress we can make," Mueller said.

Additionally, social-emotional learning interventionists are working with all elementary school students on the zones of regulation. Zones of regulation is a teaching framework to help students learn to identify and control their emotions and reactions.

While the federal funds supporting these positions are only allotted for three years, this level of student and teacher support is something the district hopes to continue.

"We believe in this investment in supporting our students," said Dr. Laurie Tretter-Larkin, director of fine arts and federal programs. "We're going to be tracking how the addition of interventionists impacts our students and hope to provide this level of support for our students into the future."

The hiring of these interventionists is one way the district is using federal relief funds to support students over the next three years. The district is also increasing opportunities for student activities and clubs, providing academic support before and after school, and using funds for heating, ventilation and cooling upgrades.



Beasley Elementary School math interventionist Julie Werton works with a small group of students on developing strategies to complete addition problems.

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The *Mehlville Messenger* is published by the Communications Department four times a year for Mehlville School District residents, businesses and families. Its purpose is to inform the public of district news, student achievements and community involvement activities. Please submit questions, letters and comments to:

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The Mehlville School District mission is to build a high performing school system rooted in the community's desire to build a culture of improvement for staff and students.

Mehlville School District believes that all of our graduates should be creative and critical thinkers, self-aware, persistent, communicators, and ethical and global. We call this our Portrait of a Graduate.



Mehlville School District is proud to be a National District of Character.



Mehlville School District

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Recovering together and celebrating alumni role models

The 2021-2022 school year is off to a great start as we have been able to start with, and keep, children in our school buildings. There is no doubt that over a year and a half of living with COVID-19 has been challenging for us all. While we are happy to have our students in our classrooms, we also know we have to stay focused on helping them make up any academic gaps from last year while continuing to help them grow this year. The district's plan for federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds is a key part of this focus. ESSER is helping us add academic supports in areas meant to best help our students. (See page 1 for more information.)

After a one-year hiatus due to COVID, we were able to once again hold our in-person ceremony to honor 2020 and 2021 inductees into the Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame. We celebrated a total of 11 graduates, from our Mehlville and Oakville high schools, who have had a lasting impact on our community or nation. These amazing people have gone on to success in multiple disciplines that include professional sports, medicine, national security, education and many others. What struck me was how each is truly an expert and leader in their field. Many spoke with our students during the school day, imparting wisdom from their learned experience. This is an amazing group of people for our students to have as role models and to understand that whatever path each of our students choose, they can reach the highest levels of accomplishment. Many thanks to our 2020 and 2021 inductees for being the role models and people they are.

Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame inductee Bridgett Riley, a 1989 graduate of Oakville High School, talks to students about how she needed perseverance in her career as a world champion kickboxer and professional stuntwoman. Read more about our Alumni Hall of Fame inductees on pages 6-7.



Kevin Schartner



I'd like to briefly touch on the COVID situation as there are a few good developments. As I write this, we are looking forward to a likely vaccine emergency use authorization for 5- to 11-year-olds, we have a trend of lower new case rates into late October, and an expected authorization for a pill expected to ease COVID symptoms and speed recovery. All of these developments are good news for our community and schools. To help parents who would like their young children to be vaccinated, our district is working to set up clinics at some of our schools, something I appreciate as the busy holiday season approaches.

Speaking of the holidays, I'd like to end by wishing you, your family and friends the very best during this holiday season. I hope you all get to enjoy quality time with your family and friends.

Candidate Filing for Board of Education opens Dec. 7

Any person wishing to file for the Mehlville School District Board of Education may do so in the Mehlville School District Administration Building, 3120 Lemay Ferry Road, St. Louis, MO 63125. Filing will be held Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021, through Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021.

From Tuesday, Dec. 7, through Wednesday, Dec. 22, filing hours will be between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. The district office will be closed and no filings will be accepted Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021, through Monday, Dec. 27, 2021, for winter break. The final day for filing will be Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Except for the first and last day of filing, filings will be taken by appointment only. No filings will be accepted when the office is closed due to inclement weather or in the event of a closure due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

An election for two seats on the board will be held Tuesday, April 5, 2022. The seats carry a three-year term.

Under the provisions of Missouri Statute Section 115.124, if the number of candidates who file is equal to the number of positions to be filled by the election (two), no election will be held. However, if the number of candidates filing exceeds the number of positions, the annual school board election will be held on April 5, 2022. Per Mehlville School District Policy BBB-1, the names of qualified candidates shall be placed on the ballot in order of filing.

