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photo by Mrs. Mixon

SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

by Josh Meyer, Superintendent

As we move into the colder months, we are seeing a lot of sickness going around. We've had an absentee rate of over 20% here at the end of November and beginning of December. It's not all related to Covid. We have influenza, strep, and a stomach bug running through the school. I'd like to encourage parents to keep kids home if they are sick and contact the school nurse if you'd like a Covid test.

As far as Covid goes, we all just want it to be over. I've been asked many times when things will get back to normal. What does normal even look like? I think whenever we can get to the point where we are no longer quarantining people that are not sick, it will feel pretty normal. I do not have a timeline or specifics as to when or how this might happen. But we will continue to tweak our protocols as we move forward with our goal to keep everyone safe and keep kids in school. Updated protocols are available on our website.

In past years, we worked with a company called Providence to use trained dogs to search the school campus for anything illegal or unsafe. We then started using the St. John PD for this service. But with changes in personnel, the police department is no longer able to provide that service for us. We will once again be working with Providence this year to help keep our campus safe and drug-free.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

UPCOMING EVENTS



K-3 Music Program photo by Dick Smith

PTO FUNDRAISER: LITTLE CEASERS KITS

December 1st until Christmas

More details about this fundraiser on Page 8.

DECEMBER DONUTS JUNIOR FUNDRAISER

December 1st - December 15th

Contact any Junior or the Front Office to place your order. Each box of Glazed Donuts is \$12.00 and support Prom expenses for the Junior & Senior Class. Order are due on December 15th. Cash & Checks are accepted.

4TH-6TH GRADE MUSIC & BAND PROGRAM

December 7th. @ 7pm in the Main Gym

Masks are optional, but recommended for the Public.

SCHOOL EARLY RELEASE

December 8th @ 1:15pm

Staff Development until 3:20pm

UGLY CHRISTMAS APPAREL CONTEST

December 14th during LS

More details about this contest on Page 8.

JH/HS CHOIR AND BAND CONCERT

December 16th @ 7pm in the Auditorium

END OF 1ST SEMESTER

December 17th

WINTER BREAK FOR STUDENTS

December 20th - December 31st

TEACHER WORK DAY

December 20th @ Half Day Only

BACK TO SCHOOL

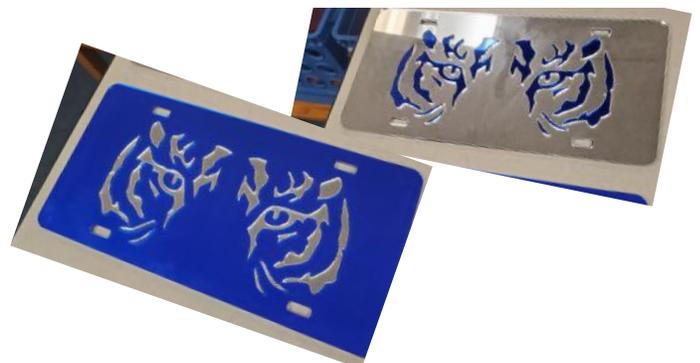
January 3rd, 2022

FUNDRAISER

LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

by Mrs. Alisa Fisher

Proceeds helps out the St. John Hudson PTO. They are available for purchase in the Elementary Front Office. \$20 each. Blue and Silver available.



SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As the year draws to an end, many of you are considering charitable donations. You might also consider the USD 350 Educational Foundation for any charitable giving. The Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides an avenue for patrons, businesses, and organizations to financially support the mission of St. John-Hudson schools.

Our Foundation really captures the giving spirit of this great community. The Foundation accepts donations to support student scholarships, library funding, and various student and school programs. Donations can be given for a particular purpose or to be used at the discretion of the Foundation board to support our schools. Recently the Foundation provided grants for wood shop equipment, a drone for the Audio/Video Production class, and beef processing for the Farm-to-School program. In addition, the Foundation provided nearly half of the funding for a new greenhouse that has been built in the school courtyard. Information about the Foundation can be found on our school district's website.

