



COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

QUARTERLY CONNECTION

SUMMER 2017

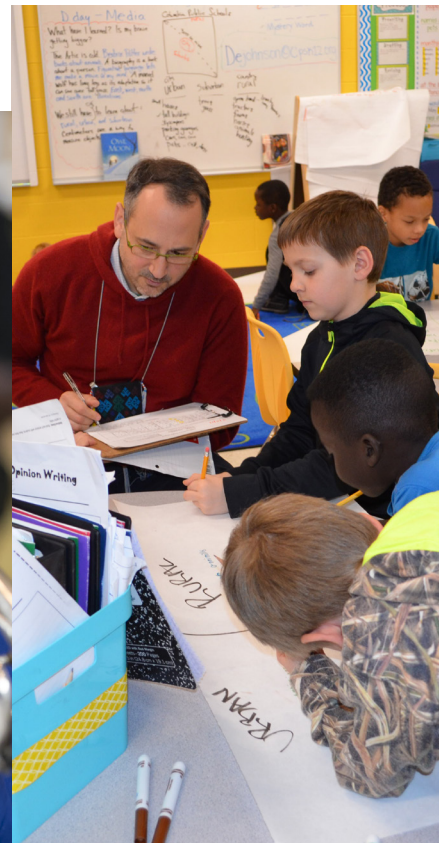
SPRING



WINTER



FALL



MONDAY, AUGUST 14
Jump Start Day (Grades 6 and 9)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
Opening Day of School
(Grades 1-12)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
First Day for Kindergarten

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
Labor Day; school not in session

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Teacher Work Day; school not in session

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17
Teacher collaboration;
2.5 hour early dismissal

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30
Teacher Work Day; school not in session

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Teacher Work Day; school not in session
Parent Teacher Conferences

(Elementary and Middle Schools)

NOVEMBER 22 - 24
Thanksgiving Break; school not in session

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 2
Winter Break; school not in session

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3
Teacher Work Day; school not in session

MONDAY, JANUARY 15
MLK Day; school not in session

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5
Teacher Work Day; school not in session

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Teacher Work Day; school not in session
Parent Teacher Conferences
(Elementary and Middle Schools)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Presidents' Day; school not in session

MARCH 26-30
Spring Break; school not in session

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11
Teacher collaboration; 2.5 hour early dismissal

FRIDAY, MAY 18
DHS and RBHS Graduation

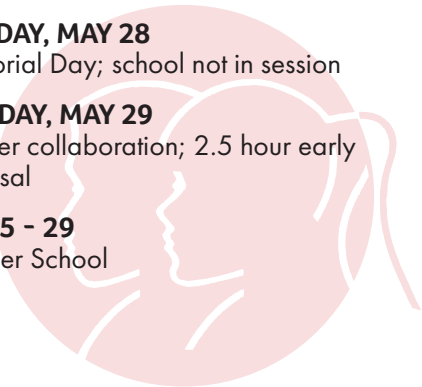
SATURDAY, MAY 19
BHS and HHS Graduation

MAY 21-25, 29
Built-in snow days

MONDAY, MAY 28
Memorial Day; school not in session

TUESDAY, MAY 29
Teacher collaboration; 2.5 hour early dismissal

JUNE 5 - 29
Summer School



BOARD OF
EDUCATION

President
Darin Preis

Vice President
Jan Mees

Members

Paul Cushing
Christine King
Jonathan Sessions
Helen Wade
James Whitt

Superintendent

Dr. Peter Stiepleman

QUARTERLY REPORT is published by the Columbia Public School District as a public service to the parents of school-age children and district residents. The Columbia Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, or use of leave protected by the Family and Medical Leave Act, in its programs, activities, or with regard to employment. The Columbia Board of Education is an equal opportunity employer. Inquiries regarding Columbia Public Schools' compliance with IDEA and Section 504 regulations should contact Special Services at 1818 W. Worley Street, Columbia, MO 65203 (573)214-3462.

