

Mehlville Messenger

A Mehlville School District Publication

Students learn to handle their emotions with Zones of Regulation

In addition to learning core subjects, like reading, writing, math and science, Mehlville School District elementary school students also learn about their emotions. Through a program called Zones of Regulation, students are learning how to manage their reactions to different situations.

This social-emotional learning program teaches students to identify what emotion they're feeling based on four different zones. Being in the green zone means students are feeling happy and ready to learn. Being in the blue, red or yellow zones may mean the student needs to implement a strategy to get them back to green.

"It's important for students to learn about their emotions," said Kaitlin Hackbarth, Bierbaum Elementary kindergarten teacher. "Before they're dysregulated, we want them to understand how they're feeling, so if they do become dysregulated, they're able to name the feeling and use one of their tools to return to the green zone."

To be dysregulated means students are in a state where they're not ready to learn or they are losing control of their emotions. These situations can lead to difficulties learning for the student, as well as disruptions for their class.

"Dysregulation could mean that the student is sad, tired, anxious or angry," said Michele Polzin, social-emotional learning interventionist at Beasley Elementary. "We know that students learn best when they are in that Zone of Regulation, so developing skills to get back to the green zone helps students maximize their learning."

At Beasley Elementary, teachers establish a Zen Den in their classrooms. This is an area where students can pause for a few minutes when they feel themselves becoming dysregulated and use one of the strategies available to them. Some examples include working on a puzzle, coloring, doing Sudoku or playing with clay. After five minutes in the Zen Den, the student returns to their seat to continue learning.

Zones of Regulation lessons taught throughout the year help to supplement the lessons students are learning in core subjects.

"The social-emotional aspect is important because if a student isn't in control of their emotions, we can't expect them to actively participate in a math or reading lesson," said Jeff Winter, behavior support interventionist at Bierbaum Elementary. "By guiding students in their social-emotional learning, we can expect them to perform better in the academic setting."

Teachers expect the skills learned through Zones of Regulation lessons to have a positive impact beyond students' time in Mehlville School District.

"This is a lifelong skill and one of the most important lessons we're teaching them," said Amanda Barton, a fifth-grade teacher at Beasley Elementary. "They're going to need to know how to regulate their emotions in life."

How you can use the Zones of Regulation at home

You can learn more about the Zones of Regulation and how you can use the strategies with your child at home by visiting our website at bit.ly/msdr9zones.



Bierbaum Elementary kindergarten teacher Kaitlin Hackbarth leads a lesson with students about how people may react differently to similar situations. Students were given scenarios and identified how that situation would make them feel.

Beasley Elementary fifth-grade students explored different methods they could use when they become dysregulated. After testing out each method, students identified scenarios where using that method would be beneficial for them.



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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:

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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.



Mehlville School District is proud to be a National District of Character.



Mehlville School District

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Kevin Schartner



Encouraging news as we approach the end of the school year

It's springtime, and once again, I can't help but feel encouraged as we see a new graduating class getting ready to take the next big steps in their life. Whether it be starting a career, going on to further education, or serving our nation through the military, we know our schools have provided them with the tools to chart their own path and pursue their dreams. We wish all of our graduates the best as they graduate to the next chapter in their lives.

Taking a step to look back, we can also see how the challenges we have faced over these past two years have provided opportunities for growth. This year we had our first virtual learning snow days, which worked very well and kept us from adding days to the end of the school year. Our individualized learning programs and many high school options continued to evolve and offer more opportunities for students to customize their education. We are also taking advantage of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to help with the learning challenges we experienced in the prior school year,

through the addition of educational resources like math and reading interventionists. While ESSER funds will end in three years, this gives us an opportunity to evaluate how these resources will improve academic comprehension by our students, especially in our younger grades.

This year will also be a change for Larry Felton and me. We are both stepping down from the Board of Education in April. Larry has served 15 years on our Board and has the notable honor of having represented us as President of the Missouri School Boards' Association. It has been an honor to serve with our fellow board members and to work with our administration, teachers and everyone who provides the means for our district to provide excellent educational opportunities to our community's children. We will still be here to support you as you continue to move our district forward.

Mehlville School District finances receive highest opinion from auditors

Upon review of Mehlville School District's finances for the 2021 fiscal year, auditors from Daniel Jones and Associates issued the district's accounting practices its highest marks, an unmodified opinion, or clean audit.

Auditors issue unmodified opinions to express that financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects and to express that the district has complied with all statutory requirements. Daniel Jones and Associates presented the audit report to the Mehlville Board of Education on Dec. 16, 2021.

"Our employees work hard to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars," said Mehlville School District Chief Financial Officer Marshall Crutcher. "It's incredibly important that we maintain the trust of our community, and we are proud to again earn the high marks from our financial auditor."

Mehlville School District currently has the second lowest blended tax rate out of the 22 St. Louis County school districts. In fiscal year 2021 (2020-2021 school year), the district spent \$10,082 per student, the second lowest amount of St. Louis County school districts.

Financially Speaking: How Mehlville compares with 22 St. Louis County school districts

With 9,765 students in kindergarten through 12th grade, Mehlville School District was the **fourth largest school district** in St. Louis County in the 2020-2021 school year. Only Rockwood, Parkway and Hazelwood school districts were larger. There are 22 school districts in St. Louis County, excluding Special School District.



