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**IMPORTANT DATES**

Find district event information at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com).

<b>June 5-30</b>	Mehlville Summer Session
<b>June 8</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Central Office
<b>June 19</b>	No Summer Session, district offices open, Juneteenth
<b>June 29</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Central Office
<b>July 4</b>	District offices closed, Independence Day
<b>July 27</b>	Meet the Superintendent, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Oakville Elementary School
<b>Aug. 17</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
<b>Aug. 22</b>	First Day of School
<b>Sept. 4</b>	No School, Labor Day

**Registration is open for the 2023-2024 school year!**



Register your incoming kindergarten student or your new student (in grades K through 12) now.

Learn more and register:  
[bit.ly/msdr9enroll23](http://bit.ly/msdr9enroll23)

We are also accepting new students for At Home, a virtual school open to any Missouri student in grades K-8.  
 Learn more: [bit.ly/athomemsdr9](http://bit.ly/athomemsdr9)

A Mehlville School District Publication  
**Mehlville Messenger**



**We are proud of our graduates!**  
 See pages 6-7 for information on the 800 students who graduated.

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# Mehlville Messenger

A Mehlville School District Publication

## Thank you for passing Prop E!



Voters in Mehlville School District passed a tax increase in April to support competitive salaries to attract and retain high quality teachers and support staff. Prop E passed with 63.63 percent of the votes.

The passage of Prop E increases taxes by 31 cents for each \$100 of assessed value or by about \$12 per month for a home appraised at \$250,000. Competitive pay increases go into effect for the 2023-2024 school year.

“Prop E is making our schools stronger by allowing us to invest in all of our employees through competitive compensation,” said Dr. Shannon Pike, executive director of human resources. “These pay increases will help us keep our talented staff and recruit the best and brightest new teachers and support staff.”

Improved pay is reflected in the teacher and classified salary schedules for the 2023-2024 school year. Those schedules can be viewed on the district website, [bit.ly/msdr9proposalaries](http://bit.ly/msdr9proposalaries).

Here are some highlights:

- First year teachers in Mehlville School District will make \$46,000 next year, up from \$41,500. This puts Mehlville in line with districts like Lindbergh, Kirkwood, Parkway and Rockwood.
- All support staff positions start with an hourly salary of at least \$15.
- School food positions will start at \$15.50, up from \$13.85 per hour.
- Custodians start at \$16.25, up from \$14 per hour.
- Bus drivers start at \$18.55, up from \$17 per hour.

Full-time employees receive a robust benefit package, including paid time off, health insurance and retirement benefits. Learn more and apply online at [bit.ly/employmentmsdr9](http://bit.ly/employmentmsdr9).

“To provide a high quality education, we have to attract and retain high quality educators and support staff,” said Dr. Chris Gaines, superintendent. “Our community has chosen to make a critical investment in our children by passing Prop E. We are incredibly grateful for voter support.”

### Mehlville School District is hiring for the 2023-2024 school year!

Several opportunities exist for the 2023-2024 school year, including elementary, middle and high school teachers, bus drivers, custodians, school food technicians and maintenance.

Mehlville School District offers competitive salaries, meaningful work and benefits for full-time positions. Learn more about employment opportunities and apply online at [bit.ly/employmentmsdr9](http://bit.ly/employmentmsdr9).

### My Mehlville Story



**Ken John, Wohlwend Elementary custodian**  
“When you work here, you get to meet a lot of people. There’s a lot of opportunity for growth, and you get to work with friendly people.”



**Jenn Rich, Oakville Middle English teacher**  
“We have so much diversity in our student body, including families that are immigrants. That’s something so special about our district that not every district has.”



**Fatima Warren, Trautwein Elementary counselor**  
“I applied here because Mehlville had the same core values that I did when teaching students: giving back, service and having gratitude for what you have.”

Visit [bit.ly/mymehlvillestory](http://bit.ly/mymehlvillestory) to hear more staff stories.



