

THE TRIBUNAL

Official newsletter of the Savannah R-III School District



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Written by Dr. Eric Kurre

As I write this, the Senior Class is getting ready to graduate. What better thought could we have but recognizing the accomplishments of these outstanding ladies and gentleman as they leave us for college, careers or the military. We are all proud of you and how Savannah Savage Pride has been represented.

Savannah R3 is a wonderful school community filled with students parents and staff who truly care about the future. Our school community has made great strides this year in the classroom making the learning environment about individual growth and exploration. We continue to grow in our classrooms providing student-centered and tailored instruction, fostering partnerships with colleges, and business provided apprenticeships. Our quest is continuing to provide our students with the best education in northwest Missouri.

Over the past year, a facility committee was formed to look into the needs of SR3. The committee sent their report to the board with recommendations. The recommendations included bringing in an independent group to conduct a facilities audit giving a clear unbiased assessment of our facilities and prioritizing work needed to taking care of what we already have. Other recommendations included completing the renovation of the high school including an auditorium, practice gym/storm shelter, classrooms, remodel of the agriculture area, and making the nurse's office ADA compliant. To make these things happen, along with work to future-proof our facilities, the board has decided to place a .69 levy on the August election ballot. The committee and board understand our schools and what they represent. Savannah R3 is a great source of pride and is the center of our wonderful community. For more information on the projects visit savannahr3.com

Enjoy your summer and we look forward to what the future will bring for our students, schools, and community! "GO SAVAGES"

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

submitted by Board President, Stancy Bond

In an article from the National School Board Association, author Ian Craig stated, “The test of a great trustee [board member] is not necessarily the answers they have, but the questions they ask.” Questions have permeated discussions surrounding the future of the Savannah R3 School District lately – what will our educational system look like in five years? In ten? What will our community look like? How does economic growth affect the school district? What do parents and students want and expect from their school district? How can we make things better for our students? Our community? These questions and others have been on the mind of board members, administrators and the Facility Committee.

The Facility Committee was formed as an ad hoc committee by the Board of Education in August 2018. Three meetings were held in Fall 2018 and the committee held its final meeting on Thursday, May 9th. In that meeting, community members, teachers, administrators and school board members reviewed the results of the building audit (you can find the building audit report on the May 14th School Board agenda online at savannahr3.com). While the results were expected, it is time for the district to reinvest in our buildings and structures while focusing on repairs to keep our buildings in great shape.

The Facilities Committee also looked at the 98 cent tax currently in place. If you are not familiar with this levy, it was passed over ten years ago and the monies were used to build the middle school. The district still owes \$12 million for the Savannah Middle School. The .98 tax levy passed barely covers the lease payments for SMS.

The original intent was to complete the Middle School project, then focus on the High School by building a Performing Arts Center. Previous boards continued to pressure for the high school renovations, but were only able to afford the preliminary phases. Simply put, there just wasn't enough money.

You expect a quality education with a positive culture and climate. You expect a safe environment. You expect an exceptional community. The Savannah R3 School District has all those qualities and more; we just need to do a little work to get there. The Board is rolling up its sleeves and getting down to business.

On May 14th, the School Board voted to ask the community for a tax levy. That money will fund four primary projects: Savannah High School renovations and additions (including a new Performing Arts Center and a new storm shelter/gym); the building audit findings which repairs the building envelopes and water drainage issues at every building; safer drop-off/pickup routes at John Glenn Elementary School and Minnie Cline Elementary School; and further monies will also be invested in the maintenance plan. If approved, the district will break ground on all projects in the Spring 2020.

As both a district resident and a parent, my hope is that you will question what you would like our school district to look like in 5-10 years and how our tax dollars work to make our schools the best in the area. Our potential is limitless.

Stancy Bond can be reached at
sbond@savannahr3.com.



