Welcome to the 2014-2015 School Year
WE’VE MISSED YOU

Classes begin Monday, Aug. 11

It’s time to go BACK TO SCHOOL

Classes begin
MONDAY,
AUG. 11, 2014

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Superintendent

Our Mission
That ALL will learn.

An Award-Winning District
The Pattonville School District is fully accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and has earned the Missouri Distinction in Performance Award for academic achievement every year it has been awarded. Pattonville High School has also been named to U.S. News and World Report’s Best High Schools List.

For More Information
Visit Pattonville’s website at www.psdr3.org or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

This Newsletter is published each summer for residents of the Pattonville School District. The publication is produced by the Pattonville Office of School-Community Relations, 11097 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Ann, MO 63074, (314) 213-8025. Email: mschoonover@psdr3.org.

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Welcome from the Superintendent

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year. Classes begin Aug. 11. The Pattonville crew is working hard to make sure your child has what he or she needs to be successful. We look forward to partnering with you to make sure your child has a great school year.

This is an exciting year of opportunity for Pattonville. Due to the resources provided through Proposition P, Pattonville has retained high quality staff, kept valuable programs in place and maintained a transportation service vital to many families. Now it is our time to redouble our efforts to make our schools even better. For students to be successful, we must have parent involvement. How can parents help? First and foremost, make sure your child attends school every day, all day, and arrives on time. We recognize a student may miss school occasionally due to illness or an unpredictable life event. We also recognize some students deal with unique circumstances that require extended time away from school. Our staff will work with you in these unique cases to customize learning solutions. But the reality is those are rare exceptions. So request number one is this: as a parent or guardian make sure your child is at school every day, all day, and arrives on time.

The second request is to commit to helping your child achieve his or her personal best. Pattonville has high academic expectations, which will grow more rigorous this year. We must make sure students spend their preschool through eighth-grade years preparing for high school. Once students demonstrate readiness and enter high school, they need to prepare themselves academically, socially and emotionally for the next step, college and career. Every school improvement team will spend time this year defining what it means to be high school and college/career ready. We’ll build our expectations as a community and hold ourselves accountable to achieving key outcomes.

The final request is, speak up and get involved. Parent involvement is key to Pattonville achieving outcomes critical to student success. Work directly with your child’s teachers and communicate with them about your thoughts, questions or concerns. We have excellent, caring teachers, support staff and administrators who will work hand in hand with you to promote your child’s success. Some conversations may be difficult at times for one or both parties. Mutual respect and appropriate tone is important. As a Pattonville staff we will do our best to help problem solve issues in ways that help your child succeed in his or her learning and social-emotional development at school. We can’t promise to fix everything exactly the way a parent or child wants, but we will do our best to understand the issue and find an appropriate solution.

In addition to personal interaction, it is also important parents/guardians get involved in their school’s improvement team, PTA/PTO or one of the district’s outstanding foundations. With respect to school improvement teams, they will play an increasingly important role in defining how we ensure every child is high school ready and college/career ready. School improvement teams have the ability to connect to each other districtwide and create solutions to challenging issues. The end goal is to have great learning environments where students are challenged to achieve their personal best and are supported in mastering Pattonville’s academic standards. To demonstrate our success to those outside Pattonville, it is critical that we are highly competitive at the school and district levels on key measures. You will hear more about how we are doing on those measures throughout the school year and how you can get involved to help Pattonville meet these standards at a high level.

Pattonville is a great place to live and learn because our community cares about one another and its schools. Our success has been achieved through decades of hard work. Pattonville is a shining example of that public education works for ALL children.

Welcome to new school year, a time of growth, opportunity, accountability and innovation.

Enrollment Information

Enrolling your child
If you are new to Pattonville… Welcome! To register your child, please visit your local school. When you go, please make sure to bring the following with you:

- **Birth Certificate** - If you do not have a birth certificate, application forms with Social Security number are given to you so you may obtain the certificate prior to the time your child begins school.
- **Social Security Number** - Please bring your child’s Social Security card. If your child does not have a number, please contact the Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213. Under federal law, however, Pattonville will enroll your child even if he or she does not have a Social Security number.
- **Proof of Residency** - Please bring a copy of a current mortgage statement or lease and a current unpaid utility bill with your name and address on it to provide proof that you reside in Pattonville.
- **Immunization Record** - Missouri law requires immunization of school children against polio, diphtheria, rubella, measles, mumps and Hepatitis B. For those in need of immunizations who are unable to pay, call the St. Louis County Health Department at (314) 615-0500. Health examination forms will be given to you at the time of registration. All students must meet immunization requirements before they may attend school. Immunization requirements can be found in the “Legal Notices” section of the Pattonville website (www.psd3.org).

More for more information, call the special services office at (314) 213-8090 or your local school (phone numbers at right).

