

MARCH 2023

TIGER TALK

ST JOHN HUDSON USD 350

**1ST
PLACE**

Junior High Scholars Bowl

pg 6



0101202302282023

GOOGLE
NATIONWIDE
CONTEST

pg 7

SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWS

by Josh Meyer, Superintendent

Simon Senek, in his book *Start with Why*, talks about how businesses and organizations know exactly what they do and how they do it. The most successful organizations know WHY they do what they do and communicate that clearly.

As a school staff, we have been discussing this concept. Obviously our WHY is students, but it goes deeper than that. Ultimately our purpose is to ensure students leave our school system and are able to be successful in whatever it is they choose to do. But deeper than that, successful students contribute positively to our community and society. So our purpose, our WHY, is to make our community a better place.

As we move toward spring break, I reflect on the last three years as we navigated through a global pandemic. In March of 2020, it was announced during spring break that schools would be closed for the remainder of the school year. School districts had to figure out how to provide “remote” learning and families had to learn to deal with that challenge at home. The following school year, we had to work through mask mandates, hybrid learning, and quarantines. It was a challenging school year, but was much better than keeping kids at home. Then last school year, we still had some of the same lingering issues to deal with, but we pretty much returned back to normal in January.

While it seems like now we have been operating as we did pre-Covid for some time, we really are not very far removed from it. This is actually the first “normal” school year we have had. It is crazy to think that the only year our graduating seniors will have had in high school without significant disruptions is this year.

Over the last three years, we were forced to shift our WHY from student success to just keeping the doors open and keeping everyone safe. Obviously that shift was not good for our true mission of ensuring students are successful. One can make value judgements about what should have been done with Covid at the local, state, and national levels. At this point, the only thing that matters moving forward is that we keep student success always at the center of our WHY.

There is a big push in the Kansas legislature to privatize education. Similar bills are being debated in states around the country. I often question why many legislators in our state are attacking public schools and pushing to incentivize families to remove their kids from public education. The WHY here is very simple: money. There is a lot of money to be made by private companies to provide students with an education. This is why we are seeing a national effort here.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

NO SCHOOL

March 1st All day

MUSIC FESTIVAL

March 1st All day

NO SCHOOL

March 3rd

SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL

March 13th - 17th

JH SCHOLARS BOWL

March 21st @ 3:30 pm

KAY/KAYETTES 5TH/6TH BASKETBALL

March 25th

FORENSICS MEET

March 25th

SPRING SPORTS PICTURES

March 31st

SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The USD board of education passed a resolution speaking out against sending public tax dollars to private schools and home schools that have zero accountability for use of public funds. This is not to say that private schools or home schools are bad. There is just no oversight into what is taught and how public money is spent. I hope our legislators ask real questions about these voucher programs and understand WHY they are being pushed by special interest groups from outside our state.

Early education is an important focus for our district. It's critical that students enter Kindergarten ready to learn. Our district offers free preschool for all students ages 3 and up. All new preschool students **MUST** attend a screening to be eligible to attend our preschool. The screenings help us identify specific student needs and help us plan for the upcoming school year.

There will be a preschool screening on Friday, April 14th from 9:00-2:00 at the Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library in St. John. Call 620-672-7500 to schedule an appointment. Other screenings are available but this is the only one held in St. John. Kindergarten roundup is scheduled for April 21st. Information has been sent to preschool families. Contact the elementary office with any questions.

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



ASSESSMENT SEASON IS DRAWING NEAR!

by Angela Petersen, Elementary Principal

With Spring comes the excitement of special activities and events, new sports seasons, field trips, and other special programs. However, this is also one of the most essential academic periods for our students. It is during this final quarter of the year that we have the opportunity to assess the growth and learning of our students in a number of different ways. Teachers gather classroom measures of achievement, we administer a final round of benchmark testing to measure foundational skills in reading and math, and, as most of you know, students get the chance to take end of year Kansas State Assessments!

