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**IMPORTANT DATES**

Find district event information at [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com](http://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com).

<b>Aug. 17</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Central Office (3120 Lemay Ferry Road)
<b>Aug. 22</b>	First Day of School
<b>Sept. 4</b>	No School, Labor Day
<b>Sept. 13</b>	Early release for students
<b>Sept. 21</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
<b>Sept. 26</b>	Board of Education Tax Rate Hearing, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
<b>Oct. 11</b>	Early release for students
<b>Oct. 16-19</b>	Parent/teacher conferences
<b>Oct. 19</b>	Early release for students
<b>Oct. 19</b>	End of first quarter
<b>Oct. 19</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
<b>Oct. 20</b>	No school
<b>Nov. 7</b>	No school for students, Election Day
<b>Nov. 16</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mehlville High School Library
<b>Nov. 22-24</b>	No School - Thanksgiving break

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[bit.ly/msdr9emessenger](http://bit.ly/msdr9emessenger)

**Career and college ready**  
 How Mehlville School District provides opportunities for career and college exploration, see page 6

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# Mehlville Messenger

August 2023

A Mehlville School District Publication

## 2023-2024 budget includes competitive salaries, funds for critical capital projects

The Mehlville Board of Education approved the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget (for the 23-24 school year) at their June 29, 2023, meeting. The budget provides competitive salaries for all employees and a plan to pay for critical and deferred maintenance.

“Mehlville School District is committed to being good stewards of our financial resources, and this budget reflects that,” said Dr. Chris Gaines, outgoing superintendent of Mehlville School District.

The budget estimates a \$22.2 million increase in local revenue, due to a combination of Prop E, an increase in assessed valuation and new construction. The district’s operating budget expense is \$12.3 million more than fiscal year 2023.

Mehlville School District operations are impacted by historic rates of inflation. Notably, this is seen in annual cost-of-living pay increases and health insurance rate increases. Additionally, of this revenue, \$6.3 million is being used to bring staff salaries and benefits to competitive levels to recruit and retain high-quality employees, as promised through Prop E. A little under \$1 million is being used to fund mental health supports and improve school safety.

The proposed budget calls for putting \$10.1 million into the district’s capital fund reserves in this fiscal year. Those funds would pay for critical maintenance projects. For example, the district is nearing the end of the lifecycle on several HVAC systems, and estimates indicate these HVAC replacements would cost more than \$30 million.

“By allocating these funds for capital projects, the district would delay having to ask taxpayers for a tax increase to maintain its facilities,” Dr. Gaines said.

Additionally, Dr. Gaines said, in fiscal year 2025, the Board of Education could consider using some of this local revenue to fund the 34 teaching interventionists without asking voters to increase the tax rate. These teachers are currently funded through federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. These COVID relief funds end at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year.

On June 20, the district’s finance committee reviewed the proposed budget and the latest local tax rate estimates. The committee agreed that it’s financially prudent for the district to use these funds for deferred maintenance.

## Welcome Dr. Haug!

Dr. Jeff Haug, Mehlville School District’s superintendent started on July 1. He replaces Dr. Chris Gaines, who is retiring from public education this summer. Dr. Haug comes to Mehlville with more than 15 years of administrative experience, most recently as chief operations officer at Special School District.

“I am absolutely honored to be here and am thrilled to welcome our staff and students back to school this month.”



Superintendent Dr. Jeff Haug joins the fun of Messy Morning, a family event hosted by Mehlville Parents as Teachers. Learn more about these fun free events at [bit.ly/mehlvillepat](https://bit.ly/mehlvillepat).

Tax rates are not set until the Mehlville Board of Education votes on them during their annual tax rate hearing, scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023.

The district budget is approved based on revenue estimates and forecasts. The budget is adjusted several times during the fiscal year based on the approval of the tax rate, final assessed valuation figures and state funding revenue.

The preliminary proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget was initially estimated with 5 percent assessed value growth. In late March when St. Louis County issued preliminary assessed values showing a historic 17.8 percent increase, the budget was updated to reflect this increase. The county will issue assessed value updates in July, and final assessed values in September.

The Fiscal Year 2024 Budget can be viewed at [bit.ly/msdr9budget23-24](https://bit.ly/msdr9budget23-24).



