



# THE ELL-SALINE ECHO

June 2008

Check us out at [www.ellsaline.org](http://www.ellsaline.org)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

### May 12 Board Meeting Report

All board members were present. Action taken was on a 7-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

### 7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

MS/HS Student Handbooks was deleted from the agenda. New Hires was inserted in its place in the agenda.

### AUDIENCE WITH THE BOARD

None

### REPORTS

BOE – Geena Kejr asked whether all board members had received a questionnaire from Sam Brownback. Delbert Armbrust gave some highlights of the KASB Spring Regional meeting he attended. Marty Kramer said that he had visited with State BOE Member Kathy Martin and invited her to be with us at the June board meeting.

Technology Council – Brian Bell shared the progress the council made on the Technology Plan, the Staff-Student surveys, and some of the hardware/software/network things he had done this year and that are in the plans for next year.

SRO Flesher – Chad Flesher gave a brief review of the Senior Trip. Other than some travel issues it all went smoothly and the students had a good time.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Dana was unable to be there but she had sent a written report that included: an update on Circle of Friends activities; assessments are completed; next year's kindergarten class currently has 35 students enrolled; Reading Celebrations were held last week; invited the board to join them for the End-of-the-Year activities; Miss Kansas will be presenting a program on "Bullying" for the Pep Rally; summer school currently has 75 students enrolled which is considerably larger than in the past; the library will be open on Thursday nights this summer; and thanked the board for the opportunity they have given this year.

Mr. Alexander – His report included: positive/supportive parent phone calls/e-mails; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Shadow Day; graduation exercises went well and that it is now available to be viewed with Windows Media Player at <mms://24.248.201.42/VOD/7233-1.wmv>; MS Awards Nights

and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion activities; 15 athletes will be competing in regional track; both the softball and baseball teams won their first game of regional; exploring the possibility of summer school for students that did not score at the Meets Standards level on the state math assessment; and reviewed a list of items being looked at for MS/HS student handbook change.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: reminding the board of the District Office summer hours of 7:00 to 5:00, Monday – Thursday from the first full week of June through the last full week of July; reminding the board of the staff luncheon on Tuesday, May 20; pouring the base for the wind turbine has been postponed because of wet ground conditions; distributed the Eat Smart, Get Moving! incentive; read 2 thank you notes; and shared a list of meetings out-of-the-district he will be attending before the next meeting.

### BUSINESS

**Budget Hearing** — The amended budget to authorize the district to expend funds for Bilingual Education was approved.

**Technology Plan** — Brian shared information regarding the proposed plan and it was then approved.

**Early Graduation Request** — Elizabeth Elder's request for early graduation next year was approved.

**New Hires** — The following were approved: Amy Brandt, K-6 music; Doug Wilson, MS English and Head HS Boys' Basketball Coach, and Larry Laas, 7-12 Guidance Counselor.

**Resignation** — Kim Pinkall's resignation as a regular route driver was accepted.

**Classified Staff Positions** — The list of all current classified staff members, minus Kim whose resignation was just accepted, was approved for next year.

**Secondary Guidance Counselor Job Description** — The amended job description was approved.

**Supplemental Positions** – Dale Dodd was approved as the MS Asst. Football Coach. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the board to add an additional assistant coach for both the MS and the HS football programs.

**Facilities** – Jeff Gillam of Jones Gillam Architects & Engineers is preparing drawings to share with the Site-Council/Facilities committee.

**Out-of-State Travel** – Lee Weis' and Donna Trowbridge's requests to attend out-of-state conferences this summer were approved.

**Driver Education** – The requirements of students to attend Driver Education were changed to read "be 15 years old on or before August 31 and to have completed their freshmen year." (7-0) A second motion to allow 14 year old students that have a Farm Permit to also attend Driver Education also passed. (4-3 Cheryl, Jeff, Jamie)

There were three Executive Sessions (Student Matter, Personnel, Negotiations). No action was taken following any of them.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, June 9, 7:00 p.m. in the District Office. If anyone wishes to add an item to the agenda, please contact President Marty Kramer, Vice-President Cheryl Higgins or the District Office one week prior to the meeting.

