

March 2019

# Mehlville Messenger

A Mehlville School District Publication

## Mehlville School District named 2019 Missouri District of Character

Mehlville School District has been re-certified as a Missouri State District of Character by Character.org. The program recognized the district for demonstrating its use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior and school climate.

“We are thrilled to receive this distinction as a Missouri District of Character for the second time,” said Dr. Jeff Bresler, assistant superintendent, supervision of schools. “Character education has been an important part of our curriculum for decades, and it is embedded in the daily routines and practices of each of our schools. In the past year, we’ve extended our work in character education to develop the Portrait of a Graduate, traits



Kindness and friendliness are at the forefront during the Mix It Up Day lunch at Oakville Middle School. During this special lunch in November, students were assigned a lunch table and participated in a trivia contest together. Everyone was challenged to make at least one new friend.

we’d like to see in every Mehlville School District graduate.”

The Portrait of a Graduate traits include global and ethical, self-aware, persistent, communicator, and creative and critical thinker. These desired soft skills, which were determined by a committee of staff, parents and community members, are taught by blending character education and innovative instruction to equip students with 21st century skills.

Criteria for the designation are based on Character.org’s 11 Principles of Effective Character Education, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership and engaging families and communities as partners in character-building efforts.

## District earns near perfect score on Missouri’s Annual Performance Report

Mehlville School District earned a 99.6 percent on the state’s annual performance report (APR), ranking among the highest performing public school districts in the St. Louis region and Missouri. Mehlville School District has also earned the highest level of accreditation from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

The APR is part of Missouri’s school accreditation system. The standards measured by the APR include:

- **Academic achievement:** Overall district performance on Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) state standardized tests
- **Subgroup achievement:** The achievement of subgroups of students, which includes African-American/black students, Hispanic students, students eligible for free/reduced lunch, students with limited English proficiency and students with special education needs
- **College and career readiness:** Achievement on standardized tests such as the ACT, COMPASS, ASVAB; Advanced Placement assessments, Project Lead The Way classes and dual credit classes; and college and career placement following high school graduation
- **Attendance rate**
- **Graduation rate**

From 2014-2017, Mehlville’s average APR score was 92.4 percent. The 2018 score is the highest ever for the district. Improvements in academic achievement and subgroup achievement scores contributed to the increase in the district’s APR score in 2018.

“Achievement scores take into account our average MAP scores over the past three years, year-over-year improvement in MAP scores, and the growth individual students make on MAP tests,” said Dr. Brian Smith, assistant superintendent for curriculum, assessment and professional development. “We received more points this year for our individual growth in subgroup achievement in math and English language arts. In 2018, we exceeded the expected growth in these areas.”

While he’s thrilled with the APR score, Superintendent Dr. Chris Gaines cautions that DESE has made numerous changes to the MAP tests, which can cause fluctuations in APR scores.

“Over the past five years, there have been four different tests set to three different sets of standards,” Dr. Gaines said. “This makes year-to-year improvement comparisons meaningless.”

According to DESE, completely new assessments in English language arts and math were administered in 2017-18 due to changes in learning standards. Therefore, it is important to note that the 2017-18 results are not comparable with results from previous tests in those subjects. More than 2,500 Missouri teachers and other stakeholders crafted the Missouri Learning Standards that were adopted in spring 2016. The new standards were developed with a goal of setting higher expectations for students, which was reflected in a more challenging, teacher-developed set of state assessments.

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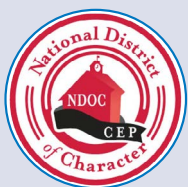
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The *Mehlville Messenger* is published by the Communications Department four times a year for Mehlville School District residents, businesses and families. Its purpose is to inform the public of district news, student achievements and community involvement activities. Please submit questions, letters and comments to:

Communications Department  
3120 Lemay Ferry Road  
St. Louis, MO 63125  
314-467-5000  
[messenger@msdr9.org](mailto:messenger@msdr9.org)



*Mehlville School District*

## FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

# Keeping track of our progress

One of my responsibilities as a member of the Mehlville Board of Education is to hold the school district accountable for the promises it makes to students, parents, taxpayers and the greater community. I wanted to provide you with an update on a few promises we've made.

### Prop R spending

Prop R was passed in November 2015 to increase the tax rate by 49 cents, which increases revenue by an estimated \$8,044,000. While this revenue varies year-to-year based on the value of the property within our district boundaries, we promised to spend at least \$7.2 million on specific items to benefit our students. The remaining funds would go toward general operating expenses. Those items specifically budgeted for by Prop R included after school activities and clubs, 5 English learner teachers and 11 interventionists, professional development for staff, increased communications, classroom supplies, and equipment, technology, buses and capital improvements. All of these investments help us to continually improve our students' educational experience.

In fiscal year 2018, which covered the 2017-2018 school year, Mehlville School District spent \$7.5 million on Prop R targeted items, and the remaining \$500,000 went toward

general operating expenses. You can see all of the expenditures in the agenda from our Nov. 19, 2018, board meeting. All board meeting agendas are posted online at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/about\\_us/board\\_of\\_education](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/about_us/board_of_education).

### Continuous improvement at each school

The highlight of our meetings this year have been the presentations made by school principals. At each meeting, two principals share their school's achievement data. They share their celebrations alongside their plans for improvement. Behind each data point is a student, and it's clear our schools are working hard to help all of our students learn and thrive.

### Board Listening Session

We'd love your feedback! The Mehlville Board of Education hosts informal listening sessions several times a year. This is the perfect opportunity to ask questions and share your thoughts or concerns with members of the board. The next listening session is Tuesday, May 7, at Washington Middle School. The listening session starts at 6:30 p.m.



