

ECRWSS

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IMPORTANT DATES

Find district event information at mehlvilleschooldistrict.com.

March 14	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
March 15	End of third quarter
March 18-22	No school - Spring break
March 27	Early release for students
April 1	No school - district closed
April 2	No school for students
April 10	No school - district closed
April 11	Board of Education Reorganization Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
April 24	Early release for students
April 25	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
May 16	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
May 27	No school - Memorial Day
May 29	Last day of school
June 3-28	Summer Session
June 6	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
June 19	No school - Juneteenth

Summer learning is in session in June 2024

Mehlvilleville School District's popular Summer Session is back June 3-28!

Explore, discover and achieve in this FREE program for students entering kindergarten through 12th grade.

More information:

bit.ly/msdr9summersession



A Mehlville School District Publication

Mehlvilleville Messenger



Teachers in training

See how a trio of music students are gaining experience in the classroom through the MyPath program on page 1.



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Mehlville Messenger

March 2024

A Mehlville School District Publication

MyPath trio explores a career in music education

Mehlville High School seniors Sam Herbig, Tyler Langford and Luke Mitchell have shared a love of music since middle school. They're now exploring how to turn that passion into a career in music education by using the MyPath program to mentor middle school students.

The MyPath program allows students at MHS and Oakville High School to continue to pursue their interests after exhausting high school course offerings. Students develop their own curriculum, find mentors and monitor their progress throughout the year. Students can work individually or in small groups.

Herbig, Langford and Mitchell all plan to become music teachers, so they used MyPath as an opportunity to gain experience working with students. During the first semester, they visited band students at Buerkle Middle School and Washington Middle School to work on rhythm recognition. They helped middle schoolers learn how to count and clap rhythms before playing them on their instruments.

"It's made me think about how I could differentiate my rhythms and put more accents on notes when I'm playing music," said Gideon Krieg, an eighth-grader at Buerkle Middle School.



Tyler Langford claps rhythms with a Buerkle Middle band student.

The mentorship has been mutually beneficial. Middle school students are improving their playing, while the MyPath trio is learning what skills they'll need to be a successful band teacher.

"It can be really hard to teach ... sometimes the way you learned it isn't the way they're going to learn it," said Herbig. "Practicing teaching and getting a taste of what it's like to teach middle school gives us a great reference of what it's like to be a teacher."

At the end of the first semester, the students made a formal presentation on their progress in music education to MHS and district staff.

In the second semester, the three are shifting their focus to working on pieces individually and in small groups to prepare the middle school students for state solo and ensemble competitions this spring. The work they're doing could have a lasting impact on the Mehlville High School band.

"They're inspiring the future of the band program," said James Hahn, Buerkle Middle School band director. "I think that is even more impactful than learning the notes and rhythms."

They also plan to use the second semester to finalize plans for college by preparing for auditions and applying for scholarships. All three say they have enjoyed their MyPath experience and plan to pursue a degree in music education. They believe the choice to complete their MyPath together has made a difference.

"Working together has kept us accountable, given us more resources and the opportunity to bounce ideas off each other that we wouldn't have had if we had done this alone," said Herbig.

High school students should speak to their counselor if they're interested in the MyPath program. Visit bit.ly/studentchoicemsdr9 to learn more about MyPath and other choice programs like South Tech, St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies and the Early College Academy.

Now hiring!

Mehlville School District has immediate openings for support staff, including school food and nutrition technicians and bus drivers. The district has openings for teachers for the 2024-2025 school year.

Learn more: bit.ly/employmentmsdr9



Celebrating robust opportunities, support for all students

This has been a dynamic and eventful year for the Mehlville School District, and we are thrilled to share our progress and initiatives.

All 13,000 school districts across the nation have faced the continuing challenges brought by the pandemic, and Mehlville is no exception. We see greater mental health needs, challenges to academic performance and reduced student attendance. Yet, in the face of such national headwinds, you can be justly proud of our district's accomplishments under Dr. Jeff Haug's leadership, and we salute our students and staff for their resilience and grit. The Mehlville school community has never lost sight of our goals of academic excellence, good citizenship and robust support for all students.