# Starting the 2023-2024 school year with gratitude

Peggy Hassler



On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to express our gratitude for your unwavering support and trust in our educational system. Together, we have built a foundation that not only strives for academic excellence but also fosters an environment that nurtures the growth and development of every student. Your involvement, commitment and investment in our schools has played an instrumental role in our continued success. Thank you!

## Prop E

As we begin this academic year, we want to express our appreciation to our teachers, administrators and support staff for their dedication, and their motivating and innovative approach to teaching and nurturing our students. The entire Mehlville staff works tirelessly because they believe in their profession and the potential of children. We are grateful to our community for passing Prop E so that we can pay these amazing employees a competitive salary. Thank you!

## Prop S

We hope you have taken the opportunity to see firsthand the various construction projects around the district that are shaping and securing the spaces where lifetime memories of our students will be made. We continue to see positive results on our facilities due to the passing of Prop S. Thank you!

## Welcome!

We are excited to welcome our new Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Haug. The Board of Education will work alongside Dr. Haug as we continue to provide a well-rounded education that prepares our students for the challenges and opportunities of the future, and as we aim to create an inclusive and enriching environment where every student can thrive. We will work to ensure we never lose focus on both short- and long-term plans to enable our students to succeed. One of the Board's main goals is to maximize the educational opportunities and improve outcomes for all our students as they prepare for life after graduation — whether that's a career, continuing education, or military service.

In closing, let us embark on this new school year with optimism, resilience and a shared commitment to excellence. As the President of the Mehlville School District Board of Education, I assure you that we will continue to work tirelessly to provide the best possible education for our students while being good stewards of district finances.

We wish you all a successful and rewarding school year and look forward to working together to build a brighter future for our community.



New dugouts are under construction as part of the ball field upgrades at Mehlville High School. Field safety improvements are funded through Prop S.

## Board of Education

Peggy Hassler, President  
Tori Behlke, Vice President  
Patrick McKelvey, Secretary  
Scott Huegerich, Director  
Jean Pretto, Director  
Jeff Wolman, Director  
Grace Wright, Director

## Executive Staff

Dr. Jeff Haug  
Superintendent  
Dr. Jeff Bresler  
Assistant Superintendent, Secondary  
Dr. Brian Smith  
Assistant Superintendent,  
Teaching and Learning  
Dr. Shannon Pike  
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Mr. Adam Smith  
Assistant Superintendent, Student Services  
Dr. Chad Dickemper  
Assistant Superintendent, Elementary  
Mr. Marshall Crutcher  
Chief Financial Officer

The *Mehlville Messenger* is published for Mehlville School District residents and businesses to share district news. For questions or comments, call 314-467-5000 or email [messenger@msdr9.org](mailto:messenger@msdr9.org).



## Mehlville School District

The Mehlville School District mission is to build a high performing school system rooted in the community's desire to build a culture of improvement for staff and students.

Mehlville School District believes that all of our graduates should be creative and critical thinkers, self-aware, persistent, communicators, and ethical and global. We call this our Portrait of a Graduate.



Mehlville School District is proud to be a National District of Character.



Mehlville School District is a member of Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of forward-thinking schools across the country who are providing students with unique learning opportunities.

Mehlville School District is nationally recognized as a Lighthouse School System for serving as models of positive change in education.

## Make a difference as a tutor!

Oasis is a national non-profit organization whose mission includes engaging adult volunteers to work one-on-one with kids in the Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring program. Tutors make a profound difference in a child's life when they meet each week during the school year with a young child who struggles with reading. No teaching experience is necessary, and training is provided. To learn more about volunteering as an Oasis tutor, call Amanda Zink, Mehlville Oasis Coordinator, at 314-467-7831 or sign up at [tutoring.oasisnet.org](http://tutoring.oasisnet.org).



Beasley Summer Session OASIS tutor works with a student.





## Mehlville School District is positioned for success

It is an absolute honor to be the new superintendent of the Mehlville School District. I was drawn to this role because of the district's strong traditions and community support. The community support could not have been more evident than in the passing of Prop E last spring. This was a clear directive from the community that the residents of the Mehlville School District want to continue to surround our students with the best teachers and staff possible. The positive impact of Prop E will be felt for years to come!