Mehlville was in **11th place when it comes to assessed value per student** (\$239,145), which is an indicator of economic strength.

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Mehlville had the **second-lowest blended tax rate** (\$3.8056). Twenty St. Louis County school districts had higher tax rates than Mehlville School District. The district also had the **second-lowest expense per student at \$10,082**. Expense per student represents the educational investment we are able to make in each student. In St. Louis County, that investment is largely determined by the local tax rate and the assessed valuation of district properties.

Mehlville ranks low in categories that represent investments in infrastructure. For example, the district is **last in outstanding debt per student** (\$4,069).



Financial challenges are on our horizon

Recently I shared some of the financial challenges we are facing and some ways to address those challenges with the district Finance Committee and the Board of Education.

One of those challenges is the result of a court decision last summer out of Franklin County (*Blankenship v. Franklin County Collector*). The court ruled that a subsection of state law used to calculate local tax rates was unconstitutional. As a result, our Mehlville School District tax rate was lower last year than what we had budgeted, unexpectedly reducing our local tax revenue in the 2021-2022 school year by over \$1 million. The ruling also set a new lower tax base from which our revenue grows from increased property values and new construction.

Another challenge is the impact of inflation on the district. The supplies we purchase to operate our schools every day have all seen price increases, and construction costs are skyrocketing. Over the next few months, we will have bids open on several Prop S projects. The early indications are

that bids will land two to four times higher than the estimates we received in 2020.

At the state level, Gov. Michael Parson's budget recommendation results in stagnation of statewide funding for school transportation and the foundation formula. Additionally, state legislators, as I write this in the middle of February, have not authorized the release of what's called ESSER III funds. These are federal funds intended for Missouri school districts, of which \$9 million is promised to Mehlville School District to fund additional staff (like the social-emotional learning interventionists featured on the cover of this newsletter) and programs through the 2023-2024 school year.

In sum, expenses are increasing and revenue is stagnating. Recognizing these challenges can help us to address them in the short and long term. We have started discussing these challenges, and we will be recommending and considering solutions in the coming months and years.

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Four schools recognized for academic growth

Four district schools were recognized for student growth in mathematics and English language arts in a recent report released by the St. Louis University PRiME Center: MOSAIC Elementary, Point Elementary, Bernard Middle and Washington Middle.

The Student Growth Report indicates which schools in the state are best moving students towards or beyond proficiency based on comparing Missouri Assessment Program testing scores over a three-year period. This report focused on 2016 through 2019, since that is the most recent three-year period prior to the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We're proud of the growth our students have shown," said Dr. Brian Smith, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning. "Standardized test scores are just one of the methods we use to assess student progress. These results show that the students at these schools are being persistent learners, in line with the district's Portrait of a Graduate."

MOSAIC Elementary ranked ninth in the state among elementary schools with a growth score of 98.0 in math, according to the PRiME Center report.

That score was also the second-highest score among elementary schools in the St. Louis region.

The report also focused on the scores of students eligible for free and reduced lunch, Black and Hispanic students, English language learners and students with disabilities. MOSAIC ranked 20th in the state in math among that subgroup of students.

Point Elementary was ranked third in the St. Louis region among elementary schools in student math growth in the report.

Bernard Middle achieved high proficiency growth in both English language arts and math. Bernard was ranked second in the St. Louis region among middle schools for growth in math. The school ranked seventh in the St. Louis region among middle schools for English language arts.

Washington Middle also achieved high proficiency in both English language arts and math. Washington Middle ranked sixth among all St. Louis-region middle schools in English language arts proficiency growth. The school ranked seventh among St. Louis-region middle schools in math proficiency growth.



Washington Middle School Academy teacher Kelly Backer reviews work with a student.



A Bernard Middle School student shows his work after working out a math problem on absolute value on a dry erase board.

Meet the candidates for Mehlville Board of Education

On April 5, Mehlville School District voters will be asked to select two Board of Education directors for three-year terms. Three people have filed candidacy. The three board candidates have provided the following responses to the district candidate questionnaire.



Ben Droney
droneyformehlville@gmail.com

Occupation: Scrum Master at Charter Spectrum and US Army Reserve Warrant Officer

Educational background: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Columbia College. Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling Webster University.

Community organizations/memberships: Assistant Scoutmaster/Scoutmaster Boy Scouts of American (2001-2003), Trail Life Parent Volunteer, Veterans of Foreign Wars Member

Information about your family: My wife Julie and I chose to settle in the Mehlville District after I returned from my last military deployment in 2018. I am blessed to have four children and five grandchildren with two students attending Oakville High School.

Why did you decide to run for the school board? I am running because I believe that district parents and taxpayers have lost their voice in the education process. Parents state

that even when they email board members directly, many of them don't reply back. Mehlville is a great community that cares about its children and families, our schools are a central part of that. I want to make sure parents are not only heard by the board but are true collaborators in their children's education.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Mehlville School District? What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? We have great dedicated teachers and caring parents. Learning loss and social anxiety caused by mask mandates and last year's school closures continues to hurt our students. Declining numbers of students proficient in English and Math will affect their success post-graduation. Helping our children and staff return to normal will allow us to focus on learning. Mehlville's strong sense of community pride is a significant asset. Mehlville's schools are the thread that ties us together. I believe we can harness that energy to improve student achievement and success to keep our community strong.