Educational innovation

Educational innovation has swept through our district, elevating academic standards and providing an impressive array of educational choices for our students. For example, we currently have over 78 different college credit classes on our high school campuses, as well as many other educational career-focused opportunities ranging from business and marketing to family and consumer science, industrial technology, computer science, engineering and biomedical studies. But that's not all. There are more than 27 off-campus opportunities as well. Our pioneering early college program allows graduating seniors to earn both a high school diploma and an associate

degree. The number and type of options available to our students is truly remarkable!

Strategic plan

The district strategic plan, which runs through 2025-26, is our compass for the future. Relying on input from students, staff, parents and the community, the plan outlines our commitment to safe schools, personalized learning, expanded access and opportunities for students, robust staff support, and effective operational systems. The plan keeps us focused on what matters most — safety, high expectations and continuous improvement.

Achievements

The successes we celebrate are a testament to the passion and dedication of our students and staff. Our community's steadfast support through Props R, A, S and E has enabled us to enhance safety protocols, expedite infrastructure improvements, implement efficient instructional systems and introduce personalized learning opportunities. It has allowed us to provide greater resources, more professional development, and competitive compensation for our teachers and staff.

Gratitude

To our students, parents, staff and community, the Board of Education extends our sincere gratitude for your unwavering support. As we approach the end of the school year, we eagerly anticipate celebrating even more collective achievements while embarking on our continued journey to reach new milestones for the Mehlville School District.

District finances receive highest opinion from auditors

Upon review of Mehlville School District's finances for the 2023 fiscal year, auditors from Daniel Jones and Associates issued the district's accounting practices its highest marks, an unmodified opinion, or clean audit.

"The first opinion is on the district's financial statements, in which we issued an unmodified opinion," said Desi Kirchhofer, lead auditor for Daniel Jones and Associates. "This means the audit was a clean audit. That is the best opinion that a district can receive and that we can issue."

"The second opinion we issued is in regards to the district's compliance with the requirements of Missouri's laws and regulations regarding budgetary and disbursement procedures, accurate disclosure by the district's records of attendance and average daily transportation, and other requirements as listed on the schedule of selected statistics. We found the district to be in compliance with state requirements relating to attendance, transportation and these budgetary procedures," Kirchhofer said.

Additionally, the auditors issued an unmodified opinion of the district's compliance with federal awards, the highest opinion a district can receive.

Board of Education

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Tori Behlke, Vice President
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Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
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Assistant Superintendent, Student Services
Dr. Chad Dickemper
Assistant Superintendent, Elementary
Marshall Crutcher, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

The *Mehlville Messenger* is published for Mehlville School District residents and businesses to share district news. For questions or comments, call 314-467-5000 or email messenger@msdr9.org.



Mehlville School District

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.



Improving our middle school opportunities and what I've seen in our schools

Last summer, our middle school principals began discussing ways to improve the schedule and experience for our students in grades 6 through 8. As a district, our shared goal is continuous improvement of our programs and opportunities for students. I am excited to see how we can work together to offer our students even more ways to explore academic pathways and engage in personalized learning.

We are in the process of creating a steering committee, led by Dr. John DeWalle, our director of college and career readiness, to study middle school schedules and options. This committee will recommend changes to the middle school schedule for the 2025-2026 school year. The steering committee will be comprised of teachers, parents and students. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to provide your feedback to help guide the committee's work. The district would love your input, and I encourage you to participate in this process!

What I saw this winter ...

The high levels of everyday learning happening in our classrooms continues to impress me. Our teachers are truly amazing. I've continued to highlight through a staff communication some of the big and small moments I'm privileged to see each day. Here are four highlights I'd like to share with you that represent the things I see in our schools.