As we enter the upcoming school year, we could not be more excited to welcome students back. Continuous improvement remains our focus and desire each and every day. The Mehlville School District believes that all of our graduates should be creative and critical thinkers, self-aware, persistent, communicators, and ethical and global. We call this our Portrait of a Graduate. I had the opportunity to attend both Mehlville and Oakville high school graduations last year, and I can tell you without hesitation, the Portrait of a Graduate attributes were well represented by our seniors!

I have already had the opportunity to meet some of our amazing staff and teachers. Their concern for the well-being of each student is evident in every conversation. Our teachers are amazing as evidenced by our 2023 Teacher of the Year Rodney Gerdes, a social studies teacher at Oakville High School. He has been named one of 10 honorees for Missouri Regional Teacher of the Year for the St. Louis region. This distinction means that Mr. Gerdes is eligible to submit an application for Missouri State Teacher of the Year.

The district continues to make progress as promised on Prop S. The safety of our students will continue to be paramount as security entrances and other safety features continue to be constructed.

Thank you again for the warm and courteous welcome. We remain dedicated to the success of each student in the Mehlville School District, where we are Individually Focused; Committed to All!

## Snapshots from Summer Session

More than 1,300 students attended elementary and middle school Summer Session programs in June. Students attended full day and participated in hands-on learning in math, science, English language arts, social studies, physical education and the arts. High school students completed upwards of 800 courses in either the on-campus or virtual summer program.



Beasley Summer Session students were introduced to the violin. They learned proper instrument positioning, and how to pluck strings and use the bow.



Students at Oakville Middle School's Summer Session constructed mouse trap cars and tested them to see whose could go the farthest. The winning group's car traveled more than 62 feet.



Incoming kindergarten students got a jump-start on school, meeting teachers and friends, and working on reading, writing and math.



# Back to school: Your guide to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year

Everyone at Mehlville School District is excited to welcome our 10,000 students back to school on Tuesday, Aug. 22! This back-to-school guide will help parents and guardians get ready for the first day. It includes information about meals, bus routes, updating your family's information and more.

## New student registration

It's important that new students are registered as soon as possible, so staff can complete course assignments and procure Chromebooks and other supplies before the start of school. Registration instructions for new families and existing families with new students can be found on the enrollment section of our website at [bit.ly/msdr9enroll](https://bit.ly/msdr9enroll) or by calling 314-467-5000.

## Family Information Update

The Family Information Update must be completed by all returning families. It gives you the opportunity to review and update your phone numbers, email addresses and other important information. You'll review our annual notifications, media release form, medical records and technology policies. Begin the process by logging in to Parent Portal. Get started at [bit.ly/msdr9familyinfoupdate](https://bit.ly/msdr9familyinfoupdate).

## School calendars

The first day of school is Tuesday, Aug. 22, and the last day of school is Wednesday, May 29 (pending the use of inclement weather days). Mehlville School District will close for Thanksgiving Break Nov. 22-24, for Winter Break Dec. 21 through Jan. 2, and for Spring Break March 18-22. To see the complete school calendar, visit [mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/calendars](https://mehlvilleschooldistrict.com/calendars).

Mehlville School District can use virtual instruction for up to five inclement weather days each year. If a winter weather event causes road conditions to be unsafe, we will operate on a virtual schedule, and students will connect with teachers using Google Meet. These virtual learning days do not need to be made up at the end of the school year.



Students have the opportunity to meet staff and explore their schools this summer.

## Back-to-school events

Schools are hosting dozens of events leading up to the first day of school, including meet the teacher and principal nights, playground playdates and curriculum nights. Look for communication from your child's principal or visit your school's website for the dates/times of these events.

## Supplies

Supply lists for Mehlville School District students will be communicated by your child's school and posted on your child's school website. If your child is a returning student, they should bring their fully charged Chromebook on the first day of school. New students will be assigned a Chromebook on the first day.

## Obtain your child's immunizations

Please contact your family medical doctor, urgent care or the public health department to get any necessary immunizations prior to the start of the fall semester. View the list of state-required immunizations at [bit.ly/msdr9immunizations2023](https://bit.ly/msdr9immunizations2023).

## Bus routes

Bus routes for the 2023-2024 school year will be shared on our website at [bit.ly/msdr9busroutes](https://bit.ly/msdr9busroutes). Parents may also drop off students at school. Your child's principal will communicate procedures for parent drop-off.

