



# THE INSIDE VIEW

ISSUE 25 • APRIL 2023



## WESTVIEW'S JUANITA SHAW NAMED RGSD TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Juanita Shaw, a sixth-grade teacher at Westview Middle School was named the Riverview Gardens School District Teacher of the Year.

Shaw has served as a teacher at Westview Middle for four years. She earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Harris-Stowe State University. She has earned master's degrees in Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Leadership from the University of Phoenix.

Outside the classroom, Shaw serves as a youth mentor and is an avid motorcycle rider. She has ridden more than 75,000 miles across the United States and Canada. She incorporates her travel experiences with her scholars during lessons.

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## RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



### IMPORTANT DATES

- 4/7 SPRING HOLIDAY  
DISTRICT CLOSED
- 4/11 SAB MEETING | 7PM
- 4/13 CAREER & HIRING FAIR | 4-7PM
- 4/15 BN HEALTH SUMMIT  
RGHS | 10AM - 4PM
- 4/20 MAP CURRICULUM NIGHT  
GIBSON ELEMENTARY
- 4/21 SNEAKER BALL  
HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY
- 4/21 SAB MEETING | 7PM

"I work with my colleagues as if we are family so that we can focus on making Westview a place where students feel safe and great about their accomplishments," Shaw stated.

"In the words of Nelson Mandela, 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,'" Shaw added.

Shaw was surprised with the announcement by Superintendent, Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Ed.D. and Professional Development Coordinator Tiffany Patton, Ed.D.

"Ms. Shaw is well-deserving of the RGSD Teacher of the Year Award," Pruitt-Adams stated. "She is a motivated, highly-skilled instructor and is an exemplary role model for the Westview scholars."

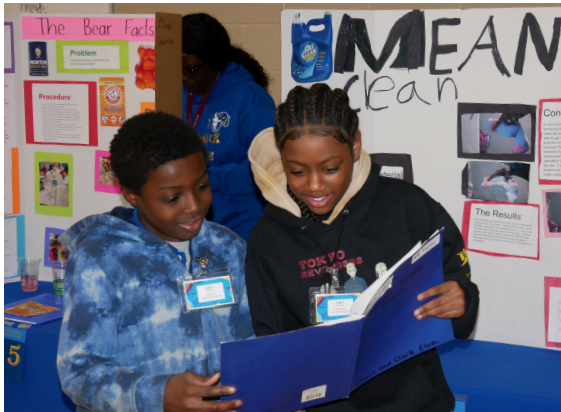


Shaw and the building-wide honorees will be presented with their awards at the District Teacher of the Year celebration on Tuesday, March 28. The event will take place at Westview Middle School, located at 1950 Nemnich Rd., at 5:00 PM. The event is invitation-only.

Second place was a three-way tie between the following outstanding teachers: JeJuana Collins of Koch Elementary; Patti Madonna of Michelle Obama Early Childhood Academic Center; and Krystal Thomas of Moline Elementary.

Shaw will proceed as the representative for the Missouri State Teacher of the Year nomination. The Missouri Teacher of the Year Program is facilitated annually by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education collaboratively with the National Teacher of the Year Program.

## RGSD DISTRICTWIDE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS ANNOUNCED



Tiffany Hunter, Ed.D., K-12 Science Curriculum coordinator, announced the winners of the RGSD Science Fair. This was the first science fair held since the COVID-19 pandemic. Scholars presented their experiments to judges at Westview Middle School.

In the 6-12 category, "Is Your Water Truly Healthy?" by Lauren Long/Andrea Martin (Westview) earned the top prize.

"The scholars did an outstanding job on their projects and speaking toward their work," stated K-12 Science Curriculum Coordinator Tiffany Hunter, Ed.D.

The winning scholars will have their work submitted to the Academy of Science's Regional Science Fair.

Congratulations to all the winners and participants!



