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**Laura Paul from Peine Ridge Elementary  
Named 2019 District Support Staff Employee  
of the Year**



Laura Paul, a paraprofessional at Peine Ridge Elementary School, has been selected as the 2019 District Support Staff Employee of the Year! "I am so honored and humbled to be named District Support Staff Person of the Year," said Paul. "We have so many wonderful support staff employees that I learn from and bounce ideas off all the time! I have learned through pushing into so many classrooms that there are many wonderful teaching styles, and that the best teaching style that I see being used in the Wentzville School District is LOVE."

The surprise announcement was made at the annual District Awards Banquet at Timberland High School on Wednesday, May 8. "Laura is such a kind and gentle person that brings a sense of calm to her building with her positive attitude and constant smile," said Peine Ridge Principal Dr. Ryan Andrews. "She adds so much love, compassion, and professionalism to each and every interaction with every student she works with and every staff member that she

May 17, 2019

**Thank You to Our  
District eNews Sponsor**



For more information about Central Methodist University, click their logo above. Their sponsorship helps support WSD activities.

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comes in contact with. She is always willing to help and do what is best for kids.”

The District Awards Banquet is held each year to honor the WSD Teachers of the Year, Support Staff Employees of the Year, 20-year and 30-year employees and retirees. Entertainment was provided by the Holt Jazz Band, Timberland pianist Joshua Gary, and the Liberty Chamber Choir. Congratulations to those distinguished employees who received an award and best wishes to all of our retirees! To view a complete list of this year's recipients, visit the [WSD website](#).

At this year's event, we shared a number of videos highlighting what makes WSD employees special. You can view each of the videos on the WSD YouTube Channel:

[Pre-k and Elementary Teachers of the Year](#)



[Middle School & Mind Development Teachers of the Year](#)



[High School & Pearce Hall Teachers of the Year](#)



**Upcoming Dates**

**May 20**

Last Day for Seniors

**May 27**

No Classes - Memorial Day

**May 31**

Last Day of School -  
Early Release

**June 2**

**Graduation**

Holt - 10 a.m.

Liberty - 2 p.m.

Timberland - 6 p.m.

**Helpful Parent Links**



**Stay Tuned to WSD**



WSD is showcasing the



[Support Staff Employees of the Year](#)



**Parent Survey Link - Tell Us What You Think!**



It is the vision of the Wentzville School District to be a model of excellence that sets the standard and maximizes the potential of every student. In order to continuously improve on our commitment to provide a quality educational experience for your child or children, we ask that you take the time to complete [this short survey](#).

**Boundary Committee Update**

The 2019 WSD Boundary Committee held its first meeting on May 2 at Timberland High School. The meeting was facilitated by Dan Schmidt from MGT Consulting Group who has also been hired to conduct the latest demographic study for the District.



The committee, which includes parents, community members, staff representation and a member of the Board of Education, will be utilizing the latest demographic data to create new attendance areas for District elementary, middle and high schools. WSD voters approved Proposition E last year, a \$125 million no-tax increase bond issue, which included building a new high school that will open in 2021 and a new elementary school which is scheduled to open for the 2020-2021 school year.

outstanding stories happening across the District on its very own YouTube Channel! Subscribe today to not miss out!

**Recent Videos from the WSD:**

**Discovery Awaits - Discovery Ridge STEAM Day**



**Inaugural District Amazing Shake Competition**



**Faces of the WSD - Kaci Lueking of Wabash Elementary**



**Pearce Hall Buddy Program**



**Chromebook Repair Class Video**



This initial meeting was an opportunity for the committee to get to know each other, learn more about the District's growth and challenges, and provide them with some key data from the latest study, which will help guide their work. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, at 4:00 p.m., at Liberty High School.

The Boundary Committee meetings are open to the public to observe only; the meetings are work sessions and do not include an opportunity for public comment. However, stakeholders are welcome to email committee members who represent a building with questions or you can email the District at [info@wsdr4.org](mailto:info@wsdr4.org). This fall, once the committee has landed on some draft boundary scenarios, parents, staff, students and community members will have an opportunity to make comments, ask questions and make suggestions through a series of community forum meetings. The Boundary Timeline has a new boundary recommendation going before the Board of Education at the December 19, 2019 meeting.

