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FACE PAINTING BY ANGIE, 6TH GRADE

**SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWS**

*by Josh Meyer, Superintendent*

September 20th marks the official count day for enrollment. This year, we had 345 students enrolled and attending on count day. This is up one from last year. The average per grade is a little over 23 students. The high school has 92 students which puts us at class 1A for activities again this year. While we are seeing a slight declining trend, it is only in the neighborhood of a couple of kids per year.

Every year, students take state assessments in the spring. These tests are administered for math and reading in grades 3 through 8 and again in grade 10. How students perform on these tests is communicated in categories from 1 through 4, with 4 being the highest level of performance. Students scoring in categories 2 and up are considered performing at grade level and categories 3 and up are considered college ready.

For the 2021 assessments, roughly 27% of USD 350 students scored in the top 2 categories (college ready) and 72% of students scored in the top 3 categories (grade level). This year, there has been some change in legislation to redefine "grade level" as levels 3 and up. I cannot speak to the motivation behind the change, but obviously there is a clear difference between the percentage of students that score in categories 2-4 as compared to 3-4. So how are parents and patrons to know the difference, and why does it matter?

First, consider that a score of level 3 on the Kansas assessments for math and reading equates to a 23 on the ACT. College readiness benchmarks for the ACT are 22 for both math and reading. Students

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

**THIS EDITION'S EDITORS**

**JACY WILLINGER-JASPER**  
*9th Grade*

**KEATON BURNS**  
*9th Grade*

**EVELYN LOPEZ**  
*10th Grade*

**KATLYN ELLIOT**  
*12th Grade*

**MRS. IXCHEL MIXON**  
*Interactive Media*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



PHOTO BY IXCHEL MIXON

## TENNIS @ DODGE CITY

Oct 1st @ 9 am

## JH CPL JV VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Oct 1st @ 9 am and JH Quad @ Larned 3 pm

## 10TH GRADE VISIT TO WSU

Oct 5th

## WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Oct 5th @ 7:40 am

## REGIONAL TENNIS

Oct 7th - 8th

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Oct 10th @ 7 pm

## PICTURE DAY

Oct 11th All Day

## 11TH GRADE VISIT TO FHSU

Oct 12th

## END OF FIRST 9 WEEKS

Oct 13th

## 1ST GRADE FIELD TRIP TO PUMPKIN PATCH

Oct 13th

## NO SCHOOL / STAFF WORK DAY

Oct 14th

## STATE TENNIS

Oct 14th - 15th

## 8TH GRADE VISIT TO BCCC

Oct 19th

## 11TH GRADE ACT WORK KEYS

Oct 19th

## ACT EXAM

Oct 22nd

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Oct 24th - 25th @ 4 pm - 7:30 pm

By appointment only, please contact front office

## PRE-ACT 8TH - 9TH GRADE

Oct 26th

## NO SCHOOL

Oct 28th

## TECH CLUB VIRTUAL REALITY FUNDRAISER

Oct 28rd @ 3 pm to 5 pm

At Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library



# SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that score in the top two levels are likely to score a 23 or better on the ACT. This score is well above the average score for Kansans that take the ACT.

This matters because there is a political narrative that public schools are failing children in Kansas. Redefining what is considered grade-level performance on state tests to make schools look bad is part of this narrative.

In addition to the state assessments, we look at other data points to determine the effectiveness of our schools and identify opportunities for improvement. Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade take nationally normed tests 3 times per year. In the spring of 2022, we had 88% performing at grade level in math and 81% in reading.

The true measure of success is how students do when they leave our school district. There are many ways to define success after high school. One of those is measuring success in postsecondary education (technical school, certificate programs, university). If a student earns a degree, or an industry certificate, or has completed two years of post-secondary education then he or she is considered “successful” in postsecondary education. On average, 63% of USD 350 students meet that benchmark. Compare this to the state average of 52%. While these other data points are not perfect, they do give a better representation of how students in the St. John-Hudson school district are performing. So if you hear that we are failing our students only based on state test scores, you will know that is not true.

The general election is coming up on November 8th. The deadline to register is October 18th and advanced voting begins October 19th. Regardless of your political affiliation or stance on the current issues, it is important that you get out and vote. Many of the statewide races will have a large influence on our school district budget and operations in the months and years to come including governor, legislators, and judicial retention. I encourage you to stay informed and take time to vote.

