



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Annie J Mbale Project Manager St. Louis Mosaic Project ambale@worldtradecenter-stl.com 314-615-8148 For More information: Heather Abney ELD Specialist Harris Elementary habney@stcharlessd.org 314-258-4561

## The City of Saint Charles School District Joins the Mosaic Ambassador School Program

ST. LOUIS (April 30, 2024)—The St. Louis Mosaic Project is proud to welcome the City of Saint Charles School District to the Mosaic Ambassador School program, bringing the total of Ambassador Schools to 168. Home to the first Missouri state capital, Saint Charles is the fastest growing county in the state. The district has approximately 5,100 students attending two high schools, one 7th/8th grade middle school, one 5th/6th grade intermediate school and six elementary schools. Additionally, the district includes an Early Childhood Center, the Lewis and Clark Career Center, which serves students from throughout St. Charles County, and the Success Campus. Approximately 5% of the students served by the district are English Language Learners (ELL), speaking over 30 different languages.

The district's teachers and staff provide a welcoming environment for all students and families through multiple family engagement opportunities, including various multicultural events and an annual District ELL Family Night. Artwork celebrating various cultures and national flags are displayed throughout the district as a signal of welcoming students from diverse cultures and several initiatives are in place to communicate with multilingual families in their preferred language with translated communication blasts, talking points, bilingual staff members and telephonic interpretation services. Curriculum coordinators work directly with the Department of English Learner, Immigrant and Migrant Education Services to be culturally proficient for all students within the district.

The district curriculum has been designed with diversity, equity and inclusion considered at every grade level. The City of Saint Charles School District recognizes the value of language diversity by encouraging students to become or maintain bilingualism by offering the Pathways to Biliteracy Award and the Missouri Seal of Biliteracy.

The City of Saint Charles School District is committed to creating an environment where students can see themselves reflected in a positive manner. The district recruits staff members that represent diverse cultural backgrounds. School libraries and classrooms provide books for students about many different cultures and are written in multiple languages. Students are encouraged to share their various cultural experiences and to celebrate and value diversity.

## **About the City of St. Charles School District**

Founded in 1846, the City of St. Charles School District has played an integral role in the City of St. Charles and its rich history. The district is located primarily in St. Charles City proper, with 85 percent of the district in the City of St. Charles, 70 percent in the City of St. Peters, and the remainder in unincorporated areas. There are approximately 5,000 students in the City of St. Charles School District; two 9th-12th grade comprehensive high schools serve 1,500 students, one 5th/6th grade intermediate school and one 7th-8th grade middle school approximately serve 1,350 students and six elementary schools which serve approximately 2,100 students in grades K-4th. In addition, the district features a state-of-the-art Early Childhood Center, the Lewis and Clark Career Center which serves students from throughout St. Charles County and the Success Campus.

## **About St. Louis Mosaic Project**

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center St. Louis and a 32-member committee. The St. Louis Mosaic Project's goal is to transform St. Louis into one of the fastest growing major metropolitan areas for immigration by 2025, to design and support regional attraction strategies and to promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. For more information contact Betsy Cohen at ecohen@worldtradecenter-stl.com or visit <a href="https://www.stlmosaicproject.org">www.stlmosaicproject.org</a>.

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