Samantha Stormer

## Board approves calendar for 2020-2021 school year

The Mehlville Board of Education approved the calendar for the 2020-2021 school year during their Dec. 20 meeting.

The first day of school will be Thursday, Aug. 13, 2020. The last day of school is dependent on snow days but could be as early as May 19, 2021. School year calendars are available online at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/calendars](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/calendars)

School calendars are developed by the calendar committee, which includes school district staff and parents.

The board also approved the addition of one non-school day during the 2019-2020 school year calendar. The district

typically does not have school on general elections and presidential primary elections. The district was notified that March 10, 2020, is a presidential primary. The board

has decided to revise the calendar to make this a non-school day, using one of two built-in snow days.



## Felton, Schartner to retain positions on Board of Education

Two Mehlville School District citizens have filed their candidacy for two positions on the Mehlville Board of Education. They are both incumbents: Larry Felton and Kevin Schartner.

Under the provisions of Missouri law, if the number of candidates who file is the same as the number of positions to be filled by the election (two), there will be no election. Since this is the case, at the April organizational meeting of the Board of Education, the district will swear in these candidates.

Felton and Schartner will each serve three-year terms.

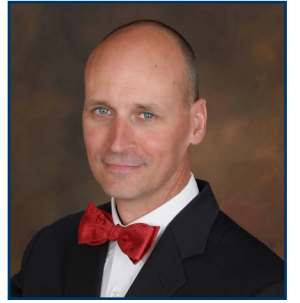


Larry Felton



Kevin Schartner





## How we're increasing opportunities for high school students

Each year the school year seems to go by more quickly. I realize that this year has the same number of days as the year prior, and time isn't moving more quickly. What is happening is that, as we get older, each year becomes an ever-smaller proportion of our lives.

As we go through the second half of the school year, we are reflecting on the current year while planning for the future. As I look back on the first half of the 2018-2019 school year, I find there are a lot of accomplishments to celebrate. Here are a few things that come to mind.

- Mehlville School District received the highest score to date on the state's Annual Performance Report, validating our educators' commitment to continuous improvement.
- Both administrators at Bernard Middle School received state recognition. Lauren Cumming, assistant principal, was named the Missouri Assistant Principal of the Year. Lori Sullivan, principal, received the Consummate Professional Award from the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals.
- Two students are National Merit Finalists: Morgan Allen from Oakville High School, and Harrison Hong from Mehlville High School.
- While retirements are bittersweet, they provide an opportunity to reflect on an individual's service to our students, staff and community. Three long-time principals have announced their retirement at the end of this school year, and I hope you join me in thanking them for their tireless efforts teaching kids. I wish Oakville High Principal Jan Kellerman, Bernard Middle Principal Lori Sullivan and Mehlville High Principal Denise Swanger all the best.

As we look to the next school year, we have a lot to be excited about. In 2019-2020, we will launch the Academy at each of our middle schools. The program will start with incoming sixth-graders and grow as these students progress through middle school. Interest in the program has been strong.

At the high school level, we have some new classes available next fall that combine math with business and construction. These classes offer a work-like experience for more relevant and engaging student learning. We are also formalizing our Early College program where students will spend their day at St. Louis Community College. These students will earn 42 college credits —

close to an associates degree — that can transfer to any public college or university in Missouri.

As we look further into the future at our high schools, we are expanding internship and apprenticeship availability for students. For the 2020-2021 school year, we will have a formal process so students can earn credit by showing subject area competency rather than relying on seat time in a classroom.

High schools across the country are providing more work-based learning experiences for students. Mehlville High and Oakville High are at the forefront, collaborating with colleges, universities, business partners and other school districts to expand the options available to our students.

The old saying "time flies when you're having fun" holds true for Mehlville School District. Between our celebrations and our plans for the future, it is certainly a great time for Mehlville School District.



Mehlville High School students in the ProStart program gain work experience by catering district special events like 60plus luncheons.

## Personalized learning is focus of the Academy middle school experience

There is a new opportunity for students entering sixth grade in the 2019-2020 school year: The Academy.

The Academy is a middle school extension of our existing options for concentrated and sustained personalized learning. Currently, the district offers this style of education through MOSAIC Elementary School and MyPath, a course high school students can create around their own career interests. Mehlville School District has not had a formalized program in the middle schools, and the Academy changes that.

The Academy is a learning environment housed within each middle school. Academy classes present students with blended learning opportunities, including project-based learning, inquiry-based learning, personalized learning



**The Academy**

A personalized learning experience at  
Mehlville School District middle schools

and guided teacher expertise. Students in the Academy are empowered to shape how they learn the curriculum throughout the school year.

The Academy courses will be a combination of two classes. For example, an Academy course may be a two-hour class that blends math and science. Or an Academy course may be a three-hour class that blends English language arts and social studies. Any combination of classes may occur, but each Academy will offer two courses that combine two content areas. Combining content areas allows students to develop and demonstrate higher-level thinking.

Learn more about the Academy by visiting [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/parents/middle\\_school\\_academy](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/parents/middle_school_academy).



## Facility Steering Committee starts work to determine building needs

In 2020, the district has the opportunity to invest in its facilities and operations without increasing the existing tax rate. However, this requires placing a proposition on the ballot and the support of the community.

In order to decide what, if anything, to place on the ballot, the district has formed a Facility Steering Committee to gather feedback on facilities, determine needed projects and prioritize those projects at each school and across the district. The steering committee will make a recommendation to the Mehlville School District Board of Education on what should be placed on the 2020 ballot.

