



# THE INSIDE VIEW

ISSUE 17 • JUNE 2022



## WGU AWARDS \$3000 FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN AT GLASGOW ELEMENTARY

Glasgow Elementary was awarded a \$3,000 grant from Western Governors University to fund enhancements to the school's community garden.

Teacher Olivia Roberts placed the successful application for the grant. The award was presented by Dr. Angie Besendorfer, WGU's regional vice president.

"I am super excited at the opportunity to be a recipient of the WGU University Fund for the Classroom Program!" Roberts stated.

"The ultimate goal is to make this an extension of our classrooms, where our students can have fun, develop their critical thinking and build a sense of community here at Glasgow."

## RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



### IMPORTANT DATES

- 06/06 & 06/13 START OF RGSD SUMMER PROGRAMS
- 06/14 SAB MEETING - 7PM
- 06/18 BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
- 06/19 DELLWOOD JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
- 06/21 SPECIAL SAB MEETING - 7PM
- 06/28 SAB MEETING - 7PM



## DESE & RGSD WELCOME COMMUNITY FOR PUBLIC HEARING AT WESTVIEW MIDDLE

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education hosted a public hearing for Riverview Gardens School District on Tuesday, May 24.

At the hearing, Interim Superintendent Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams gave an update on the state of the District. Discussion topics included: leadership; effective teaching and learning; collaborative climate and culture; data-based decision making; assessments aligned to Missouri Learning Standards; equity and access; and continuous improvement.

Community members, scholars, staff and other District stakeholders then participated in a community engagement activity that allowed attendees to discuss ways in which the District could improve and how resources could be utilized in order to regain full accreditation.

The meeting was well-attended. Several local elected officials were present and participated in the community engagement activity. Guests were also treated to a theatre performance by Westview Middle scholars.



Rep. Cori Bush, pictured with Westview Middle School Principal Dominic LeNoir, visited WMS to participate in the 8th Grade pinning ceremony. She was surprised to discover a mural honoring her for becoming the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri.

## RGSD HONORS RETIREES

Riverview Gardens School District honored its retirees at a Retirement Celebration Dinner on June 1. The dinner marked the return of the first in-person retirement celebration since the COVID-19 pandemic began.



# BULLETIN BOARD

**Riverview Gardens SCHOOL DISTRICT**

CELEBRATE FREEDOM  
**JUNETEENTH**

DISTRICT CLOSED - MONDAY, JUNE 20

**A DAY OF RESTORATION CELEBRATION RECOGNITION**

**Juneteenth 2022**

Join Us  
Dellwood Recreation Center  
10266 W Florissant Ave 63136  
Sunday June 19, 2022  
1-5pm

**Juneteenth Celebration Schedule**  
Community Resource Fair, Covid Vaccination & Vendor Pop-Up: 12-5pm  
Open Skits: 12 am - 3pm  
Parade Kick Off: 1pm  
Father's Day Freedom Concert: 3pm

**Riverview Gardens SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**CAREER FAIR**

**Discover**  
**A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON**

Teaching, Administration, Clerical, Food Service, Maintenance, Security, Technology, Nursing, Coaching, Custodial & More

**JULY 9 | 10AM - 1PM | 1370 NORTHUMBERLAND DR.**

[rgsdmo.org/jobs](http://rgsdmo.org/jobs)

**2022 RGSD SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM LISTINGS**

The City of *Bellefontaine Neighbors*  
Proudly Presents

FOR THE PEOPLE  
CELEBRATING  
**2022 ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**JUNETEENTH**  
BLACK HEALTH AND WELLNESS!  
POWERFUL SPECIAL GUEST!

EDUCATING • EMPOWERING • ENTERTAINMENT

**SAT. JUNE 18, 2022**  
9669 Bellefontaine Road  
St. Louis, MO 63137

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

This is An Outdoor Event / Incentive Weather Date: Saturday, June 25, 2022

SPECIAL THANKS TO AN AMAZING TEAM!  
Alderman Alicia Smith • Alderman James Thomas • Mrs. Marcia Gooden

For More Info Please Contact: Alderman Alease Dalles / Email: [alease.dalles@gmail.com](mailto:alease.dalles@gmail.com)

**BASKETBALL CAMPS** **BOYS & GIRLS**

**JUNE 14 & 16**  
10am - 12pm

**JULY 12 & 14**  
10am - 12pm

**JULY 19 & 21**  
10am - 12pm

Riverview Gardens High School  
1218 Shepley Drive | St. Louis, MO 63137

**Riverview Gardens SCHOOL DISTRICT**

HELP US IMPROVE!  
COMMUNICATIONS  
CLIMATE & CULTURE  
SURVEYS

**Scholars | Students**

HELP US IMPROVE OUR  
**BREAKFAST & LUNCH**

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

Stay Connected

**@RGSDNEWS IS NOW @RGSDSCHOOLS**

A New View on the Horizon!