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](mailto: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



## SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

*by Angela Petersen, Elementary Principal*

The month of September flew by for our students in grades PreK-6th. Teachers focused on diving deeper into our academic standards and getting our kids off to a strong start towards mastering their grade level content. We also gave benchmark tests to our students so that we will be able to monitor their individual progress in reading and math throughout the year. We look forward to sharing that information with you at our upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences.

Real-world learning continued to be a focus in all grades. Through trips to local businesses, the Career Fair event, relevant classroom reading with connections to current events, and even emergency drills, our students were able to make connections between what they are hearing about in the classroom and how it will benefit them outside of the school day. We greatly appreciate all the support our community provides to us and look forward to new and continued partnerships with many of you!

Here are some highlights from each grade level: The PRESCHOOL classrooms have settled into their routines for the school year and are having a blast! They are learning all about colors, shapes, and letters of the alphabet.



KINDERGARTEN is growing everyday. They are working hard on sight words, numbers, letters, and sounds. They also completed a unit on apples. Everyday is an adventure! FIRST grade is very proud to share that they have an excellent attendance record and that they are having lots of fun in class.



SECOND grade scientists have finished up learning about plants and will be moving on to animals. Science lessons will align with reading units. They've already learned about how desert animals adapt to their environments. FIRST & SECOND graders also loved their trip to Wild at Heart Bee Farm!

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In the upper grades, the great accomplishments continue. THIRD graders are cooperating as a class to earn honeycombs for their class beehive. FOURTH graders are working extremely hard to make AR goals and are also enjoying learning about volcanoes. Students in FIFTH grade were able to go to the science lab and do an experiment about the absorbency of paper towel brands. They're mastered the seven continents and five major oceans. A webquest helped deepen their understanding of the events of 9/11.

Finally, our SIXTH grader leaders are proud of their behavior and ability to help other students. They are going strong with attendance, academics, and sports. They've also built a robotics arena!



In October, we have tons of things to look forward to! Many classes will be learning about pumpkins and visiting pumpkin patches. Students will tackle some really tough concepts like single and multi-digit multiplication, advanced phonics and deep reading comprehension, as well as scientific experimentation. There are also a lot of big events this month. Walk to School Wednesday was a huge success with over 150 people in attendance. We also have an Art Auction Assembly, Fire Prevention Week, Anti-Bullying Week, and a Costume Parade coming up this month. Be on the lookout for more information on those!

Finally, we can't wait to see all of you for in-person Parent Teacher Conferences on October 24th and 25th. Please take advantage of our online signup platform at <https://signup.com/go/yzBTCUY> Feel free to reach out to the elementary office if you have any issues with this site. Thank you so much for all that you do each and every day to help your child come to school safe, secure, and ready to be successful! Your support helps us to soar!

# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## 7TH GRADERS DESIGN THEIR OWN LOGOS

By Mrs. Mixon

The 7th graders are learning how to create a digital presence for businesses. They have created their own faux businesses as they practice digital branding styles by designing their own logos. These logos will be used to create other digital assets, such as: business cards, business flyers, business profiles, business websites and more. Some of their creations can be found below.

Two logos designed by Zoey C.



One logo designed by Emmett D.



One logo designed by Yannelly A.



Three logos designed by Jalyn F.