On behalf of the USD 350 school family, I want to wish you all a happy holiday season and a very Merry Christmas. 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

POWDER PUFF GAME

photos by Mr. Dick Smith



photos by Mr. Dick Smith

HS / JR SPORTS EVENTS

BB VICTORIA Dec. 3rd

BB SPEARVILLE Dec. 6th

**BB ELLINWOOD
(HOME)** Dec. 9th

**BB NESS CITY
(HOME)** Dec. 13th

**BB CENTRAL PLAINS
(HOME)** Dec. 14th

BB HESSTON Dec. 17th

*Events are subject to change
without notice.*



7TH GRADE COMPUTER CLASS ENJOYING THE WEATHER

SCHOOL MOMENTS



photos by Mrs. Mixon

JUNIORS HELPING OUT DURING CONCESSIONS



photos by Mrs. Mixon

CHESS CLUB ENJOYING SOME FUN, AND INTENSE, CHESS MATCHES!

IN THE CLUB

by Mr. Bryant, Chess Club Sponsor





DECEMBER FOOD MENU

from USD 350 website



COMIC BOOK CLUB

by Mr. Bryant, Sponsor

The Comic Book Club saw Marvel's Eternals at Golden Belt Cinema 6 in Great Bend on November 6th.

During a fundraiser the first week of December, where the Comic Book Club sold Double Good popcorn, we had over \$700 in sales.



Breakfast

Lunch

DEC 1	Biscuits, Gravy, Juice, Milk, Cereal	Hamburger Gravy, Potatoes, Fruit, Roll
DEC 2	French Toast Sticks, Applesauce, Juice	Sweet Sour Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Fruit, Roll
DEC 3	Banana Bread, Pears, Milk, Juice	Taco Salad, Corn, Peaches, Fruit, Milk
DEC 6	Mini Pancakes, Juice, Applesauce	Chicken Tetrazzini, Veggies, Fruit, Milk
DEC 7	Breakfast Pizza, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Sausage Pizza, Salad, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk
DEC 8	Breakfast Burrito, Peaches, Juice	Chili, Pears, Crackers, Cinnamon Roll, Milk
DEC 9	Breakfast Bar, Pears, Juice, Milk	Soft Taco, Beans, Fruit, Milk, Birthday Cake
DEC 10	Pumpkin Bread, Pineapple, Milk	Sloppy Joe, Bun, Fries, Carrots, Fruit, Milk
DEC 13	Pancake on Stick, Juice, Cereal, Milk	Spaghetti & Sauce, Salad, Fruit, Bread
DEC 14	Muffin, Pears, Juice, Cereal, Milk	Ham Cheese Sandwich, Wedges, Corn, Milk
DEC 15	Biscuits, Gravy, Juice, Milk, Cereal	Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Potatoes, Cherry Crisp
DEC 16	French Toast Sticks, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Huntington Chicken, Salad, Broccoli, Roll
DEC 17	Banana Bread, Pears, Milk, Juice	Hamburger, Bun, Fries, Carrots, Milk, Cookie

SECRET SANTA CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER

by Mrs. Patterson

We will be putting up the Secret Santa Christmas tree. Ribbons can be purchased for \$1 and the proceeds will go to Secret Santa.

9TH ANNUAL UGLY CHRISTMAS APPAREL CONTEST

by Mrs. Patterson

It will be held on December 14th during LS in the main gym. 1st and 2nd prizes will be awarded in each of the 4 categories:

- ADULT STAFF/EMPLOYEE
- FRESHMAN & SOPHOMORE
- JUNIORS & SENIORS
- 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

Sponsored by SJH FCCLA & FCS Classes.



LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA KITS FOR SECRET SANTA

by Marla Irvine

We need your help to raise money for Secret Santa. We are selling Little Caesars Pizza Kits! pay with a credit card, and the yummy Kits will be shipped right to your house by FedEx. And it's the same price to ship 1 or 2 kits, so I'm thinking you might want to get 2. Feel free to share this with EVERYONE! Visit the link below to order:

<https://link.maestramixon.com/pizza>

FUNDRAISER

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

by Susan Patterson

All participating doors were decorated by students during LS period. Twelve doors were judged by anonymous persons on December 3rd. The winners were: (1st) Mrs. Patterson, (2nd) Mrs. Witt, (3rd) Mrs. McAlister.