For more information, visit bit.ly/boecandidatefiling, or to make an appointment call 314-467-5000.

Candidates must wear a face covering and observe district infection control rules in force at the time of filing.



Looking forward to the future

In my State of the District address this year, I focused on three important issues for Mehlville School District: enrollment figures, the new strategic plan and Prop S facility improvements. Here are some highlights from the address.

Enrollment is up for the 2021-2022 school year.

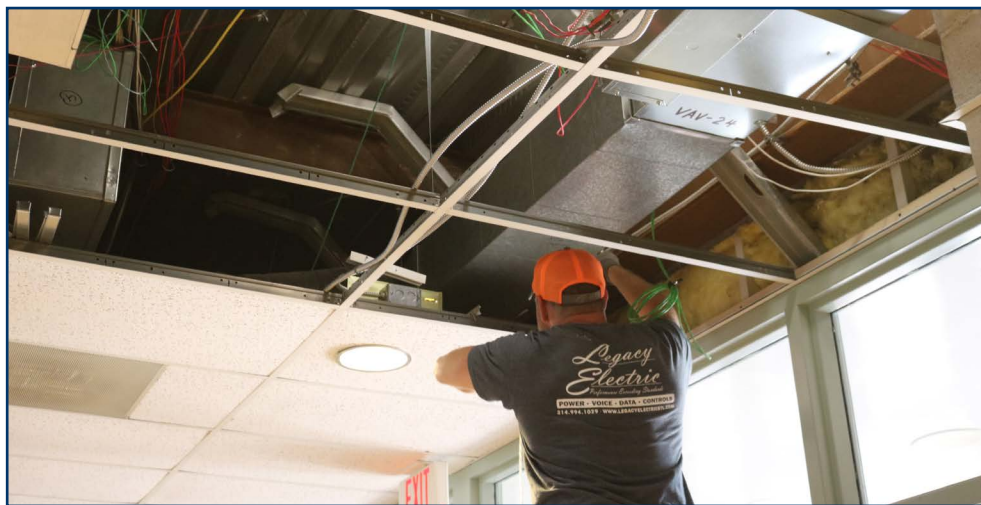
Following slow declines in enrollment over the past several years, the 2021-2022 September enrollment count is up slightly. There are currently 9,974 students in grades K-12 enrolled in Mehlville School District, up from 9,765 last year. This enrollment is above our demographer's projected enrollment. However, these projections were made before the COVID-19 pandemic. We will conduct an additional demographic study in the fall of 2022. Demographic research helps us plan future budgets, staffing and facility needs.

A new strategic plan has been approved by the board.

Mehlville School District prepared a renewed strategic plan that will guide our work through the 2025-2026 school year. That plan was approved by the Board of Education on Sept. 16. This document helps us set high expectations for ourselves and our students, focus on continuous improvement and ensure our energy is directed towards achieving our goals. (Read more about the [Mehlville School District Strategic Plan](#) on page 5.)

The first two projects funded by Prop S have been completed.

Prop S was passed by voters in April 2021 to complete projects to improve



Crews finished a complete renovation of the heating, ventilation and cooling system at Forder Elementary School over the summer. The systems on the rooftop were replaced, as well as the boxes and thermostats in each of the classrooms and the diffusers in the ceilings.

Board approves 2021 blended tax rate

The Mehlville Board of Education unanimously approved the 2021 blended tax rate of \$3.6598 at its annual tax rate hearing on Tuesday, Sept. 21. The blended rate is about 14 cents less than the previous year of \$3.8056.

The blended rate is an average rate of the residential, commercial, agricultural and personal property tax rates. It includes the \$0.04 temporary tax for Prop A, which ends in 2025. The rates include a 12-cent tax levy for Prop S general obligation bonds, which is offset by a 12-cent voluntary tax rate reduction (making Prop S a zero tax rate increase bond issue).

- Residential tax rate: \$3.4431
- Commercial tax rate: \$3.9025
- Agricultural tax rate: \$4.4036
- Personal property tax rate: \$4.5061

This year, assessed value increased 6.5 percent compared to the 1.4 percent increase to the consumer price index. The Hancock Amendment limits tax

student safety and accessibility and complete deferred maintenance without increasing the tax rate.

The replacement of Forder Elementary School's heating, ventilation and cooling systems began as soon as students left in June and was completed this summer. HVAC upgrades are cyclical, and the equipment at Forder Elementary was last upgraded in 1994. The typical life cycle of an HVAC system is 20 years. If the system isn't upgraded towards the end of its life cycle, it leads to costly repairs.

