

MAY

2020

THE SOULARD * SCHOOL

COMMUNITY NEWS

hello...

The Soulard School is delighted to welcome Shenika Bishop, who will become The Soulard School's new Principal on July 1.

Shenika replaces Kerri Fair, The Soulard School's current visionary principal who steps down after 13 years at The Soulard School.

Shenika Bishop is an experienced and committed educator and leader. She comes to The Soulard School from the Kirkwood School District, where she has served as a teacher, building and district mentor, and professional development facilitator. The start of the 2020-2021 school year will mark her 11th year in education. Shenika holds a master's degree in education administration and an educational specialist certification from Lindenwood University. She received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Missouri State University in Springfield, MO. Shenika comes to The Soulard School with a wealth of knowledge in the areas of Restorative Practices, Trauma Informed and Cultural Responsive Teaching.



A personal note from Shenika:

"It is with great excitement that I write this introduction to you as the new principal of The Soulard School. I am very humbled and honored to have been selected to lead a school community with such great teachers, students, and parents. I can ensure you that I share in this school community's dedication to caring for our students daily while providing them with a meaningful learning environment.

I will work hard to continue the success established at The Soulard School, by building strong relationships with parents, students, and community partners. I believe that relationships and connections are more important than ever during this unprecedented time.

It is important to me that everyone who walks through our doors (physically or virtually) – teachers, students, parents, and staff continue to feel welcomed at The Soulard School. I want to say thank you for all that you're doing to continue to support students, families, and one another at a time of physical distancing.

I look forward to meeting and working with you as a team to help each student at The Soulard School meet their goals and have a successful school year!"

We are excited to welcome Shenika Bishop to The Soulard School and community.

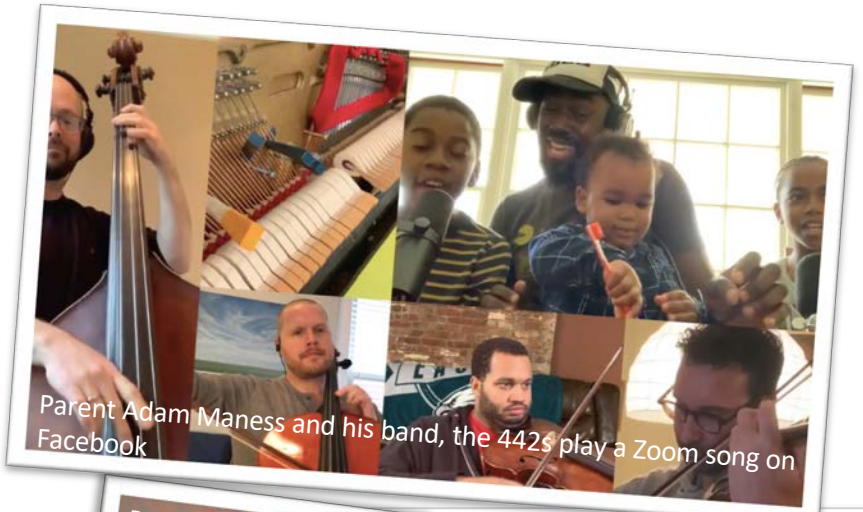
thank you...

This year presented all of us with unprecedented challenges. Even as we stayed home and social-distanced, the work of school continued. We were challenged as a community to practice what we preach - to become flexible thinkers and doers in ways we never imagined we'd be called upon to be.

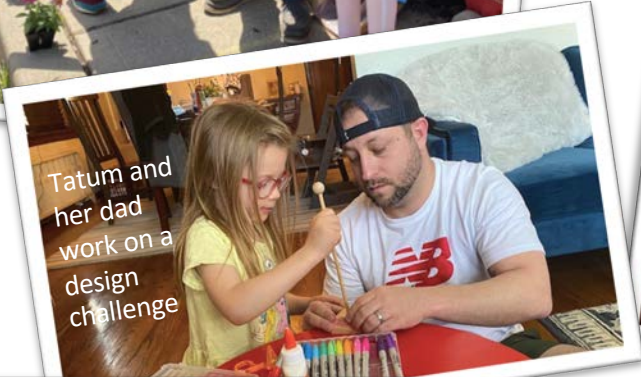
We want to say THANK YOU to all of our students and families and staff for making this adjustment with us.