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

What a great last month this has been! From the highlights of the year at the FFA Banquet to the awards and scholarships recognized on the Award Nights to the salutorian and valedictorian speeches and diplomas awarded at graduation to the regional ballgames and track meets our students have really showcased their hard work and achievements this year. They were busy and successful. It was also impressive to see the large number of parents, relatives and community members at these events. Your physical support shows the students that they, and the school, are important.

Thank you to everyone that returned the Technology Survey sent to you. We received back just over 40% of them which is a good rate for most surveys. I appreciate the time you took to fill them out and return them to us. Your input is important as we continue to evaluate our technology program and future needs. Overall, the surveys indicate a strong support for providing multiple technologies for students that, in turn, provide students with new learning opportunities. Along with having up-to-date hardware and software it was also noted that providing training for teachers was equally important.

Now that the 2007-2008 school year is over you might be wondering just how our schools did this year in meeting NCLB and QPA standards. Did we make AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)? Did our students have good attendance? Did we meet the Proficiency Standard on the State Assessments? Are our schools accredited? Although preliminary indications look very positive, the official report card will not come out until sometime next fall. You can, however, find the answers to these questions and others for last year (2006-2007) on our annual Report Card compiled by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). If you would care to look at the entire Report Card you can go to the KSDE website ([www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org)) click on the [Public](#) link then [Assessment Reports](#) link and then [Building Report Card](#) link, or contact the school and we will get a copy to you. Although our last year's report is very positive with several classes having met the Standard of Excellence criteria, we anticipate that this year's, when it finally comes out next fall, will be even better.

As we wind up this school year I want to thank everybody for helping make this a good first year for me here at Ell-Saline. The Ell-Saline USD 307 school district is definitely a place that your children receive a quality education. Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in us.

I hope everyone has a safe, relaxing summer and I look forward to seeing your children back with us in the fall. The first day of classes is Tuesday, August 19.

## MONTHLY PARENT LEARNING TIP #9 MONITOR OUT OF SCHOOL TIME

Monitoring out of school time is a vitally important part of parenting. It's during the hours either before or after school when problems can result from children not having enough structured activities. Here are some suggestions for keeping your child busy and out of trouble:

- Plan some meaningful activities for your child for out of school time.
- Take advantage of community resources for connecting your child to learning activities after school or during the summer (e.g., museums, libraries, etc.)
- Limit TV time to no more than two hours a day. Choose television programs that make your child think or choose those that teach lessons and are free from violence and sexual situations.
- Be aware of who your child's friends are and where they live.
- Make sure that any older siblings or other relatives who baby-sit for your child know what is appropriate behavior and what is acceptable as far as TV viewing and listening to music on CDs or the radio.
- Be aware of the types of music that your child is listening to and help them learn to analyze the messages that they are getting.
- If your child has computer access, monitor the amount of time spent on the Internet as well as the types of sites your child visits.
- Access any available community resources if your child starts to engage in anti-social behavior.

*Submitted by Susan Stateham*

*Taken from RMC Research Corporation*

## CPTA MINUTES for Monday, April 14, 2008

### Attendance:

Wendy DeArvil	Nikki Davenport	Michelle Griffin
Angela Hopkins	Darcy Bradley	Mendee Kramer
Julie Weems	Dawn Pierce	Joyce Songer
Darci Ditto	Ben O'Shea	Desiree O'Shea
Karla Alley	Mindy Schneider	

### Minutes were read and approved.

### Treasurers Report:

Bank of Tesco: \$20,332.48  
Library Fund: \$3,956.27

### Mrs. Sprinkle's Notes:

\*The supply list has been revised.

\*Mrs. Russell is requesting a pair of tennis shoes be left at school for those that don't often wear tennis shoes to school.