# HUMAN BODY BIOLOGY CLASS

By Keaton Burns

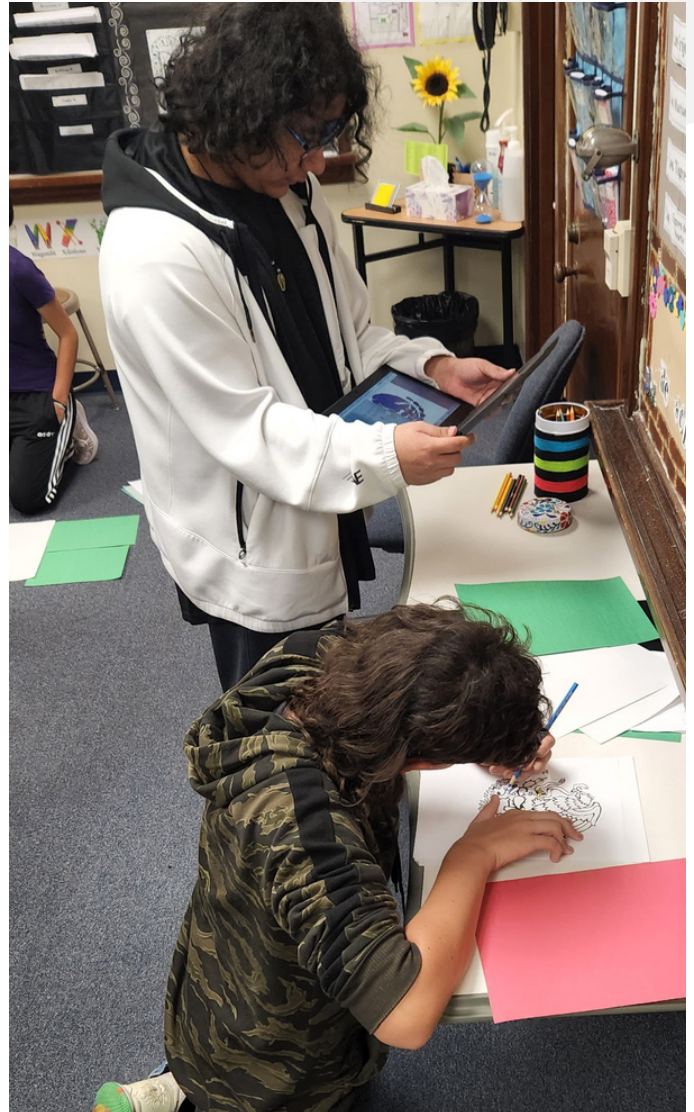
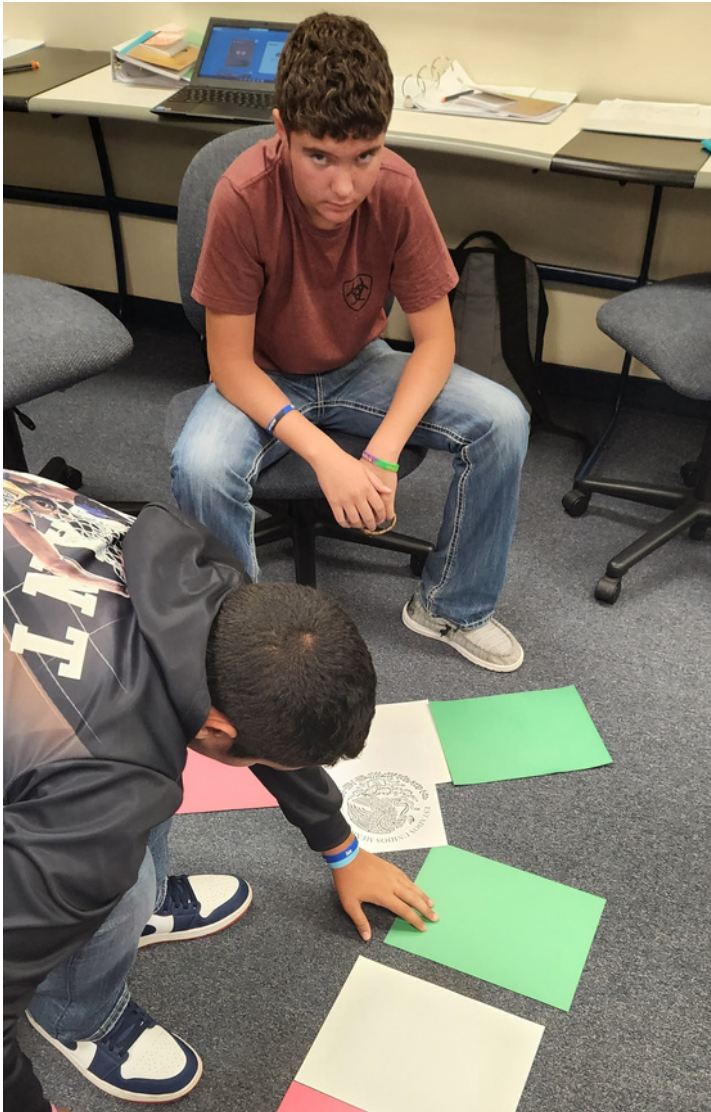
The students in Human Body/Biology class are working on learning and using anatomical terminology. One way to practice this is to do surgery on cousins of Flat Stanley. The patients are paper tracings of classmates. They work together as surgical teams and follow a list of written instructions. Not sure everyone survived, but it's an interesting and fun lab.

## CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS





# GALLERY



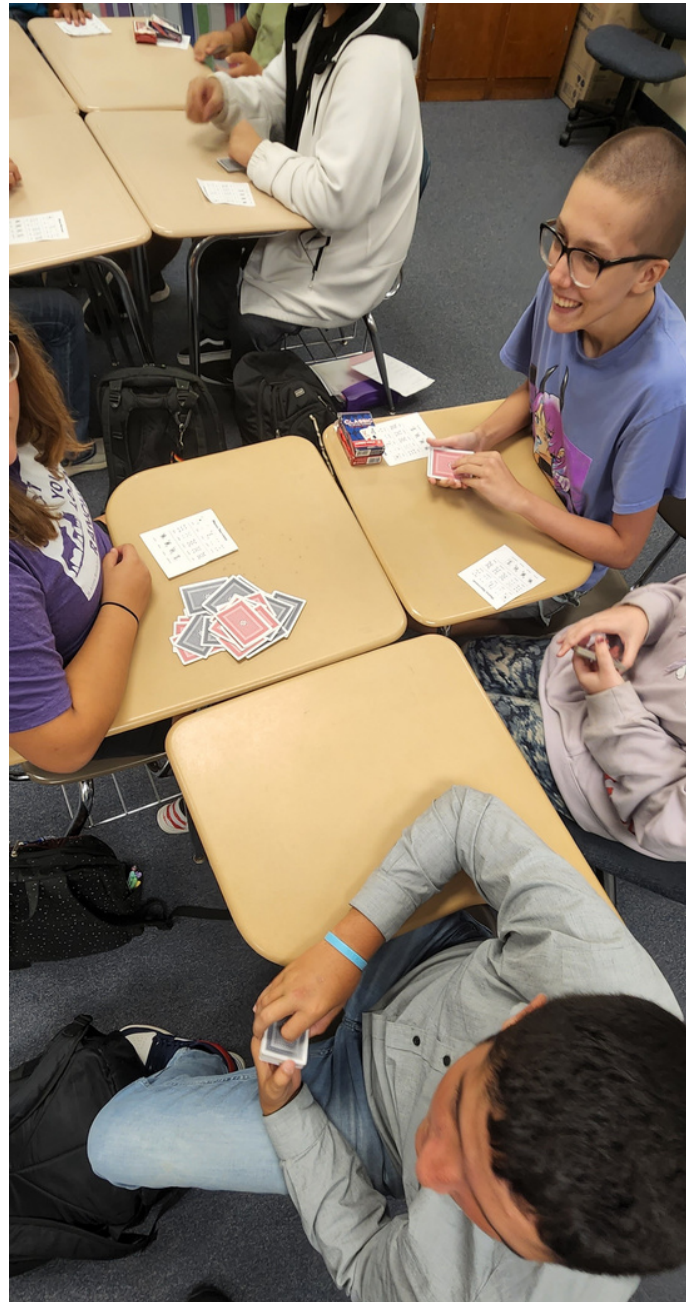








SPANISH COUNTING GAME



MEXICAN CRAZY TRAIN GAME







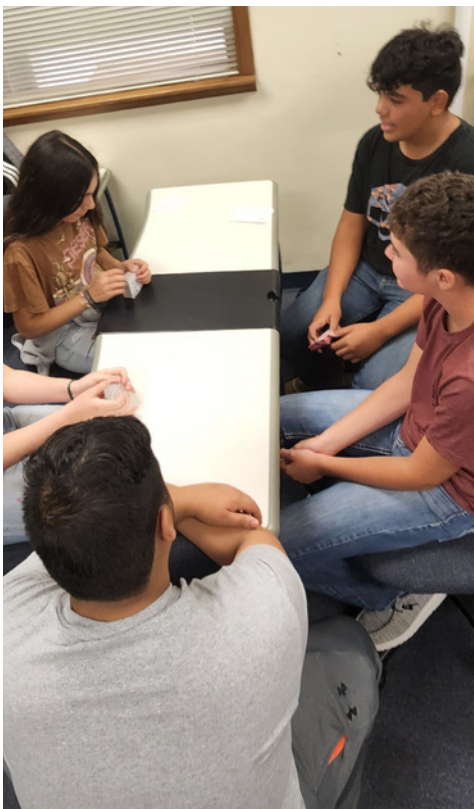




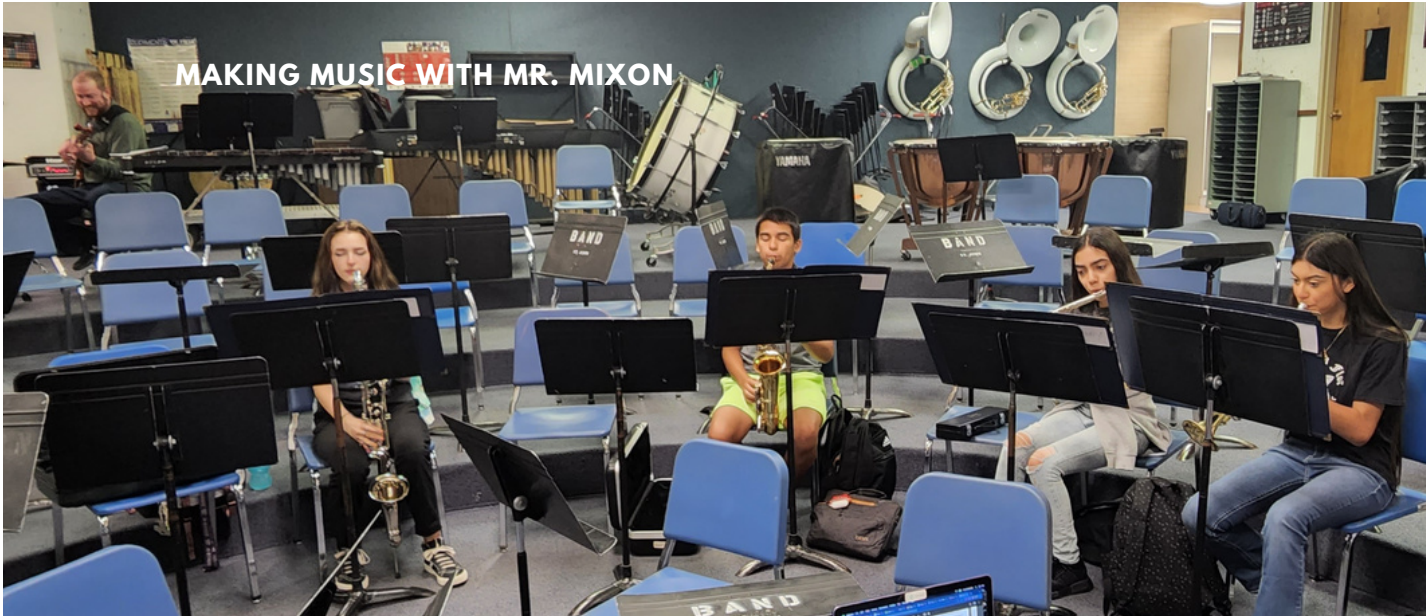
**TECH CLUB VIRTUAL REALITY**



**SPANISH COUNTING GAME**







**MAKING MUSIC WITH MR. MIXON**

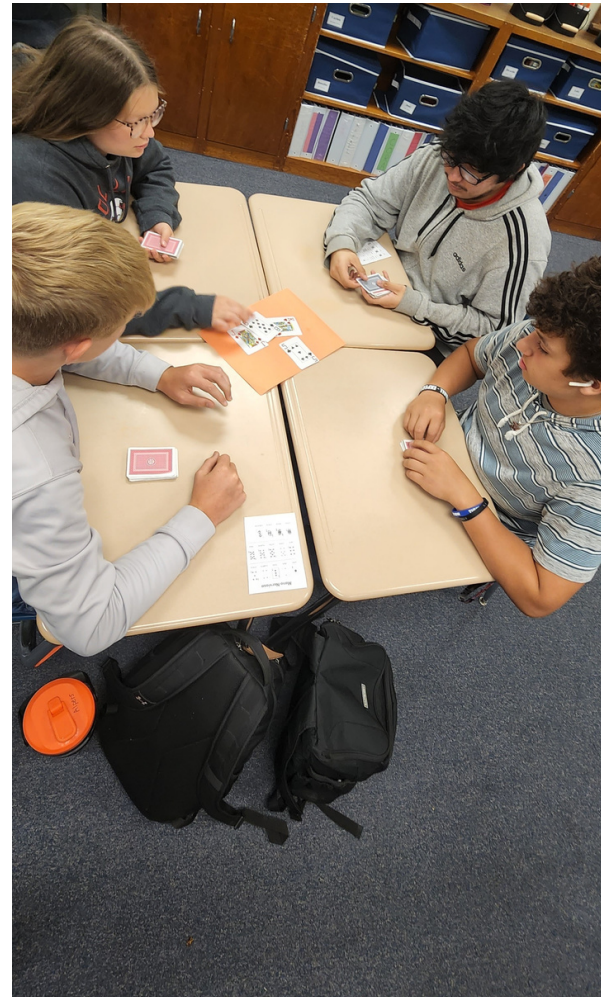


**KINDER DANCING TO COMPUTER VOCABULARY SONG**













## GRAND OPENING OF TIGER BANK

*By Jacy Willinger-Jasper*

The School started a bank and you can put cash in it. The grand opening was on September 16th and Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Rogers was there to cut the ribbon. He was glad to cut the ribbon. The bank is sponsored by SHN Bank of Kansas.





When the whole class is fighting  
over whether the answer is 17 or 18  