Scott Huegerich
huegerich4mehlvilleboe@gmail.com

Occupation: I am the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of a small marketing and communications company. Our clients include large scale corporations such as AT&T, Conagra Foods, Edward Jones, Enterprise, John Deere, Nestle Purina, Rawlings, Southwest Airlines, and many others.

Educational background: My entire K-12 education was through the Mehlville School District. I attended Bierbaum Elementary, Buerkle Middle School and graduated from Mehlville High School. I'm also a 1990 graduate of Southeast Missouri State University with a degree in Mass Communications and a minor in Economics.

Information about your family: I have been married to my wife Kelly for 31 years. We have 3 children: Ryan, Alex and Ethan. Everyone in my family is a graduate of the district. My personal connection to the district dates back to 1973 when I first stepped foot on the bus that took me to kindergarten class at Bierbaum.

Community organizations/memberships: I serve on the Professional Advisory Council for the Southeast Missouri State University Department of Mass Media. I am also the lead organizer of the Fill Up the Pickup food drives which benefit the St. Louis Area Foodbank, and the lead organizer of

the MHS Class of '86 Scholarship fund.

Why did you decide to run for the school board? I have been a volunteer for youth and education-based organizations for the last 22 years. In addition to my current role with SEMO, I have been a scout leader, and involved with the Savannah College of Art & Design and the Grandview School District. So, serving on the board would be consistent with my volunteer efforts for the majority of my adult life. I also believe the mixture of my professional and volunteer experience will prove valuable to the Board of Education.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Mehlville School District? What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? From a staffing standpoint, the biggest challenges are recruiting and retaining talented educators, and addressing the shortage of qualified substitutes. From a budget standpoint, the biggest challenge is the efficient use of Prop S funds. Since the passage of Prop S, the pandemic has inflated costs of construction materials. Because of this, projects that were considered during the early stages of Prop S will cost more than expected. The 2 considerable strengths the district has are its ongoing fiscal performance, and the passionate teachers in every school.



Sarah Grace Wright, PE
wright4mehlville@gmail.com

Occupation: Senior Project Manager & Civil Engineer at Great Rivers Greenway

Educational Background: Bachelors of Science Civil Engineering, Licensed Professional Engineer

Community organizations/memberships: Engineers' Club of St. Louis, Board of Directors

Information about your family: I am a wife to another engineer, a mom and a step-mom to five amazing and successful high-school-aged students. Four of the five kids are headed off to college this year. Our family has always been passionate about volunteering and the outdoors and dedicated to excellence in their education.

Why did you decide to run for the school board? I am an advocate for every single student, and with my background I have the proven experience that is required to make the best financial and educational decisions for the district. I have planned, designed, and built billions of dollars in

infrastructure, utilizing federal, state, and local funding mechanisms, collaborating with taxpayers and government bodies. I have the personal experience needed to empathize with families with IEPs and gifted education, as well as neurotypical children.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Mehlville School District? What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? The biggest challenge is there is not enough revenue to complete every infrastructure project MSD requires. As a board member, I will continue the prioritization of the expenditures to maximize the benefit to the district. As a mom, the district's biggest strengths include the parent organizations, the excellent teachers, staff, and leadership at every school. As a full-time working parent, I relied on them daily. As a professional, MSD's biggest strength has to be the spectacular financial and planning efforts that will keep the district on a successful path for hundreds of years to come.

Mehlville School District named top district for college dual enrollment courses

Mehlville School District was named a top five district for most St. Louis Community College students. Currently, 48 Mehlville High School and Oakville High School students are enrolled in dual enrollment courses.

In addition to being recognized as a top dual enrollment district, Mehlville School District students saved an estimated \$319,044 in future college tuition costs during the 2020-2021 school year by enrolling in dual enrollment courses through STLCC.

“Expanding access to dual enrollment, dual credit and advanced placement opportunities for our students to better prepare them for their future is an important component of our strategic plan,” said Dr. John DeWalle, director of college and career readiness. “Students are able to earn college-level credit and prepare for the rigors of a full-time college schedule at a more affordable rate for families.”

There are a total of 136 courses that MHS and OHS students are currently

enrolled in at STLCC for dual enrollment credit, combining to earn more than 400 total college credit hours. Dual enrollment courses cost families \$72.50 per credit hour. The normal rate they would pay per credit hour at STLCC is \$122.

Students also have the opportunity to enroll in the Early College Academy for their junior and senior years of high school. Sixteen students in the Early College Academy were enrolled in 76 courses during the fall semester. This program allows students to graduate high school with both a diploma and an associate degree. The entire cost of the program is paid by the district.

Mehlville School District has a new program, Make It Count, beginning this spring. Make It Count allows second-semester high school seniors who have completed their high school graduation requirements to enroll in a full semester of college classes at STLCC instead of taking additional classes at their high school. Make It Count will have a limited number of spaces that are paid by the district.



