

COLUMBIA

PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

SPRING | 2014

# Quarterly Report

COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Assistance League Awards \$99,000 for CPS Enrichment

From books to software, field trips to iPads, the Assistance League of Mid-Missouri has spent more than 20 years awarding grants to Columbia Public Schools' teachers, supplementing some specific needs and expanding the learning spectrum for students across all schools and grades.

This year, the Assistance League awarded \$99,000 covering 185 grants. A recipient of two of those grants was Dustin Frieda, a first year music specialist at Benton STEM Elementary School.

"As a first year teacher I heard from other teachers how helpful the Assistance League and its grants can be," he said. "Our building applies for a lot of grants and as a STEM and Title I school, we often need to supplement."

One of the Assistance League grants made it possible to use the 14 violins that Frieda already had, but had just two bows for. "The grant paid for bows, stands, music and smaller supplies. We can now use 14 violins at a time, which makes us the only elementary school with strings."

Luke Robison, music and PE teacher at Lee Elementary School, had been included in other grants and seen them work in other classrooms. This year he was awarded a grant that allowed him to buy 25 ukuleles and tuners.

"It is ideal," he said of the grant. "150 kids will use them - that's 50 percent of the entire school. Instruments and technology can really be out of the normal budget. Sometimes it takes outside assistance like what the Assistance League can bring."

Links to Learning is a program of the Assistance League of Mid-Missouri designed to pro-

vide support to the Columbia Public Schools for school enrichment programs, enabling teachers to provide

classroom enrichment activities for which they do not have funding. Money is raised through donations, its Cookie Connection program and Upscale Resale, the league's clothing, accessories, furniture and more resale store on West Broadway in Columbia.

As a first year teacher I heard from other teachers how helpful the Assistance League and their grants can be.

- Dustin Frieda



## COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten registration will be held on **March 13, 2014, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** This event provides an opportunity for children entering kindergarten and their parents to meet kindergarten teachers, visit a classroom, and complete the school registration process. All parents of fall 2014 kindergarten students are encouraged to attend Countdown to Kindergarten and register their child.



## ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE AT BATTLE HIGH SCHOOL GIVES ARTIST'S TALK

Battle High School has been awarded a Missouri Arts Council grant to work collaboratively with the City of Columbia's Office of Cultural Affairs. The grant funds an artist-in-residence project that allows Kansas City sculptor Beth Nybeck to work with school art specialist **Jody Spriggs** and lead multiple sessions of students from the Art 1: Foundations class through the process to create her style of sculpture. The residency will create a permanent piece of art to be installed at Battle.

## HICKMAN STUDENT NAMED FINALIST IN SIEMENS COMPETITION

Hickman High School senior **Mingu Kim** won the Region Five Team Category of the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, held at MIT. Mingu and his partner, Aaron Argyres, a senior at Clayton High School in Clayton, Mo., share a \$6,000 scholarship for their project, entitled *Increasing the Proliferation Rate and Inducing Osteogenic Differentiation of Dental Pulp Stem Cells with Graphene/Poly (4-vinylpyridine Composite Substrates)*.

## GENTRY STUDENT WINS MOST 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH ESSAY CONTEST

State Treasurer Clint Zweifel joined the MOST-Missouri's 529 College Savings Plan College Savings Month essay contest winner **Laura Scoville** at her school, Gentry Middle School. Scoville's work was selected from among entries from across the state in the MOST 529 essay contest. Her essay discussed how she has not yet determined what she wants to be, but she knows higher education will play a major role in her future. The Treasurer presented her with a check symbolizing the \$529 that will be deposited in to her MOST 529 account.

## BENTON EARNS STEM GRANT

Benton STEM Elementary School has received a \$5,000 Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant. The grant, written by **Jake Giessman** from the district's Gifted Education Center, is a joint project with high school gifted students to create an outdoor Math Garden. The garden will create additional outdoor learning spaces for students at Benton STEM.

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXCEL AT DISTRICT CHOIR COMPETITION

Columbia high school students participated in the Northeast Missouri District. These students auditioned and participated in one of two choirs (9-10 or 11-12). During this event juniors and seniors are eligible to audition for the Missouri All State Choir which will convene in 2014 at the annual Missouri Music Educators Association Conference and In-Service. Congratulations to the following students and their directors: Hickman High School, Director **Matt Felts**; Trinity Dixson, Soprano; **Lydia Rautman**, Alto; **Allie Wolfe**, Alto; **Berkley Roloff**, Tenor; **Matthew Straw**, Tenor; and **William Fandek**, Bass. Rock Bridge High School, Director **Mike Pierson**; **Karina Kitchen**, Soprano; **Jonathan Crader**, Bass; **Harrison Keithahn**, Bass; **Madi Mertz**, Soprano-2nd Alternate; **Emily Mertens**, Alto-1st Alternate; and **Nick Hardeman**, Tenor-2nd Alternate.