\*CPTA has budgeted \$200.00 for Play Day. This year a BBQ lunch is planned for students only. Parents will have to bring their own lunch.

## CPTA MINUTES for Monday, May 5, 2008

- \*April 21, no school.
- \*April 28, Spring Fling (4-6 grades)
- \*April 30, Afterschool program ends
- \*May 2, DARE graduation/lock in (3-6 grades)
- \*May 5, CPTA
- \*May 6, Game Night (1-2 grades)
- \*School library will be open this summer on Thursdays from 6-7 p.m.

### **Old Business:**

#### Brookville Labor Day Celebration:

Discussion was held that CPTA might get involved in this the following year.

### **New Business:**

#### New Officer Elections:

President- Co-Presidents: Darci Ditto and Darcy Bradley  
Vice President- Julie Weems  
Secretary- Mendee Kramer  
Treasurer- Angela Hopkins  
Hospitality- Dawn Pierce

Mindy Schneider moved that all nominations be accepted.  
Darcy Bradley seconded and the motion carried.

#### Summer Movie Tickets

8 movies for \$10.00, CPTA makes \$4.00 per set

#### School Supplies/ Volleyball camp

Will have discussion at the May CPTA meeting

#### Climbing Wall

Mrs. Russell is still looking at a new climbing wall for the gym area. This wall would be attached instead of free standing. The kit is \$1,099.95 for mats that would go over the wall when it wasn't being used to protect kids from running into it. When the wall is in use, the mats would lie on the floor for safety. The total kit is \$4,651.95. Will discuss in May.

#### Additional items

\*Picnic tables have been ordered. 4 tables were \$2,548.00, 1 is ADA accessible, 2 red and 2 black. Assembly will be on Saturday.

\*Dimensions for the playground are 101 NS X 99.3 EW, for US map that would be in the middle of the playground. She is also requesting 5- 4 square patterns, 1 additional hopscotch pattern by the existing one.

\*Branches by the track are poking through the fence. Ben O'Shea, Mindy S. and Nikki will see about having them removed. Nikki will check with Mrs. Sprinkle to see if anyone has been lined up to remove them.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

### **Next CPTA meeting, Monday, May 5, 2008 at 6:30**

*Submitted by Secretary Nikki Davenport*

### **Attendance:**

Angela Hopkins	Nikki Davenport	Michelle Griffin
Deanna Rhodes	Amber Fouard	Julie Weems
Desiree O'Shea	Kim Parks	Michelle Schrock
Darci Ditto	Darcy Bradley	Mendee Kramer
Mrs. Sprinkle	Krista Russell	

### **Minutes were read and approved.**

### **Treasurers Report:**

Bank of Tescott: \$18,102.79  
Library Fund: \$3,373.45

Angela reported that she is caught up on income/expenses from the track meet and that CPTA made a little less than \$700.00. Money is coming in for the summer movie tickets.

### **Mrs. Sprinkle's Notes:**

\*Baseball fields can be reserved while school is in session. After school is out for the year, fields are on a first come, first serve, basis.

\*There will be a "shoe swap" at enrollment for PE shoes.

\*Limbs will be taken care of prior to play day.

\*Anyone needing copies of school events, let Mrs. Sprinkle know.

### **Old Business:**

#### Financial Safeguards:

Discussion was held regarding monthly audits, implementing cash controls, requiring two signatures on checks, and on-line banking. CPTA is currently using reimbursement forms. The Vice President and Treasurer would have the password for on-line banking access. It was further decided that the on-line banking was the way to go as well as two people handling any cash that comes in and to not require two signatures at this time. CPTA will continue to use the reimbursement forms. Darcy Bradley made a motion to approve the guidelines. Mendee Kramer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

#### Climbing wall:

Mrs. Russell discussed the climbing wall. The 20 ft. is \$2700.00 and the 40 ft. is \$4700.00 for the package. This includes the mats and the system would be moveable. Mendee Kramer moved that CPTA purchase the 40 ft. climbing wall at \$4700.00.

