

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

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EDUCATION
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(913) 833-5050

Steve Wiseman, Supt.

JSH School

Principal: Deanna Scherer

(913) 833-2240

Toll Free (877) 854-4615

Elementary School

Principal: Lisa Brookover

(913) 833-4420

Toll Free (877) 854-4689



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(913) 360-2952

Steve Meeks

Unified School District #377

Atchison County Community Schools



September 2012

Effingham, KS

Twelve ACCHS Upper Classmen Inducted into National Honor Society—Two

Atchison County Community High School seniors and ten juniors were inducted into the ACCHS Chapter of the National Honor Society on August 21st in a ceremony led by NHS sponsor Barb Gigstad. The special event was held in the JSH commons area and was attended by students,



parents, faculty and guests. The ceremony included an address by USD #377 Board of Education President Brian Jolly. The inductees pictured above include: Back row - Lindsey Kearney, Leah Scholz, Tannah Ernzen, Andy Miller, Kiley Warriner, Wade Meeks; front row - Morgan Martin, Reagan Maxwell, Paige Boos, Bridgette Kelly, Ashley Chalfant, and Katie Barnes. To qualify for NHS, students must earn a minimum 3.5 G.P.A. A review committee made up of ACCHS staff review student applications and make membership selections based on the Four Pillars of NHS—Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character.

New Mission and Vision Statements set bar high for USD 377—Aim is to become a “model rural community school district” Superintendent Wiseman

Mission Statements and Vision Statements have become so commonplace that they can often fade into the background once the workday begins. USD 377 is out to change that, by launching new Statements that set the bar high for the district, our staff, and our students.

We wanted to have our Mission and Vision Statements really say what we are about today, as well as signify what we aspire to become. We didn't want the statements to just be words on a piece of paper that we would post in the schools and classrooms for looks. No, we believe that our Mission and Vision should have an impact and provide real direction.

That direction: To Aim High. Our concept of Aiming High is to be the kind of school district that other districts look to as an example - a “Model” school district. It only makes sense that if we want our students to “Aim High” that as a district, we should be Aiming High as well.

FALL CARNIVAL

The Effingham Elementary PTO is hosting a
carnival on
Saturday, October 13th, 2012
from 5:30pm—9pm.

We will be offering a \$5 wristband to play on
the inflatables, moon bounce and tunnel
all night.

Games, face painting, cake walk and
pop walk tickets will be \$0.25.

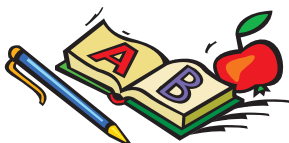
Games will take 1-3 tickets.

Please contact Kelli Postma at (913) 370-5270
if you are able to help in any way,
or have any questions.

Please come out and enjoy a
fantastic family evening!



The next Board
of Education
Meeting is
scheduled for
September
10th @
6:30 pm.



USD #377 is currently looking for individuals to fill substitute positions for Teacher, Food Service, Teacher Aide, Custodial and Bus Driver. If you would like more information or would like to apply for a substitute position, contact USD #377 Board of Education Office at (913) 833-5050 or drop by at 306 Main St., Effingham, KS. USD #377 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability

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Unified School District 377
306 Main Street, PO Box 289
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September 2012