The committee, which is comprised of staff and parents from each school, and community members, began meeting in December. Through the spring of 2020, the committee will meet at each school to review feedback from parent, staff and student facility surveys and to begin prioritizing needs. So far, the committee has visited Washington Middle School and Oakville Middle School. Patterns of needs observed to date include facility upgrades related to safety and accessibility, HVAC and modernized learning spaces.

“Every committee member will obtain the big picture of facility needs across the district while also being informed of the needs of each individual building or campus,” said Dr. Chris Gaines, superintendent. “This will provide them with both the in-depth knowledge and district-wide perspective if they choose to make a recommendation to place a proposition on the ballot in November 2020.”

Parents and students are encouraged to provide their feedback on their school’s facility when surveys are distributed the month prior to the committee’s visit. Members of the community are welcome to provide their feedback during the open houses prior to each committee meeting. For more information please contact Dr. Chad Dickemper, executive director of planning and development, at 314-467-5011 or [cdickemper@msdr9.org](mailto:cdickemper@msdr9.org).



Facility Steering Committee members meet at Oakville Middle School.

### Upcoming Facility Steering Committee Meetings

**Bierbaum Elementary School** (2050 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125)

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Rogers Elementary School** (7700 Fine Road, St. Louis, MO 63129)

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Blades Elementary School** (5140 Patterson Road, St. Louis, MO 63129)

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Forder Elementary School** (623 W. Ripa Ave., St. Louis, MO 63125)

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Beasley Elementary School** (3131 Koch Road, St. Louis, MO 63125)

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Point Elementary School** (6790 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63129)

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

**Bernard Middle School** (1054 Forder Road, St. Louis, MO 63129)

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Open House 5-6:30 p.m. | Committee Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.

### Key Facts About Facilities

- Mehlville School District has 1.8 million square feet of classrooms, athletic facilities, cafeterias and other learning spaces under roof. (That’s almost the size of 38 football fields!)
- We fund upkeep and repairs at just \$1.50 per square foot. At this funding level, Mehlville School District has more facilities needs than funds.
- In 2016 voters approved a tax transfer of 4 cents. This year, that tax transfer generates \$708,000 to fund roofing and HVAC projects. The tax transfer ends in 2025.
- The last significant investment in Mehlville School District facilities was in 2000. Most St. Louis County school districts have made three significant investments in facilities since 2000.

## \$1.9 million saved by refinancing Certificate of Participation

The Mehlville Board of Education approved the refinancing of the district’s Series 2009 Certificate of Participation (COP) during their December meeting. By refinancing this COP, the district will save about \$1,876,000.

The refinance will replace the 2009 COP, which has a 6.85 percent interest rate, with the 2019 COP with a 3 percent interest rate and an accelerated payment schedule. All of Mehlville School District’s COPs are scheduled to be paid off by 2022.

Certificates of Participation are alternatives to municipal bonds that are used by school districts to make improvements to facilities and infrastructure.

“This is one of 11 refinances that we have completed since 2010,” said Marshall

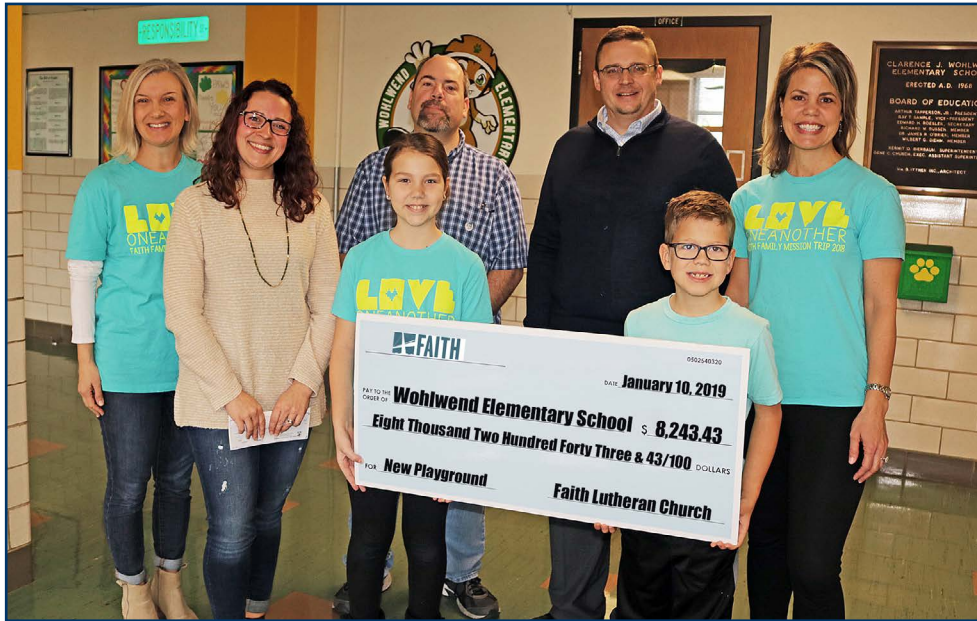
Crutcher, chief financial officer for Mehlville School District. “The total savings for all of these refinances is \$11.2 million. Ensuring that we take advantage of more favorable interest rates for our COPs is just one of the ways we are being responsible stewards of taxpayer funds.”

Mehlville School District’s bond rating has been upgraded from AA- to AA status. This bond rating indicates that Mehlville School District has a very strong, and improving, creditworthiness relative to other U.S. municipal or tax-exempt issuers or issues.

“This higher bond rating will be helpful in securing the best financing for any future bond issues,” Crutcher said.



## A place where everyone can play



Faith Lutheran Church donated \$8,243 for the accessible playground at Wohlwend Elementary.

