



Purpose - Passion - Pride

**ST. JOHN-HUDSON
SCHOOLS, USD 350
505 N. BROADWAY
ST. JOHN, KS 67576
(620) 549-3564**

Josh Meyer,
Superintendent
Alisa Fisher,
*Board Clerk/Business
Mgr.*
Marla Irvine,
Treasurer/Elem. Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure that students will find their purpose and become successful, lifelong learners and positive contributors in a changing world.

Board of Education

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USD 350 St. John-Hudson Newsletter

October 2019

Notes from the Superintendent

Josh Meyer

I have to admit that I've been dreading this school year. Not as a professional educator, but as a father. My oldest daughter is a senior and I've been struggling with the fact that she is growing up. I know I'm not alone in this feeling and many of you reading this article have been through it before with your own children.

It is difficult to imagine your little ones growing up. As a parent, it is hard to send your kid to school for the first time and trust others to help raise your child. I think about how I feel now and how I felt when she started preschool 13 years ago, and I am grateful for the fantastic teachers and school staff that have had an influence on her life.

I feel good about where my child is headed. I am proud of how the USD 350 staff has prepared my daughter for her future. I am proud of the job our teachers and staff do for all of the kids in our district.

We have some exciting things going on in our school district. I feel really good about our teaching staff. We had a challenge filling vacant positions, but we brought on some fantastic teachers. Our Farm-to-School donation program has made a positive impact on our food service program and our budget bottom line. I appreciate Leah and Tyler Alpers heading up this effort as well as all of the donors that make this possible.

Our junior high students have begun their Genius Hour project. This project is based on Google's idea of giving their employees time to work on whatever they want. Students will choose a topic to learn about, research that topic, and present it to others. The idea is that students are more engaged when they can choose what they learn.

Each year we count our official enrollment on September 20th. Our numbers show that we are down just a bit from 357 last year to 350 this year. Our largest class is Kindergarten with 31 students and the smallest is the freshman class with 18. The high school has 91 students which puts us at class 1A for activities again this year.

Attending school regularly is essential to students gaining the academic and social skills they need to succeed. Starting as early as preschool and kindergarten, chronic absences—missing 10 percent of the academic year—can leave third graders unable to read proficiently, sixth graders struggling with coursework, and high school students off-track for graduation.

If a student misses 10% of the school days, that amounts to about 17 days during the school year. This equates to about one

Continued on pg 2

Superintendent Cont.

45-minute class period, every day, for the entire year. Research shows that by middle and high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out of school. This research from the National Center on Educational Statistics noted that differences in absentee rates and projections for graduation were observed as early as kindergarten.

We obviously do not want sick kids at school. But it is imperative that parents do their best to get kids to school every day if possible. School staff is willing and able to help parents if they are struggling to get kids to school.

With our new Powerschool student information system, **parents and students can access grades, attendance, and meal account balance information through an online portal and a mobile app.** Please contact the school office if you need help getting this set up. We also have a new automated messaging system. Parents can update contact information for the messaging system through the PowerSchool portal. You can find more information on our website.

As always, if you'd like to visit about any of these topics or have other questions or concerns, I can be reached at 620-549-3564 or meyerj@usd350.com. I am proud to be a Tiger and proud to serve USD 350 with *Purpose, Passion, and Pride*.

-Josh Meyer – USD 350 Superintendent

PAT (Parents as Teachers)

By Johnna Stanford, PAT Teacher, stanfordj@usd350.com



Parents as Teachers.

For children prenatal to 36 months of age.

**How do you help
your children
develop, learn,
and grow to
realize their
full potential?**

It's free. Enroll today!

**Parents as Teachers children
are healthy, safe and ready to
learn.**

- > They're healthier.
- > They score higher on kindergarten readiness tests.
- > They're better problem solvers.
- > They're more advanced in language and social development.

How does it work?

Since this is *your* child and *your* family, you set the agenda for each personal visit. Your personal parent educator is there to provide well-researched information to help you make good parenting decisions ... and to provide concrete support for you in times of need.

Group connections also link you to other parents so you can learn and support each other, and grow together as parents.

Regular screenings will make sure your child is healthy, safe and developing on track.

Need more help or a special resource? Your parent educator will make the introduction and connect you.

