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Aslin Administration Building
1818 W. Worley Street
Columbia, MO 65203
A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

In Columbia Public Schools, we believe in providing all of our children with an excellent education. By preparing our children for an ever-changing, unpredictable world, we believe it will take us one step closer toward realizing our vision to be the best school district in Missouri. Never before has our world been more ever-changing or unpredictable than now. Global pandemics will have an impact on a community and its schools. In our district, we frame our vision, mission, purpose and goals around providing our students with access. This means:

- **Access** to a great curriculum;
- **Access** to skilled teachers; and a nurturing environment;
- **Access** to technology;
- **Access** to experiences beyond the core curriculum;
- **Access** to interest-based activities before and after school.

We communicate the issue of access for our district with three letters. Three vowels, actually, because like vowels, these three words serve as a building block—they represent the **WHY** for everything we do.

**AEO**

**ACHIEVEMENT ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY**

AEO is a belief system that is more important today than ever before. We want all of our children to be able to access an excellent education. I’m committed to that. And to accomplishing success while living our core values of trust, integrity, transparency, collaboration, empathy and grace.

We have outstanding schools, students, teachers, and staff in our school district. Our continued efforts toward excellence would not be possible without the support of our community. We continue to be grateful for what the citizens of Columbia and Boone County do to help continue to make our schools the best.

Sincerely,
Dr. Peter Stiepleman
Superintendent
Columbia Public Schools

Columbia Public Schools is the fifth largest school district in Missouri. It includes 21 elementary schools, seven middle schools, four high schools and the Columbia Area Career Center, as well as an early childhood education program, with an enrollment of 19,052 students.

The school district is accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, citing such educational advantages as:

- Comprehensive curriculum and services at all grade levels, preschool and adult
- Exceptional programs for at-risk students and students with special needs
- Extensive depth and breadth in middle school and high school course offerings
- Award-winning career education programs designed for all students
- Successful community partnerships and volunteer programs
- Significant emphasis on staff development and school improvement efforts

Columbia’s students excel in the classroom and in their post-secondary education careers. Nearly 85-90 percent of Columbia students extend their education beyond high school. Seventy-eight percent attend a college, university or post-secondary program. Student performance on the ACT and SAT exams exceed state and national averages. In 2019, 91 percent of graduates took the ACT. Additionally, of the 1,337 students taking advanced placement courses, more than 80 percent earned college credit.

Our district’s teachers represent the primary reason Columbia’s schools and students are so successful. More than 72 percent of teachers hold a master’s degree or higher and average 12.5 years of professional experience.


Columbia Public Schools is also ranked as a top 10 district for exemplary and innovative use of technology by the National School Boards Association and ranked in the top 10 percent of school districts nationwide by Niche.com.

The district’s focus, from preschool to adult career education, is excellence.

Sincerely,
Dr. Peter Stiepleman
Superintendent
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**MISSION**
To provide an excellent education for all students

**VISION**
To be the best school district in the state

**VALUES**
Trust
Integrity
Collaboration
Transparency
Empathy
Grace

**ABOUT THE DISTRICT**

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PRESIDENT**
Helen Wade

**VICE PRESIDENT**
Susan Blackburn

**MEMBERS**
Chris Horn
Teresa Maledy
David Seamon
Dr. Della Streaty-Wilhoit
Blake Willoughby

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Dr. Peter Stiepleman
Superintendent
Columbia Public Schools
ENROLLMENT, STAFF and FACULTY FACTS

19,052 STUDENTS
PK – 12
48.1% 51.9%

41.09% Free or Reduced-Price Lunch
7.0% English Language Learners
9.8% Special Education

16 students to classroom teachers

236 students to administrators

5th Largest School District in Missouri

13:1 student to teacher ratio

42 BUILDINGS

1,205 (FTE) Employees

116 (FTE) Administration
principals
assistant principals
directors
supervisors
coordinators
central office

1,420 (FTE) Teachers
classroom teachers
special services
instructional coaches

2,879 (TOTAL) Student Support
secretaries
aides
food service
guidance
security
parent educators
nurses
custodians
technology
permanent subs
AVID tutors

13:1 student to teacher ratio

5th Largest School District in Missouri

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In 2019, 91 percent of Columbia Public Schools graduates took the ACT compared to 76.69 percent of Missouri graduates.

**ACT COMPOSITE SCORES**

- CPS: 21.4
- National: 20.7
- Missouri: 20.6

- **CPS**: 21.4
- **National**: 20.7
- **Missouri**: 20.6

**GRADUATE FOLLOW-UP**

- All students graduate college, career- and life-ready.
- 78% of the district’s students attend college or a post-secondary program.

**Percent of students with at least 90% attendance**

- **Attendance Rate**: 82.5%
- **Graduation Rate**: 89.0%

**AIMSWEB READING & MATH RESULTS**

- **Reading**
  - Kindergarten Literacy: 55.5%
  - Third Grade: 64.9%
  - 2nd-10th grades: 62.7%
- **Math**
  - Kindergarten Numeracy: 64.9%
  - 2nd-10th grades: 67.9%
  - 2nd-10th grades: 64.0%

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

- **1,337 AP STUDENTS ENROLLED**
- **1,903 AP EXAMS WERE TAKEN**
- **54.4% 2-Year College**
- **22.2% 4-Year College**
- **10.4% Employed**
- **1.6% Military**
- **1.2% Post-Secondary Training Program**
- **10.2% Other**
Columbia Public Schools maintains a balanced budget, guided by a long-range financial plan and planning parameters focused on Achievement, Enrichment and Opportunity.