## Bus safety

For the safety of our students, Mehlville School District asks that drivers slow down during school arrival and dismissal times and when they see students at bus stops. State law requires drivers to stop on all two-lane roads when a school bus has its stop sign extended and its red lights flashing. On four-lane roads, drivers must stop if they are traveling in the same direction as a stopped bus.



Transportation staff deep cleaned and prepared buses for the new school year.



## Meals

Mehlville School District offers a nutritious breakfast and lunch for students each day. Menus can be found on the website at [bit.ly/msdr9menus](http://bit.ly/msdr9menus). Add money to your child's meal account through MySchoolBucks at [bit.ly/msdr9myschoolbucks](http://bit.ly/msdr9myschoolbucks). Meal prices for this school year are:

### Breakfast

Paid: \$2.00

Reduced price: \$0.30

### Lunch

Elementary paid: \$2.90

Middle and high regular paid: \$3.00

Middle and high premium paid: \$3.25

Reduced price: \$0.40

Mehlville School District participates in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, which allows eligible families to receive free and reduced meal benefits. See page 10 for details.



**Our School Food and Nutrition Services staff look forward to serving healthy meals to students each day.**

## Keeping in touch

The Mehlville School District staff communicates with families through ParentSquare. ParentSquare is a simple and collaborative school-home communication platform designed to reach and engage every parent. Parents can choose the communication type and frequency they prefer. Families can also set their preferred language.

Parents who have not previously registered for ParentSquare should have received a text message and email with a link to register. If you didn't receive a message or your link has expired, please contact your child's school.

Community members can subscribe to the district's email newsletter at [bit.ly/msdr9emessenger](http://bit.ly/msdr9emessenger). Subscribers can choose to receive:

- e-Messenger, a biweekly newsletter about Mehlville School District
- Meeting notifications for the Board of Education and regular meeting notes
- Community education programs
- Employment opportunities

## Welcome to our new educational leaders!

### Matt Gaglio, Assistant Principal, Oakville High

Gaglio was a principal intern in Kirkwood School District and has taught social studies at Nipher Middle.

"Oakville High School is a place that provides a multitude of opportunities for student growth and positive experiences. I'm excited to build new relationships with students, staff, parents, and grow in the OHS community," Gaglio said.



### Sara Hermann, Director of Social Studies

Hermann has been an elementary instructional coach and teacher for Mehlville School District.

"I feel extremely lucky to have been serving Mehlville for the last 13 years as it has expanded in diversity and our approach in education," Hermann said. "I'm very much looking forward to supporting teachers and students in our district in a larger capacity."



### Abby Makowsky, Assistant Principal, Mehlville High

Makowsky was an interim assistant principal at Mehlville High and has taught social studies.

"As a leader at Mehlville, fostering collaborative relationships that support student success is my number one goal," Makowsky said. "I am honored to continue to support our culture at Mehlville, which is rooted in inclusivity, respect, responsibility and relationships."



### Jennifer Rich, Assistant Principal, Blades Elementary

Rich has taught English language arts in the district for 18 years and has chaired numerous committees.

"I am looking forward to meeting the students, staff and families at these schools and supporting them in any way that I can," Rich said. "I'm excited to work collaboratively to help our students academically, socially and emotionally."



### Jordan Willimann, Assistant Principal, Washington Middle

Willimann previously taught math at Maplewood-Richmond Heights Middle School.

"I look forward to being a part of the strong relationships already formed at WMS and ensuring it is a place where all students, staff and community members can grow and feel a sense of belonging," Willimann said.



### Dr. Michelle Wood, Principal, Beasley Elementary

Dr. Wood has served as assistant principal at Trautwein and Wohlwend elementary schools and Margaret Buerkle Middle School.

"I am so incredibly excited to have the opportunity to work alongside the Beasley students, staff and families next school year to continue all of the amazing work that is being done within the school and community," Dr. Wood said.





## Making room for students to explore college and career options

Now, more than ever before, Mehlville School District's high school students have opportunities for relevant, real-world college and career experiences. In addition to core classes in English, math, science and social studies, students are exploring careers and higher education through electives, clubs and activities, and, increasingly, through choice programs.