Some of you may wonder why I put an excited exclamation point at the end of a sentence about state testing... I truly do see this as a meaningful way for our students to demonstrate a number of different skills. Not only are they measured on mastery of content standards, but they are also able to display their ability to attend to a task, their willingness to approach these requirements with a seriousness of purpose, their grit and perseverance in dealing with a difficult task, as well as certain test taking strategies that will benefit them in their life outside of school. Think about all the tests we take as adults—certifications, college exams, job-based skills tests, even the privilege of getting a driver's license is a high stakes test! The more practice we have in a safe environment like an elementary classroom, the more likely we are to be emotionally prepared for and successful in taking tests for the rest of our lives. While this is a small measure of ---



what our students know and can do, it is still an important part of their academic preparation and we are excited about these elements of the testing season.

My request of our families and community is that you help our students join in this excitement about this chance to show what they know. Although the four performance categories reported in our state level data are limited, teachers and families are provided with numerical student scores within each of these ranges. Even moving a student's needle one point in the right direction is a success to celebrate! The more we diminish stress and build confidence, the better the mindset of our test takers and teachers will be.

Throughout this school year, I have seen tremendous amounts of growth in our students both academically and social-emotionally. We have so many things to celebrate and so many achievements to hang our hats on. We look forward to partnering with all of you to make this assessment season a joyful time that provides a positive sense of accomplishment. As always, together we are the village it takes to raise our children and we sincerely appreciate all of the support our families and communities provide.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

91 STUDENTS ENTERED NATIONWIDE GOOGLE CONTEST

by Ixchel Mixon

The elementary students had been practicing for months before the 2023 Doodle for Google contest opened up! They were all super excited to participate in this yearly contest for the first time. This year's theme was "I am grateful for" The students were to draw something that they are grateful for while using the word Google as part of the drawing. Some students created four or five practice drawings before selecting their final submission. Keep in mind these students were not prompted WHAT to draw specifically, but rather they had to use their imagination on how to they could incorporate the Google letters in a creative way. Below you will find some of the entries submitted to Google.



by Harper Sallee



by Eliza Snider

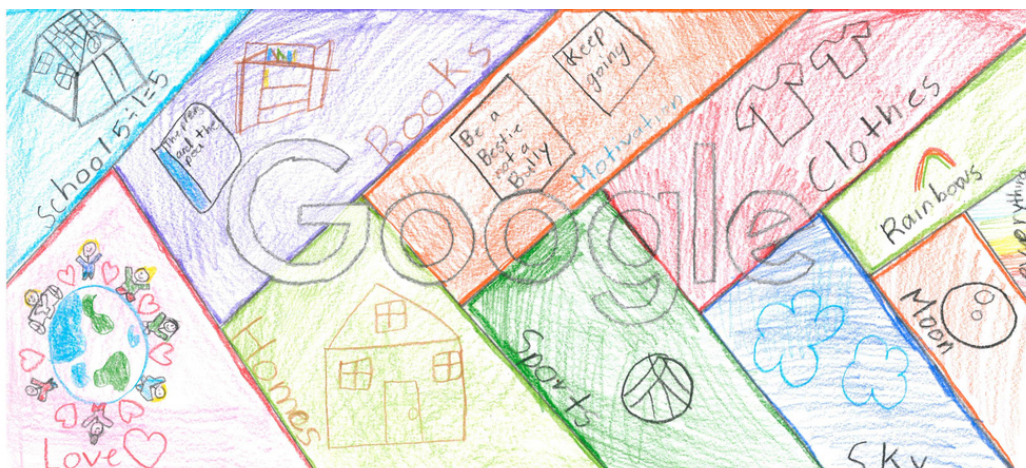
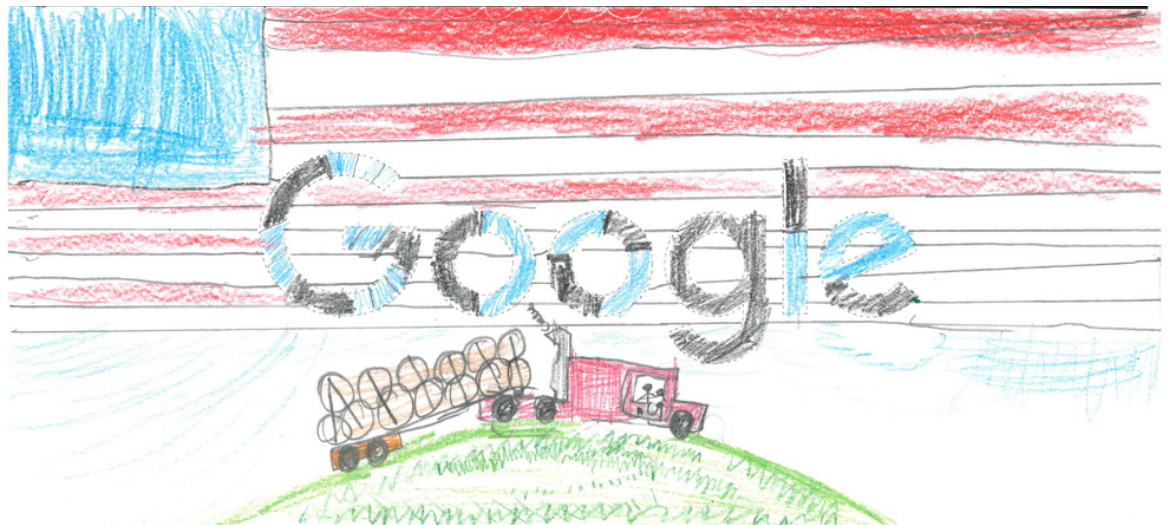


