

## Healthcare Careers

### Dr. Anniece Spencer, DNP, APRN, FNP, BC-ADM



**Where do you work?** I am a medical science liaison (family nurse practitioner by trade) at Abbott (diabetes division).

**Where did you go to school?** I graduated from Hazelwood East High School. I then earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Tennessee State University, a Master of

Science in Nursing from Pennsylvania State University and a Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

**What does a medical science liaison do?** I teach nurses, doctors and pharmacists how to use a medical device that tests glucose (sugar) levels under the skin and answer questions they have. I travel to different cities across the country (now virtually) to listen to new information on how to treat and evaluate diabetes, so I can stay up to date with new research on how to make people with diabetes feel better and make education material for health care providers.

**Why did you choose this career?** I like to travel and teach health care providers how to provide good healthcare to patients they see, using new technology that can make people with diabetes improve their health. I like science, nursing and technology, and this is a mix of all in one. I enjoy teaching how a device can always tell someone with diabetes

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**What is your favorite part of the job you have?** I enjoy hearing stories on how a medical device I taught a health care provider to use for their patient has changed the patient's life for the good and make them feel healthy and not be sick.

**Learning Standards:** HPE6, NH3

## 2002 EHS Alum

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Hazelwood School Board looks to fill three empty positions

The Hazelwood School District Board of Education will have two open three-year seats and one open two-year seat in the April 6, 2021 election. Filing opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 15 and closes Jan. 19, 2021 at 5 p.m.

The qualifications for the Board are as follows:

- Missouri law requires a person to be a U.S. citizen.
- At least 24 years of age.
- A resident taxpayer of the Hazelwood School District and to have resided in the state of Missouri for one year immediately preceding the election.
- Board members do not receive pay for their service.

Qualified applicants must make an appointment to file in person during business hours at the Hazelwood School District Administration Building, 15955 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63031. To schedule an appointment to file for board candidacy, please contact Kristina Allen at 314-953-5012 or [kallen2@hazelwoodschools.org](mailto:kallen2@hazelwoodschools.org).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Hazelwood Board of Education fills vacant board position

On Nov. 17, the Hazelwood Board of Education approved the appointment of Sparkl A. West-Pruitt to a vacant board position, effective immediately.

"Mrs. West-Pruitt brings an impressive track record of advocacy for students to the board of education," said Cheryl D. Latham, President of the Hazelwood Board of Education. "Her dynamic business experience and student-first focus is a welcomed addition to this body."

Prior to this appointment, West-Pruitt served as a Key Communicator for Hazelwood School District. She has also held several leadership roles with the Hazelwood PTA Council, including president. West-Pruitt has been involved with HSD since 2012.

West-Pruitt's is an experienced business and entertainment management professional. In addition to that, she is a motivational speaker in the areas of goal setting, business marketing, parenting, and diversity. West-Pruitt is a graduate of Georgia Technical Institute.



*Photo courtesy Hazelwood School District*



# How St. Louis-area schools will be handling snow days this year

With most schools capable of remote learning, schools can handle snow days a bit differently this year

ST. LOUIS — For some St. Louis-area students, snow days may have become a thing of the past — at least for this winter.

With remote learning now a capability for most schools, many have the option to hold classes online even if the building is closed due to poor road conditions. Some area schools have done away with snow days altogether this year, while others plan to use up only their allotted days and then go virtual.

Here's a look at several area school districts and what their plans are for this winter.

**Belleville Township High School:** The district is currently remote through the end of the semester. If there is inclement weather while it is on its hybrid model, it will collaborate with its schools on whether a remote learning day is possible. It also depends on the timing of the weather event. "If we can provide our students and families the opportunity to be prepared, then we will consider it," a spokesperson said.

**Collinsville Community Unit School District #10:** The district transitioned to online learning on Monday and will remain online until winter break begins on Dec. 23. When they return to hybrid in-person learning this school year, e-learning will be triggered. The district is considering a proposal to turn snow days into e-learning days through the 2022-2023 school year. They will vote on the proposal at the Dec. 21 board of education meeting.

**Fort Zumwalt School District:** Will use Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) days on traditional snow days.

**Francis Howell School District:** Will have snow days like usual, and may use virtual learning past a certain number to avoid extending the school year.

**Fox C6 School District:** Will continue to have snow days like in years past. "With so much change happening this year, we felt that this was one thing that could be kept consistent for our staff, students, and families," a spokesperson said.

**Hazelwood School District:** It depends. Students will learn virtually during snow days if it's just snow. If there are power or internet shortages, the district may activate its inclement weather plan, which calls for asynchronous learning (packets). The school might also use a traditional snow day and cancel school completely for the day.

<https://www.ksdk.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/snow-days-during-coronavirus/63-b8a47043-907f-4a5d-b735-bf459eff6829>

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