Work was also recently completed on the baseball/softball field at Oakville High School. The field had safety issues related to poor drainage. Crews began work in July to regrade the field, add a new drainage and irrigation system and install a new fence and backstop. The field is ready for the OHS baseball team to use in the spring. Mehlville High School will also see field improvements in the next few years.

We're in the design phase for several other projects and anticipate bid packages will open this winter with construction to follow. We hope projects will be completed by the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

We're excited for what the next few years holds for the students and staff of Mehlville School District.



Prop S projects began this summer. Safety upgrades to correct drainage issues on the Oakville High School baseball/softball field were completed in October.

revenues to increase only up to inflation, or the consumer price index (CPI). The additional increase of assessed values results in decreased tax rates, so the tax revenue does not increase more than inflation. The total tax revenue estimate for Mehlville School District is \$77.9 million, up \$1.8 million from last year, or 2.3 percent.

About Prop A and Prop S

Voters approved Prop A in April 2016. Prop A has a 10-year sunset, and funds are being used to complete roofing and HVAC projects throughout the district. Prop A progress is being tracked on the district website, bit.ly/mehlvillepropa.

Voters approved Prop S in April 2021. Prop S funds are being used for projects to improve student safety and accessibility and complete deferred maintenance without increasing the tax rate. Prop S progress is being tracked on the district website, bit.ly/mehlvilleprops.

Off-campus adventures are at the heart of new PE class

Students in the new Adventure and Outdoor Pursuits class at Mehlville High School have already had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: canoeing on the Mississippi River.

This is the second year the class has been offered to Mehlville High School and Oakville High School students. But it's the first year students have been able to apply the skills they've learned to adventures off campus.

"We have the strengthening and conditioning classes, the fitness classes, team sports and lifetime sports, but this is for the kids who may not be interested in those courses, and outdoor activities have taken off lately," said Jill Wojewuczki, Mehlville High PE teacher.

Students spent the first few weeks of the school year learning about kayaking terminology and practicing techniques in the district's pool.

"We have been practicing how to turn, go faster, go backwards and using your momentum," said Mohamed Saady, Mehlville High senior. "If we need to make sharp turns or if we're in a sticky situation, we know how to get out of it with the techniques we've learned in class."



After three weeks of practicing in the pool, students set sail in canoes on the Mississippi River with the help of Big Muddy Adventures.

The students were able to apply those skills at the end of September when they went canoeing on the Mississippi River with the assistance of professionals from Big Muddy Adventures.

In addition to kayaking, students are going to learn and practice other outdoor activities like fishing, archery, rock climbing and hiking.

"I'm excited that the students get to take those things we're learning in the classroom, go outside and have those real-life experiences," said Wojewuczki.

Mehlville High and Oakville High students can take the Adventure and Outdoor Pursuits course their sophomore, junior or senior year as part of their physical education requirements for graduation. Adventure and Outdoor Pursuits is one of several new PE classes designed to increase fitness opportunities for students.



Mehlville High School Adventure and Outdoor Pursuits students began the school year practicing in kayaks in the district pool.

Mehlville School District selected to the League of Innovative Schools

Mehlville School District was selected to join the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, a coalition of forward-thinking schools across the country who are providing students with unique learning opportunities.

The Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools was founded by the U.S. Department of Education and White House in 2011. Mehlville School District is now one of just 125 districts nationwide to receive the distinction.

"We were encouraged to apply for the League based on our personalized learning programs," said Dr. Chris Gaines, Superintendent of Mehlville School District. "We are looking forward to sharing information about our programs with other League schools. We're even more excited to learn from other schools and other districts, so we can continue to grow and provide relevant opportunities for our students."

To be accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, districts must submit an application detailing educational leadership, innovative vision for learning, key achievements, evidence of results, and demonstrated commitment to equity and excellence. Membership in the League of Innovative Schools provides district leadership and teachers with opportunities to learn about best practices other school districts are using and ways to continue to provide students with new opportunities that prepare them for life after graduation.

Mehlville School District's application focused on our efforts to create more personalized learning experiences for our students through the creation of our Middle School Academies and MOSAIC Elementary School, as well as

through high school programs like MyPath and the Early College Academy. These opportunities allow for student growth through development of Portrait of a Graduate traits and through collaboration and reflection with their peers. These programs also give our teachers the opportunity to try new things in their classrooms, leading to more innovative instruction.



