

News You Need to Know

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4,850 Students • Classes Return to Normal

New Central School Year

Candidates City of Central

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

City of Central Mayor

David Barrow (inc) R
 Wade Evans R

Central Police Chief

Roger Corcoran (inc) R
 James Salsbury R

City Council at Large Vote for Two

Donnie Fuslier I
 Aaron K. McKinney (inc) R
 Josh Roy (district inc) R

City Council District 1

Tim Lazaroe (inc) R

City Council District 2

Ray Ashford R
 J. D. Lavergne III R

City Council District 3

Dr. Kim Fralick I
 Perry Whitney R

City Council District 4

Despo "D'Ann" Wells (inc.) R

City Council District 5

Vanda Mannino R
 Briton Myer (inc) R

CENTRAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOAR

School Board District 1

Jeffery LaCour D
 Jason Leaphart R
 Joshua Schopp R

School Board District 2

Roxanne Atkinson (inc.) R

School Board District 3

Dr. David Walker (inc.) R

School Board District 4

Nick Carmena R
 Kimberly Powers (inc.) R

School Board District 5

Michael Davis R
 Chris D. dePierne N

School Board District 6

Michael Hooper R

School Board District 7

Carol Burton-Norwood R
 Christy Carriere Sloan R
 Jeannie Spell R

D=Democrat, I=Independent,
 N=No party, R=Republican,
 Inc=Incumbent. If necessary,
 a runoff will be held Dec. 10.



Photos by Jolice Provost

Sheriff's deputy welcomes 1st graders at Tanglewood Elementary School in Central.

— Country Living in the City —

First Amendment Under Attack Both in Central and Baton Rouge

Woody Jenkins
Editor

CENTRAL — Two popular measures — one passed by the Metro Council and another by the Central Community School Board — are well-intentioned attempts to combat real problems but both threaten to infringe on the First Amendment rights of our citizens.

Here in Central, the Central School Board passed new rules cracking down on fighting. In Baton Rouge, the Metro Council passed an ordinance to crack down on drag racing. So far, so good. The devil is in the details.

The Central School Board passed a new rule requiring a mandatory 45-day expulsion for "fighting." However, "fighting" is not defined and an aggressor and a victim appear to be treated much the same under the rule. Suddenly gone is the great concern about bullying. Doesn't it matter in the least who caused the fight and what

happened?

Of even greater concern, the new rule also established a mandatory 10-day expulsion for any student who videos a fight and/or uploads it to social media.

School administrators and school board members were very concerned that videos of a fight at Central High School on May 4 made it to Facebook and gave the school a black eye.

But here's the thing: Students don't lose their First Amendment rights when they walk in the schoolhouse door. Parents and the general public have a strong interest in knowing what happens in our schools especially if it involves violence. People can be injured, even killed, when one student attacks another. Why on earth would we want to prevent the gathering of the best possible evidence of what actually happened? A video is the best evidence of who instigated the fight. Was it a "fight" or an attack

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After Two Years of Turmoil, Uncertainty Central's 5 Schools Return to Normal

Woody Jenkins
Editor

CENTRAL — The Central Community School System is back to normal after two years of turmoil and uncertainty caused by the coronavirus and Gov. John Bel Edwards' orders to close schools and require masks after they reopened.

Now Central, one of the top school systems in Louisiana, has reopened with a bang, attracting 4,850 students, the highest number since the school system began in mid-2007.

Central schools Supt. Jason Fountain said the exact number of students will fluctuate over the next few weeks. Oct. 1 is the date when school attendance is finally



Supt. Jason Fountain

calculated, and the final number of students affects state funding under the MFP program.

As of August 16, attendance at Central's five schools was:

- Bellingrath Hills Elementary School (440 students) pre-kindergarten and kindergarten
- Tanglewood Elementary

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2022 Central High Football Schedule

Aug. 26	Brusly Jamboree	H
	JV 6 p.m. • Varsity 7	
Sept. 2	Tara	H
Sept. 9	West Feliciana	A
Sept. 16	Slidell	A
Sept. 23	East Jefferson	H
Sept. 30	Capital	H
Oct. 7	Scotlandville*	H
Oct. 14	Catholic*	A
Oct. 21	Zachary*	H
Oct. 28	Woodlawn*	A
Nov. 4	Liberty Magnet*	H

*District Game

All games start at 7 p.m.

Head Coach: Sid Edwards

Come out to support the Wildcats! If you can't come, watch LIVE or REPLAY at Central City News on Facebook.

PARKING - Just come to the game! Sheriff deputies and ROTC will direct you where to park.