



Columbia Elementary School
3120 St Louis Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63106
(314) 533-2750 (office)

Tiffany D. Houston –Principal



Columbia
Elementary School

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

2025 March Edition

SLPS Strategic Values



"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." (Maya Angelou)

SAVE THE DATE: Spring Music Program

You are cordially invited to:

Columbia Elementary School Spring Music Program 2025!

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

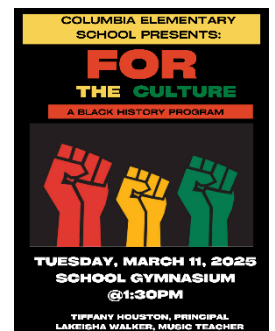
Time: 1:30 PM

Location: Columbia Elementary School Gym (Door #7)

Come, show up to support your child(ren). Every student will perform with their grade level. We can't wait to see you!

****All attendees should come through Door #7 (near the rear playground lot; can park on rear playground). Door #7 will open at 1:15 PM. After attendees come through Door # 7, attendees will be required to sign-in and pass through security check.****

All attendees should be prepared to be seated during the event. This will ensure that all performances will be seen. There will be no standing permitted (not even in the rear). Please share this request with any





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family and/or friends that will be attending our school event. Thank you and appreciate you for your understanding.

FIELD TRIPS AND VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS UPDATE:

Students will attend field trips for their grade level. An adult should sign the permission slip. No verbal signatures will be accepted. For a student to go on a field trip, the permission slip must be filled out. *Some students will be required to attend with a chaperone (pending behavior) to attend.* **Parents who chaperone will NOT be able to ride transportation with their students.** Parents are required to drive. Parents, who chaperone, must transport any student who requires a chaperone. **All chaperones are required to have a volunteer application on file.** Contact the child's teacher for more information. ***Remember P3's can NOT ride school transportation. The parent/guardian must transport the child in order for them to attend***

Field Trips by Grade Level:

Grade Level	Field Trip Location	Date Scheduled:
P3/P4 Teachers	The Magic House	Thursday, October 10, 2024
KG-1st Grade Teachers	Missouri Botanical Gardens	Wednesday, April 23, 2025
2nd Grade Teachers	Zoo	Thursday, May 1, 2025
3rd Grade Teachers	Science Center	Thursday, March 27, 2025
4th Grade Teachers	History Museum	Tuesday, March 11, 2025
5th Grade Teachers	Art Museum	Thursday, May 15, 2025

INTENT TO RETURN

**YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS
BECAUSE YOUR ONLINE
FORM IS NOT COMPLETE**

IF YOU NEED HELP

CALL 314-533-2750 ASK FOR MS. DAVIS OR
COME TO COLUMBIA MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00-11:00

Logging Into Parent Portal

1. Go to this website: <https://sis.slps.org/SLPS360x3/login> (type exactly as shown).
2. Click the Parent tab on the screen (make sure you are under "Parent" or it will not log in).
3. Enter the email address that is on file in SIS and the password you created.

Intent to Return

1. A yellow notification should appear, saying you have forms to complete.
2. Click the notification bar to access and complete the forms for all your scholars.
3. Complete the form between [redacted] to secure priority transportation routes.

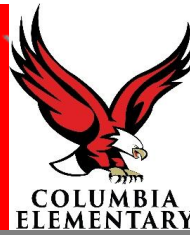
Intent to Return is NOW DUE!

The district is already preparing for the 2025-2026 School Year and we need your help! Please follow the steps to secure your child(ren)'s spot for next school year. This registration is good for any SLPS location. 5th Grade Student Families must complete now for Middle School. It's better to complete now and change your mind, then risk losing priority by waiting.



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Completing your registration now makes your child(ren) priority for seating, transportation and aftercare services. The application process is 100% online. Our Family Support Specialist is available to help walk you through the process if you experience any difficulty. The district is tracking our numbers and Columbia has a goal of 100% registrations completed by Friday, March 7th! Help us reach our goal & ensure that your child is registered and prepared for next year! Contact Ms. Davis, Columbia's Family Support Specialist, for additional details and/or support (ebony.davis2@slps.org).

