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ACHIEVEMENT | ENRICHMENT | OPPORTUNITY



Learning & Teaching in Harmony







ELIOT BATTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dedication Ceremony



olumbia Public School District's newest addition was officially unveiled this spring, as Eliot Battle Elementary School was dedicated and opened its doors to the community, staff and students who will call it home beginning this fall.

Battle Elementary School was built in the northeast portion of Columbia to address growth in that specific area and in the district as a whole. "Earlier this week I had the opportunity to talk to Rock Bridge seniors and Hickman seniors," said Superintendent Peter Stiepleman. "When they entered kindergarten there were 16,400 students in Columbia Public Schools and now we have 18,000 students as they are graduating."

Built with a total cost of around \$20 million, Battle Elementary is named for Dr. Eliot Battle, who worked in the Columbia Public School District for 35 years. The school has a capacity of 400-450 students and could be added onto to accommodate up to 650 students. It occupies land adjoining Muriel Battle High School, named for Battle's wife, and dedicated a few days before his death.

"The Battles helped really build bridges in this community, and we are so grateful to be naming these schools after them," Stiepleman said.

"As a product of Grant Elementary, as a product of West Junior High School and Hickman High School, I am a product of Columbia, Missouri, and I am so absolutely honored, as my sisters are, for this moment of time we have here," said Dr. Eliot Battle Jr., son of Eliot and Muriel Battle. "I am forever grateful to

Columbia, Missouri, for what they have done for our family.

"This school that you have created here is my father. The foundation is strong, unraveled by winds. That was my father. The school is built with books and knowledge and my father was such a learned man. And this school is built to teach, and that is my father. He spent his lifetime teaching. My father's soul loved Columbia, and you have loved him back. We are forever grateful and thankful for that. On behalf of my family, we are forever honored. Sincerely from our hearts and souls, thank you very much for this wonderful honor."



Bond Update: Schools Make Progress

Bonds approved by the voters in April of 2010 have been fully spent and this spring the district issued the bond funds approved by voters in April of 2012. Those funds are being used for a handful of big projects:

- West Boulevard Elementary School addition -\$5,225,000, expected completion December
- Shepard Boulevard Elementary School addition -\$5,815,000, expected completion December
- Beulah Ralph Elementary School construction -\$18,530,000, expected completion June 2016
- Early Childhood Learning Center \$9,950,000, expected completion December 2016
- Lange Middle School kitchen \$2,100,000, expected completion September 2015



Beulah Ralph Elementary School



Shepard Boulevard Elementary School



West Boulevard Elementary School

HIGHLIGHTS

ROCK BRIDGE STUDENT WINS STATE WRITING COMPETITION

Rock Bridge High School student **Dayna Linneman** won first place in the Missouri State Invest Write competition sponsored by National Economic Council and SIFMA (Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association). The Invest Write competition requires a student to explain the concepts learned in the classroom through the investing unit by writing a 750-1,000-word essay. Linneman successfully explained her logic in choosing certain stocks, bonds, and mutual funds that earned her first place for the State of Missouri. Her instructor, **Susan Lidholm**, submitted her essay on her behalf.

COLUMBIA FFA GRASSLANDS TEAM FINISH FIRST IN CONTEST

Congratulations to Columbia FFA Grasslands team for finishing first at the 16th Annual Mid-America Grasslands Evaluation Contest. This event teaches integrated use and management of grassland resources. It is sponsored by the Missouri Forage and Grassland Council in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation, University of Missouri Extension and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Along with placing first overall as a team, three individuals also placed in the top three spots with their scores: First place individual-Rory James, second place individual-Joe Ege and third place individual-Kassie Rankin. The team is coached by agriculture instructor Meridith Haley.



Pictured, left to right, are team members Rory James, Joe Ege, Kassie Rankin and Asa Linneman

BATTLE STUDENT RECEIVES SHELTER FOUNDATION/MAC SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP

Battle High School senior **Kyra Moss** has been awarded the 2015 Shelter Foundation/MAC Scholars Scholarship. The \$2,000 scholarship was presented at the MAC Awards Ceremony held this year at Battle High School. Kyra plans to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia. The scholarship criteria require the student to be in good standing with the MAC Scholars program, including: enrollment in honors and advanced placement courses, maintain a strong grade point average, maintain a minimum 95 percent attendance rate, participate in community service, and be attending a two-or four-year post-secondary institution.