I saw the newest way to engage our community for our youngest learners. Parents as Teachers has partnered with Rogers Elementary School to provide a classroom called WonderWorks. It gives our parents the opportunity to bring their babies, toddlers and preschoolers into a "big kid" school to engage with peers in both learning and play. This new space is



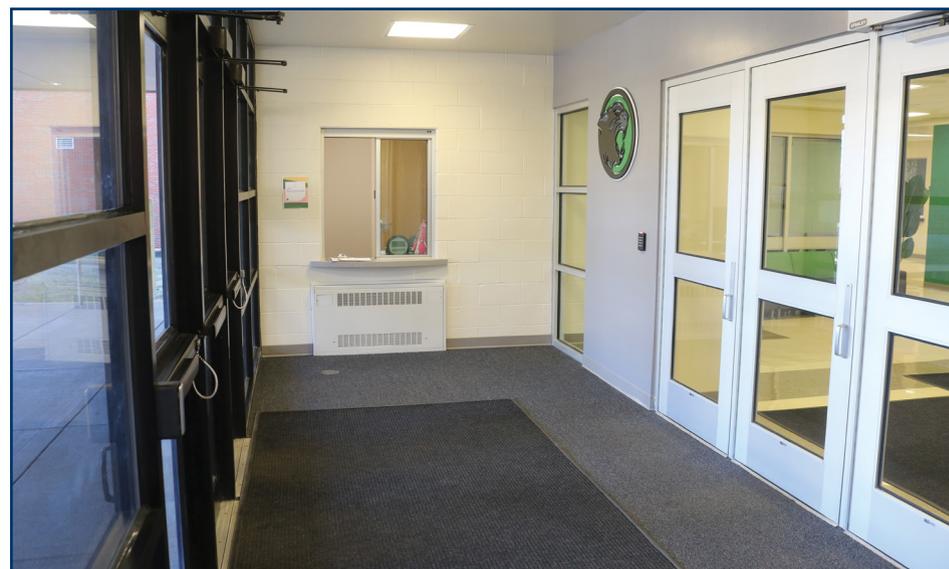
The WonderWorks classroom opened at Rogers Elementary in February. Families involved with Parents as Teachers can make reservations to play at WonderWorks.

creating community among young families and giving our little ones the opportunity to gain confidence and have fun in a classroom. You can learn more about WonderWorks and Parents as Teachers by calling 314-467-5304.

I saw student voices being respected and encouraged at both high schools. Mehlville High School and Oakville High School each held the second round of assistant principal interviews in February, and both had either a student panel or students on the interview committee. Both principals talked afterwards about the amazing insight our students provided to the process. Our students are amazing, and I love the opportunities we give them to be leaders!

I saw some young meteorologists at Washington Middle deeply engaged in their learning. Actually, I saw a group of students outside holding yellow plastic things above their heads while they looked at the sky. Upon investigation, I found out they were measuring wind speed. They told me they were using anemometers, explained to me how wind speed was measured and that the direction of the wind is specified by the direction it is coming from. The really cool part of the lesson is the group was going to four other places around campus to talk about how surroundings and topography could impact wind speed as well.

I've seen construction continue on security entrances throughout our school district. Recently, the security entrances were completed at Mehlville High School and John Cary Early Childhood Center. Security entrance construction is ongoing at Point Elementary School, and will begin this summer at Beasley Elementary, Forder Elementary, Wohlwend Elementary, Buerkle Middle and Oakville Middle. These projects are funded through taxpayer support of Prop S. Thank you for supporting safe facilities!



The security entrance at Mehlville High School is complete.



Mehlville Summer Session

Explore, Discover, Achieve with Mehlville School District

Summer learning is in session in June 2024

Mehlville School District will offer its free Summer Session program for all children entering kindergarten through 12th grade, June 3-28, 2024. Registration opens March 4 for grades K-8 and March 25 for high school at bit.ly/msdr9summersession.