MyPath allows high school students to continue to pursue topics they're passionate about once they have exhausted related courses. Kenan Mustafic, Mehlville High School senior, designed and constructed a remote-controlled plane his junior year that firefighters can use to drop retardant from above a fire.

Strategic Plan



Guiding Mehlville School District through 2026

The Mehlville School District Strategic Plan helps us set high expectations for ourselves and our students, focus on continuous improvement, and ensure our energy is directed toward achieving our goals.

Our strategic plan was drafted using feedback from students, staff, parents and community members provided during our Mehlville Listens community engagement campaign. We spoke to thousands of people, asking them what they wanted their public schools to look and feel like, and what they wanted their schools to accomplish.

Through this community engagement process, several themes emerged. Our community indicated that above everything, they wanted their schools to be safe and personalized for each student. These two themes appear front and center in this strategic plan. Feedback also indicated our community wants students to have access and opportunities, our staff to be supported, and our operations to be effective and efficient.

Theme 1: Personalized Student Preparation

- 1 Mehlville School District will identify pathways, or career clusters, that identify various career paths and highlight the types of classes and skills needed in order to have success within a particular career.
- 2 Educators and learners in Mehlville School District will co-create profiles, which contain rich, current information regarding each learner, including demographic data, Academy status, learning-related skill sets and potential learning drivers.

Theme 2: Safety

- 1 Mehlville School District will ensure its facilities are safe and secure.
- 2 Mehlville School District will improve staff and student sense of belonging and mental well-being.

Theme 3: Access and Opportunity

- 1 Mehlville School District will ensure all students have access and opportunities to programs and services regardless of parental involvement, race, sexual orientation or identity, socioeconomic status, or disability.

Theme 4: Employee Support

- 1 Mehlville School District will support its workforce in achieving individual and organizational goals.

Theme 5: Effective and Efficient

- 1 Mehlville School District will make the biggest impact possible for its students while being a responsible steward of its resources.



Visit bit.ly/msdr9strategicplan to view the entire strategic plan.

Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame

The purpose of Mehlville School District's Alumni Hall of Fame is to identify and celebrate graduates of the Mehlville School District (Mehlville High School and Oakville High School) who have made a lasting impact in the community or in the nation. Inductees will serve as role models for current and future generations of students who aspire to be productive citizens and demonstrate traits that align to the Mehlville School District Portrait of a Graduate Traits: creative and critical thinker; self-aware; persistent; communicator; and ethical and global.



The Alumni Hall of Fame Selection Committee selected the following inductees for the 2021 Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame:

Meghann Burke, MHS '99, Executive Director of the National Women's Soccer League Players Association

After a professional career as a goalkeeper in women's soccer leagues both in the U.S. and in Europe, Burke became a criminal defense and civil rights attorney. The award-winning attorney was lead counsel for the Campaign for Southern Equality, fighting for the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. Burke is currently the Executive Director of NWSLPA, where she bargains on behalf of today's professional women's soccer players.



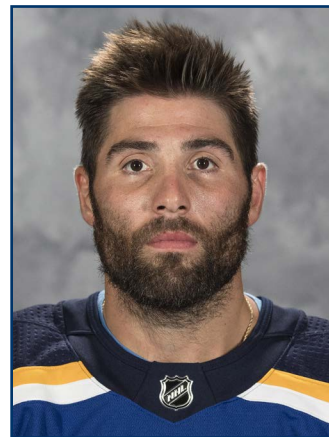
Dr. Matthew Kroenig, OHS '96, Political scientist, author and national security strategist

Dr. Kroenig began his career as a military analyst for the CIA and has become a trusted policy adviser on national security issues, including nuclear and terrorist network deterrence. Dr. Kroenig has advised for the White House, State Department, Pentagon, Congress and the intelligence community. He is an award-winning author, a regular commentator on news shows and is a professor of government and foreign service at Georgetown University.



Patrick Maroon, OHS '07, Professional hockey player for the National Hockey League

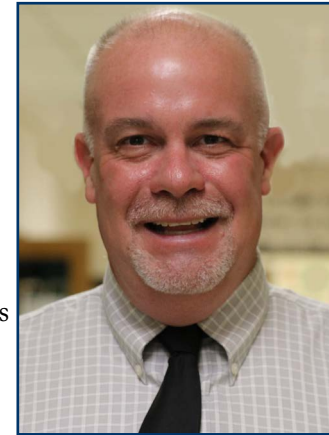
Maroon became a hometown hero in 2019 when he helped propel the St. Louis Blues to their first Stanley Cup win. The power forward would go on to win two more Stanley Cups, this time for the Tampa Bay Lightning, becoming just the fourth American player in history to win three consecutive championships. Maroon routinely gives back to the St. Louis community through his support of children's health and first responder organizations.



Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame inductees Dr. Kristy Weber, Dr. Jason Wang, Bridgett Riley, Ernie Perrica, Dr. Matthew Kroenig, Dr. Desmond Kirchhofer, Meghann Burke, Lt. Cmdr. Jim Brendel and Abdul-Kaba Abdullah were recognized on the field prior to the Mehlville High School vs. Oakville High School football game on Oct. 8. Not pictured: Patrick Maroon and Dr. Aletha Tippett.

Ernie Perrica, MHS '88, Mehlville High School teacher and coach

Perrica spent his 30-year career in education at his alma mater where he built lasting relationships with students. The dedicated history teacher and coach played a key role in making all students, and especially those in the desegregation program, feel welcome and at home at school. Perrica has served as a mentor for countless MHS teachers and coaches and held numerous leadership positions on the high school campus. The empathetic educator embodies what it means to be a panther.



Dr. Aletha W. Tippett, MHS '69, Chemical engineer, physician and author

After beginning her career as a chemical engineer for Procter & Gamble, Dr. Aletha W. Tippett left the workforce to care for her two children and 12 foster children before beginning medical school at age 42. She would become a renowned expert in palliative wound care, organizing a conference for medical professionals around the world and authoring a book about her decades of experience treating patients with severe wounds and amputations.



Patrick Maroon, Alumni Hall of Fame inductee, was not able to attend the induction ceremony. However, he was welcomed into the Hall of Fame in September when he visited Oakville High School to share the Stanley Cup with students and staff.

Read more about these incredible men and women at bit.ly/msdr9hof.

Nominations are open for 2022

Nominations are being accepted for the 2022 induction of the Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame.

To be considered, nominees must have graduated more than 10 years in the past from either Mehlville High School or Oakville High School. Nominations must be received by the Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame Committee by July 1 of each year. Late nominations will be considered for the following year. Questions can be directed to John DeWalle at 314-467-7834.

To be considered for inclusion in the Hall of Fame, an application must be submitted along with:

- A letter from the nominator explaining the nominee's professional, cultural, military or athletic accomplishments, and community impact.
- The names and contact information for 3-5 references who can speak to the nominees accomplishments, character and community impact.
- Supporting documentation about nominee. This may include nominee's detailed resume or vita, news clippings, military records, letters of recommendation, etc.

Application materials and instructions are available on the district website at bit.ly/msdr9hof.



The Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2020 was also inducted this fall. Their ceremony was postponed last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Pictured left to right: Abdul-Kaba Abdullah (MHS '97), Lt. Cmdr. Jim Brendel, Jr. (OHS '97), Dr. Kristy Weber (MHS '83), Bridgett Riley (OHS '89), Dr. Desmond Kirchhofer (MHS '89), Dr. Jason Wang (MHS '05). You can read more about the accomplishments of these incredible men and women at bit.ly/msdr9hof.



The Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2021 were inducted this fall. In attendance at the Oct. 8 event and pictured left to right were Dr. Matthew Kroenig (OHS '96), Ernie Perrica (MHS '88), Meghann Burke (MHS '99).

Kindergarten enrollment opens on Jan. 24

Mehlville School District offers a full-day, tuition-free kindergarten program. Our high-quality teachers provide caring, personalized instruction that is developmentally appropriate and rigorous. Online registration for students entering kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year opens Jan. 24. Families of children who turn 5 before Aug. 1, 2022, may register for kindergarten.

Our full-day kindergarten program provides exciting learning opportunities for young students.

“You can really see the growth when they start off in kindergarten,” said Megan Mann, kindergarten teacher at Bierbaum Elementary School. “They learn a lot throughout the year, and it’s exciting and fun to see them learn and explore new things.”

Children begin kindergarten at different levels. Our talented teachers assess students at the start of the school year, then deliver personalized instruction for each student. In addition to instruction from their classroom teacher, students receive one-on-one support from our math and reading interventionists.



A kindergarten student at Hagemann Elementary School shares a picture she drew with her classmates.

“When my oldest son started kindergarten, he was doing well in math, but his reading was a little bit behind,” said Kevin Lupo, Bierbaum Elementary parent. “Mehlville School District gave him one-on-one help with reading to bring his level to where it was supposed to be by midyear.”

Teachers work hard to develop lessons that are engaging for kindergarten-age students.

