



Hazelwood Schools host Community Forum

The Hazelwood School District (HSD) Board of Education held its first Community Forum of the 2018-2019 school year October 4 at Hazelwood East High School. Dozens of parents, community members, and district staff were in attendance and submitted questions which were answered by a panel consisting of three board members and Superintendent Nettie Collins-Hart. Two main topics of discussion included the district's plans to open a thematic school geared toward talented and gifted students in 2019 and updates on redistricting presented at the district's most recent Board of Education meeting. The next Community Forum will take place February 21, 2019 at Hazelwood West High School.

100-plus local high school students were part of inaugural Girls in Aviation Day

More than 100 young women from 15 bi-state area high schools learned about future careers in aviation as they participated in the first-ever Girls in Aviation Day on October 12 at St. Louis Downtown Airport in Cahokia, Illinois. The teenagers, grades 9 through 12, flew planes in high-tech simulators and climbed into the cockpits of various aircraft for an overview of the instrumentation. Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology, in

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partnership with Women in Aviation International (WAI), hosted the first of what they now hope will be an annual event at the airport – which is located near downtown St. Louis.

“This is our first time really introducing these young students to potential careers in aviation in this interactive way,” said Stephen Magoc, chair of the department of Aviation Science

at Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology.

In addition to the hands-on activities, the event featured a career expo, where the students had the opportunity to talk with representatives from more than a dozen companies and organizations in the aviation industry about various job opportunities and the paths to take to secure those types of positions.

AeroNav Data, Republic Airline, Cirrus Aircraft, Ideal Aviation, Take Flight Girls, Inc, The United States Air Force, The Greater St. Louis Business Aviation Association and AVMATS were among the companies and organizations participating.

Makayla Best, 16, a junior at O'Fallon Township High School, was among the first to get time in one of the flight simulators. She

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found the experience exhilarating as she flew the plane from the Missouri side of the river over into Illinois, hoping to spot her home as she followed a flight path taking her toward Scott Air Force Base.

"After that experience, it was so fun, I really need to put more time into exploring aviation as a career," Best said. She and her mother spent the next couple of hours doing just that, visiting several booths at the expo to ask questions and gather more information.

Marisa Warren, 17, a senior at Incarnate Word Academy, got to climb up into the cockpit of a Cirrus SR20, while her mother looked on.

"It's a really cool opportunity," Warren said. "Not too many people get to come out and do something like this."

The goal of events like Girls in Aviation is to introduce more young women to the field of aviation, where there is currently tremendous demand for pilots, engineers and various



other positions. Over the past two decades, WAI reports the number of women involved in the aviation industry has steadily increased and women can now be found in nearly every aviation occupation, however, the numbers are small by comparison.

Women pilots, for example, represent only six percent of the total pilot population, under-

scoring the potential opportunities that exist for more women to enter the field.

The event featured Captain Stephanie Johnson. In 1997, she became Northwest's first African-American female pilot (before that airline was acquired by Delta Airlines) and went on to become Delta's first African-American female captain in 2016. She told the young

women how she has always been interested in airplanes, and in high school, convinced her physics teacher, who had an airplane, to take her on a flight. He agreed only if she rustled up two friends to tag along and they all chipped in a little money for fuel for the plane.

"He let me fly past our school and back, showed me how to keep the wings level

Mariana Fobbs and Olivia Herrod, students at Alton High School, sit in the cockpit of a Diamond DA20 at the inaugural Girls in Aviation Day held last Friday (Oct. 12) at Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology.

on the horizon. I turned around with the biggest smile on my face and my friends were holding each other like, 'What are you doing? You don't know how to fly the plane.'" Johnson recalled with a laugh. "Of course, I didn't land the plane, but I was hooked after that."

She went on to talk about her career path that included earning her flight instructor's certificate and getting to teach in various places, while she worked a second job at Blockbuster video to help pay off her student debts.

