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Dr. Todd Stirn
Superintendent

Dr. Esther Mongan
Assistant Superintendent

Great Things Are Happening in District 301

The 2018-2019 school year has gotten off to a tremendous start and we are excited about all the great things that are happening in our District. On Sunday, September 9th, hundreds of community members came to our Open House and Ribbon Cutting ceremonies to celebrate the grand opening of our phase two addition. Visitors were able to tour the new field house, updated commons, classroom additions, and spaces for our new programs including Veterinary Science, INCubatoredu (entrepreneurship) and MobileMaker (coding in iOS). The overwhelming response was “I wish I could go to a school like this!” Visit page 7 to see photos from the Open House.

This year we began our Regional Career Pathways partnership with neighboring districts. This allows us to capitalize on programs with our neighbors to allow students greater access to different programs. Our Veterinary Science program is the first of its kind in the state of Illinois and will lead to Veterinary Assistant credential opportunities for our students. The program has its own building at CHS, fully equipped with grooming stations, exam tables, dog walk area, and more. In addition, CHS students are able to participate in Precision Manufacturing and Welding programs in District 300 and District U-46. We are thrilled to be able to offer these opportunities to our students!



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Curriculum Update

PARCC tests will be replaced with the newly awarded Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). This assessment will replace the recent PARCC test for grades 3—8. The Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) provides the State with high quality, cost effective solutions that achieve the vision of a computer adaptive assessment that yields machine scored items within 1 week of the end of the testing window and all results within 30 days of the end of the testing window. This provides districts with results that are more timely and relevant for making decisions for our youth and district. It is the hope that DRC will work in collaboration to have a fully functional computer adaptive assessment that builds on the foundation of PARCC content by 2021.

The **School Report Card** will continue to offer additional information to our community members. The Report Card can be viewed at [Illinois Report Card](#) at the end of October. This Report Card is an annual report released by the Illinois State Board of Education, which shows how the State, and each school and district, are progressing on a wide range of educational goals. View the School Report Card Changes article on page 4 for more information.

Central Education Foundation Upcoming Events

The Central Education Foundation is pleased to host two upcoming events this fall. On Wednesday, October 17th, the Harlem Wizards will play against District teachers and administrators at CHS. Bring the family out to cheer on your favorite staff members.



Upcoming Dates

Monday, October 8th
Columbus Day - No School for Students

Monday, October 15th
Board of Education Meeting, 6pm

Friday, October 26th
End of Quarter 1

Monday, October 29th
Parent University

Thursday, November 8th
SIP Day - Half Day for Students

Friday, November 9th
Teacher Institute Day - No School for Students

November 19th-23rd
Thanksgiving Break - No School for Students

November 19th-20th
Parent Teacher Conferences

Monday, November 26th
Board of Education Meeting, 6pm

Monday, December 3rd
BPAC Meeting, 6pm, CHS

Monday, December 17th
Board of Education Meeting, 6pm

Dec 24th - Jan 4th
Winter Break



Join us on Saturday, November 3rd at 301 Foundation's 10th annual Trivia with a Twist event! This year's theme is "Battle of the Bands". The event will be held at the Grand Victoria Casino in Elgin and doors open at 6:00 p.m. Attendees will enjoy dinner and a beer/wine open bar.

All proceeds for each event benefit the schools and students of District 301. To register for the Harlem Wizards game or Trivia with a Twist event, please visit www.301foundation.org.



Homecoming Happenings!

Central High School celebrated Homecoming last week with Powder Puff games, our annual bonfire, school assemblies, football games, and fireworks. The celebrations culminated with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday. School spirit was abound throughout the week and, even though we couldn't pull off a win Friday night, it was a great week!



District Contact Information

District Office
847.464.6005

Central High School
847.464.6030

Central Middle School
847.464.6000

Prairie Knolls Middle School
847.717.8100

Country Trails Elementary School
847.717.8000

Howard B. Thomas Grade School
847.464.6008

Lily Lake Grade School
847.464.6011

Prairie View Grade School
847.464.6014

Transportation Office
847.464.6052

Food Services
847.464.6043

Athletic Department
847.464.6038

Parent University Event Coming in October

Mark your calendars for Monday, October 29th, when District 301 will hold a Parent University event. This event will offer parents and guardians the opportunity to learn more about how to support their students, both in and out of the classroom.

Our Parent University events offer a number of session choices, so parents can choose the topics of greatest interest to them. Parents who attended our May 2018 Parent University had these things to say:

“The presenters were excellent. Excellent content and information!”

“This was great!”

“Very interesting. I found out a lot of new things!”

“I learned so much tonight!”

