

THE ELL-SALINE ECHO

January 2010

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BOARD MEETING REPORT

December 14 Board Meeting Report

Marty Kramer and John Schrock were absent. Action taken was on a 5-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

AUDIENCE WITH THE BOARD

Nicole Hopkins addressed the board with concerns about the MS activity bus procedures. Amber Fouard invited the board to an Appreciation Meal hosted by the Ell-Saline NEA prior to the January board meeting. Ben Steinbruck addressed the board with a concern that not all teachers are maintaining current student grades on PowerSchool.

REPORTS

BOE – Jamie Bradley and Delbert Armbrust gave a review of the Schools for Quality Education and KASB Convention meetings that they attended. Geena Kejr announced that Larry Laas has been named the North Central Kansas Counselor of the Year by the Kansas Counseling Association and as such he is now eligible for the Kansas Counselor of the Year award.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: Curriculum and Instruction (reviewing and updating the School Improvement Plan; K-2 recently finished taking the MAP assessment for the first time and that process went very well; staff will soon begin the new training requirements for administering the state assessments); the SchoolMessenger system is working well; and reviewed several activities that have taken place.

Mr. McDaniel – His report included: Larry Laas has been named the North Central Kansas Counselor of the Year and as such he is now eligible for the Kansas Counselor of the Year award; dual credit courses have been approved with plans to offer Music Appreciation, Comp II and Public Speaking with a possibility of offering Psychology this spring; Curriculum and Instruction (work continues on comparing our curriculum with state standards; is looking for types of activities that engage students in higher level learning as he does classroom visits); At-Risk Referral Team organizational meetings continue with implementation to begin in August; the Work Day was very beneficial; the Parent State Assessment meeting was attended by 23 people and it was a good discussion; and reviewed several activities that have taken place.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: update on facilities; state budget; December 21 Work Day procedures; read one thank you note; and shared a list of dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

BUSINESS

Kansas Academy of Math and Science (KAMS)—Approval was given for KAMS students to attend Ell-Saline High School student activities (homecoming dances, prom, Senior Trip, etc.).

MS/HS Summer School Program—Approval was given to proceed with making plans for summer school that will require all students that do not score at the Meets Standard level on the state assessment. Implementation of the program is dependent on the availability of funding.

Race To The Top (RTTT) Support—The board voted in support of this grant program by KSDE. This support does not bind the district to anything if KSDE receives the grant but it does make us eligible for a share of any funds that KSDE might receive. If the board had not supported it then we would not have been eligible.

Select BOE Negotiations Team—Marty Kramer and Jamie Bradley have agreed to serve in this role again this year.

Accept Resignation—John Schrock's resignation from the board was approved.

There were two Executive Sessions (Personnel) with one being before the BUSINESS section of the meeting and one following it. The one following it was to conduct the Superintendent's evaluation. No action was taken following either of them.

The BUSINESS section of the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, January 11, 7:00 p.m. in the District Office. If anyone wishes to have an item added to the agenda, please contact President Jamie Bradley, Vice-President Cheryl Higgins or the District Office two weeks prior to the meeting.

**The Cardinal Foundation for Educational Excellence
Celebrates**

“WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE”

Hold the presses! Keep some dates on your spring calendar open! The Board of Directors of the Cardinal Foundation is finalizing plans for the First Annual Endowment Dinner and Auction. The preliminary plans are for a social hour and silent auction to begin at 6:00, with a dinner served at 7:00 and an endowment auction starting at 8:00.

The Cardinal Foundation for Educational Excellence was established to provide scholarships to teachers and sponsors for special classroom needs and activities not provided in the district budget. At a time when the State of Kansas has had to make massive cuts in school funding, the Cardinal Foundation has become even more important in the educational support of our students. Previous scholarship awards have been presented to support such activities as the bullying prevention program at both schools. Hands on math manipulatives were purchased for the elementary school to help young students better understand new math concepts. When the wildlife management class was established at the high school, funds were used to purchase taxidermy equipment. The number of projects funded each year is determined by the amount of money that has been generated.

Invitations will be mailed in mid-January, but everyone is invited. The invitation list is NOT limited to the alumni of Ell-Saline. It is open to businesses, Foundation supporters, family members of past and present students, friends, EVERYONE! However, seating capacity is limited to a maximum of 160 participants, so you will need to get your tickets and reserve your seating early. Individual tickets are available for \$35.00 each, which includes the meal and gains entrance to both the silent and live auctions. A table of eight can be purchased by a business or a group for \$250.00, amounting to a \$30.00 savings.

Those wishing to donate an item for the auction should contact one of the Foundation Board members soon. Ideas for the auction are limitless and could include such items as: quilts, furniture, group parties, catered meals, game or concert tickets, an overnight stay at a bed and breakfast, college or pro sports paraphernalia, theatre tickets, gift baskets, etc. If you, your family, your business, or a group of friends would like to donate an item for the auction, that would be great. Cash donations will be combined to purchase auction items.