by Treyson Turner



by Rowen Long

by Sawyer Long



by Kinsey Ward

*by Bryson
Knight*



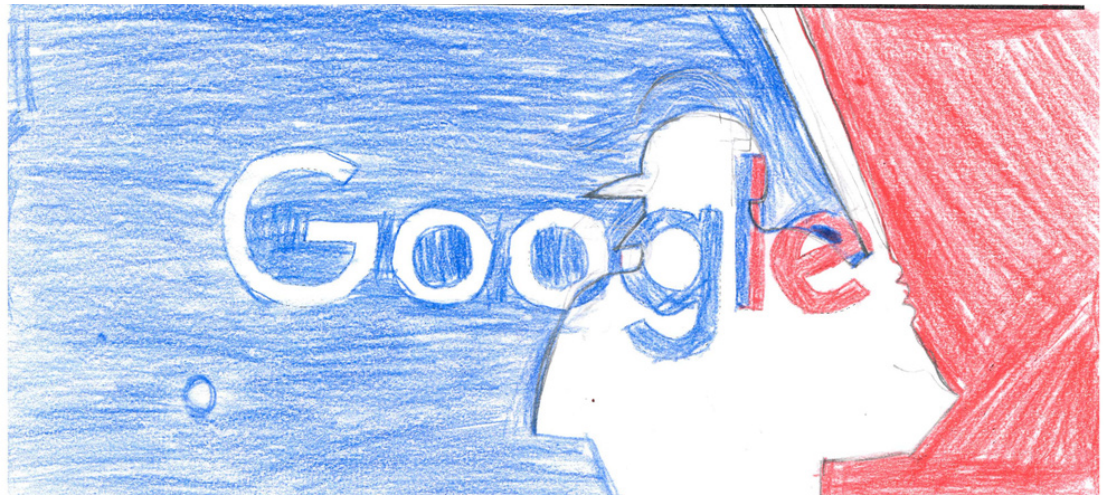
*by Taylor
Ward*

*by Morgan
McKiearnan*





*by Clint
Smith*



*by Kenyon
Barney*



*by Lainey
Peterson*



CONGRATS TO OUR JH SCHOLARS BOWL.