BARBOSA, KOZMINSKI SWORN IN

SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZATION
APRIL 2019

First and foremost, thank you. Thank you to the voters for participating in democracy, for putting their trust in me, and for caring about our school district. As we recognize Teacher Appreciation Week this May, thank you to all the educators in our schools who work tirelessly for the betterment of our students, community, and country.



Now that I am on the board, I am ready to get to work to provide a safe and quality learning experience for all students and staff while safeguarding our investment as taxpayers. To have a prosperous school district, we must be able to have a productive dialogue with clear lines of communication. Effective communication will dispel misinformation and allow for progress.

One of my first tests of effective communication will come as the board presents information from the building audit to the community. The results of this evaluation will help us prioritize the needs of all our campuses in the district. I hope to use this information to make a long term plan to meet the needs of our schools.

Whether in Helena, Amazonia, Country Club, or Savannah, we should be optimistic about the future of our district as long as we work together.

- Joe Barbosa

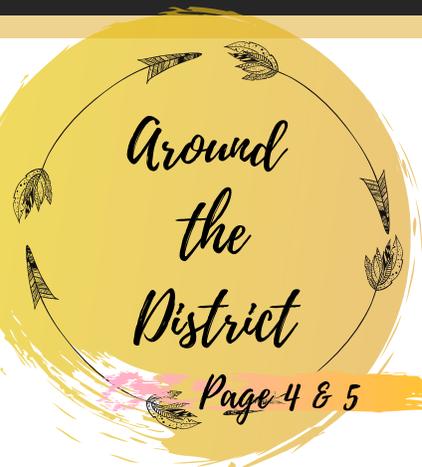


I would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote in April's election! Voting is such an important right in the welfare of our children and the health of our school district, as well as community. I would especially like to thank the voters that showed your confidence in me by electing me to serve my third term on the Savannah RIII school board.

I am looking forward to continuing to prioritize the many needs of our students, whether this means fiscal responsibility, advocating that we meet their many educational needs, or working to maintain and attract excellent teachers and staff. I believe the most important priority of our school board is to do all that is possible to ensure the district can produce successful members of our society.

- Linda Kozminski





CURRICULUM

submitted by Ashley Anderson, Curriculum director

As the school year closes, the administration at Savannah R-III would like to applaud the hard work of our teachers and students. Our finish line is always state testing, and we are hopeful that our results will showcase what our students are truly capable of achieving. Behind the scenes, our teachers start working in the summer time to prepare for the upcoming school year-

they revise curriculum, plan new projects, align assessments, review data and set goals for their next group of students. That work is daunting at times- the reality is that it seems never-ending and overwhelming when looking at a map of what needs to be taught in a single school year. However, our teachers go above-and-beyond to ensure a viable curriculum is in place for learning. Their hard work is appreciated.

Our goals for next year will build off of what we have done this year. Benchmark testing will stay in place so that we can track growth of knowledge and skills from the beginning of the academic year to the end. We will utilize test prep platforms to aid our students in preparing for our state testing all year long, so that when the testing season begins, our students have the confidence necessary for fully utilizing their potential.

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Savannah R3 School District has been working diligently to transition to a grading system that allows for a more accurate representation of individual student learning. Currently, the grading practices for students in grades 3-12 reflect a semester grade that **averages** the two-quarter grades (see the table above) for each semester. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, our students will have a **running total** of scores from the beginning of the semester until the end that results in their final semester grade. This formula (running total from beginning to end) excludes the "cut off date" at each quarter so grades are more fluid and can evolve and change as students individually grasp concepts and master skills presented at rigorous levels over the span of the semester.

Automated messages from central office will go to parents/guardians at the end of each "quarter" as a reminder to check their student's grades. The online gradebook in Canvas is always available and the District encourages regular monitoring as this can be accessed 24/7 through a Canvas parent account.

Please note: Some electives classes at SMS will still operate on a quarter cycle since their curriculum is only nine weeks long.

"Students come to our schools from various walks of life. They have different interests, passions, and perceptions of what is important to them. A focus on developing thinking skills allows all students to take charge of their own learning, deepen their understanding, and become more engaged."