Wohlwend Elementary School has drafted plans for a new, accessible playground – the first of its kind in South County. The new playground would replace the current play equipment, which is more than 25 years old.

“This playground would be amazing for our students who rely on wheelchairs or who have other mobility challenges,” said Dr. Dave Meschke, principal at Wohlwend. The playground has a ramp to make the top section accessible to all. In addition to slides and climbing structures, the playground also has built-in activities, like drums, that all kids can access. A safe, accessible surface will also be installed.

The playground will cost \$110,000, and the manufacturer, Cunningham Recreation, has agreed to cover 50 percent of the cost. The school’s PTO, the Wildcat PAWS, is working to raise the remaining \$55,000. So far they’ve raised \$15,500.

“A playground like this is definitely needed in South County. The closest accessible playgrounds are in Kirkwood and Herculaneum,” Dr. Meschke said. Once installed, members of the community can use the playground in the evenings and weekends when school is not in session.

## Students explore jobs during Oakville Middle Career Fair



Antoniee Mann, civil engineer with the Illinois of Department of Transportation, teaches students at Oakville Middle School about her job.

Oakville Middle students had the opportunity to explore careers that interest them during the school’s annual Career Fair in November. About 35 professionals, in fields ranging from engineering to journalism, shared information about their vocations and answered student questions.

“We’ve been working with our students to identify their interests and strengths and how these might fit well with certain career fields,” said Emily Lehr, counselor at Oakville Middle School. “The Career Fair was a great opportunity for the students to explore a wide variety of careers and to talk directly with people who are working in those fields. It also gave them the opportunity to practice those soft skills that they will need once they start interviewing. It was great to see the kids dressed in professional dress, shaking hands, introducing themselves, making eye contact and writing thank you notes.”

## Learning to lead

More than half of students at Point Elementary School participate in a leadership role. From traffic leaders who help keep kids safe in the parent pick-up line, to makerspace leaders who keep the lab clean and organized, students have a variety of opportunities to develop leadership skills while taking ownership in their school. Some students even get to be mascot leaders who wear the school’s Eagle costume at special events or movie stars who speak in the school’s weekly video, “Spotlight on Point.”

“I love to see kids shine,” said Dr. Shannon Pike, principal at Point. “They’re so excited, and all of their leadership activities wrap right into academics.” It’s part of how Point begins to instill traits of Mehlville School District’s Portrait of a Graduate, like being a good communicator, a creative and critical thinker, and self-aware.

Traffic leaders Helen Nguyen, Darcy McClung and Joseph Stoessel encourage students to be quiet and safe during parent pick-up.





### Breaking down barriers to learning



When Mrs. Drikow leads instruction, Mrs. Kennedy sits among students to spark greater engagement.

When students in Paula Kennedy's and Devon Drikow's classes returned from winter break, they found a new passageway in their classroom. What was once a wall between the two kindergarten classes at Hagemann Elementary School had been opened up – and so, too, did the learning opportunities for kids.

Kennedy and Drikow are now team-teaching more. When one teacher leads whole-group instruction, the other can work one-on-one with students or with a small group of students. "It allows us to teach deeper because we have more on-the-spot teachable moments," Drikow said.

It's also created a greater sense of connectedness between the two teachers.

"I don't feel like I'm teaching in isolation anymore," said kindergarten teacher Paula Kennedy. "It's fostering creativity and collaboration."



Mrs. Kennedy's students line up to go to next door for reading.

### Life in colonial Rogers



After learning about the importance of corn in the colonial diet, students mixed up and baked their own cornbread.

Fifth-grade students in Lisa Meyer's class at Rogers Elementary explore life in Colonial America through a variety of activities, including cooking, candle-dipping and journal-making. On "Colonial Fridays," Meyer and her students dress in colonial garb and participate in an extensive study by engaging in these hands-on colonial simulations.

### Special Olympics is a slam-dunk!

Oakville High School hosted a Special Olympics basketball celebration in February. OHS buddies teamed up with athletes from Mehlville School District's middle and elementary schools for a great day of teamwork, sportsmanship and competition.



Students shoot hoops during the Special Olympics basketball celebration.

At left, Oakville High sophomore Sophia Welch poses with her buddy Brett Hake, a sixth-grader from Buerkle Middle School.

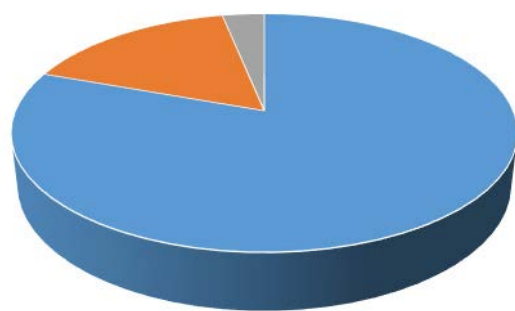


# Annual Report Card 2017-2018

Each year, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education publishes report cards for every Missouri school district. You can view the complete report card at <https://dese.mo.gov/>. Here are the highlights for Mehlville School District from the 2017-2018 school year.

