Mehlville Messenger

June 2025

A Mehlville School District Publication

Promises kept:

Every school in the Mehlville School District has a safer entrance

With the completion of the new security entrance at Trautwein Elementary School in March, every school now has a safer entrance thanks to our community's support of Prop S.

Prop S, a zero tax rate increase bond issue, was approved by voters in April 2021 to fund projects to improve student safety and accessibility and complete deferred maintenance without increasing the tax rate. The promised work included making schools safer by creating security entrances at all of our schools.

In their previous configurations, visitors had immediate access to the entire school after being buzzed in through the exterior doors by office staff. In some cases, like Forder Elementary School and Oakville Middle School, staff didn't have a line of sight to the front doors, and visitors could access hallways and stairwells before ever speaking to a staff member.

That is no longer the case. After being buzzed in through exterior doors, visitors now enter a secure vestibule that includes a second set of locked doors. They must provide identification and be screened by a staff member before they can enter the rest of the building.



Blades Elementary School visitors enter this secure lobby and provide identification to office staff before gaining access to the rest of the building.



In addition to a safer entrance, a new library and six new classrooms are being added at Bierbaum Elementary School to account for a growing school population. This work will help avoid redistricting.

At schools like Hagemann Elementary School and Mehlville High School, the secure vestibule was created by adding a window and a locking mechanism to an already existing second set of doors. At schools like Rogers Elementary School and Oakville High School, a second set of doors was added to funnel visitors directly into the office. At Forder Elementary School, Bernard Middle School and Oakville Middle School, a new office was constructed at the front entrance. The office at Washington Middle School was moved to the lower level of the building to improve accessibility, while in one of the largest projects, the front entrance at Blades Elementary School was relocated to the opposite end of the building.

> **"We are so thankful to have had our community's support in making our schools more secure."**
>
> ***- Dr. Jeff Haug, Superintendent of Schools***

In addition to security entrances, Prop S also funded heating, cooling and ventilation upgrades, restroom renovations and additions, roof replacements and other projects.

Only two items remain on the Prop S checklist. Construction is ongoing at Bierbaum Elementary School on a new library and six new classrooms. Bierbaum is the district's fastest-growing school in terms of student population. This construction will allow the district to avoid redistricting, which would have impacted families across the district. This summer, crews plan on installing an elevator at MOSAIC Elementary School. Individuals needing an elevator currently have to exit and re-enter the building to move between the first and second floors and do not have access to the building's top floor.

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT: Peggy Hassler

Celebrations and progress



On behalf of the Mehlville Board of Education, congratulations to the Class of 2025! We're so proud of everything you've achieved and even more excited to see where life takes you next, the futures you'll shape and the difference you'll make.

To our students, families, staff and community members – thank you for making this another remarkable year. Your support, dedication and partnership are what makes Mehlville a strong, vibrant and caring district.

This year, we reached an important milestone: Every school in our district now has a secure front entrance, an essential safety improvement made possible by our community's support through Prop S. These enhancements reflect our ongoing commitment to the well-being of every student and staff member.

After another successful year, we would like to recognize the incredible work of every Mehlville School District employee. Whether you're ensuring students arrive safely each day, preparing meals, maintaining our facilities, offering essential healthcare, leading schools, teaching in classrooms, or supporting the many daily operations that keep our district running – your dedication drives our collective success. We are deeply grateful for the commitment you show every day.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Mehlville community. Your support, especially through the passage of Prop E, has made it possible for us to enhance employee compensation. This investment allows us to continue attracting and retaining the dedicated professionals who have such a meaningful impact on the lives of our students.

Looking ahead

Throughout the year, the Strategic Plan Steering Committee has been actively gathering input to shape Mehlville's next five-year Strategic Plan. We appreciate everyone who has participated and strongly encourage continued community feedback in the months ahead. Numerous opportunities to get involved will arise, and your participation is vital to this important process. We sincerely hope you will lend your voice.