Residency Requirements
Under state law, a student must live within a school district in order to attend that district’s public schools without charge. A non-resident student may not establish residency away from a legal guardian or parent for the sole purpose of enrolling in a district without the obligation of paying tuition. To establish residency in Pattonville, the parent or legal guardian must provide the following documents in his/her name to the school where the child will attend: a copy of a current mortgage statement or lease and a current unpaid utility bill. If the parent cannot provide these documents because of special living arrangements, the parent must call the student services office at (314) 213-8060 to make an appointment to register the child in Pattonville.

When and where to enroll
Elementary (Grades K-5) and Remington (Grades K-8)
- Weekdays beginning July 31.

Holman Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- New student registration by appointment beginning July 28.
- Call (314) 213-8032 for an appointment.

Pattonville Heights Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- New student registration by appointment beginning July 28.
- Call (314) 213-8310 for an appointment.

Pattonville High School (Grades 9-12)
- New student registration, July 30 and 31.
- Call (314) 213-8560 to schedule an appointment.
- Senior registration, 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 1.
- Junior and sophomore registration, noon to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Aug. 4.
- Freshman registration, noon to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Aug. 5.
- Late registration, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Aug. 6.

Enrollment packets available
Parents wishing to enroll their children in the Pattonville School District may pick up enrollment packets at the Pattonville Learning Center, 11097 St. Charles Rock Road in St. Ann, during regular office hours. Packets are available from the Learning Center reception desk from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Parents may fill out the enrollment packets in advance and take them to their neighborhood schools to enroll at the times indicated above.

School Contacts
- **Bridgeway Elementary School**
  11635 Oakbury Court, Bridgeton, MO 63044
  Bill Casner, Principal • (314) 213-8012
- **Drummond Elementary School**
  3721 St. Bridgel Lane, St. Ann, MO 63074
  Jason Van Beers, Principal • (314) 213-8419
- **Parkwood Elementary School**
  3199 Parkwood Lane, Maryland Heights, MO 63043
  Virginia Folk, Principal • (314) 213-8015
- **Remington Traditional School**
  102 Fee Fee Road, Maryland Heights, MO 63043
  Dr. Don Furjes, Principal • (314) 213-8016
- **Rose Acres Elementary School**
  2905 Rose Acres Lane, Maryland Heights, MO 63043
  Steve Vargo, Principal • (314) 213-8017
- **Willow Brook Elementary School**
  11022 Schuetz Road, Creve Coeur, MO 63146
  Dr. Marla Wasserman, Principal • (314) 213-8018
- **Holman Middle School**
  10555 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Ann, MO 63074
  Teisha Ashford, Principal • (314) 213-8032
- **Pattonville Heights Middle School**
  195 Fee Fee Road, Maryland Heights, MO 63043
  Dr. Scot Mosher, Principal • (314) 213-8033
- **Pattonville High School**
  2497 Creve Coeur Mill Road, Maryland Heights, MO 63043
  Dr. Joe Dobrinci, Principal • (314) 213-8051
- **Early Childhood (Preschool/Parents As Teachers)**
  11097 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Ann, MO 63074
  Laurie Wenzel, Director • (314) 213-8105; Preschool (314) 213-8100

Other Contacts
- **Pattonville Learning Center** • (314) 213-8500
  Superintendent
  Dr. Michael Fulton, Superintendent • (314) 213-8001
- **Alumni/Reunion Information**
  (314) 213-8025 or visit alumni.psd3.org
- **Business Office**
  Nancy Hertley, Director • (314) 213-8030
- **Community Education**
  Mary Reed, Coordinator • (314) 213-8094
- **Curriculum and Instruction**
  Dr. Tim Pecoraro, Asst. Superintendent • (314) 213-8007
- **Facilities**
  David Winslow, Director • (314) 213-8040
- **Food Services**
  Ron Orr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer • (314) 213-8005
  Director to be announced • (314) 213-8054
- **Human Resources**
  Dr. Barry Nelson, Asst. Superintendent • (314) 213-8065
- **Printing Department**
  Mike Huber, Director • (314) 213-8084
- **School-Business Partnerships**
  Patty Gould, Director • (314) 213-8065
- **School-Community Relations**
  Mickey Schoonover, APR, Director • (314) 213-8025
- **Student Services/Special Education**
  Dr. Montize Aaron, Director • (314) 213-8050
- **Technology**
  Greg Souhard, Director • (314) 213-8060
- **Transportation**
  Jennifer Simpson, Director • (314) 213-8125
- **55+: Membership/OASIS Tutoring**
  Kelly Gordon, Coordinator • (314) 213-8025
- **After-Hours Emergency Number** • (314) 576-0156
Pattonville is fully accredited by the state of Missouri and is recognized both nationally and in Missouri. Here’s a look at our accomplishments.

- **Distinction in Performance** – Pattonville met the criteria for Missouri’s Distinction in Performance Award for academic performance 13 consecutive years; Pattonville is the most diverse district in Missouri to achieve Distinction in Performance every year it has been bestowed, an honor shared by only 5 percent of districts in Missouri.