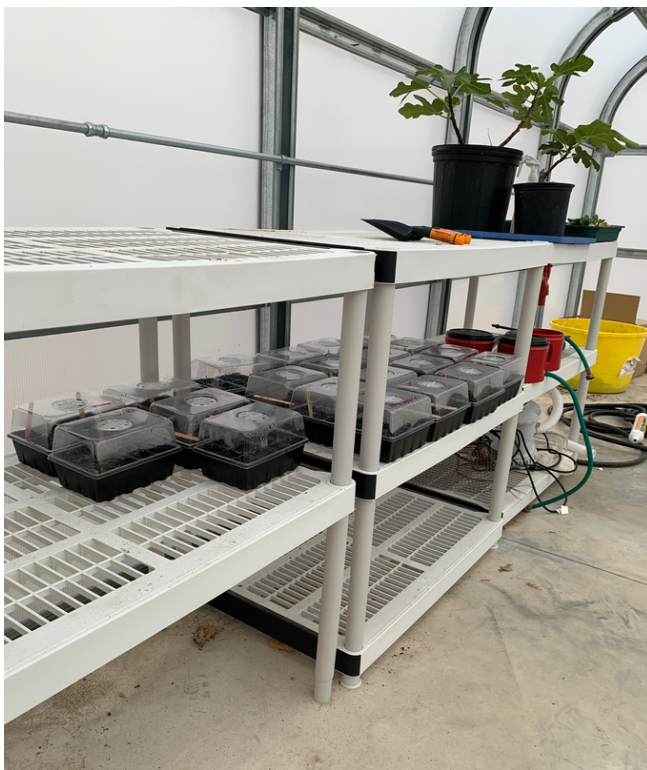
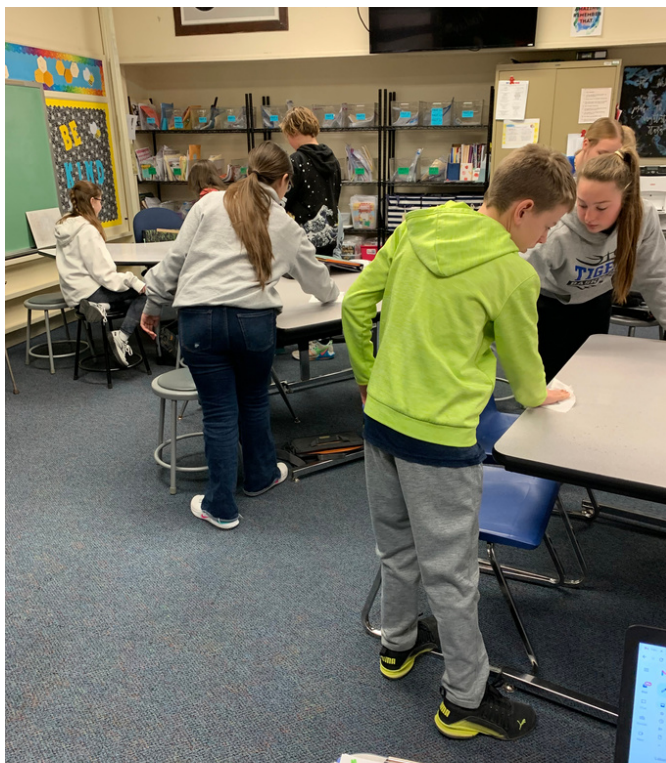
On Feb 21st, they traveled to Otis to compete and the 7th graders went 5-0 and placed 1st in JV while the 8th graders went 3-2 and placed 3rd in Varsity.



6TH GRADERS BEGIN POLLINATOR GARDEN

by Kim Helfrich

6th graders planted seeds for their pollinator garden--they will be in the greenhouse until they are big enough to transplant.