“The curriculum is ever-changing,” said Tammie Werkmeister, kindergarten teacher at Rogers Elementary School. “As time has gone on, the academics have ramped up, but we find ways to teach the curriculum with play in mind. If you walk past a kindergarten classroom, it may look like they’re playing, but it’s actually an academic lesson that they’re learning through play.”

In addition to building relationships with students, teachers focus on building relationships with families as well.

“Mehlville School District has so many great resources for children,” said Jessica DeLunas, Rogers Elementary parent. “The staff is really warm, accommodating and welcoming, and I know my children are getting what they need.”

How to register:

Step 1

You can begin the process by visiting bit.ly/MSDR9boundaries to determine your child’s home school. Afterward, please contact the school to add your new students to Parent Portal.

Step 2

Find the list of documents you’ll need to complete your child’s enrollment at bit.ly/msdr9enroll.

Step 3

Begin the enrollment process by logging into Parent Portal at bit.ly/msdr9parentportal. Look for the yellow banner that says “Online Registration must be completed for the 2022-2023 school year.” Click on “View” to begin enrolling your student. Once your enrollment has been submitted and reviewed, you will receive an email confirmation from your child’s elementary school.

Please contact your child’s elementary school or 314-467-5000 if you have any questions or need assistance with enrollment. We look forward to meeting your new student.

MOSAIC Elementary kindergarten lottery opens in February

MOSAIC Elementary School provides personalized learning paths to empower learners for life beyond the classroom. Instruction and authentic learning opportunities are based on each student’s academic and social needs. Teachers use a variety of tools and strategies, including learning menus, technology and blended learning opportunities to explore the curriculum. Students are encouraged to learn the curriculum at their own pace and within the context of their unique interests.

MOSAIC Elementary will hold a parent information night at school (3701 Will Ave.) on Thursday, Jan. 13, from 6-7 p.m. for parents interested in their child attending kindergarten at MOSAIC Elementary for the 2022-2023 school year.

The kindergarten application for MOSAIC Elementary will be available on the MOSAIC Elementary website at mosaic.mehllvilleschooldistrict.com beginning Feb. 7. **Only online applications will be accepted.** The online application closes Feb. 25.

Following the lottery, parents will be notified of acceptance in March. Even if parents are applying for the MOSAIC Elementary lottery, they should complete enrollment for their child at their home school.



MOSAIC Elementary School kindergarten students play a cardboard arcade game engineered by second-grade students.

Snapshots from our schools

Here's a look at some of the learning and activities happening around Mehlville School District.



Bierbaum Elementary School



Point Elementary School



Bernard Middle School



Buerkle Middle School



Oakville High School



Oakville Middle School

The community comes together to help refugees

Mehlville Parents as Teachers held their Baby Mania sale on Oct. 16 at Mehlville High School. Many participating vendors at the annual Baby Mania event donated remaining items to Baitulmal - House of Goods to be shared with refugee families from Afghanistan. Together, they filled the truck with clothing, toys, high chairs and other essential baby gear.



Photo at far right (L-R): Erin Amador, Parents as Teachers coordinator; Fuad Khalil, volunteer with Baitulmal – House of Goods; Vesna Hajric, Mehlville School District student services secretary; and Eldina Avdic, Parents as Teachers parent educator.

Community Enrichment

Winter/Spring Session registration opens Nov. 22



Join our Crew:
 Driver's Ed Teachers
 Swim Instructors
 Lifeguards
 Class Instructors

bit.ly/employmentmsdr9



Chess Clubs
 Bricks 4 Kidz
 Jewelry Creations

Music Lessons
 Kayak Classes
 Tennis Lessons

Coding for Kids
 Swim Lessons
 Water Aerobics
 Driver's Education

bit.ly/msdr9communityprograms

STUDENT DISTINCTIONS

National Merit semifinalists

Paige Heitman and **Raveen Noory**, Mehlville High School seniors, were named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists for the 2021-2022 school year.



Paige Heitman



Raveen Noory

National Merit commended students

Nathan Fetter, **Nejra Idrizovic** and **Allison McGilvery**, seniors at Oakville High School, were named National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars for the 2021-2022 school year.



Nathan Fetter



Nejra Idrizovic



Allison McGilvery

FCCLA earns national recognition

Aman Lueker, Oakville High School junior, and **Eve Talarski**, Oakville High School Class of 2021 graduate, earned a silver medal at the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) national competition for the chapter service project they planned to host a virtual 5K to raise funds for CHADS Coalition for Mental Health.



