

School-Level Stories



Date April 12_2022

High School Stories



Central High School

1/4

Storyteller: Josh Martin

Story: Central High School student, Lateefat Adelekan, was selected to receive the 2022 Rosemary Zander Award from the SSD. This is the Special School District's highest honor for students. She was nominated by teacher Alexis Moore. The judging committee agreed that her accomplishments and dedication to her goals are worthy of this recognition.

Photos/video/graphics:



Central High School

2/4

Storyteller: Josh Martin

Story: Central High School senior class officers designed and painted the senior wall in the commons area to represent the Class of 2022.

Photos/video/graphics:



Central High School

3/4

Storyteller: Josh Martin

Story: Quiet on the set as CHS students gave the audience a great show by performing Lynn Nottage, cutting edge author who writes for Spike Lee and Netflix, monologues in an Acting Showcase in honor of Women's History Month for an accelerated art class. The art students gave critiques discussing the actors and experience performing in front of a live audience.

Congratulations Ronald Atkins, Marco Cooper, Kristen Baker, Jayden Atkins, Linda Guessanlou, Iyanna Ruff, Anaya' White, Huda Abdesumad, Gabrielle Ray, and Cameron Funches!

Photos/video/graphics:



Central High School

4/4

Storyteller: Josh Martin

Story: The CHS and WHS orchestra students embarked on a journey to Orlando, FL. The students participated in a foley workshop, played the soundtrack for the movie “Despicable Me,” and did the voices and sound effects for the movie as well. Students spent some fun in the sun at Cocoa Beach and visited Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. The students had an amazing time!

Photos/video/graphics:



West High School

Storyteller: Josh Martin

Story: The CHS and WHS orchestra students embarked on a journey to Orlando, FL. The students participated in a foley workshop, played the soundtrack for the movie “Despicable Me,” and did the voices and sound effects for the movie as well. Students spent some fun in the sun at Cocoa Beach and visited Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. The students had an amazing time!

Photos/video/graphics:



East High School

1/3

Storyteller: Melinda Ridings

Story: EHS students currently have an Art Exhibit at the HSD Administration Building featuring students' artwork. The Art Show will be displayed for the month of March in celebration of Youth Art Month.

The artwork exhibit includes pottery, drawings, paintings, weaving, knitting, and embroidery. Some of the pictured artwork also belongs to Amaziah Williams (Fiber Arts I) Embroidery and Knitting.

Art Teachers: Debra Shobe, Cassie Thomas, and Michaela Hash-Boyer

Photos/video/graphics:



East High School

2/3

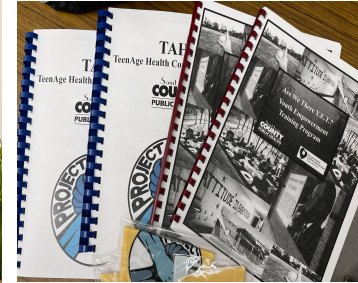
Storyteller: Melinda Ridings

Story: EHS students are taking part in Project R.E.S.T.O.R.E. (Reconciliation and Empowerment to Support Tolerance and Race Equity). The students' participation has continued as a collaborative effort between the school, St. Louis County Department of Public Health, St. Louis County Police Department, and the Police Athletic League (PAL).

The project addresses topics including health-related behaviors related to nutrition, exercise, and safety; attitudes about school, friends, and the community; and academic performance and experiences.

This spring, the 11th-grade student leaders will conduct lessons for their peers addressing these topics to spark conversations, continuing education, and bring awareness to our students.

Photos/video/graphics:



East High School

3/3

Storyteller: Melinda Ridings

Story: This year Hazelwood East will be represented by three dynamic students at the American Legion's 2022 MO Boys State. Congratulations Daniel Awodeyi, Raishaun Keys, and Dallas Mitchell!

The MO Boys State brings the brightest high school juniors together to help lead them down a path of individual success and leadership! The event features distinguished speakers, and participants are exposed to nine schools of instruction where they can earn college credit.

