



# MULE EXPRESS

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### Mules on the Move: Class of 2019

On Thursday, May 30, the students, staff, and families of Missouri School for the Blind gathered to celebrate the graduating class of 2019. Missouri Council of the Blind president Ms. Naomi Soule gave the commencement address. Diplomas were presented to the graduates by MSB Board of Advisors President Mr. Phillip Hamilton. The MSB Class of 2019 had five graduates.

Valedictorian Chloe Deremiah has attended MSB since 2014. While at MSB, Chloe has participated in Track, Wrestling, Forensics, Swimming, BETA, Alternate Book Club, and Library Cat Club. Over the years Chloe has received special awards for Most Improved in Social Studies, Science, PE, Orientation and Mobility, Art, and Activities of Daily Living. She has received awards for Most Outstanding Student in Spanish, Braille, and Music. This year Chloe was the recipient of the Outstanding Math trophy and the Robert H. Thompson Award. Chloe has also received the Ina E. Hubbard Award. Chloe has been on Honor Roll all four years of high school and is a Scholar Athlete. After high school, Chloe plans to attend the LIFE program and take classes at St. Louis Community College.

Salutatorian Alexis "Lexi" Kaibel has attended MSB since 2015. While at MSB, Lexi participated in cheerleading and swimming. Over the years, Lexi received special awards for Outstanding Student in Braille, English, Spanish, Social Studies and Student of the Year. This year Lexi was awarded Outstanding Careers and Outstanding Social Studies. Lexi has been on the honor roll every quarter in high school and is a Scholar Athlete. She plans to attend the LIFE program and take classes at St. Louis Community College.

Hunter Hall has attended the LIFE program since 2017. He participated in track and field, swimming, and Beta Club and earned Most Improved LIFE ward. This year, Hunter received MSB Student of the Year award. After graduation, he plans to attend Missouri State University.

Kiwan Sanders has been a student at MSB since 2006. He participated in track and field, goalball, wrestling, Library Cat Club, and Special Olympics. Kiwan has been on the Honor Roll for all four years and is a Scholar Athlete. He has earned Outstanding PE, Social Studies, Music, and English Language Arts awards and Most Improved in Music and Math. Kiwan plans to attend the MSB LIFE program.

Zyshaun Williams Cross has been a student at MSB since 2006. He has participated in track and field, goalball, Beta Club, High School Book Club, and Library Cat Club. Zyshaun has been on Honor Roll and a Scholar Athlete. He has received the Outstanding PE and Braille awards and Most Improved in Orientation and Mobility and English Language Arts awards. This year he received the Outstanding in English Language Arts trophy. He plans on attending college in the fall.

# 4th Quarter Awards Recipients

## Honor Roll

Malikye Baston	Trinae Edwards	Jalan Leach	Robert Mull
Sirria Brooks	Rylea Gammon	Thomas Limbach	Ravin Roper
Nathan Brown	Charles Grady	Khylie Longmire	Kiwan Sanders
Mia Bussell	Anastasia Gray	Daniel Matheny	Savanna Smith
Chloe Deremiah	Neil Grunig	Alison Miller	Allie Wolk
Noelle Dobbs	Alexis Kaibel	Nicole Motley	

### M.U.L.E.S.

(Moving Up, Learning Experience & Skills)

Shelby Burchett	Lucius Meyer
Nishaad Dean	Kelton Ramsey
Sveta Ehlers	Dionna Towns
Leigah Friend	Wayne Watson
Hunter Hall	Logan Wilson
Vivan Helmig	

### Scholar Athlete

(Both played a sport and made Honor Roll)

Malikye Baston	Anastasia	Khylie
Mia Bussell	Gray	Longmire
Chloe	Neil Grunig	Nicole Motley
Deremiah	Lexi Kaibel	Ravin Roper
Noelle Dobbs	Thomas	Kiwan Sanders
Rylea Gammon	Limbach	

## MSB to host Summer Explorations Programs

MSB is thrilled to once again host Summer Explorations Programs July 8–August 2! These programs are open to blind and visually impaired students who are Missouri Residents.