"We understand changing schools can be difficult and very personal, but it is something we have to address frequently in our District given our growth," said Chief Communications Officer Mary LaPak. "We are confident the Boundary Committee will work within the established criteria and carry out its task with diligence; mindful of the impact new boundaries have on students and families."

[For more information](#), including Frequently Asked Questions and the complete list of Boundary Committee members with contact information, visit the WSD website.

## WSD Lead Art Teacher Named MAEA President



WSD Lead Art Teacher Hester Menier has been named President of the Missouri Art Education Association (MAEA), an organization dedicated to keeping quality visual arts education in Missouri schools. Menier has taught art in the WSD for 20 years and currently teaches at Stone Creek Elementary. She has worked previously at Duello Elementary and West Elementary (now Heritage Primary) and was selected building Teacher of the Year in 2002 and 2009. In 2014, she was named MAEA

[Watch more WSD Videos on WSD YouTube](#)

## Join the WSD Finance Committee



Would you like to learn more about District finances? For instance, where does District revenue come from? How is the tax rate calculated? What is the largest District expenditure?

These are just a few of the items the Finance Committee will analyze. The committee will also work to answer any questions you may have about school finance. There will be two or three meetings throughout the school year.

If you are interested in being involved, please email **Pat Jolley** in the WSD Finance Department.

## Work for the WSD!



It is the goal of the Human Resources department to attract, hire, and retain the best trained, most highly qualified, and effective staff to ensure high levels of achievement by all our students.

We are a service-oriented organization that strives to treat everyone with respect,



Elementary Art Educator of the Year; and she was the first teacher in the District to achieve National Board Certification in 2010.



### WSD Students Selected for Girls State



Eighteen high school juniors from the Wentzville School District have been selected to attend the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State of Missouri. The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program, founded in 1940 at William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri, changes lives by bringing together dynamic young women for an intense week developing leadership skills, patriotism and a sense of community. The participants actively participate in all phases of creating and running a working government.



### WSD Students Selected for Boys State



Eighteen high school juniors from the Wentzville School District have been selected to attend the American Legion Boys State of Missouri. The American Legion Boys State of Missouri is an eight-day, hands-on experience in the operation and fundamentals of government, and draws together the best and brightest high school juniors to help lead them down the path in individual success and leadership. Since its inception in 1938, Missouri Boys State has provided over 40,000 high school students with the privilege of attending this practical laboratory in citizenship and leadership training.

honesty, and professional integrity and dedicate ourselves to the highest levels of service and support to all employees, administration, and the Board of Education.

If you are seeking employment with the District, click on the picture above for a list of current opportunities and application processes.

We are in particular need of substitute teachers and the rate of pay was just increased to \$100/day for regular subs and \$110/day for long-term subs. Visit the WSD website for more information.

Questions may be directed to [humanresources@wsdr4.org](mailto:humanresources@wsdr4.org)



Have You Downloaded the WSD App?

Read More

### THS Student Wins MUSIC Scholarship



Timberland senior Nathaniel Beattie has been named a recipient of the 2019 Holley Scholarship from the Missouri United School Insurance Council (MUSIC). Beattie is one of six recipients chosen from over 250 applicants for the \$2,000 scholarship, which is open to students in all 475 MUSIC member districts. The scholarship is named for the organization's first Executive Director, Dr. Darrell "Jack" Holley, who helped create the MUSIC program in 1985 to provide broad property and casualty coverages under one comprehensive plan for all participating members.

Read More

### WSD Students Selected for Missouri Scholars Academy



Seven high school sophomores from the Wentzville School District have been selected to participate in the Missouri Scholars Academy (MSA), a three-week residential program to be held June 9-29 on the campus of the University of Missouri - Columbia. Heath Bana, LaNita Devine, and Ethan Dunsworth from Holt; Olivia Guffey from Liberty; and Huy Nguyen, Cassandra Lueck, and Michael Mischkot from Timberland are among 330 high school sophomores from across Missouri selected for the program.