Looking toward 2025-2026, we invite families to visit our website for updated calendars and back-to-school information. We're excited to welcome everyone back in August for another successful year.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We appreciate your continued support and wish you a safe, restful and awesome summer!

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Jeff Wolman, Secretary
Patrick McKelvey, Director
Jean Pretto, Director
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Dr. Brian Smith
Assistant Superintendent,
Teaching and Learning

Marshall Crutcher, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

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.

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.

Wilkinson, Zimpfer elected to the Mehlville Board of Education

On April 10, Serene Wilkinson and Ann Zimpfer were sworn in for three-year terms on the Mehlville Board of Education. They replace Board Director Scott Huegerich and Board Director Grace Wright, who did not seek reelection.



Mehlville Board of Education (L-R): Director Patrick McKelvey, Director Serene Wilkinson, Director Ann Zimpfer, President Peggy Hassler, Director Jean Pretto, Secretary Jeff Wolman and Vice President Tori Behlke

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT: Dr. Jeff Haug

A student-centered school year



I cannot believe the end of another school year is already upon us. The school year has been fast, but it has been amazing. There have been so many achievements and accomplishments.

Each month, I provide the Board of Education with a report highlighting our students and staff. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what our school communities have experienced over the previous month. When I am finished speaking, I sit there in awe of what our students accomplish. Whether it is a musical or theatrical production, a district art show with over 2,200 attendees, Kiwanis terrific elementary recognitions, regional and state student council recognitions, all-district and all-state athletic awards, or any number of individual achievements, the Mehlville School District has amazing students.

In early April, the district celebrated our retirees. It was an afternoon of pride in how the lives of students were shaped by our retirees. We also celebrated the Teacher of the Year and the Classified Employee of the Year from each building. The stories, the accomplishments, and the words of praise from the award-winners' coworkers only solidified what I get to see everyday: student-centered Mehlville School District employees.

Mehlville School District has completed construction on security entrances at all of our schools, thanks to the community's support of Prop S. Our schools are safer and more welcoming because of this work.

Speaking of community support, I have to recognize our parent organizations and booster clubs. They volunteer countless hours for the betterment of our schools and students. Much of what we've been able to accomplish would not be possible without our parent organizations. We appreciate you!

I'd also like to thank the more than 100 people who attended our first Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting on April 3. Our current strategic plan expires at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, and together we have the opportunity to set the district's direction and priorities for 2026-2031. Community feedback is critical as we plan for the future. Please watch for more opportunities to get involved in the process in September and October!

Thank you for all you do to support our district, our staff, and most importantly, the students of the Mehlville School District. I hope you have a safe and happy summer.

Prioritizing school facility improvements

The Facilities Steering Committee has started meeting to review completed construction projects, determine facility improvement projects that still need attention and identify future improvements to best support academic achievement and opportunities for our students.



The district is seeking additional community members to serve on this important committee. If you are interested, please email Dr. John DeWalle at dewallej@msdr9.org.

Help us shape the future of the Mehlville School District

More than 100 people, including students, parents, staff, and community members, attended the first meeting of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee on April 3, 2025.

Together they identified five themes, or areas of focus, for the 2026-2031 Strategic Plan. Meetings will be held this fall to discuss each theme. These meetings will be held at Bernard Middle School (1054 Forder Road) at 6:30 p.m. and are open to all community members.

September 3, 2025 | Theme 1: Academics

September 17, 2025 | Theme 2: Student Support

September 24, 2025 | Theme 3: Teacher Quality and Staffing

October 8, 2025 | Theme 4: Facilities, Operations and Finance

October 22, 2025 | Theme 5: Community Involvement

Visit bit.ly/strategicplan26msdr9 or click the button to learn more about the strategic planning process.



Learn more

Board considers proposition that would fund recurring maintenance without raising the tax rate

The Mehlville Board of Education is considering a proposal to ensure schools remain safe, functional and supportive of student learning – without increasing the current tax rate.