but you got 157



Okay! I did Monday  
and Tuesday...  
I'd like to  
pass Go,  
collect \$200  
and move  
straight to Friday now!



Don't even ask, just pour the coffee



**RELAX... WE'RE ALL CRAZY...  
IT'S NOT A COMPETITION.**



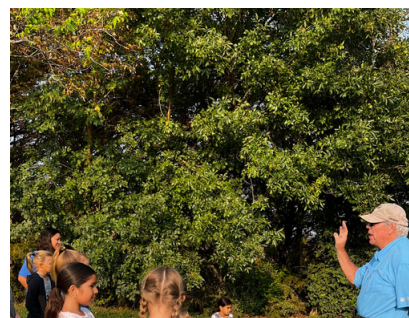


# ELEMENTARY NEWS

## 3RD GRADE TRIP TO THE BEE FARM

*By Jacy Willinger-Jasper*

The 3rd and 4th grade traveled to the Tom and Pam Turner farm where they run their bee business "Wild at Heart". The students learned about pollination, how bees got to the U.S., how to tell by color of where they came from, ex. Europe. We got to touch honey comb, see how they extract the honey, filter the honey and prepare for selling. We are very thankful to have such an educational place right here in Stafford County.





# KINDER APPLE ACTIVITY

By Jill Christie

Kinder completed an apple unit this month. The class did an apple taste test, peeled apples for apple pie and had applesauce.







Which color of Apple is your favorite?





## HS VOLLEYBALL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 4th	<b>KINSLEY W/LA CROSSE</b>	AWAY	4 PM
October 11th	<b>NESS CITY W/ CENTRAL PLAINS</b>	AWAY	9 AM
October 15th	<b>CPL ELLINWOOD</b>	AWAY	9 AM

## JH VOLLEYBALL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 1st	<b>LARNED</b>	Away	3 PM
October 1st	<b>TBD</b>	TBD	9 AM
October 6th	<b>ELLINWOOD</b>	Home	4:30 PM
October 8th	<b>MACKSVILLE</b>	Away	TBD
October 13th	<b>VICTORIA</b>	Away	4:30 PM

## HS/JH XC

<i>Date</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 6th	<b>HS/JH STERLING</b>	Away	3:30PM
October 13th	<b>NESS CITY</b>	Away	4 PM

*For sponsorship or other details please contact the front office.  
Events are subject to change without notice.*