- Arina Bakas



TECH TALK

submitted by Jeff Martin, Technology Director

As we wind down the school year it's time to start thinking about Tech Equipment check-ins for our students who are allowed to take computers home. Check-ins are handled on a class by class basis at the High School and Middle School. Each student is required to have and turn in their Chromebook, charger, and case.

If any item is not returned at time of check-in the following fee(s) will be assessed: Chromebook \$200.00, case \$25.00 and charger \$25.00. If a senior has a lost item it will have to be paid for or returned for the student to walk at graduation. If there are damages to any of the items that are deemed to be intentional the student will be assessed the amount of the repairs. All accidental damages will be taken care of by the fees paid by the student.

The tech department will work on cleaning and repairing all Chromebooks over the summer. All Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors will be reissued the Chromebook they were assigned this year at the beginning of next year. Eighth graders moving to the high school will be issued Chromebooks that were used by the senior class in 2018-19.



LOST TECH?

Chromebook Charger
\$25

Chromebook Case
\$25

Chromebook
\$200

LUNCH LADY LOWDOWN

submitted by Kathi Snyder, Food Service Director



Summer School is just around the corner! It will be hosted at Minnie Cline, John Glenn, and the Middle School.

Free and reduced applications will carry over for families who are currently in district. If you do not normally attend the Savannah R3 district you will need to fill out a Free/ Reduced form. These can be found on the district website or in each building. Please note that you will be charged full price until paperwork is received.

A summer school lunch menu will be posted on the district website. There are no second choice entrees during summer school.

If you have any questions about meals or how to deposit money in your child's meal account, please call the school your student will be attending.

2019 - 2020 Meal Prices

Breakfast: \$1.95
Reduced: \$0.30

Elementary Lunch: \$2.55
HS/MS Lunch: \$2.75
Adult / 2nd Lunch: \$3.45
Reduced: \$0.40

Milk: \$0.60

Looking for the Lunch Menu?
Check our website:
www.savannah3.com

CLASS
DISMISSED
↘

Staff Retirement

This June the district will say goodbye to several long time staff members. We can't thank our wonderful staff enough for setting the bar so high. Here's to another 30 years of excellence!



Shannon Nold
22 Years of Service



Debra Sybert
27 Years of Service



Jackie McNair
28 Years of Service



Ken Brockett
31 Years of Service



Tonya Young
31 Years of Service



Michelle Silkett
11 Years of Service



Joan Bryan
30 Years of Service



Dr. Tim Mattson
14 Years of Service

Back to School Night

Early Learning Center

August 13

Morning Session:
5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Afternoon Session:
6:15 pm - 7:00 pm

Elementary

Amazonia: Aug. 13 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Helena: Aug. 13 5:30-6:30 pm

John Glenn: K-2 Aug. 13, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
3-5 Aug. 12, 5:30 - 7pm

Minnie Cline: Aug. 12, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Savannah Middle School

6th Grade: Aug. 12, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

7th & 8th Grade: Aug. 13, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Savannah High School

August 5

Sr. Girls: 8 am - 9:30 am

Sr. Boys: 9:30 am - 10:45 am

Jr. Girls: Noon - 1:30 pm

Jr. Boys: 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm

August 6

Soph. Girls: 8 am - 9:30 am

Soph. Boys: 9:30 am - 10:45 am

Fr. Girls: Noon - 1:30 pm

Fr. Boys: 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm

August 7

New to District: 8 am - 11:30 am
1 pm - 3:15 pm

August 12

Fr. Orientation: 5 pm - 6 pm

Meet the teachers night: 6 pm - 7 pm





check the calendar
UPCOMING DATES:

Follow us!
@SavannahSchoolDistrict
@Savannah_R3
www.savannahr3.com

Need transportation for the 19-20 school year?
Join us for a transportation registration night!