## Board of Education

Peggy Hassler, President  
Tori Behlke, Vice President  
Patrick McKelvey, Secretary  
Scott Huegerich, Director  
Jean Pretto, Director  
Jeff Wolman, Director  
Grace Wright, Director

## Executive Staff

**Dr. Chris Gaines**  
Superintendent  
**Dr. Jeff Bresler**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Supervision of Schools  
**Dr. Brian Smith**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Teaching and Learning  
**Dr. Shannon Pike**  
Executive Director, Human Resources  
**Mr. Adam Smith**  
Executive Director, Student Services  
**Dr. Chad Dickemper**  
Executive Director  
Planning and Operations  
**Mr. Marshall Crutcher**  
Chief Financial Officer

The *Mehlville Messenger* is published four times a year for Mehlville School District residents and businesses. Its purpose is to inform the public of district news, student achievements and community involvement activities.

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 is a member of Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of forward-thinking schools across the country who are providing students with unique learning opportunities.

Mehlville School District is nationally recognized as a Lighthouse School System for serving as models of positive change in education.



**Mehlville School District**

3120 Lemay Ferry Road  
St. Louis, MO 63125  
314-467-5000  
messenger@msdr9.org

## FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

# Thank you for a year of wonderful accomplishments

As the school year comes to an end, the Board of Education would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible accomplishments we have achieved. Through collective effort, we are proud to report that our schools have continued to provide a high-quality education. Our teachers and staff have gone above and beyond to support our students both academically and emotionally. We are grateful for their dedication and hard work. Our students have also excelled in extracurricular activities, such as sports, music and the arts. These programs have been a source of joy and pride for our community, and I am thrilled to see so many students pursuing their passions and talents.

### Prop E is strengthening our schools

Thank you to our community for the passing of Prop E. Because of Prop E, BIG things are happening in the Mehlville School District!

The Board of Education has approved the classified employee pay schedules for the 2023-2024 school year, and our employees will see a nice increase in their pay that is competitive with the private sector and other districts. We have approved the 2023-2024 teacher salaries, and I'm happy to report they are now competitive, regardless of teacher experience and education, with surrounding districts. Some of our teachers saw their salaries frozen in 2008-2009 and 2015-2016 due to past budget shortfalls. In the 2023-2024 school year, we will restore those teachers' salaries, placing them in higher salary tiers to make up for the frozen years. We have also approved the 2023-2024 administrator salaries to be competitive with surrounding districts. The Board of Education looks forward to considering nurse salary schedules at a June meeting.

### Congratulations to our students!

This year has been a year of great progress for our district. We have seen increased student achievement, expanded learning opportunities and a renewed sense of community. I

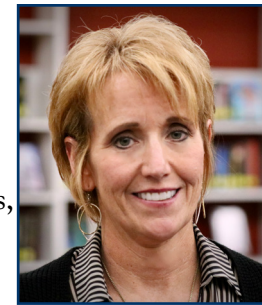
## Board members earn certifications

Mehlville School District Board President Peggy Hassler, Secretary Patrick McKelvey and Director Jeff Wolman achieved Master Certification in the Missouri School Boards' Association (MSBA) Certified Board Member program.

To obtain Master Certification, board members must complete new board member training and then advance through the certification process. That process requires earning additional training credits, completing annual refresher training, reading books related to board service, writing essays and attending MSBA regional or statewide events.

Jean Pretto is also a Master Certified Board Member, and Tori Behlke is an Advanced Certified Board Member. All board members have completed the required 18.5 hours of new board member training from MSBA.

Peggy Hassler



I am proud of the work that our students, staff and families have accomplished together, and I am confident that our district will continue to thrive in the years to come. With your continued support, we can ensure that all our students can reach their full potential.

On behalf of the entire Board of Education, I would like to congratulate the graduating seniors, the Class of 2023! It is exciting to see where they will go next, and we wish them happiness and success in their journeys ahead.

Thank you again for your support. We wish you and your family a happy and healthy summer.



Buerkle Middle School Social Studies Teacher Cheryl Tentschert and her students do an activity matching philosophers with their theories.

## Three incumbent board members start new terms



The Mehlville Board of Education swore in three incumbents in April: Peggy Hassler, Jean Pretto and Jeff Wolman. Wolman was sworn in on April 13 and is serving a three-year term. Hassler and Pretto were sworn in on April 20 and are each serving one-year terms. A recap of the board election is available on our website at [bit.ly/msdr9boe2023](https://bit.ly/msdr9boe2023).