Mrs. Patterson



Mrs. Witt



Mrs. McAlister



Mrs. Mixon/7th Grade



Mrs. Mixon/9th Grade



Front Office

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

continued from Page 8



Mrs. Clark



Mrs. Fischer



Mrs. Bunker



Mr. Bauer



Mrs. Dickson



Mrs. Feril

VETERANS DAY EVENT



photos by Mrs. Behnke

VETERANS DAY EVENT

A SOLEMN DAY

by Mr. Mixon, IT Director, Veteran

I was a Tactical Communications Specialist in the U.S. Army. The Units I've been in are 1st Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, 6-52 Air Defense Artillery, and the U.S. Army Europe Soldiers Chorus as a Bass Player. That last Unit was a special duty station that I had to audition for, and not a Combat unit. I earned my Combat Patch while in the 3rd ID. We staged in Kuwait in January 2003, trained for 2 months, and on March 20th, we crossed into Iraq taking the western route. I won't go into detail about what happened during that time, but it was a life-changing event that will never leave my memory. I'll just say that war is brutal and leave it at that. People always say "thank you for your service", and while it is a nice gesture, it is unnecessary.

I joined the Army in September 1999 and wanted to serve my country and learn discipline, and what the Army calls LDRSHIP (yes, the acronym is pronounced Leadership). It comprises of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. The Army is a fantastic way to learn life skills, meet great people, and travel the world. I spent 5 years in Germany and it was an absolute blast!

Veterans Day is a solemn day for me. While Memorial Day is to honor the fallen, Veterans Day is meant to celebrate the ones that made it back home. For me, the 2 days are really combined as 1. Both days, I remember those we lost, and those that came back home with a heartbeat. I say heartbeat, because not every Combat Veteran returned with visible injuries. Post Traumatic Stress is real thing, that causes more and more problems as time goes on, if not treated properly. I am humbled by those that came before me, honored to serve with those beside me, and appreciate those that have taken up the mantle after me and beyond. Sergeant Mixon signing out.



photo by Mrs. Behnke

HIGHLIGHTS

SCHOLARS BOWL AT OTIS-BISON TOURNAMENT

by Felicia Norton

The students, appearing in the picture below, that participated in this event are: Mason Gunter (12), Conner Murphy (12), Eli Foote (10), Garrett McAlister (9) and Brandon Henkle (9)



ST. JOHN BUSINESS INTERVIEWS

by Natalie Clark

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS



The students in Business Essentials have scheduled interviews with St. John businesses. The students are becoming more familiar with the products and services offered by local businesses and the occupations represented among the employees.



Hannah Son is writing an article about Workspace 311, Stafford County Economic Development.

SCHOLARS BOWL USD 350

by Brandon Henkle, Interactive Media

St. John hosted an invitation Scholars Bowl on November 29th. USD 350 took 2nd place in this years Scholars Bowl Tournament. The Macksville team came in 1st place and the Stafford team came in 3rd. The St. John-Hudson players featured in the picture are: Conner Murphy (12), Brandon Henkle (9), Eli Foote (10), Willow Murphy (9), Garrett McAlister (9)



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

FIRST TIME AT FHSU MATH RELAYS

by Mrs. Megan Feril

On November 11th, my husband and I took 8 students to the FHSU Math Relays. This was a first time experience for all of the students and they weren't sure what to expect. Although they were nervous to start with, most came back saying "that wasn't too bad" after their first test. They also got to experience a fire alarm during the middle of one of the tests!

Each student competed in four tests against students in their grade from 30 other schools from across the state. Most tests had between 30 and 60 individuals and 15 - 20 teams in each grade. Each test was 20 minutes and students could take the test either as an individual or as a 3-person team. Scores were determined by the number of questions answered correctly minus 0.25 times the number of questions answered incorrectly. The top 3 students and teams in each test received medals while the top 6 students and top 6 teams in each grade were awarded team points for each test. Schools were then sorted by classification and ranked according to total team points.