We are pleased to be partnering with the Kane County Juvenile Justice Council to bring in Junaid Afeef as one of our guest presenters at our October event. Junaid Afeef is the director of the Targeted Violence Prevention Program at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. He will speak to attendees about how students are connecting with the online world, accessing information about groups and movements engaged in violence and/or criminal activity, and offer strategies for parents to increase monitoring and accountability for their children.



Watch for more information, including additional session choices, coming soon!



Bus Safety Week 2018

National School Bus Safety Week will be held October 22 - 26, 2018. The theme for 2018 is “My Driver - My Safety Hero!” During the week of October 22nd, Central drivers will be leading bus evacuation drills at each school. These drills train students and staff on proper procedures should a bus need to be exited during an emergency situation.

D301’s Transportation Department has a fleet of 75 buses and employs approximately 75 drivers and substitute drivers that transport nearly 4200 students on a daily basis. Our drivers are an asset to the district and take pride in safely transporting our students. Please take time this week to thank a bus driver for the service they provide to the students and families of Central District 301.



Digital Bulletin Board

In order to better facilitate communication with our families and support our community partners, we have created a “[Digital Bulletin Board](#)”. This page can be found under the Communications heading on the District website. This page will feature flyers from various organizations regarding upcoming events, camps, program sign-ups, and more.

With this new page, such flyers will no longer be included in school e-blasts, but a link to this page will be included in school communications. School-specific events, such as PTO events, will still be communicated by individual schools.

We encourage you to visit the district website (central301.net) regularly to view news items, read school newsletters, and have quick access to the District 301 Facebook, Twitter, and blog pages.

Did You Know?

- The Central High School LMC renovation was featured as a project on Midwest Computer Products, Inc.’s website. Midwest Computer Products provided the audio/visual equipment throughout the Library Media Center. You can view their webpage with photos of the CHS LMC by clicking [here](#).
- District 301 has developed a Parent Resources page with links to various resources to support our families. Included are videos from Parent University events, mental health resources, and [School Shelf](#), a new resource that offers a library of materials for parents and guardians organized by grade level and focus area. You can access the [Parent Resources page](#) by clicking on For Parents on the District website.
- Kane County is now offering a new way for residents to better connect to local human services. County residents can dial 2-1-1 to receive help for a variety of needs, including obtaining food, shelter, health care, escape from domestic abuse, mental health care, employment, services for veterans, and more. Calls are confidential and phone lines are monitored 24/7. Please click [here](#) to view the flyer for more information.
- Kane County offers discount prescription cards for all county residents who do not have prescription coverage. These cards are free and can be downloaded at www.nacorx.org. Click [here](#) for more information.

Illinois Report Card Changes

In late October, Illinois will be releasing additional metrics on the Illinois Report Card which align to the new K-12 federal educational accountability law, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This new law places more emphasis on academic growth. The Illinois Report Card offers additional metrics that help paint a more robust picture regarding student academic performance school by school. This report card will also introduce some new terms or “designations” regarding each school’s performance and growth. The terms reflect multiple measures on how each school is performing in comparison to other schools and districts in the state. The four designations are as follows:

- **Exemplary** - Performance in top 10% of all schools, graduation rate at high school greater than 67%, and no underperforming groups below the “all students” group in the lowest performing 5% of all schools
- **Commendable** - Performance is not in the top 10% of all schools, graduation rate at high school greater than 67% and no underperforming groups below the “all students” group in the lowest performing 5% of all schools
- **Underperforming** - One or more student groups underperforming at or below “all student” groups in lowest 5% of all schools including subgroups (e.g. race, economically disadvantaged, English learners, etc.)
- **Lowest Performing** - In the lowest performing 5% of eligible Title I schools and high schools with less than 67% of students graduating high school



Great Things Are Happening In District 301

Continued from page 1

Central High School students are learning what it takes to start their own businesses in our new INCubator program. Instead of learning through a textbook, students learn from experts in the field about ideation, product development, marketing, and financial implications for business start-ups.



Students in the MobileMaker course are already developing and coding their own iOS mobile apps! Not only is this course teaching students about coding, but also that failure is a learning opportunity. By sharing failures on the “failure wall”, students are able to brainstorm ways to solve the problem together.

We are proud that we are able to provide incredible spaces and learning opportunities for our students while continuing to lower the tax burden on our community. The D301 tax rates are lower than anticipated during the referendum in 2016, and our students get to experience facilities that rival many college campuses.

Thank you for your support of District 301. We are excited to see what great things will happen this year!

District Office Featured Artist

This month the District Office is pleased to display the artwork of CHS senior Mya Tunney. Art has always been a substantial part of Mya’s life and a major outlet for her. She’s found passion in photography, sculpture, drawing and painting. Mya is inspired by all aspects of the world, from landscapes to people, from old cars to city architecture.

