



Columbia
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

QUARTERLY CONNECTION

FALL 2018

SUMMER



WINTER



SPRING



2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

MONDAY, AUGUST 13
Jump Start Day (Grades 6 & 9)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14
Opening Day of School
(Grades 1-12)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16
First Day for Kindergarten

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
Labor Day;
school not in session

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16
Teacher collaboration;
2.5 hour early dismissal

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Election Day;
school not in session

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session
Parent-Teacher Conferences
(Elementary and Middle
Schools)

NOVEMBER 21 - 23
Thanksgiving Break;
school not in session

DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 1
Winter Break;
school not in session

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session

MONDAY, JANUARY 21
MLK Day; school not in session

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Presidents' Day;
school not in session

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
Teacher Work Day;
school not in session
Parent-Teacher Conferences
(Elementary and Middle
Schools)

MARCH 25-29
Spring Break;
school not in session

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10
Teacher collaboration;
2.5 hour early dismissal

MAY 21-29
Built-in snow days

MONDAY, MAY 27
Memorial Day;
school not in session

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
Teacher collaboration;
2.5 hour early dismissal

JUNE 3 - 27
Summer School

FRIDAY, MAY 24
Douglass High School
graduation; morning
Battle High School
graduation; evening

SATURDAY, MAY 25
Rock Bridge High School
graduation; morning
Hickman High School
graduation; evening

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EDUCATION

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VISION

Our desired future state

TO be the best school district in our state

MISSION

Why we exist

TO provide an excellent education for all students

BOND UPDATE



Grant Elementary School Addition

Students and faculty at Grant Elementary School will start the school year with access to a new two-story addition to their building, which has been in the works since last year.

The addition adds 16,600 square feet on the southwest side of the building and eliminates the need for four classroom trailers. It also includes dedicated classrooms for special education, music and art, and a small greenhouse area that will feature plants grown by second and fifth graders.

Two elevators have been installed to make the building more accessible. The existing restrooms, teacher's lounge and main office underwent renovations, and a nurse's office, workroom and adult restroom were added to the existing layout. The main office's entry has been relocated to align with the pickup and drop-off loop near the Eco Schoolhouse. The building's fire alarm system has also been upgraded.

New Middle School

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new middle school off Sinclair Road will be held later this fall. The school will allow for reduced class sizes, more collaboration areas for students and spaces for the community to use. The school, which is set to open in fall 2020, will address growth in south Columbia and reduce overcrowding at Gentry Middle School.



Rock Bridge High School Stadium

The dedication of the Rock Bridge High School stadium renovation and press box will take place on September 14, prior to the RBHS home game, at 7 p.m. The renovations of the stadium were approved by voters in 2014, and include a new and larger home grandstand, a new press box, new storage buildings, new fencing around the track, a legacy plaza, and bathrooms, and seating accessible for individuals with disabilities. The track was also striped and resurfaced.

NEW TO THE TEAM

Heather McArthur, Interim Chief Financial Officer

McArthur began working for CPS in 2006 as chief accountant in the district's business services department. She was promoted to administrative project manager in 2016 and worked directly with the CFO to oversee the budget process, as well as working in contract management, long-range facilities planning, and risk management. She has bachelor's degrees in mathematics and accounting from Central Methodist University. McArthur has also worked for the state auditor's office as a staff auditor and senior auditor, and has experience working in the governmental audit section.

Nickie Smith, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer

Smith has worked for CPS since 2012. She has a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing and advertising from William Woods University. She has worked for the Missouri Department of Revenue and Missouri Department of Social Services and has 12 years' worth of human resource experience within the public sector. Smith is a certified equity trainer through NCCJ for CPS and the current vice president of professional development for the Human Resource Association of Central Missouri.

Randy Gooch, Chief Operations Officer

Gooch has served in a leadership role at the Columbia Area Career Center for the past seven years. He has more than 20 years of experience in education, including time as a teacher, counselor and director of the Hart Career Center in Mexico, Missouri, before joining CPS. He will oversee facilities and construction services, custodial services and transportation departments for the district in his new role. Gooch has a bachelor's degree in industrial technology from Truman State University, a master's degree in counseling from Western Kentucky State University, a master's degree in school administration and an educational specialist degree in educational leadership from William Woods University.

Sarah Sicht, Benton STEM Elementary School Principal

Sicht previously served as an assistant principal at Parkade Elementary School for the past five years. She was also a teacher, fellows mentor and assessment coach at Parkade. Sicht earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from the University of Missouri, and a specialist degree in administration from Williams Woods University.