The proposal would generate an estimated $1.4 million annually for recurring maintenance needs by making a temporary tax levy permanent and reallocating a small portion of the district's existing debt service levy from Proposition S. The proposal would require voter approval in either November 2025 or April 2026, and would provide long-term stability for essential infrastructure like roofing, school buses, technology equipment, parking lot maintenance and building safety – all of which directly impact our students' daily learning experience.

"When we maintain our facilities, we protect our community resources and the environment where learning happens," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jeff Haug. "A classroom with a leaky roof or unreliable technology infrastructure distracts from learning. A well-maintained school helps students and staff stay focused, safe and comfortable."



Crews complete roofing work at Forder Elementary School in summer 2021.

What's being proposed

Specifically, the Board of Education is considering a proposition for a future ballot that:

- **Makes permanent the temporary Proposition A capital levy.** This levy originally approved by voters in 2016, brings in about $822,000 each year and sunsets after fiscal year 2026. To date, 80% of this funding has been used to replace aging roofs. This levy is estimated at 3.26 cents.
- **Redirects 2.4 cents from the 12-cent Proposition S debt service levy to the operating fund.** As the district pays down its existing bond obligations, an estimated 2.4 cents of the levy is no longer required to make minimum debt service payments. This tax transfer would add an estimated $605,000 in annual revenue.

Ballot language would require that all funds generated are used to replace buses and maintain essential infrastructure like roofing, parking lots and technology and security. **Together, these changes would provide an estimated $1.4 million per year without increasing the current tax rate.**

Why this matters

Many of the district's capital needs are both ongoing and predictable. Each year, the district expects to spend $850,000 on roofing, $700,000 on school buses, $325,000 on asphalt and parking lot maintenance, and $450,000 on technology equipment and infrastructure.

"We spend about $2.3 million annually on these predictable and necessary maintenance needs," said Chief Financial Officer Marshall Crutcher. The proposed $1.4 million covers about 61 percent of the listed recurring needs and would provide a consistent, stable and long-term funding stream, Crutcher said. This approach is about staying ahead, not falling behind.

"We've seen what happens when maintenance gets deferred," Crutcher said. "It forces the district into expensive 'catch-up' mode. This proposition would help us avoid that."

Looking ahead

The Board of Education will continue its consideration of the proposal throughout the summer. The board must decide by their August 2025 meeting if they'd like to put a proposition on the November 2025 ballot. They must decide in January if they'd like to put a proposition on the April 2026 ballot. If placed on the ballot, the zero-tax-rate-increase levy would require a simple majority to pass.

We want your input

A resident survey will be arriving in randomly selected mailboxes over the next few days. The survey, prepared by Opinion Research Specialists, gathers feedback about this proposed zero-tax-rate-increase levy.

All survey responses are confidential and anonymous. Completed questionnaires go directly to Opinion Research Specialists, who will collect and analyze the results. Data from the survey will assist the district with long-range planning and will be presented to the Board of Education in August.

To ensure that everyone has the chance to participate in the survey, we have also opened an online survey. If you have not received a mailed survey, please complete the online version here: **MehlvilleSDcommunity.com**

Mehlville School District's Teacher of the Year strives to support every student in her school



Holly Salters, the counselor at Oakville Elementary School, was named the 2025 Mehlville School District Teacher of the Year at the district's Recognition Night ceremony.

Salters is known among students as someone willing to help them with any issue they're facing, whether it be at school or in their personal lives.

"I like that she's kind and always helps me think of solutions to problems," said Ethan Cantu, a fifth-grade student.

As a counselor, Salters has the unique opportunity to work with students throughout their entire time at OES, from kindergarten through fifth grade. Her colleagues admire her ability to connect with students and staff alike.

"She is truly the rock of Oakville Elementary School," said Dr. Meagan Ochoa, OES principal. "What really makes her special is her empathetic heart. She's just the go-to person for everyone here."

Mehlville School District's Classified Employee of the Year is always there for students and families



Macheal Amelung, an administrative assistant at Hagemann Elementary School, was named the 2025 Mehlville School District Classified Employee of the Year at the district's Recognition Night ceremony.