2018 Enrollment (K-12): 10,138 (Preschool enrollment: 311)	Mehlville School District	Missouri
Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals	28.1%	50.7%
Students with limited English proficiency	12.2%	3.8%
Students receiving special education services	15.1%	13.3%
Proportional Attendance Rate <i>The percentage of students who are in attendance 90% of the time.</i>	90.9%	87.7%
Four-Year Graduation Rate	93.1%	89.2%
Students Entering Post-Secondary Education	78.6%	66.7%
Placement Rates for Career-Technical Education Students <i>The percentage of graduates who complete a career or technical education program and are placed in a related occupation or training program within 180 days after graduation.</i>	86.4%	76.7%
ACT Results (Composite Score) <i>Note: Mehlville School District pays for all students to take the ACT regardless of whether they intend to pursue college.</i>	21.2	19.9
Student-to-Teacher Ratio	17:1	17:1
Teacher Years of Experience	13.2	12.4
Teachers with Advanced Degrees	76.8%	58.4%
Expenditures per student (based on average daily attendance rate)	\$9,817	\$11,342

## Revenue Sources



Local	80.5%
State	16.3%
Federal	3.2%

## STAFF DISTINCTIONS

### Missouri Outstanding Beginning Teachers

**Erin Gaubatz**, English language arts teacher at Bernard Middle School, and **Alison Czarniak**, third-grade teacher at Point Elementary School received Missouri Outstanding Beginning Teachers awards.



Erin Gaubatz



Alison Czarniak

The Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education awards this honor every two years to teachers in their first or second year of teaching.

In addition to teaching eighth-grade English language arts, Gaubatz also coaches Bernard's FIRST Lego League team, the Patribots, and she coaches the school's drama club. This is Gaubatz's first year in teaching.

"Erin's students are excited to be in her classroom. She builds a great culture for learning together," said Lori Sullivan, principal at Bernard. "She loves teaching, and she loves her students."

Czarniak is in her second year of teaching at Point Elementary School.

"Alison is always looking for new and creative ways to reach her kids," said Shannon Pike, principal at Point. "She's well-liked by her students and also our staff. For a second-year teacher, I think that speaks very highly."

Czarniak serves as the co-facilitator for the innovation technology team at Point, Pike said. She's collaborative by nature and transfers what she learns on that team into the classroom while also sharing with other teachers.

### Lighthouse Award from CHADS Coalition

**Nicole Spruell**, Oakville Middle School health teacher, was recognized with a Lighthouse Award from CHADS (Communities Healing Adolescent Depression and Suicide) Coalition. Spruell received the award for being an outstanding partner and advocate for mental health and suicide prevention efforts. Her nominator wrote that Spruell is "instrumental in increasing understanding of the importance of mental health education, including the support of CHADS in classrooms for middle school health classes across the Mehlville School District."



Nicole Spruell

### Missouri state outstanding nurse

**Pam Frederich**, Oakville High School nurse, has been selected as the recipient of the Missouri Association of School Nurses' Outstanding Service of a School Nurse award. Frederich, who has served as a school nurse for Mehlville School District for more than 20 years, was specifically recognized for her work with diabetic students. She received the same award from the St. Louis Suburban School Nurses Association this fall.



Pam Frederich

### 'Consummate Professional' award

**Lori Sullivan**, principal of Bernard Middle School received the Consummate Professional award from the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. Sullivan received the award for her contributions to the school and the community, her leadership in improving student achievement, her impact on the school's positive climate, and her mentorship to new principals.



Gary Jansen, president of the St. Louis Association of Secondary Principals presents Lori Sullivan with the Consummate Professional award.



## 2019 Spring Classes

Mehlville Community Enrichment is offering several classes for children and adults to enjoy this spring! A complete list of classes (including class descriptions, location, day and time) can be found online at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com).

### CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

- Abra-Kid-Abra:** (Grades 1-5) | \$75
- Art Time** (Grades 1-6) | \$30
- Bricks 4 Kidz** (Grades K-5) | \$95
- Little Dental School** (Grades K-5) | \$95
- Little Sports Medicine School** (Grades 3-5) | \$95
- Little Wilderness School** (Grades K-5) | \$95
- Mad Science** (Grades K-5) | \$98
- Spanish for Kids** (Grades K-5) | \$30
- Tennis** (Grades 3-12) | \$60

### CLASSES FOR ADULTS

- Zumba** (Ages 18 & up) | \$40

### Driver's Education (Ages 15 & up)

There will be two sessions of driver's education offered in the spring of 2019 | \$265 for district residents; \$290 for non-residents

**Session 3:** March 25 to April 15      **Session 4:** April 22 to May 9

### SWIMMING POOL INFORMATION

The Mehlville School District swimming pool is located on the Mehlville High School campus, 3200 Lemay Ferry Road, St. Louis, MO 63125.

**Saturday Morning Learn to Swim/Advanced Swim** | \$40

**Coached Lap Swim** (All ages with tryout) | \$125

**Swimnastics** (Ages 18 & up) | Water aerobics held in the shallow end of the pool. | One day/week (Monday or Wednesday): \$40 resident fee, \$25 for 60plus Gold Card members. Two days/week (Monday and Wednesday) \$50 resident fee, \$35 for 60plus Gold Card members.

**Session 1:**  
May 20 - July 17

**Session 2:**  
July 22 - Sept 18



## 2019 Summer Camps

Mehlville Community Enrichment Summer Camp will be in session July 1 - July 25, 2019, at Trautwein Elementary. Please check the website for a complete list of programming. Online registration begins April 1.