[Click here to view Mehlville School District report card.](#)

Mehlville School District Report Card 2020-2021

Our Students

	Our District	State of Missouri
Number of students (K-12)	9,765	863,718
Students qualifying for free/reduced meals	28.5%	45.9%
Students with limited English proficiency	10.7%	3.8%
Students receiving special education services	15.3%	13.5%
Proportional attendance rate	83.8%	82.3%

The percentage of students who are in attendance 90% of the time or more. This has been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

Our Teachers and Staff

	Our District	State of Missouri
Student-to-teacher ratio	15:1	16:1
Student-to-administrator ratio	264:1	168:1
Average years of experience for teachers	14.1	13.1
Teachers with advanced degrees	76.1%	62.5%

Achievement

	Our District	State of Missouri
Four-year graduation rate	93.2%	89.2%
Percentage of graduates entering post-secondary education	77.2%	64.6%
ACT results (Composite score)	21.1	20.9

Finances

	Our District	State of Missouri
Average expenditure per student	\$10,082	
Adjusted tax rate	\$3.8056	\$4.2048

Mehlville School District has the second lowest blended tax rate in St. Louis County.

Students take flight in aerospace engineering

Oakville High School aerospace engineering students took to the skies after designing and building gliders. Aerospace engineering is a Project Lead the Way course offered at Mehlville High School and Oakville High School.

“We’re talking about how lift and drag work,” said Kristin Pierce, OHS teacher. “The goal is to design a plane powered by the wind.”

Students began the project in the classroom discussing different types of airfoils and using the wind tunnel to collect data. They used that information to design gliders using a computer simulation. The program helped students determine the likelihood the glider they designed would be able to fly.

“It was difficult to determine which part of your measurements you had to change,” said Magena Baker, OHS junior. “You would make one adjustment, and then there would be something else you’d have to change as a result.”

While students had certain parameters to adhere to as part of the project, there was autonomy in how each student designed their glider.



An OHS aerospace student tests out their glider.

“Some of the planes are really big, and some of the planes are tiny,” said Pierce. “But they’re all going for that same goal of longest distance. They had to make their own decisions along the way.”

Once the design process was complete, students constructed the gliders out of wood. They brought their gliders outside and tested the flight ability, collecting data like airtime and distance. After observing, they made adjustments to their glider to improve their results.

“They can trim parts of the plane using sandpaper to adjust the center of gravity and make it more balanced,” said Pierce.

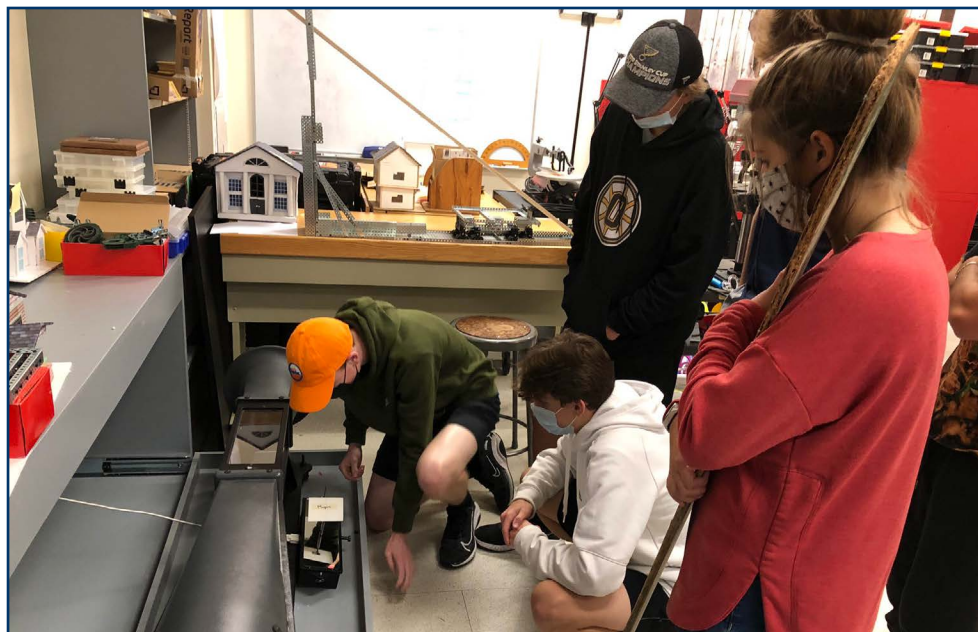
“They can also add clay to the portion of the plane that needs extra mass.”

OHS senior Gino Lanasa plans to attend Missouri S&T next fall to pursue a career in aerospace engineering.

“This class has introduced me to the principles and the basic knowledge that I’ll need moving forward in my education,” said Lanasa.

Most of the first semester of aerospace engineering focuses on those flight principles. The second semester has an emphasis on space, with students completing other hands-on projects like building rockets and designing robots to traverse the terrain of a planet.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors can enroll in aerospace engineering after completing an engineering prerequisite.



OHS aerospace engineering students experiment with a wind tunnel.

Immersion room lets students choose how they learn new languages

An immersion room opened at Mehlville High School this year that allows students to choose how they learn foreign languages by presenting them with unique, hands-on learning opportunities.

“The idea for the immersion room came from years of seeing labs in different schools,” said Beth Johnson, MHS French teacher. “We took that idea of labs and turned it into something that was more of a hands-on experience.”

The immersion room has traditional learning methods you would expect to find in a foreign language classroom, like books in several languages. But it also has board games and video games played in different languages.

“We’ll play the game ‘Guess Who?’, but we’re asking questions in Spanish as we try to identify who the character is,” said Sara Boric, MHS junior.