# BULLETIN BOARD

## CAREER & HIRING FAIR



- Teachers
- Clerical
- Guidance Counselor
- MTSS Coordinator
- Plumber
- Painter
- Electrician
- Master Scheduler
- Support Staff & More



APRIL 13, 27  
MAY 11, 25  
JUNE 8, 22  
JULY 13, 27

4:00 - 7:00 PM  
1370 NORTHUMBERLAND DR  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63137

A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

## Bellefontaine Neighbors Health Summit

Creating Healthy Lifestyles and Building Healthy Communities

The City of Bellefontaine Neighbors Welcomes You  
**Saturday April 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
Riverview Gardens High School Gym  
1218 Shepley Dr., St. Louis, MO 63137

For more information please call 847-238-2220  
or email ward1communityfirst@gmail.com

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL(PAC) PRESENTS



## FAMILY DINNER

RAFFLES, GAMES, VENDORS & MORE

MAY 1, 2023  
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM  
DINNER STARTS AT 6:00PM

LOCATION:  
WESTVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL  
1950 NEMNICH DR  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63136

RIVERVIEW FAMILIES ONLY!  
NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED



**PRE23 PLAY**  
TEEN CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
SUMMER CAMP  
AGES 10-18

6/12 - 8/4  
7:30AM - 5:30PM

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

\$275  
Plus \$35 Membership Fee

REGISTER BY  
JUNE 2ND

REGISTER TODAY FOR A POSITIVE, SAFE AND FUN SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE!

TEEN CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis  
5200 West Florissant  
Ferguson, MO 63136  
314.355.8240  
tgcstl.org

IS CORE PRESENTS:

TIME: 9:00 AM TO 3:30 PM  
• September 10th and 24th  
• October 8th and 22nd  
• November 05th and 19th  
• December 3rd

## KIDS SATURDAY STEM CAMP

For 1st-4th Grade

\$250 REGISTRATION FEE

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
Fitzgerald Hall 3500 Lindell Blvd  
St. Louis, Mo 63108  
For more information, please contact  
iscORE@slu.edu

**Riverview Gardens School District**  
2022-2023 School Calendar

Month	Day	Event
July 2022	July 4	Independence Day Holiday - District Closed
July 2022	July 19-21	New Teacher Orientation
July 2022	August 11-14	10 Month Staff Professional Development
July 2022	August 9, 12, 18	Teacher Work day
July 2022	August 22	First Day of School
August 2022	September 5	Teacher Work day - District Closed
August 2022	September 21	Professional Development - No School
August 2022	October 21	End of 1st Quarter
August 2022	October 28	No School Day
August 2022	October 29-30	Parent Conferences - *extended days for staff
August 2022	October 28	Schools Closed - District Open
August 2022	October 31	Professional Development - No School
August 2022	November 1	Teacher Work day (1/2 work day) - No School
August 2022	November 2-30	Winter Break - District Closed
September 2022	January 2	Teacher Work day - No School
September 2022	January 13	End of Second Quarter/1st Semester
September 2022	January 16	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - District Closed
September 2022	January 25	Snow Day District Closed
September 2022	February 17	Professional Development - No School
September 2022	February 20	President's Day Holiday - District Closed
September 2022	March 17	End of 3rd Quarter
September 2022	March 20-24	Spring Break - District Closed
September 2022	March 29-30	Parent Conferences - *extended days for staff
September 2022	March 31	Schools Closed - District Open
September 2022	April 7	Spring Holiday - District Closed
September 2022	May 25	RGCS Graduation (tentative dates)
September 2022	May 26	End of Fourth Quarter/2nd Semester
September 2022	May 29	Extended Day Holiday - District Closed
September 2022	May 30	Last Day of School - Early Release
September 2022	May 31	Teacher Work day (1/2 work day) - No School
October 2022	June 12-15	Administrators Retreat
October 2022	June 19	Juneteenth Holiday - District Closed
October 2022	July 1-5	Summer Break - District Closed
October 2022	July 30-31	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 8-9	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 10-11	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 12-13	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 14-15	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 16-17	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 18-19	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 20-21	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 22-23	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 24-25	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 26-27	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 28-29	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
October 2022	August 30-31	Professional Development Fall Break - No School
November 2022	December 1-5	Administrators Retreat
November 2022	December 19-20	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 21-22	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 23-24	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 25-26	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 27-28	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 29-30	Winter Break - District Closed
November 2022	December 31	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 1-3	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 4-6	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 7-9	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 10-12	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 13-15	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 16-18	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 19-21	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 22-24	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 25-27	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 28-30	Winter Break - District Closed
December 2022	January 31	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 1-3	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 4-6	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 7-9	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 10-12	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 13-15	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 16-18	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 19-21	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 22-24	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 25-27	Winter Break - District Closed
January 2023	February 28-30	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 1-3	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 4-6	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 7-9	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 10-12	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 13-15	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 16-18	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 19-21	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 22-24	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 25-27	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 28-30	Winter Break - District Closed
February 2023	March 31	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 1-3	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 4-6	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 7-9	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 10-12	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 13-15	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 16-18	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 19-21	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 22-24	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 25-27	Winter Break - District Closed
March 2023	April 28-30	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 1-3	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 4-6	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 7-9	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 10-12	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 13-15	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 16-18	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 19-21	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 22-24	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 25-27	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 28-30	Winter Break - District Closed
April 2023	May 31	Winter Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 1-3	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 4-6	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 7-9	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 10-12	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 13-15	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 16-18	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 19-21	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 22-24	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 25-27	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 28-30	Summer Break - District Closed
May 2023	June 30	Summer Break - District Closed

