



December 17, 2023

Tillman Family - This week's update is a short one, with a short week ahead of us. I'm heading to Purdue for our daughter's graduation but will be back and ready to roll on Monday morning.

We wanted to take a moment to reflect, as we near the end of our first semester, on how much we love our work and how blessed we are at Tillman to have terrific kids, an exceptional staff, and caring, engaged families who are supportive of our efforts. We've been continuously impressed with the teaching and learning in our classrooms, while recognizing that we still have work to do as we strive to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of each and every student. We have enjoyed celebrating so many Trailblazers in recent months, in our classrooms and at the school level with our 3 BEs certificates and Trailblazer Cafe lunches. The patience, flexibility, and resolve of our community has been inspiring, as we've navigated construction challenges and supported each other in healing after the Trunk or Treat event. Just in the last month we've enjoyed seeing many of our students "on stage," with Pepper Steppers, two Vocal Edge performances, and a Kindergarten Pajama Party on Friday - not to mention the many more who auditioned for the spring musical. We can't thank you enough for your continued partnership and support over the first half of our school year. We're excited to engage with you even more in the coming months, as we lean into a vision for the success for every student and collaboratively tackle any challenges before us.

Have a wonderful break, enjoy the holidays, and be safe if you're traveling.

Take care.

Bryan, Max, and your team at Tillman

Mark Your Calendar

- Dec 18 (M) - [A Day](#).

- Dec 19 (T) - B Day
- Dec 20 (W) - C Day; Pajama Day; End of First Semester
- Dec 21-Jan 3 - Winter Recess
- Week of Jan 8 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Jan 15 (M) - No school, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan 23 (T) - PTO meeting/Summer Camp Informational Fair
- Feb 15 (Th) - Tillman Night at the Blues Game
- Feb 29 (Th) - Tillman STEAM Night
- Mar 2 (Sa) - Tillman Trivia Night

New/Updated Information

STEAM Night Donations Needed

You may be spending time this month wrapping presents and opening boxes. Instead of just recycling those wrapping paper rolls and cardboard boxes, why not donate them for use at Tillman's STEAM Night? Please drop off your broken-down, corrugated cardboard boxes and wrapping paper rolls (paper towel rolls, toilet paper rolls too) to the front office.

Repeat (and Still Important) Information

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Families can use [THIS LINK](#) to access sign-up links for parent-teacher conferences. Please note that our art, music, and PE teachers do not have links but will also be holding drop-in conferences in their classrooms. Our goal is always 100% participation, so please let us know if circumstances may require special arrangements for any of your conferences.

Book Fair

Our **Book Fair** will also be held in our new library the week of January 8, with evening hours on January 9, 10, & 11. Please watch for more information after break.

A number of additional items that were previously shared in the Sunday Update are still relevant. In an effort to streamline our weekly communication, we've shifted these repeated items to our Tillman website, under **Our School --> Family Updates --> [Ongoing Family Information](#)**. Please look to the website for information about the items listed below.

- Volunteer in the Library
- Magazine Donations for Counseling Center
- Volunteering on Field Trips
- Work on Bioretention Basin

Update on Bond Reduction Hearing

The motion for a Mr. McCulloch's bond reduction was deferred, with no action taken at the scheduled hearing on December 11. The hearing was rescheduled for January 10.

Kindergarten Pajama Party 12.15.23



PTO Information

Additional information about PTO can be found on our [Tillman PTO website](#).

Express Fund Update

Congratulations to Lisa Ackroyd. Her family is the winner of the Express Fund Thanksgiving Trailblazer Challenge and will receive an Andy's gift card. Thanks to all those who support the Express Fund! Be on the lookout for our next challenge after the holidays. To donate to the Express Fund, please visit [MySchoolBucks](#).

End of Year Gifts for Teachers

Families are encouraged to watch for an email from your room parent coordinator about participating in the end of year gifts for your child's teacher. That email should also contain information regarding your teacher's list of favorite things.

Tillman Unite Donation Drive for Promise Place Success

Thank you so much to everyone who donated items to our drive for Promise Place. Your generosity will provide local families with diapers, baby care items, books, and more!



KSD Information & Updates

School Calendar Approved

The Board of Education recently approved the calendar for the 2024-25 school year. The first day of school for students will be Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Families can download a [printable calendar](#) on our website.



STEAMfest Volunteers Needed

KSD is looking for event STEAMfest volunteers to greet guests, assist with a hands-on activity in a science room, and grade projects on Saturday, February 10. If you're Interested and willing to help, please complete our STEAMfest [volunteer form](#). Interested volunteers will need to fill out the volunteer form highlighted above or visit www.kirkwoodschoools.org/steamfest

PTO Repeat (and Still Important) Information

A number of additional PTO items that were previously shared are still relevant. In an effort to streamline our weekly communication, we've shifted these repeated items to our PTO website,

under Our School --> PTO --> [PTO Updates & Information](#). Please look to the website for information about the items listed below.

- New Position for PTO Board
- Tillman Express Fund
- Tillman Unite Book Club
- Spirit Wear (now available ALL year)
- Sign-up Parties for Adults
- Room Parent & Classroom Party Volunteers Needed
- Additional Volunteer Opportunities - Sustainability, 5th Grade Celebration, Tillman Unite
- New Student Welcome Sign Return
- Buzz Book

Mark Your Calendars - PTO Summer Camp Fair on January 23

PTO is once again inviting local camps to our summer camp fair on January 23 (7pm) in Tillman's gym. Parents can ask questions, gather informational materials, and decide which programs would be a good fit for their children. Non-Tillman families are welcome to attend. Childcare will be provided.