## ROCK BRIDGE ELEMENTARY TO BUILD TRACK

Rock Bridge Elementary School has reached its goal through grants, donations and pledges to build a track on the east side of the playground. A track is needed on school property due to its location near two main highway intersections and the lack of pedestrian walkways near the area. Boone Electric,

MFA Oil Foundation, various community partners and parents have donated money to make the track possible. Construction will begin as soon as the district completes an updated HVAC system on site.

## RUSSELL BOULEVARD PRINCIPAL EARNS HONORS

**Ed Schumacher**, principal of Russell Boulevard Elementary School, has been chosen as the Distinguished Principal by the Northeast Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals. In addition to this award, Schumacher was also presented with the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health Award for his work with the school's runners club, as well as encouraging adults to run and bike.

## CPS STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS AT NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

The Columbia Public Schools' Agriculture Program has again achieved the highest honors at the 86th National FFA Convention held in Louisville, Ky. One team placed first and one team placed second—in the nation—and all students participating received scholarship awards for their performances. Students **Carson Banks**, **Kira Kirk**, **Austin Wallace** and **Isabelle Mitchell**, with team advisor **Larry Henneke**, were crowned national champions in the Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event. The team of **Lainyn Kerley**, **Rachel Kirchhofer**, **Kassie Rankin** and **Michelle Ross**, with team advisor **Kevin Duncan**, placed second in the National FFA Poultry Evaluation Career Development Event. All team members placed in the Top 10. Ross placed third, Kirchhofer fourth, Rankin placed sixth and Kerley placed tenth.

## CPS GRADUATES RECEIVE FFA AMERICAN DEGREES

Three Columbia graduates **Ben Carpenter**, **Andrew Perry** and **Cooper Martin** received the FFA American Degree, which is the highest award given to an individual in FFA and must be earned after high school graduation. All three graduated from Hickman High School.

## HICKMAN YEARBOOK EARNS GOLD MEDAL

Hickman High School's *Cresset* yearbook has been named a gold medalist winner through the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The association critiques yearbooks, and based on the total score of the critique, awards medals. Gold medalist yearbooks receive the highest scores possible in the critique. The yearbook is now eligible to enter the Crown Awards, which names the best yearbooks in the country. **Susan Jenn** was editor-in-chief of the book.

## HICKMAN STUDENT NAMED SEMIFINALIST IN NATIONAL SCIENCE COMPETITION

Hickman High School student **Ashwath Kumar** has been named a semifinalist in the Intel Science Talent Search for his independent laboratory research on the effect of bacterial quorum sensing molecule N-3-oxo-decanoyl-L-homoserine lactone on human pancreatic carcinoma cells. Only 300 students are announced as semifinalists each year.

## 19 CPS STUDENTS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS

Nineteen Hickman and Rock Bridge high school students have been named Commended Scholars through the National Merit program. The students are, from Rock Bridge High School, **Stephanie Bonham**, **Emma Briggs**, **Bridgette Crawford**, **Salah Daghlis**, **Amanda Eaton**, **Kelsey Harper**, **Urmila Kutikkad**, **Josephine Miller**, **Breta Phillips** and **Andrew Selva**; and from Hickman High School, **Rachel Brenner**, **Eli Byerly-Duke**, **Anne Carter**, **Dylan Hosmer-Quint**, **Payal Khengar**, **Jacob Muchow**, **Matthew Peterson**, **Lydia Ratuman** and **Andy Sun**.

## Board Member Retires After Seven Years of Service



I have enjoyed my experience. It opened up my mind.

- Dr. Tom Rose

After serving the Columbia Public School District for seven years as a school

board member, Dr. Tom Rose has decided not to run for re-election.

"I just want to move in a different direction and focus on the private practice I have," Rose said of his veterinary practice. "And this is an opportunity for others to have a chance at serving."