- **U.S. News and World Report’s Best High Schools List** – Pattonville High School was named to U.S. News and World Report’s Best High School List in 2013, ranking in the Top 3 percent (No. 19 out of 560 high schools) in Missouri and in the Top 10 percent nationwide.

- **Outstanding leadership** – The Pattonville Board of Education was awarded the Missouri School Boards Association’s Outstanding Board of Education Award in 2013 in the area of governance, leadership and accountability. The board previously won the award in 2002 and was a finalist for the award in 2008 and 2011.

- **Best early childhood program in Missouri** – Pattonville’s early childhood education program was selected as the Missouri School Boards Association (MSBA) FutureBuilders Early Childhood Education Program of the Year in 2012. The award recognizes innovative and original early childhood education programs within Missouri. Award recipients are selected based on their innovative approaches and outstanding ability to engage and support the development of the children in their care as well as their overall commitment to the early childhood education profession.

- **National Pinnacle Award** – Pattonville earned a 2013 Pinnacle Award from the Association of School Business Officials International, which recognizes outstanding and creative practices that improve the efficiency of schools and make a difference in the education of the nation’s students. Pattonville was recognized for its iLearn program, a digital learning initiative in which Pattonville High School students access learning resources on course Moodles (an online learning management tool) anywhere, anytime via school-provided laptops. In its first year (2012-2013), staff launched 21,000 modules on their Moodles, which were accessed by 1,800 students 1.7 million times.

- **Solid accreditation** – Earned perfect scores on reaccreditation reviews by state of Missouri.

- **Highest Performing Schools** – Remington Traditional School was named to state’s Top 10 lists for highest performing schools 11 years in a row; also on the highest performing Top 10 lists in the state: Rose Acres Elementary School (2006 and 2008) and Parkwood Elementary School (2007). Note: The state no longer compiles this list.

- **Highly qualified staff** – Two teachers were named Missouri Teachers of the Year and six others were named finalists for the award from Pattonville since 1986. In addition, 21 teachers have earned the rigorous National Board Certification, the highest credential in teaching, since 1999.

- **Competitive college entrance scores** – Pattonville’s ACT scores are competitive with area districts. The last three senior classes have posted the highest ACT composite scores on school record, with the highest percentages of students taking the test (approximately 71 percent). This year’s senior class is on track to have an ACT composite score between 22.5 to 22.7.

- **Top 10 in St. Louis County** – High school scores on state end-of-course exams placed Pattonville High School among the Top 10 in St. Louis County; eighth-grade algebra scores are among the top in Missouri.

- **Leaders in technology** – Pattonville was one of 14 school districts nationwide to receive the President’s Technology Award from the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), which recognizes vision and leadership in technology to advance teaching, learning and achievement.

- **Excellence in budget preparation** – Pattonville is among 100 districts nationwide honored with the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials International, which recognizes districts for achieving excellence in their annual budget preparation and presentation.

- **High quality staff training** – Pattonville earned the Missouri Commissioner of Education’s Professional Development Award.

- **Leader in Character Education and Positive Behavior** – Pattonville High School was named a National School of Character by the Character Education Partnership and Business Week magazine because character traits such as respect and service are embedded in the curriculum. For example, the high school requires 50 hours of community service for graduation. The school was also named a National School of Service Learning. Holman Middle School, Parkwood Elementary School, Remington Traditional School, Willow Brook Elementary School and Pattonville’s early childhood program have all been honored with state-level recognition for their Positive Behavior Supports programs as well. In 2013, Willow Brook was honored with a State School of Character Award for its character education program and in 2014 was a finalist for a National School of Character Award.

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**Points of Pride**

Pattonville is recognized in Missouri and nationally for academic excellence.
School Notes

When it snows...
Classes in the district are canceled only in case of emergency or extremely bad weather. Any decision to close schools due to inclement weather will be announced to families via the district’s automated phone calling system and email. For this reason, it is important that families provide their most current phone numbers and email addresses to their children’s schools. If the weather is inclement and families have not received a call, please listen to or watch one of the following news stations as a back-up:
• KMOX 1120 AM
• KTVI Channel 11
• KMOV Channel 4
• KSDK Channel 5
• KTVI Channel 11
Announcements begin at approximately 5:30 a.m. You may also dial (314) 213-8900 then press SNOW (7669) to hear an automated voice message. School closings will also be announced on the district’s website at www.psdr3.org.

Transportation
Pattonville provides free bus service for all elementary students. Bus service is also provided for middle and high school students living more than a mile from school or on streets designated hazardous for walking by the Board of Education. For more information, call the transportation department at (314) 213-8125.