Rob and Phil wish Janae a good summer



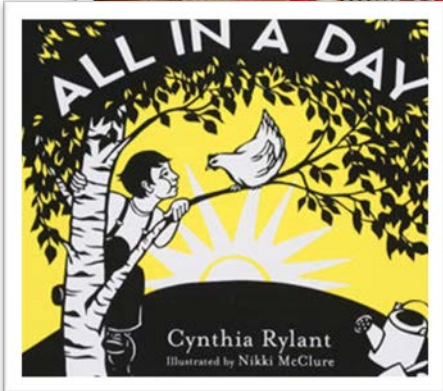
Parent Adam Maness and his band, the 442s play a Zoom song on Facebook



Tatum and her dad work on a design challenge



Beatrice's self-portrait for Studio Art



THANK YOU to the Krueger family (Harley, 2nd grade) for taking care of the chickens!

The 5th graders recorded themselves each reading a page from All in a Day, and shared the story on Facebook



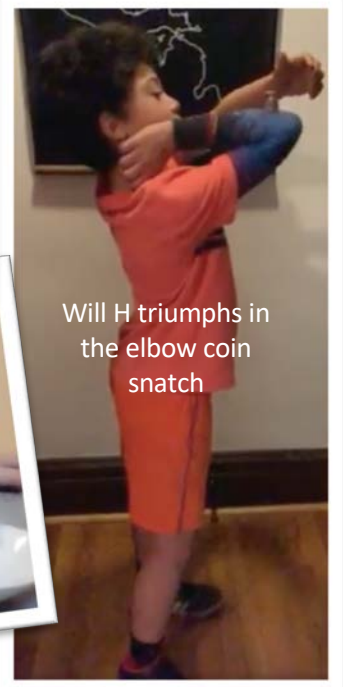
Gus closes out a memorable year with his teachers, Lauren and Julia



The Soulard School



STEAMFest Olympics



Will H triumphs in the elbow coin snatch



Ezra sets new records in the ping pong ball/spoon transfer challenge



The Nine Network is producing two hours of literacy and math instruction for prekindergarten through fourth grades, weekdays from 12:30–2:30 pm and

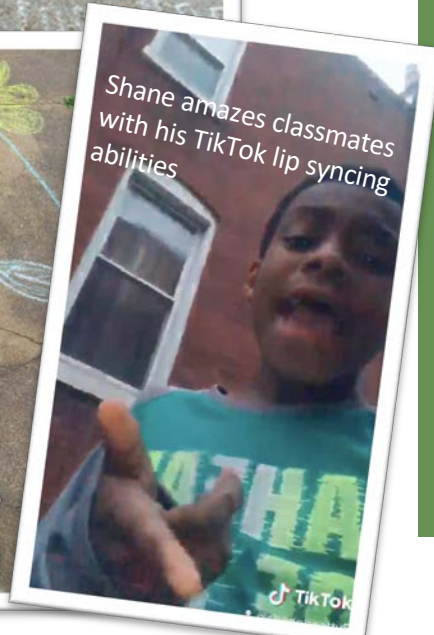
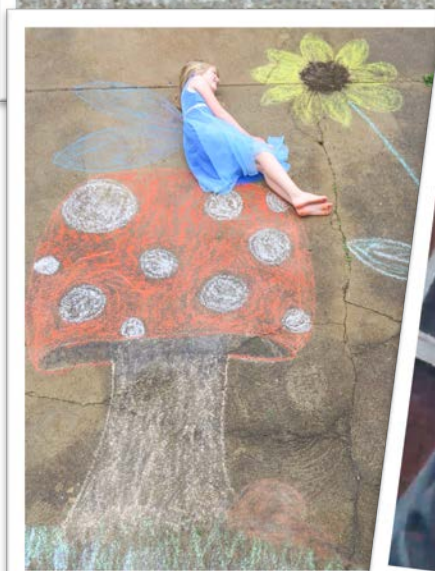
GUESS WHAT?