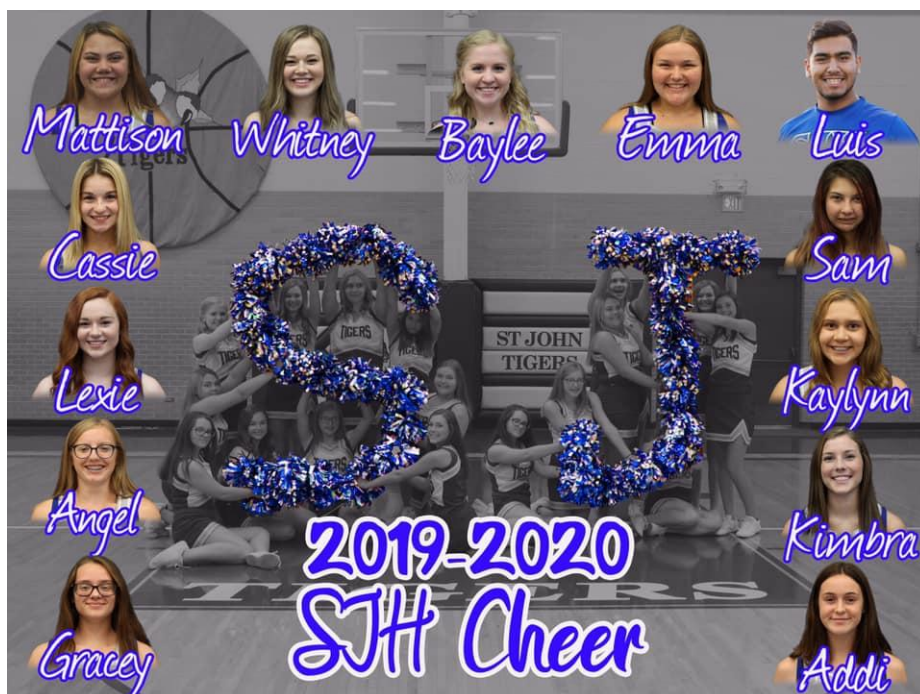
Enroll today!

Together on each visit, we'll:

- > Look at *your* child's development and talk about the parenting challenges you face right now.
- > Think about family dynamics impacting your child's development, your parenting values and decisions.
- > Build strong protective factors to keep you, your child and your family healthy, strong and resilient.

Contact Johnna Stanford for more information
stanfordj@usd350.com or 620-546-3370

St. John non-band class has created a student newspaper which will publish for the first semester. There will be articles from there published in the district newsletter.



Vaping Concerns Among Teens

By BLAIN WHITE, JR/SR High School Principal

As many of you have heard in the news lately, vaping has become an epidemic among junior high and high school students. In the United States, there have been about 450 vape related lung illnesses reported and 6 deaths that have been attributed to vaping. We are reaching out to you because our first and foremost concern is student health and safety. We take this issue very seriously due to the negative health effects vaping can have on our students.

Vaping is the act of inhaling the aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device. The particles in the aerosol or vapor contain varying amounts of nicotine and other toxic chemicals, which have been linked to cancer, as well as respiratory and heart disease. Some of the products even contain THC which is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects. As you know, nicotine is highly addictive and some of these unregulated products that students are purchasing contain higher levels of nicotine than cigarettes.

The target consumers of these products are students and young adults. The liquids that are vaporized come in many different flavors and are often sweet-flavored with names such as cinnamon roll, marshmallow, grape, strawberry, bubblegum, lemonade, and cookies. Like cigarettes, stores cannot sell vaping items to people under the age of 18. However, students are purchasing the devices online or through older siblings or friends.

One of the main challenges that we face in education is that the devices are designed in such a way that they are very easy to conceal. Vaporizers/e-cigarettes come in all different shapes. Some common styles look like a thick pen, a stylus for an iPad, a flash drive, or a small flask with a round chimney coming off the top. One of the most popular trends in vaping is 'Juuling.' Juuling is a very discreet form of vaping; a Juul closely resembles a thumb drive. The devices are very small and can easily be hidden.