SUPERINTENDENT EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION AS A READING RECOVERY ADVOCATE

Columbia Public Schools superintendent **Peter Stiepleman** is being awarded the 2015 National Reading Recovery Award. This award, presented by the Reading Recovery Council of North America, is bestowed annually to exceptional advocates of Reading Recovery. Award recipients must show an exemplary commitment to the high standards of Reading Recovery and the expansion of Reading Recovery and make significant contributions to Reading Recovery beyond the local level.

ROCK BRIDGE JOURNALISM RECEIVES STATE AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Rock Bridge High School journalism department has received a number of state and federal awards during the

ROCK BRIDGE STUDENT NAMED 2015 Presidental Scholar

or the second year in a row, Rock Bridge High School has a student named a Presidential Scholar. Michele Yang won the award this school year, one of just two students in the state to be honored as a Presidential Scholar.

Yang received the invitation to apply in February and was not aware of the honor prior to that time. "I had to text my friends to ask whether it was a legitimate award!" Yang said. Winning the award also came as a surprise, starting with a teacher's knowing question.

"I actually first found out through my teacher, Mrs. Kathryn Fishman-Weaver, who I put down as my most influential teacher on the application. I was sitting in study hall in her room and she asked me if I got an e-mail. I was really confused, but she's really bad at hiding her happy/surprised face, so I figured it was something good. Then I remembered that the finalist list was supposed to come out and googled the Presidential Scholars website and I was on the list! My main feeling was surprise because I did not really expect to receive the award!"

Yang has taken 15 AP exams at Rock Bridge, the most of any of Fishman-Weaver's students. Her accomplishments are already accumulating for a recent high school graduate. "She spent a year studying abroad in China," Fishman-Weaver said of Yang. "This year she contributed to two feminist research projects at the University of Missouri. Findings from the first study were presented at a graduate symposium and a segment of the second project aired on KBIA."

Next year, Yang will attend the University of Missouri-Kansas City and enroll in the six-year BA/MD program where she will major in chemistry for two years and then become a medical student.

"She has both the intellectual capacity and compassionate drive needed for this difficult path," Fishman-Weaver said of Yang and her career goal. "I know Michele is committed to equity and I am excited to see how this value plays out across her career. In short, I am filled with hope for the world Michele and her friends will shape."

She has both the intellectual capacity and compassionate drive needed for this difficult path.

Kathryn Fishman-Weaver





GRAND TETON ADVENTURE

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

ver the course of three weeks, 435 Columbia Public Schools students and staff members visited the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks in Jackson Hole, Wyo., as part of the district science department's partnership with Teton Science Schools. Divided into three one-week stays at the Grand Teton Park, students in grades 6-12 actively explored and investigated the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the geology of the Tetons, fire ecology, and the history of the glaciers. The students also visited the geysers and wildlife at Yellowstone. Beyond exploring science, students also developed teamwork, leadership, problemsolving and communication skills as part of their experience.

This is the third year the Grand Teton experience has been offered to students, and nearly 2,000 students have been able to participate in the adventure. District Science Coordinator Mike Szydlowski, who brought the opportunity to the school district, continues to look for ways to expand the learning for students. As the program has grown, more advanced learning is offered to students who may be attending for their second or third time. In order to attend, students must apply and be accepted. Selection criteria are based on a student being in good standing, effort and overall citizenship. The cost of the trip is \$790 per student. Fundraising opportunities and scholarships are offered to students to offset or cover the cost.

To learn more about the adventure visit www.cpsgrandtetons.com.