Contact any Cardinal Foundation Board of Director for tickets, information, or to make a donation. Members include Mark Johnson, Chairman, Michelle Griffin, Secretary, Kathy White, Treasurer, Jamie Bradley, Delbert Armbrust, Larry Laas, Dawn Cox, Superintendent Jerry Minneman, and Nikki Davenport.

This will be a fun-filled evening you WON'T want to miss!!

2010 AFTER PROM COMMITTEE

2010 After Prom Meeting Summary 12-14-09

Attending: Susan Reiff, Michelle Hynes, Jennifer Colgrove, Courtney Schneider, Kristi Base, and Jeannie Beaugh

Volunteers for the next 3 games were decided for the gate.

Discussed several fundraisers and decided on a few. We will be doing some dodge ball tournaments and Restaurant fundraisers as well as raffling off a date package by donation at the basketball games. Other fundraisers are in the works as well.

We will have a few parents coming in to visit with the Seniors and Juniors this Friday during activity period.

After Prom events were discussed and we are continuing to work on those.

Several gifts were bought on Black Friday by several people for After Prom.

Our next meeting will be on January 4, at 6:00pm in the HS cafeteria. We will be discussing among other things the dodge ball tournaments coming up. Please come and enjoy our fun in planning our students 2010 After Prom Activities!

Submitted by Jeannie Beaugh

DISCIPLINE TIPS FOR PARENTS

Discipline problems occur not only at school, but in the home also. Here are a few tips that should be heeded when you are faced with a disruptive child.

1. Don't disapprove of the child—disapprove of what he/she does.
2. Give attention and praise for good behavior—not bad.
3. Encourage and allow discussion—but remember, it is the parent that makes the final decision.
4. Punishment should be swift, reasonable, related to the offense, and absolutely certain to occur.
5. Throw out all rules you are unwilling to enforce, and be willing to change the rules if and when you think they need changing.
6. Don't lecture and don't warn—youngsters will remember what they think is important to remember.
7. Don't feel that you should try to justify rules, although you should try to explain them.
8. Allow your child to assume responsibility for his/her decisions as he/she shows the ability to do so.
9. Don't expect your child to demonstrate more self control than you do.
10. Be honest with your child—hypocrisy shows.
11. The most important factor in your child's self-image is what he/she thinks you think of him/her. A child's self-image is a major factor in how he/she acts.

One final note to remember is that when you do discipline your child, be fair but firm, and always consistent.

NEED HELP WITH HOMEWORK? THERE ARE NOW TWO FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The State Library of Kansas is again this year offering students a professional online tutoring service called HomeworkKansas. This is a FREE service available to all students, teachers, parents, grandparents and guardians.

HomeworkKansas is a one-to-one, online, interactive tutoring session with trained tutors. This fall begins the third year of this service. Last year more than 20,000 Kansas students completed HomeworkKansas tutoring sessions.

Homework help, via HomeworkKansas, is available to all K-12 students. Students can log in any day of the week between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Tutors provide help with math, science, social studies and English. Tutoring in math, science and social studies is also available in Spanish.

To access **Homework Kansas**, students simply go to www.homeworkkansas.org and enter their Kansas Library card number from their local public library. The service can be accessed from any internet connected computer. If the student does not already have a Kansas library card, they can acquire one for the State Library of Kansas immediately on this same site.

For further information, please call The State Library of Kansas (1-800-432-3919) or email egustafson@kslib.info.

This Kan-ed has launched a program of its own called Kan-edLiveTutor. For more information about this program, please check it out at www.kan-edLiveTutor.com.

We encourage everyone to take advantage of these FREE services.



MR. LAAS EARNS DISTRICT AWARD

Mr. Larry Laas, Ell-Saline MS/HS Counselor was recently named the Kansas Counselor of the Year for the North Central Region of the Kansas Counselors Association. This honor puts him in the running along with the honorees from the other regions for the State Counselor of the Year award. That announcement will be made at the Kansas Counselors Association annual meeting in Overland Park in March. Congratulations and best of luck Mr. Laas!

USD 307 BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY

At the December board meeting John Schrock's resignation from the board was accepted. Therefore, USD 307 Board of Education Position 1 is currently vacant. It was the consensus of the remaining members of the board to begin the procedure of appointing someone to fill the unexpired term. The appointment will be effective only until June 30, 2011, and the position will be up for election on the April 2011 ballot. To be eligible to be appointed to this position, you must live in the area of Position 1: the entire area of the district west of Powers Rd. from the northern to the southern edges of the district plus the area between Railroad Ave. and Stimmel Rd. east from Powers Rd. to Hedville Rd.

For more information regarding the position or how to apply, please contact Susan Rose, clerk, or Jerry Minneman, superintendent, at 785-225-6813. A letter stating your interest in the position will also need to be sent to USD 307, Susan Rose, Clerk, Box 157, Brookville, KS 67425.