I am very proud of how the students performed. Although St. John-Hudson did not have any top 3 placings, there were several top 10 finishes. The freshmen team consisting of Aden Adame, Willow Murphy, and Quade Smith placed 8th in Number Sense and 4th in Algebraic Manipulations. Willow Murphy also placed 8th as an individual in Calculations with Calculators. The 10th grade team consisting of Ian Dunn, Eli Foote, and Quade Smith (doing double duty) placed 7th in Geometry. Eli Foote placed 7th in Number Sense and 6th in Applications of Algebra while Ian Dunn placed 10th in Applicat-

ions of Algebra. while Ian Dunn placed 10th in Applications of Algebra. Seniors Elijah Delp, Preston Dunn, and Conner Murphy placed 6th as a team in Number Sense and 9th in Algebraic Manipulations. The students, as an overall team, ended up placing 7th out of 14 for 1A students which was impressive since no juniors attended.

I am glad students were willing to go and I hope to take more students next year!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

by Dianna Bunker, StuCo Sponsor

StuCo, in partnership with the Rec, hosted their first annual Haunted House on Halloween at the Skating Rink. The Haunted House spooked more than 200 people! We are so appreciative of everyone's support and are looking forward to expanding next year!

In other Student Council news, winter homecoming might seem like a ways off, but we will begin selling T-Shirts for that in January. The theme is Haiwan Night...more details to follow.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

by Blain White, HS Principal

St. John-Hudson USD #350 is in need of substitute teachers and substitute classroom aides and paraprofessionals. If you are interested in applying, please contact Alisa Fisher in the District office (620-549-3564) or Stephanie Smith in the High School Office (620-549-3277).

*Have news to share? Email Mrs. Mixon!
mixon@usd350.com*

2021 STAFFORD COUNTY TEACHER'S GRANT CEREMONY

by Laura Davis, Grant Recipient

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS



In the first picture, Front Row: Ixchel Mixon, Taylor Gabel, Michelle Christiansen, & Holly Rooks (SCCF Executive Director). Middle Row: Logan Sanders (YMAD Representative), Kristen Knight, Alysha Dickson, Kaley Conant, & Kylie Meyer. Back Row: Joshua Hildebrand (YMAD Representative) & Elijah Delp (YMAD Representative). Second picture: Unknown, not provided.

2021 WOMEN IN TECH AWARD WINNER

photo by Ada Lovelace Awards

On Oct 7th, Mrs. Ixchel (Nayeli) Mixon [Spanish Language Aide of USD 350] was named the Ada Lovelace Software Engineer winner for 2021. Each year the Ada Lovelace Awards Committee celebrates women in the tech industry who have made an impact in their local tech communities.

Mixon has grown a global community of over 18K members collectively across multiple platforms since 2017. This includes almost 9K YouTube subscribers, over 7K members of FB groups she created and moderates, and over 2K website members from her Totally Codable brand. Mixon teaches newbies to code with a friendly and encouraging demeanor. On October 12th, she participated in a fireside chat, "Solving World Issues with Technology", with the software engineer judge, Jessie Duan, who is Chief of Staff to the CTO at Roblox.

The awards are not giving for the most popular or the largest community. There are specific categories that the nominees need to excel in. These are:

