

District Adds Fourth National Blue Ribbon School

Sappington Elementary became the fourth Lindbergh school overall, and the third in three consecutive years, to earn the National Blue Ribbon Schools award. Only 286 schools nationwide — 236 public and 50 private — received the honor in 2013.

Crestwood Elementary, Lindbergh High School and Sperreng Middle School also hold National Blue Ribbon distinction.

Adding to the accolades, Concord and Long elementary schools will be eligible for the United States Department of Education's most prestigious honor next fall.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement.



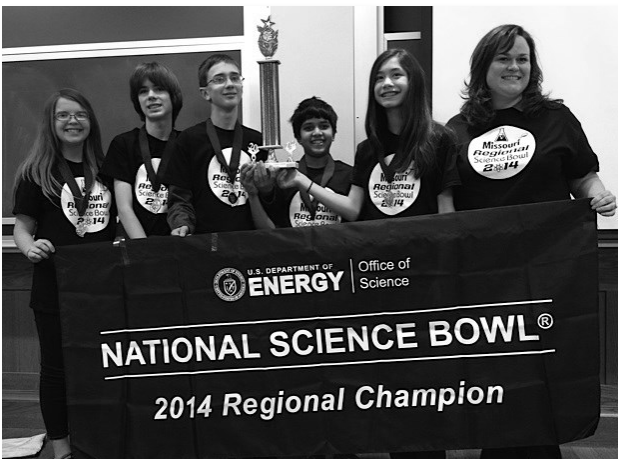
To qualify in the "Exemplary High Performing" category, Sappington, Crestwood, LHS and Sperreng were recognized among the state's highest performing schools, as measured by state assessments or nationally-normed tests.

Sappington principal **Dr. Craig Hamby** says his school is fortunate to have strong teacher collaboration and excellent focus in its professional development.

"We choose a best practice, we train our teachers how to do it, and then we execute it consistently," he said.

"Every grade teaches math or reading the same way, so teachers can collaborate well. Students benefit because instruction is consistent not only across grade levels, but also from school to school," Hamby added.

Sperreng Science Team Heads to Nationals — Again



For the second straight year, the Sperreng Middle School Science Bowl team has earned a trip to the United States Department of Energy National Science Bowl.

The team of **Achintya Benegal**, **Leanne Dang**, **Jack Fletcher**, **Aidan Kelley**, **Julia Stephens** and coach **Julie Roy** qualified for the national tournament by winning the Missouri Regional Science Bowl competition Feb. 22 at Washington University in St. Louis.

"These are the kids who are going to take care of us in years to come," Roy said. "These are the kids who are going to come up with everything tomorrow. I'm feeling pretty good about our future if it's in the hand of kids like these."

This year's National Science Bowl will be April 24-28 in Washington, D.C., with the top 16 high school teams and top eight middle school teams earning \$1,000 for their science departments.

LHS Teachers Earn Educator of the Year Awards



Dailey

Two Lindbergh High School educators have been recognized this year for their hard work and dedication to students. **Kimberly Ann Dailey** was named the Special School District of St. Louis County 2014 Teacher of the Year, while orchestra director **Susan Rola** received the Secondary Educator of the Year award from the Missouri American String Teachers Association.

Dailey has been teaching for 29 years. She is the KEY Club sponsor, a professional development representative, and volunteers during the Special Olympics. Dai-

ley works hard to bridge the gap between general education students and special education students with programs like the Lunch Club, which pairs students to foster a positive social experience.



Rola'

Rola' is in her 24th year as director of orchestras at LHS, and the program has significantly expanded since her arrival in 1990. The only strings teacher at the time, Rola' taught just seven students during her first year at LHS. Today, she and her colleagues teach 447 students, from elementary all the way through high school.

High School Honors

Each year, Lindbergh High School is proud to earn the "Triple Crown" of national academic honors. Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, and the Washington Post all rank LHS on their lists of best high schools in the country. In 2012, LHS was named a National Blue Ribbon School for academic excellence, following Missouri Gold Star and National School of Character awards in 2011.



LHS' 2013 national rankings include:

Newsweek's "America's Best High Schools"

- No. 4 in Missouri
- No. 334 nationwide

U.S. News and World Report's "Best High Schools"

- No. 7 in Missouri
- No. 776 nationwide
- Silver Medal of Distinction

The Washington Post's "High School Challenge"

- No. 6 in Missouri
- No. 1,925 nationwide



11 Students Named National Merit Finalists

In addition, a record-breaking number of seniors — 11 in all — have been named Finalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. These students are part of only 15,000 Finalists nationwide.

In a few weeks, the Finalists will find out if they are among the 8,000 students who will receive National Merit Scholarships.

The school's previous record for National Merit Finalists was set in 2009, when 10 students earned the honor.

Proposition G to Address Rapid Enrollment Growth

Lindbergh Schools believes community support is the foundation of a successful education. After a District Growth Committee made up of residents, parents and staff spent months analyzing community feedback, enrollment numbers and classroom space, the Lindbergh Schools Board of Education voted 6-0 in January to place Proposition G on the April 8 ballot.