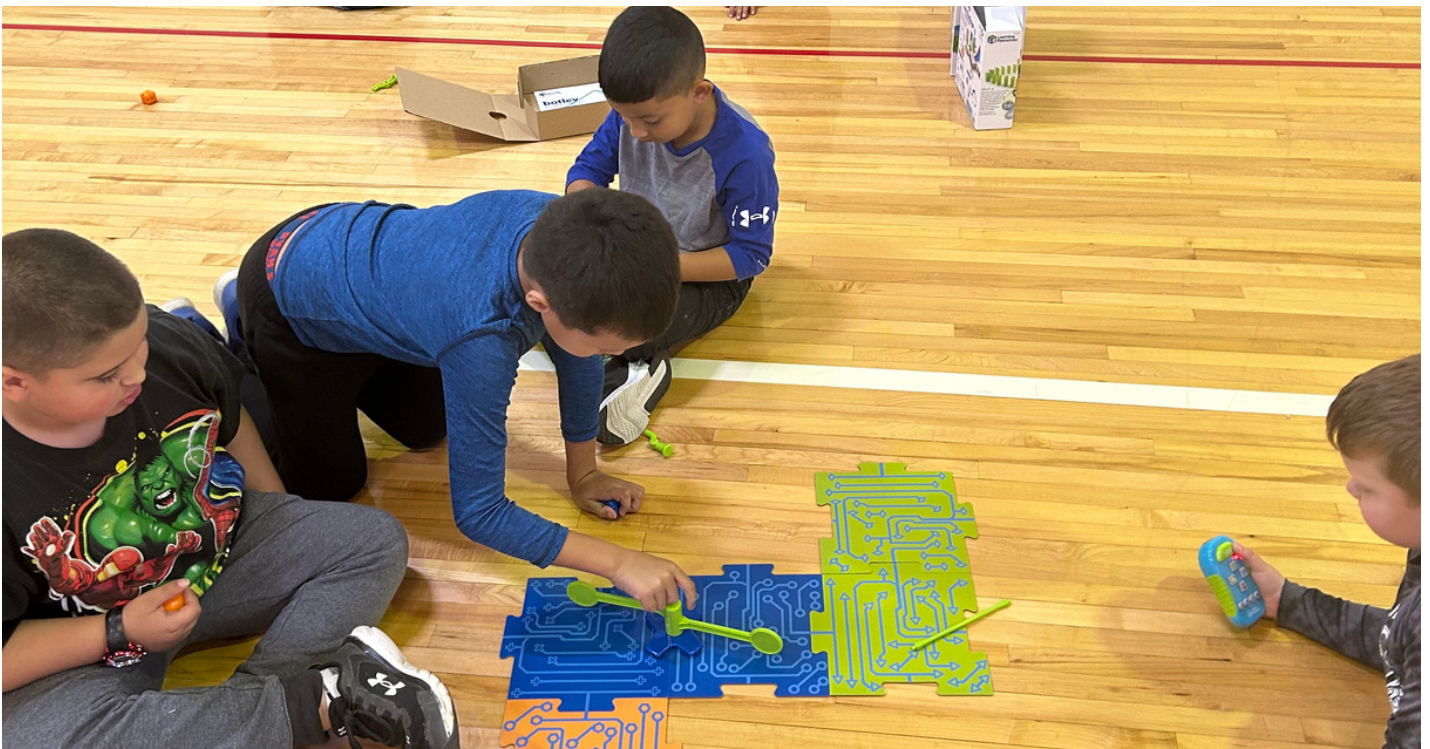


ELEMENTARY CODING ROBOTS!

by Ixchel Mixon

Elementary students built obstacle courses for their Botley robots. They worked together in teams to create a variety of challenges for their robots to complete then they took turns coding their robots to navigate their courses.





2ND GRADERS USING MATH WRAP UPS

by Taylor Behr

2nd grade using their new math wrap ups to practice addition and subtraction facts. This purchase was made possible by the South Central Community Foundation.