Non-profit org.
US postage
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 319

Aslin Administration Building
1818 W. Worley Street
Columbia, MO 65203

COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS' 2016-2017 VALEDICTORIANS

ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



Allison Foster, Rachel Spurling, Chase Heim, John Swift, Zane Durante, Boonakij Palipatana and Dzung Ho Nguyen.

HICKMAN HIGH SCHOOL



Taryn Johnson, Jasmine Jalali, Anna Vaclevek, Ann Lei, Sarah Frost and Dishti Goyal

BATTLE HIGH SCHOOL



Dane Steinhauer, Kathryn Carey, Elaine Miller, Madison Null and Caleb Bavinka.

DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS



CPS GROWS FUTURE TEACHERS AT HOME

According to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), approximately one-third of all teachers leave the teaching profession in less than three years, and almost half of all teachers leave teaching within five years. Columbia Public Schools is working to combat the problem by establishing a pipeline of locally educated and highly effective teachers through the Grow Our Own program.

The program is part of a greater effort to diversify CPS' teaching force. Verna Laboy is a board member and vice president of the Worley Street Roundtable, a local grassroots organization that supports Columbia Public Schools, students and parents. She said she wanted the makeup of CPS educators to reflect the representation of the children they've been assigned to teach. The Columbia Board of Education agreed, and both sides began working on ways to form a more inclusive teaching staff.

"We want more culturally competent educators, but we also want children to be able to see themselves as leaders around the school and the ones doing the educating," Laboy said. "That will not only inspire minority children, but all of our students."

Last summer, CPS Superintendent Dr. Peter Stiepleman wanted to convene people interested in recruiting CPS students to become future teachers for the district, while also enhancing CPS' ratio

of minority teachers. He reached out to Monica Naylor, who previously served as the district's coordinator of multicultural education, to counsel him about her accomplishments in the district, one of which was the Minority Intern program.

Naylor started the program in 1994 and it worked in two phases: high school students worked in classrooms as paid teacher aides during the summer and college students worked in the classroom during the school year. The idea was to introduce students to the teaching profession, as well as potentially persuading college students to change their majors to education. The program saw great success, but eventually ended because of district budget cuts. However, Stiepleman and Laboy saw the potential in resurrecting the internship.

With the help of Naylor, the Worley Street Roundtable and university partners, the district created the Educational Experience Intern program, or EdX. During its inaugural year, Naylor and members of the Worley Street Roundtable interviewed and selected 10 students from a pool of 42 applicants who served as paid interns in various classrooms throughout the summer. Naylor worked with the students and served as a mentor and adviser.

"The students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity and were pleased to work in a professional setting like summer school," Naylor said.

Story continues on next page.

CPS Honors Seven Elite Educators

Columbia Fund for Academic Excellence celebrates 38th year



Rachel Howard

Erin Marbaker

Joy Bess

Jessica Lucas

Erica Bruington

Molly Krueger

John White

Seven Columbia Public School District educators were recognized as this year's Columbia Fund for Academic Excellence honorees.

Since its inception in the 1979-80 school year, the Columbia Fund for Academic Excellence has served to recognize more than 250 educators in the Columbia Public School District. Each year, educators are selected from nominations submitted by parents and peers as outstanding educators. This year's honorees and their respective categories are:

Outstanding Elementary Educator, Grades Pre K-2

Rachel Howard, Rock Bridge Elementary School first-grade teacher

Outstanding Elementary Educator, Grades 3-5

Erin Marbaker, Battle Elementary School third-grade teacher

Outstanding Middle School Educator

Joy Bess, Gentry Middle School social studies teacher

Outstanding High School Educator

Jessica Lucas, Hickman High School language arts teacher

Outstanding Educator in a Specialized Area

Erica Bruington, Oakland Middle School business education and AVID teacher

Outstanding Beginning Teacher

Molly Krueger, Russell Boulevard Elementary School music teacher

Outstanding Administrator

John White, Director of Safety and Security

Honorees received a \$1,500 cash award and an engraved silver tray. The fund began through the work of Ray and Jeanne Lewis, with an initial contribution and extensive fundraising efforts. The late Mr. Lewis was a local attorney and former Board of Education member. Mrs. Lewis is a former teacher and has actively served our community.