HIGHLIGHTS

2014-2015 school year, including the Online Pacemaker Award for Bearing News. The Online Pacemaker Award is the highest honor offered by the National Scholastic Press Association

HICKMAN TAKES THIRD IN STATE SCHOLAR BOWL COMPETITION

Hickman High School's academic team placed third in the MSHSAA State Scholar Bowl competition at the University of Missouri. The winning team included Jackson Atkins, Alex Harmata, Wenzer Qin and Amanda Sun. Harmata was second and Qin was eighth in individual awards. Harmata also was the third-place State All State competitor.

WEST TEACHER RECEIVES AWARD FROM SHELTER INSURANCE

Chris Hysong, a math teacher at West Middle School, has received a \$2,000 Outstanding Contributor Award from the Shelter Insurance Foundation. Shelter Insurance is West Middle School's partner in the Columbia Public Schools' Partners In Education program. The Outstanding Contributor Award is presented each year to a faculty member of West Middle School in observance of Columbia Public Schools' Partners In Education Week. The honor recognizes an instructor who has made a significant contribution toward furthering the role of education. The award recipient is nominated by students and parents and is selected by the West staff.

CACC DECA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION RESULTS

Columbia Area Career Center marketing students made their mark at the DECA international competition held in Orlando, Fla. More than 18,000 of the best marketing students from the U.S., Canada and other countries competed in the six-day event. **Ana Tager**, Hickman High School sophomore, finished in the top 10 in Principles of Hospitality and Tourism event. She competed against more than 150 individuals to take one of the top spots. **Lily Burns**, Hickman senior, medaled for having a role play in the top percentile for the competition. She competed in the Human Resources Management event. The Career Center's DECA sponsors are **Pete Eichholz**, **Scott Fuenfhausen** and **Anne Hickman**.

WEST TAKES SECOND IN REGIONAL ACADEMIC TOURNAMENT

West Middle School competed in the Spring Invitational Tuscumbia Academic Tournament. Team D, with Ben Edidin, Alec Hume, Evan Loehr and Isaac Stiepleman placed second out of 16 teams regionally. For most questions answered out of 65 total competitors, West had the following individual winners: William Xie, first place; Isaac Stiepleman, third place; Grace Gomez-Palacio, fifth place; and Danny Saab, ninth place.

HICKMAN WINS SECTIONAL SCHOLAR BOWL TOURNAMENT

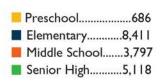
The Hickman Academic Team defeated Holt High School to win the Class 4 Sectional MSHSAA Scholar Bowl Tournament. The winning team included Jackson Atkins, Alex Harmata, Wenzer Qin and Amanda Sun.

CAREER CENTER STUDENTS WIN COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT

Columbia Area Career Center students in the Geographic Information Science (GIS) program have won a \$20,000 Skill-sUSA/Lowe's 2015 community service grant. A self-sustaining watering system will capture rainwater from the roof of the building and will supply necessary water for the Culinary Arts garden. A rain garden will be created for water overflow and a new walkway on the north side of the building will be installed. GIS students chose this project to improve their school community.

STUDENT FACTS

Enrollment







Special program enrollment

Adult education	3,310
English Language Learners	988
Gifted education	1,613
Parents As Teachers children served	1,682
Special education	1,859
Career education	2,280

Demographics

White	62.4%
Black	19.9%
Asian	5.4%
Hispanic	6%
Multi	
Indian	0.4%
Students eligible for free	
and reduced-price lunch	42.86%

STAFF FACTS

Staffing ratios

Students to all teachers	13 to I
Students to administrators	
Students to classroom teachers	
Teachers	
Full-time equivalent (FTE)	1,299
Average salary (includes extended contra	ct, career
ladder and extra duty pay)	
Columbia	\$47,916
Missouri estimate	
Average years of experience	
CPS	11.9
Missouri	
Teachers with a Master's degree or highe	er
CPS	
Missouri	

Administration

Principals, assistant principals, directors, supervisors,
coordinators, central office staff (FTE)118

Average Salary	
Columbia	\$85

Columbia	
Missouri estimate	

STUDENT SUPPORT

Secretaries, aides, food service, guidance, transporta-
tion, security, PAT, nurses, mental health, custodians,
technology staff (FTE)890

FINANCIAL FACTS

*Figures are projected pending closing of the 2014 – 2015 fiscal year.