Pictured at top from left: Jean Pretto, Peggy Hassler; below: Jeff Wolman







## Leaving the district in better condition than I found it

Where did the school year go? It's hard to believe the year is over, especially since it is my last at Mehlville School District. I did not start the year with any plans of leaving, but opportunities do not always present themselves as you expect. As I reflect on my eight years in Mehlville, I have to thank everyone for the trust and confidence they've placed in me. Together, we have accomplished much.

I have approached my time in Mehlville with a continuous improvement mindset. My desire is, and has been, to leave the district in better condition than it was when I arrived. With the Board's support, we were able to open MOSAIC Elementary School, middle school academies, and an early college program for students. We joined St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies (STL CAPS) and created MyPath to give students more opportunities to explore career paths. The district was selected to be part of the League of Innovative Schools and was named a Learning 2025 Lighthouse District.

The community has supported the district at the ballot box with the passage of four propositions: Prop R to restore funding cut from the budget; Prop A, a tax transfer to complete some roofing projects over 10 years; Prop S, a zero tax increase bond issue to improve school safety and maintain and repair critical infrastructure; and most recently Prop E to provide employees with competitive salaries. Thank you for supporting your schools at the polls.

Mehlville School District has a bright future, and there is so much still to achieve. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to serve the Mehlville School District.

We are blessed to have amazing people serving our students each and every day. After my departure, I know they will continue to do terrific work. I wish Dr. Jeff Haug the best as he assumes the superintendency on July 1.



John Trankle, academic interventionist at MOSAIC Elementary meets with students. MOSAIC Elementary opened in 2017 with the goal of providing learning experiences for children based on their passions, interests and pace of learning.

## Dr. Jeff Haug will serve as Mehlville School District's next superintendent

The Mehlville Board of Education unanimously selected Dr. Jeff Haug as the district's superintendent beginning July 1, 2023. Dr. Haug will replace Dr. Gaines, who is retiring after serving as superintendent for the past eight years.



Dr. Haug currently is the chief operations officer for Special School District of St. Louis County, where he has worked since 2020. In that role, he supervises district finance, business, purchasing, state data reporting, transportation, maintenance, security and food service departments. Prior to that, he served as chief financial officer for Meramec Valley R-III School District in Pacific, Mo., for three years. He's been an assistant superintendent for instruction in Hazelwood School District, has seven years of experience as a middle school principal and started his educational career as a social studies teacher at St. Dominic High School. He has also taught at McCluer North High school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

Dr. Haug holds a doctorate degree and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Lindenwood University. He earned a Bachelor of Science in History from Truman State University.

The Board's selection of Dr. Haug followed a national search conducted by EGL Association. The candidate evaluation process was based on staff and parent input around their priorities for the new superintendent and the skills and experiences that person should have. Several highly qualified candidates applied for superintendent.

"Mehlville is a proud district with a noteworthy tradition of educational excellence," said Board President Peggy Hassler. "It was clear that Dr. Haug is very student-centered. We were impressed with his desire to collaborate and continue to build effective teams that will make a difference in our schools. We are confident Dr. Haug's diverse background, experience and personal qualities will be a significant contribution in Mehlville School District's journey to excellence."

"I am honored by the opportunity to serve the students, staff and community of the Mehlville School District. I am humbled to partner with district stakeholders to continue the tradition of success for all children," Dr. Haug said. "Throughout the interview process, everyone spoke about the incredibly dedicated staff and amazing families of the Mehlville School District. That support, compassion and conviction are what drew me in and will continue to inspire me through this transition. I cannot wait to become part of a school district and community with such strong traditions and belief in students."

### You are invited! Meet Dr. Haug on July 27

Meet our new superintendent, Dr. Jeff Haug, during a special open playground and open house event from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 27, at Oakville Elementary School (2911 Yaeger Road).

From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the playground will be open for families to enjoy, and we will be serving icy cold treats (while supplies last). From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., we will have a traditional meet and greet inside the Oakville Elementary School cafeteria.



# Mehlville School District's Teacher of the Year finds new ways to engage students in learning

**R**odney Gerdes, a social studies teacher at Oakville High School, was named the 2022-2023 Mehlville School District Teacher of the Year.

In addition to his work in the classroom, Gerdes serves as social studies department chair and a golf coach, is on the school's leadership team and plans professional development for colleagues. He has provided new opportunities for students by spearheading efforts to bring more Advanced Placement and elective courses to OHS.