Thank you, Mya, for sharing your work with us!



Do you have the Central District 301 mobile app?

Download it today for free from the App Store or Google Play and have quick access to District calendars, news, links to systems like Skyward and Canvas, and more!

*Engage the
mind,
Empower
the learner,
Inspire
excellence,
Influence the
world!*

New D301 Teachers Participate in Training and Orientation

This year's focus for new teachers is on instructional coaching that revolves around the practice of teachers and coaches working collaboratively to support and strengthen instruction to meet the needs of our students. The meetings began with an article about [finding your marigolds](#), which focused on positive individuals versus "walnuts", or negative individuals within the confines of the workplace. As teachers begin their careers or hone their craft as educators, it is important to align themselves with individuals ("marigolds") that can help them be proactive, positive leaders for their students. It is a great read. Please click on the hyperlink above and enjoy the article. Teachers also spent time getting to know their instructional coaches and discussing what they might need to set themselves up for a successful year. Additionally, the new teachers spent time in tabletop chat about a multitude of topics: formative assessments; Google Slides; tools for interactive assessments such as Kahoot, Quizlet and Quizizz; how to utilize video to engage students in the learning process; providing conversations and an introduction on working with the special education population; discussing blended learning; and talking about trauma informed care for many of our students. Lastly, new teachers worked with the instructional coaches learning about district systems such as Skyward and Canvas. The two days were packed with information and fun activities. Take a look at some of the new faces within our district.



Photos from our Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

On Sunday, September 9th, hundreds of community members gathered at Central High School to see the phase two addition and other renovations and to celebrate our grand opening with ribbon cutting ceremonies. Here are just a few photos from the celebration.



District 301 Welcomes New Staff

Central District 301 is pleased to welcome new staff to our growing district. Below is a list of our staff members new this year.

*Welcome
to the
Central
301
family!*

DO Nicki Coulter, Executive Administrative Assistant

CHS Natasha Allred, CTE Teacher
Kevin Barbier, SpEd Teacher
Leanne Campbell, Paraprofessional
Tyler Clark, Social Studies Teacher
Sabrina Grenert, Cook
Christine Heckman, Theater Teacher
Buddy Haas, Ag Teacher
Elizabeth Kaht, Social Studies Teacher

Joe King, Dean's Assistant
Michael Krallitsch, German Teacher
Lindsay Machut, PE/Health Teacher
Christine Ranieri, Science Teacher
Nick Scoliere, Science Teacher
Terry Stroh, Assistant Principal
Gina Tauer, Counselor
Michael Tully, Paraprofessional

CMS Lisa Blake, Science Teacher
Valerie Cocks, Art Teacher
Jason Ernst, Math Interventionist
Kevin Fredrick, Band Teacher
Michael Krallitsch, German Teacher
Patricia Lossau, Cook

Nicholas Mariano, Spanish Teacher
Joyce Muzzillo, School Nurse
Mackenzie Nowotnik, Paraprofessional
Marisa Robinson, EL Teacher
Amie Roeder, Music Teacher
Laura Smith, SpEd Teacher

PKMS Charles Brooks, Social Worker
Karen Davis-Flannery, Cook
Kevin Fredrick, Band Teacher
Mary Helmer, Math Teacher

Purvi Parikh, School Psychologist
Michelle Rank, Math Teacher
Marisa Robinson, EL Teacher

CT Ashley Dettlo, 2nd Grade Teacher
Angela Dugger, School Psychologist
Graydon Engle, Principal
Linda Freeland, Bilingual EL Teacher
Taylor Pfeifer, 1st Grade Teacher

Lauren Rickard, SpEd Teacher
Sigried Sarna, Cook
Denise Viebrock, Paraprofessional
Erika Yurgil, Paraprofessional

HBT Dana Burner, PE/Health Teacher
Lina Busano, Paraprofessional
Valerie Cocks, Art Teacher
Jeff Gerard, Principal
Alaina Glabinski, Kindergarten Teacher

Madelyn Jones, 2nd Grade Teacher
Heidi Koertgen, SpEd Teacher
Taylor Krage, EC Teacher
Megan Moretti, Assistant Principal

LL Nicole Rash, Art Teacher

Amie Roeder, Music Teacher

PV Monica Gil, Music Teacher
Shannon Lykowski, Paraprofessional
Deanna Ricker, School Secretary

Aleida Vekony, Bilingual EL Teacher
Ashley Vlach, 5th Grade Teacher

Trans Shay Brooks, Driver
Linda Epich, Driver
Nancy Garcia, Driver

George Michael, Driver
Linda Schnabel, Driver
Mary Wood, Driver

B&G Martin Ford, Custodian
Frank Hedderman, Custodian

Mark Slowik, Custodian