Whatever It Takes to Build Great Futures. BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS 314-355-8200 | www.bgcstl.org



## DR. MONICA PERRY NAMED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Monica Perry, Ed.D., assistant principal at Riverview Gardens High School, was named the Assistant Principal of the Year by the St. Louis Association of Secondary School Principals (SSAP).

Perry was presented the award by SSAP President Gary Jansen, Ed.D. at a special reception on Thursday, April 6 in the RGHS library.

Perry was nominated for the award by her friend, fellow educator Natasha Payne. Payne was present at the award announcement along with Perry's parents, colleagues and select RGHS scholars.



## SAB APPROVES \$2000 SIGNING BONUS, \$1000 REFERRAL BONUS

Riverview Gardens School District continues to seek qualified candidates to fill certified and non-certified positions in the district. The SAB recently approved a \$1,000 employee referral bonus for all employees to help recommend and attract new colleagues to work in our schools and a \$2,000 signing bonus for all new employees that stay with the district for the 2023-2024 school year.



RGSD is committed to finding, hiring and retaining the very best employees possible. Historically, some of our top talent is found through referrals from people who already work in the RGSD. We would like to encourage RGSD employees to share information about employment opportunities and at the same time reward employees for doing so.

### Who is eligible for the referral bonus?

Between now and October 1, 2023, employees who refer a candidate, who is successfully hired and remain employed for the 23-24 school year in good standing (good attendance, meets performance standards) are eligible for the \$1,000 referral bonus.

### Who is eligible for the signing bonus?

Between now and October 1, 2023, applicants who are successfully hired and remain employed for the 23-24 school year in good standing (good attendance, meets performance standards) are eligible for the \$2,000 signing bonus. The total budget for referral and signing bonuses is \$100,000.00. The program will end once all funds have been spent, unless additional funding is approved. [LEARN MORE](#)



RGSDMO.ORG/RIVERVIEWEXCELLENCE

### NOMINATE AN AMAZING

- Scholar
- Parent
- Staff Member
- Community Partner
- Volunteer



RIVERVIEW EXCELLENCE MONTHLY AWARDS

Commit to Creating a New View on the Horizon



Join a committee!



## RGSD AWARDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PACT GRANT

Riverview Gardens Schol District has been awarded the Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration - Anti-Racist Counselor Training (PACT) Grant in partnership with the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

The grant is valued to be between \$400,000-\$1.2 million per year. The estimated average size of the award is \$800,000 per year for five years.



"We are beyond excited for what this means for our scholars," said Tanya Patton, Ed.D., the District's assistant superintendent of Student, School and Community Support.

The grant funding will increase the quantity and quality of trained counselors. Through focused counselor preparation and supervision, interns will be prepared to deliver Trauma-Informed, Anti-Racist Social-Emotional Learning (TIAR-SEL). This is a multitiered mental health framework aimed at addressing the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students in the RGSD.

*The Riverview Gardens School District Board of Education is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from illegal discrimination, harassment and retaliation in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. In accordance with law, the district strictly prohibits discrimination and harassment against employees, students or others on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law. The Riverview Gardens School District is an equal opportunity employer.*

## YONDR POUCH IMPLEMENTATION DELAYED TIL 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Riverview Gardens School District will implement the Yondr Pouch phone locking system at Riverview Gardens High School, Central Middle School and Westview Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year. RGHS has delayed the implementation of the Yondr system in order to allow time for the implementation of the new policies to be in place.