PreK: Now Enrolling for 2025-2026 School Year

Please contact the school at: 314-533-2750 to schedule an appointment to enroll a PreK student. All families must enroll/re-enroll for the next school year. **No spots are guaranteed.** Spots are first come, first served. Contact Columbia today to schedule an appointment to secure your child's spot for next year!

iPads

A contract needs to be signed by each student's parent or legal guardian. iPads cannot be given out to the students until the contract is signed. As the weather changes, there may be a need for an Alternate Methods of Instruction (AMI) Day and only students with a signed contract will be able to take devices home. Any student who does not have a contract on file signed, will go home with a learning packet.

All students must have their device to take all mandatory assessments and to complete and submit class assignments. When devices are sent home, students/families are responsible for ensuring that students return with their device. Please note, families will incur a cost for any damaged, lost, or stolen devices. If you have any questions, please contact our building's Technology Inventory Coordinator (TIC), Ms. Brown (mecha.brown@slps.org). Click on the link below to complete the iPad contract.

<https://signnow.com/s/G6fg3PzG>

PTO MEETING

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025

Time: 3:30 – 4:45 PM (immediately following school dismissal)

Location: Columbia's School Library (Room # 203)

Columbia's PTO needs your voice, opinion, and ideas. Light refreshments will be available.

Contact: Ms. Thompson (chantell.thompson@slps.org) and/or Ms. Davis (ebony.davis2@slps.org) for additional information.



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No Before Care/Afterschool

Monday, March 10, 2025 -Friday, March 14, 2025: Parent/Guardian/Teacher Conference Week
Monday, March 17, 2025- Friday March, 21, 2025: Spring Break (No School)

No School

Friday, March 7, 2025: Staff Professional Development/Record Keeping Day
Monday, March 17, 2025- Friday March 21, 2025: Spring Break

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A missed school day is a lost opportunity for students to learn. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. Good attendance is also important for students' later schooling and careers. School attendance lays the groundwork and creates good habits for children to take with them into their adult years.

If your child is absent, staff will be reaching to find out to find out what barriers are preventing your child from attending school. It is important for your child to be at school, on time, every day. We want your child to be present at school every day!

Before Care & After Care Update

Our Programs runs Monday-Thursday:

Before Care 7:05 AM- 8:04 AM

(students will not be admitted to before care after 7:50 AM nonnegotiable)

After Care 3:28 PM-6:00 PM

There will not be before care/aftercare on the following days this month:

Monday, March 10, 2025 -Friday, March 14, 2025: Parent/Guardian/Teacher Conference Week

Monday, March 17, 2025- Friday March, 21, 2025: Spring Break (No School)

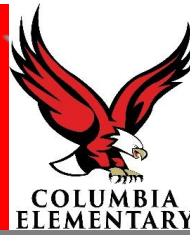
Tissues and Wipes Needed

As we navigate cold and flu season, we are asking all parents/guardians to send a box of tissues and wipes to school with their child. This will help to ensure all students have tissue and wipes in their classroom! Ensuring all classrooms have access to these items will help us fight germs and minimize sickness. We appreciate your help!



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Uniforms & Cell Phone Policy Reminders

Columbia is a uniform school. All students must wear their uniforms Monday-Thursday. Dress down day is every Friday. Students may wear any color uniform top or bottom. Students can wear the shoes of their choice. Students/Staff may wear jeans every Friday. If you need help with purchasing uniforms, please connect with our Family Support Specialist, Ms. Davis (ebony.davis2@slps.org) and she will connect you to our community resources.

Students are not able to use cell phones during the school day and/or during the before care/after school programs. Columbia will not be responsible for lost or stolen phones. If students are caught using a cell phone during the school day, without permission, the phone will be confiscated, and the parent/guardian will be required to pick it up from administration.

A Special Thanks to Ms. Sechrest During National School Social Work Week(March 2-8, 2025)!

