



# THE INSIDE VIEW

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## SCHOLARS HONORED AT BOEING GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT GRANT CELEBRATION

On September 28, Riverview Gardens School District hosted a celebration in honor of the Boeing Global Engagement grants. Boeing has provided over \$950,000 in grants in support of Riverview Gardens School District scholars for the 2023-2024 school year.

RGSD invited representatives from Boeing and 13 community partners to the Riverview Gardens High School library. Each partner provides programs that help enhance STEM learning.

Boeing executives Chris Bray (left), senior manager, and Monique Bynum, community investor/education relations, pose with scholars from Glasgow Elementary. The scholars were awarded with special medals for completing science-related summer programs.

## RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



### IMPORTANT DATES

- 10/20 END OF FIRST QUARTER
- 10/24 SAB MEETING | 7PM  
1370 NORTHUMBERLAND DR.
- 10/25 PARENT CONFERENCES
- 10/26 PARENT CONFERENCES
- 10/27 NO SCHOOL - DISTRICT OPEN
- 10/30 FALL BREAK - DISTRICT CLOSED
- 11/1 KOCH MARKET RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

## TANYA PATTON NAMED RGSD INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT FOR 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR



Riverview Gardens School District announces the appointment of Tanya Patton, Ed.D. as interim superintendent, effective July 1, 2024. Patton will lead the District following the retirement of Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Ed.D. at the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year.

"I'm honored to have been selected to serve as interim superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year," Patton stated. "I look forward to working collectively with scholars, staff, parents and community members to support the scholars of Riverview Gardens."

Patton has served as the assistant superintendent of Student, School & Community Support since 2020. She was recently named an Apple for the Teacher awardee (2023) by the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority. She also received the Women in Leadership Award from the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis (2022).

Prior to joining RGSD, Patton served as principal at Nelson Elementary School and Cassens Elementary School in the Edwardsville School District. She also served as an assistant principal and a middle school teacher in Edwardsville.

"Dr. Patton is a talented, well-respected and effective leader," stated Veronica Morrow-Reel, Special Administrative Board president.



"As an assistant superintendent, she has developed meaningful and successful partnerships and relationships to improve learning and help foster success for scholars and staff..." [FULL STORY](#)

### CULTURE & CLIMATE SURVEYS SUPPORT THE RGSD CSIP GOALS FOR COLLABORATIVE CULTURE



10/16 - 10/31



- 1 Gather stakeholder feedback
- 2 Engage staff in community-building opportunities.
- 3 Increase parental support and participation.
- 4 Create a district-wide tiered of social emotional and behavior interventions and supports.

### SHARE YOUR VOICE! FILL OUT THE RGSD FALL CLIMATE & CULTURE SURVEY!

Climate and culture surveys are critical components of the 2023-24 Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). The survey aims to gather stakeholder feedback, engage staff in community-building opportunities, increase parental support and participation and create a district-wide tiered system of social emotional and behavioral interventions and supports.

Results from the surveys are reviewed by the District Leadership Team, presented to the SAB and used to improve the learning environment in the Riverview Gardens School District. Student, parent, staff, and community voice is needed! Survey deadline is 10/31.

### Commit to Creating a New View on the Horizon



Join a committee!



### JOIN AN RGSD COMMITTEE

Riverview Gardens School District seeks collaboration and commitment with all stakeholders. Parents, scholars, staff, community members and partners are invited to join an RGSD committee to ensure student, staff, and community voice on decisions that impact the Family.

Please help us create a new view on the horizon, where learning is required. [SIGN-UP](#)

## RGHS ADDRESSES FIGHTING INCIDENTS WITH PARENTS, SCHOLARS & STAFF

Riverview Gardens High School and District officials met with a select group of parents following several incidents of fighting on September 12. Principal Traci Nave, the restorative team, school resource officers and others addressed parents in two separate meetings that took place at Glasgow Elementary and Lewis & Clark Elementary. Parents and staff discussed solutions, resources and expectations. Attendees also participated in a restorative circle designed to build community and increase accountability.

Following three days of virtual learning at the High School, scholars were welcomed back with an all-school assembly where the school leadership addressed the incidents and the expectations to maintain a safe, learning environment.