Once implemented, middle and high school scholars will be required to lock their phones in a secure pouch during the school day. Scholars will keep the pouches in their possession. Teachers and/or administrators will have the ability to unlock the pouches during emergencies and when needed for academic purposes and when exiting campus. The High School will pilot the system during MAP and EOC testing.

The Yondr Organization surveyed over 900 school partners to measure the effects of creating phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% of schools saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% of schools saw an improvement in student behavior
- 83% of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom



### RGSD MISSION:

The Riverview Gardens School District, along with families and the community, nurtures academic excellence in all students, preparing them to be college and career ready in an ever-changing society.

### RGSD VISION:

The Riverview Gardens School District creates a community of learners equipped to be competitors in a global society and leaders demonstrating social and civic responsibility.

# A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

By Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Superintendent of Schools

Greetings RGSD Stakeholders,

On Tuesday, March 7, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) released information from the Statewide Annual Performance Report (APR) for the 2021-22 school year. APRs demonstrate the progress local schools and/or districts are making toward meeting the Standards and Indicators in the sixth version of the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP 6).



MSIP is the state's system for reviewing and accrediting/classifying local school districts. It outlines expectations for school practices and student outcomes, with the goal of each student graduating ready for success in college, career, and life.

MSIP 6 factors in Performance and Continuous Improvement in its scoring system.

Riverview Gardens School District has been designated as a Local Education Agency (LEA) in the bottom five percent of APR scores in the state of Missouri. Highland, Danforth and Lewis & Clark Elementary schools have been identified as performing in the bottom five percent of all attendance centers.

Because MSIP 6 is a new system with different scoring, it is inaccurate to compare RGSD's 2022 overall APR score to previous years. The accreditation/classification of Missouri schools under MSIP 6 will begin in the 2023-24 school year.

More information on the District's 2021-2022 Annual Performance Report can be found at [rgsd.k12.mo.us](https://rgsd.k12.mo.us) or on DESE's [APR Dashboard](#).

Scoring MSIP 6 Standards			
<small>The table below provides scores for each of the standards included in MSIP 6 scoring. Note that certain Continuous Improvement scores are not reported every year. Complete information about MSIP 6 Standards and Indicators, metrics, and scoring calculations may be found in the MSIP 6 Comprehensive Guide.</small>			
PERFORMANCE			
Standard	Points Earned	Points Possible	Percent of Points Earned
Academic Achievement: Status	13.0	48.0	27.1%
Academic Achievement: Growth	24.4	36.0	67.8%
Success-Ready Students	10.0	20.0	50.0%
Graduation Rate	15.0	20.0	75.0%
Graduate Follow-up	4.0	4.0	100.0%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>128.0</b>	<b>51.9%</b>
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT			
Standard	Points Earned	Points Possible	Percent of Points Earned
Continuous Improvement Plan	30.0	30.0	100.0%
Climate and Culture Survey	4.0	4.0	100.0%
LEA Response to Standards	Data available school year 2023-24		
Other Required Documentation	4.0	6.0	66.7%
Success-Ready Measures	8.0	12.0	66.7%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>88.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>112.4</b>	<b>180.0</b>	<b>62.4%</b>

\* Suppression has been applied to protect small student populations.

\* After clicking the link, select Riverview Gardens (096111) from the District/Charter menu at the top of the page.

While we recognize that there is significant work ahead to regain full accreditation, RGSD celebrates growth in several key areas under the recently released data. RGSD scholars showed growth in the Proficient and Advanced ratings for Science and Social Studies. RGSD has also seen increases in the seven-year graduation rate. RGSD also received growth points in English Language Arts (ELA).

Additionally, Riverview Gardens School District showed an increase in the Proficient/Advanced scores for the End of Course exams in English II, Biology and Algebra I.

The 2022-2023 school year is the first in the District's partnership with Solution Tree. The educational professional development organization is working with all RGSD schools to provide support to our educators and ensure educational equity for all scholars.

We strongly believe that we will show sustained growth in academic performance. The increases have helped the District improve its statewide rankings. We will continue to focus on academic improvement and build upon the foundational changes that have been made. We are confident that if we stay the course, Riverview Gardens School District will regain full accreditation.

We thank you for your support as we continue the journey to reach the new view on the horizon, where learning is required!