



Tiffany D. Houston -Principal

**Our Mission:** Columbia Elementary will be relentless in providing rigorous and robust learning experiences for all students that will empower them to become strategic and independent thinkers who compete globally.

**Our Vision:** Columbia Elementary will be restored to its original prominence as an integral part of the community by partnering with all stakeholders, empowering students and making academics, attendance and character education our priority.

# THE EAGLE ENQUIRER

**AUGUST 2025 Edition** 

## **SLPS Strategic Values**

**Values Across Our Student Goals** 





Welcome back to the 2025-2026 school year! I am extremely excited to welcome you and your child(ren) back to the new school year. This year promises to be exciting with new initiatives at the school and district level. This year is all about building capacity in our SLPS Strategic Values with our staff and students. We look forward to seeing all families at our Open House scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025.

The first day of school is Monday August 18, 2025

2025-2026 School Year Registration Reminder

Now Enrolling PreK3-5th Grade

If you have not registered your child(ren) for the upcoming school year, please take a moment to complete the process online:

Register here (click link below):

St. Louis Public Schools Registration - St. Louis Public Schools (or scan QR code with phone camera )





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This site has the most up-to-date information for the 2025–2026 school year.

## Need help?

If you are unable to reach someone at our school by phone, please contact:

- Focus Parent Portal Support: 314-633-5200
- **SLPS Central Office-Recruiting:** (314) 231-3720

As the district moves toward a paperless registration process, we deeply appreciate your patience and flexibility. We are here to support you through every step and most of all, we want your child at our school!

St. Louis Public School's 2025 SLPS Back-to-School Block Party!



- IIII Tuesday, August 5
- **④** 9 AM − 3 PM
- SLPS Central Office | 801 N. 11th Street

Join us for a free, family-friendly event to kick off the new school year! The Back-to-School Block Party is one of our favorite annual traditions—a great way to connect with families and get ready for an amazing year ahead.

- **₩** Highlights include:
- ✓ Enrollment & transportation assistance
- Pree health resources & school supplies
- Haircuts, face painting & tornado relief kits
- **¼** Live DJ, food, snow cones & more!

Learn more: <a href="https://www.slps.org/B2S">www.slps.org/B2S</a>

RSVP today: http://www.slps.org/RSVP





# **Columbia Elementary School** 3120 St Louis Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63106 (314) 533-2750 (office)



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### SAVE THE DATE (DATE CHANGE): Columbia's Open House 2025-2026

## You are Invited to Columbia Elementary's Annual Open House!

m Date: Friday, August 15, 2025 Time: 12:30 PM- 3:30 PM

Location: Columbia Elementary School (3120 St. Louis Ave.)

Join us for a fun and informative event to kick off the new school year! This is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Meet vour child's classroom teacher
- Learn about academic goals for the year
- Connect with community partners
- Discover ways to get involved at school

Bonus! Our school nurse will be working to get clinic representatives to provide on-site immunizations for students.

**Enjoy** refreshments for the whole family!

We cannot WAIT to welcome you and your child(ren) to a fantastic new year at Columbia Elementary!

## 1st Day of School - Monday, August 18, 2025

We are excited to welcome students back for the new school year! Please make sure the following items are completed prior to the first day:

- **Enrollment/Re-enrollment**
- Updated home address
- **Updated emergency contact information**

Having accurate information ensures we can reach parents or guardians when necessary.

### Friendly Reminders:

**Student Arrival:** 

Students may not enter the building before 8:05 AM.

- **Arrival Entrances (8:05 AM 8:15 AM):** 
  - o Door #7: Pre-K
  - o Door #9: 1st 5th Grade
  - o Door #13: Kindergarten / Inclement Weather Entrance
- **Morning Procedures:** 
  - o Pre-K/KG students will check in and report directly to their classrooms.
  - o 1st 5th grade students will enter the Gym and sit in their designated class lines.
  - o Classroom teachers will escort students through the cafeteria line and then to their classrooms for breakfast.







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## Late Arrivals (After 8:15 AM):

- o Enter through Door #1 and check in at the Main Office.
- o Students will receive a grab-and-go breakfast from the cafeteria before heading to class.

#### Parent Access:

For student safety, parents may not remain with children inside the building. To volunteer in classrooms, a volunteer application must be completed and approved by Central Office prior to participation.

#### **Dismissal & Afterschool Information:**

- All students must ride the bus or be picked up by 3:17 PM each day.
- After-school program applications will be available through the Focus Parent Portal. We will communicate the start date as soon as one is available.
- Parents must set up their Focus Parent Portal account to enroll in the afterschool program.