Amelung has spent nearly three decades as part of the Hagemann Elementary School community. Prior to working for the school for the past 14 years, she was also active when her children attended Hagemann as students.

Amelung is also someone the Hagemann staff knows they can go to when they need help.

"She's very nurturing and caring," said Dr. Julie Durham, Hagemann Elementary principal. "She is also in charge of attendance and enrollment and always welcomes new families to our building."

This the first time in several years that Mehlville School District has named a District Classified Employee of the Year.

Teachers of the Year

- Cathy Weber, Mehlville Early Childhood special education teacher
- Kelley Powers, Beasley Elementary School librarian
- Angie Wichmann, Bierbaum Elementary School special education teacher
- Lindsay Evans, Blades Elementary School English language development specialist
- Marissa Gossett, Forder Elementary School first-grade teacher
- Kelly Roth, Hagemann Elementary School third-grade teacher
- Katie Rengel, MOSAIC Elementary School fourth-grade teacher
- Holly Salters, Oakville Elementary School counselor
- Laura Malik, Point Elementary School English language development specialist
- Anne Ehrlich, Rogers Elementary School resource teacher
- Emilee Theel, Trautwein Elementary School fourth-grade teacher
- Megan Mathews, Wohlwend Elementary School fifth-grade teacher
- Katelyn Pike, Bernard Middle School English language arts teacher
- Danielle Soltani, Buerkle Middle School special education teacher
- Christen Santoscoy, Oakville Middle School English language arts teacher
- Holly Blincoe, Washington Middle School family and consumer science teacher
- Kelly Sutton, Mehlville High School English language arts teacher
- Kara Beck, Oakville High School social studies teacher
- Heather Province, SCOPE English language arts teacher

Classified Employees of the Year

- Casey Ridenour, Mehlville Early Childhood paraprofessional
- Tricia Cash, Beasley Elementary School administrative assistant
- Megan Brandon, Bierbaum Elementary School paraprofessional
- Erika Ackermann, Blades Elementary School teacher assistant
- Alicia Yarbrough, Forder Elementary School paraprofessional
- Macheal Amelung, Hagemann Elementary School administrative assistant
- Adam Mundinger, MOSAIC Elementary School custodian
- Leslie Vaughn, Oakville Elementary School paraprofessional
- Michelle Cook, Point Elementary School administrative assistant
- Tim Wucher, Rogers Elementary School custodian
- Kevin Brown, Trautwein Elementary School custodian
- Madison Miller, Wohlwend Elementary School nurse
- Chris Scott, Bernard Middle School administrative assistant
- Cindy Buatte, Buerkle Middle School nurse
- Lisa Gastreich, Oakville Middle School substitute teacher
- Mary Rutledge, Washington Middle School paraprofessional
- Jackie Cordes, Mehlville High School administrative assistant
- Torre Tessmer, Oakville High School custodial supervisor
- Thomas Wilson, SCOPE and Central Office custodian
- Randy Smith, Facilities Department filter technician
- Kathleen Rysanek, Technology Department SIS data specialist
- Leonard Chirco, Transportation Department bus driver



Ashlyn Buschhorn, who has been involved in the Family and Consumer Science program at Oakville High School, is attending the Fashion Institute of Technology to become a fashion designer.

"OHS has prepared me by allowing me to take multiple fashion classes to provide me with a basic introduction to what I'll be doing and learning the necessities of what I'll need for it."



Jaysen Cook, Mehlville High School, is participating in the Vocational Skills Program through the Special School District of St. Louis County, where he'll get on-the-job training with one of the program's partners.

"My advice to other students is to get good grades, be respectful to your friends and teachers, and to have a good, positive mindset."



Jenna Jabr is graduating from Oakville High School with a high school diploma and an associate's degree from St. Louis Community College through our Early College Academy. She is attending Maryville University and hopes to become a pediatric speech pathologist working with bilingual children.