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3 Labor Day No School	4 JVFB (H) Troy 6pm JVVB TRI @ JH 5pm	5 Booster Club Mtg. 7pm @ HS Library MAP Testing (Gr 1-6)	6 CC (H) 4pm 9VB Quad (H) 5pm JHFB (H) Troy 6:30pm JHVB (H) Troy 4:30pm Class Ring Order Pickup 2:30pm @ JSH	7 HS FB (H) Horton 7pm	8 VVB NV Tourn 9am JVVB @ Oskaloosa 8:30am 8VB Quad @ Rossville 9am 7VB Quad (H) 10am ACT Test Date
9	10 BOE Mtg. 6:30pm JVFB @ Horton 6pm JHVB (H) JH 4:30pm MAP Testing (GR 1-6)	11 SHVB Tri (H) 5pm Parent's Night	12	13 CC @ Hia. 4pm JHFB @ ACES 6:30pm JHVB @ ACES 4:30pm	14 HSFB @ D-West/ Denton 7pm	15
16	17 JVFB (H) D-West 6pm 9VB Quad @ RV/Hoyt 5:30pm JHVB @ Sabetha 4pm MAP Testing (Gr 1-6)	18 Elem. PTO 6:30pm Elem Site Council 6pm FR/JV/VVB @ VF 5pm	19 FFA Greenhand Conf. @ Silver Lake	20 CC @ NV 4pm JHFB (H) Everest 6:30pm JHVB (H) Everest 4:30pm	21 HSFB (H) VF 7pm Homecoming @ 6:30pm ACT Reg. Deadline for 10-27 Test	22 JVVB D-West Tourn @ Highland 9am 9VB Atchison Tourn 9am JHVB JW Tourn 9am HS Homecoming Dance @ JSH 9pm-12am
23 30	24 JVFB @ VF 6pm JVVB Quad @ Oskaloosa 5:30pm 9VB Quad @ VF 5pm	25 HSVB Tri @ Troy 5pm	26 FFA Fall CDE Day @ Holton	27 CC @ Horton 4pm 9VB Quad @ VF 5pm JHFB w/Riverside @ Wathena 6:30pm JHVB w/Riverside @ Elwood 4:30pm	28 HSFB (H) Riverside 7pm	29 VVB @ Wellsville 9am JHVB DVL Tourn @ McLouth 9am

Breakfast Menu




September 2012



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 No School	4 Frudels Pineapple 	5 Ham & Cheese Biscuit Peaches	6 Banana Bread Cinnamon Apples	7 French Toast Sticks Smokies Mandarin Oranges
10 Bacon, egg & cheese Wrap Pears	11 Blueberry Muffins Yogurt Peaches	12 Monster Bars Cheese Stick Apple	13 Long Johns Smokies Oranges	14 Cheese Toast Grapes
17 Sausage & Cheese Biscuit Pears	18 Chocolate Applesauce Bars Smokies Peaches	19 Pumpkin Muffins Cheese Stick Sliced Apples	20 Cinnamon Rolls Mandarin Oranges	21 Apple Streusel Bars Yogurt Banana 
24 Omelets Apple 	25 Breakfast Quesadila Pineapple	26 Pizza Peaches	27 Chocolate Chip Muffins Cheese Stick Mandarin Oranges	28 Breakfast Sticks Pears

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Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <div>Half a pint of milk is served with each meal. Meals are subject to change.</div>				
3 No School	4 Crispitos Salad Sweet Potato Fries Refried Beans Cantaloupe 	5 Chicken & Noodles Green Beans Broccoli w/Cheese Cinnamon Applesauce	6 Biscuit & Gravy Sausage Tri-tators Peas Mandarin Oranges Grape Juice	7 Frito Pie Carrots & Celery w/Dip Mixed Vegies Pineapple
10 Beefburger w/Dills Corn Cole Slaw Yogurt Orange Sherbert	11 Chicken Wrap Lettuce & Cheese Green Beans Corn Rolls & Oleo Mandarin Oranges	12 Fish Confetti Fries Wintermix Rolls & Oleo Grapes	13 Taco Refried Beans Carrots Rolls & Oleo Pineapple	14 Macaroni & Cheese Smokies Salad Red Peppers Mixed Vegies Apple
17 Chicken Nuggets Potato & Gravy Peas & Carrots Rolls & Oleo Pineapple	18 Meatball Sandwich Mixed Vegies Sweet Potato Fries Applesauce	19 Spaghettii/Meat Sauce Salad Corn Breadsticks Peaches	20 Pizza Quesadilas Green Beans Broccoli/Cauliflower Florets Pears	21 Chicken Fajitas Vegies Carrots Refried Beans Watermelon 
24 Hamburger Sweet Potato Fries Baked Beans Orange Sherbert	25 Chicken Alfredo Peas Salad Rolls & Oleo Sliced Apples	26 Baked Potato w/Chilli or Broccoli w/cheese Mixed Vegies Rolls & Oleo Cantaloupe	27 Tuna & Cheese Sandwich Green Beans Carrots & Celery w/Dip Pineapple	28 Chicken Grills Potato & Gravy Peas & Carrots Rolls & Oleo Peaches