**Session One: July 1 - 3, 5** **Abra-Kid-Abra - Circus Stars:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$80

- Adventures in Storytelling:** (Ages 4-6) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$45
- Babysitting Basics:** (Ages 12+) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$60
- Bricks 4 Kidz - Minecraft:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$100
- Cheer/Pom:** (Grades K-7) 9 a.m.-11 a.m. | \$65
- Crayola® World of Design:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$140

**Session Two: July 8 - 11** **Abra-Kid-Abra - Magic Camp:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$80

- Adventures in Storytelling:** (Ages 4-6) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$45
- Babysitting Basics:** (Ages 12+) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$60
- Bricks 4 Kidz - Bat League Heroes & Villains:** (Ages 4-11) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$100
- Cheer/Pom:** (K-7) 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$65
- Chess:** (Grades K-12) 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$125
- Jewelry Creations:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-11 a.m. | \$75
- Little Wilderness:** (Grades K-5) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$125
- Broadway for Beginners:** (Ages 7-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$75

**Session Three: July 15 - 18** **Abra-Kid-Abra - Comedy Camp:** (Ages 6-14) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$80

- Adventures in Storytelling:** (Ages 4-6) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$45
- Babysitting Basics:** (Ages 12+) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$60
- Bricks 4 Kidz - Ninjago:** (Ages 4-11) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$100
- Cheer/Pom:** (Grades K-7) 9 a.m.-11 a.m. | \$65
- Chess:** (Grades K-12) 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$125
- Crayola® Artist's Passport:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$140
- Jewelry Creations:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-11 a.m. | \$75
- Little Veterinarian:** (Grades K-5) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$125
- Mad Science - Make it!:** (Ages 5-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$140
- Broadway for Beginners:** (Ages 7-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$75

**Session Four: July 22 - 25** **Abra-Kid-Abra - Mystery Magic:** (Ages 6-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$80

- Adventures in Storytelling:** (Ages 4-6) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$45
- Babysitting Basics:** (Ages 12+) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$60
- Bricks 4 Kidz - Pokemon:** (Ages 4-11) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$100
- Cheer/Pom:** (Grades K-7) 9 a.m.-11 a.m. | \$65
- Chess:** (Grades K-12) 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$125
- Mad Science - Gross out!:** (Ages 5-12) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | \$140

### ADDITIONAL SUMMER PROGRAMS:

**Tennis:** Bernard Middle School (Ages 5-18) There will be two sessions in the month of June. Dates and times announced April 1 | \$60

**Driver's Education:** Location TBD (Age 15+) | June 3 - 28

**Class Time:** Monday through Thursday | June 3 - June 18 | 8 a.m.-11 a.m.

**Drive Time:** Schedule on first day of class will provide dates/times | June 19 - 28

Fee: \$265 for residents/\$290 for nonresidents

**Coached Lap Swim:** Mehlville Swimming Pool | June tryout. Dates and times announced April 1 | \$125

**Learn to Swim/Advanced Swim.** (Ages 3+) | 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m.  
| **Session 1:** June 3 - 20; **Session 2:** June 24 - July 12; **Session 3:** July 15 - August 1 | \$80/resident and \$90/nonresident

## HOW TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES AND CAMPS

All registrations must be made online at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.revtrak.net/community-enrichment](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.revtrak.net/community-enrichment)



For more information, contact Community Enrichment at 314-467-5280 or email [lusterk@msdr9.org](mailto:lusterk@msdr9.org).

\*Programs subject to change. Please check [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com) for course updates.

Follow **Mehlville School District Community Enrichment** on Facebook!





## Mehlville Summer Session

Explore, Discover, Achieve with Mehlville School District

Mehlville's Summer Session for elementary and middle school students is packed with opportunities for exploration, discovery and achievement. High school students can take elective courses and recover credits in core subjects during Summer Session.

### Summer Session Locations and Hours

#### Elementary School Summer Session

8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Blades, Beasley and Oakville students will attend Blades Elementary. Forder, Bierbaum, Hagemann and Trautwein students will attend Forder Elementary.

Rogers, Point and Wohlwend students will attend Rogers Elementary.

#### Middle School Summer Session

7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Bernard Middle School

#### High School Summer Session

Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mehlville High School

### More Information and Registration

See course offerings for middle and high school and register online at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/summer\\_session](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/summer_session)

**Top: Students explored robotics at Bernard Middle last year.**

**Bottom: Elementary summer school provides opportunities for crafts, cooking, science, service learning and more.**



## New Mehlville High School principal named

We are pleased to announce that Jason Landherr will be the principal of Mehlville High School beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

The Mehlville School District Board of Education unanimously voted to approve his hiring in February. Several highly qualified candidates applied for the position, and parents, students and staff were all involved in the selection process.

"A forward-thinker, Mr. Landherr's vision is to create a transformational high school experience for all kids," said Dr. Chris Gaines, superintendent of Mehlville School District. "His ability to collaborate with others and empower teachers to engage in innovative teaching practices is impressive. Throughout his time as an assistant principal, he has demonstrated his ability to develop positive relationships with students and parents and has built a reputation as a passionate educational leader with a strong work ethic."

Landherr's experience in school administration includes his role as assistant principal at Mehlville High School since 2012. In addition to his administrative experience, he served as a district social studies curriculum facilitator from 2013-2016, and he taught social studies at MHS for five years. Landherr earned a bachelor of arts in secondary education and history from Saint Louis University. He earned a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and an Education Specialist in Educational Leadership from Lindenwood University.

He is currently working on an Educational Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Saint Louis University, with an anticipated graduation date of May 2019.

"Mehlville is a special place, and I am very fortunate to be a Panther," Landherr said. "I'm looking forward to working together with students, staff and parents to continue building on the positive climate and high academic standards of Mehlville High School. My goal is to provide the best high school experience for our students and prepare them to be engaged, successful members of the Mehlville community."

Landherr is an Oakville High graduate and lives in Oakville with his wife, Jessica, and two children. They are expecting their third child in June.

Landherr will begin serving as principal at Mehlville High School on July 1, 2019. He replaces Dr. Denise Swanger who is retiring at the end of the current school year.