"Our goal is for every graduate to have an understanding of what college and/or a career may look like for them," said Dr. Brian Smith, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning. "That can happen through the classes students take on campus or through participation in what we call our choice programs. Educators in Mehlville School District have been working hard to expand choice and opportunities for students to explore careers that excite them."

The newest program available to high school students is called **Make It Count**. The program allows students who have met all of the state credit requirements for their diploma to attend St. Louis Community College during the second semester of their senior year. Students can still participate in high school athletics and activities.

Emily Worthmore, a 2023 graduate of Mehlville High School, took advantage of this program to advance her goal of working in journalism and politics. In her senior year, she was able to earn 18 college credit hours through online classes at St. Louis Community College and Lindenwood University.

"With all that extra free time, I've been working," Worthmore said. "I've gotten a job at KFUD, which is a radio station, since I do want to go into broadcast. It's been a great opportunity to learn about radio production. I get to run the board. I get to talk on air. It's been amazing."

Make It Count is just one way high school students can earn college credit. High school students can also attend the **Early College Academy** for two years. This program for juniors and seniors allows students to earn their high school diploma and up to an Associate of Arts.

Maddie Kramer, a 2023 graduate of Oakville High School, graduated with her diploma, and will have her associates degree as an 18 year old. Kramer said the Early College Academy is helping her achieve her goal of being an advanced practice registered nurse. "I'll be out and have my BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) by 20 and hopefully go for my masters and CRNA (nurse anesthetist) by 24."



Emily Worthmore opted to take virtual college courses through the Make It Count program during her senior year. This provided flexibility, so Worthmore could gain broadcast and production experience working at a local radio station.



**"I feel better about myself. I feel more educated. I feel like I have pushed myself harder in my day-to-day activities and, overall, more prepared for my future."**

*- Maddie Kramer, a 2023 graduate from Oakville High School reflecting on her time in the Early College Academy*

Early College Academy and Make It Count are offered in addition to classes taught on the high school campuses that allow students to earn college credit, like dual credit courses and Advanced Placement courses.

Another new choice program is called **Access Point**. Students interested in a career in information technology can apply for this program at the start of their senior year. Once enrolled, seniors have the opportunity to receive college credit, leading to a paid apprenticeship after graduation. This program develops each participant's existing coding experience to a junior software engineer level. During the 2022-2023 school year, two students participated in Access Point.

One of the most popular choice programs at both high schools continues to be career and technical education classes offered through **South Tech**. Students who enroll in South Tech their junior year spend half of their day at their home high school and half of their day at South Tech in Sunset Hills. Students earn industry certifications, high school elective credits and college credits, and skills that are in demand. South Tech currently offers 24 programs that include "majors" like automotive technology, construction trades, dental sciences, graphic design, computer programming and early childhood education.

Joshua Bayer, an OHS senior, attends South Tech's Firefighting and EMT program. Bayer, who is pictured on the cover of this issue of Messenger, could earn up to 10 college credits, and certifications like Fire I and Fire II and Emergency Medical Technician Basic by the time he graduates.

**St. Louis Centers for Advanced Professional Studies** is another option for students. In this profession-based learning program, students learn in professional settings, solve real-world problems, use industry standard tools and are mentored by experts in one of five fields of study: Global Business and Entrepreneurship; Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing; Healthcare, Medicine and Bioscience; Technology Solutions and Logistics; and Careers in Education.

For students who may want to take their studies on a path not offered through the high school course catalog or these other programs, **MyPath** is an incredible option. In the MyPath course, students propose a personalized plan of study focused on their unique post-secondary interests and goals. Students work with an instructor to create a project management plan. Within this plan, the student identifies topics to cover, learning goals, activities and a timeline. The student creates periodic presentations on their learning and progress, culminating in a capstone presentation to a public audience.

Matt Wolf, a 2023 graduate of Mehlville High School, took advantage of MyPath to explore careers in ministry and to intern at a local church. "I was able to test the waters a little bit ... and get myself prepared for college and a life of ministry," Wolf said. "For my future career, there's not a lot of classes here. MyPath really opened the opportunity for me to make my own class."



Gabiella Pedraza, 2023 Oakville High graduate, uses real-world dental tools to conduct mock exams and procedures in the South Tech Dental Sciences program.



