

November 9 Board Meeting Report

Cheryl Higgins and Marty Kramer were absent. All action was approved on a 5-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

REPORTS

BOE – Jeff Parker reminded the board of the SHESC Legislative Luncheon on November 12.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: professional development activities; 2016 state assessments; and the Parent Enrichment Night held on November 12.

Mrs. Wildeman – Her report included: the MS/HS play *The Diary of Anne Frank* being performed on November 13 and 14. Catelyn Richards being selected as our Outstanding Scholar-Athlete in the Wendy's High School Heisman Awards; Ashley Bishop and Emily Younger as part of *The Nutcracker* to be performed at the Stiefel Theater; all five HS students (Madelyn Hayes, Morgan Parker, Lyndsi Weems, Riley Drees, Spencer Kochanowski) that auditioned for the KMEA Band were selected to perform; and we host the HOA Instrumental Honor Concert on November 10.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: state accreditation process; mission/vision statement; progress on track project; we've accepted the invitation to host a 2A Sub-State Basketball Tournament; state revenue projection; Gannon court case; read one thank you; and dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

BUSINESS

2014-15 Audit Report—Jay Langley of Clubine & Rettele gave a report on the audit they conducted of the 2014-15 financial records. There were no major infractions.

Accept Resignation—Tracy Lewis' resignation as a MS/HS cook was accepted.

Ratify Negotiations—The list of Tentative Agreements was approved.

Classified and Administrative Salaries—The classified and administrative salaries were approved as presented. They will receive a 2% increase the same as for all returning teachers as a result of negotiations.

KASB Legislative Platform and Delegate Assembly Representative—It was the consensus of the board to support the platform as presented by KASB. The representative to the Delegate Assembly is yet to be determined.

KERMIP Documents—The amended resolutions were approved.

Board Policy – 1st Reading—Since this was the 1st reading no action could be taken. They will be brought back at the December meeting for possible action.

There was one Executive Session (Negotiations).

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office in Brookville. If anyone wishes to have an item added to the agenda, please contact President Mitch Drees, Vice-President Jeff Parker or the District Office two weeks prior to the meeting.

KANSANS CAN: KANSAS LEADS THE WORLD IN THE SUCCESS OF EACH STUDENT

This fall Kansas' new Commissioner of Education, Dr. Randy Watson, conducted a series of meetings across the state with more than 2,000 teachers, administrators, students, higher education personnel, parents and business leaders to gather input on what type of education they thought a 24-year old would need to be successful. What he heard might surprise you. To see what he heard as well as other information on the new vision, click on the image below. Based on what was heard, at its November meeting the Kansas State Board of Education adopted a new vision statement—**Kansans CAN: Kansas Leads the World in the Success of Each Student!**



SCHOOLMESSENGER TEXT OPTION

The text feature of our SchoolMessenger calling program was initiated earlier this year. Since the information on how to subscribe may not have reached everyone, we are providing the information once again. A letter containing this information will also be going home with the elementary school December newsletter.

SMS text messaging is not intended to replace our other means of communication—rather it enhances them. The district will only use the service to provide information that is timely and relevant. In order to participate in the SMS text messaging service you must indicate your willingness to receive text messages to your phone. The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete.

Simply text any one of the following words to the number **68453**: subscribe, optin, yes

You'll know you were successful if you receive the following reply message:

You are registered to receive approx 3 msgs/mo. Text STOP to quit, HELP for help.

You'll need to repeat the opt-in process for any wireless numbers that you wish to include. In addition to performing the opt-in process above you'll want to insure that the district has your wireless number (s) in our student information database. If you haven't already provided that information to us please contact either building and provide us with that information.

Our SMS text messaging service is live so once you have followed the process outlined above, you will begin to receive all text messages that we send.

Please note, although the district does not charge you for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

Thank You!

The After Prom Committee would like to thank all that came for the play meal on Saturday, November 14th. We fed right at 50 people. We had great volunteers who cooked, cleaned, served, decorated, and collected donations. All that hard work earned \$388 for the After Prom fund!! We would like to thank Mrs. Little and the

Drama Club for letting us host the meal. Thanks to all that volunteered and sent items. We would also like to thank Jim's Chicken, Dillons, Walmart, Rick Work, Came Farms, and Mary and Greg Plott for their donations. Without their contributions, we would not have made near as much for the After Prom.