Tuesday, July 30th from 5-8pm
John Glenn Elementary
Amazonia Elementary

Wednesday, July 31st from 5-8pm
Middle School/ High School
@ SMS

Thursday, Aug. 1st from 5-8pm
Minnie Cline Elementary
Helena Elementary



SCHOOL START TIMES

Early Learning Center:
Morning Session: 8 am to 11 am
Afternoon Session: 12 pm to 3 pm

Elementary Schools:
7:45 am to 2:40 pm
2 hour early release: 12:40 pm

Savannah Middle School:
7:50 am to 3:05 pm
2 hour early release: 1:05 pm

Savannah High School:
7:35 am to 2:48 pm
2 hour early release: 12:48 pm

looking for the full 2019-2020 calendar?
Check our website!



YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

What will my \$0.69 pay for?



High School Renovations

New Performing Arts Center
Storm Shelter / Auxiliary Gym
New Band/ Choir/ Performing Arts Spaces
Updated Locker Rooms
Parking Lot Expansion
New Corridor
Updated Classroom Spaces
Nurses Office ADA Compliant

\$15 Mil.

\$2.6 Mil.



District Wide Facility Upgrades

New/ Updated Storm Drainage Systems
Building Envelope upgrades

\$1.2 Mil.



Safer Drop Off Lines

Revamp drop-off and pick up lines at Minnie Cline Elementary and John Glenn Elementary

\$600,000



Ongoing Maintenance

Roof maintenance
updated HVAC
Preventative Maintenance

\$0.98 Cents



Current Tax Levy

Used to make payments on the current Middle School

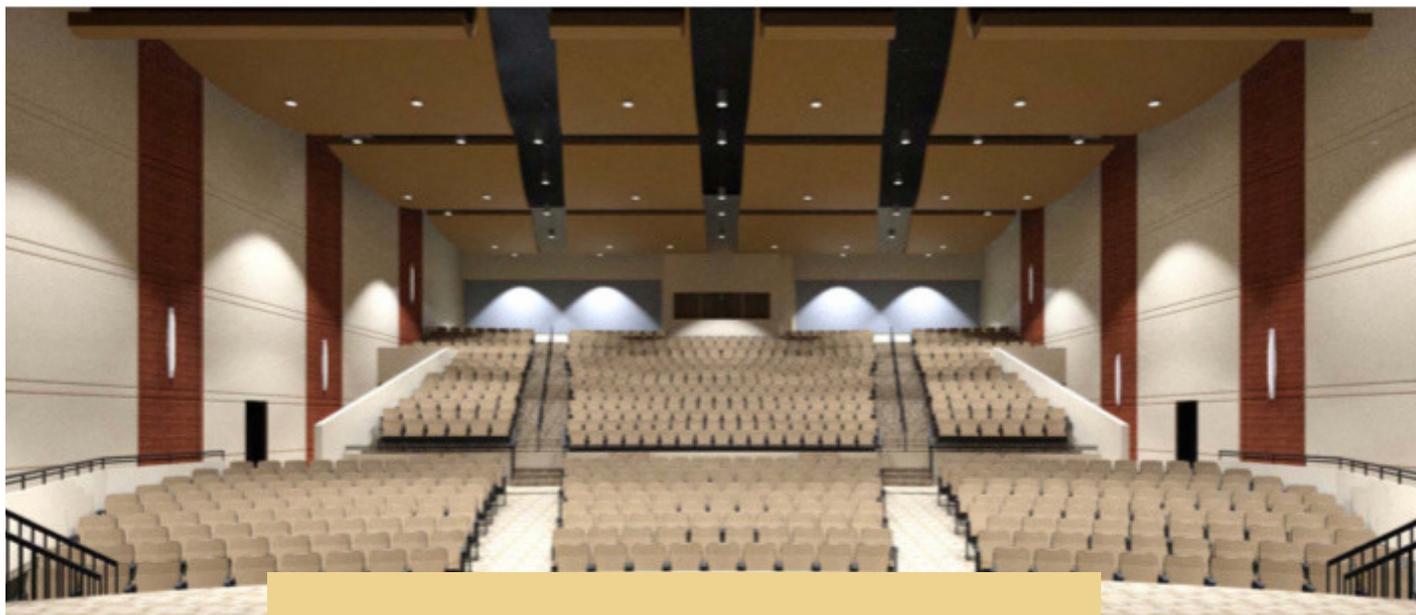
Find more levy information at www.savannah3.com