### RGSD Mission

Collaboratively educate and empower our scholars to thrive in challenging environments.

### RGSD Vision

Riverview Gardens School District will be a district where:

- There are high expectations for all.
- There will be healthy, loving, empathetic and kind relationships.
- Where students are at the center of our decisions.
- Supports are provided so students become grade-level ready.
- There is transparency, accountability, timely, clear communication, and high levels of customer service.
- All stakeholders have a voice.
- There is a focus on college and career readiness.

## COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Riverview Gardens School District has partnered with St. Louis Area Foodbank. All families are welcome to receive free fresh produce, canned goods, dry goods & and other items, while supplies last.

On the first Thursday of the month, the items will be distributed at Central Middle School located at 9800 Patricia Barkalow Dr.

On the third Thursday of the month, the items will be distributed at Westview Middle School located at 1950 Nemnich Rd.

December 21 - **No Distribution RGSD Winter Break.**

## COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION



FREE!  
FIRST COME,  
FIRST SERVED

FRESH PRODUCE, CANNED GOODS, DRY GOODS & OTHER ITEMS

1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH @  
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

OCTOBER 5  
NOVEMBER 2

DECEMBER 7  
JANUARY 4

3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH @  
WESTVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 21  
OCTOBER 19

NOVEMBER 16  
JANUARY 18

WHILE  
SUPPLIES  
LAST

9:00 AM -  
11:00 AM

## VECTOR TRAINING, K-12 EDITION ONLINE TRAINING

The safety of staff and scholars in RGSD is of the highest importance.

The District offers Vector Training, K-12 Edition, to all RGSD employees. The mandatory courses are beneficial for maintaining a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment.

Be sure that you complete all of the required Vector trainings for the 2023-24 school year.



## VECTOR TRAINING K-12 EDITION

**MANDATORY  
ONLINE TRAINING**

Website:

<https://rgsd-mo.safeschools.com/login>



## SPIRIT WEEK AT WESTVIEW



October 9-13

## VOTE TO NAME THE RGHS YEARBOOK

RGHS yearbook staff conducted a review of the 2023-24 yearbook. The goal is to revamp the yearbook and expand its size and scope. The yearbook staff needs the community's input to name the yearbook. The choices are:

- **Echoes**, which has been the name in past decades.
- **PanoRama**, which reflects the 360-scope of the yearbook.
- **Ramily Album**, which references the idea of us as a Ramily.

Yearbooks are on sale now through Oct. 31 at a starting price of \$38. The price goes up from there.

From Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, the yearbook will be priced at \$45. Starting Jan. 1, 2024, the yearbook price will rise to \$50 as a base price. [CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#)



For more information contact Elizabeth Holzer at [eholzer@rgsd.k12.mo.us](mailto:eholzer@rgsd.k12.mo.us) at RGHS.

## LATE START WEDNESDAYS

Late Start Wednesdays began on Wednesday, August 23. RGSD schools observe the Late Start Schedule during the academic school year. **MO-ECAC does not observe Late Start Wednesdays.**

On Late Start Wednesdays, staff engage in a

Professional Learning Community (PLC) PD. Building leaders and educators work collaboratively and review student data. PLCs allow teachers to brainstorm and share best practices to achieve academic excellence for all RGSD scholars.



### Late Start Wednesday Schedule

 <b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>	 <b>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b>	 <b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>	 <b>Early Childhood Education Center</b>
Riverview Gardens High School 8:30 AM	All Elementary Schools 9:05 AM	Central & Westview Middle 9:45 AM	Michelle Obama ECAC-No Late Start 8:15 AM

## PAMELA FOUNTAIN RECEIVES CARL PERKINS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Pamela Fountain was named the winner of the Carl Perkins Community Service Award by the Missouri Marketing and Cooperative Education Association. Fountain is a Marketing instructor at Riverview Gardens High School. She also serves as the coordinator of the Marketing and Career Employment Program.