# SPORTS SCHEDULES

## HS FOOTBALL

*For sponsorship or other details please contact the front office.*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 3rd	<b>JV STAFFORD</b>	AWAY	6 PM
October 7th	<b>SOUTH BARBER</b>	AWAY	7 PM
October 10th	<b>JV KINSLEY</b>	AWAY	6 PM
October 14th	<b>KINSLEY</b>	HOME	7 PM
October 21st	<b>COLDWATER- SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	AWAY	7 PM

## JH FOOTBALL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 6th	<b>ELLINWOOD</b>	Home	4:30 PM
October 13th	<b>VICTORIA</b>	Away	4:30 PM

## HS TENNIS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
October 1st	<b>DODGE CITY (ASHLAND)</b>	AWAY	9 AM
October 4th	<b>JV ASHLAND</b>	AWAY	1 PM

*For sponsorship or other details please contact the front office.  
Events are subject to change without notice.*



# HOMECOMING PARADE

# HOMECOMING

*By Jacy Willinger-Jasper*

On September 16th a homecoming parade and dance occurred. There were homecoming candidates for 9th through 12th grade and the candidates were 9th grade: Karly Rockenbach and Braxton Alpers 10th grade: Lydia Reed and Christopher Fernandez 11th grade: Melea Hearn and Tegan Tanner. The following are your homecoming queen candidates Katlyn Elliott, Paige Mansel, and Addi Ward and your king candidates are Angel Ibarra, Marco Ibarra, and Caden McCandless. Thank you 7th and 8th grade for playing the band part, you girls and guys did a phenomenal job.





# HOMECOMING DANCE

*By Evelyn Lopez*

Homecoming dance was September 17th pm to 11pm. The theme was western Everyone who went had a blast even though it was toasty in there.







# OCTOBER FOOD MENU

from USD 350 website, edited by Keaton Burns

## Breakfast

- OCT 3** Pancake on a Stick, Grape Juice, Sliced Pears, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 4** Muffin, Apple Juice, Applesauce, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 5** Biscuits & Gravy, Orange Juice, Mixed Fruit, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 6** French Toasts Sticks, Apple Juice, Sliced Pears, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 7** Pumpkin Bread, Orange/Pineapple Juice, Sliced Pears, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 10** Breakfast Bites, Grape Juice, Pineapple, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 11** Breakfast Pizza, Apple Juice, Mixed Fruit, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 12** Breakfast Burrito, Orange Juice, Applesauce, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 13** Breakfast Bar, Apple Juice, Pineapple, Cereal, Milk
- OCT 14** NO SCHOOL
- OCT 17** Pancake on a stick, grape juice, pineapple, cereal, milk
- OCT 18** Muffin, apple juice, pears, cereal, milk
- OCT 19** Biscuits & gravy, orange juice, mixed fruit, cereal, milk
- OCT 20** French toast sticks, apple juice, peaches, cereal, milk
- OCT 21** Pumpkin break, orange/pineapple juice, pineapple, cereal, milk
- OCT 24** Breakfast bites, grape juice, sliced pears, cereal, milk
- OCT 25** Breakfast pizza, apple juice, applesauce cereal, milk
- OCT 26** Breakfast burrito, orange juice, mixed fruit, cereal, milk
- OCT 27** Breakfast bar, apple juice, sliced peaches, cereal, milk
- OCT 28** NO SCHOOL
- OCT 31** Pancake on a stick, grape juice, mixed fruit, cereal, milk