Read More

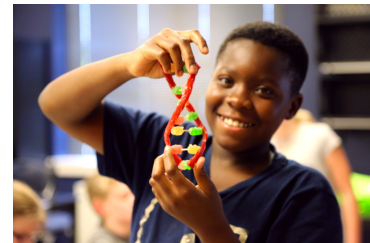
### Connections to Success at Pearce Hall Video



Are you new to the WSD? Be sure to download the app to have important information right at your fingertips. The app is available for both android devices and iPhones.



### K-6 Summer STEM Camp



There are still openings available for Summer STEM Camp classes for students in grades 3-6! The camp runs Monday-Thursday July 8-18. Check out the WSD website to enroll your child today!

### Board Meeting Report





The WSD has a new partnership with Connections to Success, a program designed to help provide hope, resources, and a plan for young people facing challenges for a variety of reasons. Currently 10 students in the District's Alternative Program are enrolled in the class that meets twice a week. The program has been helping to break the cycle of poverty and incarceration with adults for 20 years, and is now branching out to students to help them prepare for success after school. Connections to Success provides practical assistance like haircuts, clothing and interview skills as well as life-changing support to help students make healthy choices and build their self confidence. The WSD is the first school district in the state to partner with Connections to Success and the hope is to secure outside funding to expand the program and assist more students every year. [Watch the video](#) to find out more!

### WSD Musicians Excel at State Solo and Ensemble Festival



Holt, Liberty, and Timberland's top musicians competed at the MSHSAA State Solo and Ensemble Festival in Columbia April 25-27. WSD musicians, singers, and ensembles earned 40 gold, 63 silver, and 15 bronze ratings. These students earned their spot at the state festival, which was held on the campus of the University of Missouri - Columbia, by qualifying at the District competition last month. To see [what students earned gold, silver, and bronze](#), visit the WSD Website.

### WMS Teacher Earns Gifted Support Network Grant



The Board of Education meeting on May 16 featured the recognition of several students from all three high schools who earned the Missouri Seal of Biliteracy; Olivia Riek (Timberland High) for receiving the DESE (Missouri) 2019 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Citizenship; Adam Routt (Timberland) for having won second place in the High School Jazz Division of the 2019 Creating Original Music Project at Mizzou; and members of the CSIP Steering Committee for their time and efforts.

For more information, as well as Superintendent Reports and other matters discussed, click the Board Meeting Report thumbnail above. Board Meeting Reports can also be found on the [WSD website](#) under [About our District/Board of Education](#).

### CAPS Student Project Kids Kruse Cycling Event



A St. Charles County CAPS



Adam Estes of Wentzville Middle School (WMS) has received a \$500 Karen Battle Memorial Grant from the Gifted Support Network (GSN) of St. Charles County. Estes,

WMS Horizons teacher, applied for the grant to help support service learning projects for his students.

“The funds from the grant will be used to provide resources to help WMS Horizons students become changemakers and make our community an even better place,” Estes said. “Horizons is our District gifted program, which provides enrichment opportunities and specifically focuses on critical thinking, divergent thinking, communication, and citizenship.”

[Read More](#)

## WSD Mini-Grants Awarded



The Wentzville School District Foundation has announced the winners of the Foundation’s 2019 Teacher and Building Mini-Grants. On Friday, Foundation Directors Dr. Curtis Cain, Martin Ghafoori, and Mary LaPak, along with Foundation Secretary Susan Hladky and Foundation Treasurer Dan Schroeder from Dan Schroeder Shelter Insurance Agency, handed out 15 checks totaling \$9,500 to deserving teachers at 14 different WSD buildings. The WSD Foundation raises funds through its annual Trivia Night held in February for the Mini-Grant Program. In addition, the Foundation awarded six teachers with STEM Grants totaling \$5,000 thanks to a Community Grant the Foundation received last year from GM Wentzville to fund STEM initiatives in WSD schools. The WSD Foundation has awarded over \$97,000 to District teachers since 2004. Congratulations to these outstanding educators who are doing great things in our classrooms! [Watch the slideshow](#) of winners on WSD YouTube.