Matt Wolf (right) shares his MyPath project at the district's Choice Programs Showcase.

## New program provides FLEXibility for students

Freshmen at Mehlville High School have a new learning option: the FLEX program. Students who choose FLEX courses receive personalized instruction through cross-curricular lessons that showcase how different subjects are connected and how skills learned in one class can be applied to another.

"FLEX is set up so kids can have more flexibility within their day," said Kristin Busch, Mehlville High School FLEX and science teacher. "We have nine blocks instead of seven, so that gives students time to work on things they need to work on, but it also provides them time for passion projects."

Adding the extra class during a student's freshman year has added benefits down the road. By taking additional credits early, it provides students more opportunities to enroll in elective classes during their junior and senior years.

"I was looking for a real learning challenge and also something different than sitting for an hour and a half for a lecture," said Aidan Furgeson, Mehlville High School freshman. "FLEX is something more engaging where I'm able to use my time to do things I want to do that are still relevant to the program."

In FLEX, teachers focus on how different subjects relate while making sure students reach required grade-level benchmarks. For example, students completed a Civil War project that connected all of their classes. Students learned about the Civil War in history, and studied writing and analyzed texts in English language arts. In foreign language class, students learned words related to the war and studied monuments from the era. In math, students focused on scale drawings from that era.

"One of the things the district has created during the past few years are personalized opportunities like MyPath to focus on what makes each student tick," said Busch. "FLEX helps students get more credits under their belt, so they can explore more opportunities that interest them in their sophomore, junior and senior years."



Mehlville High School FLEX students watch as their teacher explains a math problem involving slope.



# Work continues on security improvements

Prop S, a \$35 million zero tax rate bond issue, was approved by voters in April 2021. Since its passage, Mehlville School District has been working to construct secure entrances at each school and complete other safety-related projects and complete critical infrastructure upgrades.

This summer, two major projects were completed, the security entrance at Blades Elementary School and the security entrance at Bierbaum Elementary School. Security entrances include an exterior and interior door. Visitors are admitted through the exterior door and must check in with a staff member immediately upon entry before gaining access to the rest of the school.

Work on Prop S projects will continue through 2025.



**Bierbaum Elementary School has a new secure entrance, reconfigured office space, accessible classrooms and a safer front parking lot configuration. Crews have started work on more classrooms, an expanded library and storm shelter.**



**Students will return to Blades Elementary School in August to find a new security entrance and reconfigured front office space.**

## Prop S Progress

Here is a quick look at the status of our major Prop S projects. You can view a complete list of projects and anticipated completion dates at [bit.ly/mehlvilleprops](https://bit.ly/mehlvilleprops).



### John Cary Early Childhood Center

- Security entrance: Work to begin in fall 2023

### Beasley Elementary

- Security entrance: Work to begin in winter 2023

### Bierbaum Elementary

- Security entrance, ADA accessibility, restroom renovations and expanded front parking lot: To be completed in August 2023
- Additional classrooms, expanded library and storm shelter: To be completed in summer 2024

### Blades Elementary

- Security entrance: COMPLETE

### Forder Elementary

- Security entrance: Work to begin in winter 2023
- HVAC replacement: COMPLETE

### Hagemann Elementary

- Security entrance and ADA access to playground: To be completed in August 2023

### MOSAIC Elementary

- Security entrance and elevators: Work to begin in summer 2024

### Oakville Elementary

- Security entrance and expanded parking lot: COMPLETE

### Point Elementary

- Security entrance and ADA accessibility for back exit: To be completed in winter 2024

### Rogers Elementary

- Security entrance and parking lot/playground safety improvements: COMPLETE

### Trautwein Elementary

- Security entrance: Work to begin in summer 2024

### Wohlwend Elementary

- Security entrance, ADA parking and accessible classrooms: Work to begin in spring 2024

### Bernard Middle

- Security entrance: COMPLETE

### Buerkle Middle

- Security entrance and track accessibility: Work to begin in winter 2024

### Oakville Middle

- Security entrance: Work to begin in spring 2024

### Washington Middle

- Security entrance: Work to begin in summer 2024

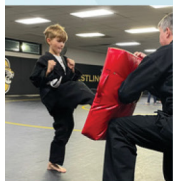
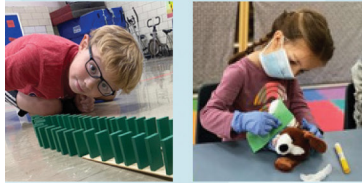
### Mehlville High