E-Communications
Website: Visit Pattonville’s website at www.psdr3.org to find information on our schools, student activities, handbooks, school board minutes/agendas, sports schedules, class reunions, job openings, parent resources and more.
Email Updates: Sign up to receive periodic news updates via email. Simply send your email address to PSDnews@psdr3.org.
Twitter: Follow us on Twitter @PattonvilleSD.
Facebook: Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PSDR.
Automated Phone Alerts: Our automated telephone calling system is used to keep parents updated about school emergencies or other major school events. Parents should provide their school with their most current phone numbers and alert the school office of any changes as soon as possible.
District Calendar Online: Visit www.psdr3.org and click on the calendar tab to view the “Daily Activity Calendar” to find information on activities at all Pattonville schools. A calendar of sporting events can also be found under the calendar tab.

Other emergencies
Pattonville uses several methods to provide important information to families about major school events or in the case of emergencies. Depending on the situation, Pattonville may use email, an automated telephone calling system, the district website (www.psdr3.org), U.S. mail, letters in backpacks or the local media to keep families informed of important information. For this reason, it’s important that all parents provide their school office with their most current phone numbers (home, work and/or cell phone), email addresses and mailing address. Pattonville will use the contact information it has on file in its student information system when communicating with parents.

Breakfast and Lunch
Nutritional breakfast and lunch options are offered for all students. Prices for meals are as follows:
Lunch
Student $2.35
Adult $2.60
Breakfast
Student Free
Adult $1.25
Pattonville participates in a federally funded program that provides free breakfast for all students. Pattonville also allows children who qualify for reduced-priced meals to have lunch at no charge. Applications are available in all school principals’ offices and are approved by the building principal. For more information, call your school or the food service office at (314) 213-8054.

Services for community
Community Education: Pattonville offers daytime and evening classes and tours for both adults and children in the community. Brochures with class offerings, times and fees will be available online at www.psdr3.org or at the Pattonville Learning Center. Call the community education office at (314) 213-8094 for more information.

Library Access: The Pattonville High School library is open to all Pattonville residents. Drop by any time between 2:15 and 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays during the school year when school is in session. Follow the signs to the entrance on the rear west side of the school. For more information, call the library at (314) 213-8128.

55+ Club: The 55+ Club enables Pattonville’s senior residents to enjoy free access to school-sponsored events, including athletic events, plays and musicals. Pattonville hosts two dinner theaters for members to enjoy dinner and the high school play or musical. Members are kept up-to-date with a free newsletter subscription. For more information, contact Kelly Gordon at (314) 213-8025 or kgordon@psdr3.org.

Back to School Information

2014-2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR OVERVIEW

August
• 1 - New teacher orientation
• 4-6 - New teacher orientation
• 7-8 - All staff orientation
• 11 - First day of school
• 15 - Staff development day (no school)

September
• 1 - Labor Day Holiday (no school)
• 12 - Remington dismisses at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m. for grade-level collaboration/staff training

October
• 1-2 - High school parent-teacher conferences
• 3 - No school for high school following parent-teacher conferences
• 8 - Remington and middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m. for grade-level collaboration/staff training
• 9 - Middle school parent-teacher conferences, 11:10 a.m. dismissal
• 10 - No school for middle schools following parent-teacher conferences
• 11 - Remington dismisses at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m. for report day

November
• 4 - Staff development day (no school)
• 12 - Parent-teacher conferences for elementary/Remington (school in session)
• 13 - Parent-teacher conferences for elementary and Remington (elementary dismisses at 11:55 a.m., Remington at 11:10 a.m.)
• 14 - No school for elementary/Remington following conferences
• 27-28 - Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)

December
• 12 - Remington and middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m.
• 17-19 - High school final exams (dismiss at 10:30 a.m.)
• 22-31 - Winter Break (no school)

January
• 1-2 - Winter Break (no school)
• 5 - School resumes for elementary and Remington
• 5 - No school/report day for middle and high school
• 6 - School resumes for middle and high school
• 10 - Staff development day (no school)
• 17 - Martin Luther King Holiday (no school)

February
• 13 - No school for elementary and Remington for report day
• 13 - Middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m.
• 16 - President’s Day Holiday (no school)
• 25 - Parent-teacher conferences for elementary and Remington (school in session)
• 26 - Parent-teacher conferences for elementary and Remington (elementary dismisses at 11:55 a.m., Remington at 11:10 a.m.)
• 27 - No school for elementary and Remington following conferences

March
• 4-5 - Parent-teacher conferences for middle schools and high school (middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m.)
• 6 - No school for middle and high schools following conferences
• 13 - Remington dismisses at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m.
• 16-20 - Spring Break (no school)

April
• 3 - Spring holiday (no school)
• 10 - Remington and middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m. for grade-level collaboration/staff training

May
• 1 - Remington and middle schools dismiss at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m. for grade-level collaboration/staff training
• 25 - Memorial Day Holiday (no school)
• 28 - High school graduation
• 28-29 - High school final exams (dismiss at 10:30 a.m.)