Photos/video/graphics:



Middle School Stories



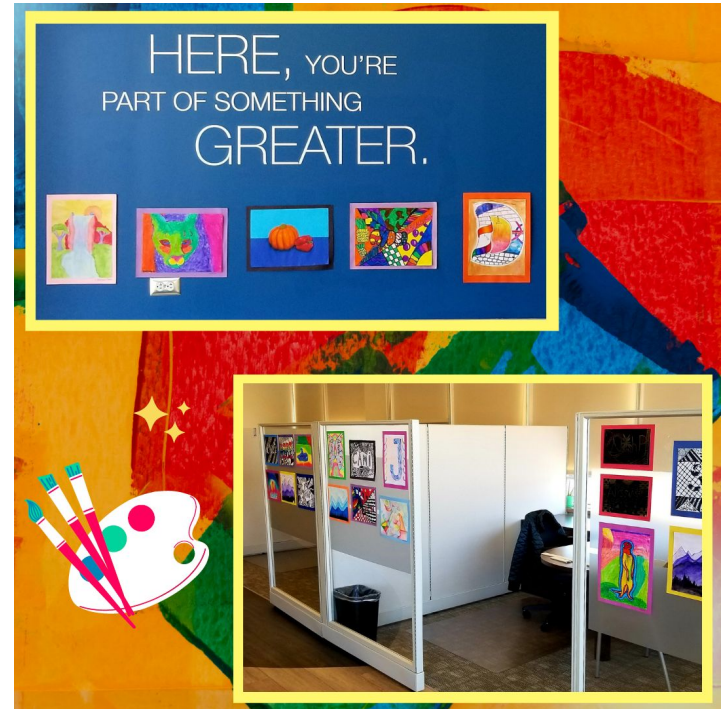
Northwest Middle School

Storyteller: Dr. Patty Ulrich

Story: West Community Credit Union is honored to host the Northwest Middle School Art Show to support amazingly talented HSD middle school artists.

On Saturday, April 23, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. there will be a reception at the credit union, and the winners will be announced and awarded their prizes.

Photos/video/graphics:



West Middle School

Storyteller: Laurie Tenshler

Story: Avyn Tenshler, an 8th-grade student at West Middle School, won Y98's Student of the Month award for being an outstanding student and spending his free time volunteering in the community! Avyn will be honored during The Wake-Up with Bret & Julie morning show tomorrow, Friday, April 1. Be sure to tune in to Y98 around 6:50 a.m. Congratulations, Avyn!

Photos/video/graphics:



Elementary School Stories



Barrington Elementary School

Storyteller: Tracy Smith

Story: Barrington's Girl Scout Robotics Club participated in their first virtual expo and won the award for Best Presentation! Let's give a big HSD shout-out to Julianna Thomas, Janaya Hudson, Favour Awodeyi, Aniya Seward, and Giulia Barr! 🏆🏆

Photos/video/graphics:



Brown Elementary School

1/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Story:

- The Brown Elementary Staff goes above and beyond to positively impact the lives of our students! The 2021-2022 school year has brought extra challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Brown Elementary Teacher Assistants have been an extra blessing to our school this year! They have been leaders in our building while taking on every possible role to support our students and teachers!
- Brenda Burke does it all! From the beginning of the school day to its end, Mrs. Burke ensures students who ride buses safely enter the building, works with individual and small groups of students to support their learning, supervises during lunches, provides coverage for teachers during meetings, and makes sure that daycare riders safely get on their vans. Mrs. Burke does an amazing job as a guest teacher in classrooms when needed. She never slows down and is always looking for ways to help teachers and students! Thank you, Mrs. Burke, for being a true professional!

Photos/video/graphics:



Brown Elementary School

2/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Photos/video/graphics:

Story:

- Earnest Howard is an amazing example of how to build positive relationships with students! Mr. Howard is a key member of our Check-In Check-Out Team because he goes above and beyond in taking the time to speak with students and to encourage them to meet their goals. He supports students in our New Beginnings classroom and helps them calm down when they experience challenges and frustrations. Mr. Howard happily volunteers to help teachers and students whenever needed. He embraces opportunities to be a guest teacher in classrooms because of his passion for learning and teaching. Thank you, Mr. Howard, for your genuine care for the education of all students!