Students also have opportunities to be creative in the course. Using Play-Doh, Boric’s group created a Mount Rushmore, featuring presidents of Spanish-speaking countries. There’s also a sewing station, 3D printer and laser-engraver that students can use to create physical items related to countries they’re studying. Podcast and video equipment are used by students to produce digital products in their foreign language.

There’s even a kitchen area where students can make authentic meals. Eamon Floyd, MHS junior, was cooking waffles for classmates and taking their orders in Spanish.

“We went over how to say different toppings, like strawberries and blueberries, in Spanish,” said Floyd. “I ask my classmates in Spanish how many waffles and toppings they want, and they respond in Spanish.”

Johnson has noticed a significant improvement in the proficiency of her students this year. She credits that to the freedom students have in how they learn information.

“In addition to doing the tasks we’re asking of them, they’re doing things related to their interests,” said Johnson. “They’re growing their proficiency in ways we don’t typically offer to them because they’re making the choice for themselves.”



MHS junior Eamon Floyd makes waffles for classmates in the immersion room after taking their orders in Spanish.

Around our Schools

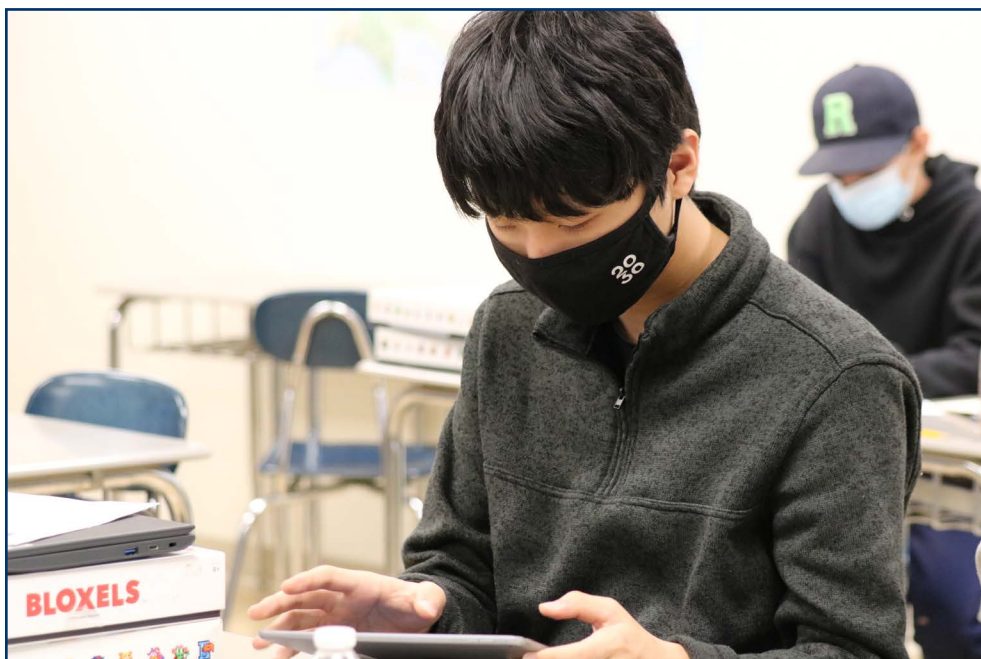
Here's a look at some of the learning happening around Mehlville School District.



The Bernard Middle School National Junior Honor Society organized and held a school-wide fundraiser, collecting \$900 to donate to the International Rescue Committee to help support refugee families from Afghanistan.



Some Trautwein Elementary School students have been participating in mentorships in areas that interest them. Tanyah Harper, a fourth-grade student, wants to be a nurse that works with elderly patients. Harper has been volunteering with school nurse Anne Kozeny to make sure the health room stays sanitized and walking students to and from the room for their medicine.



Students at Washington Middle School learned two different subjects simultaneously: history and coding. Students used their knowledge of history to develop a video game based on a historical event.



Beasley Elementary School was awarded \$3,786 through the Fuel Up to Play 60 program that encourages students to eat healthy, be active and implement positive changes in their schools and communities. Some of the funds were used to purchase a refrigeration cooler for the school cafeteria that allows students to easily see the milk and other items that are available to them. Other funds were used to purchase two smaller basketball hoops for younger students and supplies to build a gaga pit.



Forder Elementary School students helped the district present a check for \$22,474.45 to The BackStoppers, Inc. in honor of St. Louis County Police Detective Antonio Valentine. The funds were raised through a district-wide PJs for Police fundraiser where students wore pajamas to school and brought a monetary donation.



On Early Release Days, Oakville Middle School hosts Spartan Squad Days, which focus on students' social-emotional well-being. Students spent one of their Spartan Squad Days reading with some friends from Wohlwend Elementary School.

Community Enrichment
Proud Member of the Mehlville School District

Summer Session

4-weeks of **FUN**

JUNE 6-30

FORDER ELEMENTARY
HAGEMANN ELEMENTARY
BUERKLE MIDDLE
OAKVILLE MIDDLE

EDUCATIONAL & CREATIVE CLASSES!

bit.ly/msdr9ceregistration

Community Enrichment Summer Session

Community Enrichment is delighted to offer after-school experiences this June during the Mehlville Summer Session!