SUMMER BOND UPDATE

The Grant Elementary School addition and renovation will be a two-story addition on the south end of the existing classroom wing that will include three general classrooms as well as art and music rooms. The gym at Grant currently doubles as the cafeteria, and the kitchen is in major need of upgrades because it doesn't support the school's mission of fresh food daily. Currently, students get their lunch trays in the main hallway and carry them to the gym to eat. To fix this, the addition will include a new kitchen

and cafeteria, freeing up the gym for physical education activities and assemblies. The recent change in the local building codes requires schools to include storm shelters. The new addition will use the new cafeteria area as the storm shelter for the building.

The new addition will also include an elevator, and an additional elevator will be added to the original building to make it accessible. The existing restrooms, lounge and main office will all be renovated and, in some cases, enlarged to

better accommodate the staff and building users. This includes the addition of a nurse's office, workroom and an adult restroom. The main office entry will be relocated to align with the pickup/drop off loop near the Eco Schoolhouse. The building fire alarm system will be upgraded and a fire suppression system added.

The construction budget is approximately \$5.6 million. Construction is expected to start in June 2017 and be completed by August 2018 in time for fall classes.

Partners in Education Relationships Bolster the CPS Mission

Over the course of 33 years, Columbia Public Schools has seen tremendous achievements by local youth due to the involvement and dedication of partnering businesses. The original nine charter partnerships have multiplied to a remarkable 150 Partners in Education and more than 100 Partnership Friends. These partners include banks, hospitals, architects, veterinarians, grocery stores, media outlets, non-profits, insurance companies and many more. Some notable partnership anniversaries were recognized at a celebration breakfast in early May, including:

Stephens College and Lee Expressive Arts Elementary School

For the past 30 years, Lee Expressive Arts and Stephens College have benefited from exchanging resources, volunteers and immersive opportunities. Music and art experiences form the core of the partnership, and for years Lee students have decorated the Stephens president's home for the holidays, taken classes at the college and had access to special galleries and exhibits. Stephens has sent groups to Lee to perform for students, like the Velvatoners, Stephens' premiere a capella and jazz ensemble, as well as African drumming and dance groups. The college also lends Windsor Auditorium and Senior Hall to Lee faculty and students for graduations, fundraisers and performances.

Story continues at www.cpsk12.org

The Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri and Columbia Public Schools

In 2005, one hungry student unknowingly put in motion a domino effect that now assists 7,500 kids from more than 150 schools in a 32-county area on a weekly basis. Some 1,400 of those assisted are Columbia Public Schools students. When the relationship between CPS and The Food Bank started 20 years ago, it was limited to one school in Columbia. But when this one student resisted going home after school because there was no food in the house, the dynamic forever changed.

The Buddy Pack program was created, which provides students in need with ready-to-eat meals for weekends and holidays. These bags contain kid-friendly nutritional items that often serve as the only food a child receives while not at school. School personnel identify hungry children and send them home with a backpack full of food on Fridays or the day before a school break, oftentimes with extra food to help feed brothers and sisters at home. Once the bag is empty, the student returns it and the process is repeated, as long as necessary.

Story continues at www.cpsk12.org

Missouri Symphony Society and Columbia Public Schools Fine Arts

Columbia Public Schools Fine Arts and the Missouri Symphony Society are celebrating a 15-year relationship. This year, the partnership expanded to allow all CPS third-graders to see a symphony performance of "Peter and the Wolf" at the Missouri Theatre. Prior to the field trip, Missouri Symphony Maestro Kirk Trevor visited each elementary school to teach students about the symphony, as well as various orchestral instruments.

"The field trip generated a positive response and was a well-organized, quality experience. The presentation was thoughtful and engaging and kept students' attention," CPS Fine Arts Director James Melton said. "Nothing recreates the atmosphere of sitting in a theater and watching a symphony performance. Now the students can talk about instruments in class and all have a common experience seeing that instrument being played."