Aman Lueker

Federal Reserve Bank Board of Directors

Michaela Gindler, Oakville High School senior, was named to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis' Student Board of Directors for the 2021-2022 school year.



Michaela Gindler



Allyson Christopher

Truman Book Trailer

Allyson Christopher, Oakville Middle School eighth-grade student, was selected a winner of the Truman Book Trailer competition by the Missouri Association of School Librarians.

All Suburban Honor Choir

Mehlville High students **Jillian Carroll**, senior, and **Khamani Collins**, junior, were named to the All Suburban Honor Choir. Oakville High students **Michaela Gindler**, **Samantha Kujath**, **Lucas Le Luong**, **Jacob Leath**, **Nathan Lillard**, **Jasmine Quach** and **Gavin Sandvoss**, seniors; **Sarah Brutton**, **Mackenzie Earney** and **Madelyn Winter**, juniors; **Ava Chancellor** and **Ellie Dong**, sophomores; and **Wyatt Cary**, **Mackenzie Christopher**, **Sophia Earp**, **Logan Knecht**, **Amy Menz** and **Maggie Schrader**, freshmen; were named to the All Suburban Honor Choir.



Jillian Carroll and Khamani Collins



Front row (L-R): Sarah Brutton, Mackenzie Earney, Lucas Le Luong, Ava Chancellor, Madelyn Winter, Ellie Dong, Jasmine Quach, Sophia Earp, Nathan Lillard. Back row (L-R): Jacob Leath, Michaela Gindler, Samantha Kujath, Gavin Sandvoss, Mackenzie Christopher, Maggie Schrader, Amy Menz, Wyatt Cary, Logan Knecht

Golf awards

Ana Wilson and **Sarah Hinkamp**, juniors at Oakville High School, were named 1st Team All-Conference for girls golf. **Avery Bangert**, junior at Oakville High School, was named 2nd Team All-Conference.



Sarah Hinkamp, Avery Bangert, Ana Wilson

Athlete of the Week

Softball pitcher **Lily Douglas**, a Mehlville High School freshman, was named a St. Louis Post-Dispatch Athlete of the Week following a dominant final week of the season. She went 4-0 with 58 strikeouts and a 1.35 ERA in 31 innings, including a school record 21 strikeouts against Hazelwood West.



Lily Douglas



Almedina Mrguda

Chamber of Commerce

Almedina Mrguda, a senior at Mehlville High School was honored by the Southwest Area Chamber of Commerce for her academic accomplishments, school involvement and character.

Terrific Kids

South County Kiwanis honored Terrific Kids at Bierbaum Elementary School for their excellent character and progress in the classroom. Students recognized from left to right are: **Alaina Murphy**, fourth-grade; **Anaya Aitch**, fifth-grade; **Liam Carter**, second-grade; and **Owen Hardy**, third-grade.



STAFF DISTINCTIONS

Rooting for each other

Special School District of St. Louis County presented the **Bierbaum Elementary School staff** with the PBIS Rooting for Each Other Team Award for implementing strategies last school year to meet the social and emotional needs of all students, whether they were learning virtually, hybrid or fully in-person.



Assistant Principal Nathan Perkins, Breeya Perry, PBIS facilitator, and Principal Dr. Paul Morris

PLTW Outstanding Teacher

Mehlville High School science and Project Lead the Way teacher **Kristin Busch** received the 2021-2022 PLTW Outstanding Teacher Award for her commitment to providing students with meaningful learning experiences through the PLTW Biomedical Sciences program.



Kristin Busch

Coaching milestones

Rich Sturm, Oakville High School softball coach, coached his 400th win in August. **Tom Harper**, Mehlville High School soccer coach, also hit a coaching milestone this year, reaching 200 wins.



Rich Sturm



Tom Harper

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IMPORTANT DATES

Find district event information at mehlvilleschooldistrict.com.