Total revenue (projected).....\$305.05 million

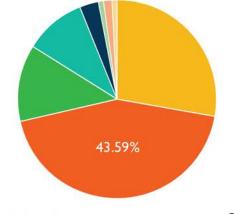
Projected sources of revenue	
Local	48.70%
Intermediate	0.6%
State	19.57%
Federal	4.97%
Bonds	23.43%
Other revenue sources	2.72%

Total expenditures.....\$251.64 million

Average expenditure per pupil	\$10,488
Student attendance rate (K-12)	94.7%
Volunteers	12,079
Volunteer hours	302,771
Dollar value of service	\$6,984,927

HOW FUNDS WERE USED

Incidental fund	28.04%
Teachers fund	43.59%
Capital projects	12.29%
Debt service	
Nutrition services	3.2%
Student extracurricular fund	0.7%
Grants & donations	1.39%
Adult education	0.78%



Property tax rate	5.4239
(per \$100 assessed val	uation)
Tax levy uses	\$1.8413 operating fund
	\$2 600 teachers fund

\$2.600 teachers fund \$.9719 debt service fund \$0.0736 capital fund

WHERE DO GRADUATES GO?

College	76.1%
Employment	
Post-secondary	
Military	
Other	

College Enrollment

76.9% of the district's students attend college or a postsecondary institution compared to 68% statewide.

MEASURES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Columbia's students continue to perform well on formal standardized tests and the school district is fully accredited by the state of Missouri.

MSIP 5/APR

This was a year of continued transition for the state accreditation process and the system of testing and student performance. A new state accountability system, MSIP 5, is being used to accredit school districts this year. The accreditation process looks at continuous improvement of Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) test scores, ACT, completion of advanced courses, career education placement, graduation and attendancerates and subgroup achievement when determining accreditation status. Columbia Public Schools is fully accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Additionally, 2014 MSIP5/APR results indicate Columbia Public Schools and individual schools are showing growth from previous years. However, of note is the persistent gap in achievement among the demographic subgroups.

MAP/EOC Performance

MAP tests are also in continued transition. While the test form changed, the new assessment model is still in transition to the Common Core Standards model. The new tests, administered this school year, will assess student mastery of the new standards and will replace the current MAP in grades 3-8. Results from the new testing model will be available in the fall of 2015. Common Core Standards is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers to establish a shared set of curriculum standards in mathematics and language arts. Common Core Standards are not curriculum. Curriculum is determined locally.

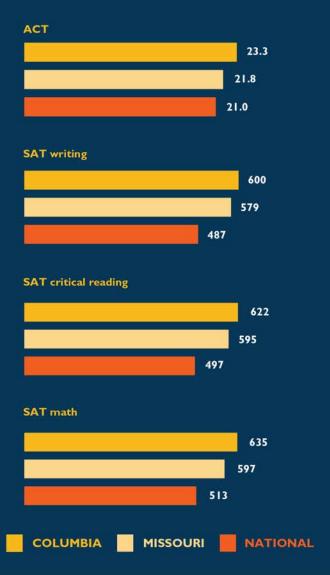
American College Test (ACT)

Columbia students' average ACT scores exceeded state and national averages on all assessed areas. Approximately 73 percent of the district's students take this college-admissions test each year.

Advanced Placement Exams (AP)

The number of Columbia high school students taking AP exams continues to grow. More than 2,500 students took AP courses. Students took a total of 1,774 course exams with 74.3 percent earning AP credit.

STUDENTS SURPASS National Averages



CONGRATULATIONS GED Graduates

hanges were the theme for the 2014-2015 school year for the Adult Education and Literacy program, as it moved out of Douglass High School and into the Columbia Area Career Center and the main test changed from the GED to the HiSET. What did not change was the dedication of the students in the program to earn their high school equivalency.

Sixty-nine students graduated this year from the program, but over 700 students are served by the Adult Education and Literacy program. Graduations can happen over the course of the school year and 15 of the graduates from 2014-2015 took part in the graduation ceremony.