Julie Weems seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Mrs. Russell will order the wall.

#### School Supplies:

Pre order form for school supplies will be sent out on 5-6-08.

#### Volleyball camp:

Volleyball camp will be held the last week in July, a flyer will be coming out.

#### Enrollment:

Nikki, Angela, Darcy B and Julie Weems will help with enrollment.

## **New Business:**

### Dye Cuts:

Need to order at least \$150.00 worth. This discussion will be tabled until next fall.

### Computer Files:

CPTA will be asking Brian Bell to put a drive on the school computer for CPTA use to keep all forms, files, etc. at the school.

### Chair Election/Team Volunteers:

Fall events-Mindy S.  
Spring events-  
Fundraising- (Mindy S. will help)  
Publicity-Michelle G.  
Library-  
Staff events-Angela A.

### Additional items:

\*Mendee Kramer suggested having a "welcome" for new kindergarten parents.

Discussion was held on how CPTA could make new parents feel welcome.

\*The painting of the cement slab will begin at 9:00 a.m. on 5-17-08.

\*Michelle advised a flyer regarding the Cardinal Foundation would be coming out.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

## **Next CPTA meeting, Monday, August 25 at 6:30**

*Submitted by Secretary Nikki Davenport*

## **CATES AND WIMER RECEIVE NATIONAL HONORS**

Neil Cates, son of Kirk and Connie Cates, and Michael Wimer, son of Joel and Jeri Wimer, both received National FFA Scholarships from the Cargill © Corporation.

Cargill © in partnership with the National FFA Organization gave away only 350 scholarships to graduating seniors. The seniors must live in an area where Cargill © has a business present and plan to enroll in an accredited post-secondary institution for the fall of 2008. Each recipient received \$1,000 and in addition the high school which they graduated will also receive a \$200 grant. Students are chosen based on academic achievement and leadership in extracurricular and civic activities.

Cates and Wimer are graduating seniors at Ell-Saline High School and have been 4 year members of the FFA chapter. Cates served as Chapter President and Wimer served as Chapter Sentinel for the 2007-2008 school year.

*Submitted by Lee Weis*

## **GORRELL AND CATES RECEIVE STATE HONORS**

Casey Gorrell, after winning the North Central FFA District Honors, won the Kansas State FFA Proficiency Award in Landscape Management. Gorrell will receive the honors at the State FFA convention in Manhattan at the end of May. He joins Stephanie Lindsay in being Ell-Saline's only State Proficiency Award winners.

Neil Cates received the State FFA Orscheln Farm and Home Scholarship from the Kansas FFA. Orscheln Industries offers \$1000 4-H & FFA scholarships annually to graduating seniors in the states of Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Indiana. Recipients must have been members of 4-H or FFA during the four years prior to graduating high school. They must also exhibit leadership potential, possess good character/moral traits and be recognized for good scholastics. Cates will also receive the honors at the State FFA convention in Manhattan at the end of May.

*Submitted by Lee Weis*

## **ELL-SALINE RECEIVES DISTRICT HONORS**

The Ell-Saline FFA Chapter recently received several honors at the North Central District FFA Banquet including individual honors as well as chapter honors.

The individual honors were based on the individual's proficiency in a certain SAE area. Ell-Saline received top honors in 5 areas: Tricia Walker in Ag Sales; Lance Nelson in Agriculture Mechanics and Repair; Morgan Lindsay in Outdoor Recreation; Casey Gorrell in Landscape Management; and Eric Nelson in Forage Production.

The FFA Chapter also received many honors for a variety of programs and activities throughout the year.

*Submitted by Lee Weis*

## **WAX MUSEUM**

Both 4th grades presented a Wax Museum of famous Kansans in history on May 2nd. Each student wrote a biographical script about their character and gave a short oral report when their "button" was pushed to come to life. They also had to research the clothing their character would have worn and then dressed the part. Some of the characters portrayed were Lynette Woodard, Carry Nation, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Wyatt Earp, and Amelia Earhart. The Wax Museum was presented to students, staff, and parents through out the day.

