

CHANGE IN CALENDAR FOR THIS YEAR

At its December meeting, the Board of Education approved a change in this year's calendar. Thursday, March 24 was changed from a Student Contact Day to a Teacher In-Service Day. This year the Kansas State Department of Education has asked every district to score the Multi-Disciplinary Task Performance section of the state assessment. In order to score them, it is required that the staff receives training on the rubric. March 24 will be used as the day for staff to receive the training and also to score the assessments.

2016 -2017 CALENDAR ADOPTED

At its meeting on January 11, the Board of Education adopted a calendar for the 2016 - 2017 school year. The first day for students will be Wednesday, August 24, which is a week later than it has been the last few years. The last day will be Thursday, May 18. You can view the entire calendar on the district web page. It is also included as an insert to this ECHO.

January 11 Board Meeting Report

Jamie Bradley and Marty Kramer were the only board members absent. All action was approved on a 5-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

V. REPORTS

BOE – There was no report.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: Mr. Nathan Bjelland is a student teacher with Mrs. Omli; and Mrs. Herrman received a \$1,000.00 Earl Bane Foundation grant to fund Genius Hour projects.

Mrs. Wildeman – Her report included: Rosie Arias and Noah Bradley were selected as the Ell-Saline elementary and middle school Bigs of the Year; the security cameras are hooked up and in use; and our initial bowling season has begun with Andrea Howard, Landon Howard and Malik Myers participating.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: reminding the board that the Governor will give his State of the State Address at 5:30 tomorrow (Tuesday, January 12); the potential of area districts joining together in showing the movie, *Beyond Measure*, whose theme is what is wrong with public education in the eyes of the filmmakers followed by a panel discussion highlighting several solutions that are actually being used; and dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

VII. BUSINESS

- A. Adopt 2016-17 School Calendar—Next year's school calendar was adopted. The first day for students is Wednesday, August 24, 2016 which is one week later than it was this year.
- B. Approve Teacher Position Transfer—Mrs. Komarek's request to transfer from the Title I Reading Teacher position to a Kindergarten Teacher position was approved.
- C. Accept Bus Bids—The low bid of \$81,629.00 from Melton Motors in Belleville for a 65-passenger bus was accepted.
- D. 2014-15 State Assessment Information—Last year's overall assessment scores by building level and grade levels for the middle/high school were reviewed.
- E. Executive Session—This item was tabled.

There was one Executive Session (Personnel).

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

A HERO AMONG US

Although we have many heroes working with us, one of them was given special recognition in December. Vivian Kochanowski, who has been volunteering and helping at Ell-Saline Elementary for a decade, was recognized by BANK VI with the "Salina Hero of the Week Award" on December 15. Tom Wilbur, President of BANK VI, is pictured presenting Vivian with her award. Congratulations Vivian! Thank you for all that you do for our students and staff!!



Ell-Saline Lions Club

Pancake Day

Brookville Community Bldg.

SATURDAY

February 20, 2016

8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Proceeds will go to the Ell-Saline Lions Club Community Fund

Free Will donations

January HS Student of the Month
MIKAYLEE LAAS



Mikaylee Laas is the High School Student of the Month. Mikaylee is the daughter of Misty Holmes and Brent Laas, and the sister of Blake, Jerzie, and Landrie. In school, Mikaylee is involved in FFA and Friends of Rachel. In her community, she is involved in many things including the Cardinal 4-H Club, Crossroads Church, Operation Christmas, Salina Speedway concessions, volunteering through CAPS, and helping Cloverbud 4-H. In her spare time, Mikaylee enjoys cooking, crafts, showing cattle, working around the farm, fishing, hunting, spending time with her dogs, Sassy, Twix, and Roper, and back-grounding cattle. In the future, Mikaylee would like to attend K-State Manhattan and study to become an Embryo Transplant Tech.