A panel discussion with current aviation students and flight instructors gave the students an opportunity to hear from other young women who were in the early stages of or embarking on a variety of careers in the avia-

tion industry. They encouraged the students who were interested to take a couple of discovery flights to see if it ignited their passion, find mentors to network with, and to do really well in high school and to make sure to take well-rounded classes because of the many options available in the field.

"It's a great career and I really want you to explore the options," Johnson said. "There's room for all of you... You just have to look out for each other and have to support each other because that's the only way we're going to change this world and change this industry."

Participating schools with students at Girls in Aviation Day included Hazelwood West High School, Incarnate Word Academy, O-Fallon Township High School, Parkway North High School, Parkway South High School, St. Dominic High School, Westminster Christian Academy, Alton High School, Francis Howell High School, McCluer North High School, Mehlville High School, Oakville High School and Villa Duchesne. Additional girls came with their Girl Scouts leader and a couple of others

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Two HSD Educators Receive Excellence in Education Awards

The St. Louis American Foundation recognized two Hazelwood School District (HSD) educators, Chauncey Granger and Tamara Wells, during the 2018 Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship and Awards Gala. . Granger was recently promoted to principal at Hazelwood East High School. Prior to this, he served as principal of Hazelwood Southeast Middle School. He was recognized for his innovative work with student achievement and commitment to increasing parent and community involvement. Wells was recently promoted to a curriculum coach after serving as an instructional specialist at Twillman Elementary School. She was recognized for empowering students to take an active role in their own learning. “We value a diverse staff that is caring, culturally component, well trained, and highly effective in their roles,” said Nettie Collins-Hart, superintendent of schools. “This is a tremendous honor. Congratulations to Dr. Granger and Dr. Wells on the prestigious award recognition.” The 2018 Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship and Awards Gala took place at the America’s Center in Downtown St. Louis.

H'Wood School District Wraps Up First Community Forum

The Hazelwood School District (HSD) Board of Education held its first community forum of the 2018-2019 school year Oct. 4 at Hazelwood East High School. The purpose of the forum was to create a constructive dialogue between community members, the board of education, and the superintendent. Dozens of parents, community members, and district staff were in attendance and submitted questions that were answered by a panel consisting of three board members and Superintendent Nettie Collins-Hart.

Two main topics of discussion included the district's plans to open a thematic school geared toward talented and gifted students in 2019 and updates on redistricting presented at the district's most recent board of education meeting.

"What we saw tonight was a great example of a community coming together to support our students and our schools," Board president Mark Behlmann said. "I invite the community to engage the district and find out how you can get involved. We always welcome parents and community members to join a district committee; there are several committees that need your participation."

The next community forum will take place Feb. 21, 2019 at Hazelwood West High School.

Hazelwood District to Host Fall Family Festival At Central High School on Oct. 25

The Hazelwood School District (HSD) will host its Annual Fall Family Festival Thursday, Oct. 25, from 5-7:30 p.m. at Hazelwood Central High School, located at 15875 New Halls Ferry Road in Florissant. The Fall Family Festival is free and open to all HSD families.

The festival will include entertainment, arts and crafts, carnival booths, games, a complimentary light meal, and more. Families will also have the opportunity to gather valuable information and resources during the community resource fair.

Hazelwood Central East, Lutheran North Football

By Jim Wieners

High School Football closes the 2018 regular season this weekend however, while Hazelwood Central, Hazelwood East and Lutheran North have senior days Friday, Sept. 19, (LHSH) and Saturday, Oct. 20, (Central, East) the teams will be home at least one more week (Oct. 26-LHSN, Oct. 27-Central, East) as Districts begin.

HAZELWOOD CENTRAL welcomes McCluer North Saturday at noon as the Hawks try to complete a sweep of the Suburban XII North Conference for the fifth consecutive year. That is seven including the last two in the Suburban North Conference. The Hawks have won 43 consecutive games over current and former conference rivals, including Pattonville and Ritenour, since late 2011. The Hawks are all but assured of opening districts at home for the seventh consecutive year and will lock it up with a win. Hazelwood Central (4-0 Suburban XII North, 6-2 overall) continued their dominance over Ritenour since 1974 with a 42-32 road win Oct. 5 as junior Jared Peters rushed for four touchdowns while senior Sean Stephens adds two. In the 44-0 shut out Oct. 13 at Riverview Gardens (0-4, 0-8) Stephens threw two touchdown passes while junior Kameron Jones rushed for two more.

