

*"Where Success is
Measured One
Student at a Time"*

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Unified School District #377 Atchison County Community Schools



D e c e m b e r 2 0 1 8

E f f i n g h a m , K S

During the winter months, a possibility always exists of school closures and/or schedule changes due to inclement weather. Below are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about emergency school closures.

Q: When are decisions made about school closures and how will I know?

A: The district makes every effort to decide and announce decisions to close schools before 6 a.m. The planning and review process actually begins the night before. Once a decision is made, a message will be sent to USD 377 families via our eNotes notification system (text & email). Local media will be notified of the closure. The district's social media sites, Facebook and Twitter, are also updated.

eNotes sign up: http://www.usd377.org/enote_portal_account

USD 377 Webpage: <http://www.usd377.org/>

Local Media: KAIR, WIBW, KCTV5, KSNT, KTKA, KTMJ, WDAF, FOX4



If school is dismissed early, your emergency contact information collected during school registration is used to contact you. **Make sure your phone numbers and email are up to date in PowerSchool.**

Q: What factors go into the decision?

A: Weather and road conditions are checked throughout School District beginning the night before anticipated inclement weather. The school district gathers as much information as possible before making a decision. District officials monitor ongoing weather reports, road conditions and local / state law enforcement agencies. District transportation officials will provide a recommendation before 5 a.m. to the superintendent responsible for making the final decision after a thorough review of all available data collected.

Q: How can I make sure my student is safe?

A: Since parents are the primary protectors they will need to decide what is best for their children. The option to keep children home when weather conditions are extreme is always at the parent's discretion and the school understands and respects the decision. Parents are urged to make arrangements at the beginning of each school year for their children in case of school closures. **Parent contact information, including work phone numbers, should be kept up-to-date in PowerSchool.**

Q: What about school bus transportation when the weather is bad?

A: All bus stops will be serviced in inclement weather unless an emergency announcement is made via the local media, district Website and eNotes. In inclement weather, buses may run late for a variety of reasons. Prepare your child, in suitable clothing, to wait additional time at the bus stop, (usually less than 15 minutes). Parents should have a contingency plan in the event that a bus is running extremely late or breaks down before reaching the bus stop. Discuss with your child what to do and who to call if the bus does not arrive. Have a neighbor, or reliable student "buddy" at the same stop that can help.

Answers to Additional Questions can be found at: http://www.usd377.org/98571_2

December 2018



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 JHGBB NEK League Tourn. NEKMEA Mini Conv. 8am VWR @ Wamego 9am JHWR @ Clark Inv. 9am FR/JV/VBB (H) Hiaw. 5pm
2	3 PLC—No School JHGBB NEK League Tourn.	4 JV Scholars Bowl @ Olathe NW 4pm FR/JV/VBB @ PR 5pm	5 Senior Citizen Holiday Dinner 11am	6 JHGBB NEK League Tourn @ Everest Snow Date for Senior Citizen Dinner K-3 Vocal Concert @ JSH Aud. 7pm	7 FR/JV/VBB @ JH 5pm	8 JHGBB NEK League Tourn. JV Scholar's Bowl @ Hiaw. 9am JV/VWR @ Onaga 9:30am
9	10 JHBBB Parent Mtg. 5:30pm JSH Vocal Concert @ JSH Aud. 7pm	11 FR/JV/VBB (H) JCN 5pm	12 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30pm	13 JV Scholar's Bowl Inv. (H) 3:30pm	14 JV/VBB @ McLouth 5pm JH Winter Dance 6-8pm @ JSH Commons	15 VWR @ Emporia 9am
16	17 6-12 Band Concert 7pm	18 JV/VBB @ Horton 5pm	19	20 Tiger Proud Celebration @ Elem.	21 End of 1st Semester JV/VBB @ VF 5pm	22
23	24 Christmas Break-No School	25 	26 Christmas Break-No School	27 Christmas Break-No School	28 Christmas Break-No School	29
30	31 Christmas Break-No School					

BOE News and Highlights

The USD 377 Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, November 13th at 5:00 at the JSH Library.

*The agenda was approved as presented.

*Recognitions:

JH Volleyball Team League Champions, JH Football Team undefeated League Champions, Victoria Caplinger-State Cross Country, NEK All League Volleyball, NEK All League Football, JSH Band, Middle Level Honor Band.

*The consent agenda was approved with the removal of 4.11 EduClimber.

*Leadership reports were given.

*Auditorium Repairs:

The board discussed options moving forward with the Auditorium repairs. Members expressed concerns about potential issues that could arise from removing the seats as well as reinstalling them. The board passed a motion to solicit bids for the repairs with the installation of epoxy instead of tile.

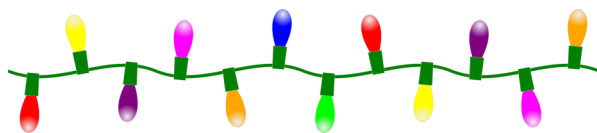
*Deferred Maintenance:

The board discussed the schedule for the upcoming years. There was consensus to complete the projects schedule for the summer of 2019 pending available funds. The board also discussed options for ADA compliance for the bleachers at Tiger Stadium.

*Acceptance of the proposal for EduClimber:

The board accepted the proposal as presented.

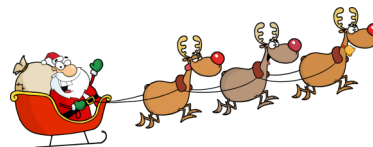
*The next board of education meeting will be held on December 12th at the Board Office at 6:30pm.



Please go to
usd377.org
for monthly
Breakfast and
Lunch Menus!