Nov. 16	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
Nov. 17	Half day for students
Nov. 24-26	No school - Thanksgiving break
Dec. 7	Board of Education candidate filing begins, see page 2
Dec. 14	Board Listening Session, 6:30 p.m., Buerkle Middle School
Dec. 15	Half day for students
Dec. 16	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
Dec. 23-31	No school, winter break
Jan. 3	No school for students
Jan. 4	Students return from winter break
Jan. 14	End of second quarter
Jan. 14	No school for students
Jan. 17	No school - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 20	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
Jan. 26	Half day for students
Feb. 3	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
Feb. 21	No school - Presidents Day
Feb. 23	Half day for students
Feb. 24	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
March 8	Board Listening Session, 6:30 p.m., Oakville Middle School
March 14-18	Parent/teacher conferences
March 17	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
March 21-25	No school - Spring break

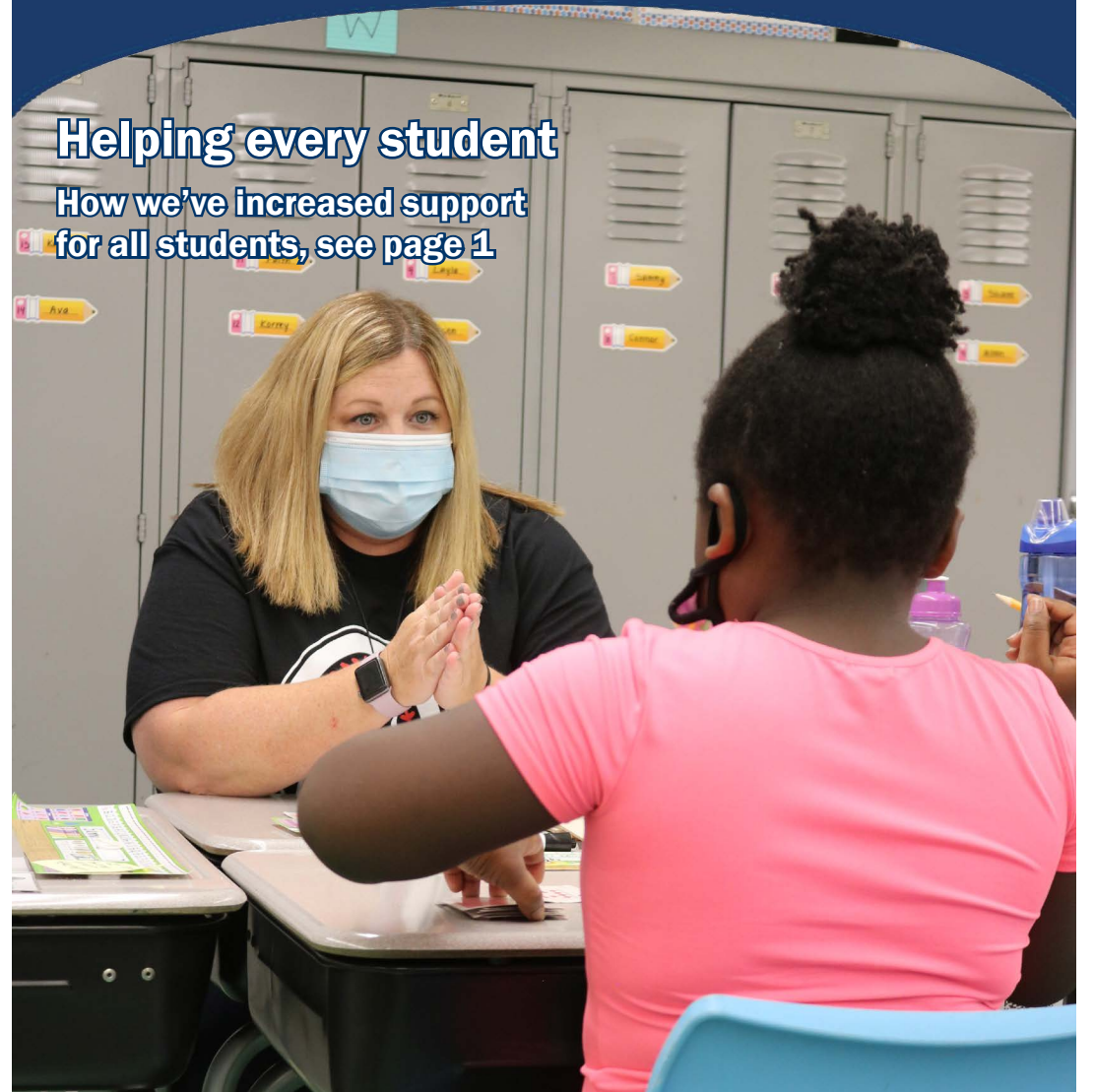
**Urgently Hiring: Bus Drivers,
 School Food Techs, Custodians**

Learn more and apply: bit.ly/employmentmsdr9

A Mehlville School District Publication

Mehlville Messenger

Helping every student
How we've increased support
for all students, see page 1



**Mehlville School District joins the
 League of Innovative Schools**

More on page 4

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