BOE News and Highlights

The USD 377 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 13 at 6:30 at the Board of Education Office.

Approved the 2012–2013 Budget.

Consent Agenda Items Approved:

- *July Regular and Extended Meeting minutes;
- *Bills & Claims in the amount of \$389,211.74;
- *Non-Resident Admission applications;
- *\$1,000 gift to ACCHS from the ACCHS Alumni Association;
- *The Personnel Report Consent Items:
 - *Resignation of Diane Besinger, Cook, and Jan Oswald and Laura Pennington, Teacher Aides;
 - *Mary Olson as an emergency sub teacher;
 - *Lori Jones, Sarah Buatista and Kathy High as classified substitutes;
 - *Salary increase for Vicki Hegarty, Counselor, of \$600;
 - *Elementary aide contracts for Cindy Timmons and Stacie Westerman;
 - *Myka Speer—JH Head VB and JH Asst. Girls BB;
 - *Derek Todd—HS Asst. Boys BB
 - *Mike Eckert—JH Asst. Boys BB

The Board approved the new McRel Teacher Evaluation System for the 2012-2013 school year.

Substitute Teacher, personnel, Curriculum, Elementary Staff, JSH Staff Handbooks and the negotiated Agreement were approved. Mr. Wiseman received authorization from the board to solicit bids for a new Driver's Ed Car and a new Suburban through the state bid list.

The next board of education meeting will be held on September 10th in the Board Office



New Bullying Prevention Hotline

The Kansas State Department of Education, in partnership with Kansas Children's Service League, is proud to announce the availability of the Bullying Prevention Hotline. This free, anonymous service is available to provide counsel and resources to those who have questions or concerns about bullying situations. The 24-hour hotline can be reached at **(1-800-332-6378 or 1-800-CHILDREN)**. You can also contact the hotline via text or e-mail at 1800children@kcs.org.

Provided through a Safe and Supportive Schools grant, the hotline is staffed by trained professionals and volunteers who listen to each caller's concerns and seek to provide the caller with resources to assist him or her. In the coming months, you will receive hotline posters that we hope you will post in your schools to ensure students and those who visit your school are aware of the hotline and know the number.

The Bullying Prevention Hotline should not be confused with the Kansas School Safety Hotline. The School Safety Hotline should still be used to report potential violent acts at schools. Students who feel unsafe at school could call either hotline; the professionals at the Bullying Prevention Hotline will forward any calls where they feel there is the potential for violence, or that a student may harm him or herself or others to the School Safety Hotline.

It is hoped the Bullying Prevention Hotline will serve as one more resource to assist schools in creating a safe and secure environment.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Atchison County Community Schools, USD #377, Effingham, Kansas, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. Anyone having questions regarding compliance with Title VI, Title IX, Americans With Disability Act or Section 504 may contact: Steve Wiseman, Superintendent of Schools, 306 Main Street, P.O. Box 289, Effingham, KS 66023-0289 (Title VI, Title IX, ADA, and Section

USD 377 MAKES AYP—THE CYCLE OF SUCCESS CONTINUES!!

FACILITIES ISSUES AND DISCUSSIONS—At the last board meeting, district facilities issues were discussed, in particular the need to bring all the kindergarten and preschool classes into the main building. One of the goals of the Board is to move Kindergarten and Pre-school classes out of the old 1966 temporary buildings. Just last January, the district had to close down Building 'A' due to mold issues. That building had served as our Pre-school for the last ten years or so.