Rising elementary and middle school students can choose courses with a focus on art, coding, magic, chess, animal care, jewelry and science! Classes will take place each afternoon, Monday through Thursday, at our Summer Session facilities.

Participants need not attend Mehlville Summer Session to enjoy our programming. Transportation is not provided.

Registration is open now for Community Enrichment's Summer Session classes: bit.ly/msdr9ceregistration.

SUMMER CAMP 2022

- Week 1:** July 5-7
Abra-Kid-Abra - Comedy, Bricks 4 Kidz - Pokemon, Chess, Crayola® Artblazers, Mad Science - Aliens
- Week 2:** July 11-14
Abra-Kid-Abra - Mathmagic, Bricks 4 Kidz - Minecraft, Chess, Jewelry - Disney®, Little Medical School, Mad Science - Rockets
- Week 3:** July 18-21
Abra-Kid-Abra - Circus, Bricks 4 Kidz - Mario Bros., Chess, Crayola® - Wild World, Jewelry - Nature, Little Medical School - Veterinarian, Mad Science - NASA
- Week 4:** July 25-28
Abra-Kid-Abra - Magic, Bricks 4 Kidz - Star Wars®, Chess, Jewelry - Space, Little Medical School - Wilderness Medicine

For more information or to register for Community Enrichment's Summer Camps: bit.ly/msdr9ceregistration

Community Enrichment

SUMMER CAMP

JULY 5-28, 2022
HAGEMANN ELEMENTARY
MONDAY-THURSDAY

HALF-DAY CAMPS FOR KIDS!

REGISTER:
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OR CALL
314.467.5280

MEHLVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN

We are breaking ground on our new community garden located at 2920 Lemay Ferry Road.

bit.ly/msdr9communitygarden

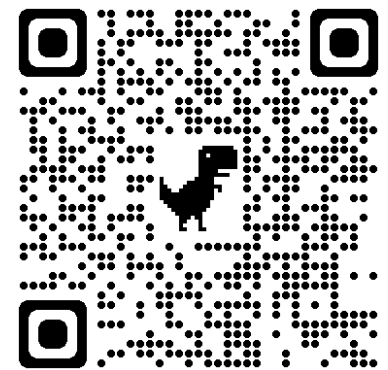
Come GROW with us!

Reserve a plot to work by yourself or invite friends to join in and tend to your garden together.

10'x10' and 10'x20' plots are available to rent for an entire season.

Pour your heart and soil into the Mehlville Community Garden.

Scan this code for more information:



bit.ly/msdr9communitygarden



Mehlville Summer Session

Explore, Discover, Achieve with Mehlville School District

Mehlville's popular Summer Session returns in June

Mehlville School District will offer its free Summer Session program for all children entering kindergarten through 12th grade, June 6-July 1, 2022. Registration opens March 30 at bit.ly/msdr9summersession.

Summer Session for grades 1-8 offers enrichment activities and high-quality instruction that allows teachers to revisit and reinforce the curriculum. Kindergarten students will get a jumpstart to elementary school. High school students can recover credits or earn elective or PE credits.

Free meals will be available to Summer Session students in June. Transportation shuttles will be available from students' home schools.



Elementary School Summer Session

June 6-July 1, 2022

Summer Session is 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Locations include Hagemann, Forder and Buerkle (as an elementary site). Before and after care is available from the YMCA.

Middle School Summer Session

June 6-July 1, 2022

Summer Session is 7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Oakville Middle.

High School Summer Session

June 6-17, 2022, June 20-July 1, 2022

Students can choose morning and/or afternoon classes during all sessions of High School Summer Session. The morning class is 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. and the afternoon class is 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Summer Session will be held at Mehlville High School. Virtual options will be available from July 11-22.



STAFF DISTINCTIONS

Courage Award

Tom Harper, English language arts teacher and boys soccer coach at Mehlville High, was named the 2021 recipient of the Will Ohler Courage Award. It is given each year to a cancer survivor for their courage in battling cancer and inspirational leadership in helping others win their fight against the disease. Harper was also named Red Pool Boys Soccer Coach of the Year.



Tom Harper

Missouri Master Naturalist

Gerry Spitznagel, head groundskeeper for Mehlville School District, earned his Missouri Master Naturalist Certification. Master Naturalists are volunteers who provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas.



Gerry Spitznagel

South County Toastmasters

Kathleen Tienes, English language arts teacher at Mehlville High, and **Ed Taylor**, English language arts teacher at Oakville High received the South County Toastmasters Communication Leadership Award.



Kathleen Tienes



Ed Taylor

STUDENT DISTINCTIONS

All-Conference runner

Maria Parisi, sophomore at Oakville High, was named First Team All Conference for cross country and qualified for the state meet.

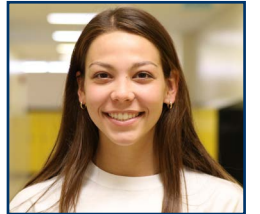


Maria Parisi

Softball stars

Mehlville High freshman **Lily Douglas**, and junior **Emily Vassolo**, were named First Team All District for softball.

Oakville High senior **Carlie Huelsing** was named Second Team All State, First Team All Region and First Team All District for softball. **Mary Tutwiler**, junior, and **Amelia Wiesler**, freshman, were named First Team All District. Seniors **Mallory Pike**, **Brenna Pepper** and **Julie Lato**; and juniors **Madison Rhyne**, **Savannah Hesse** and **Lily Kahle** were named Second Team All District.