PARENTS AS TEACHERS

For most parents, helping their child build a healthy relationship with food becomes more challenging in the toddler years. Parent Educators can help you set reasonable limits on mealtime behaviors. If you are pregnant or have a child under 3, please contact Elize Cilliers at (620) 388-1825 for more information about this free program.



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(1) Mail: :U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**Atchison County Community
Schools Holiday Dinner
For Senior Citizens
Sponsored by KAYS
December 5, 2018
A Special Holiday Tradition**



It is our pleasure to extend this special invitation to senior citizens residing in the Atchison County Community School District to attend the Atchison County Community Schools Holiday Dinner for Senior Citizens. Last year senior guests were welcomed with a warm meal (Holiday meal with all the fixing's), colorfully designed placemats (provided by the elementary school students) and table decorations that were given away as door prizes. This is one celebration that no senior citizen can afford to miss (free to all senior citizens).

Please RSVP by Monday, November 26th

Senior guests are asked to mark Wednesday, December 5th, at 11:00 am on their calendars. Let us know that you plan to attend by calling the district office at (913) 833-5050 on or before November 26th to help our cooks and staff in their preparations. This special dinner will be held at ACCJSH School. A special sign-up sheet will be available at the "Town and Country" Senior Center in Effingham. (Alternate date will be December 6th)

Building Character & Community Pride

Atchison County Community School employees are working hard to keep our community of schools strong. Staff members work each and every day toward the goal of educating a new group of graduates who are able to serve as worthy stewards of our community trust. Our students need this community event to help them understand the importance of character and pride. Please come and share in this sincere demonstration of appreciation by our students, staff and administration for a lifetime of hard work and dedication that the USD 377 senior citizens contribute to our community of schools.

SNAPSHOTS OF ATCHISON COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



L to R: Marcus
Hetherington, Levi
Navinsky, Shawn Boos,
Meagan Pitts, Isabelle
Beagle, Logan Kramer



JSH NEWS**By Deanna Scherer**

So what does a perfect day in the classroom look like? 100% mastery of the objective for the day? A teacher who knows all the answers to every question and rarely makes a mistake? A teacher who has everything planned to the very last second of the class? Students who sit perfectly in a row answering every question with enthusiasm and zeal for the responses.

For me, I think a great day is when students are learning the objective, and the learning is also connecting with the heart. I'm not sure who said it, but I believe it's true, **"Information without emotion is rarely retained."** The lessons that stay with us the longest connect to our emotions.

In 1993, famed college basketball coach Jim Valvano gave an inspiring and hopeful message at the ESPY awards. Valvano was fighting terminal cancer that would soon cut short his remarkable life. To really feel what is important, you can watch this speech. (DavidGeurin.com)

During his passionate speech, Valvano helped put everything in perspective:

*"If you laugh, you think, and you cry,
that's a full day. That's a heck of a day.
And if you do that seven days a week,
you're going to have something special."*

Randy Pausch writes in his book, *The Last Lecture*, "It is an accepted cliché in education that the number one goal of teachers should be to help students learn how to learn...a better number one goal was this: help students learn how to judge themselves."

Pausch goes on to say that students should recognize their true abilities, have a sense of their own flaws or shortcomings, and should be realistic about how others viewed them. In the end, teachers best serve students by helping them be more self-reflective. Students can develop a real

ability to assess themselves. Teachers help students to develop their own feedback loops-- learn to know where they need to work more or less, step up their practice, and move more or less quickly in the right direction. Teachers help students in these ways through their relationships and their day to day contact with students.

We're starting to wind down another semester at ACCJSH. As of this writing students have put in almost half of the school year. Relationships have developed and it is clear that students who attend school regularly, contribute positively in the classroom, give effort where and when it is needed, and who are continually looking to their futures are moving in the right direction. Christmas break will be upon us and as the winter weather settles, we can take more time to think about the place we most want to be.



FIRST GRADE NEWS

“De-cem-ber”... if you are walking in the elementary halls in the mornings you will, more than likely, hear the First Graders at A.C.C.E.S. singing along with Jack Hartmann. Every morning, Mrs. Ostertag and Mrs. Stutesman help students navigate the month, day and year. (This is no small feat, by the way!) Students are learning how to read a calendar and write the date in several different formats. We also keep track of the number of days we have been in school! Calendar time is exceptionally important for these young people. We bring in time telling, money counting, learn how to tell the difference between even and odd numbers and learning greater than $>$ and less than $<$ is a breeze when you do it every day! We also learn about current events during this time.

This year, we have a new program in place in grades Kindergarten – 2nd Grade called Pathways to Reading. One of the major building blocks (or stumbling stones) in the English language are our vowels. There are so many rules! We are learning and using “Vowel Town” daily in every bit of reading that we do. We are learning spelling rules and are applying them – when a word doesn’t follow the rules we call that a “Screech” word! We started having spelling words at week 9 of school and those words are the sight words that we see and use every day.

We are currently at about 70 days that we have been in school. First Grade is a very important year. There is so much growth that occurs between the first and last day of school! There is a lot of new

learning and a whole bunch of learning about procedures and processes that are necessary to be a successful student. We are up to the challenge and are using each and every day to “work smarter, not harder”!





HELP WANTED

USD #377 is currently looking for individuals to fill substitute positions for Teacher, Teacher Aide, Custodial and Bus Driver.

If you would like to apply for a substitute position, please apply online at usd377.org under job listings. USD #377 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age.

The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for December 12th @ 6:30 pm.



SERC

Physical & Hand Therapy

Sports medicine

Injury Prevention

Concussion management

Sports Performance

Sports Med Evaluations

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