Summer Session for grades 1-8 offers enrichment activities and high-quality instruction that allows teachers to revisit and reinforce the curriculum. Kindergarten students will get a jumpstart to elementary school. High school students can recover credits or earn elective or PE credits.

Elementary School Summer Session

June 3-28, 2024

Summer Session is 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Locations include Bierbaum, Blades and Rogers elementary schools. Before and after care is available from the YMCA.

- **Transportation to Bierbaum** will be provided from Beasley Elementary and Forder Elementary.
- **Transportation to Blades** will be provided from Hagemann Elementary and Trautwein Elementary.
- **Transportation to Rogers** will be provided from Point Elementary, Wohlwend Elementary and Oakville Elementary.

Middle School Summer Session

June 3-28, 2024

Summer Session is 7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Buerkle Middle.

Transportation will be provided from Bernard Middle, Oakville Middle and Washington Middle.

High School Summer Session

Session 1: June 3-14, 2024, and Session 2: June 17-28, 2024

Students can choose morning and/or afternoon classes during all sessions of High School Summer Session. Summer Session will be held at Mehlville High School

Session 1: 7:20 to 10:20 a.m. and 11:20 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Session 2: 7:10 to 10:30 a.m. and 11:10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Virtual options will also be available.



Spend your summer with us!

Elementary and middle school students can choose classes and camps with a focus on magic, chess, science, sports, jewelry, games, art and more!

Registration is OPEN for Community Education's Summer Session and Camps: bit.ly/msdr9commed



Student-organized event highlights the diversity of our community

One of Sahnam Mohabbat's favorite things about attending Oakville High School is the diversity of the student body. She approached the school administration about creating an event to highlight and celebrate the school's multiculturalism.

OHS Principal Brian Brennan loved the idea, and Sahnam began planning an International Culture Day. She first visited every advisory class at OHS to identify students interested in participating.

After compiling the list of students and countries, Sahnam planned an event that included a runway fashion show where students wore authentic clothing and carried flags from their home countries. Several groups of students – and even a few parents – also performed traditional dances in front of a cheering crowd of students and staff.

The countries represented were Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Germany, Guatemala, Iraq, Kurdistan, Mexico, Palestine, Turkey, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. The event was held on November 1, 2023.

“So many people were surprised by the dances and clothing from different countries,” said Sahnam. “It made an impact with people wanting to learn more about other people and their background.”

Sharing cultures with classmates is important to her because of her own experience. Sahnam's parents both came to the United States from Afghanistan, and her family has worked to preserve their traditions. At home, Sahnam and her family speak Dari to keep the language alive. Dari is a dialect of Farsi mostly spoken by Persians. They also cook food, dance and listen to music from Afghanistan.

“Even though I've never been to my home country, I want to keep that part of me always there,” said Sahnam. In addition to planning and emceeding the event, Sahnam also performed an Attan dance with other students from Afghanistan. The dance dates back more than three thousand years and differs depending on the area or tribe. Originally, men would perform the Attan before going into battle. Over time it became a dance performed by both men and women.

Keri Wilson, a French teacher at OHS, sponsors the school's International Club. She believes International Culture Day was important for students' sense of belonging, particularly for those who have recently moved to the United States.



Sahnam welcomes attendees before starting the fashion show.

“It means a lot for them to feel seen,” said Wilson. “A lot of times they're trying to blend in. It's nice for them to be appreciated for their heritage and culture and share that with others and see that others are interested in getting to know them better.”

Sahnam is still weighing her options for after graduation. She hopes to one day be a fashion creative director and is planning to pursue degrees in both fashion and business. Although she is graduating in the class of 2024, she hopes International Culture Day will continue next school year to highlight the diversity at Oakville High School.

Wilson hopes to build on the success of International Culture Day when Mehlville High School and Oakville High School students collaborate to host an International Festival on April 26. The event will include traditional fashion, music and dances, as well as cuisine, games and more.



Above: OHS students from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe perform together during the dancing portion of International Culture Day.

Below: A student performs a German dance with a family member.