Brown Elementary School

3/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Photos/video/graphics:

Story:

- Haleigh Miller brings her talents and smile to our school daily! Ms. Miller serves the members of our Brown School community with professionalism and a positive attitude. She begins her day by greeting students and making them feel welcome. She serves as a guest teacher when needed, supervises lunches, provides necessary coverage for teachers, supports individuals and small groups of students in their learning, and makes sure dismissal is safe and efficient. Thank you, Ms. Miller, for being a positive role model for students and adults!
- On behalf of our Brown School Family, we appreciate Brenda Burke, Earnest Howard, and Haleigh Miller for helping our students and staff in all possible ways during these challenging times! We could not do it without you!



Brown Elementary School

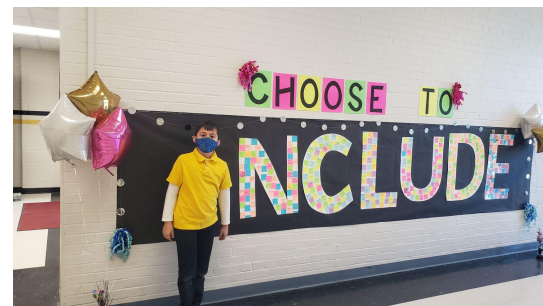
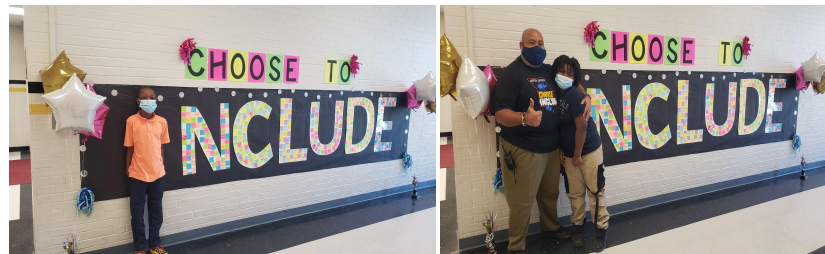
4/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Story:

- Each day at Brown Elementary, we celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion. All of our morning classroom meetings conclude with everyone reciting “It is our differences that make us unique and special!”
- Rachel Gill, a teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, organized a Choose to Include Day at Brown Elementary based on the annual Spread the Word: INCLUSION Day which is celebrated the first Wednesday in March each year.
- Adults purchased t-shirts that say CHOOSE INCLUDE. Students and adults at Brown took a pledge to INCLUDE so that everyone feels valued and loved. Everyone wrote their name on a post-it note. The post-its were used to create a large display with every letter in the word INCLUDE except for the “I.”

Photos/video/graphics:



Brown Elementary School

5/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Story:

- On Wednesday, March 2, each classroom took turns taking pictures in front of the display. Individual students and adults stood in the space where the “I” would appear in the word INCLUDE. Pictures were taken and will be displayed throughout the building as a reminder about each person’s role (the “I”) to ensure INCLUSION is a daily part of our lives.
- At Brown Elementary, we Choose to Include! We encourage everyone to join us in making diversity, equity, and inclusion an important part of our thoughts and actions.

Brown Elementary School

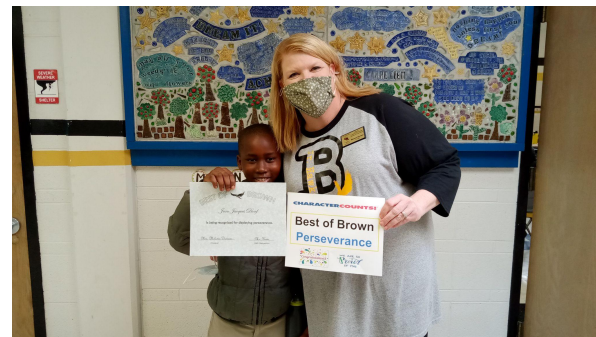
6/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Story:

- Congratulations! Brown Elementary School students were recognized for earning Best of Brown honors for consistently displaying perseverance! Great job!
- 26 Brown School students were recognized on Thursday, March 17, for earning Best of Brown honors for consistently displaying perseverance!
- Each Best of Brown student earned a certificate, an opportunity to sit at a special table during lunch, a special phone call to family members, and the chance to listen to the description read in front of peers as to why they were chosen.
- March Best of Brown kindergartners were Brian Pullen, Amari'e Tobias, Brielle Morgan, and Amari McCallister.
- March Best of Brown 1st graders were Colin Kyles, Lea Walker, Londyn Moss, and Mariah Ward.