Below are some links that are designed to help educate parents.

https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/SGR_ECig_ParentTipSheet_508.pdf

<https://www.lung.org/stop-smoking/smoking-facts/e-cigarettes-parents.html>

https://downloads.aap.org/RCE/ENDShandout_Parents.pdf

<https://www.facebook.com/PetroliaCISD/posts/2616944558336024>



Showtimes

Friday, Nov. 15 7pm

Saturday, Nov. 16 7pm

Sunday, Nov. 17 2pm

INTO THE WOODS is this year's high school musical. The dates are Friday, November 15, (7:00 p.m.), Saturday, November 16, (7:00 p.m.), and Sunday, November 17, (2:00 p.m.), in the St. John High School Auditorium. Music Theater, Inc. in NY, has granted us the copyright to present this play written and composed by Stephen Sondheim, book by James Lapine, and originally directed on Broadway in New York by James Lapine. This play is part comedy, part drama, and the characters are ones everyone knows from reading fairy tales as children. The characters include Cinderella, her stepmother and two stepsisters; Jack and the Beanstalk; a baker and his wife; Little Red Riding Hood and Granny, and a wolf; Rapunzel and her witchy mother; a couple of princes; a steward at the palace, a giant, and a small bit of Snow White and Sleeping Beauty. The audience will be familiar with parts of the tales, and not so familiar with other parts. Wendy Hacker is the director and Jane Bennington the producer. Please mark your calendars and plan to see this one!!!!

Interview with a Robotics Teacher

By ISAC MATA

Q: Why did you start teaching robotics?

I taught robotics several years ago in my previous teaching position. It began due to interest in robotics by the students and I was willing to take a risk and try something outside of my comfort zone.

Q: How many years of college did it take to learn robotics?

I didn't actually go to college to teach robotics specifically. I have attended some workshops on robotics and done a lot of personal professional development on them.

Q: What is the robotics class doing this year?

A: We have three seniors in robotics this semester. We are completing our first robot now. We plan to learn through the process of building our first robot according to the instruction manual. Then we will be taking what we learn from building their model to create and design our own robots. We have several challenges we would like to complete in class. Depending on our success, we will decide whether we will be doing competitions this school year or not.

Q: Do you have any tips for students learning robotics?

Robotics is a lot of problem solving and design thinking. I encourage you to take math and science classes and don't be afraid to think outside the box.

Q: What is your favorite robot.

I don't really have a favorite robot, but I do enjoy working with the VEX robotics.



*Alysha Dickson, new 7-12th grade math & robotics teacher.
Photo courtesy of Dick Smith*

Anti-Bullying Awareness Week Oct. 7-11, 2019

By KIM VOLKER, Elementary Counselor

This Year's Theme is "Choose Peace".

- **Monday** - Highlight peace in our lives. **Wear bright or neon colors**
- **Tuesday** - Spike the level of peace in our school. **Wear Tiger shirts, Volleyball shirts, or dress the part of a volleyball player**
- **Wednesday** - Work toward peaceful solutions. **Wear Workout Clothes.**
- **Thursday** - Take Steps toward Peace. **Wear sweatbands or Cross Country gear and Sneakers.**
- **Friday** - Blue is the color of trust and peace. **Wear blue and display our purpose, passion, and pride in being a peaceful Tiger!**

SJH FCCLA POWDER PUFF FOOD BANK BOWL 2019

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH — BLIDE FIELD

7:00 P.M. — CROWNING 6:45 P.M.

Admission:
Non-perishable
food items to be
donated to the
Stafford Co.
Food Bank



HOT CHOCOLATE
& WATER FOR
SALE IN
CONCESSIONS \$1

History Comes Alive: 7th Grade Field Trip

By CHRIS FERNANDEZ



Right: A live rattlesnake from the Rattlesnake exhibit.
Photo by Chris Fernandez

On Friday, September 6, 2019, the 7th graders took a field trip to the Sternberg Museum. The museum was very impressive, including a huge, realistic, robotic t-rex exhibit that moved. One of the most memorable exhibits was the world-renowned "Fish Within a Fish" exhibit, displayed for all to see upon first entering the exhibit area on the first floor. The class also got to see various types of live rattlesnakes and tortoises. However, due to remodeling, the class didn't get to visit the whole museum, including an Ice Age section. After touring the museum, the class ate lunch at Frontier Park which once connected the historic Fort Hays with the city of Hays. According to the sponsor and history teacher, Mr. Bauer, the most memorable and student-bonding moment of the trip was a student losing their cellphone in the river at the park and the resulting search. Jorja Blakeslee's commented, "I think the trip was very fun. Besides the phone in the water, the best part was the waterfall."