"Oakville has become more than just a school for me. It's a place where I've grown, found my voice and learned the value of working towards something bigger than myself. "

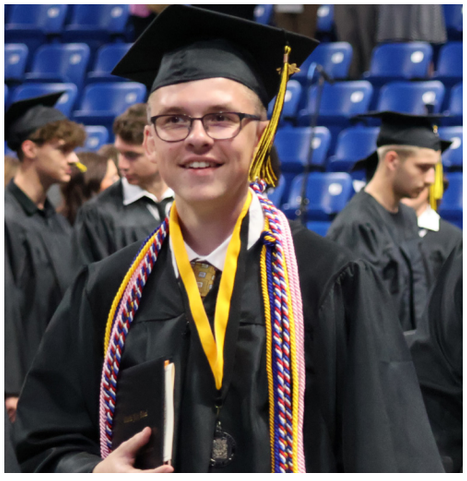


Joe Kister, Oakville High School, has taken the HVAC course at South Tech High School for the past few years. He is attending Ranken College to earn his HVAC certification.

"I liked doing something different than a normal high school student and having the opportunity to learn by doing."









CELEBRATING **our graduates**

Mehlville High School and Oakville High School held their 2025 graduation ceremonies on Sunday, Ju









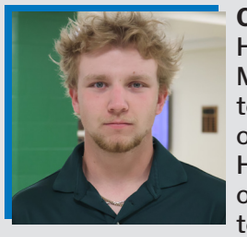
- Number of Summa Cum Laude students: **100**
- Number of Magna Cum Laude students: **79**
- Number of Cum Laude students: **93**
- Number of students earning the Seal of Biliteracy: **27**
- Number of students who were enrolled in:
  - *Early College Academy:* **8**
  - *MyPath/Independent Study:* **12**
  - *South Tech High School (Career and Technical Education):* **91**
  - *St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies:* **38**
- Number of Advanced Placement courses taken: **1,106**
- Number of Dual Enrollment courses taken: **510**

ne 1, at Chaifetz Arena. Congratulations to the more than 850 students who received their diplomas!



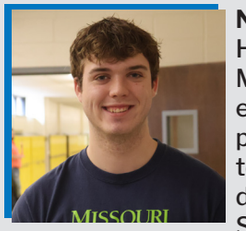
Allison Miller, Mehlville High School, is attending the United States Naval Academy with plans to become a Surface Warfare Officer.

"Mehlville has prepared me for the leadership side of the Naval Academy. Since I've been so involved, I was able to meet and learn to work with different types of people. It was great to get that experience before leaving for the academy."



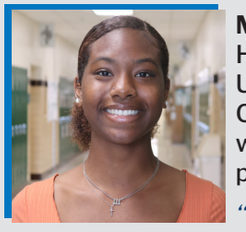
Caleb Sanneman, Mehlville High School, is attending Missouri Baptist University to study sports management or business administration. He hopes to work in the front office for a professional sports team.

"St. Louis CAPS is the best thing I've done in high school. It's really helped me to prepare for the future by making connections with professionals in the field I'm going into. It's something I'm grateful for doing."



Nathan Seyer, Oakville High School, is attending Missouri S&T to study electrical engineering. He has participated in the engineering, technology design and development course through St. Louis CAPS.

"I've had the opportunity to do client projects where we work with the business where they give us certain parameters that they want out of a product, and we have to be able to come up with a design to solve whatever problem they're having."



Michaiah Shores, Mehlville High School, is attending University of Missouri-Kansas City to study to become a women's health nurse practicioner.

"MHS and St. Louis CAPS have set me up for success. After gaining experience and talking to strangers, I'm much more confident speaking and interviewing. My internships provided me with experiences that not a lot of students get."

Mehlville School District recognized for science and technology courses

Mehlville School District has received distinguished program awards at both high schools and one middle school for its Project Lead the Way classes. Washington Middle School was named a Distinguished Gateway School, while Mehlville High School and Oakville High School were each named Distinguished High Schools.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a national program that provides students with opportunities to engage in project-based, hands-on learning opportunities in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects. PLTW courses help students gain in-demand, real-world knowledge that can help them thrive in college or careers.

