

# KSD eSpotlight

Strong Schools Build Strong Communities

## A Message from the Superintendent

The start of the school year has been very exciting for our students, staff and families. As adults, we all realize that beyond celebrating our students' accomplishments, our students will also face challenges this school year. Some of the challenges will be in the classroom and some challenges will be in the world outside of school. For that reason, we also recognize the need to provide the social-emotional supports that our children may require from time to time.

We provide qualified counseling staff at each school, and we are continuing our partnership with BJC to provide Educational Support Counselors to meet the needs of students and families.

This year, we have three Social Emotional Learning professionals who will serve as a resource for staff in meeting the needs of students. The Kirkwood School District also utilizes "Restorative Practices" when addressing student behavior. That means, we recognize that behavior is learned, and so teaching, reinforcing and then practicing appropriate behavior is key. And, when children make mistakes, because that is what it means to "grow up," the use of Restorative Practices helps to build empathy so that children may learn how their behavior impacts others.

Dr. Michele Condon



## Safe and Sound

Your child's safety is always at the forefront of our work in schools. In partnership with local law enforcement agencies, our procedures have been enhanced over the years to provide our students and staff with more options in an intruder situation. This year, our schools will conduct four intruder drills throughout the year along with other important safety drills.

While safety and security are paramount, we also believe proactive social and emotional wellness for students and

adults is essential. We will continue our work to ensure we build relationships with our students, families and each other. In an effort to provide resources to our school community, we established a [Safe and Sound website](#). Throughout the year, we will post important resources on the website as well as share resources in the KSD eSpotlight.

## KSD Special Programs

The Kirkwood School District is committed to working with parents to meet the educational needs of every student. A variety of special services are available in our schools to assist students whose educational needs require supports beyond what is typically provided within the general classroom.



Your child's classroom teacher is the first person you should contact for guidance on how we can best work together to support your child's educational needs. Other key building staff members include your child's counselor, school nurse, principal and/or assistant principal.

House Bill No. 2379 was passed in 2017 to ensure all school districts conduct early screening to identify children with deficits in basic reading skills or dyslexia.

In Kirkwood, we have been screening all students for basic reading skills starting with kindergarten for many years. When indicated, we conduct an in-depth evaluation for an understanding of each student's unique needs and provide interventions as appropriate.

We understand that dyslexia is an important issue for many parents, and we are always available to answer any questions you may have. Please [visit our website](#) for additional details.

Melissa Sandbothe, Executive Director of Special Programs



## KSD Schoology

Account codes to access KSD Schoology went out to all parents and guardians on August 14 from KSD ([news@kirkwoodschoology.org](mailto:news@kirkwoodschoology.org)). Please make sure to sign in to Schoology so teachers can e-mail you important information related to classroom instruction.

Parents and guardians can access Schoology by visiting the [Schoology the Parent Portal](#).

Students can access by visiting the [Student Portal](#).

# KSD Community Relations & Development

 Facebook  @kwoodschoools

 11289 Manchester Road, Kirkwood, MO, USA

 [news@kirkwoodschoools.org](mailto:news@kirkwoodschoools.org)

 314.213.6102

 [kirkwoodschoools.org](http://kirkwoodschoools.org)

## Hidden in Plain View Parent Presentation

### WHEN

Wednesday, Sep. 5th, 5:30-7:30pm

### WHERE

700 South Kirkwood Road  
Kirkwood, MO

### MORE INFORMATION

Nipher Middle School is hosting "Hidden in Plain View," which is a parent presentation by Addiction is Real.

There will be an exhibit open from 5:30-7:30 pm with a presentation from 6 to 7 pm.