Below: A dinosaur, found at the top exhibit of the Sternberg Museum.
Photo by Chris Fernandez



AJ MILLER TREY FISHER MARSHALL WOOLF AUSTIN DALTON WOLFE DREW REED DANIEL CALLENDOS NICHOLAS HUSTON AUSTIN KUHN KARIM HERRERA DOMINIC MILLER WITH ERWIN FERNANDEZ AS THE MANAGER DANNY SMITH AS THE ASSISTANT & JOEL TIEP AS HEAD COACH



Sat., Sept. 7th : @ TMP

Sat., Sept. 14th : @ Wamego

Thurs., Sept. 19th : St. John Invitational

Thurs., Sept. 26th : @ Larned

Tues., Oct. 1st : @ Lyons - 4:00 pm

Thurs., Oct. 3rd : @ Pratt - 4:00 pm

Thurs., Oct. 10th : @ Sterling - 3:30 pm

Thurs., Oct. 17th : @ Ness City

Sat., Oct. 26th - Regional

Sat., Nov. 2nd - State

SJH Football



Sept. 6th - @ Medicine Lodge

Sept. 13th - @ Kinsley

Sept. 20th - vs. Ness City

Sept. 27th - vs. Macksville

Oct. 4th - vs. Central Plains

Oct. 11th - @ Moundridge

Oct. 18th - vs. Little River

Oct. 25th - @ Skyline

Oct. 31st - TBD

Nov. 8th - Regional

Nov. 15th - Sectional

Nov. 22nd - Sub-State

Nov. 30th - State



2019-2020

ST. JOHN VOLLEYBALL 2019 - 2020



Sept. 3rd - @ Burrton w/ Halstead
Sept. 5th - vs. Larned
Sept. 7th - @ Skyline Tournament
Sept. 10th - @ Hoisington w/ Haven

Sept. 12th - vs. Med. Lodge & Garden Plain
Sept. 17th - Home Quad
Sept. 24th - vs. Ellinwood & Macksville
Sept. 28th - @ Hoisington

Oct. 1st - @ Otis-Bison w/ Victoria
Oct. 8th - @ Kinsley w/ LaCrosse
Oct. 10th - @ Trinity Academy
Oct. 15th - @ Ness City w/ Central Plains

Oct. 19th - CPL @ Ness City
Oct. 22nd - Regional
Oct. 26th - Sub-State
Nov. 1 & 2 - State





October 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i> 1:00pm Tennis @ Ashland 4:00pm HSVB @ Otis -Bison w/Victoria 4:00pm XC @ Lyons	2 7:00am Annual Health Fair for Adults 7:30am Walk to School Day Junior field trip to Fort Hays	3 <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i> 3:00pm Varsity Tennis @ Great Bend 4:00pm HS XC @ Pratt 4:30pm JH VB/FB v Kinsley (H)	4 7:00pm HS FB v Central Plains (H) <i>PreK Friday</i>	5 9:00am JH JV VB CPL East @ Home
6	7 <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i> Kansas Honor Scholars Reception Great Bend	8 4:00pm HSVB @ Kinsley w/LaCrosse <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i>	9 Freshman field trip to HCC	10 <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i> 3:30pm JH/HS XC @ Sterling 4:30pm JH VB/FB @ Ellinwood 5:00pm HSVB@Trinity Academy	11 7:00pm HSFB @ Moundridge	12 9:00am JH VB CPL Varsity (H)
13	14 7:00pm BOE Meeting	15 Picture Day 4:00pm HSVB @ Ness City w/Central Plains <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i>	16	17 End of 1st 9 weeks 4:00pm HS XC CPL @ Ness City 4:30pm JH VB/FB v Victoria (H) <i>TBD- Play Rehearsal</i>	<div> <div>18 No School Staff Dev/Workday Senior Night 7:00pm HSFB v Little River (H)</div> <div> <div>Regional Tennis</div> <div>State Tennis</div> </div> </div>	
20	21 <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i> 7:00pm JH/HS Band & Choir Concert	22 <i>TBD-Regional VB</i>	23	24 6:45pm FCCCLA Food Bank Powder Puff <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i>	25 7:00pm HSFB @ Skyline PreK-12 Annual Dental Screenings	26 ACT Exam <i>TBD-Sub State VB</i> <i>TBD-Regional XC</i>
27	28 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30pm <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i>	29 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30pm <i>TBD-Play Rehearsal</i>	30	31 <i>TBD-HSFB</i> 9:00am FCCCLA Halloween Contest <i>KAY Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF</i>		