## STUDENT DISTINCTIONS

### National Merit Finalists

Oakville High senior **Morgan Allen** and Mehlville High senior **Harrison Hong** have been named finalists for National Merit Scholarships. Of the 15,000 finalists, about half will receive \$2,500 annual scholarships that can be used for four years of college.



Morgan Allen



Harrison Hong

### Missouri Boys State

Mehlville High School senior **Jesse Schryver** participated in the American Legion Boys State of Missouri last summer. Schryver was selected based on his leadership, citizenship, academics and character during his junior year. Boys State educates and trains Missouri's young leaders in functional citizenship, leadership and government.



Jesse Schryver

### Optimist Student of the Month

**Lauren Thomas**, Oakville High School senior, was named Optimist Student of the Month by the Mehlville Optimist Club in January.



(L-R): Frank Ziegler, Curtis Overbey, Lauren Thomas and Marilyn Smith

### All-American Cheerleaders

Four Oakville High varsity cheerleaders were named All-American Cheerleaders by the Universal Cheerleading Association: junior **Maddie Brutton**, senior **Delaney O'Neill**, junior **McKenna Brawley** and junior **Kara Nienhaus**.

### Welding Competition

Two Oakville High vocational technical students placed in the Missouri Welding Institutes welding competition. **Sam Buckel**, senior, placed fifth, and **DeShawn Hoffmann**, senior, placed eighth.



DeShawn Hoffmann and Sam Buckel

### Writing contest winner

**Mackenzie Deutschmann**, a sophomore at Oakville High School, won the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association writing contest. Deutschmann has been invited to read her essay at the association's Officer of the Year banquet.

### Robotics team competes in championships

The **Bernard Middle School Patribots**, the school's FIRST Lego League team, advanced to the Eastern Missouri FIRST Lego League championship after receiving the Champion's Award at a regional qualifier on Dec. 8.



Pictured (L-R, back row) Bernard teacher and Patribots coach **Erin Gaubatz**, **Kat Bucholtz**, **Alicia Rodriguez**, **Lily Rickard**, **Andrew Ruzicka**, **Justin Bradley**, Bernard teacher and Patribots coach **Lauren Mey**, (front row) **Ian Tentschert**, **Kevin Buss**, **Andrew Brown**, **Noah Dobbins**, **Ryan Lisle**

### All-State Lighting Technician

Mehlville High School sophomore **Alyssa Norrenberns** was selected for the position of lighting technician for the 2020 Missouri All State Production of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire."



Alyssa Norrenberns

### Building 'Bridges' to college

Mehlville High School students (pictured left to right) sophomore **Kaelonna Gully**, freshman **Heavenly Larry**, sophomore **Edvin Linhorst**, freshman **Michele Mardanschahie** and freshman **Amra Osmanovic**, were selected to participate in the University of Missouri-St. Louis Bridge Program. The program diminishes obstacles to college entry and prepares students for college.



Bridge program participants

### Do The Right Thing

Two Oakville High students **Jacob Leath** and **Josh Kreuger** are credited with saving a man's life during a float trip on the Courtois River this summer. In December, the two freshmen were recognized by Do The Right Thing of Greater St. Louis for their heroic actions.



(L-R) Colonel John Hayden, Jr., St. Louis Metropolitan Police Chief; Jacob Leath; Captain Jim Schneider, Commander of St. Louis County Police's South County Precinct; Josh Kreuger

### Engineering and design competition

**Edi Mahmutovic** and **Vincent Trosky**, Mehlville High School seniors, participated in the Gateway Arch student engineering design competition in November. This is the first year that local high schools were allowed to compete alongside university teams. The students were charged with reducing the glare from the summer sun in the visitor center under the Arch.



(L-R) Edi Mahmutovic, MHS Math and Project Lead the Way teacher **Marge Meier**, and Vincent Trosky

### Family, Career and Community Leaders of America STARs

Oakville High School sophomore **Megan Blanchard**, junior **Kayla Jackson** and senior **Megan Miller** have advanced to the state Family Career and Community Leaders of America STAR Events Competition. The three students received gold awards in the regional event in January. Sophomore **Madison Appel**, sophomore **David Genovese**, sophomore **Paige Alfeldt** and senior **Sam Gandhi** received silver awards. Juniors **Morgan Orr** and **Madelynn Turner** received bronze awards. STAR Events recognize individuals and chapters for their proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills and occupational preparation.



Megan Blanchard, Kayla Jackson and Megan Miller



### All-State Athletes

Six Oakville High School cross country athletes received Academic All-State honors: junior **Jack Parcell**, sophomore **Drew Elza**, senior **Alexander Sullivan**, senior **Emma Mueller**, junior **Mackenzie Montandon** and freshman **Olivia Witte**. **Jacob Bilyeu**, Oakville High School senior, was recognized All State, All Region for soccer. **Alexis Williams**, Oakville High School junior, was named to the All-State Volleyball team.



Jacob Bilyeu



Alexis Williams

### FIRST Tech Challenge Championships

The Oakville High School FIRST Tech Challenge team 9612 participated in the Eastern Missouri Regional Qualifiers. Kneeling (L-R):



Oakville High School FIRST Tech Challenge team 9612

**Clayton Brown,**

**Jake Walters, Ryan Jokuti, Shaun Ludwig, Nathan Fetter, Connor Buneta, Michael Fetter, Alen Avdic.** Standing (L-R): **Garrett Summerfield, Hayden Brown, Davin Smith, Caleb Frillman, Josef Baltz, Vallerie Budrovich-Stack, Justin Crawford, Kevin Liu.**

### Student artwork chosen for county health calendar

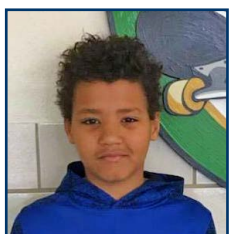
Washington Middle eighth-grader **Lisa Hang** is the winner of the Healthy Living Calendar contest, which was sponsored by the St. Louis County Department of Public Health.



