



THE INSIDE VIEW

ISSUE 4 • MARCH 2021



Riverview Gardens
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROP E
EDUCATIONAL
EQUITY

EDUCATE

EQUIP

★ **APRIL 6, 2021** ★

EQUALIZE

EMPOWER



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PROP E

We have some important news to share with you about the District's newest initiative. Proposition E will be on the April 6, 2021 election ballot.

Prop E is an operating tax levy increase for the Riverview Gardens School District for the purpose of maintaining the current level of student programs, increasing salaries to attract and retain high quality staff, striving to regain full accreditation, equipping facilities and paying general operating expenses.

WHY IS PROP E NEEDED?

RGSD's financial position has seen a decline in recent years due to a decrease in state funding. Riverview Gardens has seen a decrease in over \$3.5 million in state funding over the course of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. The combined losses have led to an anticipated \$1.8 million fund balance deficit in the 2021 fiscal year.

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RIVERVIEW GARDENS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER

**WELCOME
BACK**

IMPORTANT DATES

**3/08- PRE-K - GRADE 2 RETURN
TO IN-PERSON LEARNING**

3/09 - SAB MEETING 7PM

**3/10 - DEADLINE TO REGISTER
FOR APRIL 6 ELECTION**

**3/15 - GRADES 3-12 RETURN
TO IN-PERSON LEARNING**

**3/16 - PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING 6PM**

**3/22 - 3/26 SPRING BREAK
DISTRICT CLOSED**

DSO BOATRIGHT STARS ON NETFLIX'S 'AMERICAN BBQ CHALLENGE'

District Safety Officer James Boatright serves as the first line of defense for the staff and guests at Riverview Gardens School District's Central Office. In addition to providing security to the administration building, Boatright is equipped with a thermometer and tasked with taking the temperature of everyone who walks through the double doors at "C.O."

It seems fitting that it is Boatright's duty to ensure that nobody enters the building with a fever. After all, his preferred pastime is to relax by a grill or fire pit and produce some of the best barbecue in the country with his preferred "low and slow" style of cooking.

Boatright estimates his love of BBQ started around the age of four or five years old, when he watched his father and uncles dig a hole into the ground for a barbecue pit, before proceeding to cook some of the most delicious meat he'd ever eaten. He was hooked.

For years, barbecuing was a hobby, no, a passion for Boatright. He continued to improve his craft and refined his skills over the years. Eventually, he decided to try his hand on the professional BBQ circuit.

The more competitions he won, the bigger his profile grew. Boatright was excited to see his grilling skills carry him across the country but never imagined they would take him to Netflix. However, that's exactly what happened when producers from the streaming network's "The American Barbecue Showdown" approached Boatright and invited him to try out for the show. Click to read the [FULL STORY](#).



RIVERVIEW EXCELLENCE

The St. Louis County Library Board of Trustees adopted a resolution that will name its new administration building the "Lynn Beckwith, Jr. Administration Building" after **Dr. Lynn Beckwith, Jr.**, chair of the Riverview Garden School District's Special Administrative Board (SAB).

Beckwith has served on the Library Board since August of 2007 and has been the Board President since March of 2010. He has served as the chair of the SAB since June of 2010.

"Dr. Beckwith is a shining example of professionalism and grace," Kristen L. Sorth, the St. Louis County Library's Director and CEO, said in a statement.



THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE APRIL 6 ELECTION IS MARCH 10!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN REGISTER!

- Visit any RGSD school to pick up a voter registration form. Fill out the form and return it to the St. Louis County Board of Elections by mail or in person.
- Visit the Missouri Secretary of State's website to register to vote online.
- Print off a voter registration form at home and mail it by the March 10 deadline.

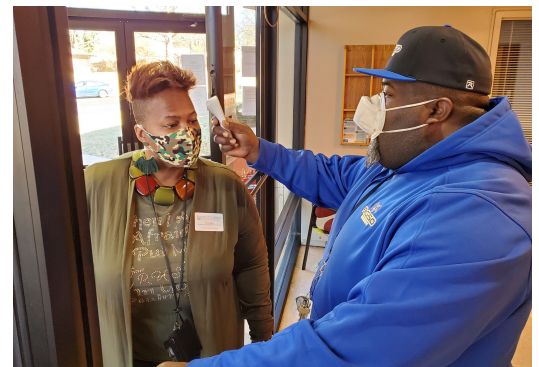
the District was also required to spend more than \$27 million on the now-expiring Student Transfer Program that began in 2013.

Through a \$1.65 operating tax levy increase, Prop E will generate an estimated \$3.5 million in funds to provide Educational Equity for our students.

Prop E priorities include: striving to regain full accreditation; expanding early childhood education; expanding transportation services; enhancing the salary schedule to attract/retain quality staff; expanding health services; and more.

For more info on Prop E, please visit rgsd.k12.mo.us/prope or contact your local principal.

SCENES FROM THE 'VIEW



THE SUPER'S REVIEW

By Dr. Scott Spurgeon, Superintendent of Schools

As our scholars return to in-person learning, the Little Bit Foundation is as important to Riverview Gardens School District as ever. Little Bit serves as an invaluable resource to many families throughout the District through its remarkable mission of serving the whole child by addressing barriers such as food insecurity, undiagnosed health conditions, lack of winter clothing, insufficient reading material in the home and more.

The organization provides school uniforms, behavioral health services, career planning, mentoring and vision care. The Little Bit Foundation plays a vital role in the success of our scholars.

If your child can benefit from these remarkable services, be sure to ask your child's teacher how the Little Bit Foundation can help. Thank You and It's Always a Great Day to Be a Ram!

