

## **Southland Charter holds public lottery**

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A public lottery recently was held to select members of the Southland College Prep Charter High School's class of 2016.

"This third public lottery of Southland College Prep Charter High School is another milestone in our history," said Blondean Davis, superintendent of Matteson Elementary District 162 and CEO of Southland College Prep.

"Students selected at this event will have an opportunity to be among the early graduating classes of this state-of-the-art, 21st century school, whose curriculum is focused on preparing its students to enter and then graduate from college."

Southland's 2012-13 freshman class of approximately 131 students was selected using a lottery machine containing numbered ping pong balls that were drawn at random by school officials during the public event in the high school's commons.

By law, an Illinois public charter high school may use only residency in the school's district as a criteria to select its students. Admission to Southland is on a nondiscriminatory basis with respect to race, ethnicity, disability and religious preference, school officials said.

Currently, 244 freshmen and sophomores are enrolled in Southland College Prep, which opened in August 2010.

"Southland College Prep offers a choice for students and a hope for the future," Davis said.

"Every child has a right to learn and can achieve the 21st-century skills needed for success — to think critically and to problem-solve."

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