- Work Training and Experience Program with Rehabilitation Services for the Blind. Ages 16–21. July 8–August 2, 2019
- Summer Shape Up: Fitness Camp 2019 Grades 3–8. July 15–19, 2019
- Camp Abilities-St. Louis. Ages 10–16. July 8–12, 2019
- Explorations in STEM: Engineering Light, Movement and Sound. Grades 4–9. July 22–August 2, 2019
- Explorations in Tactile Arts: Art with InSight–Inspired by Us. Grades 7–12. When: July 22–August 2, 2019

This brand-new program is a unique job training program students will participant in employment and employment training opportunities on and off-campus while working in community-based jobs.

Camp Abilities St. Louis is a one-week educational sports camp for children and teens who are blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind. It is also open to non-Missouri students thanks to USABA sponsorship.

Explorations in Culinary Arts is a two-week program designed to introduce students who are blind or visually impaired to a variety of skills, techniques, and practical tips designed to make cooking fun, safe, and easy.

Summer Shape Up—Fitness Camp 2019, a one-week opportunity for students to explore concepts in health, nutrition, and fitness.

Explorations in STEM: Engineering Light, Movement and Sound is an exciting, interactive opportunity for students to work alongside our experienced STEM staff to develop skills in teamwork and scientific inquiry.

Explorations in Tactile Arts is a two-week program designed to introduce students to a variety of tactile skills and concepts necessary to understand, create, and appreciate what we traditionally think of as visual arts.

## Capstone 2019

In May of 2019, MSB students and staff culminated their year-long Capstone Project on lives and works of American authors, particularly of the Transcendentalist movement, with a visit to important locations in and near Boston, Massachusetts. The 2018-2019 Capstone topic, Author Studies: Lives, Works and Influence, was designed to introduce students to a variety of authors from the early 19th century through the mid-20th century and give students an opportunity to delve into the author's lives and works with a view of gaining a greater understanding of the impact time, place and current events (now historic events) had on their writings as well as the influence their writing had and continue to have on society. All Capstone participants

- read a minimum of two (2) books/works by the author from the approved list.
- researched and wrote a Author's Portrait highlighting the author's life, works, influence and the impact history had on his/her writings.
- used and accurately cited multiple, high-quality, primary and secondary sources to research the author and his/her work.
- completed and presented a polished, cumulative, multi-media presentation using the HoverCam Pilot 3 Digital Podium HCP3 system to introduce their author.
- participate in the on-site component where MSB students and staff traveled to Massachusetts where students were immersed in the world of the 19th and 20th century authors they have studied.

Authors studied in 2018-2019 included: Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Louisa May Alcott, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Author Miller. For more information and to view Capstone presentation videos and location slide shows, visit <https://msb.dese.mo.gov/curriculum/Capstone2019.html>



Above: Capstone students and staff pose for a group photo during the New England Whale Watch cruise



Above: Capstone students pose for a group photo at Walden Pond State Reservation



Above: Capstone students and staff pose for a group photo at Orchard House, Louisa May Alcott's childhood home



Above: Capstone students and staff pose for a group photo at The Rebecca Nurse Homestead

## Mules Head to OK City for Nat'l Beta Club Convention

This Missouri Mules Senior Beta Club traveled to Oklahoma City June 19-22, 2019, for the Beta Club National Convention. The MSB team was eligible to attend the national convention due to their wins at the Missouri State Convention: 4th place Show Choir, 4th place Club Trading Pin, 5th Place Group Talent, and 5th Place Jewelry Design by Nathan Brown.

The MSB Mules were honored to have attended the National Convention, and even placed 10th in the United States in Club Trading Pin. While in Oklahoma City, the Mules enjoyed the sites and sounds of the city and will always remember their trip to #BetaCon19!