Hopkins

January MS Student of the Month
NOAH HOPKINS



Noah Hopkins is the Middle-School Student of the Month. He is the son of Jeremy and Angela Hopkins and the brother of Elijah Hopkins. In school, Noah participates in Scholars' Bowl, football, basketball, and track. In his community, Noah volunteers at the library and at Vacation Bible School. His hobbies include playing sports, reading, and studying. In the future, Noah would like to get a football and scholastic scholarship and attend college. Way to go, Noah!

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Welcome to 2016! I hope that over the holidays you had time to enjoy family and friends and were safe in all of your travels. At least for the most part this year the roads were in good shape over the holidays. Although we've had a few bitterly cold days, so far the winter has been a pretty mild one. Although as I sit here finishing this article, the students are enjoying a Snow Day. Something we've not had many of the last few years.

It seems like each of the past several years as the legislature reconvened and the Governor laid out his annual plans in the State of the State Address and in his proposed budget, my January articles have been one of concern for the negative impact they would have on K-12 public education. This year is no different except this year also includes an efficiency study conducted by the firm of Alvarez and Marshall. With the condition of the State's finances, the expectation of a judgment to be handed down in favor of the plaintiffs in the Gannon Court Case, the Governor's plan for K-12 education over the next two years and some of the recommendations of the efficiency study, this year is as concerning for the future of K-12 public education as it has ever been.

✓ In the small portion of the Governor's State of the State Address that touched on education he stated **"Teaching isn't a job or a vocation. It's a calling. I know. I have taught. Two of my children teach. Teachers need money to care for their needs. That's why Kansans invest in education: so good teachers are able to do their calling and teach. Yet today, of the nearly \$4B the state puts into education, not nearly enough goes toward instruction."** (Now here is the part that I find insulting and contentious.) **"That's highly inefficient, if not immoral..."**

I'll list a few examples of expenditures that are basic to a student's education but yet they are not counted in the narrow definition of "instruction". Then you can decide: Is it immoral for a district to purchase a wheelchair accessible van to transport a student to school?

- Is it immoral for a district to spend district dollars to provide healthy food for the students to eat?
- Is it immoral for a district to purchase textbooks that help prepare our students to be successful high school graduates?
- Is it immoral for a district to hire a nurse to care for a student's physical needs?
- Is it immoral for a district to hire a counselor to care for a student's mental needs?
- Is it immoral for a district to provide safe equipment to protect our students as they participate in athletics?

None of these expenditures, along with many others, can be counted as dollars that impact instruction.

✓ One of the recommendations by the Alvarez and Marshall efficiency study would penalize districts like Ell-Saline whose Board of Education adopted budgets that have enabled the district to save funds for rainy days. Each year those rainy day funds have become even less as state funding has decreased. The efficiency study targets those cash balances and recommends that the legislature cap the cash balances at the end of the fiscal year at 15% of a district's annual expenditures. To enforce that cap they recommend that districts with a cash balance exceeding 15% be penalized by reducing the district's state aid by 20% of the "excess cash balance" each year until the district's cash balances are at the target amount. If this recommendation is adopted into law, then schools will not be able to cover unexpected expenses like large insurance premium increases.

✓ It appears that schools next year will again be funded under the current Block Grant system while a new finance formula is written. An aspect of the previous formula that will be heavily scrutinized is that of At-Risk funding. Many in the legislature feel that too many students qualify and that too much money is allocated for it. It is true that many more dollars are now allocated for it than there was even two or three years ago. However, the number of our low income families is now considerably higher than it used to be and the needs of many of our students is much greater than it used to be. Without our At-Risk dollars we would not be able to provide many of the supports that we now do. It could impact programs like PALS, After School, summer school and others.

The prevailing atmosphere in Topeka causes me more worry this year about the future of K-12 public education in rural areas than ever before and the worry last year was at a pretty high level. If you are concerned about the future of our schools, public education in general, or any of the other quality of life programs that are funded by the State of Kansas, I encourage you to contact your legislators and express your concern to them. We, as school administrators and board members have been doing so for many years and our comments often fall on deaf ears. The biggest impact comes when they hear from you the parents, patrons, constituents, and voters. Again, I encourage you to contact them! For the future of our state, it is important. Contact information for our area legislators is provided on the back of the calendar insert.

Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the Ell-Saline USD 307 school district. You can be assured that your children continue to receive a quality education.

Sen. Tom Arpke
State Capitol Building
Room 135-E
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7369
tom.arpke@senate.ks.gov

Rep. J. R. Claeys
State Capitol Building
Room 274-W
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-7670
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Rep. Diane Dierks
State Capitol Building
Room 519-N
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

Rep. Steven Johnson
State Capitol Building
Room 286-N
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

2015-2016 First Semester "A" Honor Roll
Grade Pt. Average is between 3.5 and 4.0

Honor Roll

2015-2016 First Semester "B" Honor Roll

12th Grade

Rosanna Arias, Ashlyn Bird, Noah Bradley, Dakota Came, Callie Cameron, Shianne Clark, Braden Cox, Ashley Davis, Riley Drees, Jessica Henderson, Arelia Herrman, Andrea Howard, Koby Ingalsbe, Morgan Kindlesparger, Spencer Kochanowski, Jordan Lindquist, Gregory Mason, Chance Miller, Yadira Nunez, Morgan Parker, Matthew Parks, Keaghan Patrick, Catelyn Richards, Haley Thomason, Katelynn Winter

11th Grade

Duncan Anglin, Emily Arnold, Tifanie Becker, Reilly Brin, Kodee Christensen, Morgan Davenport, Baleigh Griffin, Levi Harapat, Konon Hays, Tempest Henry, Alivia Jennings, Kylee Jones, Mikaylee Laas, Milah Linenberger, Megan Northcutt, Sydney Omlie, Brooklyn Plott, Kathryn Relph, Madison Schuman, Emily Wagner, Tyler Weems, Miranda Work

10th Grade

Mattie Best, Avery Bradley, Joshua Brandt, Gabrielle Brindle, Spencer Came, Skyler Clark, Daniel Davila, Richard Davis, Brody Ditto, Mason Farrell, Desiree Garman, Madelyn Hayes, Jessi Hughes, Hunter Kindlesparger, Lexington Kochanowski, Zaide Korb, Bryce Lange, Morgan Linenberger, Malik Myers, Jennifer Nunez, Murphy Seim, Sydney Watters, Lyndsi Weems, Jordan Werner, Colton White, Matthew Wilvers, Faith Wolf

9th Grade

Blake Bell, Joel Came, Nickolas Davenport, Alida DeGreeff, Patrick Giersch, Cade Heinrich, Reis Jennings, Kamdyn Johnson, Megan Krebaum, Alison Palmer, Rylee Schrock, Camrynn White, Clayton White, Dylan White, Emily Younger

8th Grade

Connor Anglin, Alison Bird, Owen Bradley, Brianna Byerley, Ty Chalmers, Kaden Griffin, Caleb Hammonds, Keegan Harrington, Wyatt Hayes, Kayleigh Hobby, Coleson Hopkins, Noah Hopkins, Sydney Hynes, Julianna Krebaum, Erin Lange, Emma Larson, Jillian Lewin, Taylor Lewis, Alecia Mendez, Katrina Nelson, Luke Parks, Karah Serocki, Ashton Travis, Caleb Umscheid, Paige Vogt, Caden White, Julisa Wolf

7th Grade

Victoria Arceo, Derek Arensman, Hannah Backhus, Corah Barnett, Colton Bell, Austin Bird, Katelyn Brandt, Jesus Calzada, Reece Ditto, Keenan Drees, Hailey Garman, Brandon Harapat, Lakota Heinrich, Elijah Hopkins, Katelee Jennings, Jordan Livingston, Trevor Peterson, Treyton Peterson, Gage Pierce, Prairie Robbins, Cole Schneider, Lakyn Short, Hunter Steinbruck, Emily White, Nolan White, Myles Work