Schools are recognized as Distinguished PLTW schools based on the total number of courses offered, percentage of students participating in PLTW courses and percentage of students participating in multiple courses across multiple years.

"We're honored to receive this recognition and incredibly proud of the staff and students at Washington Middle School, Mehlville High School and Oakville High School," said Dr. Jeff Haug, Superintendent of Schools. "Our Project Lead The Way courses spark curiosity and inspire students to explore science, technology and engineering, which can lead to high-demand, high-impact careers. These experiences help shape their futures and open doors beyond high school."



Students in the Principles of Biomedical Science course at Mehlville High learn to check vital signs like temperature, heart rate and blood pressure.





Back to school: Important information for the 2025-2026 school year

Our teachers and staff can't wait to welcome students to the 2025-2026 school year! The first day of school is Monday, August 18.

New student enrollment

It's important that new students are enrolled as soon as possible, so staff can complete course assignments and procure Chromebooks and other supplies before the start of school. Instructions for new students can be found on the enrollment section of our website at bit.ly/msdr9enroll. Call 314-467-5000 for help with enrollment.

Existing Student Update

The Existing Student Update must be completed by all returning families. Completing this ensures school staff have the most up-to-date contact information and other important information about your student. The Existing Student Update will be completed in Infinite Campus. Visit bit.ly/msdr9existingstudentupdate, to get started. The Existing Student Update opens in mid-June.

To prepare for the 2025-2026 school year, the district strongly recommends that parents and guardians download the Campus Parent app to access student schedules (when released in mid-August), grade updates and attendance records. Parents can even complete the Existing Student Update in the app.

Calendars

View and print the 2025-2026 school calendar to see important dates for this school year, including holidays, half days and more. A larger version is available at bit.ly/msdr9calendar25-26.

School communication

School principals will share important information with parents through ParentSquare later this summer. This will include back-to-school events, schedules, bus routes and school meal information. Parents should download the ParentSquare app to make sure they don't miss important communication!

Follow us on social media and subscibe to e-Messenger

Community members are encouraged to follow Mehlville School District on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube! We'll share important updates, job opportunities and photos of the learning happening in our schools. You can also follow your child's school on social media!

- Facebook: facebook.com/MehlvilleSchoolDistrict
- Instagram: @MehlvilleSD
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/school/mehlville-school-district
- YouTube: youtube.com/@MehlvilleSchools
- Subscribe to e-Messenger, our district email newsletter by visiting bit.ly/msdr9emailinglists

2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Mehlville School District

Student days: 172
Teacher days: 182

First and Last Day of School
Early Release Day/PD
Professional Development
No School - District Closed
No School - Teacher Workday
Inclement Weather Make Up Day

July '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

4 District Closed - Independence Day

August '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

TBD New Teacher Orientation
12 1/2 Professional Development
1/2 Teacher Workday
13-14 Professional Development
15 Teacher Workday
18 First Day of School

September '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 No School - Labor Day
24 Early Release, Early Childhood AM Attend

October '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

15 Early Release, Early Childhood AM Attend
17 End of First Quarter
27 HS Conferences 4 hrs
28 ES Conferences 4 hrs
29 MS Conferences 4 hrs
31 Early Release, Early Childhood AM Attend
Conferences 3 hrs 20 mins

November '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

3 No School - District Closed
4 No School - Professional Development
26-28 No School - Thanksgiving Break

December '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

19 End of Second Quarter/First Semester
22-31 No School - Winter Break

January '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1-2 No School - Winter Break
5 No School - Teacher Workday
19 No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

13 No School - Professional Development
16 No School - Presidents Day

March '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

12 End of Third Quarter
13 No School - 1/2 Professional Development, 1/2 Teacher Workday
16-20 Spring Break

April '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

6 No School - District Closed
7 No School - Professional Development

May '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

22 Last Day of School
Early Release, 1/2 Teacher Workday
End of Fourth Quarter/Second Semester
25 No School - Memorial Day
26-29 Inclement weather make up days

June '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1-2 Inclement weather makeup days
19 No School - Juneteenth

The district may use up to five virtual learning days for inclement weather or other emergency. Should we use all five days, additional inclement weather days will be made up beginning May 26.