"We had a 79 percent pass rate, which is above the 75 percent federal goal," sad Barbie Banks, coordinator of the Adult Learning Center. "And that is with the test changing this year from the GED to the HiSET." "We have students who need their high school diploma for their job, or students who are ELL (English Language Learners) and some who are doing it for personal growth."

In that last category are the two ladies Banks calls "the Evelyns", Evelyn Lee and Evelyn Paige. They did not graduate this year, but as two of the oldest students at the center, "the Evelyns" won the outstanding student award in the first year the award was handed out.

"They are outstanding academically, but not reaching their diplomas quite yet," Banks said of the two Evelyns. "For being two of the oldest students, we all find them inspiring."

The Adult Education and Literacy Program will have an orientation for next school year on August 24 at 8 a.m. and noon at the Family Impact Center, located at 105 E. Ash St.



ACHIEVEMENT, ENRICHMENT, OPPORTUNITY

Vision

Our desired future state

To be the **best school district** in the state.

Mission

Why we exist

To provide an **excellent education** for all students by adhering to our organizational goals.

Purpose

What we do

To be a *valuable asset* for our community by preparing our children so that they will be competitive in our ever-changing, unpredictable world.

Values

The non-negotiable principles that guide us

- Honesty
- Teamwork
- Adaptability

- Focus on what works
 - Mutual respect
- Positive approach

- Transparency
- Persistence
- Commitment

5

CLASS OF 2015 Leaders Speak



I think Columbia Public Schools has provided me with a lot of opportunities to grow and also develop my interests. They just gave me places where I could develop my talents and learn what I wanted to do. A lot of people have been an impact in my time here at CPS. The teachers, administrators and all the people I have come in contact with have definitely helped me along in my journey. - Alexia Adeshakin

I would like to thank my family and teachers who have helped me along the way. - *Iaura Perry*

I have been in the district since kindergarten and I have met some good people and had some really good teachers - Alyse Heaston

I would like to thank my parents and teachers who have given me the extraordinary opportunities to succeed at Hickman. - Junyi Wu

I really appreciate the CPS gifted program. They helped me get here today. - Jett Ballou-Crawford

I have had an enjoyable time here at Rock Bridge and I owe it all to my parents, my friends and my teachers. I would not be here without all of them. - Emily Vu

I really enjoyed the opportunities Columbia Public Schools presented us with - the Career Center, AP classes. I think it really helped me grow as a learner and a person. - *Robert Schmidt*

I'd like to thank all of the wonderful teachers I have had here. - Theron Howe

I really enjoyed my time here at Rock Bridge because there was a diversity of classes we could take and a lot of great club activities we could participate in. - Alp Kahveci

I think CPS and Rock Bridge in particular have really prepared me for my future so I am really grateful that I got to go to school here. - *Delaney Tevis*

Hickman High School Valedictorians



Front row, from left: Natalie Wigger, Wenzer Qin, Laura Perry and Alyse Heaston // Back row, from left: Molly Vornholt, Emelyn Piotter, Gabriel Gassmann and Junyi Wu

Rock Bridge High School Valedictorians



Front row, from left: Sarah Freyermuth, Suryanshi Rawat, Joseph Reneker, Saja Necibi, Prarthana Patel and Jett Ballou-Crawford Back row, from left: Madeline Mueller, Emily Vu, Theron Howe, Delaney Tevis, Alp Kahveci and Robert Schmidt

Battle High School's First Graduate



Alexia Adeshakin



Douglass High School's 2015 graduating class. The 110 graduates marks the largest graduating class in the history of the school.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION PROGRAM

Local Businesses

he Partners In Education program, which began with nine charter member business partners, celebrated its 31st year this spring. The Columbia Public School District program brings schools and local business together to enrich the experiences of the students. More than 250 businesses are involved.

Partnerships can be district-wide or specific to one school or to one department, such as the district's fine arts or athletics departments.

In the five years that Junior Achievement has been a Partner In Education with Columbia Public Schools, the partnership has grown to most of the elementary schools and has career programs in the middle schools as well. "The Partners In Education program has been a big help to Junior Achievement," Allbritton said. "When we have a business volunteer, we ask if they already have a Partner In Education and if they do, we have an automatic fit. The Partners In Education program has been a great way for Junior Achievement to get volunteers into schools. Partner In Education businesses are always very accommodating and I never have had them not try and help."

Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company has been a partner with Gentry Middle School for 20 years and has deep roots with the school.

"We have had job shadowing, taught classes, taken part in career days, things like that," said Shirley Johnson, public affairs program manager for MEM. "We have been doing it for many years now and we are always reminded of how important it is."

Bill Moore, plant manager at 3M, is looking into expanding his company's PIE relationship. Already a partner with Shepard Boulevard Elementary School, it's looking at partnering with Benton Elementary School, a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) school, as well.

"We are looking at how our engineers can be involved in after-school clubs at Benton. It has been very rewarding for us as an organization and as individuals. Teachers have special perspective and we are able to bring some of that back to our organization."

GG

Teachers have special perspective and we are able to bring some of that back to our organization.

- Bill Moore





HIGHLIGHTS

HICKMAN TAKES FIRST IN DISTRICT SCHOLAR BOWL TOURNAMENT

The Hickman High School Academic Team hosted and won first place in the Class 4, District 8 MSHSAA Scholar Bowl Tournament. The winning team included Tejaz Ajit, Jackson Atkins, Alex Harmata, Wenzer Qin and Amanda Sun. Harmata placed second and Atkins took fifth in the individual awards. Other team members who staffed the tournament were Stephen Bunch, Sam Lange, Dinis Trindade, Franziska Weston and Adam Xu. Dr. Ginny Lennon served as a moderator.

TWO MILE PRAIRIE EDUCATOR NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Tami Ensor, Two Mile Prairie Elementary School's media specialist, has been named Citizen of the Year by the Columbia Elks Lodge #594. Ensor, who also completed her doctoral degree earlier this year, was recognized for her service and leadership in the community.

HICKMAN STUDENT WINS AT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Hickman High School student **Wenzer Qin** excelled at the Regional Intel Science and Engineering Fair. She placed first in the category Molecular and Cellular Biology, and second for Best of Fair overall. Her research is entitled "On the Molecular Basis of Cystic Fibrosis; The Criticality of the Position of Phenylalanine 508 in the Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator."

CAREER CENTER STUDENTS SELECTED CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

Columbia Area Career Center seniors Michelle Algya, Digital Media (Heritage Academy); Madison McDonnell, Marketing (Rock Bridge High School); Andrew Mott, Agriculture (Hickman High School); Nicholas Putting, Computer Programming (Hallsville High School); and Nicholas Voney, Construction Technology (Battle High School) have been named Northeast/Central Missouri Region Career and Technical (CTE) Exceptional Students of the Year. They were selected from among all candidates nominated by public Missouri Career and Technology Centers throughout northwest and central Missouri. The CTE Regional Student of the Year award process recognizes outstanding career and technical students for proven commitment to academics, career path, and community.

WEST SWEEPS STATE PROBLEM SOLVING BOWL

West Middle School swept the Missouri Future Problem Solving State Bowl at Battle High School, with three firstplace rankings and a team which is headed to the International Future Problem Solving Bowl this summer. West had four teams qualify for the state bowl out of 16. Two of West's teams earned first place rankings in the skit and writing portions respectively. Brody Asbury, Stella Heflin, Katherine Neff and Michael Zou took first place out of eight teams in their division of the skit portion of the competition, and Keatin Butler, Rachel Edidin, Kaitlyn Hartnagel and Ben Lewandowski took first place out of seven teams in their division of the skit portion. Brody Asbury, Stella Heflin, Katherine Neff and Michael Zou took first place out of 15 teams for the writing portion. Students analyzed a future scene, acting as "system analysts" to break down the problems, come up with the overall underlying problem, devise criteria for solutions, and then create an action plan for carrying out the best solution. MFPS teams are given only 120 minutes to complete this entire creative problem solving process. The skits that were performed were an enactment of these action plans. Students have been preparing for this competition since October in EEE classes at West with their coach and EEE teacher, Heidi Barnhouse.