Carlie Huelsing

Volleyball awards

Oakville High senior **Ally Williams** was named Conference Player of the Year and First Team All District for volleyball. **Tess Mc Connell**, junior, was named First Team All District. Seniors **Liv Klump**, **Lindsie Miller** and **Gracie Miller** were named Second Team All District.



Ally Williams

Super soccer players

Nico Catarinicchia, Mehlville High senior, was named Central All Region, All State, All Region Player of the Year, All District and All Suburban Red Conference Offensive Player of the Year. **Meldin Sabotic**, Mehlville High senior, was named All State, All Region Goalkeeper of the Year, All District and All Suburban Red Conference Defensive Player of the Year for soccer. **Dino Mahmutovic** and **Anis Smajlovic**, Mehlville High seniors, were named to the All State, All Region and All District teams. **Will Raftery**, Mehlville High junior, was named to the All District team.



Meldin Sabotic, Nico Catarinicchia, Anis Smajlovic and Dino Mahmutovic

Josh Seyer, Oakville High senior, was named All Region and All District for soccer. **Mohammed Al-Kenani**, Oakville High junior, was named All District.



Josh Seyer

STUDENT DISTINCTIONS

SKILLED Centennial Award

Mehlville High School seniors **Tamia Miller** and **Sierra Shackelford**, and Oakville High School junior **Emir Mustajbegovic**, received the grand prize of the SKILLED Centennial Award presented by S.M. Wilson and Missouri School Boards' Association for project ideas submitted with their St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies team.



Tamia Miller



Sierra Shackelford



Emir Mustajbegovic



Madeline McClusky

National novel writing month challenge

Madeline McClusky, eighth-grade student at Buerkle Middle School, competed in the National Novel Writing Month Challenge and wrote 50,000 words in November.

Southwest Area Chamber of Commerce Students of the Month
Drew Lieberoff, Oakville High senior, and **Najla Mehmedagic**, Mehlville High senior were named Students of the Month by the Southwest Area Chamber of Commerce.



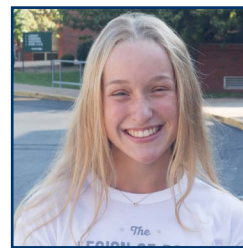
Drew Lieberoff and Najla Mehmedagic

Old Newsboys Day Edition

Adisa Jahic and **Taylor Kordik**, seniors at Mehlville High, had stories featured in the Old Newsboys Day Edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



Adisa Jahic



Taylor Kordik

Journalism Education Awards
Layla Halilbasic, Oakville High junior, earned a Superior rating for Yearbook Copy/Caption at the Fall National Journalism Convention for the Journalism Education Association. **Emily Johnson**, Oakville High senior, earned an Excellent rating for Broadcast Feature Story. **Oakville High School's broadcast students** placed second for Broadcast News Program at the National Scholastic Press Association Best of Show Awards.



Layla Halilbasic



Emily Johnson



OHS Broadcast journalism students

Kiwanis Terrific Kids

The Kiwanis Club of South County recognized Terrific Kids in elementary schools across the district for their excellent character and progress in the classroom.

Beasley Elementary students recognized were **Domanic Johnson**, fifth grade; **Avery Chaplin**, third grade; **Briley Mortenson**, fourth grade; and **Ryder Hudson**, second grade.

Blades Elementary students recognized were **Grace Wright**, fourth grade; **Ender Burris**, fifth grade; **Kaysey Showers**, third grade; and **Colin Weil**, second grade.

Forder Elementary students recognized were **Ari Exler**, fifth grade; **Savannah Krejci**, second grade; **Dzejla Hrnjic**, fourth grade; and **Charlie Sindel**, third grade.

Hagemann Elementary students recognized were **Nasirullah Bacha**, fifth grade; **Wesley Tucker**, fourth grade; **Ayan Thomas**, third grade; and **Luther Peroutka**, second grade.

MOSAIC Elementary students recognized were **Natalie Vishion**, second grade; **Eli Hinkle**, fourth grade; **Timothy Haviland**, fifth grade; and **Summer Ly**, third grade.

Oakville Elementary School students **Dalilah Lopez**, second grade; **Estelle Templin**, third grade; **Ayna Memisevic**, fourth grade; and **Chase Hagan**, fifth grade.

Point Elementary school students **Ben Butchko**, second grade; **Brian Fuess**, third grade; **Ahmo Ramic**, fourth grade; and **Kai Burstein**, fifth grade.



Beasley Elementary Terrific Kids



Blades Elementary Terrific Kids



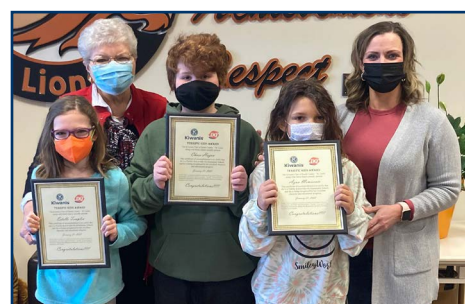
Forder Elementary Terrific Kids



Hagemann Elementary Terrific Kids



MOSAIC Elementary Terrific Kids



Oakville Elementary Terrific Kids

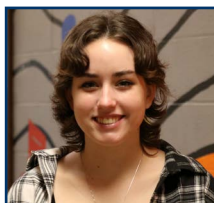


Point Elementary Terrific Kids

All State Choir

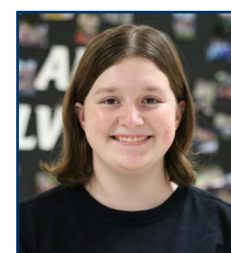
Zoey Harvey (bottom left), fifth-grade student at Oakville Elementary, was named to the All State Children's Choir.