What is Prop G?

Prop G is a \$34 million bond issue that will address our most immediate issue — rapid growth in student enrollment, especially at the elementary level. Residential enrollment has increased by 569 students in the last five years, with an additional 464 students projected to enroll by 2018.

To relieve elementary school overcrowding, Prop G will create a sixth elementary building on the Dressel School property. This new facility will establish a neighborhood elementary school for the eastern area of our district, with enough classroom space for 650 K-5 students.

Why do we need a new elementary school?

Right now, every elementary school classroom is being used. Four of our five elementary schools are operating above capacity, and some classes already meet in stor-

age areas, closets and staff lounges. Additional growth will reduce the number of quality learning environments and appropriate class sizes, which are proven to be better for educating students. For example, when Truman opened as a second middle school in 2011, its student achievement soared to No. 1 among public middle schools in Missouri. Sperreng is close behind at No. 5.

Improvements at LHS

Prop G also addresses student growth at Lindbergh High School, most notably overcrowding in the cafeteria. During lunch at LHS, students spill out of the cafeteria into the commons and hallways, even eating lunch on the floor. Prop G will expand the cafeteria, providing adequate space for all students to eat.

In addition, Prop G will create two science classrooms, modernize the library, and update the original 1967 bleachers and floors in Gym 3, which is the only space on campus large enough to accommodate the entire student body.

Prop G asks voters to consider a 21 cent increase to the existing debt service tax rate. This will cost the owner of a \$200,000 home about \$79.80 more per year. Prop G requires a four-sevenths (57.14 percent) majority for approval.



Planting for the Future.

Did You Know?

Four of our five elementary schools are currently operating above capacity. In fact, there are enough elementary students currently enrolled to fill a sixth building.



At Kennerly Elementary, Instructional Technology students fill every chair in a crowded section behind the gym.



At Crestwood Elementary, the only available space for students to practice their talents is in the staff lounge.



Due to overcrowding at Concord Elementary, Mrs. Weiss teaches her reading students in the hallway.

What projects are included in Prop G?

- Constructing a sixth elementary school on the Dressel School property
- Expanding the Lindbergh High School cafeteria
- Updating Gym 3 at LHS, including new bleachers and flooring
- Adding two science classrooms at LHS
- Modernizing the LHS library

How much will Prop G cost?

- The proposed **21 cent** increase will cost the owner of a **\$200,000** home about **\$79.80** more per year, or approximately **\$6.65** a month.
- Lindbergh has the **third lowest tax rate** of the 22 public school districts in St. Louis County. Even with the proposed increase, Lindbergh's tax rate will remain one of the lowest in St. Louis County.



Students pack Gym 3 at Lindbergh High School during a recent all-school assembly, overflowing off the bleachers and on to the floor. The bleachers and floors in Gym 3 have not been updated since the facility opened in 1967. Prop G will make several improvements at LHS, including new bleachers and floors in Gym 3.



LHS students fill the cafeteria (pictured), commons and hallways for three lunch shifts each day.

Did You Know?

Lindbergh has saved taxpayers \$40 million since 1995 by voluntarily rolling back the tax rate and refinancing construction bonds. Our AA1 bond rating — the highest a school district can earn — allows us to purchase bonds at the lowest possible interest rate, and our per-pupil expenditure is fourth lowest in St. Louis County.

Why do we need to build a new Dressel School?

Lindbergh needs a 650-student building to accommodate all of the new elementary students moving into our district, and the existing Dressel School is not large enough.

The cost to renovate and expand Dressel is very close to that of building a brand new, 650-student elementary school. For example, asbestos is safe if not disturbed, but if any renovation were to occur, asbestos removal alone would cost upwards of \$750,000. The current building also does not have a working kitchen, and will require new electrical systems, a new roof, new lighting, and total replacement of the heating and air conditioning systems and exterior windows.

The current Dressel School provides much needed space for ancillary programs such as gifted education, half day pre-kindergarten, Parents as Teachers, and the Lindbergh Athletic Association, but it is not large enough to house an entire elementary school. Building a new school on the back portion of the property will allow the existing building to remain standing as a home to these important programs.

Our Lindbergh Family is GROWING!

For more information, including:

- Polling Places
- Absentee Ballot Application
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Tax Rate Comparisons
- Official Ballot Language
- Photos and Videos

VISIT:

www.lindberghschools.ws

TEXT:

@PropG to 314-287-5155
to receive a voting reminder
on Tuesday, April 8



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Lindbergh Link

April 2014

Lindbergh Schools

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News and updates every day!

Lindbergh's website has all the school news, photos, updates and events you need and love. Our site also features social media plugins and a Google calendar that lets you sync activities and events to your personal calendar, for up-to-the-minute updates. Remember, you can always find us on Facebook and Twitter as well.

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Planting for the Future.

April 8, 2014

Learn more on pages 2-3

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