Thank You!

November HS Student of the Month:

DESIREE GARMAN

Desiree Garman



The November High School Student of the Month is Desiree Garman. Desiree is the daughter of Shawn and Joan Garman and the sister of Hailey Garman. In school she participates in PALS, Volleyball, Basketball, and FFA. In her spare time, Desiree enjoys spending time with friends and family and playing sports. After High School she plans to attend college and major in elementary education. Great job Desiree!

November MS Student of the Month:

REECE DITTO



Reece Ditto is the November Middle School Student of the Month. Reece is the daughter of Troy and Darci Ditto and the sister of Brody Ditto. In school, Reece participates in Volleyball, Basketball, Track and Field, Cheerleading, and Scholars' Bowl. In her community Reece is a member of the Saint Joseph's Catholic Church and the Brookville United Methodist Church's youth group. Reece enjoys playing basketball, reading, being outside with her animals, hunting, and fishing. After High School, she plans on going to K-State to become a Teacher. Way to go, Reece!



NATHAN BURGESS HONORED

Earlier this year Mr. Nathan Burgess, elementary Physical Education teacher, was chosen as the Young Professional of the Year by his peers in the Kansas Association of Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance. At their annual convention in Wichita on October 29, Nathan received his award. Congratulations Nathan!

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By the time you are reading this we will be knocking on the door to enter December. Normally that means that winter is quickly approaching and with that comes the possibility of snow, ice, and general dangerous weather conditions. If we were in northwest Kansas we would have already experienced it!

When dangerous weather conditions happen on a scheduled school day then a decision needs to be made regarding whether or not to have school. Ideally the decision can be made the night before so that parents have more time to make arrangements for their child for the day. However, the weather does not always give us that much advance warning and a decision isn't made until early in the morning. An attempt will always be made to make a decision by 6:00 a.m. but conditions can worsen at any time. To help in making what appears to be the best decision we check the radar, weather predictions, current road conditions and what other neighboring school districts are planning. Safety of students, staff and parents is the primary consideration in making a decision. If travel conditions are not good at the time of our normal school beginning or if there is a strong likelihood that the weather will deteriorate during the day so that it will not be safe to get everybody home, then school will likely be called off for the day. It is much more difficult for parents to have a late start to the school day or dismiss school earlier than normal than it is to call off for the entire day. If the weather prediction is for dangerous weather or if it is "not looking good out there" a *SchoolMessenger* call and/or text will be made so that word gets out to everyone very quickly. Also, tune local radio and TV stations. Each of those stations will be contacted as soon as any decision is made to modify the normal school day because of weather conditions. If the decision is made for an early dismissal after school has already started for the day, we will also have the notice on our district web site (www.ellsaline.org). Good communication at those times is critical.

A second piece of communication that will be important for each of us to stay current on throughout the winter and spring are the decisions taking place in Topeka. We are all aware that the state's revenue has consistently been several million dollars below the projections to the point that now the projections have been lowered by several million dollars. What we haven't heard is how that will impact not only school district budgets but also all other programs and services provided by state funding. It will be interesting to see how the Governor and legislature plan to work through this without making severe cuts to services for several years to come.

The state budget is not the only topic in Topeka to keep an eye on. It will also be important to carefully monitor what legislation is being proposed. There is a strong likelihood that again this year several proposals that are detrimental to public K-12 education will be introduced. A sampling of issues impacting either citizens in general or school districts in particular that are likely to be addressed this legislative session include: changes in the manner of which judges are selected; a funding formula for K-12 education; more interest in voucher, charter schools, social promotion; likely continued support for the Governor's tax policy; and even more demand for "school efficiency" audits and practices with possibly more state control of budgets and budgeting. For Kansas to remain the great place it is to live and raise a family and for Kansas to maintain the high quality of education that our students deserve, it will be extremely important that we all stay up-to-date on what is being proposed in Topeka and communicate our concerns to our area legislators.

Our students have used several forms of communication this month as they gained confidence and showcased their talents.