Photos/video/graphics:



Brown Elementary School

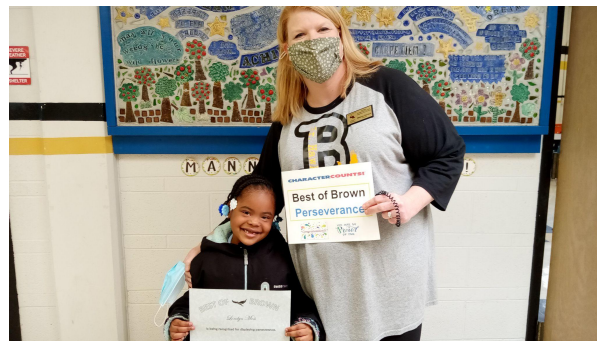
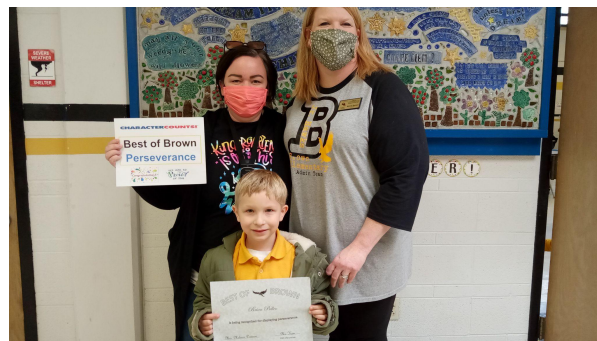
7/7

Storyteller: Peter Kain

Story:

- March Best of Brown 2nd graders included Savannah Coleman, August Ellington-Jackson, Denim Carter, and Jaborri Richmond.
- March Best of Brown 3rd graders were Paul Wilson, Chloe Kyles, Brayden Mitchell, John Jones, and Nathan Pickens.
- March Best of Brown 4th graders were Kyal Plump, Logan Barnes, Leoni Harkless, and Darla Grooms.
- March Best of Brown 5th graders included Jada Rucker, Markeese Windon, Jean Jacques Diouf, Xavier Washington, and Melissa Escobar-Hernandez.
- We are proud of all students at Brown who consistently display perseverance!
- Brown Elementary is a 2020 State and National School of Character. Character Education is part of our daily words, actions, and lessons.
- In April we will recognize our Best of Brown students for the character trait integrity!

Photos/video/graphics:



Grannemann Elementary School

1/4

Storyteller: Dr. LaKisha Franks

Story: Girls on the Run is taking place after school at Grannemann Elementary School. The girls are building character through exercise and team-building activities. Thank you, Ms. Clark, for leading this work!

Photos/video/graphics:



Grannemann Elementary School

2/4

Storyteller: Dr. LaKisha Franks

Story: Dr. Patton celebrated Valentine's Day in a fun way with the staff hosting a hidden heart scavenger hunt and chocolate treats.

Photos/video/graphics:



Storyteller: Dr. LaKisha Franks

Story: Congratulations to Ms. Makuta's Third Grade Class for having the highest attendance average for the week. The class had a 97% attendance average and was awarded the traveling trophy for the week.

Each week the top class attendance average will be mentioned during morning announcements, receive the traveling trophy, and have their pictures posted to the PBIS board.

Grannemann Elementary School

4/4

Storyteller: Dr. LaKisha Franks

Story: Grannemann Elementary School teachers recognized students for showing improvement as they prepped for the MAP test at the end of this month. Each student was added to the MAP Hall of Fame wall for their exceptional effort. Congratulations!

Photos/video/graphics:



Jury Elementary School

Storyteller: Aunya Mcelroy

Story: Jury Elementary students had a special visit from 49ers wide receiver, Austin Mack, and Miss Missouri USA, Joye Forrest. They spoke to the students about what motivates them, why they chose their careers, and how to stay true to themselves and focused on their dreams.