- Security entrance, band room accessibility, parking lot and walkway improvements: Work to begin in fall 2023
- Baseball/softball field renovations: To be completed in August 2023

### Oakville High

- Security entrance, gym accessibility, restroom renovations: COMPLETE
- Baseball/softball field safety improvements: COMPLETE





**Community Education**  
Proud Member of the Mehlville School District

**Join us this fall for  
adventure, discovery,  
enrichment and opportunity**

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION AT THE pool

- Swimnastics
- Learn to Swim Lessons
- Hydro Running
- Deep Water Fitness
- Water Dance
- Kayak Lessons

# Community Education

**New name, new look, new YOU.**

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| After-School Classes | Driver's Education |
| Hapkido Karate       | Tennis Lessons     |
| Community Band       | Bosnian Language   |
| Yoga Practice        | Community Garden   |

**[bit.ly/msdr9communityprograms](http://bit.ly/msdr9communityprograms)  
or call 314.467.5280**



# Serving up healthy and affordable food each school day

Mehlville School District announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Apply for free and reduced price meals at [bit.ly/msdr9meals](http://bit.ly/msdr9meals) or by calling 314-467-5250.

Meal prices for this school year are as follows:

Breakfast - All levels	Lunch	
Paid: \$2.00	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
Reduced Price: \$0.30	Paid: \$2.90	Paid: \$3.00
	Reduced Price: \$0.40	Premium meal: \$3.25
		Reduced Price: \$0.40

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household Size	Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals			Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$18,954	\$1,580	\$365	\$26,973	\$2,248	\$519
2	25,636	2,137	493	36,482	3,041	702
3	32,318	2,694	622	45,991	3,833	885
4	39,000	3,250	750	55,500	4,625	1,068
5	45,682	3,807	879	65,009	5,418	1,251
6	52,364	4,364	1,007	74,518	6,210	1,434
7	59,046	4,921	1,136	84,027	7,003	1,616
8	65,728	5,478	1,264	93,536	7,795	1,799
Each add'l member	+6,682	+ 557	+ 129	+9,509	+793	+183

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown above are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the school office and online at [bit.ly/msdr9meals](http://bit.ly/msdr9meals). To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/TANF case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and last four digits of social security number or indication of no social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income or other information provided on the application at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Households with children who are eligible under the foster, Head Start, homeless, migrant, or runaway programs should contact the school for assistance in receiving meal benefits. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants may be eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Children who are members of households currently certified as receiving Food Stamps, TANF or FDPIR are eligible for free meals. To complete an application, the household must provide the names of the children, a statement that the household receives the qualifying benefits, the Food Stamps/TANF/FDPIR case number, and the signature of the adult household member making application. When known by the school that members of a household are receiving assistance from Food Stamps, TANF or FDPIR, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free school meals. If any children in the household were not listed on the eligibility notice or not listed on the application, the household should contact the school to have benefits extended to all children in the household.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, the Director of School Food and Nutrition Services will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official, they may wish to discuss the decision with the hearing official on an informal basis or he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to the District Superintendent. Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

**USDA Non-discrimination Statement:** In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [Program.Intake@usda.gov](mailto:Program.Intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## School district complies with asbestos regulations

On Oct. 22, 1986, President Ronald Reagan signed into law the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Act (AHERA, Public Law 99-519). The law required the EPA to develop regulations, which provide a comprehensive framework for addressing asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop asbestos management plans that address asbestos hazards in school buildings, and implement response actions in a timely fashion.

The Mehlville School District had conducted a complete inspection of its facilities in October 2018, and a three-year re-inspection has been completed since the initial asbestos audit in 1988. In addition to the three-year re-inspection, (2) six month surveillance inspections take place each year and are included in the management plan. This management plan is available in the district's Maintenance Building and in the offices of each school during normal business hours, without cost or restriction, for inspection by representatives of the EPA and the State, and the public, including teachers, other school personnel and their representatives and parents.

Asbestos containing material was removed from the following building(s) performed by licensed contractors using state of the art technology and methodology. An on-site manager, project designer and a third party air monitor were also used.