It features our very own Soulard School 2nd grade teacher, **Julia Knarr!**

The grade-appropriate instruction, taught at home by committed local educators (like our Julia!), was created to ensure all kids in our region have access to quality teaching during the academic year shutdown and into the summer, regardless of access to internet or computers.



Courtney and Avery each take chalk art to a new level



Shane amazes classmates with his TikTok lip syncing abilities

THANK YOU to Eleanor and Phillip, Phil Prange, the Wallace family, the Osterman-Goss family and Jason Biehl for keeping the yard looking great!



FACEBOOK LIVE COOKING WITH CHEF SARAH KATE



OVERNIGHT OATS

Makes 4 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 2 Cups Old Fashioned Oats
- 1 Teaspoon of chia seeds (optional)
- 1 Cup of milk (dairy or otherwise)
- 1 Cup yogurt (dairy or otherwise)
- 1 Cup fruit, chopped (fresh or frozen)
- 2 Tablespoons of honey
- 1/4 Teaspoon of cinnamon

DIRECTIONS

1. Mix all ingredients together in a medium sized mixing bowl until well blended.
2. Separate into four equally sized jars or small containers with lids.
3. Refrigerate 8 hours or overnight.
4. Enjoy warmed in the microwave or cold as is.

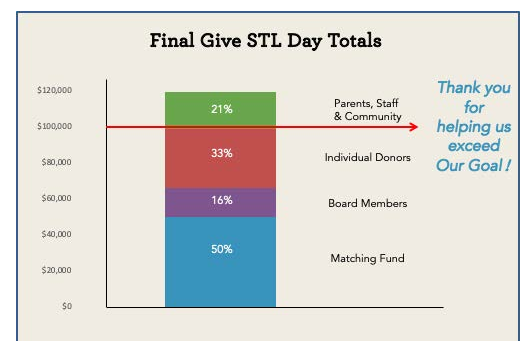
Making Overnight Oats is an easy, no-cooking-involved way to prepare a healthy breakfast. This recipe is simple, kiddos of all ages can make this for their entire family.



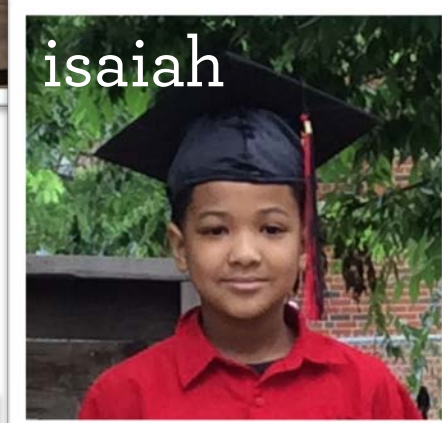
Thank you again for your participation in the Give STL Day fundraising campaign!

We are a **SMALL BUT MIGHTY** community and your participation in this campaign is proof. Whether you **created a campaign page for us or directly donated**, we consistently stayed in the top 20 list of the Leaderboard out of 1000's of organizations and that is due to you.

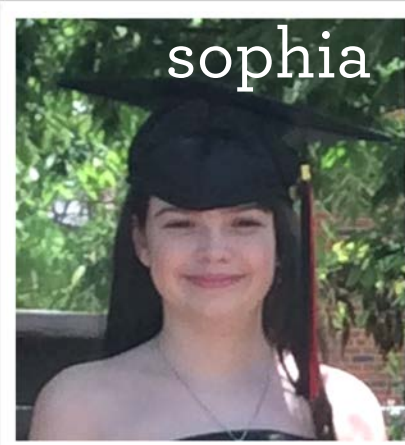
We invited you to join our matching gift challenge goal of \$50,000 and you went above that goal and **BEYOND!** We raised a total of **\$69,575!** This amount combined with the generous donation from our matching gift donor sponsor, brings us to a whopping total of **\$119,575!!**



CONGRATULATIONS TSS



2020 GRADUATES



When we say farewell to graduates, we are frequently also saying farewell to their families...