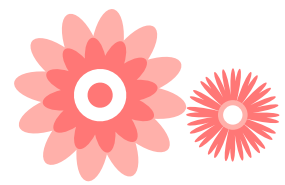
Rose looks back at his time on the school board fondly, recalling the tough fiscal challenges the district faced when he started his term. "When I began, we were in different financial times. It has been nice to see that get turned around. We also hired a new superintendent, which was an exciting time." Rose also points to work done to support early childhood education as an ongoing high point of his time serving.

Upon joining the board, first by appointment in 2007 and then by election in 2008, Rose had to learn that it takes the cooperation of the complete seven-member board, and although everyone might not completely support every decision, they must work together to support whatever the school board as a whole decides.

In addition to his veterinary practice, Rose will still be involved in Columbia Public Schools, particularly in the Cradle to Career initiative.

"I have enjoyed my experience," Rose said. "It opened my mind; but we always knew it was best to have the students as the driver for whatever we were trying to accomplish."

## 2010 Bond Projects Near Completion



Work stemming from Columbia Public School's 2010 voter-approved \$120 million bond issue is coming to an end, as the final project, a domestic water line replacement at Parkade Elementary School, is ready to be bid out.

A roof project that will replace all or part of the roofs at New Haven Elementary School, Gentry, Jefferson and Lange middle schools will continue this summer. Also set for completion this summer will be air conditioning projects at Jefferson Middle School, New Haven and Rock Bridge elementary schools. With the air conditioning project's completion, all of the district's schools will have air conditioning.

The elementary school next to Battle High School is around five percent complete and on track for a fall 2015 opening. Projects at Hickman High School are moving along, with the combination baseball/softball field around 90 percent complete and on track for a spring completion. The tennis courts are 75-80 percent complete for their June finish date. The parking lot is virtually complete with just minor items left and the wrestling

room is 35 percent complete and set for completion by the start of wrestling practice on August 1. The construction of the gyms at both Hickman and Rock Bridge High School is also complete.

### 2012 BOND PROJECTS - \$50M BOND

- Transportation facility and site upgrades – Environmental and facilities improvements continue through the winter for completion in August
- Design work for Shepard Boulevard and West Boulevard elementary schools expansion: architectural designs have been completed for the building additions; work at Shepard starts July 1 for December 2015 completion – will displace 12 trailers; work at West starts in September for January 2016 completion – will displace six trailers
- Early Childhood Center on Lange Middle School property: design work this summer for 2017 opening
- Southwest elementary school: the district has contracted to purchase property at the corner of Scott Boulevard and Route KK; design work, with input from the City of Columbia and Boone County, is underway and the school is set to open in 2016





## Miss Missouri Says “Get Involved”

Gentry Middle School had one of its own come back for a visit this winter, and while some school visitors have with them a briefcase or clipboard, this visitor had two items not usually seen – the sash and crown denoting her as Miss Missouri 2013.

Shelby Ringdahl returned to one of her alma maters to talk about her time as a student. She left the students with two words that have guided her success – “get involved.”

“I have been so successful because I was so involved,” Ringdahl told the student body. “Find something you love to do and get involved in that.”

Since leaving Gentry Middle School as a seventh grader in 2005, Ringdahl moved on to Rock Bridge High School and then Texas Christian University (TCU). At both schools she studied musical theater, listing her career ambition as “to perform on Broadway.”

In September she got close – at least geographically – to Broadway when she competed in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, N.J. She placed in the top 12 at that event; her personal platform is to help abused and neglected children. She has been traveling since the pageant, taking the year off of school to focus on the 300-or-so appearances she will make as Miss Missouri 2013.



## Fairview Teacher Wins Presidential Award



Fairview Elementary School's fourth grade teacher, Ragan Webb, is just one of 102 teachers nationwide to earn the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She is one of only two recipients from Missouri.

“Winning the Presidential Award is an honor not only for me, but for all of the people who have mentored and supported me, allowing me to be the teacher I am today. It is through collaboration and the hard work of many that I have been successful. Teaching is my calling and it has allowed me to share my passion for science with my students, and I will continue to strive for excellence in science education. I am truly honored by this recognition,” Webb said.

Webb has been an educator for 15 years and has spent the past 11 years in Columbia Public Schools. Prior to joining the staff at Fairview, she was a science specialist for Columbia Public Schools. Webb has a Bachelor of Education Studies and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Missouri. She is certified in first through sixth grade elementary education.

As a part of the award, Webb will go to Washington, D.C. and meet the president. She will also receive a \$10,000 prize.

Teaching is my calling and it has allowed me to share my passion for science with my students.