- ✓ On November 5 our 1st and 2nd Grade students entertained us with a great Thanksgiving themed music program.
- ✓ Fourteen of our top instrumental students (Sr. – Noah Bradley, Riley Drees, Spencer Kochanowski, Morgan Parker; Jr. – Baleigh Griffin; So. – Josh Brandt, Madelyn Hayes, Lexi Kochanowski, Morgan Linenberger, Sydney Watters, Lyndsi Weems, Jordan Werner, Colton White, Faith Wolf), accompanied by Ms. Joan Grover participated in the HOA League Honors Instrumental Concert that we hosted on November 10.
- ✓ The MS basketball teams under coaches Mrs. Erin Dunstan, Mr. Drew Shaver, Mr. Norm Jennings and Mr. Josh Burt have started their seasons.
Our HS Scholars' Bowl team under the coaching of Mrs. Ashley Hanson has participated in several meets.
Our HS Drama Club under the direction of Mrs. Amanda Little put on a great performance of the play, *The Diary of Anne Frank*.
- ✓ FFA students in Mr. Lee Weis' classes participated in several contests and events.
Our grades 7-12 Instrumental and Vocal students under the direction of Ms. Joan Grover will display their talents in their winter concert on November 30.
- ✓ Our HS basketball, wrestling, cheerleaders and dance teams under the direction of their coaches Mr. Jeff Vogt, Mr. Drew Sprague, Mr. Chencho Arceo, Mr. John Ludes, Mr. Terry King, Mrs. Darcy Bradley and Mrs. Nikki Davenport will begin their seasons on Friday, December 4, when they travel to Sedgwick.

Each of these is an example of various communication tools (written, spoken or performance) that our students are being exposed to that will help them be better prepared for school and work when they leave us.

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. That is just one of the many things for us to be thankful for during the holiday season.

Ell-Saline USD 307

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Return Service Requested

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Elementary School
1757 N. Halstead Rd.
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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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check for changes at www.ellsaline.org

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| Dec. 1 | 5:00 HS BB Gatorade Scrimmage @ ES | Dec. 15 | 4:30 HS BB @ Ellinwood |
| Dec. 1 | HS Winter Sports Parent Mtg. | Dec. 16 | MS/HS Semester Finals |
| Dec. 3 | 4:00 MS BB Moundridge @ ES | Dec. 17 | NO ESE After School |
| Dec. 4 | NO ESE After School | Dec. 17 | 8:20 ESE Christmas Parties |
| Dec. 4 | 4:30 HS BB @ Sedgwick | Dec. 17 | 4:00 MS BB Remington @ ES |
| Dec. 5 | 10:00 WR @ Lincoln | Dec. 17 | MS/HS Semester Finals |
| Dec. 5 | HS KMEA @ Manhattan | Dec. 17 | End of Quarter/Semester |
| Dec. 7 | NO ESE After School | Dec. 18 | WINTER BREAK - Teacher Work Day |
| Dec. 7 | 9:00 HS Winter Sports Pictures | Dec. 18 | 4:00 WR JV @ Abilene |
| Dec. 7 | 7:00 5 & 6 Band/Vocal Program | Dec. 18 | 4:30 HS BB Little River @ ES |
| Dec. 8 | 5:45 HS G BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 18 | ES Dancers |
| Dec. 8 | 7:15 HS B BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 21 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 10 | 4:00 Santa Shoppe | Dec. 22 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 10 | 6:30 Read with Santa | Dec. 23 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 10 | 4:00 MS BB @ Berean Academy | Dec. 23-27 | KSHSAA Non Practice Days |
| Dec. 11 | NO ESE After School | Dec. 24 | WINTER BREAK - Christmas Eve |
| Dec. 11 | 7:00 HS G BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 25 | WINTER BREAK - Merry Christmas |
| Dec. 11 | 8:30 HS B BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 28 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 11 | 8:30 FFA @ Hutchinson | Dec. 29 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 12 | 9:00 WR @ Minneapolis | Dec. 30 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 12 | TBA HS G & B BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 31 | WINTER BREAK - New Year's Eve |
| Dec. 12 | ACT Test Date | Jan. 1 | WINTER BREAK - Happy New Year |
| | | Jan. 4 | Classes Resume |