



## BOARD MEETING RECAP



**SMSD Story Corps** – As we continue to celebrate 50 years, tonight’s featured SMSD Story Corps story comes from Laura McConwell, alumnae and Shawnee Mission Education Foundation Board Member. [Click here](#) to view SMSD Story Corps stories.



**Shawnee Mission Congratulates National Merit Semifinalists** – Semifinalists from across the district were invited to a reception to be formally recognized for their academic achievement. High school principals, and district leaders attended the reception to recognize the students and applaud them and their family members for their success.

The National Merit Program has named 14 Shawnee Mission seniors as semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. [Click here](#) for news story and student names.



**Students, Families Prepare for the Future at College Clinic** – High School students from across the metro gathered at Shawnee Mission East last week to make future education plans at this year’s Shawnee Mission College Clinic.

The clinic has been hosted for local students for more than 50 years. The event provides an opportunity for attendees to speak with and hear from representatives from more than 200 colleges and universities from across the country.



**National Scholastic Press Association to Recognize SM West Teacher with Pioneer Award** –Amy Morgan, Shawnee Mission West High School journalism teacher, will be recognized with a 2019 Pioneer Award from the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA). The Pioneer is the highest honor NSPA awards to journalism educators.

Morgan is one of seven educators in the nation who will be presented with the honor at the

Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association Advisors Luncheon this November.



**Facilities Forums** – Community members are invited to learn about district facilities planning and needs and provide input for the District Facilities Task Force to review.

The district has hosted four forums at Shawnee Mission East, West, Northwest and South high schools. Tomorrow, Tuesday, October 29, we will host the final Facilities Forum at SM North. This is an open house-style event, where you are free to attend any time between 5 and 6:30 pm.



**The Shawnee Mission Education Foundation Completes Scholarship Announcements** – Last week the Foundation visited SM Northwest and Horizons High School to present seniors with scholarship offers. The Foundation presented more than 1,200 seniors with scholarship offers.



**Broadmoor Bistro Welcomes Homecoming Chef** – The Bistro kicked-off this year's Homecoming series by welcoming SM Northwest and culinary arts graduate, Pablo Munoz. Munoz worked with culinary arts students during the day to prep for the evening, which included passed appetizers and a five-course dinner.

The Bistro welcomed more than 100 guests to the sold-out event. Munoz is the executive chef at Tannin Wine Bar and Kitchen.



**We Care, I Can Food Drive** – Schools across the district will kick off the Shawnee Mission School District's "We Care, I Can" food drive next week. The campaign will run Nov. 4 – 8. Contributions to the districtwide food drive support the Johnson County Christmas Bureau, which helps local families in need.



**Categories** – Categories, the longest running quiz show in the area, kicks off its 2019-2020 season. In Categories, high school students compete to answer questions from art to science and history to current events.

New episodes are broadcast on Mondays and Fridays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. [Click here](#) to find information about program schedule.



**Shawnee Mission All-Stars** were recognized at the October 28 Board of Education meeting. Lauren White and Chris Burns were this month's honorees.

Burns is the lead custodian at Shawnee Mission South High School. [Click here](#) to see a video about Burns.

White is the school psychologist at Brookwood Elementary School. [Click here](#) to see a video about White.

### **Public Comments**

A number of community members, students, and educators spoke to the Board of Education about the issues of reducing class sizes, reducing the number of classes taught by secondary teachers and compensation for teachers.

### **Scholarship Shawnee Mission**

Kimberly Hinkle, Executive Director of the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation, presented a report on their newest initiative, Scholarship Shawnee Mission. The goal is to expand college opportunities by presenting options students may not have considered. The Foundation presented \$737,413,126 in scholarship offers to 1,233 seniors. The Foundation has 27 partner colleges and universities.

Ed Marquez, Program Officer, shared that 85% of seniors opted in to the program. 77% of those who opted in received at least one scholarship offer. The average offer amount of total potential scholarships offered was \$598,064.

### **Update on District Committees and Task Forces**

Brad Stratton presented a revised document for consideration on the Finance and Facilities Committee that includes the Strategic Plan. This committee will begin meeting after December 31, 2019. The board members discussed different aspects and expectations of this committee. Additional information about this district committee may be found [here](#).