## Todd Named Principal of Duello Elementary

student has created a cycling event, the Kids Kruze Cycling Event, scheduled for May 18, 2019, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The proceeds from the event will go toward the purchase of new bicycles for donation to children who cannot afford a bike. **View the flyer** to see what it's all about and how you can help. The students would appreciate the support.

## Young Americans Workshop



The Young Americans will once again bring their educational performing arts workshop to Timberland High School this summer, with the goal of developing the skills of energy, teamwork, and confidence, using music as the teaching tool. Even better is that it doubles as a fundraiser for WSD Fine Arts programs. [Click here to view the flyer.](#)

Specially-trained, college-aged teachers and performers will work with students of all grade levels from across the District, and only from the WSD, providing fun yet valuable lessons in everything from vocal and dance to full stage performance, the climax of which will be an exciting Saturday night show held at Timberland. The Young Americans outreach program visits 200 communities on an annual basis to inspire youth, empower teachers, and strengthen education systems across the globe. Over 260





The Wentzville School District Board of Education has approved the hiring of Danielle Todd as principal of Duello Elementary for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Todd, who had been serving as an assistant principal at Duello Elementary for the past three years, will replace Laura Parn who has been hired as the new Executive Director of Student Services for the District. Prior to becoming an administrator, Mrs. Todd taught kindergarten at Duello for four years and taught previously in the Hazelwood School District.

Mrs. Todd holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, a Masters in Educational Administration from Missouri Baptist University, an Educational Specialist in Administration from Lindenwood University, and she is currently working on completing her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Missouri Baptist University.

"It is with much excitement and honor that I look forward to transitioning into the role of principal and working closely with our administrative team and the Duello staff to impact each student's school experience in a positive way," said Todd. "I believe education is a collaborative effort. Families, staff, community members, and administrators each have an important role in encouraging our children to develop into active, life-long learners." Mrs. Todd lives with her husband Steve and foster children in Forstell.

The WSD welcomes our new administrators for the 2019-2020 school year! [Visit the WSD website](#) to learn more about them.

## WSD Graduating Seniors Awarded Community Scholarships

WSD students participated in the workshop and Saturday's performance, and a video recap can be seen on the WSD YouTube page.

## Heritage Propane School Days Program



Through the School Days Program, Heritage Propane will give the WSD up to \$2,000 per year to purchase items for any school-related need with funds earned from the School Days Program. Any WSD parent can send their Heritage Propane receipts to school with their child. Community members can drop off or mail their receipts to the WSD Administrative Center. We will submit the receipts and Heritage Propane will total the gallons on the deposited receipts and pay \$0.02 per gallon, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per year.

## WSD NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

[View the policy on the WSD Website.](#)



The WSD Class of 2019 has been awarded over \$150,000 worth of local scholarships during Senior Honors Convocation events. These deserving students from Holt, Liberty, and Timberland high schools will be receiving their diplomas on June 2, 2019, before they continue on with their post-secondary education. Individual amounts of these awards range from \$250 to \$4,000. "Our high school Honors Convocations are a tremendous source of pride not just for our families and the District, but for our entire community," said Superintendent Dr. Curtis Cain. "These students are exceptionally talented and have worked very hard to reach this point, and how fortunate we are to live in an area where so many people are eager to support them in their goals and dreams for the future." Liberty's Honors Convocation was held May 2, 2019, Holt's Honors Convocation was held May 7, 2019, and Timberland's Honors Convocation was held May 9, 2019.

[Read More](#)

## Cheema Qualifies for Math League National Championship for Third Straight Year



Congratulations to Rafay Cheema, a fifth grade student at Discovery Ridge Elementary, who recently qualified for the 2019 [mathleague.org](https://mathleague.org) Elementary School National Championship. This will be Rafay's third(!) consecutive year qualifying for nationals, which is quite the accomplishment. At the MCTM state competition at Columbia College in

Columbia, MO, among hundreds of elementary school math wizards from around the state, Rafay came in seventh place in the Target round, eighth in Number Sense and eighth Overall. Nationals will be held at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX, on June 15. Mathleague.org is the largest network of local and state math competitions at the



elementary, middle, and high school levels in the U.S., and runs over 200 contests and reaches over 20,000 students each year. Way to go, Rafay!