Design lab students build new opportunities at their school

You can see the craftsmanship of design lab students throughout Bernard Middle School. Students in this class are improving their school by identifying needs and solving problems through industrial design.

Most recently, design lab students constructed portable stages for the theatre arts class and drama club. After going through the design process, Eric Heuerman's students cut and assembled plywood and two-by-six boards. They also added wheels and handles so the stages could easily be transported where needed. The stages are collapsible and can fold in half for easy storage.

"We talked about framing, the use of power tools like cordless drills and power saws," said Heuerman. "A lot of my students are interested in classes like this because it's something new and exciting to do."

Heuerman's students have helped other classes with necessary items, too. They previously constructed cornhole games and washer boxes for PE classes. They're also working to create wooden seat replacements for stools used in classrooms. Once the plastic seats break, it can be costly to replace. The new wooden seats are less expensive and more durable.

Theatre arts students currently perform in a section of Robert Summers' classroom. He says the new stages are going to improve their performances and let students know that they have the support of others in the school.

"It's the equivalent of putting an assignment on the fridge or in the hallway to elevate it," said Summers. "It shows the woodworking students that they're not just doing this for a grade. They are doing this to help people. It



Students add handles and wheels to the stage to make it easy to transport around school.

shows the people in the theater classes that we are a community of artists and students who can come together and build something better than any of us could by ourselves."

Students like knowing their work is making a difference for their school.

"I like that they're benefiting from the work we're doing," said Claire Jablonski, an eighth-grade student. "It's going to be used for a while."

How to enroll a student in the Mehlville School District

Current school year enrollment is always open for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Parents or guardians should contact the school where their child will attend to enroll a student in the current school year. If you need help determining your child's school, you can use our interactive map at bit.ly/districtboundariesmsdr9 or call Mehlville School District at 314-467-5000.

Enrolling a new student in the 2024-2025 school year

Mehlville School District is moving to a new student information system in the 2024-2025 school year. Due to this transition, enrollment for the upcoming school year will open in April 2024.

Families of new students are encouraged to fill out a "Save My Spot" form at bit.ly/msdr9enroll. Families who complete this form will be invited to enroll when the online forms open in April. By completing this form early, families also help school and district leaders plan for staffing in kindergarten and other grades.

District to upgrade its parent portal/student information system

On July 1, Mehlville School District will switch to a new student information system, called Infinite Campus. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, parents will also have access to a new parent portal to see their child's grades, attendance and other records.

Infinite Campus is the most prominent student information system platform in the United States, serving 2,300 school districts. The district's current student information system, TylerSIS, was purchased by Infinite Campus.

Infinite Campus offers a robust set of features, and enhanced support and security. Parents will access their student's information through a website or through the Campus Parent app. Enrollment and course registration will also be available through Infinite Campus.

The first group of parents to use Infinite Campus will be incoming kindergarten families when they complete their registration in April.





Mehlville School District Report Card 2022-2023

Each year the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) publishes a report card on school districts and schools. Mehlville School District is fully accredited. What follows are highlights from Mehlville School District's report. You can view the complete data on the DESE website at apps.dese.mo.gov/MCDS/home.aspx.

Our Students	Our District	State of Missouri
Number of students K-12	9,815	862,185
Students qualifying for free or reduced-price meals	26.0%	47.4%
Students with limited English proficiency	12.8%	4.3%
Students in Gifted Education	5.2%	4.3%
Students receiving special education services	15.0%	13.4%

Our Teachers and Staff	Our District	State of Missouri
Student-to-teacher ratio	15-to-1	16-to-1
Average years of experience for teachers	14.4 years	13.1 years
Teachers with advanced degrees	79.7%	61.7%

Achievement	Our District	State of Missouri
Four-year graduation rate	93.1%	89.9%
Percentage of graduates entering post-secondary education	73.7%	59.4%
ACT results (Composite score)	20.2	20.1
Percentage of graduates taking the ACT test	83.7%	65.7%

Finances	Our District	State of Missouri
Expenditure per student	\$11,489.45	\$14,002.72
Adjusted tax rate	\$3.6784	\$4.1735

The tax rate above is the 2022 tax rate as reported to DESE. Based on fall 2023 tax rates, Mehlville School District has the 18th lowest rate of 22 school districts in St. Louis County. In 2022, Mehlville had the lowest tax rate in the county. This is historical progress, allowing the district to pay competitive salaries and address facility needs.