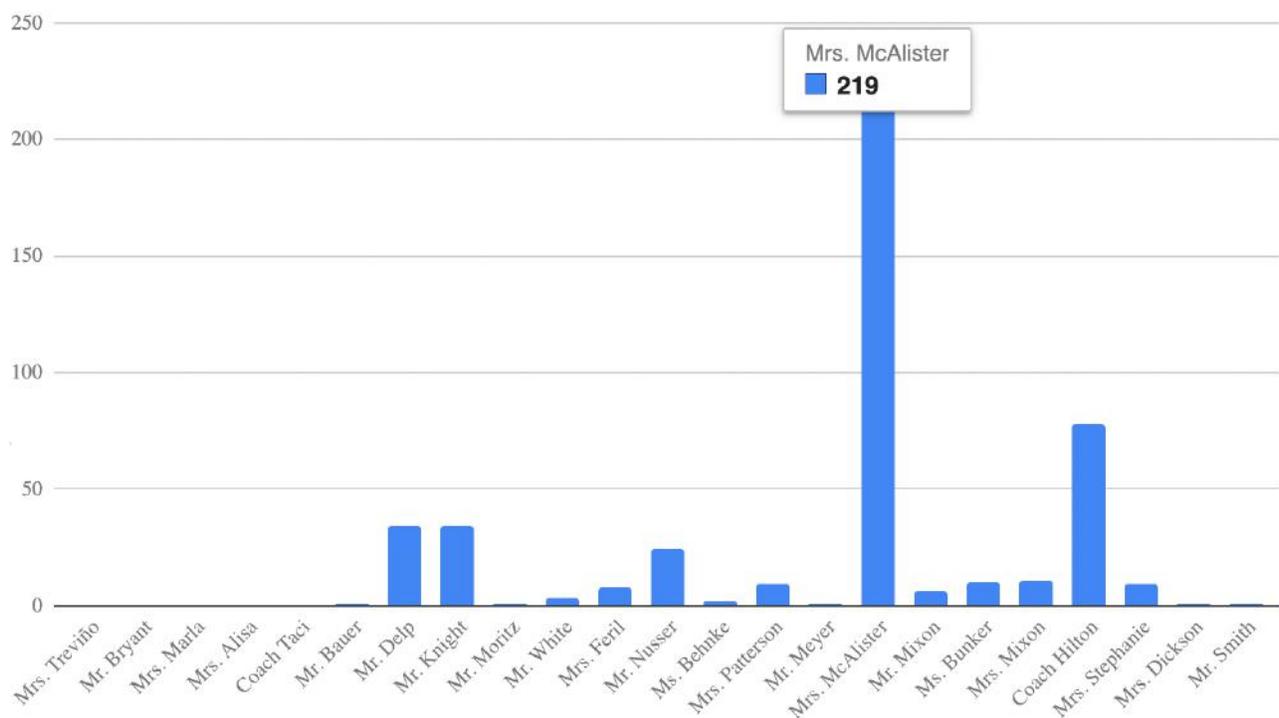
Impact: She goes above and beyond her primary role or job description. **Innovation:** She pushes the envelope in the name of innovation and strives to achieve something truly cutting edge. She has notable tech-related accomplishments. **Leadership:** She knows how to effectively advocate goals to the public, or other people in the tech industry. **Community:** Outside of her primary job or company, she is involved in the tech community. She likes to volunteer with other tech organizations. People in her local tech community (and possibly beyond) are familiar with her and her contributions to tech.



PIE 4 PROM RECAP AND RESULTS

by Mrs. Ixchel Mixon, Junior Class Sponsor

Pie 4 Promenade : Voting Results



We would like to thank all of the Teachers and Staff who graciously and courageously volunteered to be Pie Contenders. The Junior Class was able to raise over \$500 dollars in the Pie 4 Prom fundraiser from votes and donations. The Teacher with the most votes was Mrs. McAlister. She was the first one to get hit with a pie during LS in front of not only the entire JH/HS student body but also live stream on the St John Hudson FB page. **CONGRATULATIONS to Kaylynn Claussen for trowing the winning pie!** Mrs. Feril, Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Jenn, Mrs. Mixon also received a pie in the face after secretly volunteering for this sticky task. The extra pies were thrown by **Hunter Smith, Addie Ward, Preston Dunn, Kaylynn Claussen, Bre Fisher.** Mr. White volunteered last minute when the Junior Class had one left over pie to throw. Mr. White auctioned off the last pie throw and it sold for \$20 to one of the senior class members. The event was a big success. Thank you everyone for your support and participating.

PIE 4 PROM PICTURES

photos by Abigail and Lochlyn



PIE 4 PROM PICTURES



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Blain White, HS Principal

December signals the nearing of the end of the first semester of school and there are a lot of emotions that are felt by students, staff and families that go along with that. This year seems to be more hectic, partially due to the added chaos in the world over the past 2 years. Events that we have no control over. Instead of focusing on the pressures of the end of a semester, I'd like to use this as an opportunity to highlight just a few of our successes and celebrate some of the great things our students and staff are doing.

Our Residential Carpentry class, taught by Mr. Moritz, has been working on a house on Broadway that was donated by Tom and Sabrina Garner. This opportunity is giving our students some excellent real world work experience. They spent most of last year on planning and demolition. This process included stripping everything inside down to the stud walls, planning for floor plan changes and removing unwanted walls and moving some stairs.