## WSD Staff Members Earn Doctorates



Six WSD staff members earned their Doctorate in Educational Leadership earlier this month, demonstrating their commitment to being life-long learners. Congratulations to Discovery Ridge Principal Katie Brettschneider, Liberty Assistant Principal Matt Kiesel, Discovery Ridge Kindergarten Teacher Lindsay Burkemper, Frontier Middle School 8th Grade Science Teacher Jill Johler, and Peine Ridge Elementary 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher Amelia Hicks, who earned their Doctorate from Maryville University, and District Content Lead for English Language Arts Kelly Manning who earned her Doctorate from Lindenwood University. Well done!

## Cuivre River Youth Tour Competition



WSD students earned five out of six spots in the 51st annual Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, Inc. Youth Tour Competition. Congratulations to Rebecca Falgout, Tian Heinle, and Megan Kruse from Liberty

High School, as well as Tatum Green and Karli Heimburger from Holt High School. The students were honored at a reception on April 10 for having been selected as winners out of over 100 entrants from 12 area high schools in the annual contest that begins with an essay submission. The essays, all entitled "My favorite Cooperative Principle," were judged based on the student's cooperative knowledge, composition, originality, grammar and neatness. The top 12 students won the opportunity to advance to the final competition where the students took a cooperative knowledge quiz and presented their essays orally.

As winners, Rebecca, Tian, Megan, Tatum and Karli will travel to Washington, D.C., with 100 Missouri delegates June 14-20, who will have an opportunity to meet with their representatives from their congressional districts, tour famous monuments, visit the Smithsonian Institution's museums as well as Arlington National Cemetery. In addition, Communication Arts Teacher Sonya Borders from Liberty High School was honored at the reception for supporting the annual contest and encouraging students to participate. The Holt winners were supported by teachers Sarah Vogelmann and Anita Gilliland.

## WSD High School Student Councils Receive Gold Honor Council Awards



All three WSD high school student councils earned the Gold Honor Council Award from the Missouri Association of Student Councils (MASC). The Award recognizes student councils for their involvement at the local level, the District Student Council, and at the state level, and honors them for having a comprehensive program in promoting student activities and student leadership. Holt, Liberty, and Timberland student councils are among 83 councils from across the state who received the award. Holt's student council sponsor is Erin Chase, assisted by Olivia Hollander; Liberty's student council sponsor is Lindsay Holmes, assisted by Amanda McMillen; and Timberland's student council sponsor is Jim Andrzejewski, assisted by Bridget Campbell.

## 2019 WSD Post-Dispatch Scholar-Athletes



Congratulations to Jake Ryan (Holt), Allana Guffey (Liberty), and Emily Rehagen (Timberland) for having been named Post-Dispatch Scholar-Athletes for 2019! The Scholar-Athlete program, in its 53rd year, honors one senior from every participating high school in the Post-Dispatch coverage area,



chosen by administrators from each school. Click on the students' names below to read more about them.

Holt - [Jake Ryan](#)

Liberty - [Allana Guffey](#)

Timberland - [Emily Rehagen](#)

## Mueller Named Big Red Top 25 Player



Congratulations to Holt senior Cole Mueller, who has been selected as a Big Red Top 25 player in the St. Louis Metro Area by the St. Louis/Tom Lombardo Chapter of the National Football Foundation (NFF) for the second consecutive year. Cole was recognized at their 27th Annual Awards Banquet on May 5, 2019. The Big Red Top 25 players are chosen by an

independent scouting service based solely on performance on the football field. Cole is a three-year varsity football player for Holt High School. He rushed for an area-best 2,448 yards and scored 34 touchdowns in his final high school season.

[Read More](#)

## Harris Heroes - Ms. Lynn of Duello



Thank you to Steve Harris of KMOV for sharing [this inspiring story](#) about how our own "Ms. Lynn" saved a Duello student from choking.