June
• 1 - High school final exams (dismiss at 10:30 a.m.)
• 1 - Last day for students in Grades K-11
• 2 - Report day for staff (no school)

End-of-Year/ Summer School Note: The calendar includes six make-up days for the loss of attendance due to inclement weather/emergency. For each inclement weather day not used, one day will be subtracted from the closing school date. The final day of school is typically set by the Board of Education in April based on the number of inclement weather/emergency days used during the school year. All school calendars are subject to change in compliance with state law, including the required number of emergency days and the agreed upon number of contracted days for staff. Summer school dates are dependent on the number of emergency days used during the regular school year and are subject to change.

Announcements/Legal Notices
Pattonville’s public notices comply with requirements from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the U.S. Department of Education and are aligned with the policies of the Pattonville Board of Education. Residents may view these documents on the district website at www.psdr3.org. Click on the “Legal Notices” tab to view the following notices: Annual Notification Regarding Student Records/(Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or FERPA); Parents Right To Know; Notice of Non-Discrimination; Special Education Services; Rights of Homeless Students; Programs for the Disadvantaged; Asbestos Notice; Procedure for Public Complaints/Section 504 Grievance Procedure; Immunization Requirements and Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Program.
Pattonville will offer training on Sept. 11 and 12 through Pattonville’s OASIS tutoring program. Tuition for elementary students.

Older adults sought to serve as tutors for elementary students

Pattonville is seeking older adult volunteers who can spend up to one hour a week tutoring a student in kindergarten, first, second or third grade through Pattonville’s OASIS tutoring program. Tutors help children with language skills.

A free, two-day training session is required. Pattonville will offer training on Sept. 11 and 12. To volunteer, contact Kelly Gordon in the Pattonville school-community relations office at (314) 213-8025 or kgordon@psdr3.org.

Jessica Johnson, Class of 2003 - Johnson is in the midst of completing her residency at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. She received her medical doctorate from the University of Missouri School of Medicine in 2011 and expects to complete her in residency at Walter Reed in 2015 with a specialty in physical medicine and rehabilitation. In her spare time, Johnson participates in athletic events and has competed in three full Iron triathlon distance events (140.6 combined miles of swimming, biking and running) and several half Iron distance events. On June 15, she competed in the Rev3 Williamsburg 70.3 race, wearing gear supporting America’s veterans. Johnson won a Facebook finish line photo contest and received a free entry into next year’s event, which she plans to donate to a soldier or veteran.

Quinn Klenke, Class of 2009 - Klenke was featured in the employee spotlight section of the Pattonville Fire Protection District newsletter. He is in his first year as a fire medic with the district. Klenke credits his interaction with Pattonville firefighters and medics during his years at Pattonville High School as his inspiration for going into the profession. He learned CPR at Pattonville High School from a firefighter and also visited with them during football games. According to the article, he is now a swift-water technician and is working on his boat technician certification. He recently became a certified CPR instructor and returned to PHS to teach the course at his alma mater.

Candace Perkins, Class of 2011 - Perkins was featured in the VICC Volunteer newsletter, a publication of the St. Louis volunteer transfer program. The article details Perkins’s quest to earn her elementary education degree from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (SIUE). In the article, Perkins said her Pattonville teachers inspired her to go into the profession and said her path would have been different if she had not attended Pattonville: “I wouldn’t be at SIUE, I don’t believe. I wouldn’t have been exposed to teachers whose caring ways inspired me to enter the education field. A teacher who shows students they truly care is totally different than just being a teacher.” Perkins is in the third year of her teacher education program. She works as a tutor in the athletic department and serves as a resident assistant. She is also a 2014 Springboard Student Leader, where she serves as an executive board member. The Springboard program enlists student leaders to support SIUE admission staff with helping new students register for classes and make the transition to university life.

Where is Pattonville High School’s Class of 2014 going?

approximately 88 percent of Pattonville’s Class of 2014 indicate they plan on continuing their education after graduation (at four-year universities, two-year colleges or career/technical schools) or entering the military service. Listed below are the universities and military branches they have indicated as their after-graduation plans:

Allen Community College
American University
Auburn University
Ball State University
Baptist Bible College
Boston University
Colorado School of Mines
Concordia University-Chicago
Creighton University
Delta State University
Drury University
Emory University
Fletcher Technical Community College
Fontbonne University
Grace University
Howard University
Illinois Wesleyan University
Jefferson College
Kansas State University
Lamar State College
Lindenwood University
Maryville University
McKendree University
Millikin University
Mineral Area Community College
Missouri Baptist University
Missouri State University
Missouri University of Science and Technology
North Carolina State University
Ohio State University
Quincy University
Ranken Technical College
Regency Beauty Institute
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saddleback College
St. Charles Community College
St. Louis Community College
St. Louis Community College-Floissant Valley
St. Louis Community College-Vaughn
St. Louis Community College-Wolf
Saint Louis University
St. Mary’s College
Southeast Missouri State University
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Southern Illinois University-Murphy
Southwest Baptist University
Stephens College
Tacoma Community College
Tennessee State University
Truman State University
University of Alabama
University of Central Missouri
University of Colorado-Boulder
University of Denver
University of Indianapolis
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Memphis
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Missouri-Kansas City
University of Missouri-St. Louis
University of Oklahoma
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
Westminster College
William Woods University
Xavier University
Military
U.S. Marines
U.S. Navy
Approximately 25 Pattonville middle school students tackled topics such as forensics, genetics, robotics and flight engineering through Pattonville’s middle school summer STEM Camp (science, technology, engineering and math). The week-long camp was a hands-on, activity-based workshop allowing students to explore robotics, computer programming, engineering, biomedical science and more with the help of industry experts. The camp was held June 9 through 11 at Pattonville High School for students who are entering grades six through eight in the fall.