Photos/video/graphics:

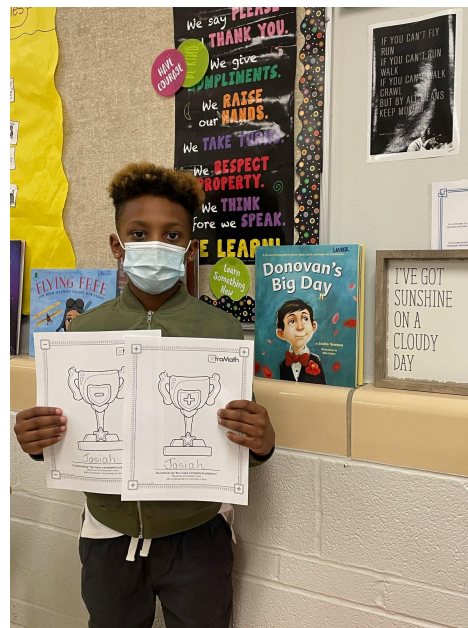


Lusher Elementary School

Storyteller: Andrea Caldwell/ Karen Hoelscher

Story: Jasiah LaRue Locket, a Lusher Elementary student, received an award for completing all addition and subtraction facts. He will be moving onto multiplication. Great job, Jasiah!

Photos/video/graphics:



Russell Elementary School

1/2

Storyteller: Lisa Strauther

Story: Introducing Russell Elementary fifth-grade scholar-athlete, Maggie Colombo. She says her favorite thing about school is her friends and science. Maggie has outstanding behavior and grades in the classroom and also excels in gymnastics. She has been in gymnastics for 8 years, since she was just 3 years old. Maggie supported her team by earning 1st place on the floor and bars, 2nd place on the beam, and 1st place all around. We are so proud of Maggie for all she does! She is an excellent Cougar leader!

Photos/video/graphics:



Russell Elementary School

2/2

Storyteller: Lisa Strauther

Story: Hazelwood School District would like to congratulate Ms. Kim Brandt for being selected as a 2022 Key to the Classroom Award winner for Special School District!

Ms. Brandt has been a part of Russell Elementary for five years. She goes above and beyond to provide relevant learning opportunities for students, especially through song. Ms. Brandt meets students where they are, then pushes them to reach their maximum potential daily. She consistently incorporates real-life experiences and technology into her daily lessons to encourage student growth and understanding.

Ms. Brandt is the engaging and dedicated teacher students deserve, the caring and effective educator families trust, and the resourceful and intentional colleague teachers need. HSD is a great place to be because of educators like Ms. Brandt!

Photos/video/graphics:



Twillman Elementary School

1/2

Storyteller: Carla Leggett

Story: Congratulations to Twillman Elementary School principal, Carla Leggett, who has been nominated as one of the [2022 Health and Wellbeing Champions of St. Louis](#).

Ms. Leggett was nominated for being a decorated principal and educational leader whose charge has been to provide access to achievement through impactful turnaround and improvement in schools.

Photos/video/graphics:



Twillman Elementary School

2/2

Storyteller: Carla Leggett

Story: The Student Expectation Committee and Leadership Team are excited to announce the rollout of Pawsitive Office Referrals! Referrals can be earned by any scholar who has gone above and beyond to exhibit Tiger Traits.

These scholars will be recognized school-wide, have their names displayed on a dedicated brag board, and get a certificate to bring home. Students' names are entered into the Wheel of Names to receive a bonus gift from Mrs. Leggett and Mr. Rice as a token of our appreciation for their efforts.

Walker Elementary School

Storyteller: Kelly Kozlen

Story: Ms. Heckstetter, a Walker Elementary fourth-grade teacher, volunteers every weekend to help care for senior dogs who are homeless or sick with the Second Chance Ranch. She loves working with the dogs and strives to make the rest of their lives the best.

Photos/video/graphics:



Walker Wildcat
STAFF Spotlight
Stephanie Heckstetter

Mrs. Heckstetter, Walker fourth grade teacher, volunteers her time at Second Chance Ranch. Second Chance Ranch creates a loving home for senior dogs who are homeless or sick and strive to make the rest of their life the best of their life. The dogs are rescued, given medical attention, food, and Mrs. Heckstetter's love. Mrs. Heckstetter volunteers every weekend to help care for the dogs. Thank you Mrs. Heckstetter for your tender love and care for our most precious pets!