- Ragan Webb

# COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Facility and Bond Plan

The 10-year plan, developed with community engagement, determines priorities based on an evaluation of each building's ability to support current and future programs.

### APRIL 2010

**\$120 million bond (no tax increase)**

**Issued: June 11 \$41m, June 12 \$33m, February 14 \$46m**

#### Projects and projected completion dates:

- » Battle High School *(August 2013 - completed)*
- » Gyms at Hickman and Rock Bridge *(August 2013 - completed)*
- » HVAC projects *(August 2014 - work in progress)*
- » New northeast elementary school *(August 2015 - work in progress)*
- » Technology infrastructure *(August 2015 - work in progress)*
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs *(August 2014 - in progress)*

### APRIL 2012

**\$50 million bond and 12-cent debt service levy increase**

**Issue: February 2014**

#### Projects and projected completion dates:

- » Battle new southwest elementary school *(August 2016 - design in progress)*
- » New early childhood center *(August 2017 - design begins 2014-2015)*
- » Technology *(August 2014 - work in progress)*
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs *(August 2014 - work in progress)*
- » Transportation facility improvements *(August 2014 - work in progress)*
- » Kitchen expansions and renovations *(August 2015 - work in progress)*
- » School building additions *(August 2015- work in progress)*
- » Kitchen expansion *(August 2015 - work in progress)*

### APRIL 2014

**\$50 million bond and 4-cent debt service levy increase**

**Issue: March 2016**

#### Projects:

- » New elementary school, east side
- » Technology infrastructure
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs
- » School building additions
- » Douglass and Rock Bridge high schools renovations

### APRIL 2016

**\$40 million to \$50 million bond (estimated – no tax increase expected)**

**Issue: June 2018**

#### Projects:

- » New or renovated instructional space to accommodate growth
- » Technology infrastructure
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs

### APRIL 2018

**\$40 million to \$50 million bond (estimated – no tax increase expected)**

**Issue: June 2020**

#### Projects:

- » New or renovated instructional space to accommodate growth
- » Technology infrastructure
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs

### APRIL 2020

**\$40 million to \$50 million bond (estimated - no tax increase expected)**

**Issue: June 2022**

#### Projects:

- » New or renovated instructional space to accommodate growth
- » Technology infrastructure
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs

### APRIL 2022

**\$40 million to \$50 million bond (estimated – no tax increase expected)**

**Issue: June 2024**

#### Projects:

- » New or renovated instructional space to accommodate growth
- » Technology infrastructure
- » Roofs and other critical facility needs



# BOND ELECTION UPDATE

## Questions & Answers

### Dates to Remember

**March 12 – Voter Registration Deadline**  
**April 2 – Last Day to Request an Absentee Ballot**  
**April 7 – Last Day to Vote Absentee**  
**April 8 – Election Day**

*The Columbia Board of Education has called a special election on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 to submit a proposal for a \$50 million bond issue with a 4-cent debt service levy increase to Columbia voters. The bond issue proposal requires 57 percent approval.*

#### Q. What is the amount of the proposed bond issue and debt survey levy increase?

A. \$50 million. The bond issue proposal will require a 4-cent debt service levy increase in order to pay off the bond debt over an 18-year time span. Debt service is one of four funds included in the school district's tax levy. The fund is used to pay principal, interest and fees on outstanding bond issues.

#### Q. What is the difference between a tax levy and a bond issue?

A. By law, bond issues only provide funds for new construction, renovation of existing facilities, technology and the purchase of equipment. Tax levy funds are used to pay for operation costs such as salaries, benefits, materials and supplies.

#### Q. How will the funds be spent?

A. The \$50 million bond will address three main areas:

- BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS** - \$14.5 million will be used for building improvements in more than 30 buildings, including:
  - \$5.5 million for repair and replacement of building foundations, HVAC systems, restrooms, kitchens, exterior paving, electrical systems, locker rooms and bleachers;
  - \$2.7 million for roof replacements;
  - \$4.4 million for improvements at Douglass High School including HVAC, electrical and fire suppression systems, restrooms, exterior maintenance, locker rooms, elevator and chair lift for ADA accessibility;
  - \$1.9 million for improvements at Rock Bridge High School including replacement of field lights, concession stand and restrooms for athletic facility code compliance
- CONSTRUCTION** - \$31.3 million will be used for new construction, including:
  - \$28.6 million for a new 650-student elementary school in east Columbia including the purchase of land and necessary technology and furniture;
  - \$2.7 million for additions to elementary schools to address continued community growth and eliminate trailers
- TECHNOLOGY** - \$4 million for building infrastructure, servers and storage networks
- BOND FEES** - \$200,000 will be used to pay for costs associated with bond funding.