This week, we celebrate National School Social Work Week, a time to recognize and appreciate the profound impact our school social worker, Ms. Sechrest, has on our school community. Ms. Sechrest tirelessly provides emotional support, guidance, and resources that enhance our students' academic and personal growth. Whether it's leading group sessions, one-on-one counseling, or developing strategies for overall student well-being, Ms. Sechrest is always there with a compassionate heart and expert advice. With ALL that she does, she finds time to also coach our students in soccer.



Join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for Ms. Sechrest's dedication and commitment. It's through her efforts that we see the true spirit of Columbia Elementary School shine—supportive, inclusive, and always striving for the best in each student. Thank you, Ms. Sechrest, for being an essential part of our school family and for all the incredible work you do every day!

Parent/Guardian/Teacher Spring Conferences:

Date(s): Tuesday, March 11th and Wednesday, March 12th, 2025

Time: 3:30 PM – 6: 45 PM

Be sure to contact the classroom teachers and/or staff members directly, that you would like to meet with! We cannot wait to see you! Popcorn, cotton candy, and light refreshments will be available for all attendees. Be sure to schedule your conference with your child(ren)'s teacher(s).

Purpose of Spring Parent-Guardina-Teacher Conferences:

- **Celebrate Success:** Learn about student achievements, both academically and behaviorally.
- **Review Previously Set Goals:** Learn about previously set targeted academic and personal development goals for your child as we approach the final stretch of the school year.



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- **Provide Support:** Teachers and staff want to share specific strategies and resources families can use at home to support their child's learning.
- **Strengthen Partnerships:** Foster open and honest communication, ensuring families feel valued as partners in your child's education.

****There will be no afterschool activities during these days. All students must be picked up by dismissal time (3:17 PM) or ride the bus home. There will be no staff available to watch students as they will be engaged in conferences. Please plan accordingly.****

Classroom & Ancillary Teachers:

Grade Level:	Teacher(s) Name:	Room #:	Email Address
PK	Ms. Hearn	001	raquel.hearns@slps.org
	Mrs. Richmond-Brooks	002	lakesia.richmond-brooks@slps.org
KG	Mrs. Brewer-Clemons	101	joann.brewer@slps.org
KG	Ms. Schaefer	102	cynthia.schaefer@slps.org
1 st Grade	Ms. O'Neal	210	angela.oneal@slps.org
2 nd Grade	Ms. Dunbar	207	brittani.dunbar@slps.org
1 st & 3 rd Grade Gifted/High Achievers	Ms. Vaughn	208	shirley.vaughn@slps.org
3 rd Grade	Mrs. Smith-Rockett	308	annette.smith-rockett@slps.org
4 th Grade	Ms. Brown	304	mecha.brown@slps.org
4 th -5 th Grade Gifted/High Achievers	Mr. Moore	307	kennethmoore2@slps.org
5 th Grade	Ms. Hogue	303	alexandria.hogue@slps.org
Self-Contained/Resource Teacher	Mr. Boyd	301	merrimon.boyd@slps.org
STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics)	Ms. Curtis	310	amanda.curtis@slps.org
Physical Education	Mr. Collier	GYM	deonte.collier@slps.org
Music	Ms. Walker	109	lakeisha.walker@slps.org
Art	Ms. Storz-Scherer	305	morgan.storz@slps.org

Character Education Word of the Month: FORGIVENESS

Each month our students will learn the definition of a character education word. Students will be able to understand the meaning and know how to display this trait daily.

Our students are learning all about forgiveness this month. What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness is a character trait that involves the ability to let go of anger, resentment, or the desire for revenge towards someone who has wronged you. It requires willingness to show mercy and compassion, and to give others a second chance.



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Sports Update

Students in grades 3rd-5th are invited to practice and participate on the Columbia Elementary Soccer Team. Students MUST have a physical on file with the nurse prior to participating. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should complete the Soccer Team Participation Forms and Student Code of Conduct Forms and return to Principal Houston (tiffany.houston@slps.org), Coach Sechrest (ashtin.sechrest@slps.org), or the main office.