SPORTS

BOYS/GIRLS TRACK

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
March 28th	LARNED	Away	3 pm
March 30th	LA CROSSE	Away	3 pm

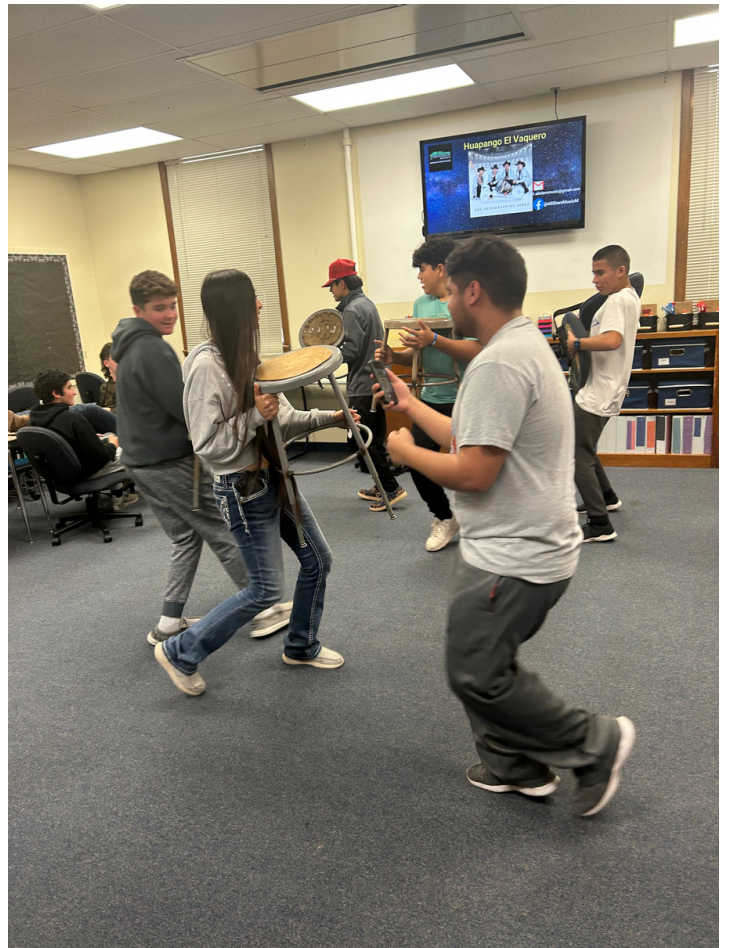


GOLF

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
March 30th	INVITATIONAL	Home	3 pm