**Oakville High School – Prop S Renovations**  
**Bierbaum Elementary – Prop S Renovations**  
**Blades Elementary – Prop S Renovations**  
**JB – Heat Exchanger Pressure Relief Valve**

The purpose of the federal and state regulations is to protect the health and well-being of all persons entering the buildings of this district for any reason.

The person in this district trained to oversee asbestos activities and ensure compliance is Mr. Mike Gegg, Director of Facilities. As required in the rule, Mr. Gegg is the single contact for the public to obtain information about asbestos-related activities in the district and can be reached at 314-467-7800.



## DISTINCTIONS

### Regional champions

The **Mehlville High School Majorettes** and **Oakville High School Tiger Twirlers** competed in the Regional Twirling Championships. The Majorettes placed first in Halftime, while the Tiger Twirlers finished fifth in Dance Twirl. Team members for MHS include: **Emma Bradford, Lilly Burch, Lauren Cagle, Amila Filipovic, Aurora Hawkins, Emma Hemmelgarn, Cadence Hernandez, Paige Kilper, Miles King, Kyleigh McCourt, Alaina Phillips** and **Hannah Wiszkon**. Team members for OHS include: **Rylee Brawley, Natalia Lucca, Annslee Norris, Macie O'Shaughnessy, Taylor Phelps, Maddie Polzin, Chloe Ruth, Abbey Schmidt** and **Ava Winchester**.



**Mehlville High School Majorettes**



**Oakville High School Tiger Twirlers**

### State champion

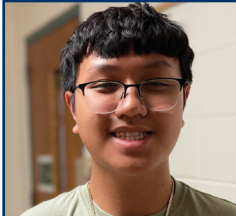
**Mason Meinershagen**, Oakville High senior, won the state championship in both the pole vault and high jump at the Class 5 State Championships. Mason was also named to the All-Metro First Team.



**Mason Meinershagen**

### Prestigious prep program

**Aidan Nguyen**, Mehlville High freshman, was accepted into the prestigious College Prep Program at Washington University in St. Louis. During each summer throughout high school, Nguyen will study in Wash U's labs and studios, and attend classes led by university staff.



**Aidan Nguyen**

### Soccer star

**Kylie Anderson**, Oakville High senior, was named a Missouri Athletic Club All Star and to the All-Region, All-District and All-Conference teams for soccer.



**Kylie Anderson**

### Best on the diamond

Three members of the Mehlville High baseball team were named top in the conference at their position. **DJ Budd**, senior, was named Conference Player of the Year.

### Collin Maloney,

senior, was named Conference Pitcher of the Year. **Tim Ode** was named Conference Coach of the Year.



**DJ Budd**



**Collin Maloney**



**Coach Tim Ode**

### Regional Teacher of the Year

**Rodney Gerdes**, a social studies teacher at Oakville High School, was named a Regional Teacher of the Year for the St. Louis Region. This honor means Mr. Gerdes is eligible to submit an application for Missouri State Teacher of the Year.



**Rodney Gerdes**

## Mehlville High School is a 2023 National School of Character

Mehlville High School was named a 2023 National School of Character by Character.org.

Criteria for the designation are based on Character.org's 11 Principles of Effective Character Education, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership and engaging families and communities as partners in character-building efforts.

"Mehlville High School is an amazing place filled with caring and dedicated people," said Dr. Jason Landherr, principal. "Through this process, we were able to share some of the great things our students and staff do each day. We are proud to be recognized as a National School of Character."

Founded in 1993, Character.org is a national nonprofit that works to inspire, educate and empower people to be ethical and compassionate citizens. Character.org is comprised of character leaders dedicated to individual growth and success through the advancement of quality character development in all schools and communities. The impact of this is seen through improved academic achievement, declines in behavioral problems and an increase in an overall positive school climate.

Oakville High School is also a National School of Character, receiving the recognition in 2020. Mehlville School District was recognized as a National District of Character in 2019.



**Mehlville High School students planned and hosted Special Olympics in the spring.**

**VIEW MORE DISTINCTIONS:** We're now sharing all student and staff distinctions on our website at [bit.ly/msdr9distinctions](https://bit.ly/msdr9distinctions). Visit now to view more award recipients. Student grade-levels are for the 2022-2023 school year.