District Soccer Team Information

1. All games will be played at Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School (located at 4939 Kemper Ave.).
2. There is an admission charge of \$4 for anyone who wants to attend the games. (the district remains 100% cashless)- Please purchase single tickets the morning of the games before arrival so it is a seamless entry.
3. Fans must bring their own chairs/seats as bleachers are not available.
4. Security Policy- Only small clutches for bags are allowed.
5. Students must have a physical on file with Nurse Dawson.

Date:	Location:	Time:	Opponent
Sat. March 8, 2025	Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School 4939 Kemper Ave. Field 2	12:45 PM	Mullanphy Elementary
Sat. March 29, 2025	Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School 4939 Kemper Ave. Field 1	11:45 AM	Mallinckrodt Elementary
Sat. April 5, 2025	Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School 4939 Kemper Ave. Field 1	11:45 AM	Humboldt Elementary
Sat. April 12, 2025	Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School 4939 Kemper Ave. PLAYOFFS	TBD	TBD
Sat. April 9, 2025	Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience High School 4939 Kemper Ave. PLAYOFFS	TBD	TBD



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Transportation

Many students have begun receiving bus routes. If you would like to see if your child has been assigned a bus route, please contact the school (314-533-2750). 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 contact The Office of Students in Transition for additional support at: 314-345-5750.

Arrival

Friendly Reminders:

- Students are not allowed inside the building before 8:05 AM (unless they are enrolled in Before Care). ***Please do not leave students unattended anywhere on our school grounds. If this happens, the school will be required to make a hotline call, as we are mandated reporters. Students must always be supervised.***
- Students should enter through the following doors 8:05 AM - 8:15 AM:

Door #7: PreK

Door #9: 1st – 5th grade

Door #13: KG/Inclement Weather Entrance/Exit

- PreK students check-in and report to their teacher's classroom. 1st - 5th grade students should enter the Gym and be seated in their class lines.
- Classroom teachers will escort students to the cafeteria, through the food service line, and then to eat breakfast in their classroom.
- Students arriving after 8:15 AM should check into the Main Office (enter through Door #1), receive grab-and-go breakfast from cafeteria, and report to class.

Due to safety, parents are NOT allowed to stay with children. Parents must complete a volunteer application, and it must be processed at Central Office prior to volunteering in the classroom

****All students must ride the bus/alternate transportation or be picked up by 3:17 PM daily.****

Important February Calendar Dates:

Women's History

- Friday, March 7, 2025: Quarter 3 Report Cards Distributed by Email
- Monday, March 10, 2025: Quarter 4 Begins
- Monday, March 10 – Thursday, March 13, 2025: No before care/after school activities at Columbia
- Tuesday, March 11, 2025: Parent/Guardian/Teacher Conferences (in-person) 3:30 PM- 6:45PM
- Wednesday, March 12, 2025: Parent/Guardian/Teacher Conferences (in-person) 3:30 PM- 6:45PM
- Tuesday, March 11, 2025: Spring Music Concert (Door#7 will open at 1:15PM)

****[Click Here to Connect With Columbia on ClassDojo](#)****



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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!

Happy Birthday to ALL students and staff with March Birthdays 🎉



March STAFF Birthdays:

Ms. Thompson

March 26th
(In School Success Monitor)

Owens Damarias	K	03/01/2018
Hernandez Samuel	K	03/04/2019
Horton Dontae	05	03/05/2014
Anderson Rose	04	03/05/2015
Martin Za'Niah	K	03/05/2019
Swift Robert Earl	K	03/07/2019
Hernandez Soraya Nicole	P3	03/09/2021
Richmond Brylee R	P3	03/09/2021
Oldham Roc'kelle M	05	03/15/2014
Meredith Oni	P3	03/15/2021
McShan Kailee	03	03/28/2015
Givens Ca'mia Jeanice	01	03/30/2018
Morris Brylee	K	03/30/2019
Winston Khyree A'mir	K	03/31/2019