Lori Willis, *Communications*
Jennings School District, 314-456-5457

Jennings Middle School Students to Receive EdZone Lockers

The Chris Long and Little Bit Foundations Have Teamed Up
to Ensure Access to Hygiene Essentials for students in four-area middle schools

(St. Louis, Mo. – Dec. 1, 2025) On Thursday, Dec. 4, ribbon-cutting ceremonies, celebrating the launch of EdZone will be held in Riverview Gardens. Edzone, a joint venture between The Little Bit Foundation and the Chris Long Foundation, mobilizes athletes, partners and fans in targeted cities to help provide greater access to basic necessities including hygiene items.

Two-time Super Bowl champion, Chris Long, started the program to help support children by ensuring they arrive to school, each day, feeling cared for and confident. The first two ribbon-cuttings take place tomorrow. (Please bring identification for school entry.)

- The Central Middle School (9800 Patricia Barkalow Dr., St Louis) in Riverview Gardens School District at 9:30 a.m.
- Rose Mary Johnson Jennings Junior High School (8831 Cozens Ave, St. Louis 63136) in Jennings School District will be held at 11:30 a.m.

These pilot locations were identified by The Little Bit Foundation, where the organization has established partnerships through its Whole Child Model with Essentials, Health and Nutrition, College and Career Readiness, and Academic Enrichment. The Chris Long Foundation will have EdZone Lockers in four target St. Louis middle schools and plans to expand this initiative in the future.

INTERVIEWEES:
Nancy Hopkins, Executive Director of the Chris Long Foundation
Miranda Walker Jones, President and CEO of The Little Bit Foundation

About the Chris Long Foundation
The Chris Long Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded by two-time Super Bowl Champion and 2018 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year, Chris Long. We mobilize ambassadors, service providers, and experts to help communities access clean water, address basic needs for youth and families, and inspire others to make an impact at home and abroad. Our vision is access and opportunity everywhere. We launched EdZone essential needs programming in October 2022 in all six Charlottesville elementary schools, in 2024 in four Philadelphia community schools, and are launching in December 2025 in four St. Louis schools. The Chris Long Foundation's other initiative, Waterboys, has provided clean water to over 580,000 people in need domestically and abroad. Visit chrislongfoundation.org to learn more.

About Little Bit Foundation
Founded in 2001, the mission of The Little Bit Foundation (www.thelittlebitfoundation.org) is to break down barriers to learning for under-resourced students through partnerships and programs that serve the needs of the whole child and provide access to essential services and educational experiences. Embedded in 60+ school communities, where 90-100% of students qualify for the free and reduced lunch program, our Whole Child Model spans across every grade level and addresses basic needs, provides health intervention and education, and expands academic and career exploration opportunities for 17,500+ students across the region. As we approach our 25th anniversary in 2026, we remain committed to supporting students throughout their educational journey so they can graduate and become contributing members of a stronger St. Louis community.

About Jennings School District: Founded in 1871, the Jennings School District serves 2,320 students Pre-K-12 across four elementary schools, Hanrahan, Woodland, Northview and Fairview (Primary and Intermediate), Rose Mary Johnson Jennings Middle School and Jennings Senior High School. JSD spans three communities, Jennings, Country Club Hills and Flordell Hills. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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