## HARSLEY & HOLT APPOINTED TO SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

The Missouri State Board re-appointed three members and appointed two new members, to the Riverview Gardens School District's Special Administrative Board, setting a staggered final term of office for the five appointed members to expire no later than June 30, 2024, allowing for their transition off the SAB through local elections in April 2023 and 2024.

The three SAB members re-appointed today are Veronica Morrow-Reel, Reggie Jones, and Mary F. Oswald. The two new SAB members are Tommie Harsley III and Shannon Holt. Harsley and Holt will fill the SAB seats of Lynn Beckwith Jr. and Miranda Avant-Elliott.

Harsley is the pastor of Grace New Covenant Church in St. Louis. As a practicing attorney for more than 30 years, Harsley has devoted a significant portion of his career to advising and representing faith-based and charitable organizations.

Holt is a respected spiritual leader and a dedicated community spokesperson, who also serves as an Alderman in the City of Dellwood. Holt currently works as a teacher for the Special School District of St. Louis.



**Tommie Harsley III**

During the State Board meeting December 2021, the State Board approved Commissioner Vandeven's recommendation to begin a transition to return the district to local governance, which allowed voters to have the opportunity to elect two new members – Niketia Coleman and Wanda Lane – to the SAB in April 2022.

For the full story, please visit: <https://dese.mo.gov/state-board-education-adds-members-riverview-gardens-special-administrative-board>



**Shannon Holt**

## STAYING ON TRACK

Riverview Gardens School District hosted its annual elementary field day at Riverview Gardens High School.

The event was coordinated by Athletic Director Zach Thurwalker and Lisa Vitale, the PE teacher at Moline Elementary. It was designed to reward the scholars who work hard in the classroom, maintain good attendance and display excellent behavior.



"We have been running the elementary track meet for over 10 years," Thurwalker said. "Unfortunately, it didn't take place the last two years due to COVID."

The event was a rousing success, as the scholars enjoyed the opportunity to get out of the classroom and compete against their peers. Scholars received ribbons for placing in the top three spots in any of the track and field events.



*The Riverview Gardens High School  
Journalism class presents...*



# *The Rambler*

RIVERVIEW GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL \* 1218 SHEPLEY DRIVE \* ST. LOUIS, MO 63137 \* VOLUME I \* ISSUE I



# RGHS New'Zine

# A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

By Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Interim Superintendent

I could not let this year end without sending out a special thank you to all of the amazing scholars, parents and staff in the Riverview Gardens School District.

As the year ends, I would like to thank each one of you for enduring and the challenging work that you have done. This has been one of the hardest years for many of us. In 2020, we were forced to pivot to remote learning. In 2021, we pivoted to hybrid, only to pivot back to full in-person learning in 2022.



Having to deal with the challenges of being remote for a year-and-a-half and our own as well as our scholars' social, emotional, and mental health has been a challenge. Yet, here we are at the conclusion of the year still standing strong.

Most recently our board of education has sworn in two new board members. To those who came out to the state public hearing, hearing your comments and involvement truly meant more to us than you will know. We heard you on those things on how we can do better as a school district and how we can reach out to the community to make a difference to our scholars. The board also on Tuesday recently approved flex hours for this summer that will be an additional hour a day Monday through Thursday with the Central Office closing at noon on Friday. The board of education recently approved a pay increase for our summer school programs. If you are a teacher instead of \$25 an hour, we are offering \$50 an hour etc... Anyone who is hourly will have that hourly rate doubled. We want to celebrate our faculty and staff at the central office with food trucks, music, and games. We appreciate all the challenging work you have done this year. As the administrative team and SAB, we will continue to focus on how we can improve our salary to make it more competitive. This year we are reinstating honoring our retirees for the RGSD school district.

To our parents, thank you for entrusting your young scholars to us. know that we are doing our best to ensure that they are getting the best education possible while in a safe environment. I look forward to next year as we embark on a New View on the horizon.

**WATCH THE  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
END OF THE  
SCHOOL YEAR  
UPDATE**