## Lunch

- Corn Dog, Tater Wedges, Broccoli, Applesauce, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- Salisbury Steak, Potatoes & Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Mixed Fruit, Fresh Fruit, Hot Roll, 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
- Cheeseburger/Bun, French Fries, Baked Beans, Pineapple, Fresh Fruit, Cookie, Milk
- Ham & Cheese Sandwich, French Fries, Baby Carrots, Mixed Fruit, Fresh Fruit, Cookie, Milk
- Chicken Nuggets, Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Applesauce, Fresh Fruit, Hot Roll, Milk
- Soft taco, lettuce, tomato, cheddar cheese, refried beans, pineapple, fresh fruit, cookie, milk
- Cheese pizza, garden salad, corn, sliced pears, fresh fruit, milk
- NO SCHOOL
- Taco soup, relish plate, sliced pears, fresh fruit, cookie, tortilla chips, milk
- Chicken fried steak, potatoes & gravy, broccoli, mixed fruit, fresh fruit, hot roll, milk
- Huntington chicken, lettuce salad, green beans, sliced peaches, fresh fruit, hot roll, milk
- Hamburger on a bun, french fries, baked beans, pineapple, fresh fruit, cookie, milk
- Sausage pizza, lettuce salad, corn, applesauce, fresh fruit, milk
- Chicken Tetrazzini, tossed salad, applesauce, fresh fruit, hot roll, milk
- Sloppy Joe on a bun, french fries, baked beans, mixed fruit, fresh fruit, hot roll, milk
- Lasagna, lettuce salad, green beans, sliced peaches, fresh fruit, french bread, milk
- Chicken strips, potatoes & gravy, broccoli, pineapple, fresh fruit, hot roll, milk
- NO SCHOOL
- Cheese quesadilla, tossed salad, mixed veggies, applesauce, fresh fruit, birthday cake, milk



# **VIRTUAL REALITY DAY**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH  
3PM TO 5PM**

**LOCATION: IDA LONG GOODMAN LIBRARY**

**\$5 DOLLARS**

Students from 4th - 12th Grade can play for 15 minutes for only \$5.00

**\$10 DOLLARS**

Adults and other members of the community can play for 15 minutes for only \$10.00

**USD 350 Tech Club Fundraiser**



## OCTOBER IS HERE

*by Blain White, HS Principal*

It's hard to believe that October is here and we are closing in on the end of a grading quarter. October 13th marks the end of the first quarter of the 2022-2023 school which means that fall parent teacher conferences are rapidly approaching. Conferences will be held on October 24th and October 25th from 4:00-7:30 pm. The bulleted items below explain the format, processes and procedures for the Junior High and High School conferences.

- Conferences will be student led. This type of conference works best if the student and at least one parent/guardian are present. In a student-led conference, the student drives the discussion with some guidance by the teacher involved. This is a thought invoking process that leads to more helpful and meaningful discussions.
- Conferences will be held with the LS teacher for each student. It is not necessary to meet with every teacher, however, if a parent would like to, they may set up a time with other teachers as needed. On the day of conferences, the teachers will have a schedule posted outside their door that indicates times that they will be available.
- Students will be given an opportunity to sign up for a time and day for the conferences. They may be visiting with you about a time that works best. They will have a sheet that they will fill out and return to their LS teacher. If the students/parents do not sign up a time will be assigned. After all of the sign-up sheets are collected by the LS teachers, they will be mailed to the parents as a reminder of your appointment time and day. If something comes up and a time/day needs to be changed you will have an opportunity to contact the student's LS teacher to make that change.
- When you arrive for conferences you will report directly to the LS teacher. The LS teacher will have a printed grade report for your student.
- During the conference, each student and their parent(s) will set a goal for the student to work to reach throughout the school year. This could be an academic goal, behavioral goal or personal goal but it should be challenging, yet acceptable.
- Discussions may also include successes and challenges (academic or behavioral) that students have had throughout the quarter, future plans for the students or other various subjects.

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# HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

- Out of respect for everyone's time, these conferences should be limited to 15 minutes. If more time is needed, that can be scheduled with the teacher for a later date and the office can be involved if necessary.

We have had a successful quarter and look forward to seeing you at conferences. Parent involvement in their child's education is an important aspect of educational success. I hope to see all of you here and if you need to visit with me during the conference time, please feel free to stop by my office or call to make an appointment.

- Blain White - HS Principal

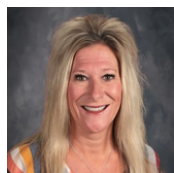




## CONTACT INFORMATION



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meyerj@usd350.com



**ALISA FISHER**  
Board Clerk  
fishera@usd350.com

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# ST. JOHN HUDSON USD 350

PURPOSE \* PASSION \* PRIDE

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@stjohntigers

### ST. JOHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Angela Petersen, *Principal*

### ST. JOHN JR / SR HIGH SCHOOL

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

### SCHOOL NURSE

Lisa Cornwell, *CTE Coordinator*

### LIBRARY

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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.*