The award recognizes individuals who have used Career & Technical Education (CTE) to make a significant community impact and demonstrate leadership that promotes student involvement in community service.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLARS ATTEND ST. LOUIS CITY 2 SC SOCCER MATCH



Scholars, staff and parents from Central and Westview Middle Schools attended a St. Louis City 2 SC soccer game on September 17.

The Little Bit Foundation and Centene Foundation sponsored game tickets, transportation and food for the scholars.

Photos provided by Juanita Shaw

### Upcoming PAC Meeting Dates

November 6 - Virtual	February 5 - Virtual
December 4 - In Person	March 4 - In Person
January 9 - Virtual	April 1 - Virtual

## CALLING ALL PARENTS, GUARDIANS & GRANDPARENTS

The RGSD Parent Advisory Committee needs you! The PAC meets monthly to provide advice and assistance to school administrators and educators relating to the Academic Achievement Plan, programs, activities, resources and services in order to help schools attain their goals of providing each child with the best education possible.

The PAC is open to parents, guardians, grandparents, scholars and community members.

Interested? Contact our Community Engagement Specialist Te'ara Arman at (314) 869-2505 x 31147 or via email at [teara.arman@rgsd.k12.mo.us](mailto:teara.arman@rgsd.k12.mo.us).

On October 2, the PAC welcomed Cynthia Bennett from JADASA to present on domestic violence.



# BULLETIN BOARD

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Every minute counts towards a scholar's success. Every absence, tardy and early check-out adds up. In a school year, if a scholar misses two days per month, they will miss 20 days for the year. When a student is ten minutes late on a daily basis, the scholar is missing approximately seven days of school and missing out on 41 lessons. To achieve academic success, it is imperative for all scholars to attend school daily.



### High School & Middle School Scholars Apply Today!

- Advocate for scholars
- Suggest improvements
- Meet with District administration
- Share student concerns
- Promote the values and mission of Riverview Gardens School District
- Be a leader

## Student Advisory Committee



## RAMILY MATTERS

Podcast

Episode 16



**Anne Gichohi**  
Business Education Instructor  
Central Middle School

### CLOSE THE GAP GRANT PROGRAM

Up to **\$1,500** for K-12 public school district and charter school students.

The new Close the Gap Grant program provides a one-time grant of up to \$1,500 for K-12 public school district and charter school students to use towards allowable educational expenses.

**To be eligible for the grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:**

- ✓ Must be a Missouri resident
- ✓ Enrolled in grades K-12 in a Missouri public school district or charter school
- \*Priority will be given to families whose income is below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level.

**Allowable education expenses include:**

- ✓ Tutoring
- ✓ Academic day or summer camps
- ✓ Computer equipment
- ✓ Internet connectivity
- ✓ Before- and afterschool educational programs
- ✓ Instructional resource material
- ✓ Course fees and textbooks
- ✓ Online access for an academic app or subscription
- ✓ Education, learning, study skills services
- ✓ Arts-related day or summer camps
- ✓ Art enrichment

**APPLICATIONS OPEN:**  
September 20, 2023 - October 25, 2023

To sign up to receive email updates and application reminders scan the QR code or go to [missouri.withtheyesay.com](https://missouri.withtheyesay.com)

### RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN OVERVIEW 2023-24

#### STUDENT PERFORMANCE

- Implement the Professional Learning Communities Model (PLC)
  - Unpack standards
  - Develop common formative assessments
  - Analyze and use data for tiered academic interventions
- Improve Tier I instruction
  - Math - Math Workshop
  - ELA - LETRS + Early Literacy

#### MISSION & VISION

**Mission:** Collaboratively educate and empower our scholars to thrive in challenging environments

**Vision:** RGSD will be a district where:

- There are high expectations for all.
- There will be healthy, loving, empathetic and kind relationships.
- Students are at the center of our decisions.
- Supports are provided so students become grade-level ready.
- There is transparency, accountability, timely, clear communication, and high levels of customer service.
- All stakeholders have a voice.
- There is a focus on college and career readiness.