## Columbia is a Uniform School

All students are required to wear uniforms Monday through Thursday. Uniform guidelines are as follows:

- Tops and Bottoms: Any color uniform top or bottom is acceptable.
- Shoes: Students may wear shoes of their choice.

Fridays are Jeans Days!

Students and staff may wear jeans every Friday.

#### **Transportation**

SLPS Transportation Commitment is: 100% Safe. 100% Reliable. 100% On Time.

At Saint Louis Public Schools, the 2025-2026 goal is clear:

To serve **100% of our students**, **100% of the time**, with **100% on-time performance**.

Transportation will be dedicated to providing **safe**, **reliable**, and **timely transportation** for every student, every day. By setting ambitious, but achievable goals, they are raising the standard of excellence in transportation services.





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Because the belief is that every student deserves a **smooth, secure, and punctual** journey to and from school.

If you have questions or need additional support, please contact our Transportation Department at 314-633-5107 and/or by email at slpstrans.org.

If you are in transition, please The Office of Students in Transition for additional support at: 314-345-5750

#### Field Trips & Visitors/Volunteers Update

Students will participate in field trips specific to their grade level. Please note the following important guidelines:

#### • Permission Slips:

- o A signed permission slip is required for each field trip.
- Verbal permissions will not be accepted.
- o The form must be completely filled out and signed by an adult for the student to attend.

#### • Chaperone Requirements:

- Based on behavior, some students may be required to attend with a chaperone in order to participate.
- Parents serving as chaperones must provide their own transportation and will not be permitted to ride the bus with students.
- o If a student is required to have a chaperone, that chaperone must personally transport the student to and from the field trip.

#### • Volunteer Requirements:

- o All chaperones must have a completed and approved volunteer application on file.
- Please contact your child's teacher for more information or assistance with the application process.

Contact the child's teacher for more information

#### **Field Trips by Grade Level:**

P4, KG, 1 <sup>st</sup> Teachers	The Magic House
KG-1st Grade Teachers	Missouri Botanical Gardens
2nd Grade Teachers	Zoo
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Teachers	Science Center
4th Grade Teachers	History Museum
5th Grade Teachers	Art Museum



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## ParentSquare (No more ClassDojo)

Saint Louis Public Schools is launching ParentSquare, a new districtwide communication platform designed to keep families informed and engaged. ParentSquare will serve as a single hub for messages from the district, including event updates and important announcements.

Families can receive notifications via email, text, or the ParentSquare app. While downloading the app is an option, it is not required—messages will still be delivered to your email inbox, text message inbox, and phone like any other communication.

ParentSquare is certified by iKeepSafe for compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), ensuring the privacy and security of student and family information.

For families that wish to log in to ParentSquare, please use the email address currently on file with SLPS.

We also want to clarify that ParentSquare is different from Focus, the district's student information system (SIS). Focus manages student records, grades, and attendance, and it includes its own communication features. ParentSquare will be used specifically for districtwide announcements and updates.

More details, including sign-up instructions, can be found at <a href="https://www.parentsquare.com/help/">https://www.parentsquare.com/help/</a>.

Download the ParentSquare mobile app

Send and receive school communications on the go



#### **Important August Calendar Dates:**

- Friday, August 15, 2025: Columbia's Open House (12:30 PM- 3:30 PM)

- Monday, August 18, 2025: 1st Day of School

- Monday, September 1, 2025: Labor Day (No School)





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Update your contact information with the school if anything changes (be sure we have a current phone number & email address). We will continue to send updates via email and ClassDojo. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Columbia if you have any immediate needs or concerns. Thank you for all you do!



#### **AUGUST STAFF Birthdays:**

#### Mrs. Brewer-Clemons

Teacher August 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### Ms. Smith-Rockett

Teacher August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Happy Birthday to ALL students and staff with August Birthdays ©		
<b>Student</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>August</b>
Eubanks, Jasiah Anthony	04	$3^{\rm rd}$
Johnson, Olivia Ann Marie	04	$10^{\mathrm{th}}$
Frazier, Amori	04	13 <sup>th</sup>
Bailey-Wilson, Dakota	04	$15^{\mathrm{th}}$
Gunn, Dreyden Devon	04	$15^{\mathrm{th}}$
Murphy, King Amari	03	$18^{\text{th}}$
Bailey-Wilson, Romeo M	K	21 <sup>st</sup>
Turner, Alayjah	03	$22^{\rm nd}$
Walker, David	04	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Starks, Tru	K	$25^{th}$
Piggee, Errielle	01	29 <sup>th</sup>
Bailey, Legacy	01	$31^{\rm st}$