

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

As I sit here at the close of Spring Break I don't know if March is going to go out like a lamb or like a lion but I know that during the middle the wind was certainly howling like a coyote! How refreshing the rain of last week was! The warm, windy weather we had before that was certainly sapping out what little moisture had been in the ground. Now the wheat fields and yards are really greening up and everyday more flowers are bringing color to the world. Spring seems to definitely be upon us.

Spring time in school can be one of the most rewarding times of the school year. This year is already proving to be no different. Now is when the culmination of one year's, or several years', worth of effort and accomplishment is recognized. Our Boys' Basketball Team had a successful run through the sub-state tournament and qualified for the State Tournament where our Cheerleaders, school and fans earned a Sportsmanship Certificate of Award. Our middle school recently competed in the league music festival where their hard work this year was rewarded by receiving many ratings of "I" and "II". The students performed very well in front of our parents and patrons at the MS/HS Concert on March 5. The National Honor Society held their banquet on March 14 with the induction of 16 new members and the recognition of the 9 current senior members. Our K-2 students performed a very lively concert in front of a full house. As the seniors look forward to next year and pursuing their goals, various scholarships have been announced, with more to come that will help them in their endeavors. Although it is stressful, now is also the time when our students take the Kansas State Assessment tests that give us information on progress they have made over the year and helps us make decisions for the future. From the preliminary results of the assessments taken so far, our students are doing an OUTSTANDING job!

Spring time in school districts can also be one of the most frustrating times of the school year. What I am referring to here is the action of the legislature as it relates to school funding for the current and future years as well as other legislation that impacts schools. One of the encouraging pieces of legislation so far is that the Senate has passed legislation providing an increase in the Base State Aid Per Pupil (BSAPP) and the House is expected to act on it this coming week. If passed this will be the first time in three years that schools will receive an increase, rather than a decrease, in funding. However, for that potential increase to become reality there will need to be funds available for the State to pay it. One of the discouraging pieces so far is that there are bills in both the House and the Senate to eliminate income taxes. If that becomes reality, with the projected loss of revenue to the state after the second year, the state will have a larger deficit balance than it has had the past few years. What that would translate to is yet further cuts in all service that are funded by the state. For school districts or any other local governmental agency to make up for that loss of funding, the alternative is that they raise property taxes. At any rate, property tax is one of the most disequalizing taxes there is and I encourage you to contact your Senator and Representatives and encourage them to not take away this source of state revenue that is needed to fund all of the social programs that are important to each of us.

As the legislature continues to work out a plan not only for next year but also for many years into the future it remains important for all of us to monitor how any plan might negatively impact us and contact our legislators to let them know our concerns. For your convenience, contact information for our area legislators is again listed at the end of this article. If you would like more specific information on how any new proposals might impact us, please let me know and I'll get it to you. For the future of our district, it continues to be important for our voices to be heard.

Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the Ell-Saline USD 307 school district. You can be assured that your children are receiving a quality education. Please call or stop in so we can visit about the many good things going on in your district and we can get to know each other.

Legislative Contact Information

Sen. Pete Brungardt
State Capitol Building
Room 136-E
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7390
Pete.Brungardt@senate.ks.gov

Rep. Tom Arpke
Docking State Office Building
7th Floor
915 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7643
tom.arpke@house.ks.gov

Rep. Charles Roth
State Capitol Building
Room 174-W
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7689

Rep. Steven Johnson
Docking State Office Building
7th Floor
915 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7696

8TH GRADE ENVIRONMENTAL DAY AT THE ZOO



The 8th graders from around the state participated in the Environmental Day at the Zoo on February 15 that the Ell-Saline Natural Resources and Wildlife Management class put on. We had four sessions that include a Storm Spotter named Henry Diehl and Lane Johnson presented his field of Taxidermy. Also Pat Riese talked about his field of expertise in Wild Life Biology and Anita Butler was the Zoologist. Also we had two state officers come in and talk, they were Jordan Pieschl the Kansas FFA president and Justine Dlabal Kansas FFA reporter. Special thanks goes out to our funding organizations, YGMC and the Ell-Saline FFA chapter.

FFA GREENHOUSE WILL BEGIN SELLING PLANTS TO THE PUBLIC ON April 10, 2012.

Plants available at that time will be the following:

Tomatoes
Sweet Bell Peppers
Hot Peppers
Cabbage
Broccoli
Petunias
Geraniums
Sweet Potato Vine
Rose Moss

And many other varieties

Later in the month we will have shrubs available.