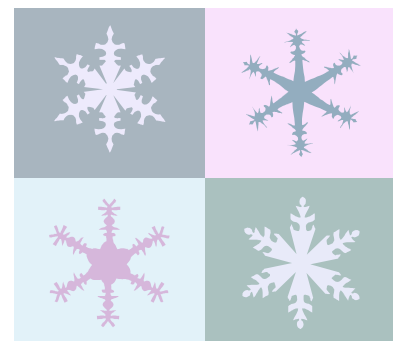


CARDINAL GRANT RECIPIENT PRESENTATIONS

At half-time of the High School Varsity Boys' Basketball with Moundridge on Tuesday, December 15, members of the Cardinal Foundation for Educational Excellence Board of Directors presented certificates to the recipients of this year's grants. This year's recipients were Amber Fouard, Joan Grover and Lee Weis. Helping with the presentation were Board of Directors Chairperson Mark Johnson and members Dawn Cox, Delbert Armbrust and Jamie Bradley. Pictured are: Dawn Cox, Mark Johnson, Lee Weis, Amber Fouard, Jamie Bradley and Delbert Armbrust.

MR. WEIS EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

For the second year in a row, Mr. Lee Weis, Agriculture Science Instructor, at Ell-Saline High School has been named a recipient of the 2009 Ideas Unlimited Award by the National Association of Agricultural Educators. Mr. Weis is one of only seven individuals nationwide who received this award. The curriculum that he wrote for which he won the award is titled "American Ethnic Food. Why Do We Eat What We Eat?" Congratulations Mr. Weis!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check for changes at www.ellsaline.org under the Weekly Happenings link.

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| Jan. 1 | New Year's Day | Jan. 19 | TBA HS Boys' BB Canton/Galva Tourney |
| Jan. 4 | Classes Resume | Jan. 20 | FFA @ Abilene |
| Jan. 5 | 4:30 HS BB Canton/Galva @ ES | Jan. 21 | 4:00 MS BB @ Goessel |
| Jan. 5 | 6:00 ESIC Meeting at Ell-Saline Elementary | Jan. 21 | TBA HS Boys' BB Canton/Galva Tourney |
| Jan. 6 | 6:00 MS/HS Site Council | Jan. 22-24 | K-State Band Clinic @ Manhattan |
| Jan. 7 | 4:00 MS BB Moundridge @ ES | Jan. 22 | 1:00 Pep Rally at Ell-Saline Elementary |
| Jan. 8 | 4:30 HS BB @ Berean Academy | Jan. 22 | TBA HS Boys' BB Canton/Galva Tourney |
| Jan. 9 | 9:00 MS "C" BB @ Southeast of Saline | Jan. 23-24 | Booster Club Elementary BB Tourney |
| Jan. 11 | 4:00 MS BB Berean Academy @ ES | Jan. 23 | TBA HS Fr. Boys' BB @ Marquette |
| Jan. 11 | 7:00 BOE Meeting at Ell-Saline District Office | Jan. 25 | TBA HS Fr. Boys' BB @ Marquette |
| Jan. 12 | 4:30 HS BB @ Moundridge | Jan. 25 | 6:30 CPTA Meeting at Ell-Saline Elementary |
| Jan. 13 | 3:00 HOA Scholar's Bowl @ Canton/Galva | Jan. 26 | HS Girls' BB Tourney @ Lyons |
| Jan. 14 | 4:00 MS BB @ Sedgwick | Jan. 28 | 4:00 MS BB Bennington @ ES (Parent Night) |
| Jan. 15 | 4:30 HS BB Sedgwick @ ES (Elementary Sports Night) | Jan. 28 | HS Girls' BB Tourney @ Lyons |
| Jan. 16 | JH KMEA @ Junction City | Jan. 29 | HS Girls' BB Tourney @ Lyons |
| Jan. 16-18 | FFA @ Denver, CO | Jan. 30 | FFA @ Manhattan |
| Jan. 16 | 9:00 MS BB Tourney @ ES | Jan. 30-31 | Youth For Music (YFM) @ Concordia |
| Jan. 18 | NO SCHOOL—Teacher In-service | | |
| Jan. 18 | TBA HS Boys' BB Canton/Galva Tourney | | |

NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE THE ECHO?

You may be receiving it because you are a patron of the District not necessarily because you are a parent or grandparent of someone attending the school. There are at times area informational articles/inserts in this newsletter. But, if you no longer wish to receive the ECHO, please call the District Office (785-225-6813) and let us know and you will be removed from our mailing list. The ECHO is available to view online at www.ellsaline.org. If you prefer to have it e-mailed to you, please let us know your e-mail address and we can send it to you that way.

Thank you.

An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency
The Ell-Saline U.S.D. 307 Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicap or age in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs or activities. Any questions regarding the board's compliance with Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 may be directed to the Title IX coordinator, who can be reached at (785) 225-6813, 412 E. Anderson, P.O. Box 157, Brookville, KS 67425, or to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

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