“We are very excited for the labs and experiences that the students will gain this summer,” said Kyle McFarland, a science and biomedical instructor at Pattonville High School who was the camp instructor. “Besides the many labs they will do at the high school, the students will also have the opportunity to experience guest speakers, demonstrations and labs from a variety of St. Louis companies.”

Students began their week by touring Ameren’s Renewable Energy Center and learning from a guest speaker about alternative energies and what Ameren is doing to meet the energy needs of tomorrow. Labs were centered around energy and renewable energies. The following day, a guest speaker from Monsanto talked about the company’s role in biotechnology and led students as they performed labs/simulations centered around forensics, genetics and genetic engineering. On the final day of camp, engineers from Boeing spent the day with students discussing what Boeing does and performing activities and labs that included robotics, flight and engineering transportation vehicles.

“What we have lined up will give students an excellent outlook at the many possible careers that are available in the STEM field,” McFarland said.

Pattonville school board approves balanced budget for 2014-2015

The Pattonville Board of Education on June 24 approved an $88 million balanced budget for the 2014-2015 school year. The district anticipates a balanced budget as a result of voter approval of Proposition P in November. Proposition P provides additional revenue and prevents the need to cut $10 million from the district budget on the heels of having cut $8 million between 2007 and 2013. Pattonville can also begin rebuilding its reserves (savings account). Districts must maintain a certain level of reserve funds in order to cover expenses until tax receipts arrive. When the amount of reserves falls to a low level, the district must borrow money for a short term in order to cover expenses like payroll until the tax receipts arrive. Pattonville estimates it will have enough in reserves in two years to avoid the need for short-term borrowing. The budget was established based on several other factors:

• Zero increase in health costs - The rising cost of health insurance continues to be a major concern nationally, but due to proactive measures in prior years, the district had just a 3.5 percent increase in 2013-2014 and will have a zero percent increase in 2014-2015.

• Two-year agreement with staff - For the first time since 2010, Pattonville has been able to enter multi-year agreements with teachers and support staff for salaries. Under this two-year agreement, teachers will receive a total increase (net of turnover) of 2.77 percent in 2014-2015 and 2.34 percent in 2015-2016. Support staff will receive a total increase (net of turnover) of 2.84 percent in 2014-2015 and 2.80 percent in 2015-2016.

• Virtually no change in property values - Pattonville’s budget is based on no change in residential and commercial property values and a 2 percent decline in the value of personal property.

• Return to normal textbook purchasing - Last year, Pattonville spent $600,000 on textbook and instructional materials purchases. This year, the cycle will be close to what it was prior to the district's economic challenges - $1 million.

• Addressing commercial tax appeals - Pattonville is setting aside funds in a reserve saving account in order to refund tax revenues if the casino and other large commercial property owners are successful in their appeals. This continues to be an area of focus for the district (see sidebar at right).

Last November, Pattonville voters approved Pattonville’s Proposition P, an operating levy increase that enables Pattonville to maintain its current levels of programs and staffing. Prior to the passage of Proposition P, Pattonville had not seen an increase in revenue since 2007. Three factors contributed to this: declining property values, reductions in state funding and continued tax appeals by large commercial property owners. Pattonville had already cut $8.1 million from its operating budget, including reducing positions and closing a school, so passage of the tax levy increase meant the district did not have to enact the following cuts that were outlined in Proposition P:

formational materials: Reduce 80-100 staff members (administrators, teachers, support staff); limit transportation to students who live three miles or more from school; enact indefinite salary freezes; move to fee-based after-school and extracurricular programs; and place an indefinite freeze on textbook adoptions.

At left, Pattonville High School teacher Kyle McFarland assists, to his right, Parker Hoyanacki, left, and Jared Martinez with a lab organized by experts from Monsanto.

Below, students participate in an aerodynamics lab with experts from Boeing.

To view more photos from the camp, go online at events.psd3.org.

Pattonville’s budget factors in ongoing commercial tax appeals

Addressing commercial property tax appeals continues to be a budget focus for the district. The most significant is the continued tax appeal of the district’s largest taxpayer (Hollywood Casino). The district is setting aside in a reserve fund $3 million annually from the operating budget and $600,000 from the debt service budget in order to refund tax revenues to the casino should it continue to be successful in its tax appeals.