Meet the candidates for the Mehlville Board of Education

Ten Mehlville School District citizens have filed their candidacy for four positions on the Mehlville Board of Education. The following information was provided by the candidates for this edition of Mehlville Messenger. District staff do not edit their responses. Visit the [Mehlville School District website](#) to see all candidate responses to the district questionnaire.

Candidates are listed by term and order of filing.

Two-year term candidates (two positions available)

Peggy L. Hassler

Hassler4BOE@gmail.com

I am seeking re-election to the board of education to maintain my commitment to optimizing district resources for a top-tier education while ensuring fiscal discipline and maximizing one of the lowest tax rates in St. Louis and surrounding counties. Priorities encompass academic excellence, security/safety, continuous facility upgrades, and strategic long-term planning aligned with the district's strategic goals. I will persist in formulating policies for overall success, sustaining staff competitiveness, reducing turnover, and enhancing district-wide improvement, while emphasizing foresight in long-term planning for consistent progress and safety of our children and staff.



Hassler

Jean Pretto

emmajeanpretto@sbcglobal.net

In 2014, I was unhappy with the direction the district was going and the motivation of the existing governing board. I am running to promote the benefit of my experience in data-driven, student-first governance and to continue the forward progress that our district has experienced over the last few years.



Pretto

Mike Moore

MMOOREBOE@gmail.com

I have one child about to enter into the Mehlville School District and plan on having a few more in the future. All of the parents I talk to in South County are fed up with the woke D.E.I. agenda being pushed on their children. Even in these tough economic times, with record inflation, they have to spend their hard earned money to send their kids to private schools in hopes of shielding them from government brainwashing. Why did we ever go away from just teaching academics? (Math, Science, Reading, etc).



Moore

Regarding the egregious tax increase forced upon the Mehlville residents, I will vote to roll it back 100% and will work to eliminate frivolous spending, so that we can use the money we have to fund stronger academics and increased teacher salaries.

Bob Mahacek

MahacekForMehlville@gmail.com

I have done volunteer work all of my adult life and sincerely enjoy helping others. In addition, I owned a successful trucking company for nearly thirty years. Seeing first-hand how absolutely critical education is, I believe my life experiences, as well as my ability to work with a wide array of people, would make a positive impact on the District.



Mahacek

Sasha Schmittgens

sasha4mehlvilleboe@gmail.com

I am running for the board as a concerned resident of the Mehlville School District. I believe our district and the board have failed our community, and most importantly, our students. With low academic scores and poor spending among some of the issues our district faces, we need appropriate changes.



Schmittgens

If elected, I intend to listen to parents, students, teachers, and faculty on any issues and voice those concerns to the district leaders and other board members. Given the recent unfavorable tax increase and the community's distrust towards the board due to its choices, it is time for our district and board members, both current and new, to guide our district to a higher standard for our students and community.

Venki Palamand

venki4msd@gmail.com

We need to Improve our academic performance - English, Math, and ACT scores. Currently, Bayless and Fox C6 are higher performing districts in both English and Math. Mehlville needs to do better.



Palamand

Board candidates are on the April 2 ballot

The Mehlville Board of Education election is Tuesday, April 2. For election information, including polling locations and sample ballots, visit bit.ly/stlcountyboe.