#### COLLABORATIVE CLIMATE & CULTURE

- Gather stakeholder feedback
- Engage staff in community-building opportunities
- Increase parental support and participation
- Create a district-wide tiered system of social emotional and behavior interventions and supports

#### STAFFING & WORKFORCE

- Implement staff wellness program
- Gather staff feedback
- Provide training and support for certified and non-certified staff
- Recognize and celebrate employees
- Increase salaries and benefits

#### COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

- Align policies and practices
  - Implement the PLC Model
  - Recognize growth and achievement
- Increase dual credit and dual enrollment opportunities
- Expand partnerships with colleges and universities
- Implement interventions and supports

#### ATTENDANCE

- Create a district-wide tiered system of attendance interventions and supports

**THERE'S A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON...WHERE LEARNING IS REQUIRED!**

All students who are not fully immunized by Jan. 2024 will be excluded from school.

### SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

RGSD will host several immunization clinics during the months of Oct., Nov. & Dec. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

- 11/3 @ MOLINE ELEMENTARY
- 11/17 @ GIBSON ELEMENTARY
- 11/20 @ CENTRAL MIDDLE
- 12/1 @ GLASGOW ELEMENTARY
- 12/7 @ WESTVIEW MIDDLE

Call 314-882-1284

CareSTL will host vaccination clinics at the R.A.M.S. Clinic on the campus of Riverview Gardens High School. Parents can schedule appointments for Mondays & Wednesdays & Fridays.

Consent Form to Treat (must be completed before shots are administered)

Immunizations are also available at The John C. Murphy Health Center  
6121 North Hanley, Berkeley, MO 63134  
Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. For more info, call 314-615-0500.

# RGSD IS HIRING

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

**#ANewViewOnTheHorizon**

### Late Start Wednesday Schedule

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# A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

By Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Superintendent of Schools

Greetings RGSD Stakeholders,

On Tuesday, August 8, the RGSD Special Administrative Board approved an all-new Comprehensive School Improvement Plan to guide the District through the 2023-2026 school years.

The CSIP represents the District's accountability plan aligned to the standards of the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP 6) and outlines the District's strategies toward improved student outcomes.

The new CSIP plan is critical to the success of Riverview Gardens School District as we strive to regain full accreditation. The plan was developed with input from staff, parents, scholars and the community. It identifies specific goals, strategies and actions to enhance teaching and learning.

Every member of the RGSD faculty and staff received a laminated copy of the CSIP Overview. All staff members should display the document in a prominent place in their classroom or office.

Soon, all households within the District will receive a postcard featuring the CSIP Overview. Please keep this document handy. The overview serves as a blueprint for RGSD to gain full accreditation. It also serves as a means of accountability for all RGSD stakeholders.

The importance of student voice is critical to the success of Riverview Gardens. That is why we are taking applications from middle school and high school scholars for the RGSD Student Advisory Board. The purpose of the Student Advisory Board is to enhance the overall experience for scholars. Scholars will have the opportunity to advocate for student interests, suggest improvements, foster communication between scholars and administration and provide valuable insight into how RGSD can better serve its scholars.

We are currently accepting applications for the Student Advisory Board. If you are, or know, an interested scholar, please visit [rgsd.k12.mo.us/studentadvisory](https://rgsd.k12.mo.us/studentadvisory) to fill out your application.

Another way that we are seeking stakeholder voice is through the Climate & Culture Surveys. Each year, RGSD will survey stakeholders to identify areas of improvement and to ensure that we are addressing the needs and concerns of the Family.

In last year's surveys, we learned that there was great dissatisfaction regarding the food service program. Therefore, this year we partnered with SFE for the District's breakfast and lunch program. So far, the reviews have been fantastic. Scholars are enjoying the new, fresh food options. This is just one example of how YOUR voice helps to impact decisions and improve Riverview Gardens.



It has been my great pleasure to serve as superintendent of Riverview Gardens School District. However, before the school year began, I shared my intention to retire following the 2023-24 school year. I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Tanya Patton, who was recently named interim superintendent for the 2024-25 school year by the SAB.

Dr. Patton and I have worked very closely to address all aspects of the school district; scholar performance, leadership training, hiring practices, financial stability and support from outside agencies. She is a tremendous leader, and I believe, the right person to move Riverview Gardens forward. Congratulations Dr. Patton!