HAZELWOOD EAST welcomes Hazelwood West Saturday for a 1 p.m. battle of 3-1 teams vying for second place in the Suburban XII North, if Hazelwood Central wins. This will be the 44th meeting between the two rivals since they began in 1974 (they did not play last year) and East holds a 39-4 lead over West. The Spartans will finish at or over .500 for 42 consecutive years and will open districts at home. East is all but assured of being the top seed in Class Four, District Three and will lock it with a win. Hazelwood East (3-1, 6-2) rallied from a

20-8 halftime deficit by scoring 16 fourth-quarter points in a 24-20 win Oct. 6 dealing Fox (7-1) their first and, so far,, only loss. Senior Torre Dyson threw two touchdown passes including the game winner to senior Ryan McGruder with 2:30 left in the fourth quarter. In the 48-6 rout Oct. 13 at McCluer (0-4, 0-8) Dyson threw three touchdown passes, two to senior Jar'vion Hardimon, while Maurice Chavers scored two more.

LUTHERAN NORTH welcomes 4-4 Chaminade Friday at 7 p.m. LHSN is on a five-game winning streak, including four wins to repeat as Metro League Champions, after the 5-3 Crusaders lost the first three including two to Illinois High School State qualifiers. Lutheran North will defend the Class Two, District Two title as the top seed and will host Hillsboro-based Grandview Oct. 26 at 7 p.m.

HAZELWOOD WEST scored 26 unanswered points in the last 10:45 of the fourth quarter but the Wildcats fell short to Cedar Hill-based Northwest 36-34 on Oct. 5, despite two rushing touchdowns and a passing touchdown from junior Darius Cooper and two rushing touchdowns from junior Charles Davis. West (3-1, 5-3) had to go triple overtime Oct 13 to win 38-32 at McCluer North as Cooper rushed for two touchdowns and threw two touchdown passes to junior Tilor Harris, in the second and third overtimes.

McCLUER NORTH (2-2, 4-4) enjoyed an Oct. 5 homecoming rout of Oakville 60-27 as junior Travon Springfield rushed for three touchdowns while senior Jaamel Smith and junior Angelo Butts each rushed for two touchdowns. Against Hazelwood West the Stars overcome a 20-6 three-quarter deficit with 14 fourth quarter points as Smith rushed for the fourth quarter game-tying touchdown and one each in two overtimes.

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New dreams may take flight as a result of 2018 Girls in Aviation Day in Cahokia



Mariana Fobbs & Olivia Herrod, students at Alton High School, sit in the cockpit of a Diamond DA20

More than 100 young women from 15 bi-state area high schools learned about future careers in aviation as they participated in the first ever Girls in Aviation Day on October 12 at St. Louis Downtown Airport in Cahokia, Illinois. The teenagers who are in grades 9 through 12 flew planes in high-tech simulators and climbed into the cockpits of various aircraft for an overview of the instrumentation. Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology, in partnership with Women in Aviation International (WAI), hosted the first of what they now hope will be an annual event at the airport which is located near downtown St. Louis.

"It's been a terrific event," said Stephen Magoc, MBA, Chair of the Department of Aviation Science at Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology. "We have 15 schools represented from around the St. Louis region, some public and some private, and this is our first time really introducing these young students to potential careers in aviation in this interactive way."

In addition to the hands-on activities, the event featured a career expo, where the students had the opportunity to talk with representatives from more than a dozen companies and organizations in the aviation industry about various job opportunities and the paths to take to secure those types of positions. AeroNav Data, Republic Airline, Cirrus Aircraft, Ideal Aviation, Take Flight Girls, Inc, The United States Air Force, The Greater St. Louis Business Aviation Association and AVMATS were among the companies and organizations participating.