Mehlville School District • 3120 Lemay Ferry Road • St. Louis, MO 63125 • 314-467-5000 • mehlvilleschooldistrict.com

Approved by Mehlville Board of Education April 24, 2025



Distinctions

School Bell Award

Dr. Jeff Bresler, the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools, received the School Bell Award from the Mehlville National Education Association. This award is presented each year to a member of the Mehlville School District who has played a vital role in supporting students, staff and the community.


Dr. Jeff Bresler

Top principals

Dr. Jason Landherr, Mehlville High School principal, was named High School Principal of the Year by the St. Louis Association of Secondary Principals. This is given to one high school principal in the St. Louis area each year who demonstrates leadership in improving student achievement, who ensures the school climate is positive and reflects high staff and student morale, who is respected by students, colleagues, parents and the community, and who serves as a mentor to new principals.


Dr. Jason Landherr

Dr. Michael Wheeler, Bernard Middle School assistant principal, was named the organization's Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year.

These honors mean Dr. Landherr and Dr. Wheeler will represent the St. Louis region in the statewide principal and assistant principal of the year process.


Dr. Michael Wheeler

A distinguished leader

Adam Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, received the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Special School District of St. Louis County. This award recognizes administrators who have demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to SSD students, staff, families and the community.


Adam Smith

Serving the community

Gerry Spitznagel received a Community Service Award from the Kiwanis Club of South County for his work on the outdoor learning spaces at the John Cary Early Childhood Center. He has been instrumental in building accessible trails that make the outdoors accessible for all students.


Gerry Spitznagel

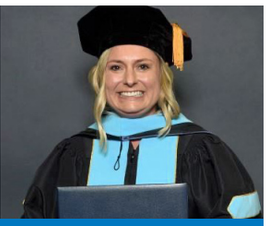
Hall of famer

Rich Sturm, a P.E. teacher and the baseball and softball coach at Oakville High School, was inducted into the Greater St. Louis Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. During his 22 years as head baseball coach at OHS, he has compiled a record of 316-205-1.


Rich Sturm

The doctor is in!

Dr. Tiffany Schwaegel, the Director of Mehlville Early Childhood, earned her doctorate in education from Missouri Baptist University.


Dr. Tiffany Schwaegel

Battling with book knowledge

Fourth- and fifth-grade students from all Mehlville School District elementary schools demonstrated their literary knowledge in the annual Elementary Book Battle competition. The winning team was from Point Elementary School: **Hassen Al Musawi, Emina Kafedzic, Emina Kulasic, Addison Abernathy, Sireen Musleh** and **Rufta Biniam**.

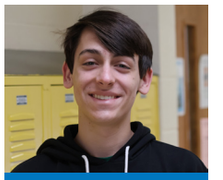


Scholarly students

Katie Laur, an Oakville High School student, and **Ian Parai**, a Mehlville High School student, were selected for the Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of the state's top academic students in each graduating class. Additionally, **Jordan Bernabo**, an OHS student, and **Julia Gentemann**, an MHS student, earned an Honorable Mention commendation from the Missouri 100 Scholars program.


Katie Laur


Ian Parai


Jordan Bernabo

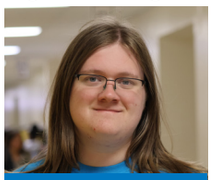

Julia Gentemann

Tops in technology

Three Oakville High School Technology Student Association students placed at state and qualified to compete at the national competition in June. **Jack Bohrmann, Damir Lipovac** and **Ray Meier** placed second in the Drone Challenge. Damir also finished fifth in CO2 Dragster Design, and Ray also placed fifth in CAD Engineering and Design.