One of the options being considered is to convert the elementary school little gym or what most people know as the wrestling gym into four classrooms. The structure of that part of the school is a metal frame building, which would easily convert into four very nice sized classrooms for our early childhood classes. The question remains then, where would the wrestlers relocate.

One solution being investigated is to build a metal building onto the west end of the JSH gymnasium. The concept is to make it big enough to include locker rooms for the JH PE classes so that 7th and 8th graders would no longer have to share locker room facilities with high school students. We have also entertained the idea of including a new fitness room and weight room into the building in order to eliminate PE students having to walk over to the elementary for classes. Over the next few weeks, building principals will be taking these ideas to their faculties and site councils to obtain some feedback. The Board is very interested in what staff members and parents think.

Vision/Mission continued from page 1

Our Vision Statement defines for us a new direction where being good is not good enough. Our concept of Aiming High is to be the kind of school district that other districts look to emulate because of the successes of our students. It only makes sense that if we want our students to "Aim High" that as a district, we should be Aiming High as well.

Our Mission Statement is intended to describe our core purpose. In other words, it should reflect the heart of what we strive to accomplish each and every day. We believe the new Mission does just that. It tells a story about who we are and what we are about - "A community school district founded on student achievement through academic excellence and educational opportunity to ensure personal success."

We come to school every day with one basic goal in mind - to help our students achieve at a high level, and to put them in a position to succeed. We want that to be our singular focus in the work we do, and in the decisions we make.

New School Meal Requirements Causing a Stir Among Students

—There is always a feeling of excitement and anticipation with the beginning of a new school year...new teachers, new classes, new experiences. And now, new federal lunch requirements! The new policy comes courtesy of First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative focusing on children's nutrition and health.

The new guidelines and portion sizes are not sitting well with some HS students. The first day of school, students were lighting up Facebook with pictures of school lunch food items.

Nevertheless, the updated meal patterns will provide healthy foods to help fuel your child for learning. Some of the biggest changes are:

- Students will now be **required** to have 1/2 cup of fruits or vegetables on their tray for it to count as a full meal.
- At least 1/2 cup of fruit to grades K-8 and 1 cup of fruit to grades 9-12 will be offered at lunch.
- At least 3/4 cup of vegetables to grades K-8 and 1 cup of vegetables to grades 9-12 will be offered at lunch.
- Meat/meat alternate (cheese, yogurt & peanut butter) and grain amounts are now specified.

Previously, we could offer more food as long as we met the feds minimum requirements. Now there are specified ranges for each age group. **This means main entrees may not be as large as they have been.** The trade-off is that students get more fruits and vegetables than before.

Kansas schools have been gradually implementing healthy changes:

- This school year, half of all grains offered must be whole grain rich. Most grains offered in the school meals already meet this requirement.
- Vegetables from the following groups will be served each week: dark green, orange/red, beans, starchy and other vegetables.
- Schools have until 2014-2015 to meet the first level of sodium limits.

USD 377 is working to improve the health of our students by teaching them to eat healthier and encourage more physical activity.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2012**By Deanna Scherer (schererde@usd377.org)**

A recent YouTube video, "I'm Farming and I Grow It", helped welcome the students and staff back to a new school year. If you haven't been able to see it, this video has been one of the most frequently accessed videos this summer on the familiar website, www.youtube.com. Kansas farm brothers, Greg, Nathan, and Kendal Peterson produced and submitted the video in a whimsical attempt at educating their non-farm related friends.



The eldest of the three boys, Greg, is an Agriculture Communications major at Kansas State University who coaxed his brothers and younger sister to help film and act in the video. The video may have taken some acting, but their lifestyle isn't an act. One of the opening scenes in the video shows the brothers who hail from Saline county in front of a familiar Kansas Agriculture sign proclaiming that 1 Kansas Farmer feeds 128 people plus You! Agriculture is the family means to survival and living.