District Maintenance Needs

Facilities Audit Results & Estimated Costs

Location/ Estimated Cost	Priority Needs	Location/ Estimated Cost	Priority Needs
<p>SAVANNAH HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$783,200.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all underground gas piping and route new piping on the roof. Reinforce and update exterior steel wall supports New concrete sills on building exterior foundation New storm water drainage system Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing Replace existing metal exterior walls with thermal efficient wall framing and windows 	<p>JOHN GLENN ELEMENTARY</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$390,120.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all underground gas piping and route new piping on the roof. Reinforce and update exterior steel wall supports Reinforce cafeteria Foundation new storm water drainage system Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing Replace existing metal exterior wall panels with thermal efficient wall framing and windows
<p>MINNIE CLINE ELEMENTARY</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$539,250.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilization of building structure Reinforce cafeteria Foundation Remove window in girls bathroom New storm water drainage system Tuckpoint glass block walls Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing Install new ramps & railing to meet handicap accessibility requirements Replace concrete sidewalks and asphalt 	<p>HELENA ELEMENTARY</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$323,490.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing New basement level emergency pathway Additional basement level exit point Relocate small classroom Compliant second floor exit point Remove all underground gas piping & route new piping on the roof. New stormwater drainage system Replace and update concrete sidewalks and pathways Replace existing metal exterior wall panels with thermal efficient wall framing and windows
<p>AMAZONIA ELEMENTARY</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$224,660.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing Replace existing metal exterior wall panels with thermal efficient wall framing and windows Provide ADA accessible pathways to and from school New storm water drainage system 	<p>SPECIAL SERVICES CAMPUS</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$204,300.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New roof on Special Services Building New storm water drainage system Updated wrestling gym structure Exterior brick repair & tuckpointing
<p>SAVANNAH MIDDLE SCHOOL</p> <p>Estimated Cost: \$224,660.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New storm water drainage system Remove and replace existing exterior wall caps. 	<p>TOTAL COST FOR DISTRICT WIDE UPDATES: \$2,331,220.00</p>	

For more information and a full audit report check our website
www.savannah3.com/about_our_district/tax_levy_initiative



PROPOSITION GOLD

On August 6th, voters will be given the opportunity to support the Savannah R3 School District by passing a .69 cent tax levy. This tax levy will renovate the Savannah High School which includes a Performing Arts Center, a storm-shelter/gym and many other improvements. In addition, each building in the district will receive ongoing maintenance that includes improvements to the building envelope (the outside structure) and water drainage issues. The drop-off/pick-up lines at John Glenn and Minnie Cline will be revamped for better access and safety. Also, the maintenance budget will get an additional \$600,000 for ongoing projects like HVACs, roofs, etc.



The following language was approved at the May Board of Education meeting for the August 6, 2019 ballot.

Shall the Board of Education of the Savannah R-III School District, Missouri, be authorized to increase the operating tax levy of the District by \$0.6900 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation in order to provide funds for the (a) construction, equipping, and furnishing of a new performing arts center, auxiliary (storm shelter) gymnasium, new classrooms and repurposing existing classrooms at Savannah High School; and (b) completion of other ongoing District maintenance projects?

(If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the District is estimated to increase by \$0.6900 from \$3.6499, currently, to \$4.3399 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation for Tax Year 2019 and can be applied to the assessed valuation each year thereafter.)

*For more information check our website
www.savannahr3.com/about_our_district/tax_levy_initiative*