12th Grade

Fernando Garcia, Luke Sheridan, Emily Stelter

11th Grade

Bailey Chermak, Tanier Clifford, Caitlyn Hammonds, Kachina Harrington, Hunter Hayes, Matthew Herring, Morgan Herring, Nathan Macy, Makayla Pierce

10th Grade

Grace Bowers, Breanna Chaput, Shyanne Dreyer, Landon Howard, Jonah Mattson, Nathan Parks

9th Grade

Melissa Harrington, Angel McDanel, Seth Schneider, Jacob Stelter

8th Grade

Angel Cardona, Katelyn Dougherty, Sawyer Kramer, Eric Rincon

7th Grade

Blain Bishop, Garrit Caswell, Rayvanna Garcia, Tate Morrical, Corbin Schneider, Carter Underwood



The Booster Club's Dillon's Loyalty reward program resets on January 1st. Here is the information you will need to re-enroll. Thanks for participating. During the first 3 quarters of 2015, 19 households used the program and earned the Booster Club \$599.57! WOW!

You must visit the website, dillons.com/communityrewards, to re-enroll in the program after January 1, 2016 in order for your purchases throughout 2016 to credit our organization. You will need to sign in, and make your contribution selection using our 5-digit NPO number (89049) or search by Ell-Saline Booster Club.

After-Prom News

The After-Prom committee is hosting a fundraiser at Bogey's on Sunday, February 7th thru Saturday, February 13th. It runs for the full week and any time of day, but you must take a copy of the coupons included in the Echo with you so that we will receive 10% of your total. Please share the coupons with family and friends! Thanks for your support!

Ell-Saline USD 307

District Office
412 E. Anderson P.O. Box 157
Brookville, KS 67425-0157
(785) 225-6813

Middle/High School
414 E. Anderson P.O. Box 97
Brookville, KS 67425-0097
(785) 225-6633

Elementary School
1757 N. Halstead Rd.
Salina, KS 67401
(785) 827-8891

Return Service Requested



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

Feb. 1	4:00 MS BB @ Sedgwick	Feb. 17	MS/HS Spring Individual Pictures
Feb. 2	4:30 HS BB @ Canton/Galva	Feb. 18	BPA State Leadership Conference
Feb. 4	Regional Scholars Bowl	Feb. 19	NO ESE After School
Feb. 4.	TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Canton/Galva	Feb. 19	4:30 HS BB Sedgwick @ ES
Feb. 5	NO ESE After School	Feb. 19	Senior Parent Night
Feb. 5	4:30 HS BB Berean Academy @ ES	Feb. 19	TBA WR Regional @TBD
Feb. 5	Sweetheart Night	Feb. 19	BPA State Leadership Conference
Feb. 6	ACT Test Date	Feb. 20	TBA WR Regional @TBD
Feb. 6	Regional Piano @ Lindsborg	Feb. 20	State Piano @ Wichita
Feb. 6	9:00 HS JV Tournament @ ES	Feb. 20	BPA State Leadership Conference
Feb. 6	TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Canton/Galva	Feb. 21-27	National FFA Week
Feb. 8	7:00 BOE Mtg. @ DO	Feb. 22	4:00 MS Quiz Bowl @ Remington
Feb. 8	TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Canton/Galva	Feb. 22	4:30 HS BB @ Minneapolis
Feb. 9	NO ESE After School	Feb. 23	6:30 NHS Banquet
Feb. 9	4:30 HS BB Inman @ ES	Feb. 24	6:00 ESIC Meeting
Feb. 9	6:30—8:00 CPTA Skate Night	Feb. 25	State KMEA
Feb. 10	Parent/Teacher Conference 4:15pm—8:15pm	Feb. 26	NO ESE After School
Feb. 10	FFA @ Ellsworth	Feb. 26	TBA WR State @ FHSU
Feb. 10	NO ESE After School	Feb. 26	State KMEA
Feb. 11	NO SCHOOL	Feb. 27	TBA WR State @ FHSU
Feb. 11	Parent/Teacher Conf. 7:00am-7:30pm	Feb. 27	State KMEA
Feb. 11	4:00 WR @ Lincoln	Feb. 29	4:00 MS Quiz Bowl @ Wakefield
Feb. 11	TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Canton/Galva	Feb. 29	String Sports Practice Starts
Feb. 12	NO SCHOOL	Feb.29	TBA HS Girls BB 2A Sub State Tournament
Feb. 12	4:30 HS BB @ Marion	Mar. 1	TBA HS Boys BB 2A Sub State Tournament
Feb. 13	10:00 JV BB Tournament @ SES	Mar. 2	FFA @ Minneapolis
Feb. 14	Happy Valentines Day	Mar. 3	TBA HS Girls BB 2A Sub State Tournament
Feb. 15	3:15 ESE Valentines Parties	Mar. 4	NO ESE After School
Feb. 15	4:00 MS Quiz Bowl @ Trinity Catholic	Mar. 4	ACT Registration Deadline
Feb. 15	6:30 CPTA Meeting @ ESE	Mar. 4	TBA HS Boys BB 2A Sub State Tournament
Feb. 16	ESE Spring Pictures	Mar. 5	TBA HS BB Sub State Finals Tournament
Feb. 16	4:30 HS BB @ Moundridge		