Jack Bohrmann


Damir Lipovac


Ray Meier

Distinctions

Award-winning journalists

Two Oakville High School journalism students received All-Missouri awards while attending the Missouri Interscholastic Journalism Association JDay Celebration at Mizzou: **Alyssa Johnston** and **Alex Vaughn.**


Alyssa Johnston


Alex Vaughn

Chess champion

Sanel Brka, a Mehlville High School student, was named the champion of the Gateway Chess League. Sanel competed against around 200 players this season and was crowned the overall winner in the season class with a record of 29-6-6.


Sanel Brka

Wrestling champion

Talia Reed, an Oakville High School student, became the first girls wrestler in school history to win the district championship.


Talia Reed

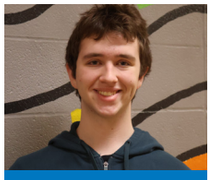
Baton twirling champions

The Mehlville Majorettes placed first in the Dance Twirl category at the Missouri State Baton Twirling Championships. They also placed second in the High School Halftime category. Team members are **Aurora Hawkins, Amila Filipovic, Lilly Burch** and **Nora Howard.**



Star-caliber performance

Ian Moore, an Oakville High School student, received a special recognition from the St. Louis High School Musical Theatre Awards for his portrayal of Lurch in Oakville High School Theatre Company's production of "The Addams Family." This recognition is given for performances that go above and beyond traditional expectations.


Ian Moore

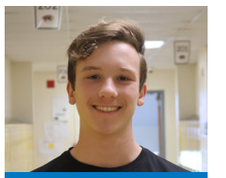
View more distinctions:

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

Scholar Athletes

Allison Miller, a Mehlville High School student, and **Amar Nuhanovic,** an Oakville High School student, were named Scholar Athletes by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. This honor is given to a student-athlete from each school in our area who excels in competition and in the classroom by lettering in at least one varsity sport and being in the top 25 percent of their graduating class.


Allison Miller


Amar Nuhanovic

Taking flight

Logan Knecht, an Oakville High School student, received the S.M. Wilson & Co. SKILLED Award with his engineering and technology classmates at the St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies. They created a STEAM lesson called "Take Flight" to help elementary school students learn about aerodynamics by testing different paper airplane designs.


Logan Knecht

Top artist

A 3-D art piece created by **Ella Niemoeller,** an Oakville High School student, was selected as the overall winner at Mehlville School District's Art Show.


Ella Niemoeller

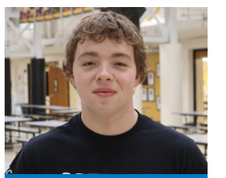
Skilled medalist

LaNaja Johnson, a Mehlville High School student, received a gold medal in the state SkillsUSA competition through the health sciences program at South Tech High School.


LaNaja Johnson

Rodeo Winner

Joe Kister, an Oakville High School student, clinched the victory for his team in the Spire Rodeo, a competition between North Tech High School and South Tech High School students. The challenge came down to a tiebreaker that Joe won by changing out a gas meter in just 1 minute and 15 seconds. In that time, Joe connected a temporary gas tank to keep service running, swapped out the meter and safely disconnected the setup.


Joe Kister

Bilingual students

Marisol Fochi and **Jenna Jabr,** Oakville High School students, earned the Distinguished Seal of Biliteracy for Italian and Arabic, respectively. They scored at the highest level of proficiency by building a social-cultural portfolio, attending and participating in multiple cultural events, and proving they can speak, read and write fluently in multiple languages.


Marisol Fochi


Jenna Jabr

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IMPORTANT DATES

Find district event information at mehlvilleschooldistrict.com.	
June 19	District closed - Juneteenth
July 4	District closed - Independence Day
Aug. 18	First day of school
Aug. 21	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
Sept. 1	District closed - Labor Day
Sept. 24	Early release for students
Sept. 25	Board of Education Tax Rate Hearing and Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library



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Mehlville School District



Now Enrolling!

New student enrollment is open for the 2025-2026 school year!

Learn more: bit.ly/msdr9enroll

Mehlville School District

Mehlville Messenger

June 2025



Congratulations graduates!

The Mehlville and Oakville High School Class of 2025 received their diplomas on June 1. See their accomplishments and photos from the ceremony on page 6.

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Mehlville School District
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