GALLERY

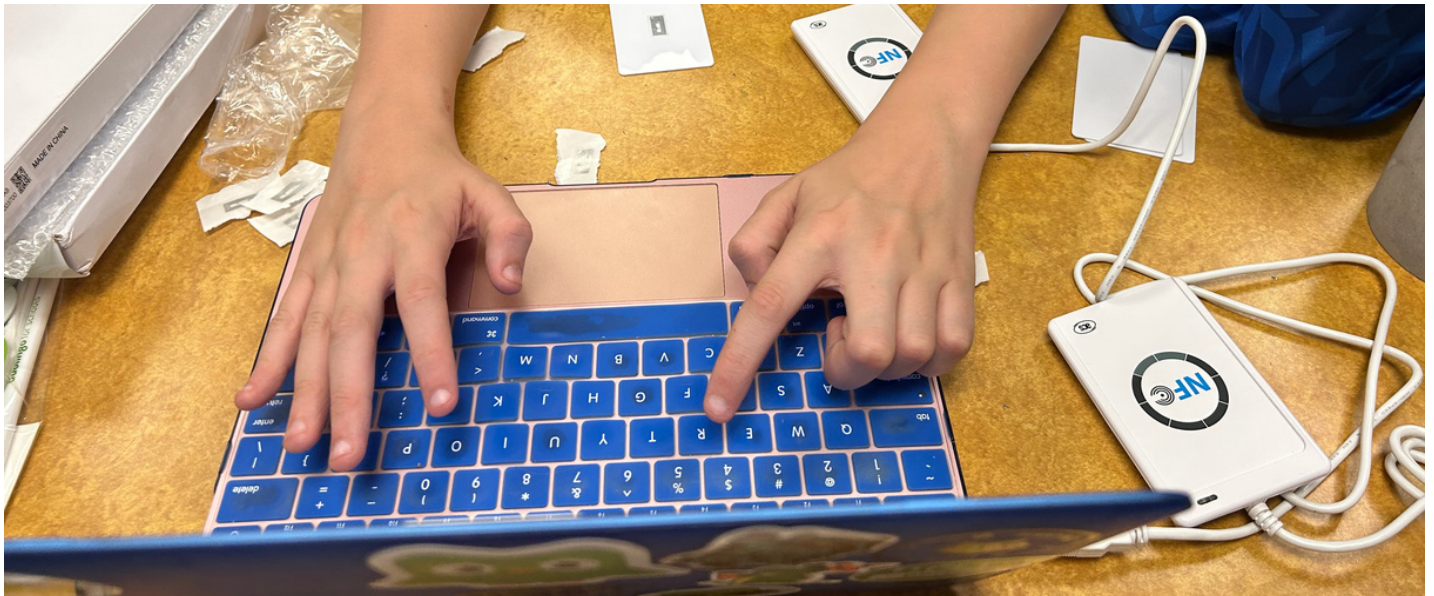




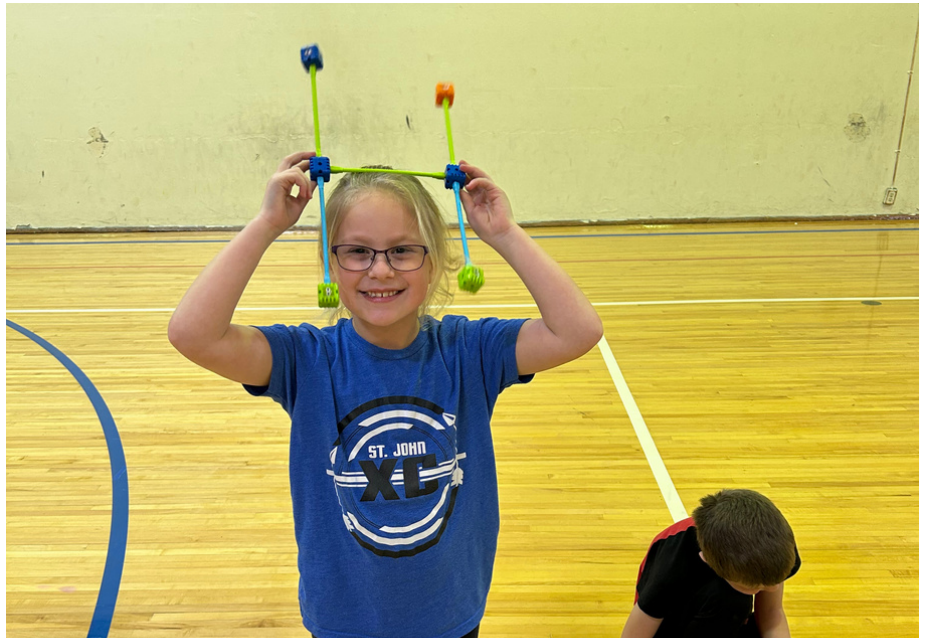












FOOD MENU

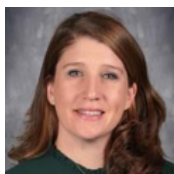
USD #350		MARCH		2023		Menu is subject to change			
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
				1 BREAKFAST		2 BREAKFAST		3 BREAKFAST	
				NO SCHOOL!!		French Toast Sticks Apple Juice Mixed Fruit Cereal Milk		NO SCHOOL!!	
				LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	
				NO SCHOOL!!		Taco Salad Lettuce & Tomatoes Refried Beans Cheese Pineapple Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk		NO SCHOOL!!	
6 BREAKFAST		7 BREAKFAST		8 BREAKFAST		9 BREAKFAST		10 BREAKFAST	
Mini Waffles Grape Juice Pineapple Cereal Milk		Breakfast Pizza Orange Juice Applesauce Cereal Milk		Breakfast Burrito Apple Juice Peaches Cereal Milk		Breakfast Bar Orange/Pineapple Juice Pears Cereal Milk		Pumpkin Bread Grape Juice Pineapple Cereal Milk	
LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	
Sloppy Joe/Bun French Fries Baby Carrots Applesauce Fresh Fruit Milk		Chicken Fried Steak Potatoes & Gravy Broccoli Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Huntington Chicken Lettuce Salad Green Beans Sliced Pears Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Hamburger/Bun Tater Wedges Baked Beans Pineapple Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk		Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Corn Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Milk	
13 BREAKFAST		14 BREAKFAST		15 BREAKFAST		16 BREAKFAST		17 BREAKFAST	
NO SCOOO!!!		NO SCHOOL!!		NO SCHOOL!!		NO SCHOOL!!		NO SCHOOL!!	
LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	
SPRING BREAK!!		SPRING BREAK!!		SPRING BREAK!!		This institution is an equal opportunity provider		SPRING BREAK!!	
20 BREAKFAST		21 BREAKFAST		22 BREAKFAST		23 BREAKFAST		24 BREAKFAST	
Pancake on a Stick Grape Juice Mixed Fruit Cereal Milk		Muffin Orange Juice Peaches Cereal Milk		Biscuits & Gravy Apple Juice Mixed Fruit Cereal Milk		French Toast Sticks Orange Juice Pineapple Cereal Milk		Banana Bread Apple Juice Pears Cereal Milk	
LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	
Ham & Cheese Sandwich Tossed Salad Baby Carrots Peaches Birthday Cake Milk		Hamburger Gravy Whipped Potatoes Green Beans Mixed Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Soft Taco Lettuce & Tomato Cheddar Cheese Refried Beans Pineapple Cookie Milk		Chicken Nuggets Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Vegetable Pears Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Cheese Quesadilla Lettuce Salad Baby Carrots Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk	
27 BREAKFAST		28 BREAKFAST		29 BREAKFAST		30 BREAKFAST		31 BREAKFAST	
Mini Waffles Pineapple Grape Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Pizza Applesauce Orange Juice Cereal Milk		Breakfast Burrito Apple Juice Peaches Cereal Milk		Breakfast Bar Orange Juice Mixed Fruit Cereal Milk		Pumpkin Bread Apple Juice Pears Cereal Milk	
LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH		LUNCH	
Cowboy Cavatini Tossed Salad Green Beans Applesauce Fresh Fruit French Bread Milk		Salisbury Steak Potatoes & Gravy Peas Peaches Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Cheeseburger/Bun French Fries Baked Beans Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Cookie Milk		Chicken Strips Potatoes & Gravy Broccoli Pears Fresh Fruit Hot Roll Milk		Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Corn Pineapple Fresh Fruit Milk	

CONTACT INFORMATION



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BOARD OF EDUCATION

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ST. JOHN HUDSON USD 350

PURPOSE 🐾 PASSION 🐾 PRIDE

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ST. JOHN JR / SR HIGH SCHOOL

Blain White, *Principal*
Stephanie Smith, *Secretary*
Jennifer Fischer, *Secretary*

SCHOOL NURSE

Lisa Cornwell, *CTE Coordinator*
Krystal Burton, *Nurse*

LIBRARY

(620) 549 - 3227, *Phone*
Laura Davis, *Director*
Pat Crissman, *Clerk*
Mark Bryant, *Clerk*

“

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

*Use your smartphone
camera to scan.*



DIGITAL NEWSLETTER