Julia Coggins, Locust Street Expressive Arts Elementary School Principal

Coggins has been teaching in mid-Missouri for more than 15 years, including stints at Grant Elementary School, Centralia Intermediate School and Blue Ridge Elementary School, where she began her career as a fourth-grade teacher. She most recently served as assistant principal of Battle Elementary School for the last three years. She was also an administrator at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School before beginning at Battle. Coggins has an undergraduate education degree from Evangel University and graduate degrees from the University of Missouri and William Woods University.

Mark Burlison, Blue Ridge Elementary School Principal

Burlison was promoted from assistant principal to principal at Blue Ridge Elementary School. He served as assistant principal for the past three years, and also worked as assistant principal at Mill Creek Elementary School and as an elementary school teacher before coming to Blue Ridge. He has an elementary education degree from William Woods University and holds graduate degrees from the University of Missouri and Southeast Missouri University. He will complete his doctoral degree in educational leadership from Williams Woods University in 2019.

Jill Edwards, Shepard Boulevard Elementary School Principal

Edwards had been the assistant principal at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School since 2012. Prior to working at Alpha Hart, she taught at Blue Ridge Elementary School for five years. She has a bachelor's degree in teacher education from Texas Women's University, a master's degree in education

and a specialist's degree in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri.

Kristen Palmer, Two Mile Prairie Elementary School Principal

Palmer has more than 23 years of experience as a teacher and school administrator in Oklahoma and Missouri. Before coming to Two Mile Elementary School, she served as principal at Blue Ridge Elementary School for the past six years. She holds a teaching degree from the University of Oklahoma and graduate degrees from the University of Missouri and William Woods University.

Nicole Langston, Center for Early Learning - North Director

Langston has an education specialist degree in education policy and analysis from the University of Missouri and a master's degree in elementary administration from Williams Woods University. She has experience working as a teacher, conscious discipline trainer, parent educator and National School of Character evaluator. Langston has been the principal at Southwest Early Childhood Center in the Jefferson City School District for the last nine years.

Brandon Russell, Columbia Area Career Center Director

Russell has served as assistant director at Columbia Area Career Center since 2014. He has prior experience as the director of technical schools in Hillsboro and Lexington, Missouri, as well as serving as the assistant superintendent of Marshall Public Schools in Marshall, Missouri. He received a doctorate degree from Saint Louis University in 2015.

De'Vion Moore, Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School Principal

Moore previously served as the assistant principal at West Boulevard Elementary School. He has six years of experience at CPS and was a learning specialist at Hickman High School before joining West Boulevard. Moore holds a bachelor's degree, master's degree in education, and an educational specialist degree all from the University of Missouri.

GET THE SCOOP

There are numerous ways to get information on happenings in Columbia Public Schools.

CPS Mobile App

Download the district's free mobile app via iTunes or Google Play. Search for Columbia Public Schools.

CPS-TV

CPS-TV is the school district's cable access channel. CPS-TV is broadcast on Mediacom 81, CenturyLink 97, Charter 985 and streamed online at www.cpsk12.org/cps-tv. Live broadcasts of Board of Education meetings take place the second Monday of every month.

CPS Families Portal

Beginning August 13, you can now use one login to access the CPS Families Portal. The CPS Families Portal is your one-stop shop to access district resources such as Home Access Center, Schoology, My School Bucks School Lunch Payment System, the parent messaging system, district digital resources and much more. The portal is accessible via the district website, your school website or directly at <http://portal.cpsfamilies.org>.

(U)Matter

A website for students and parents to find valuable information and support on a wide-range of topics, including alcohol and drug abuse, dating, cyberbullying and depression. (U)Matter encourages students to make positive and healthy choices. Visit umatter.us for more information.

Follow us online! www.cpsk12.org

Cedar Ridge Elementary School



Boy Scout Pack 7 raises the flag at Cedar Ridge's dedication ceremony on July 31. This is the first time the flag was raised at the new building.



Columbia Public Schools dedicated its newest elementary school, Cedar Ridge Elementary School in July. The new school located at 2345 Howell Mountain Drive in the Vineyards subdivision off Highway WW is just a mile and a half away from the old Cedar Ridge location.

The new building features a slew of new amenities the old school didn't have and eliminates the need for classroom trailers. A cafeteria with a kitchen, gymnasium, and a

makerspace room are only a few exciting additions, along with more classrooms and improved facilities.