Above: The MSB Mules pose on a bridge in Myriad Botanical Gardens in Oklahoma City



Above: Khylie crosses the stage to accept the MSB Club Trading Pin awards plaque



Above: Khylie holds the MSB awards plaque for 10th place in Club Trading Pin



Above: Zyshaun and Dionna smile at the camera during the Beta Club Convention 1st General Assembly



Above: Khylie, Malikye, Neil and Jalan pose with the Beta Convention 219 banner

## **OUTREACH UPDATE** by Jane Herder, Outreach/Deaf-Blind Project Director

After nearly 30 years, Mary Dingus our school librarian will be retiring on August 1. Mary has been with Missouri School for the Blind since October 1, 1989. She has been beloved by so many students and staff over the years and we will miss her kindness and warm demeanor! Please stop by and say hello and goodbye before she goes. Cake and farewell on July 31st in the canteen. Did you know that Mary has managed over 27,000 materials in our collection, that we have over 9,000 Braille books and about 2,700 books in large print? In addition, the library has DVDs, magazines, CDs and so much more. We sure will miss Mary!

Please welcome two new people to Outreach! We have a new Outreach Administrative Assistant, Maranda Calvin. Many of you know Ed Calvin, and Maranda is his daughter-in-law. Maranda takes over Mandy Clayton's position as she is now the new Deaf-Blind School Support Specialist. We are so happy to have her as part of Outreach!

Also, please welcome Steve Daley, our new librarian. Steve comes to us from his previous work with Washington University's library and with a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies. Steve writes that he is excited about being "part of a team committed to enriching the lives of Missouri's differently-abled youth". He states that "building upon Mary's legacy of excellence will require a 110% commitment."

Also, please check out and spread the word about our Fall Professional Development Week (September 9-12th):

- Monday 9/9-Building on Patterns, Pre-K program. Have you seen this program yet? This program is designed to teach the important skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing to beginning braille learners at the preschool level. Wow! Print and Braille books of your favorites pre-K books, such as Pete the Cat, The Very Hungry Caterpillar etc. And this PD is presented by Cay Holbrook from APH!
- Tuesday 9/10 Welcoming Students with a Visual Impairment/Blindness. This presentation covers the basics of teaching students with a visual impairment/blindness. Accommodations, modifications, textbooks, low vision aids and Orientation and Mobility will be covered. An excellent course for those new to teaching the VI/B.
- Wednesday 9/11-DB101. Everything you need to know about deaf-blindness. Defining dual sensory losses and primary considerations will be addressed.
- Thursday 9/12 Haptics: Visual and Environmental Information for Individuals who have Vision & Hearing loss. This is a great course for O&M personnel and those working with students with dual sensory losses. Haptics represents the practice of using various methods of touch on the body to convey visual, social, and environmental information to a person who is deaf-blind.
- To register, see Professional Development on our MSB webpage or contact Jane in Outreach by email at [jane.herder@msb.dese.mo.gov](mailto:jane.herder@msb.dese.mo.gov) or by phone at 314-633-1582.



*Above: A student served by MSB Outreach and their TVI demonstrate haptics*

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Marsha Bryant

**Outreach Services:**

Jane Herder

**Business Operations:**

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**Human Resources:**

Karen Burkhead

**Community Relations:**

Carlie Lee

# MSB Calendar of Events

July	
8	ESY, Work Experience, Camp Abilities & Culinary Arts begin
2	Camp Abilities ends
5	Summer Shape Up begins
19	Culinary Arts & Summer Shape Up end
22	STEM & Tactile Arts begin
August	
2	ESY, Work Experience, STEM & Tactile Arts end
19	First Day of School
September	
2	Labor Day-No School
3-14	Track meet at Tennessee
19	Eberhardt Track meet at Illinois
27-28	Track Conference at Indiana



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