"Mr. Gerdes is able to connect to his students, try new things and develop relationships with his kids while still holding them accountable," said Brian Brennan, OHS principal.

Gerdes, a graduate of OHS, was originally hired in the district as a substitute teacher in 1996 before accepting a full-time teaching position at OHS. He is committed to evolving his teaching practices to meet the changing needs of his students.

"He has taught here for a long time, but he's constantly re-evaluating the best way to teach and looking at his lesson plans and activities to make them more impactful," said Kara Beck, OHS social studies teacher. "He is able to adjust his teaching to the way his students learn, which is changing constantly."

Students notice the work Gerdes does to make topics interesting and relevant for them.

"Economics can be a boring topic sometimes, but he designs simulations and activities for class to keep things fresh and engaging," said Thomas Kallaos, OHS senior. "It makes it easier to think about difficult topics."



**Rodney Gerdes, social studies teacher at Oakville High School, is the Mehlville School District Teacher of the Year. Pictured from left to right: Dr. Chris Gaines, superintendent; Gerdes; Dr. Jeff Bresler, assistant superintendent, supervision of schools; Peggy Hassler, president of the Board of Education.**

Gerdes is excited to have the opportunity to represent the district he graduated from in the state teacher of the year selection process.

"Mehlville has provided a lot of freedom within the classroom to experiment with new ways to engage kids in learning," said Gerdes. "Everybody here is some kid's teacher of the year. I'm happy to carry the mantle, but I feel this award is representative of a lot more people."

"We are lucky to have someone as dedicated to Oakville High School and the Mehlville School District as part of our team," said Dr. Jeff Bresler, assistant superintendent, supervision of schools. "Rodney is truly passionate about teaching. Whether it is students or adults, he wants everyone to grow. He provides amazing opportunities for the students and staff at OHS."



**Gerdes listens as two students explain plans for a project.**

## Congratulations to our 2022-2023 employees of the year

### Teachers of the Year

- Amanda Tresner, Mehlville Early Childhood
- Tammy Hagely, Beasley Elementary
- Jennifer Wyatt, Bierbaum Elementary
- Shannon Kress, Blades Elementary
- Caitlyn Touchette, Forder Elementary
- Carrie Kendrick, Hagemann Elementary
- John Trankle, MOSAIC Elementary
- Michelle Bridgewater, Oakville Elementary
- Corbyn Stockmann, Point Elementary
- Ellen Smith, Rogers Elementary
- Jason Gillick, Trautwein Elementary
- Megan Geisler, Wohlwend Elementary
- Erin Gaubatz, Bernard Middle
- Cheryl Tentschert, Buerkle Middle
- Brittany Collins, Oakville Middle
- Dan Haertling, Washington Middle
- Christy Huettenmeyer, At Home
- Anissa Quilling, Mehlville High
- Rodney Gerdes, Oakville High
- Ryan Boyd, SCOPE

### Classified Employees of the Year

- Heather Block, Mehlville Early Childhood
- Thomas Hernandez, Beasley Elementary
- Dragica Dizdarevic, Bierbaum Elementary
- Jennifer Ross, Blades Elementary
- Shaun Williams, Forder Elementary
- Ryan Hitchell, Hagemann Elementary
- Colleen Stebe, MOSAIC Elementary
- Heather Sell, Oakville Elementary
- Linda Beattie, Point Elementary
- Lindsey DeRoy, Rogers Elementary
- Melissa Whitehead, Trautwein Elementary
- Audra Berry, Wohlwend Elementary
- Joe Coco, Bernard Middle
- Donna Tuegel, Buerkle Middle
- Kerry Harr, Oakville Middle
- Bob Mitchell, Washington Middle
- Nancy Daake, Mehlville High
- Chris Vitale, Oakville High
- Wendy Williams, SCOPE
- Elijah Runion, Facilities
- Denis Oric, Technology
- Christine Duncil, Transportation
- Amy Hagedorn, Jefferson Barracks
- Hunter Robinson, Central Office



## Photos from around our schools



### The abilities of others

Beasley Elementary School students learned about some of the challenges others face at Abilities Day. The school welcomed guest speakers from different organizations who spoke about service animals, ADHD, autism, amputees, epilepsy, dwarfism and more.



### Into the cave

Mehlville High School Social Studies Teacher Dan Lamping took fourth-grade students from MOSAIC Elementary School on an incredible expedition into Cliff Cave. Lamping is an experienced caver and president of the Missouri Speleological Survey.



### Cultures around the world

Bierbaum Elementary School celebrated countries and cultures from around the world at Peace Day. More than 50 percent of Bierbaum students speak a language other than English, and Peace Day provides an opportunity for students to share their culture with classmates.



### Monkeying around

Mehlville High School geometry in construction students built a treehouse in the outdoor classroom at John Cary Early Childhood Center and Beasley Elementary School. Geometry in construction teaches students geometry principles through real-world application.



### Gold medalists

Mehlville School District students participated in the Special Olympics track meet at Mehlville High School. We're proud of these student athletes and the student volunteers who planned the event.



### Real world visitors

The owners of a local food truck visited Bernard Middle School to speak to food careers students who were starting a unit on food trucks. Students developed a food truck concept and menu, and prepared some food from their menu for tasting.

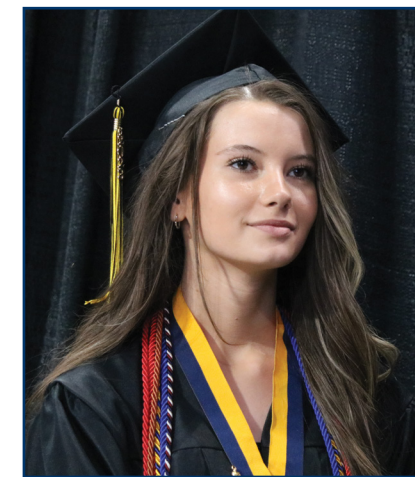




## Celebrating our graduates

Mehlville High School and Oakville High School held their 2023 graduation ceremonies on Sunday, June 4, at Chaifetz Arena. Congratulations to the nearly 800 Mehlville School District students who received their diploma!

- Number of students receiving the Seal of Biliiteracy: 41
- Number of Summa Cum Laude students: 119
- Number of Magna Cum Laude students: 68
- Number of Cum Laude students: 80
- Number of students who were enrolled in:
  - South Tech: 64
  - Early College Academy: 16
  - Make it Count: 15
  - MyPath/Independent studies: 19
  - St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies (STL CAPS): 42
  - Access Point: 4
- Number of Advanced Placement courses taken: 1,887



## Senior Spotlights



**Madison Brillos, Mehlville High School**, is enrolling in an apprenticeship program at the General Motors Wentzville Assembly Center following graduation to become an electrician.

*"All of the teachers here have helped me mature. They helped me become more independent and complete all of my assignments on my own this year to prepare me for adulthood."*



**Ankit Goswami, Oakville High School**, is attending Missouri S&T to major in environmental engineering with hopes of working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers following college.

*"I've been really involved with Technology Student Association. That's allowed me to explore different career fields and to determine what I was interested in."*



**Mason Meinershagen, Oakville High School**, is attending the University of Kansas to study art education and to compete on the track and field team.

*"I've taken a lot of art and fashion classes that have given me the opportunity to be creative and express myself. I've enjoyed the classes that are hands on."*



**Ethan Stufflebean, Oakville High School**, is working at Schnucks through the Special School District's Vocational Skills Program.

*"I'm going to be bagging, putting away carts and back stocking. I'm excited because I like being around food and folks."*



**Khamani Collins, Mehlville High School**, is attending Clark Atlanta University to study musical theatre and acting to further the passion he found in performing arts at Mehlville High School.

*"I knew I was interested in singing when I was in middle school. But when I came to the drama center at Mehlville, I started practicing more and was determined to be great at what I do."*



**Lucy Maxey, Mehlville High School**, is studying industrial engineering at Georgia Tech. She's starting college with more credits than many of her classmates because she attended the Early College Academy.

*"During my junior and senior years, I took all of my classes through St. Louis Community College in the Early College Academy. I'm graduating with my high school diploma and an associate degree."*



**Matthew Sippel, Oakville High School**, is attending St. Louis Community College to study culinary arts and hotel-restaurant management.