Story continues at www.cpsk12.org

NW Rotary Club of Columbia and West Boulevard Elementary School

"Service above self" is the mantra of Rotary International, and the Northwest Rotary Club of Columbia fully embodies that mission in its partnership with West Boulevard Elementary School. In 2012, Northwest Rotary Club joined the Partners in Education program with a proposed focus on mentoring and spending time in individual classrooms to support both students and teachers. In the five years since, that partnership has become an indispensable part of life at West Boulevard—Rotarians can be found in classrooms every two weeks, reading to students, helping with projects and assisting teachers during work days.

Story continues at www.cpsk12.org

Continued from previous page.

At the end of the summer, Stiepleman looked at ways to market these students to local colleges and get them scholarships so they could become teachers. The EdX internship became part of a larger initiative, CPS' Grow Our Own program. The district created a "Game of Life" template, which outlines the steps from birth to post-college to engage and embed curriculum that honors teaching as a profession, as well as involving students and parents with different organizations like Worley Street Roundtable, MAC scholars and AVID. This year the EdX internship is doubling in size, expanding to 20 student interns.

After meeting with the presidents of Columbia and Stephens Colleges, the schools arrived at an agreement that would give EdX students scholarships in order to help advance the pipeline of locally educated students. Columbia and Stephens agreed to finance the portion of tuition not covered by FAFSA, while students will work for a portion of their room and board fees by volunteering 10 hours a week in CPS classrooms throughout their college careers. The students are essentially given full scholarships and are guaranteed CPS teaching jobs after graduation, as long as they fulfill all requirements.

This year, CPS has three graduating seniors who want to be teachers and worked as EdX interns. Hickman High School seniors Consolee Mbabazi and Tyus Monroe will attend Columbia College, while Rock Bridge senior Nautica Varnum will attend Stephens College.

"For a long time we've been trying to figure out how to diversify our teaching force and this is one way to do that," Stiepleman said. "This isn't the only answer, but it certainly is a sustainable one in the sense that these are local kids who we believe will be great teachers and it's pretty exciting."

DESE says 60 percent of teachers in Missouri live twenty miles from where they grew up, so even if students leave Columbia after four years, Stiepleman and Naylor are hopeful that these students will eventually move back home to work for CPS.

"We certainly hope students go on to college and come back to become teachers, so it will reflect the diversity of Columbia and Columbia Public Schools," Naylor said. "Our community needs to represent diversity, but also show the importance of having minority faculty and staff for all students in our district."

NEWS YOU CAN USE

RBHS students earn state culinary competition honors



The Culinary Arts Department at the Columbia Area Career Center is proud to announce that four students participated in the Missouri SkillsUSA State competition. These Rock Bridge High School students spent countless hours practicing and preparing for the event.

Sam Ventrillo – 2nd place Culinary Arts (RBHS Junior)

Alli Bond – 3rd place Culinary Arts (RBHS Senior)

Tyra Byas – 3rd place Commercial Baking (RBHS Senior)

Andy Maguigad – Competitor Commercial Baking (RBHS Senior)

Alli and Andy will be attending the University of Missouri-Columbia in the fall. Tyra will be attending the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY. Sam will be returning to Rock Bridge High School and the Columbia Area Career Center for his senior year.

Gentry student competes in geography national championship

Rohan Rao, a seventh-grader at Gentry Middle School, is the 29th champion of the Missouri Geographic Bee, sponsored by National Geographic. Rao advanced to compete in the national championship competition in Washington, D.C., which was held in mid-May.

Students qualify for competition after taking an oral and written test submitted to National Geographic.

Students with the top 100 scores enter the state competition. The goal of the competition is to keep an appreciation for geography and the environment alive among students in grades 4 through 8.

The national winner earns a \$50,000 scholarship, a lifetime subscription to National Geographic magazine and a free trip to the Galapagos Islands.