“Successful appeals impact every property owner in the district since 88 percent of our revenues come from local property taxes,” said Ron Orr, Pattonville’s chief financial officer.

When successful, tax appeals by large commercial property owners trigger a process called recoupment. School districts’ tax revenue is based on the value of property in the district, as determined by the county assessor’s office. This is known as assessed valuation. State law allows the district to increase its tax rate when the assessed value of property declines, but only to a level where revenues remain flat. The law is designed to provide stability to homeowners and school districts both when property values increase and when they decrease. When property values increase substantially, school districts must reduce their tax rates to limit revenue growth. When used, recoupment does not increase a district’s revenue, but allows it to remain flat from year to year or to recover lost income due to tax appeals.

Pattonville’s 2014-2015 budget includes $2.2 million in recoupment based on successful tax appeals dating back to 2005.

“Because Pattonville’s tax rates were based upon incorrect assessed valuation during the years impacted by the appeals, recoupment enables the district to calculate what those tax rates should have been had officials known the correct assessed value of those properties during that time frame,” Orr said. “Even as we make these adjustments, we are committed to keeping our residential levy as low as possible, as promised to voters when they approved Proposition P last November.”
Pattonville High School
Ranked 11th after National Speech/Debate
Denish Jaswal, who graduated with the Class of 2014, was ranked 11th in the nation after competing at the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Overland Park, Kansas. Jaswal qualified for the national tournament after winning the district championship in Lincoln-Douglas debate. At nationals, Jaswal debated 12 rounds before dropping out in a double elimination. After the entire competition was completed, she ranked 11th in the nation and first in Missouri. Over 250 students competed in Lincoln-Douglas debate at the national competition. Jaswal was coached by speech and debate teacher James Frazier.

Busch All Star Game MVP
Pattonville varsity baseball player Carter Hanford was named MVP (most valuable player) following his performance in the fourth annual Delta Dental High School All Star Baseball game held in conjunction with the St. Louis Cardinals organization at Busch Stadium on June 8. He was coached by former Pattonville and Major League All-Star baseball player Scott Cooper. Hanford was one of 32 graduating high school seniors who were selected to participate in the All Star game. His team won the match 11 to 3. According to an article on KSDK’s website, Hanford went three for four with three runs scored and two RBIs. Hanford was on the Pirate baseball team that ended this year’s season with a 17-2 record and won the Suburban North Conference Championship. He was named a First Team All Conference player. He and his Pirate team were coached by Suburban North Coach of the Year Mark Hahn.

Oratorical Contest Honors
Three students placed in the district Optimist Club Oratorical Contest and two were selected to advance to the regional competition. Olivia Wedig earned first place. Amy Azwell earned second place and Morgan Stubblefield placed third in the district competition. Azwell and Wedig advance to the regional competition where they will present their speeches on “How my passions impact the world.” In related news, the Hazelwood/Florissant Optimist Club hosted the Optimist Club Essay Contest. Fatima Richards and Shayna Cohen placed second and third, respectively, after writing on the topic, “How dreams lead to success.” They were directed by gifted teacher Dr. Janet Baldwin.

Toshiba/NSTA Exploravision
Cameron Barnes and Madelyn Hunsaker earned honorable mention and placed in the Top 10 percent of all entries across the nation in the recent Toshiba/NSTA Exploravision competition. During the contest, small groups of students research a current technology and predict future achievements in that area using a student-created design. Barnes and Hunsaker’s idea, Viral Therapy, also earned them a special prize from Exploravision.

Science Essay Competition
Grant Matthews earned an honorable mention award for a paper he submitted in the DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition. He was awarded a $200 U.S. EE Savings Bond, a special book, and a personalized certificate. His essay, “Artificial Intelligence,” was one of more than 9,000 entries submitted for the award.

Holman staff member is subject of new book
Annah Emuge, a Special School District paraprofessional at Holman Middle School, is the subject of a new book recently released from the University of Missouri Press. The book, titled “The Moon in Your Sky: An Immigrant’s Journey Home,” was written by Kate Saller. The book chronicles Emuge’s life from childhood to adulthood and shares the story of how she came to establish the Atai Orphanage Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides food, clothing, education, permanent housing and health services to orphans of the Teso District of Northern Uganda. The book is available on Amazon and will be available in area bookstores in the next few weeks.

Shakespeare Competition
Kaitlin Gant was selected to participate in the St. Louis regional Shakespeare Competition, which assists high school teachers across the country with their Shakespeare and language arts curriculum by encouraging students to develop their communication skills and an appreciation of the power of language and literature.

DAR Good Citizen’s Program
Allison Leventhal was nominated by Pattonville staff and elected by her fellow graduates to compete in the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen’s program. This award recognizes and rewards individuals who possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism in their homes, schools and communities.