**Hours available are 4 to 6 each week day evening.
Saturday April 21, 9-3 Brookville, Kansas**

Welcome Spring @ Ell-Saline

April 2012

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

1 Hamburger on Whole Wheat Bun
Lettuce & Tomato
Broccoli and Cheese
Tropical Fruit
Milk Choice

2 Chicken Nuggets
Sweet Potato Fries
Fresh Broccoli Florets
Banana Half
Bread Stick, Milk

4 Easter Dinner
Sliced Ham
Scalloped Potatoes
Green Beans
Orange Slice
Roll & Jelly, Milk

5 Chili and Chips
Celery & Cucumbers
Baby Carrots
Apple Sauce
Cinnamon Roll, Milk

6 No School Today
Easter Break
Good Friday

9 No School Today
Easter Break

Chicken Strip Wrap
Lettuce & Tomato
Seasoned Rice
Fresh Broccoli Florets
Banana Half
Milk Choice

11 Pasta & Meat Sauce
Tossed Spinach Salad
Diced Peaches
Garlic Bread
W/G Sugar-Cookie, Milk

12 Chicken & Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Orange Slice
Roll & Jelly, Milk

13 Rib on a Bun
Tater Tots
Baked Beans
Baby Carrots
Crisp Apple Quarters
Milk Choice

Country Beef Patty
Potatoes & Gravy
Sweet Peas
Diced Peaches
Roll & Jelly, Milk

17 Bierock
Green Beans
Fresh Baby Carrots
Strawberry Shortcake
Milk Choice

Turkey & Cheese Sub
Lettuce & Tomato
Fresh Broccoli Florets
Sun Chips
Orange Slice, Milk

Beef & Bean Burrito
Whole Kernel Corn
Salsa & Tortilla Chips
Sliced Peas
Milk Choice

Grilled Chicken on Whole Wheat Bun
Lettuce/Tomato slices
Oven Fries
Crisp Apple Quarters
Milk Choice

22 Tony's Pizza
Salad w/Romaine
Pineapple Chunks
Bread Stick,
Chocolate Pudding
Milk Choice

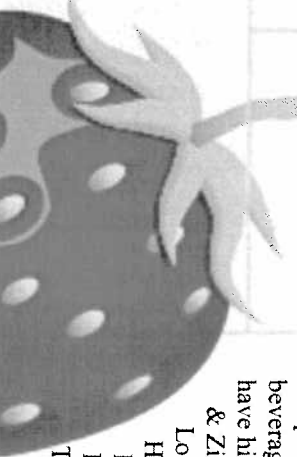
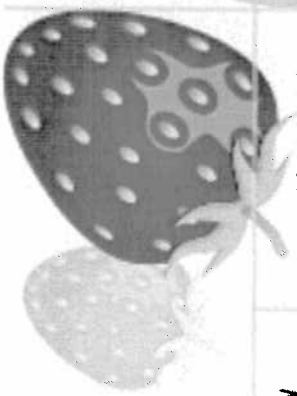
Chicken Pattie
Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans
Orange Slice
Roll & Jelly,
Milk Choice

25 Taco Salad
Refried Beans &
W/G Tortilla Chips
Banana Half
W/G Choc. Chip Cookie
Milk Choice

26 Beef Ravioli
Cottage Cheese
Fresh Broccoli Florets
Crisp Apple Quarters
Garlic Bread
Milk Choice

27 Hot Ham & Cheese
Tri Tater
Baby Carrots
Fresh Red Grapes
Graham Snack, Milk

Hamburger on Whole Wheat Bun
Lettuce & Tomato
Broccoli & Cheese
Tropical Fruit
Milk Choice



April 22

Earth Day

Tips for Saving The Planet

1. Cook Once and eat as a family

It saves energy and kids reap

benefits of family meals.

2. Reuse grocery bags.

3. Purchase products that use

recycled packaging. Like Yogurt

4. Ride bikes to the park.

5. Pack a lunch in reusable

containers

6. Turn off the lights when you

leave a room.

Did You Know?

Research shows that kids who go

for a container of milk at lunch

are more likely to make the

calcium grade. Lunch time milk

drinkers meet or exceed the

recommended calcium intake for

both lunch and the entire day

compared to kids who drink other

beverages at lunch. They also

have higher intakes of Vitamin A

& Zinc, two nutrients typically

Low in kid's diets. Kids

Have a choice of milk every

Day in the cafeteria.

Help your kids make milk

The beverage of Choice.

Cardinal Football

Attention people who would like some help with odd jobs! In an attempt to raise money for new football uniforms, the boys of the Ell-Saline Cardinals Football Team are making themselves available to do odd jobs! They can do anything from painting, moving rocks, mowing lawns, spraying yards, and giving dog's baths! Anything you need done, they can do. The boys are not asking for a set amount of money for doing these odd jobs, they are simply asking for donations for their work. These new uniforms are very important to the boys so any odd jobs they can do would be appreciated.

If you have an odd job you need performed, please contact Coach King 785-643-6715. Now, you know what it's time to do. Bring out those Honey-Do Lists and put the football boys to work!





Ell-Saline Elementary School

(785) 827-8891 • FAX (785) 825-7355

1757 North Halstead Road • Salina, Kansas 67401

Ell-Saline Elementary is making plans for the kindergarten class of 2012-2013 school year. Names of the children who will be attending are needed. Kansas State Law requires that children be five years old on or before August 31 of the year they enter kindergarten.

Parents and the children who will be attending kindergarten next year will be invited to attend Kindergarten Roundup held on April 25, 2012 at Ell-Saline Elementary.

If you know of anyone who qualifies, PLEASE complete this form and return it. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Please return by April 5, 2012

**2012 - 2013
Ell-Saline Elementary
Kindergarten**

Child's Name _____

Address _____ Date of Birth _____

Parent's Name _____ Telephone _____

Boy _____ Girl _____