*"I earned certifications through the South Tech culinary arts class during my junior year, and MyPath has provided me with the opportunity to work a lot of events and gain experience, too."*



**Emily Vassolo, Mehlville High School**, is attending Maryville University where she'll major in nursing with plans to become a nurse practitioner in trauma or pediatrics.

*"I was able to go on rotations in the medical field through my course at STL CAPS. That helped me explore what jobs I'm interested in."*



## It's time to register for the 2023-2024 school year

Enrollment for all grades is open for the 2023-2024 school year. Families of children who turn 5 before August 1, 2023, may register for kindergarten. Registration information can be found at [bit.ly/msdr9enroll](https://bit.ly/msdr9enroll). Call Mehlville School District at 314-467-5000 for help determining your child's school.



Caitlyn Touchette, a kindergarten teacher at Forder Elementary School, works with a student on a writing assignment.

## Free developmental screening available for young children

Families with children ages 3 through 5 can register for a free developmental screening with Mehlville Parents as Teachers.

The screening provides families and early childhood and kindergarten teachers information on how a child is meeting developmental milestones, what skills to expect next and how to best support a child's learning.

"We recommend all families of incoming kindergarten students take advantage of this free screening," said Erin Amador, Mehlville Parents as Teachers and early childhood coordinator. "The information we gather during the screening helps us ensure your child has a positive kindergarten experience with the supports your child needs to reach their potential."



Screenings, called the DIAL-4, take about an hour and are conducted by trained screeners in a play-based environment at John Cary Early Childhood Center. Screenings can also be done at Mehlville Summer Session locations during the school day.

For questions or to book a screening appointment, call Erin Amador at 314-467-5303 or email [amadore@msdr9.org](mailto:amadore@msdr9.org).

## Sights from Mehlville Summer Session

About 2,000 students are getting a boost in their learning by attending Summer Session in June. Summer Session is provided free each year to resident children. Kindergarten students receive a jumpstart on learning what it is like to attend elementary school. Students in grades 1-8 participate in enrichment activities and high-quality instruction to reinforce the curriculum. High school students can recover credits or earn elective credits.





# SUMMER CAMP 2023

**Week 1:** July 3, 5-6  
 Abra-Kid-Abra - Comedy, Bricks 4 Kidz - Minecraft, Chess,  
 Jewelry Creations - Summer Vibes, Little Dental School, Mad  
 Science - Secret Agent Lab, Extreme Sports & Games

**Week 2:** July 10-13  
 Abra-Kid-Abra - Balloonatics, Bricks 4 Kidz - Mario Bros., Chess,  
 Creative Writing, Jewelry Creations, Little Pediatrician School

**Week 3:** July 17-20  
 Abra-Kid-Abra - Animal Tricks, Bricks 4 Kidz - Brick Jungle,  
 Chess, Crayola® - Artist's Passport, Creative Writing, Jewelry -  
 Out of this World, Wilderness Medicine, Mad Science -  
 Underground Explorers, Playground Games

**Week 4:** July 24-27  
 Abra-Kid-Abra - Magic Mystery, Bricks 4 Kidz - Super Heroes,  
 Chess, Jewelry - Under the Sea, Little Veterinarian School,  
 MAD Science - Gross Out Science, Drone Racing 101

For more information or to register for Community  
 Enrichment's Summer Camps: [bit.ly/msdr9ceregistration](http://bit.ly/msdr9ceregistration)

Community Education

# SUMMER •CAMP•

**JULY 3-27, 2023**

**OAKVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MONDAY-THURSDAY**

**HALF-DAY CAMPS FOR KIDS!**

**REGISTER:  
BIT.LY/MSDR9CEREGISTRATION  
OR CALL  
314.467.5280**

## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT *AT THE pool*

- **Swimnastics**
- **Learn to Swim Lessons**
- **Fluid Running**
- **Deep Water Fitness**
- **Water Dance**
- **Kayak Lessons**

## DRIVER'S EDUCATION

SUMMER SESSION  
 \$325/10 CLASSES

**JULY 31-AUGUST 11**

CLASSES RUN MONDAY-FRIDAY EACH WEEK

TIME: 8-11 A.M. (CLASSROOM)  
 11 A.M. -12 P.M. (DRIVE TIME)

**REGISTER ONLINE:  
BIT.LY/MSDR9CEREGISTRATION**

Community Education

## SUMMER COMMUNITY BAND

20  
23

Rehearsals:  
 Tuesdays/Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m.  
 July 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26

Concert:  
 Friday, July 28 at 7 p.m.