District-wide Insurance Council treasurer
Ron Orr, Pattonville’s chief financial officer, was unanimously elected to serve a three-year term on Missouri United School Insurance Council’s (MUSIC) Board of Directors. The council has provided school districts with coverage protection and risk management services for 28 years. Orr was elected to the nine-member governing Board of Directors and also named treasurer of the board. MUSIC serves more than 470 school districts and community colleges in the state.

Football tournament win
The Pattonville football team won the silver division of the STL Football U 7 on 7 Tournament. The off-season tournament, held at Francis Howell North, included 22 teams from throughout the St. Louis area. In 7 on 7 games, players are not allowed to tackle, and the game is played on half the field. Pattonville’s team won against teams from East St. Louis, Jennings, CBC and Marquette high schools. Quarterback Kaleb Eleby and wide receiver Jake Stroker were named to the All Tournament team. Steve Smith is the Pirate head football coach.

Bragging Writes
Honors, Awards and Achievements by Pattonville Students and Staff
**Our Plan**

**Goal 1**
Students demonstrate significant improvement in their understanding and application of state academic standards. Below are Pattonville’s expectations:

- **All students are proficient in communication arts, mathematics, science and social studies.** All students score proficient or higher on state End of Course (EOC) exams in high school and on Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests in communication arts, mathematics, science and social studies at the appropriate grade levels.
- **All students are responsible citizens.** Ninety percent of students attend school 90 percent of the time (attendance rate); the graduation rate is 92 percent or higher; the school environment is safe and orderly; and community service involves 100 percent of students in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- **Career education is an integral component of the educational program.** The district will increase the number of career education programs approved by the state and participation by students enrolled in career and technical organizations. Ninety percent of graduates will meet the state standard for post-secondary placement (college, career in a field related to their high school course of studies, etc.)

**Goal 2**
Schools develop and implement building-level school improvement plans that are consistent with district goals. Building school improvement plans improve structure, instruction and climate that supports improved student achievement and responsibility.

- **Schools accumulate 90 percent or more of the possible points on the MSIP 5 (state accreditation) standards.**
- **Climate improves annually or maintains a 90 percent satisfaction level.**
- **All teachers participate in professional development that directly supports the plan.**
- **Teams are composed of at least 50 percent or more community/parent/student representatives who are not employees of the district.**

**Goal 3**
Pattonville will develop a plan that addresses critical issues.

The plan will include:
- **Pattonville will address funding, district staffing, safety and facilities.** The district’s facilities plan supports student application of state academic standards; the district maintains its student-teacher ratios and facilities at the state’s “desirable” standards within a balanced budget (22 percent in balances); Pattonville provides a safe learning environment for the Pattonville community of students and staff.
- **Pattonville will create opportunities that enhance achievement and involvement for all students while developing competitive academic, athletic and activity programs.** The number of students who participate in Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) sponsored activities and non-sponsored MHSAA activities increases annually; favorable student, parent and staff satisfaction survey results will increase annually; the number of students participating in before- and after-school activities and athletics at the elementary and middle school level increases annually.
- **Pattonville will share information and develop and implement strategies regarding community needs related to housing, mobility, resources and opportunities for students and families.** Progress will be measured by reviewing data related to families living in transitional housing, mobility rate, attendance and academics, etc.

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**Plan adopted by the Pattonville Board of Education on June 25, 2013.**

Pattonville is fully accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and has been honored by the state for distinction in academic performance. Pattonville’s Comprehensive School Improvement Plan has been deemed by the state as a model for Missouri (May 2003).

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**Areas of Emphasis**
Each year, the Pattonville Board of Education establishes priorities to address in the coming school year. The priorities are intended to help the district fulfill its goals outlined in its Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (strategic plan shown at left).

The Pattonville School District Board of Education is committed to providing exemplary educational opportunities for ALL children. In order to accomplish this goal, quality professional development must be provided for all staff (new and experienced). Partnerships with parents, business leaders, and district patrons must continue to be actively developed in order to engage the entire community as the district strives for educational excellence. In addition to the above, the Board has adopted the following Areas of Emphasis for the 2014-2015 school year:

- **All students will continue to improve their performance on all measures of academic achievement.**
- **Curriculum and instructional practices are research based and support students becoming proficient learners.**
- **Proactive strategies will be implemented to promote continued improvement in student responsibility, citizenship and overall character with an emphasis on building relationships and an understanding of socioeconomic, cultural and ethnic differences.**
- **Safety for students, staff and community will continue to be evaluated and improved.**
- **Parents, staff and students will continue to develop, modify and implement school improvement plans based on data and research.**
- **The district technology plan will continue to be implemented as appropriate.**
- **The district facilities plan will be updated as appropriate and implemented using bond issue and district operating funds.**
- **The district career education programs will become a more integral component of the total educational program.**
- **The district will develop and implement a plan to increase the percentage of students involved in extracurricular programs.**
- **District maintenance and grounds will continue to portray an excellent image of the district.**
- **The district will use resources efficiently to address decreased revenues from state and federal sources.**

*Approved June 24, 2014*