Three-year term candidates (two positions available)

Patrick McKelvey

patrickmckelvey.com/contact

When I was a student in our district, Mehlville was forced to make millions in cuts that directly harmed my education. When I returned to the district as a resident, I decided to run for school board to ensure our districts would never be forced to take such drastic actions again. While I am satisfied with the progress that has occurred in my past three years on the board, it is important to recognize that our district can continue to improve. I am running for re-election because I believe every Mehlville student deserves the best education possible that will help them accomplish their dreams. Additionally, I want to provide our staff with what they need to be successful. Finally, I am running as a life-long resident and district graduate that is deeply passionate about our community.



McKelvey

Amy Summers

amysummers4msdr9@gmail.com

As a mom of 4, with 2 currently in the Mehlville School District, I feel that it's important to have more parents represented. I believe that as a parent I can bring a unique perspective to the board because the decisions it makes directly impact the learning and growth of the kids in the district.

I also believe that my experience in accounting and finance will be an asset to help manage the district budget and taxpayer funds, I would vote to roll back the tax increase that was not voted on while still funding strong academics and increased teacher salaries.



Summers

Tori Behlke

toribehlke@gmail.com

I seek re-election to sustain my commitment to our community. Driven by an unwavering dedication to Mehlville students, families, staff, & community, top priorities are: boosting student academic achievement & opportunity, enhancing safety & security for all, while maintaining the fiscal responsibility that keeps the Mehlville tax rate among the lowest in STL county. Acknowledging the overwhelming support of Prop E, I seek to ensure Mehlville remains competitive with other districts, acquiring and retaining top educators and support staff, while partnering with our new superintendent on long-term planning and shared vision for the district. I pledge to continue contributing time, energy, and experience with the goal of further enhancing educational opportunities for all Mehlville students.



Behlke

James L. (Simo) Simokaitis

simo4mehlville@gmail.com

Thirty years ago, we moved to the Mehlville district because of its solid academics and wide range of affordable housing. Since then we have seen significant increases in school district spending while academic performance has plummeted. I am running for School Board because I am tired of sitting on the sidelines watching this continuous downward spiral and wondering what if anything is being done to address it. The time has come to start asking tough questions, to honestly identify problem areas, and introduce innovative solutions that draw from any variety of successful programs. I have the background and temperament that can cut through the noise and begin a much needed turnaround. The foundation is already in place for an outstanding school district. All that is needed is your vote.



Simokaitis

Nominations open for Mehlville School District Alumni Hall of Fame

Mehlville School District's Alumni Hall of Fame identifies and celebrates 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 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, Ethical and Global.

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.

Learn more about making a nomination by visiting bit.ly/msdr9hof.



Photos from around our schools

Reading, math, science, social studies and so much more! Get a glimpse at the learning happening in our schools by following Mehlville School District on Facebook, [facebook.com/MehlvilleSchoolDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/MehlvilleSchoolDistrict), and Instagram, [@mehlvillesd](https://www.instagram.com/mehlvillesd).



Alyssa Drew's principles of biomedical science students at Mehlville High School completed a phlebotomy lesson with Kayla Everding, a 2015 graduate of MHS. Everding is now a nurse at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. She brought phlebotomy arms and taught students how to tie a tourniquet, about needle safety and how to draw blood.



Betsy Leeker's fifth-grade students at Wohlwend Elementary School explored the outdoor classroom in search of leaves. They predicted how long ago a leaf fell. Then they provided evidence for their reasoning.



Eagle Academy students in Abigail Riess' class have been learning about the American Revolution. They researched a significant person from that period, wrote a research paper and prepared a presentation.



Amy Baker's first-grade students at Point Elementary School discussed different ways to make 10. For example, 10 is the answer to seven plus three and 100 minus 90.



Oakville High School Theatre Company took to the stage of Nottelmann Auditorium for three musical performances of "Seussical."

DISTINCTIONS

National Board Certification

Kelsey Steiner, science teacher at Oakville High School, earned National Board Certification, becoming the only current teacher in Mehlville School District to accomplish this feat. This honor reflects a high level of expertise and a commitment to professional development. It also signifies the ability to meet rigorous standards and contribute effectively to student learning and achievement.