ELL-SALINE USD 307 2016-2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Adopted 1/11/16

AUGUST 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	*18	#19	20
21	#22	*23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Teacher Days 10 Student Days 6

SEPTEMBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Teacher Days 21 Student Days 19

OCTOBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	(27)	*28	29
30	#31					

Teacher Days 20.5 Student Days 19

NOVEMBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Teacher Days 19 Student Days 19

DECEMBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	(22)	*23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Teacher Days 17 Student Days 16

FIRST SEMESTER

- Aug. 18 Teachers Start
- 24 First Day of School
- Sept. 5 NO SCHOOL—Labor Day
- 28-29 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 29-30 NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 27 End of Quarter
- 28 NO SCHOOL—Teacher Work Day (Set 8:00—12:00)
- 31 NO SCHOOL—In-Service Day
- Nov. 23-25 NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 22 End of Quarter/Semester
- 23 NO SCHOOL—Work Day (Flexible)
- 23-31 NO SCHOOL—Winter Break

SECOND SEMESTER

- Jan. 1 NO SCHOOL—Winter Break
- 2 NO SCHOOL—In-Service Day
- 3 Classes Resume
- 16 NO SCHOOL—In-Service Day
- Feb. 15-16 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 16-17 NO SCHOOL
- Mar. 16 End of Quarter
- 17 NO SCHOOL—Work Day (Set 8:00—12:00)
- 20-24 NO SCHOOL—Spring Break
- 27 NO SCHOOL—In-Service Day
- Apr. 14-17 NO SCHOOL—Easter Break
- May 18 End of Quarter/Semester
- 19 & 22 Teacher Work Days

PTC Days 4
In-Service Days 6
Work Days 6

GRADING PERIOD

First Semester 79 Student Days (87.5)
Second Semester 86 Student Days (93.5)

Student Contact 165 Days
Teacher Contract 181 Days

HOLIDAYS

- Sept. 5 Labor Day
- Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day
- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- April 16 Easter Sunday
- May 29 Memorial Day

— No School # Teacher In-Service
* Teacher Workday () End of Quarter

■ Holiday

JANUARY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	#2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	#16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Teacher Days 22 Student Days 20

FEBRUARY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Teacher Days 20 Student Days 18

MARCH 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	(16)	*17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	#27	28	29	30	31	

Teacher Days 17.5 Student Days 16

APRIL 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Teacher Days 18 Student Days 18

MAY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	(18)	*19	20
21	*22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Teacher Days 16 Student Days 14