## Doodle 4 Google Competition

Congratulations to the winners of the WSD version of the Doodle 4 Google competition! Sunitha Brown (Holt High School), Ava Le (Wentzville Middle School), Jillian Thomas (Boone Trail Elementary), and Georgianna Apostalides (Heritage Primary), were all named winners for their age group. This year's official Doodle 4 Google competition theme is "When I grow up I hope..." All District submissions (over



200!) have been entered in the national Doodle 4 Google Competition, which started in 2008 to encourage eligible U.S. school students to use their creativity to produce their own interpretation of the Google logo. Google is currently in the process of selecting 53 state and territory winners and the public will be asked to help

select five national finalists, one of which will go on to become the 2019 National Winner.

## Annual Swofford Memorial Games



The annual Senior vs. Faculty Basketball events were held March 15 (HHS), April 5 (LHS), and April 26 (THS) in memory of former Wentzville teacher/coach Scott Swofford. The Scott Swofford Scholarship Fund was established in 2000 to honor the memory of Coach Scott Swofford, who taught and coached at both Holt and Timberland High Schools. The Annual Swofford Faculty vs. Senior Basketball Games, raffles and silent auctions are held to raise funds for this special scholarship fund. All three schools beat what they raised last year and far exceeded their goal! Between Holt, Timberland and Liberty, almost \$13,000 was raised; with over \$5,000 at Holt, over \$2,600 at Liberty, and over \$5,300 at Timberland!

Currently the foundation awards six \$1,000 scholarships to two students, one male and one female, at each school. The money raised at the Annual Swofford Senior/Faculty Basketball Games has awarded 79 students with \$1,000 scholarships. To date, that is over \$79,000!

## American Revolution Patriot Buried Behind Holt High Honored



On May 5, 2019, community members gathered to honor a hero of the American Revolution and settler of St. Charles County buried in a small cemetery behind Holt High, Private John Castlio. Members of the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, their families, as well as community members including Mayor Nick Guccione, congregated at the Walker Burying Ground located behind Holt. Castlio was a private in the Continental Line, and though born in Kentucky he served in the Virginia Militia, fighting in the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina in late 1780 - a pivotal battle which forced British General Cornwallis to abandon his plan to invade North Carolina. After the war and a brief stay in Tennessee, Castlio settled in the Cottleville area of St. Charles, building the seventh fort in St. Charles County, Castlio Fort (present-day Avondale Hills Lane off Highway DD). "I took great pride in being able to participate in an event that honors the sacrifice of our forefathers," said Nichole Nolan, WSD K-12 Social Studies Content Leader. "It is exciting to know that this area sustains so much vibrant history." The ceremony was organized by the SAR, who placed a special grave marker next to Castlio's grave to honor him as a Patriot ancestor. They and the DAR both dressed in official Continental Army or Militia uniforms, and held a color guard presentation capped by a three-volley rifle salute.

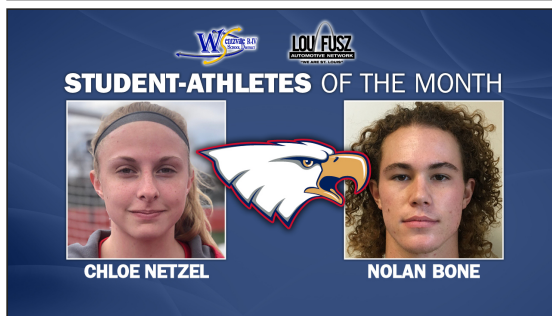
## Stone Creek Heart Artwork



In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, each student at Stone Creek Elementary [painted a heart on the wall of the school](#). "We are starting a new tradition here at Stone Creek where our students will create a piece of artwork for their teachers," said Assistant Principal Melissa Armbruster in a message to staff. "I can't describe to you the care and love that students felt while doing their small part on the piece of artwork. It was so clear how much all of them love you. Hopefully, this piece of artwork will be a constant reminder to you of how much we appreciate each one of you."



## Lou Fusz WSD Student Athlete of the Month



The WSD/Lou Fusz Student-Athlete of the Month aims to recognize varsity student-athletes for their achievements in the classroom, commitment, sportsmanship, and teamwork. These student-athletes were honored for their performances during April 2019. For [the full write-ups](#) on these students, visit the WSD Marketing Webpage.