*Submitted by Margaret Shaver*

## **CPTA NEWS**

If you have been to the grade school since school got out, you might have noticed some changes to the concrete slab. During the school year, CPTA purchased a stencil of the United States. On Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, volunteers used the stencil to paint the huge map of the US. The map can be used as a teaching tool since all the states are different colors

and not labeled. The volunteers also painted 6 new hopscotch boards, 4 four-square boards, free throw lines, and shuttle-relay lines. The volunteers included: Mrs. Russell, the DeArvil Family, Dawn Pierce, Mendee Kramer, Courtney Clifford, the Bradley Family, Dana Edgerton, and Nikki Davenport. A big thanks goes out to all the volunteers since they gave up their Saturday to improve our playground. We would also like to thank Sherwin Williams for all their help.  
ESE CPTA



## READING RENAISSANCE

Students at Ell-Saline Elementary have had a very successful year in Reading Renaissance. We would like to congratulate the following students for their accomplishments.

Top Point Earners for the School:

- 1<sup>st</sup>-Hunter Holcom with 547.8 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-Tristan Irish with 537.1 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-Courtney Schulz with 477.5 points

Top Point Earners at each grade level:

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade-Clayton White 29.3 points, Zaine White 26.7 points, Nick Davenport 23.3 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade-Mason Repshire 166.3 points, Morgan Linenberger 148.9 points, Mattie Best 123.6 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- Levi Harapat 234.6 points, Cody Clancy 158.3 points, Duncan Anglin 150 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade- Morgan Parker 150.9 points, Chance Miller 128.8 points, Dakota Came 122.6 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade- Tristan Irish 471.5 points, Emma Drees 300.1 points, Blake Repshire 223.1 points
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade- Hunter Holcom 525.8 points, Courtney Schulz 333.8 points, Lara Brockway 296.9 points

These students went over and beyond with their reading goals and earned recognition for obtaining goal and a half.

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade- Jeb Allen, Patrick Giersch, Mason Henderson, Rylee Schrock, Dylan White, Zaine White, Anthony Brown, Kyler Cox, Nick Davenport, Ian Hays, Cade Heinrich, Tristian McDowell, Grace Stoppel, Clayton White
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade- Avery Bradley, Mason Farrell, Desiree Garman, Madelyn Hayes, Jessi Hughes, Jordan Werner, Cole Base, Mattie Best, Gabrielle Brindle, Spencer Came, Hunter Kindlesparger, Lexi Kochanowski, Bryce Lange, Morgan Linenberger, Jonah Mattson, Cheyenne Monasmith, Mason Repshire, Murphy Seim, Myah Ward
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- Tifanie Becker, Cody Clancy, Baleigh Griffin, Levi Harapat, Emily Oberle, Kathryn Relph, Tyler Weems, Duncan Anglin, Bailey Chermack, Kodee Christensen, Tanier Clifford, Jack Estrada, Konon Hays, Evan Irish, Riley McKain, Madison Mick, Caden Nelson
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade- Katie Adam, Dakota Came, Adrian Castelli, Kimberly McCreedy, Morgan Parker, Katelynn Winter, Riley Drees, Delaney Ellis, Jordan Holcom, Chance Miller
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade-Carla Estrada, Collyn Fouard, Matthew Willis, Harry Black, Emma Drees, Tristen Hale, Tristan Irish, Garrett Jacobson, Angel Martinez, ToriLynn Miser, Blake Repshire, Terra Tanuis
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade- Lara Brockway, Mason DeArvil, Staton Diehl, Chance Harapat, Kalen Ingalsbe, Michael Pieschl, Samuel Unruh, Hunter Holcom, Logan Kochanowski, Jackson McKain, Courtney Schulz

Thank you for working so hard this year,  
Kathy Randolph & Amber Fouard

## **Make summer count**

Summer is a great time to continue learning. If you're a junior who has already taken the ACT test and you would like to strengthen your score, summer is a great time to build your knowledge.