#### ESTIMATED COST OF A 4-CENT DEBT SERVICE LEVY INCREASE TO A HOMEOWNER

Actual Value of Home	Actual Cost	Monthly Cost
\$100,000	\$7.60	\$0.63
\$150,000	\$11.40	\$0.95
\$200,000	\$15.20	\$1.27

### COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL FACTS

#### Did you know...

- Student enrollment has increased by more than 1,700 students in the last 10 years; another 1,000 students are projected over the next five years.
- 17,905 students PreK-12 are enrolled, making CPS the 5th largest school district in Missouri.
- This year the school district has eliminated 30 trailers. In 2012, there were 153 trailers in use; today there are 123 in use, housing 18 percent of all students.
- There are 34 school buildings and 3 support facilities.
- The district maintains 3.14 million square feet of building space and 1.9 million square feet of roof space.
- More than half the buildings are 40 years or older.
- Only two of our schools are less than 10 years old.



#### Q. Why is there a need for these items?

A. The Board of Education has adopted facility goals based on an evaluation of district facilities. These goals include reducing overcrowding in schools, including reducing the number of trailers; improving the physical and learning environments in all facilities; and increasing the functional life and efficiency of facilities.

#### Q. Why now?

A. Requesting approval to access bond funds now will allow for further long-range planning. The 10-year long-range facilities plan allows for approximately \$40 million of bond funds every two years. The 4-cent debt service levy increase will allow the district to continue to request bond funds every two years without additional debt-service levy increases. Failing to move now will put the district further behind in addressing growth and building needs. Should this bond issue proposal be approved by voters, funds will not be used until 2016, but necessary planning can begin immediately.

#### Q. Is there a long-range plan for facilities?

A. Yes. The plan development included community engagement to determine priorities; an evaluation of each building's ability to support current and future programs; and an engineering study of the physical condition and energy efficiency of our buildings. Based on these studies, the planning committee made recommendations to the Board of Education to address school facilities in this bond proposal. The district also plans to present another no-tax-increase bond proposal of approximately \$40 million to voters in 2016 to continue with implementation of the long-range facilities plan and the elimination of trailers.

#### ESTIMATED COST OF A 4-CENT DEBT SERVICE LEVY INCREASE TO A BUSINESS OWNER

Actual Value of Business	Actual Cost	Monthly Cost
Per \$100,000 Actual Value (\$32,000 Assessed Value)	\$12.80	\$1.07



# 2014 Summer School Programs

WWW.COLUMBIA.K12.MO.US

## PROGRAMS AND DATES ARE:

### JUNE 9 - JULY 3

- **Columbia Summer SUNsations** offers free summer school sessions for students entering kindergarten through eighth grade.
- **Citizen Jane 1** (June 9-20) and **Citizen Jane 2** (June 23-July 3) are offered to female students entering 7th-12th grade. **Fashion: Trends to the Runway** (June 9-20) is offered to female students entering 7th and 8th grades. Both are collaborative programs offered on the Stephens College campus. Students explore concepts of film making as well as creating their own fashion designs. New this summer is a Driver Education course teaching the foundations of responsible driving.
- **Gifted Education (EEE)** for grades 2-5 (elementary), and 6-8 (middle school)
- **Special Education Extended School Year (ESY)**
- **Early Childhood Special Education**

### JUNE 11 - JULY 9

The **Secondary Summer School High School Credit** program is available for Columbia Public Schools students entering ninth through 12th grades. This program offers opportunities for credit advancement and credit completion and includes a variety of online as well as classroom course options.

### JUNE 9 - AUGUST 1

**FUN City Youth Academy** is a continuing community partnership serving minority students over the course of an eight week program.

### JUNE 9 - JUNE 18

**Boys & Girls Club of Columbia** partners with Columbia Public Schools to offer part-time CPS summer school curriculum (math, science, social studies, and writing) and part-time Boys & Girls Club programming. Participating students will attend at the new building location on 1200 N. 7th Street.

### JUNE 9 - JULY 25

The **Columbia Area Career Center Summer Camp for Youth** is a tuition-based program for youth ages 10 to 15. No camps the week of the 4th of July.