Lisa Hang

### Elks essay winner

**Jayden Blakey**, fifth-grade student at Wohlwend Elementary School, won first place in the Oakville Elks writing contest. Blakey won the Division I category for fifth and sixth grades for his essay on "What Makes You Proud of America."



Jayden Blakey



Samantha Apple

### Historic wrestling win

**Samantha Apple**, junior at Mehlville High School, placed fourth in the first-ever Missouri State High School Activities Association Girls Wrestling Tournament.



The Kiwanis presented Blades Elementary School students with the Terrific Kids Award. (L-R): **Pauline Roth** from Kiwanis, **Kiley Eschbacher, Elmedina Elizajovic, Aseya Kadymova, Gabriella Colombo** and Blades principal **Dr. Jeremy Booker.**



Kiwanis recognized three Forder students as Terrific Kids: (L-R) front row: **Josalynne Brown, Lily Fairchild and Minela Kafedzic.** Back row: **Pauline Roth, Roy Wunsch** and Forder Principal **Dr. Whitney Maus.**

### Golden Girls are national champions

The Oakville High School Golden Girls dance team are national champions! The Golden Girls traveled to Orlando, Florida, in February to participate in the National Dance Alliance's national high school championship. They returned with the championship cup for their performance in Small Varsity – Pom. They also received the Superior Showmanship Award. The team placed second in JV Pom, fifth in Varsity Kick, and sixth in Varsity Mix.



OHS varsity Golden Girls front row: (L-R) **Abby Tiemann, Madijah Parker, Morgan Murphy, Carolyn Grayson, Katie Pickens, Allisyn Neal.** Second row: (L-R) **Coach Kayla Hall, Isabella Simokaitis, Naomi Wiedermann, Katelyn Massey, Isabella Ferrario, Josie Ferrario**

### Pantherettes place in national championships

The Mehlville High School Pantherettes dance team placed in the National Dance Alliance's national high school championship. They placed fourth in Medium Varsity - Hip Hop, sixth in Large Varsity – Poms and ninth in Medium Varsity – Jazz. Members of the varsity and junior varsity Pantherettes include **Laila Ahmetpahic, Olivia Bellinger, Natalie Brooks,**

**Lindsey Carroll, Gabriella Cookson, Tori Dasher, Mary Eernisse, Sydney Gruber, Isabelle Kohler, Alicia Love, Kara Marino, Ena Mesan, Payton**

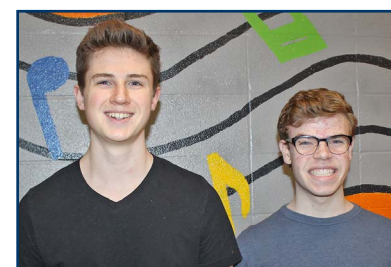


Mehlville High School Pantherettes

**Richardson, Chloe Schulte, Maya Tunstall, Abby Wachsnicht, Jayna Wallinger, Laryssa Warden, Brooke Whitten, Emily Williams.** The team is coached by **Miranda Widman** and **Claire Minton.**

### Missouri State Thespian Conference

Oakville High School senior **Nathan Gallop** and junior **Thomas Schartner** received superior ratings in Musical Theatre at the Missouri State Thespian Conference. They also received an invitation to perform in the closing competition.



Nathan Gallop, Thomas Schartner



Attn: Postal Patron

ECRWSS

### IMPORTANT DATES

Find district event information at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com).

<b>Mar. 11-14</b>	Parent teacher conferences
<b>Mar. 14</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High Library
<b>Mar. 18-22</b>	No school - Spring Break
<b>Mar. 27</b>	Half day for students
<b>Apr. 2</b>	No school - Election Day - Teacher professional development/work day
<b>Apr. 11</b>	Board of Education Reorganization Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High Library
<b>Apr. 19</b>	No school, district offices closed
<b>Apr. 24</b>	Half day for students
<b>Apr. 25</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High Library
<b>May 4</b>	MOMS Club Baby Mania Sale, 8 a.m. - noon, Mehlville High parking lot
<b>May 7</b>	Board Listening Session, 6:30 p.m., Washington Middle
<b>May 16</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High Library
<b>May 20</b>	SCOPE Graduation, 6:30 p.m., Nottelmann Auditorium
<b>May 24</b>	Finals 6-12/half day for students/teacher workday
<b>May 27</b>	No school - Memorial Day
<b>May 28</b>	Last Day of School (this could change pending snow days)
<b>June 2</b>	Oakville High School Graduation, 1:30 p.m., Chaifetz Arena
<b>June 2</b>	Mehlville High School Graduation, 6 p.m., Chaifetz Arena
<b>June 3-28</b>	Mehlville Summer Session
<b>June 13</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High Library

For a list of events held at the **Nottelmann Auditorium** visit [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/community/fine\\_arts/nottelmann\\_auditorium\\_events](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/community/fine_arts/nottelmann_auditorium_events)



For snow closures, lunch menus, news, events and more:

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Available in the App Store and Google Play

A Mehlville School District Publication

# Mehlville Messenger

## Mehlville earns top marks on state report card (see page 1)



**Bierbaum students (L-R): Akriti Rizal, Dang Le, William Robinson, Alaina Murphy, Vedad Muslic**

**Summer Academy registration opens March 8. See page 9.**

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**MARCH 2019**