**FREE** MSDR9 STAFF

**\$30** STUDENTS/ALUMNI/  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

## Play, learn and GROW with us!

Hapkido Karate      Driver's Education  
 Community Band      Tennis  
 Yoga Practice      Bosnian Language

**[bit.ly/msdr9communityprograms](http://bit.ly/msdr9communityprograms)**

Community Education



## DISTINCTIONS

### Social Studies Teacher of the Year

**Dan Lamping**, social studies teacher at Mehlville High School, was named the Missouri Council of Social Studies High School Teacher of the Year.



**Dan Lamping**



**Dr. Jim Kreyling**

### Top tech advisor

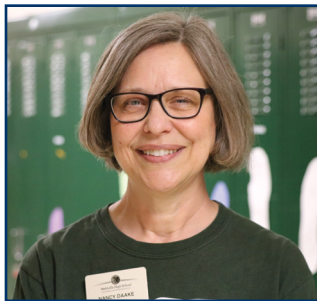
**Dr. Jim Kreyling**, technology and engineering teacher at Oakville High School, received the High School Advisor of the Year award from the Missouri Technology Student Association.

### Building Block

**Nancy Daake**, paraprofessional at Mehlville High School, received the Special School District Building Block Award. This honor is given to paraprofessionals who make a significant impact in their school community.

### Lighthouse Award

**Laura Shelton**, counselor at Mehlville High School, received the Lighthouse Award from CHADS Coalition for being an outstanding partner and advocate for mental health and suicide prevention efforts.



**Nancy Daake**



**Laura Shelton**

### School Bell Award

Mehlville School District Superintendent **Dr. Chris Gaines** received the School Bell Award from the Mehlville National Education Association at the Recognition Night ceremony. He was honored for his eight years of service to the district's students, staff and families.



**Deana McKelvie, MNEA president, and Dr. Chris Gaines**

### Bus safety

The **transportation department** received a perfect score of 100 percent on the inspection of 104 buses by the Missouri Highway Patrol. They also received a 100 percent on the surprise inspection of 30 buses in the fall.

### Library dedication

For the past 21 years, **Bobbie Aldy** has volunteered in the Rogers Elementary School library four or five days a week. Now, the school's library has been named in her honor! Dr. Patrick Keenoy, Rogers principal, requested the Mehlville Board of Education name the library for Aldy at a recent meeting, bringing along 75 persuasive essays from third-grade students about why she was the perfect namesake.



**Bobbie Aldy**

**VIEW MORE DISTINCTIONS:** We're now sharing all student and staff distinctions on our website at [bit.ly/msdr9distinctions](https://bit.ly/msdr9distinctions). Visit now to view more award recipients.

## Field dedication

Oakville High School renamed its soccer/football field "Dave Robben Field at Rodger E. Estes Stadium" in memory of legendary soccer coach **Dave Robben**. In 39 years at OHS, Coach Robben tallied more than 1,100 wins and led both the girls (1991) and boys (2000) teams to state championships.



OHS soccer players hold a photo of Coach Dave Robben during the dedication ceremony. Photo by OHS journalism student Belma Mujakic.

## State Champions



The **Mehlville High School Majorettes** earned first place in dance twirl at the Missouri State Twirling Championships. Team members include: (back row left to right): **Paige Kilper, Amila Filipovic, Miles King, Lilly Burch, Alaina Phillips, Emma Hemmelgarn**, (front row left to right) **Emma Bradford, Lauren Cagle, Kyleigh McCourt, Cadence Hernandez and Hannah Wiszkon**.

### Award-winning student journalists

**Sawyer Bess**, junior at Oakville High School, was one of 10 students from across the state named to the Missouri Interscholastic Journalism Association's All-State Team. This honor is given to students who have proven themselves to be indispensable to their school media team.

Oakville High School's yearbook received two Best of Show awards, the highest honor, at the MIJA J-Day Conference. Seniors **Belma Mujakic, Layla Halilbasic and Hailey Veninga** serve as the yearbook's editors.