This year saw the graduation of a number of families that have been at the school prior to The Soulard School opening its doors, or were among the earliest families that helped us to grow our school into what it is now. We call any family that has been at the school longer than 10 years a Founding Family. This title was originally reserved for families that started in our first year, but we have found that being a Founding Family is a state of mind, not a place in time. It is empowering to know that whenever a family joins our community, they know they have an important role to play. We want to acknowledge a group of graduating families that have collectively influenced the school at every level.

The Holloran-Bock Family

Kelly was the founder of The Little School and Gym, where the idea for The Soulard School was born. Co-Founder of TSS and early leader, she made sure the school was a community that her 4 children, Harry, Tedda, Will and Frances, could grow in. Charles was an active member of the PA for many years, serving as Vice President and leading the Oktoberfest fundraiser. In addition the family's grandfather, Jim Holloran, continues to serve on the boards of both TSS and SEC and has been a crucial supporter of the school since its inception.

15⁺
years

The Kryah-Burmeister Family

The Kryah-Burmeister family (Lev, Vera) began in the Nursery just as TSS started to grow. Rachel has been the PA Secretary for several years and worked with the development office on grants to fund TSS incorporating performing arts into the curriculum. David regularly donated fresh pasta to our school lunches and offered a yearly pasta fundraiser to benefit the PA.

15
years

The Quick-Harris Family

The Quick-Harris family is another family with early roots. Their 3 children (Eli, Audrey, Ezra) all have gone through the school. Heath, a graphic designer, created both the TSS and SEC logos, developed donor materials and annually designed our one-of-a-kind Soiree invitations. Erin established our school library program and, in her time as Development Director, added to the stability of the school.

13
years

The Moomey Family

This is the Moomeys' second graduating child (Ella, Frances). Kristin has led the food and events committee for many years, creating the atmosphere for Grandparent Breakfast, Open House and our after-concert celebrations. In addition, she was a major contributor to the Soiree, helping organize auction items and designing amazing posters for our raffles! Marcus provided consistent help with school maintenance and repairs, including leading the Handy Helpers committee for years. He helped with big and small projects, including The Comet on the playground. Together they have made the school a place of celebration and dizziness!

12
years

The Mahfood Family

Another second gradate (Xander, Eva) and amazing family leaving a legacy. Stephanie, a professor of special education at Webster University, has been instrumental in our work to support learners of all kinds. She advocates for our school and its approach in so many ways, through grant partnership and program development. We look forward to continuing to see her and her Webster University graduate students through the evening class co-led by her and TSS Teachers.

10
years

goodbye...

The past thirteen years at our school, for that is what I will always call it, have been the very best of my twenty-four year career. My years here have been full of meaningful and lasting connections, but also many of opportunities and growth for learning; yours and mine.

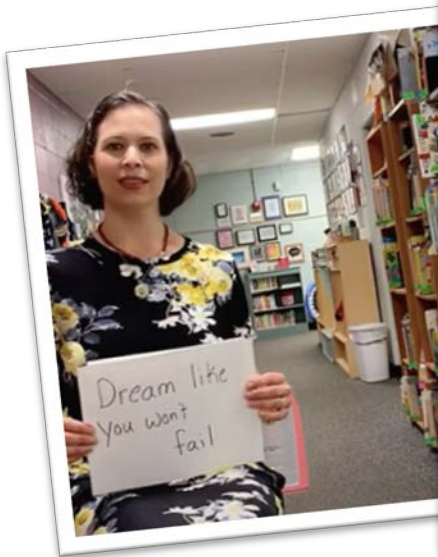
This is the place that was so accepting and loving that I learned my true potential; a place where I built the confidence to try things I never thought I could.

It is where I discovered that dreams are closer than you think. It was the only place my husband and I wanted to help raise our three children because it always felt as if their teachers were extended family and friends.

I can hardly imagine leaving the place that has felt as much like a home as my own. My heart breaks when I think about it. But, I am reminded of a quote I read recently that has helped me see that broken hearts are gifts in disguise. Toko-pa Turner writes in her book *Belonging* that, "our hearts break to open them." They open to new adventures, new relationships, and new dreams.

Thank you for whatever part you have played in my life during my time at The Soulard School. It has been my pleasure to serve this amazing and beautiful community. The Soulard School is a place that I will never truly leave, and a place that will never truly leave me.

- Kerri



The best is yet to come.