### JUNE 9 - JUNE 26

The **Columbia Summer Enrichment Preschool** is a tuition-based program available for students between the ages of three and five. This is the first of two sessions.

### JUNE 23- JULY 2

**Arts Explorers' Fine Arts Camp** - Derby Ridge Elementary. This camp is for select elementary students entering grades 4-5.

### JULY 7 - JULY 18

**Secondary Choral and Instrumental Music** - choir, orchestra and band courses for secondary music students entering grades 7 - 9.

### JULY 7 - JULY 24

- The **Columbia Summer Enrichment K-8** program is a tuition-based program for students entering kindergarten through grade 8. During this three-week session, students participate in courses selected from a wide variety of offerings.

- The **Columbia Summer Enrichment Preschool** is a tuition-based program available for students between the ages of three and five. This is the second of two sessions.

### MAC SCHOLARS SUMMER PROGRAMS

**2014 MAC Scholars Honors Summer Academy** is a live-in academic experience at the University of Missouri for entering 10th grade high potential minority students. JUNE 8 - JUNE 20

**MAC Scholars First Time AP Students** - JULY 7 - JULY 9, Location TBD

**Summer Expedition** is a four-week program for high-potential minority and/or free or reduced-price lunch students who are not being served by gifted services. JUNE 8 - JULY 3

The **MAC Scholars High School Transition Academy** is a collaborative day camp experience offered in collaboration with the University of Missouri to improve study habits and increase minority student Advanced Placement enrollment. All minority students who are entering 9th grade are invited to take part. JUNE 17 - JUNE 19 at Battle High School and Hickman High School and JUNE 23 - JUNE 25 at Rock Bridge High School

**MAC Scholars Transition To Middle School** - (Rising 5th) - 3 day camp, JULY 1 - JULY 3 at Lange and West middle schools

The **Anytown Leadership Institute for High School Youth** (9-12- limited to ten participants) is a collaborative partnership with the National Conference for Community and Justice of Metropolitan St. Louis focusing on student leadership to help address issues of social justice in our community and our schools. JULY 11 - JULY 20 at University of Missouri-St. Louis

### BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL CARE

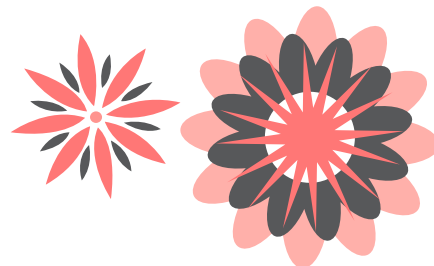
**Adventure Club** is an extended day program for school-age students delivered by the University of Missouri College of Education. It provides a supervised before- and/or after-school program during Summer Sunsations, June 9- July 3. There are additional sessions available as a full day program that run throughout the month of July. This tuition-based program requires a non-refundable registration fee for enrollment.

### A+ TUTORING

Opportunities for tutoring in summer school may be arranged for secondary students enrolled in the A+ program. Tutor training is in late April, with assignments to programs made in May. A+ students should contact the A+ coordinator in their building for additional information.

### ADDITIONAL SUMMER PROGRAMS

Information regarding summer camps/programs sponsored by various organizations, colleges and universities is often available in school guidance and/or principal offices.



# Quarterly Report

COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## District Donates to Honor Flight: Gentry Middle School Far Exceeds Goal



**Gentry students Anna Bess and Katherine Dudley, along with Jefferson City students, present check at the December Honor Ball**

The Gentry Middle School Jaguars challenged its student body to raise \$1 per student for the Central Missouri Honor Flight, an organization the district has supported for a handful of years, which transports veterans to Washington, D.C. to see their war memorials. Meeting that goal would have raised around \$900, enough money to send three veterans on the trip. The students and their families went far beyond that goal, raising a total of \$5,558.31 - the biggest portion of the approximately \$15,000 the district as a whole donated to the Honor Flight program this year. That

\$15,000 is enough to send 50 veterans on the trip.

"We encouraged the students to ask their families about veterans they might have in the family and write that veteran's information on a star, which we placed on our star wall," said Joy Bess, social studies department liaison at Gentry. "We had thousands. We had the wall totally filled within two weeks and I think that helped them talk about veterans and maybe pushed the donations."

Two Gentry students helped to present the check from the district to the Central Missouri Honor Flight at the Honor Ball held in December. Bess says the school is talking about having Gentry students among the crowd to welcome the veterans home after the next flight on May 13.

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