Here are some tips to enhance learning throughout summer:

- Visit your local library.** Public libraries are great resources for additional learning materials. Talk with a librarian to locate items targeted to your needs. What is not available locally often can be retrieved through interlibrary loan programs.
  - Seek out tutors.** Talk with your teachers and school counselor for help locating individual coaching in areas in which you want to improve or even expand your understanding.
  - Use every opportunity to learn.** Taking a family vacation? Spend time learning about the area you'll visit, its history and demographics. Painting your house? Learn about the chemistry of paint or calculate the amount of paint you'll need to cover the desired square footage.
  - Read, read, read.** Summer is a great time to read a book without a deadline. Immerse yourself in each one, researching the author and relevant history.
  - Take a trip around the world in 80 days.** Since summer break typically lasts about 80 days, map your own way around the globe by studying different areas each week.
- By taking advantage of every opportunity, you'll have fun and learn at the same time.

## **Using and understanding your ACT scores**

Your ACT test score is more than a number. It is an indication of how prepared you are for college. While your ACT score is one component considered during the admissions process, it is also a factor in:

- Placement** in first-year courses, especially when several sections are offered.
- Advising** students on a course of study.
- Identification of qualified students for **scholarships and financial aid.**

The most important use of your ACT score is college planning. You can use your score to:

- See how you compare to other students.
- Match the requirements of your preferred colleges.
- Determine strengths and areas for development in your own skills.
- Compare against your grades to see how you are applying the knowledge you learn.

For more information about using your score results, visit [www.actstudent.org/pdf/uyar.pdf](http://www.actstudent.org/pdf/uyar.pdf).

## **College planning for the first in the family**

For students who could potentially be the first in the family to attend college, the planning process can be emotional and challenging. Several resources exist to help first families throughout the decision-making process, including *Family Firsts*, a series of booklets from ACT for first generation college students and their families. To access the booklets, visit [www.act.org/path/secondary/resources.html](http://www.act.org/path/secondary/resources.html).

A key to the process is learning about the college planning calendar. Most two- and four-year schools follow approximately the same admissions schedule. ACT offers online checklists for keeping all students on track to a college education. Visit [www.actstudent.org/college/checklist.html](http://www.actstudent.org/college/checklist.html) to see the steps you should be taking in each year of high school.

Many potential first-generation students and their families believe that funding is unattainable. However, several websites are available to help explain financial aid and other resources for paying for college. Learn more by visiting:

- [www.studentjobs.gov/e-scholar.asp](http://www.studentjobs.gov/e-scholar.asp) – A list of federally funded scholarships, fellowships, grants and internships geared to high school, undergraduate and graduate students.
  - [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) – The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) website. This is where you start when you are ready to apply for financial aid.
  - [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) – Features a free scholarship search as well as information on loans, savings programs and military aid.
  - [www.act.org/fane](http://www.act.org/fane) – A financial aid need estimator.
  - [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net) – A Hispanic Scholarship Fund website that features scholarships for Hispanic students and research reports on the education of Hispanic students.
  - [www.studentaidalliance.org](http://www.studentaidalliance.org) – Student success stories and descriptions of need-based financial aid programs.
- Also, seek out the help of teachers and school counselors for advice and resources. The rewards are worth the effort.

## **Beware of scholarship scams**

A key component of college preparation is financial aid. While no scholarship or grant opportunities should be overlooked, college financing does have its share of scammers.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), you should look for the following signs of scams in scholarship offers:

- Any suggestion that you must pay in exchange for a scholarship.
- Your scholarship will be held only if you provide credit card or bank account numbers.
- The organization is offering information about funding sources not available anywhere else.
- Any indication that you've been selected as a finalist for a contest you did not enter.