USD #350

OCTOBER

2019

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST	1 BREAKFAST	2 BREAKFAST	3 BREAKFAST	4 BREAKFAST
	Breakfast Burrito Applesauce Grape Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Bar Mini Muffin Apple Juice Milk	Breakfast Pizza Pineapple Orange Juice Cereal Milk	Banana Bread Peaches Apple Juice Cereal Milk
	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
	Salisbury Steak Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Taco Salad Lettuce & Tomatoes Cheddar Cheese Corn Pineapple Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk	Chicken Nuggets Potatoes & Gravy Broccoli Sliced Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Cheeseburger/Bun French Fries Baked Beans Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk
7 BREAKFAST	8 BREAKFAST	9 BREAKFAST	10 BREAKFAST	11 BREAKFAST
Breakfast Bites Mixed Fruit Apple Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Pizza Applesauce Orange Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Burrito Pineapple Orange/Pineapple Juice Cereal Milk	French Toast Sticks Pears Apple Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Bar Peaches Grape Juice Cereal Milk
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Chicken Fajita Lettuce & Tomatoes Cheddar Cheese Refried Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk	Corn Dog Tater Wedges Baby Carrots Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Lettuce Salad Green Beans Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit French Bread Milk	Chicken & Noodles Whipped Potatoes Peas Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Baby Carrots Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Milk
14 BREAKFAST	15 BREAKFAST	16 BREAKFAST	17 BREAKFAST	18 BREAKFAST
Pancake on a Stick Pears Apple Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Pizza Pineapple Grape Juice Cereal Milk	French Toast Sticks Mixed Fruit Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk	Banana Bread Applesauce Apple Juice Cereal Milk	NO School!!!
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Chicken Strips Potatoes & Gravy Broccoli Sliced Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Chicken Quesadilla Lettuce Salad Corn Applesauce Fresh Fruit Milk Birthday Cake	Chili Relish Plate Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit Crackers Cinnamon Roll Milk	Soft Taco Lettuce & Tomato Cheddar Cheese Refried Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk	NO School!!!
21 BREAKFAST	22 BREAKFAST	23 BREAKFAST	24 BREAKFAST	25 BREAKFAST
Breakfast Bites Pineapple Apple Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Pizza Applesauce Grape Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Burrito Pears Pineapple Juice Cereal Milk	Biscuits & Gravy Peaches Apple Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Bar Pineapple Orange Juice Cereal Milk
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Turkey & Cheese Sub Lettuce & Tomatoes Baby Carrots Applesauce Fresh Fruit Milk	Chicken Fried Steak Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Vegetables Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Huntington Chicken Lettuce Salad Green Beans Sliced Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Hamburger/Bun French Fries Baked Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk	Beef Pizza Tossed Salad Corn Applesauce Fresh Fruit Milk
28 BREAKFAST	29 BREAKFAST	30 BREAKFAST	31 BREAKFAST	
Pancake on a Stick Pears Grape Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Pizza Applesauce Apple Juice Cereal Milk	French Toast Sticks Sliced Peaches Pineapple/Orange Juice Cereal Milk	Breakfast Burrito Sliced Pears Orange Juice Cereal Milk	
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
Chicken Tetrastini Tossed Salad Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	Sloppy Joe/Bun Tater Tots Baked Beans Sliced Peaches Fresh Fruit Milk	Lasagna Lettuce Salad Green Beans Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit French Bread Milk	Hamburger Gravy Whipped Potatoes Broccoli Pineapple Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk	This Institution is an equal opportunity provider

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ST JOHN KS 67576

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