Makayla Best, 16, a junior at O'Fallon Township High School, was among the first to get time in one of the flight simulators. She found the experience exhilarating as she flew the plane from the Missouri side of the river over into Illinois, hoping to spot her home as she followed a flight path taking her toward Scott Air Force Base.

"After that experience, it was so fun, I really need to put more time into exploring aviation as a career," Makayla said. She and her mother spent the next couple of hours doing just that, visiting several booths at the expo to ask questions and gather more information.

Marisa Warren, 17, a senior at Incarnate Word Academy, got to climb up into the cockpit of a Cirrus SR20, while her mother looked on.

"It's a really cool opportunity," said Marisa. "Not too many people get to come out and do something like this." The goal of events like Girls in Aviation is to introduce more young women to the field of aviation, where there is currently tremendous demand for pilots, engineers and various other positions. Over the past two decades, WAI reports the number of women involved in the aviation industry has steadily increased and women can now be found in nearly every aviation occupation, however, the numbers are small by comparison. Women pilots, for example, represent only six percent of the total pilot population, underscoring the potential opportunities that exist for more women to enter the field.



New dreams may take flight as a result of 2018 Girls in Aviation Day in Cahokia

To help bring those opportunities to life for the students, the event featured Captain Stephanie Johnson. In 1997, she became Northwest's first African-American female pilot (before that airline was acquired by Delta Airlines) and went on to become Delta's first African-American female captain in 2016. She told the young women how she has always been interested in airplanes, and in high school, convinced her physics teacher, who had an airplane, to take her on a flight. He agreed only if she rustled up two friends to tag along and they all chipped in a little money for fuel for the plane.

"He let me fly past our school and back, showed me how to keep the wings level on the horizon. I turned around with the biggest smile on my face and my friends were holding each other like, 'What are you doing? You don't know how to fly the plane,'" Johnson recalled with a laugh. "Of course, I didn't land the plane, but I was hooked after that."

She went on to talk about her career path that included earning her flight instructors certificate and getting to teach in various places, while she worked a second job at Blockbuster video to help pay off her student debts. She soon got hired as a back up co-pilot for a charter company, where her unpredictable schedule had her flying golf enthusiasts to Augusta for the Master's Tournament or taking doctors from the Cleveland Clinic to pick up organs for transplant. Her goal, however, was to pilot for a commercial airline, and a lifestyle where she could have a more regular schedule and benefits. That led her to Northwest Airlines and her current role with Delta Airlines. While her career put her in the cockpit as a pilot, she also underscored for the students that career opportunities go far beyond that, with a need for aircraft managers, mechanics, flight controllers, engineers, dispatchers and more. "Even the lawyers get the travel benefits," she joked.

"It's a great career and I really want you to explore the options," Johnson said. "There's room for all of you... You just have to look out for each other and have to support each other because that's the only way we're going to change this world and change this industry."

A panel discussion with current aviation students and flight instructors gave the students an opportunity to hear from other young women who were in the early stages of or embarking on a variety of careers in the aviation industry. They encouraged the students who were interested to take a couple of discovery flights to see if it ignited their passion, find mentors to network with, and to do really well in high school and to make sure to take well-rounded classes because of the many options available in the field.

St. Louis Downtown Airport Director Erick Dahl was pleased to see such a great turn out for the event. "It's always good to have educational events here at the airport and to be able to help spread STEM education to a broader audience," said Dahl. St. Louis Downtown Airport is the longtime home of Parks College.

Participating schools with students at Girls in Aviation Day included **Hazelwood West High School**, Incarnate Word Academy, O'Fallon Township High School, Parkway North High School, Parkway South High School, St. Dominic High School, Westminster Christian Academy, Alton High School, Francis Howell High School, McCluer North High School, Mehlville High School, Oakville High School and Villa Duchesne. Additional girls came with their Girl Scouts leader and a couple of others who are homeschooled also participated.

To learn more about Girls in Aviation or opportunities to participate in future events, contact Rachel Rimmerman at Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology via email at parksevents@slu.edu. To learn more about Women in Aviation, visit <https://www.wai.org/>.