Oakville High (left to right) seniors **Samantha Kujath**, back row, **Gavin Sandvoss** and **Jacob Leath**; front row, **Lucas Le Luong** and junior **Mackenzie Earney**, were named to the All State Honor Choir.



Future Business Leaders

Four Mehlville High students advanced to the state level of the Future Business Leaders of America competition after placing at the district level. Top row (left to right) Senior **Paige Heitman** placed first in Accounting 1 and Accounting 2 and will also compete in Personal Finance. Senior **Rolen Lively** qualified in Accounting I. Bottom row (left to right) Freshman **Alivia Tran** placed fourth in Business Law. Junior **Emily Worthmore** earned first place in Journalism and second place in Political Science.



All Suburban Honor Band

Mehlville School District middle and high school students were named to the All Suburban Honor Bands.

From Bernard Middle (left to right): Eighth-grader **Chase Manzella**, seventh-grader **Soma Baban**, eighth-graders **Oliver Nelsen** and **Alex Sokolik**, seventh-grader **Clayton Waggoner**, eighth-graders **Maura Niebrugge** and **Hunter Hilson**.

From Buerkle Middle (left to right): Eighth-graders **Zachary Rohr**, **Dylan Bach** and **Savannah Fowler**.

From Oakville Middle (left to right): Eighth-graders **Liam Kelly**, **Amel Kafedzic**, **Luke Busso**, **Franklin Schrader**, **Kendal Cook**, **Alex Ottenlips**, **Graham Wilhelm**, **Norah Brandt** and **Henry Thompson**.

From Washington Middle (left to right): back row, eighth-graders **Angel Chavez** and **Eva Brown**; front row, seventh-grader **Elliott Parai** and eighth-grader **Natalie Dowling**.

From Mehlville High: (left to right): **Nicholas Karr**, senior; **Tyler Langford**, sophomore; **Logan Mitchell**, senior; **Sean Gallagher**, senior; and **Chris Koogler**, senior.

From Oakville High: Back row (left to right): juniors **Thomas Kallaos**, **Jared Hasty**, **Riley Hughes**, senior **Allison McGilvery**; front row (left to right): seniors **Nathan Waggoner**, **Ryan Dunham**, sophomores **David White**, **Rachel Kauffman**.

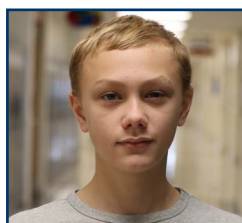
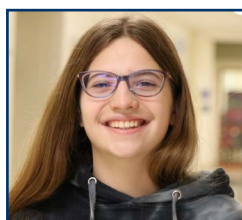
Sean Gallagher and **Logan Mitchell** (Mehlville High) and **Jared Hasty** (Oakville High) were also named to the All State Honor Band.



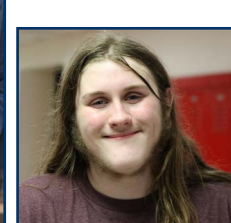
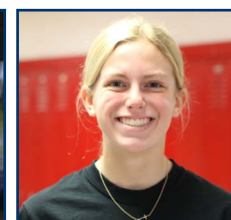
Buerkle Middle All Suburban Honor Band



Bernard Middle All Suburban Honor Band



Oakville Middle All Suburban Honor Band



Washington Middle All Suburban Honor Band



Mehlville High All Suburban Honor Band



Oakville High All Suburban Honor Band

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IMPORTANT DATES

Find district event information at mehlvilleschooldistrict.com.

March 8	Board Listening Session, 6:30 p.m., Oakville Middle School
March 14-18	Parent/teacher conferences
March 17	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
March 21-25	No school - Spring break
March 30	Half day for students
April 4	No school
April 5	No school - Election Day - Teacher workday and professional development
April 14	Board of Education Reorganization Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
April 27	Half day for students
April 28	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
May 10	Board Listening Session, 6:30 p.m., Washington Middle School
May 19	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
May 26	SCOPE Graduation
May 27	Finals for grades 6-12/half day for students/teacher workday
May 27	Last day of school/End of 4th quarter
May 30	Memorial Day
June 5	Oakville High School Graduation, 1:30 p.m., Chaifetz Arena
June 5	Mehlville High School Graduation, 6 p.m., Chaifetz Arena
June 6	Mehlville Summer Session begins
June 9	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School
June 23	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School

**Explore, discover and achieve
 at Mehlville School
 District's free Summer
 Session, June 6 to July 1**



Learn more about summer programs: bit.ly/msdr9summersession



A Mehlville School District Publication

Mehlville Messenger

Calm, Cool, Collected
 How Mehlville teachers are giving kids tools
 to manage their emotions



MARCH 2022

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