Total expenditures by object show how CPS actually spends the dollars budgeted. Salaries and benefits account for nearly 62 percent of total expenditures and 80 percent of operating expenditures.

The increase in salaries and benefits for 2018-2019 can be attributed to improved compensation for employees and continued 100 percent fully-funded benefits for all full-time staff.
DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENTS

DISTRICT RECOGNIZED FOR BUDGETING EXCELLENCE
Columbia Public Schools has been recognized by The Association of School Business Officials International with the Meritorious Budget Award for the 2019–2020 budget year. The award promotes and recognizes the best budget presentation practices in school districts. The district was also awarded the certificate of excellence in financial reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED TEACHERS
Oakland Middle School Teacher Melissa Fike was honored with the Milken Educator Award for her exceptional teaching. Alex Soper, Hickman High School physics teacher, received the Physics Teacher Education Coalition Teacher of the Year Award. CPS has 11 educators who hold national board certification.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION WORK
In 2019, Columbia Public Schools was awarded the Magna Award for Equity Programs for its work with the Boone County Schools Mental Health Coalition. The district earned first place recognition among medium-sized school districts from across the country. The Magna Awards, sponsored by the National School Boards Association and the American School Board Journal, recognizes school districts for their efforts to remove barriers to achievement for vulnerable or underserved children based on race, ethnicity, gender, special needs, geography or socioeconomic status.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES ACHIEVEMENTS

Rock Bridge High School Girls’ Basketball Team went to its first Final Four appearance since 2017. **Team members:** Kate Linnemeyer, Kyrah Brodie, Averi Kroenke, Mary Primus, Sanay’ St Andre, Caitlin Hayes, Eryn Puett, Samantha Mackley **Manager:** Megan Henry

Rock Bridge High School Girls’ Swimming 400 Freestyle Relay Team won the MSHSAA Class 2 Swimming State Championship. **Team members:** Elise Henderson, Olivia Henderson, Ansley Barnes and Mara Manion

A.J. Huskey (Battle High School) won the MSHSAA Class 1 Individual 100-Yard Fly Swimming State Championship.

Oakley Lorson (Rock Bridge High School) won the MSHSAA Class 2 Individual 200 Freestyle Swimming State Championship.

Carolyn Ford (Rock Bridge High School) won the MSHSAA Class 4 Individual Cross Country State Championship.

Seven CPS students were selected for the inaugural Missouri All-State Children’s Choir. Students are: Carmen Atkins, Mihr Bhalla, Zane Bragg, Parker Horvatich, Natalie Huggler, Calla Shade and Keegan Shaw.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CHAMPIONS
FFA Missouri Veterinary Science Career Development Event: **Mattie DaHaven** (Hickman High School) won first place and **Gentry Duncan** (Rock Bridge High School) won second place. They are joined by fellow team members **Emily Zimmerschied** (Columbia Area Career Center) who placed in fifth, and **Kaya MacLeod** (Rock Bridge High School) who placed in twelfth.

NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS
Jacob Galen Coberly, Rock Bridge High School
Caleb Foster, Battle High School
Mary K. Grossmann, Rock Bridge High School
Crystal H. Odor, Rock Bridge High School
Fletcher S. Orr, Hickman High School
Inessa E. Verbitsky, Rock Bridge High School

ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
Olivia Anderson
Ansley Barnes
Kate Bushnell
Will Cover
Grace Dyer
James Glaser
Chengrui Hou
Benjamin Kimchi
Will Linder
Audrey Mueller
Greta Scheidt
Bailey Stover
Marin Tucker
Toan Vu

BATTLE HIGH SCHOOL
Maelyn Andreasen
Aya Bellaoui
Daniela Calle
Yin-Tzu Chen
Nevin Dubinski
Ty Leroux
Madeline Schrader
Nicholas Sheaffer

HICKMAN HIGH SCHOOL
Sierra Calfee
Naomi Garson
Hannah Larson
Kristina Sidorova
Grace Spell
Isabel Trindade

2020 VALEDICTORIANS
In a growing community like Columbia, it’s imperative to have public support to fund projects and improvements. Columbians consistently rise to the challenge, voting for bonds and levy increases so our children can have the best educational experiences possible. From the gradual elimination of trailers to the construction of new schools, Columbia Public Schools is committed to having high-quality facilities and learning environments.

**GROWTH**

In a growing community like Columbia, it’s imperative to have public support to fund projects and improvements. Columbians consistently rise to the challenge, voting for bonds and levy increases so our children can have the best educational experiences possible. From the gradual elimination of trailers to the construction of new schools, Columbia Public Schools is committed to having high-quality facilities and learning environments.

**DISTRICT STATS & FACTS**

- **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS**
  - Middle school athletic equity improvements at Oakland, Smithton and Gentry
  - Locust Street Elementary School addition/renovation
  - Oakland Middle School renovations
  - Midway Heights School remodel
  - Safety and security improvements across the district

- **3,540,702 SQUARE FEET OF BUILDING SPACE**

- **2,119,241 square feet of roofs**

- **799 acres maintained**

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**BOND PROJECTS THROUGH THE YEARS**

- 2010: John Warner Middle School Opens
- 2013: Douglass High School Renovation
- 2015: Shepard Boulevard Elementary School Addition
- 2016: Battle Elementary School
- 2017: Rock Bridge High School Stadium
- 2018: Locust Street Expressive Arts Addition and Renovation
- 2019: Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School

**NUMBER OF TRAILERS**

- 2006-07: 173 trailers
- 2013-14: 123 trailers
- 2017-18: 65 trailers
- 2021-22: <20 trailers

By 2021, there will be less than 20 trailers in Columbia Public Schools.