Kelsey Steiner

Journalism Adviser

Christina Manolis, the journalism teacher at Oakville High School, received Special Recognition from the Journalism Education Association. This honor recognizes outstanding advisors and their exemplary work from the previous year, as well as throughout their careers.



Christina Manolis

Exceptional Educator

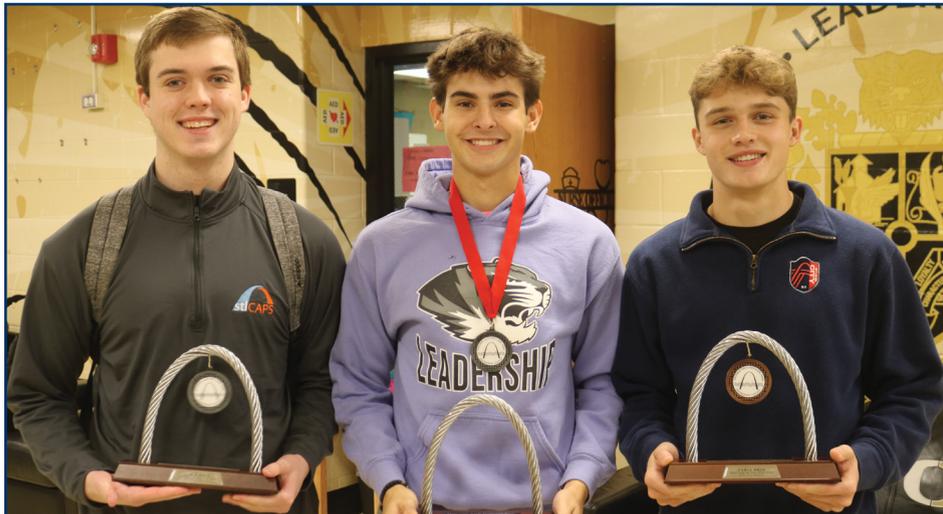
Kaitlin Haarmann, a reading interventionist at Bierbaum Elementary School, received the Exceptional Educators Award from the Affton-Lemay Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes teachers from schools in the 63125 ZIP code for professional excellence in the classroom and their dedication to students.



Kaitlin Haarmann

Student Engineers

Three Oakville High School students placed at the Gateway Arch Engineering Competition with their classmates from the St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies (STL CAPS). The teams were tasked with developing automated ramps and docks that do not require manual adjustments for the daily fluctuation of water levels. **Joey Effinger**, senior, and **Nathan Seyer**, junior, earned second place overall. **Blake Woldanski**, senior, earned third place overall.



Nathan Seyer, Joey Effinger and Blake Woldanski

Softball Star

Morgan Kovach, junior at Oakville High School, was named to the All-State Second Team for softball.



Morgan Kovach



Ethan Venable

Gridiron Glory

Ethan Venable, senior at Oakville High School, was named to the All-State Second Team for football. Ethan was also one of eight Tiger football players selected to the Academic All-State Team.



Tyler Langford



Sam Herbig

All-State Band

Five Mehlville School District students were named to the Missouri All-State Band: Mehlville High School students **Tyler Langford** and **Sam Herbig**, seniors; **Eva Brown**, sophomore; and **Zaide Rosso**, freshman; and Oakville High School student **Rachel Kauffman**, senior.



Eva Brown



Zaide Rosso

All-State Choir

Four Oakville High School students were named to the All-State Choir: **Ava Chancellor**, senior; and **Kenzie Christopher**, **Ian Moore** and **Maggie Schrader**, juniors. **Elina Dzubic**, a fifth-grader at Rogers Elementary School, was also named to the Missouri All-State Children's Choir.



Rachel Kauffman



Ava Chancellor



Kenzie Christopher



Ian Moore

VIEW MORE DISTINCTIONS:

We're now sharing all student and staff distinctions on our website at bit.ly/msdr9distinctions.



Maggie Schrader



Elina Dzubic