Voters approved the \$22-million building in the 2014 bond election as part of CPS' 10-year plan to address growth and overcrowding. Cedar Ridge now has a capacity of 650 students, more than three times the size of the previous building.

CPS students take advantage of summer programs

Just because the school year ends in May doesn't mean CPS students stop learning. The district offers many summer school options for Columbia students, including fee-based and tuition-free programs.

CPS' main program, Summer SUNsation, offers free summer school for students entering kindergarten through eighth grade and emphasizes "learning by doing." The Columbia Area Career Center also offers several tuition-based programs for students ages 10 to 14.

Some CPS students had the chance to mix work and play at Fun City Youth Academy, an extended summer school program. The program is a partnership between Columbia Public Schools and Fun City Youth Academy (FCYA) that offers half-day summer school curriculum and half-day Fun City programming. Fun City students receive the same curriculum as other CPS SUNsation students, however the curriculum is taught over an 8-week period instead of the

traditional four weeks. During the second half of the day, students participate in educational, cultural and socially enriching programs. According to FCYA Executive Director Bonnie Yantzi, students get to experience a wide-range of activities and classes designed to help them throughout life, like money management, African-American history and building strong families. They also get to participate in hands-on learning activities, physical exercise, and various field trips.

Lindsey Murray, the principal of FCYA's summer program, said the program is important because it protects students from falling victim to the "summer slide": the time between May and August where kids tend to lose a lot of the achievement gains they made during the previous school year. He says programs like Fun City that operate all summer help engage Columbia youth in academic and culturally-enriching activities.

2018-2019 BUS & LUNCH INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| SCHOOL HOURS | Classes begin Tuesday, Aug. 14 for grades 1–12 and Thursday, Aug. 16 for kindergarten. |
| 7:30 a.m. – 2:35 p.m. 7:40 a.m. – 2:40 p.m. | Gentry, Jefferson, Lange, Oakland, Smithton, and West middle schools Eliot Battle, Midway Heights, New Haven, Rock Bridge, Two Mile Prairie, Ridgeway, Locust Street Expressive Arts, and Benton STEM elementary schools |
| 8:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 8:20 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. 8:20 a.m. – 3:20 p.m. | Center for Early Learning - North morning class Early Childhood Special Education morning class Alpha Hart Lewis, Beulah Ralph, Blue Ridge, Cedar Ridge, Derby Ridge, Fairview, Grant, Mill Creek, Parkade, Mary Paxton Keeley, Russell Boulevard, Shepard Boulevard, and West Boulevard elementary schools |
| 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 8:55 a.m. – 4:05 p.m. 9:08 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. 12:20 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. 12:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Quest at the Center of Responsive Education (CORE) Battle, Hickman, and Rock Bridge high schools Douglass High School Early Childhood Special Education afternoon class Center for Early Learning - North afternoon class |
| BUS SCHEDULES | For information concerning school transportation routes and schedules, contact Student Transportation of America at 573-214-3860 or visit the school district’s website at www.cpsk12.org/transportation . |
| FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION | Free bus transportation is provided to all students in kindergarten through grade 8 who reside one mile or more from their attendance area school in Columbia Public Schools. Students in grades 9–12 who reside two miles or more from their attendance area school are eligible for free transportation. |
| MEAL PRICES | <div><div>STUDENTS GRADES K–5<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast: \$1.85• Lunch: choice of salad bar, hot lunch with salad bar, or sack lunch: \$2.80• Additional milk: \$0.50 each</div><div>STUDENTS GRADES 6–12<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast: \$1.85• Lunch: variety of meal choices: \$3.00• Additional milk: \$0.50 each</div><div>ADULT<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast: \$2.25 • Lunch: \$3.75</div></div> <p>Menus available online at www.cpsk12.org/nutrition. Parents may also pay for school meals online at www.myschoolbucks.com or via the CPS Families Portal.</p> |
| FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE LUNCHES AND BREAKFASTS | <p>Free and reduced-price lunch applications are accepted all year and are available at www.cpsk12.org/nutrition or at your child’s school. A new application must be filled out every year to qualify. Students from families properly approved to receive food stamps or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) benefits may be automatically approved to receive free or reduced-price meals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced-price breakfast is \$0.30• Reduced-price lunch is \$0.40 <p>For any questions about meal services, visit our website at www.cpsk12.org/nutrition or call 573-214-3480. Follow us on Twitter @CPSlunch</p> |