They also did some wiring, plumbing and sewer work. This year they are in the construction phase and are currently adding new walls, replacing some concrete floor in the basement, more wiring and plumbing and adding insulation. They will soon be adding drywall. As this project continues to come together we will add updates on our Facebook page.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



photos by Blain White

This year we were able to bring Spanish back to our classroom with the addition of Mrs. Ixchel Mixon, who serves as Spanish Language aide. Her students are learning some valuable conversational skills as they learn the language. We are also fortunate that Mrs. Mixon is skilled in technology and is also facilitating an Interactive Media class. It is under her guidance that this class produces this very newsletter. Last but not least of the things that Mrs. Mixon brings to our school is her ability to effectively interpret for our Spanish speaking families. This has been identified as a growing need for our district and we are excited about being able to offer this service.

At the beginning of November Natalie Clark took over teaching our Business department. She has done an outstanding job and is bringing some great opportunities for our students. Under her direction the Consumer Personal Finance class is learning the value of financial literacy and financial planning. She is getting her Business Essentials class out in the community at various businesses doing interviews and learning about what it takes to be an entrepreneur. They are also working with the FACS department on an in-school business. More on that later...

In the Family and Consumer Sciences department, Mrs. Patterson added a Baking and Pastry class this year. There are currently 15 students in the class. On Fridays during LS these students have baked goods (Tiger Treats) available to students and staff. Some of-

the proceeds have been given to different groups to help with fundraising. This summer Mrs. Patterson also received barista training. Her classes and Mrs. Clarks classes are in the process of doing the research to start a coffee shop out of the FACS room. The research has included cost analysis, student/staff surveys and taste tests. We look forward to that opening soon.

We were recently able to complete construction of the Greenhouse in our courtyard. This structure replaces the student built greenhouse that we had in there before. This greenhouse gives us a more permanent structure with more square footage for use. Mr. Delps Environmental Wildlife Resources classes have added Talapia to the tank and will soon be utilizing the greenhouse for studying growth of different plants. Throughout the year we have plans for other grade levels and classes to use this space for various curricular activities.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

We also have had some great accomplishments in our Fine Arts departments. Just a few of these include: A very successful production of the musical *Mamma Mia* under the direction of Mrs. Hacker and Ms. B., a first place entry against some very large schools by Mr. Knights AV Productions class, Ms. Behnke's students placing high in the Trash-To-Trends fashion show and the selection of several Junior High and High School students to SWKMEA Honor Band and Honor Choir.

We have a lot of great things going on in our schools and the previous paragraphs outline just a few of those. We are blessed to have a community that is so supportive and dedicated to our education and to our students. As we enter this holiday season I wish all of you many blessings. Merry Christmas to all.

- Blain White - HS Principal



photo by St. John Hudson Music FB Group

SOMETHING IS BREWING AT USD 350 COFFEE SHOP SURVEY AND TASTE TESTING

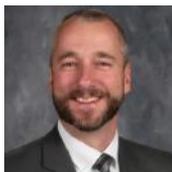
by Natalie Clark

Students in Business Essentials and Baking and Pastries classes have created a survey for students and staff to gather their feedback prior to opening a coffee shop within the school. Tabra Ward has provided guidance to the students in the areas of survey development and taste testing. A coffee tasting for the Baking and Pastries and Business Essentials classes was held Thursday, December 2nd.



photos by Natalie Clark

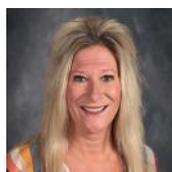
CONTACT INFORMATION



JOSH MEYER
Superintendent
meyerj@usd350.com



MARLA IRVINE
Board Treasurer
irvinem@usd350.com



ALISA FISHER
Board Clerk
fishera@usd350.com

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ST. JOHN HUDSON USD 350

PURPOSE * PASSION * PRIDE

MAILING / LOCATION

505 N Broadway, St. John, KS 67576
5th & Monroe Street

PHONE

(620) 549 - 3564

FAX

(620) 549 - 3964

SOCIAL



www.usd350.com



@stjohntigers

ST. JOHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Josh Meyer, *Principal*
Marla Irvine, *Secretary*

ST. JOHN JR / SR HIGH SCHOOL

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

SCHOOL NURSE

Lisa Cornwell, *CTE Coordinator*

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.

