

Green joins Ritenour School District

Bruce Green joins Ritenour School District as director of



Bruce Green

Secondary Education, effective July 1. In the newly created position, Green will oversee the curricular and instructional programs of the district's two middle schools and Ritenour

High School. Green has over 20 years of secondary education experience. Currently, Green is completing his work in the Hazelwood School District as the assistant superintendent for high school education, technology, school safety and its alternative program.

Learn About the COVID-19 Vaccine & Help Hazelwood Get Healthy!



HELP HAZELWOOD
GET HEALTHY!



As part of Hazelwood School District's *Help Hazelwood Get Healthy* public campaign, a wealth of information about the COVID-19 vaccine has been placed on the district's website. The goal is to help people make educated healthcare decisions. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine and pre-registration options, visit www.hazelwoodschoools.org.



Hazelwood PTA 'Meet the Candidates' Night March 4

The Hazelwood PTA Council will be hosting a virtual "Meet the Candidate Night" on March 4, from 6:30-8 p.m.

Five candidates are running for the three open Hazelwood School District Board of Education seats in the April 6 election. Two three-year seats and one two-year seat will be filled.

Meet the Candidate Night will be moderated by the St. Louis League of Women Voters. The event will include a 90 minute question and answer session to allow voters an opportunity to become better acquainted with the candidates.

Meet the Candidate Night will be held virtually via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/s/96902555092>

The candidates running for the three-year expired terms are: incumbents Sparkl West-Pruitt, Betsy Rachel, and Diane Livingston.

The candidates running for the two-year unexpired term are: Sylvester Taylor II and Aaron Craig.

Kelly Taylor Named Hazelwood District Teacher of the Year

Kelly Taylor, a science teacher at Hazelwood West High School, has been named the Hazelwood School District 2020-2021 Teacher of the Year.

“I am truly humbled to receive this honor and thankful to be selected to represent the amazing educators in the Hazelwood School District,”

Taylor said. “The passion, resilience, and perseverance of my students are what drives me to be a better educator and a better person.”

Taylor, who has been with HSD since 2016, teaches Honors Biology, Principles of Biomedical Science, and AP Environmental Science, which is a dual enrollment course through University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). Additionally, Taylor serves as a science instructor for UMSL’s Bridge Program.

The building-level teachers of the year and Taylor were honored by HSD during a virtual event on Feb. 4.

“Dr. Taylor is an outstanding educator and role model for both students and colleagues,” said Nettie Collins-Hart, superintendent of HSD. “Her commitment to our district and students is awe-inspiring.”



Kelly Taylor

Hazelwood school official hid camera in foster son's bedroom, charges say



HAZELWOOD — An assistant superintendent with the Hazelwood School District was charged Wednesday with hiding a camera in his foster son’s bedroom so he could watch him naked, charges say. Matthew Phillips, 52, of the 1800 block of Parker Road in Florissant, was charged with felony counts of invasion of privacy and evidence tampering. Charges say Phillips admitted buying a camera online and putting it in his 19-year-old foster son’s bedroom “because he was intrigued at seeing the victim naked.” The camera had a memory card that Phillips put in his computer in order to view the video. Phillips told police he deleted the videos from the computer. Police said they have no evidence Phillips had any inappropriate behavior while at work. A judge set Phillips’ bail at \$100,000 cash. According to [his online biography](#), Phillips is an assistant superintendent of student services and has worked in public education for nearly three decades and previously served as principal for Brown Elementary School and as a coordinator in the Special School District. “Mr. Phillips has a passion for serving students with special needs and those who are in need of support academically, socially and emotionally,” his bio says

Anthony Kiekow, a spokesman for the Hazelwood School District, said Phillips is on administrative leave. Kiekow said he could not immediately provide Phillips’ length of employment with the district or his salary information. But a Post-Dispatch database of St. Louis-area public employees says Phillips was hired in July 2010 and earned an annual salary of \$138,476. He did not yet have a lawyer, according to court records.

Assistant school superintendent accused of invasion of privacy in off-campus incident



FLORISSANT, Mo. – An assistant superintendent in the Hazelwood School District has been placed on administrative leave Wednesday after being charged with invasion of privacy.

The St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office charged 52-year-old Matthew Phillips with invasion of privacy and tampering with physical evidence.

According to Officer Steve Michael, a Florissant Police spokesman, Phillips admitted to the crimes.

Police do not believe students were involved.

Anthony Kiekow, a Hazelwood district spokesman, said Phillips will remain on leave for the duration of the investigation.

Phillips remains in custody at St. Louis County Jail on a \$100,000 bond.



Hazelwood school official charged with putting hidden camera in foster son's room



FLORISSANT, Mo. (KMOV.com) -- A Florissant man has been charged for hiding a camera in his foster son's room.

Matthew Phillips, 52, of Florissant, is charged with invasion of privacy and tampering with physical evidence.

According to the Florissant Police Department, a hidden camera was found inside the room of Matthew's 19-year-old foster son. Phillips admitted to police that he had hidden the camera to capture "inappropriate video" of his foster son.

According to the Hazelwood School District website, Matthews is the assistant superintendent for student services. In his [bio](#), it says, "Mr. Phillips has a passion for serving students with special needs and those who are in need of support academically, socially and emotionally. He has served as a foster parent and advocate for students with special needs."

Investigators said they have no evidence to believe there was any inappropriate behavior at his place of employment.

News 4 reached out to the school district and learned that Matthews is currently on administrative leave. Phillips is currently being held at the St. Louis County Jail on a \$100,000 bond.

https://www.kmov.com/news/hazelwood-school-official-charged-with-putting-hidden-camera-in-foster-sons-room/article_3ec1c436-76e2-11eb-a3ce-ab41a2f2afdf.html?block_id=677763#:~:text=Matthew%20Phillips%2C%2052%2C%20of%20Florissant,%20year%20old%20foster%20son.

February 24, 2021

Hazelwood assistant superintendent charged, accused of secretly recording foster son



FLORISSANT, Mo. — An assistant superintendent in the Hazelwood School District was charged with one felony count of invasion of privacy after police said he secretly recorded his 19-year-old foster son.

Matthew Phillips, 52, was charged with invasion of privacy and tampering with physical evidence in connection with the secret recordings police said he made earlier this month. According to charging documents, police started their investigation when the victim called saying he found a video camera in his bedroom. He told police Phillips, his foster father, purchased the camera online and put it in the victim's room. When police interviewed Phillips, Phillips admitted to buying the camera and putting it in the room. He said he did it because he was "intrigued at seeing the victim naked", charging documents said. Police said Phillips admitted to taking the SD card from the camera and putting it into his computer to view the videos it recorded. He told police he then deleted the videos from his computer. In charging documents, Phillips was described as "a danger to the victim and a flight risk". He is being held on \$100,000 bond. Phillips is an assistant superintendent at the Hazelwood School District. Police said they do not believe there was any inappropriate behavior where he works. According to his bio on the Hazelwood School District website, Phillips has supervisory responsibility for the following schools:

- Armstrong
- Arrowpoint
- Brown
- Cold Water
- Garrett
- Grannemann
- Jamestown
- Larimore
- McNair
- Townsend

The district provided the following statement:

Mr. Matt Phillips is currently one of the Hazelwood School District assistant superintendents. He has been placed on administrative leave pending an investigation. Because this is a personnel matter, no additional information can be provided.

Editors note: A previous version of this story incorrectly identified Phillips as an assistant superintendent in the Ferguson-Florissant School district. The story has been corrected and we apologize for the error.