Annually, the FTC and the U.S. Departments of Education and Justice report to Congress on scholarship scams. You can read the latest report at <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2008/05/scholarfraud.shtm>. The FTC also maintains the site [www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams](http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams) which includes current scam information and a list of defendants in complaints. The best way to prevent fraud is to have up-to-date information. If you happen to encounter a fraudulent offer, file an online complaint at the FTC's scholarship scams webpage.

## Matching skills to work

The Job Outlook 2008 from the National Association of Colleges and Employers shows that the ideal candidate is well-rounded with a strong work ethic and solid communication skills, which includes written and verbal communication.

Some of the top skills employers want their employees to have:

- Communication skills
- Teamwork skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Analytical skills

These are in addition to the computer and technical requirements of most jobs. If you want to see how you stack up, take a skills test. ACT's WorkKeys® system, for example, analyzes the skills needed for specific jobs and tests those areas. If your school doesn't offer the tests, visit [www.act.org/workkeys/centers.html](http://www.act.org/workkeys/centers.html) to find a testing site near you.

WorkKeys assessment scores also serve as the basis for the National Career Readiness Certificate, an easily understood and universally valued workforce credential. By qualifying for one of three certification levels, you demonstrate your initiative and confirm your skills for potential employers and possible college internships.

National Career Readiness Certificate information can be found by visiting [www.act.org/certificate](http://www.act.org/certificate).

## Sunflower Bank Community

**Ambassadors** - fill out an application – due by May 30.

## Calling All Students,

## Are you interested in volunteering?

If you are, the applications to Salina's Volunteer Connection are in the counseling dept.

## ELEMENTARY PLAYDAY

As part of Playday this year, there was a Pop-A-Shot station where the students could try out their basketball skills. More importantly, the students were instrumental in raising \$250 for the Nothing But Nets Foundation in conjunction with using the Pop-A-Shot game provided by Ken Cochran of Salina. 25 insecticide treated bed nets will be sent to families in Africa to combat mosquitos which cause malaria. The Playday committee would like to thank those who contributed to such a worthy cause. Also, a big THANK YOU goes out to Lee Weis and his FFA students for the BBQ lunch. It smelled and tasted great.

*Submitted by Margaret Shaver*

## MONTHLY PARENT LEARNING TIP #10 CONTINUE LEARNING THROUGH THE SUMMER

Summer is often a time when your child gets easily bored. It is difficult to find activities for him or her to do. Sometimes local entertainment attractions don't fit into the family budget. Here are some low cost or no cost activities that will keep your child happy and learning all summer.

- Contact your child's teacher to find out whether the school offers any type of summer program.
- Ask your child's teacher for any recommended activities that you can do at home with your child during the summer.
- Help your child obtain a library card.
- Visit the local museum and park department to see what opportunities they offer for summer learning activities.
- Make time to spend with your child to continue learning over the summer months.
- Visit second hand stores to find books, games, and toys that can be useful in strengthening academic concepts.
- Find out whether summer activity programs are available from your church or local community organizations like the YMCA, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, etc.
- Call the tourist bureau for free copies of activities to do in your area. Specify that you want free or low cost activities.
- Plant a garden with your child—then make bouquets for others with the flowers and salads with the vegetables.
- Arrange for your child to volunteer at the local senior center, childcare facility, or hospital.

*Submitted by Susan Stateham*

*Taken from RMC Research Corporation*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check for changes at [www.ellsaline.org](http://www.ellsaline.org)

## June

June 9 7:00 BOE Meeting @ Ell-Saline District Office  
June 14 ACT Test Date  
June 14 Flag Day  
June 15 Father's Day

## July

July 4 Independence Day  
July 14 7:00 BOE Meeting @ Ell-Saline District Office

**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 in 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.

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Brookville, Kansas  
Permit No. 2

**Ell-Saline USD 307**  
412 E. Anderson P.O. Box 157  
Brookville, KS 67425-0157  
(785) 225-6813