Upon the start of this school year, we launched a new Mission Statement and Vision for the district. The vision is stated simply as, "To become a model rural school district", but the mission statement is somewhat more detailed, "A community school district founded on student achievement through academic excellence and educational opportunity to ensure personal success". Four very important words emerge from these two statements: community, excellence, opportunity, and success. The Peterson Brothers video helped me to exemplify to students and the teaching staff how agriculture plays such an integral part of our students' lives. Our rural existence and our community connections must be viewed as a means to the future rather than an obstacle to overcome. Our school district acts as a large community similar to that of rural farmers in Kansas. The majority of the farmers in our state seek excellence, opportunity, and success. The boys in their video certainly demonstrated how important their role was on their family farm and also how that lifestyle provided much opportunity for them. Our

school in Atchison County attempts to bring opportunity for excellence, achievement, and success to each and every student. Challenging as it may seem, life is far beyond the walls of ACCJSH. It is important for us to help students learn and prepare for the challenges of our world, within our community, our county, and our globe. We're off to a year of success. Thank you to our parents and community for providing the opportunity to work with your students.



BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOU!!!

There will be a
meeting on
September 5th
at 7pm in the
High School Library.
If you are interested
in becoming a Booster
Club Officer this is
your chance.

MAP TESTING—WHAT IS IT?

By Lisa Brookover

(brookover.lisa@usd377.org)

Your child may come home in September and tell you they had a test on the computer called the NWEA test or MAP test. This test, which is designed to measure individual student progress academically, is administered early in the school year so that teachers and parents have an idea of where their students are academically. NWEA stands for Northwest Evaluation Association. They have developed a computer-based benchmark assessment, known as the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) test. This benchmark assessment test will measure the individual student's progressing comprehension of certain subjects throughout the school year. It is not a mastery test. Students are not expected to get a score like they would on a chapter test in math or a reading comprehension quiz. MAP is a computerized adaptive and Internet-enabled test that will evaluate the level of difficulty at which a student can answer a question correctly. The level of difficulty will increase as the student answers questions correctly but will decrease as a student answers incorrectly. Teachers will then take the information from the MAP to design individual lessons to meet the needs of the students. Students will conference with teachers about their scores and establish goals for the school year in reading and math. The questions on the assessment are aligned with the KS State Standards. Therefore, the information on the areas of need will be directly connected to the local curriculum. Please ask your teacher(s) at parent-teacher conference time about this assessment. Teachers, along with your child, should be sharing this information with you. Our mission is for student achievement to be #1! We continue to seek ways to gain information on each child that leads to a plan for their success.



PRESCHOOL: New Beginnings

With the start of the 2012-2013 school year, pre-school is bringing new beginnings not only for the students but teachers as well! Both pre-schools found their permanent homes this year; Ms. Amy's class is now in classroom 51 which she now calls "The Sun-Shine Wing". And Miss W's new home is now in building B with the kindergarten classrooms. Both pre-schools still plan on working very closely with one another, in not only social settings but academic as well. Every day both classes will eat snacks together and share the same recess time. On the academic side the classes will participate in our building wide reading curriculum STORYtown and have combined centers two days out of the week. Ms. Amy is taking on a new role in the afternoon's this year with not having a pre-school class but being special education teacher for grades K-1. She is very excited because this will give her a chance to reunite with former students. Miss W is also very excited for new beginnings with the new curriculum "Handwriting With Out Tears". So far this school year the students are settling in just fine, and both teachers are proud to report the first day of school was tear free and full of smiles! The students were eager and excited to finally be at school. This school year should be a fun and exciting one for all in preschool! Here is to new beginnings, sunshine and lots of smiles and laughter! (Which is what pre



What fun we have in Kindergarten!!