**Sawyer Bess, Layla Halilbasic, Belma Mujakic, Hailey Veninga**



### Future leader medalists

Oakville High School senior **Aman Lueker**, junior **Abby Wiedermann** and sophomore **Emery Nelson** received Gold medals in the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State STAR Events competition.



Abby Wiedermann, Aman Lueker, Emery Nelson

### Future health professionals

Mehlville High School seniors **Merisa Celebic**, **Klevis Dajko**, **Paula Dang**, **Lejla Mujkic** and **Aldijana Selimovic** earned first place in their categories at the HOSA – Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference. Junior **Lucy Fister** was elected to the HOSA Missouri State Officer Team as Vice President, beating out 14 candidates from across the state for the role.



Lucy Fister, Paula Dang, Klevis Dajko, Aldijana Selimovic, Lejla Mujkic, Merisa Celebic

### DECA international competitor

**Ella Burns**, senior at Mehlville High School, was a finalist in the Food Marketing Sales category at the state DECA competition and earned a spot at the international competition in June.



Ella Burns



Dylan Kaiser

### Rosemary Zander Award

**Dylan Kaiser**, a second-grade student at Blades Elementary School, received the Rosemary Zander Award from Special School District. Dylan was nominated by his teacher for the empathy he shows his classmates and the hard work he has done to improve since kindergarten.

### Missouri Scholars 100

**Lisa Hang**, senior at Mehlville High, was selected for the Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of the state's top academic students in each graduating class. Selection is based on a formula using the student's grade point average and ACT/SAT scores, while taking into account their involvement at school. Mehlville



Lisa Hang, Ian Furgeson



Jessica Schmidt, Rachel Granda

High senior **Ian Furgeson** and Oakville High seniors **Rachel Granda** and **Jessica Schmidt** were named Missouri Scholars 100 Honorable Mention.

### Biliterate students

Mehlville High seniors **Estephanie Fabian** and **Chau Pham** and Oakville High junior **Dzejlana Hodzic** earned the Distinguished Seal of Biliteracy. This honor is given to students who have demonstrated proficiency in English and at least one other language prior to graduation.



Estephanie Fabian, Chau Pham



Dzejlana Hodzic

### Gold student council

The **Buerkle Middle School Student Council** received the National Gold Council of Excellence award from the National Student Council. They also received the Missouri Association of Student Councils Gold Honor Council Award. These honors are given to student councils with comprehensive programs related to school spirit, community service, student recognition and leadership training.



Buerkle Middle School Student Council students

### Gold-winning singers



Oakville High Choir students earned gold ratings at the State Solo and Ensemble choir competition. Students recognized were (from left to right): **Ellie Dong**, **Nolan Long**, **Ava Chancellor**, **Ryan Lisle**, **Hayden LaChance**, **Maggie Schrader**, **Erin O'Shea**, **Kenzie Christopher**, **Alex Vaughn**, **Sarah Brutton**, **Mackenzie Earney**, **Anna Rohr** and **Mazie Menkhus**. Not pictured: **Logan Knecht**

### Gold-winning musicians



Mehlville High School band students earned gold ratings at the State Solo and Ensemble band competition. Students recognized were: (back row left to right) **Jeff McKay**, **Ashon Crawford**, **Sam Herbig**, **Jacob Herbig**, **Luke Mitchell**, (middle row left to right) **Tyler Langford**, **Jason Rayborn**, **Andrew Freeman**, **Dylan Cross**, **Amelia Hays**, (front row left to right) **Vittoria Cafolla**, **Nejra Sinanovic**, **Carina Monti**, **Sophie Herman**, **Lillian Le** and **Kayla Barrett**. Not pictured: **Ella Burns**



Oakville High School band students earned gold ratings at the State Solo and Ensemble band competition. Students recognized were: (from left to right) **Kolden Lam**, **Kenneth Louvierre**, **Rachael Davis**, **Gavin Wibbenmeyer**, **David White**, **Jared Hasty**, **Matt Sippel**, **Sam Wescoat**, **Riley Hughes**, **Braden Ross**, **JD Niedermann**, **Samantha Brummett** and **Brendan Horn**. Not pictured: **Max Jonak**, **Erena Resuli** and **Luke Roth**