Tillman Night at The Blues Game!

Join us for an evening of fun as the St. Louis Blues host Connor McDavid and the Edmonton Oilers on February 15. Tillman will receive a portion of the proceeds for every ticket bought through this dedicated link: <https://fevo-enterprise.com/Tillmanelementary>.

NOTE: *It is very important that tickets are purchased using our dedicated link. Tickets purchased any other way will not count towards our fundraiser.*



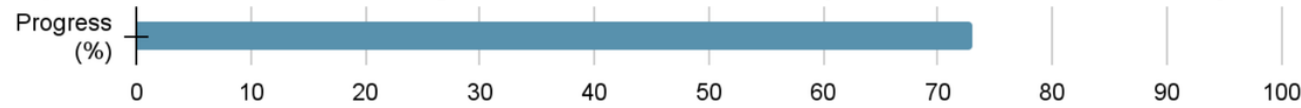
Save the Date: Tillman Trivia Night

Tillman's annual trivia night and auction, themed **Saturday Night Fever**, will take place on Saturday, March 2 at Ursuline Academy. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or have an item or tickets to donate to this year's auction, please send an email to tillmantrivianight@gmail.com.

Tillman Express Fund

Express Fund is the PTO's no-hassle/no-selling fundraising tradition and one of the largest sources of income for our organization. All students directly benefit from the PTO, which provides teacher grants and stipends, funding for school projects and field trips, community building activities, and financial assistance as needed in the school community. A donation of \$35 per student is recommended for meeting our budget goals, but any amount helps. There is also an optional "Trailblazer Level" of \$100 which comes with the opportunity to win various prizes throughout the year! You can make your tax-deductible donation via [MySchoolBucks](#).

Express Fund Donation Progress Versus Goal - 73% (As of November 28, 2023):



Latest KSD Spotlight



Family Update Archive



Latest BOE News



Tillman Peachjar



Buzz Book



Spirit Wear

Digital Flyers

2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 5-9	New Teacher Orientation
August 12 & 19	Teacher Work Days
August 13	District Workshop (Opening Day)
August 14-16	Staff Development Day - No School for Students
August 20	First Day of School for K-12 Students
September 2	Labor Day Holiday - District Closed
October 11	No School for Students
October 17	End of First Quarter
October 18	Teacher Work Day - No School for Students
October 21	Records Day - No School for Students
November 5	Staff Development/Election Day - No School for Students
November 27	No School for Students
November 28-29	Thanksgiving Recess - District Closed
December 20	End of First Semester
December 23-January 1	Winter Recess - District Closed
January 2	Records Day - No School for Students
January 3	Staff Development Day - No School for Students
January 6	School Resumes
January 20	Martin Luther King Day - District Closed
February 14	Staff Development Day - No School for Students
February 17	Presidents Day - District Closed
March 7	End of Third Quarter
March 14	Staff Development Day - No School for Students
March 17-21	Spring Recess - District Closed
March 24	No School for Students
March 25	School Resumes
April 8	Staff Development/Election Day - No School for Students
April 18	Teacher Work Day - No School for Students
May 22	Last Day of School for Students - Early Release
May 23	Teacher Work Day
May 26	Memorial Day - District Closed
June 19	Juneteenth - District Closed

11/29/23

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- First Day of School
- No School
- Last Day of School

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Monday January 15, 2024

1:00 –2:00 p.m.

Keating Center, Kirkwood High School

801 West Essex 63122

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Missouri Supreme Court Justice Robin Ransom

The first African-American woman appointed to the State Supreme Court

COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR OF ST. LOUIS

Student Participants

Social Justice groups will have information tables before/after the event

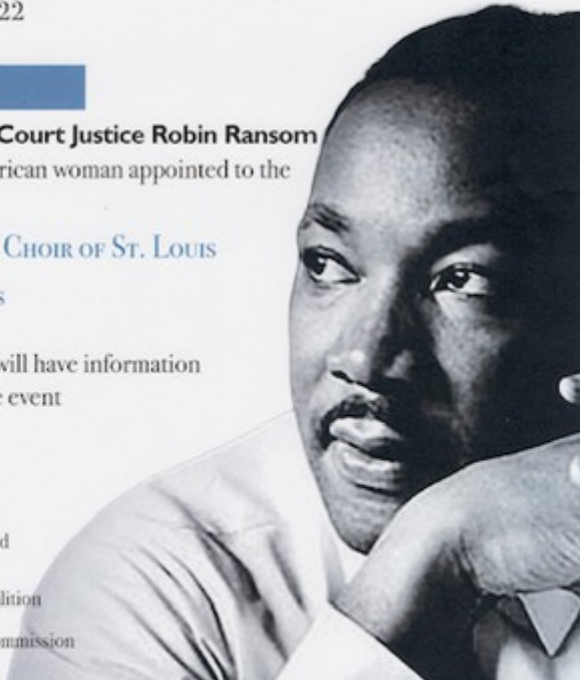
SPONSORED BY:

Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association

Kirkwood Social Justice Coalition

Kirkwood Human Rights Commission

Kirkwood School District





Tillman Elementary School

Email: tillman.news@kirkwoodschoools.org

Website: <https://www.kirkwoodschoools.org/tillman>

Location: [230 Quan Avenue, Kirkwood, MO](#)

Phone: [314-213-6150](tel:314-213-6150)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TillmanElementary>



Tillman Elementary

Tillman is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters