

NO SCHOOL — MONDAY, MAY 9

April 11 Board Meeting Report

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

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

AUDIENCE WITH THE BOARD

Mrs. Grover shared the many activities (MS HOA contest; HS Band to Winter Park Colorado; 6th Grade Contest; KSHSAA Solos/Small Ensembles; KSHSAA Large Group) that either have recently taken place or will be in the near future. In each of these contests our students have placed very well with many ratings of I or II.

REPORTS

BOE – Jamie Bradley reminded the board that the Cardinal Foundation Fundraiser will be held on June 4 at the C&W Ranch and that contacts are being made soliciting donations for the auction. Jeff Parker shared that SHESC will be providing educational services to Larned State Hospital beginning next year.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: state assessments; CPTA Ice Cream Social Legislative Action Night was a success and they are planning to have information tables at future events; Kindergarten Roundup will be April 27 and we currently have 28 potential kindergarteners on the list (this is the same number we had at this time last year); and concerns with the low number of times we have received Gifted Ed services from CKCIE so far this year.

Mrs. Wildeman – Her report included: Andrea Howard being named to the 2A All-Kansas Bowling Team; our Optimist Club Un-sung Heroes this year are Joshua Brandt, Mikaylee Laas, and Caitlyn Richards; the Hoops for Heart fundraiser was a success; and the Booster Club will be providing lunch for the staff during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: bond refunding update where the district will save approximately \$265,000 in interest over the life of the bonds which will be a savings to our taxpayers (this does not free up any money in our General Fund or LOB); legislative updates; and dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

BUSINESS

- A. MS Cross Country Request—It was approved to start a program next year entirely funded by private sources.
- B. MS Wrestling Request—It was approved to start a program next year entirely funded by private sources.
- C. Accept Resignations—The following resignations be accepted: Drew Sprague as the Head HS Boys' Basketball Coach; Krystal Dent as an Asst. HS Volleyball Coach; and Mindy Schneider as elementary school ESOL and At-Risk Math Para.
- D. Winter Sport Supplemental Positions—This item was tabled until next month.
- E. Request Change in Calendar—With funding being tighter no raise on the base salary was able to be given to staff this year. As a result, it was agreed during negotiations for this year that, “if there are seven (7) or more days above the minimum number of days as set forth by state statute remaining, the district will remove one (1) Student Contact/Teacher Contract day from the 2015-16 calendar before the end of the school year.” So far this year we still have 10 days above the minimum number of days. It was approved that Monday, May 9, be changed from a Student Contact/Teacher Contract day to a Vacation Day.
- F. Executive Session

There were five Executive Sessions (Student Matter – 2, Personnel – 2, Negotiations).

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, May 9, 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.

April Students of the Month

April HS Student of the Month:
Morgan Davenport

Morgan Davenport is the daughter of Nikki Davenport and Steve Davenport, and the sister of Nick Davenport. In school Morgan participates in NHS, FFA, FCCLA, PALS, FOR, cheerleading, basketball, and softball. In the community, she is involved in 4-H and BBBS. Outside of school she enjoys reading and spending time with family and friends. After high school, Morgan plans to attend K-State and enter the veterinary program. Way to go, Morgan!



April MS Student of the Month:
Owen Bradley



Owen Bradley is the son of Jamie and Darcy Bradley, and the brother of Noah, Avery, and Sadie Bradley. In school, Owen is involved in Football, Basketball, and Track, and is on the A Honor Roll. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, driving ATV's, farming, and playing sports. After high school, Owen plans to attend Kansas State to study Agriculture. Great job Owen!

AFTER PROM THANK YOU

The Ell-Saline After Prom committee would like to thank all the parents, families, and local businesses that contributed money, items, and time to make After Prom great this year. After Prom was held at the high school and there were activities all evening for the students. We wrapped up the event with a great breakfast by Mr. Weis and our prize drawing!

A & B Machine
ADI Systems
Advantage Trust Co.
Ag by Air
Alpha Media Group
Applebee's
Arrow Printing
Auto Zone
Bank of Tescott
Bank VI
Beatrice Plott
Bennett Autoplex
Bethany College
Bogey's
Broadway Mini Storage
Brooks Retail Liquor Store
Brookville Rounders Rodeo Club
Bruce H. Wyatt, Attorney
Wimer Family Charitable Foundation
Came Farms, Inc.
Cargill
Carrico Implement
Casey's General Store
City of Brookville
Clark, Mize, and Linville
Consolidated Printing
Coperion K-Tron
Crop Service Center
Crossroads Collision
Daran Neuschaefer Agency-American Family Insurance
Dillon's
Discover Dental Center
Doc's Barber Shop
Doug Bradley Trucking
Dr. Barton Bycroft
Dr. Brian Schaulis
Dr. Cynthia Reed

Dr. Alan Reed
Dr. Elaine Ferguson
Dr. John Miller
Drs. Cooper, Banninger, & Ebert
Drs. Driver & Clark
DS&O
Brookville Lions Club
ESH Booster Club
Exline
Family Hair Flair
Fierce Athletic & Training
First Bank Kansas
Freddy's
Frisbie Construction
Fuel Unlimited
Great Plains Manufacturing
Gutierrez
Hair Loft
Hannebaum Grain Co.
Headley's Clothing
Heartland Dermatology
Hedville Grain
Hoff's
Hog Wild
Horizon Farm & Ranch Realty
Joyce Came
Jumpin' Joe's
Kansas Broadband
Kansas Quick Lube
Kline's Landscaping
L & S Building Contractors
Land Title Services
Larry's Transmission Repair
Lee Weis
Little Caesar's
Ludes Plumbing
Merry Maids

Mid State Heating & Air
Mid-Kansas Coop
Norton, Wasserman, Jones & Kelly LLC
NU Image Audio
Orthopedic Clinic
Papa John's Pizza
Pepsi
Pickel & Bruckner
Ryan's Electric
Ry-Co Inc.
Salina Appliance & Décor
Salina Community Theatre
Salina Massage Therapy
Salina Muni
Salina Regional Health Center
Salina Regional Health Foundation
Salina Surgical Center
Salina Veterinary Hospital
Sandstone Saloon
Sedgwick Co. Zoo
Solomon State Bank
Starplex Theatres
Steve Wearing
Stonecreek Financial
Stujo's
Superior Plumbing
Taco John's
Target
The Truck Store
USD 307
Waddle's Heating & Cooling
Walmart
Weigel Insurance
Westside Veterinary Clinic
Wilson Telephone
YMCA

ELL-SALINE FFA NEWS

The Ell-Saline FFA had many awards to present to the members at their annual banquet. These students have worked very hard to accomplish multiple tasks in their area of award. We are proud to present these students with the awards in which they have achieved. Our Greenhands are the first year members that went above and beyond just general agriculture curriculum in the classroom. For example, they showed leadership outside of the classroom in some way. They were awarded a Bronze Pin. Our Chapter Degree Recipients are second year members who continued to excel in agriculture outside of the classroom. They are awarded a Silver Pin for their efforts. The State Degree Recipients have been awarded the highest degree that the state can award. This is relative to earning All-State Honors in a sport. These members had to keep record of their SAE experience, and show numerous hours of volunteerism.



FFA Chapter Degree Recipients

Mattie Best
Grace Bowers
Joshua Brandt
Spencer Came
Daniel Davila
Brody Ditto
Desiree Garman
Madeline Hayes
Lexi Kochanowski
Bryce Lange
Morgan Linenberger
Cheyenne Monasmith

Nathan Parks
Tel Phelps
Nathan Schweitzberger
Murphy Seim
Katelyn Edgerton
Faith Wolf

Proficiency Awards

Sheep Production-Rylee Schrock
Outdoor Recreation-Nick Davenport
Diversified Crop Production-
Dakota Came
Beef-Jordan Lindquist
Beef-Mikaylee Laas
Diversified Crop-Spencer Came
Diversified Crop-Jordan Lindquist
Poultry-Blake Bell
Beef-Catelyn Richards
Beef-Cade Heinrich
Ag Education-Megan Northcutt
Creed-Nick Davenport
Creed-Joel Came
Creed-Patrick Giersch
Swine-Faith Wolf

Greenhands

Blake Bell
Joel Came
Christian Carrazco
Nick Davenport
Alida Degreeff
Patrick Giersch
Cade Heinrich
Reis Jennings
Karlee LaRue
Angel McDaneld

Jacob Stelter
Camrynn White
Dylan White
Clayton White
David Dougherty
Derell Finch
Hunter Kindlesparger
Laura Jacquez
Haley Thomason

Supervised Agriculture Experience Grant Award

Spencer Came
Brody Ditto

FFA Alumni Scholarship

Dakota Came
Catelyn Richards
Morgan Kindlesparger
Ashlyn Bird



POWERLIFTING RESULTS



The powerlifting team took four lifters, Rosie Arias, Dakota Came, Zaide Korb, and Nick Davenport, to Solomon High School on April 2, 2016. At the meet, each lifter was given three attempts to lift as much as possible in all three lifts, the bench, squat, and clean. Rosie Arias won her weight class with an overall weight and state record of 635lbs. She benched 155lbs, cleaned 165lbs, and set a state record in the squat with a squat of 315lbs. Dakota Came placed fourth in his weight class, benching 230lbs, cleaning 230lbs, and squatting 315lbs for a total weight of 775lbs. Zaide Korb benched 205lbs, cleaned 180lbs, and squatted 305lbs for a total of 690lbs, but having the second largest weight class at the meet, he did not place. Nick Davenport benched 210lbs, cleaned 180lbs, and squatted 250lbs for a total of 640lbs. Nick's weight class was by far the largest and thusly he did not place as well. However, this competition provided experience and motivation for our younger lifters who look forward to the competition again next year.



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

- May 2 1:00 HS GO @ Southeast of Saline
- May 2 4:00 JV BSB @ Bennington
- May 2 CPTA Mtg. @ ESE
- May 3 9:00 MS TR @ St. John Catholic (Beloit)
- May 3 3:00 HS SB/BSB @ Inman
- May 3 HS TR Invitational @ Tescott
- May 4 9:00 HS HOA Industrial Arts/Ag Fair @ Canton Galva
- May 4 6:00 Senior Trip Parents Meeting
- May 5 No ESE After School
- May 5 3:00 HS GO @ Ellsworth
- May 5 6:30-8:00 CPTA Talent Show
- May 5-9 BPA National Leadership Conference @ Boston, MA
- May 6 NO ESE After School
- May 6 ACT Registration Deadline
- May 6 3:00 HS TR @ Lincoln
- May 6 4:30 HS BSB @ Ellsworth
- May 7-11 Senior Trip
- May 8 Happy Mothers Day
- May 9 NO SCHOOL
- May 9 4:00 TR HOA FR/SO @ Moundridge
- May 9 7:00 BOE Meeting @ DO
- May 10 AR Party in the Park
- May 10 11:00 MS TR HOA League @ Bennington
- May 10 1:00 HS GO HOA League @ Hesston
- May 11 6th Grade Shadow Day
- May 12 Last Day of ESE After School Program
- May 12 7:00 HS Awards Night
- May 13 8:30 Graduation Rehearsal
- May 13 3:00 HS TR HOA League Meet @ Marion
- May 14 1:30 High School Graduation
- May 16 MS/HS Semester Finals
- May 16 8:00 HS GO Regionals @ Belleville
- May 16-20 HS SB Regionals @ Salina
- May 16-20 HS BSB Regionals @ Ellis
- May 17 11:45 All School Picnic @ ESE
- May 17 7:00 MS Awards Night
- May 18 9:30 ESE Pep Rally
- May 18 Last Day of School 11:00 Dismissal
- May 19 Teacher Work Day (Set)
- May 20 Last Teacher Work Day (Set)
- May 20 3:00 HS TR Regionals @ Hill City
- May 22 3:00 Outdoor Learning Center Work Day
- May 23 8:00 HS GO State @ Salina
- May 26-27 HS SB State @ Pratt
- May 26-27 HS BSB State @ Great Bend
- May 27-28 8:00 HS TR State @ WSU
- May 30 Memorial Day
- May 31 KSHSAA Allowable Practice Dates Begin

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

We have now "rounded third base" for this school year. By the time you receive this we will have less than 4 weeks left until we have "crossed home plate with the winning run" and school will be over for the 2015-2016 school year. It seems like such a short time ago that we were just "stepping into the batter's box". This has truly been an enjoyable, positive, successful, fast year for students, staff and parents alike.

In the next couple of weeks we have the opportunity to look back over the students' accomplishments of this year with the various awards and performance nights. For our seniors we will get to take part not only in recognizing their accomplishments of this year at the Awards Night on May 12, but also to share in their celebration of the past 13 years with their graduation exercises on May 14. For our 8th graders, during their Awards Night on May 17 we will get to hear of their accomplishments of this year and to challenge them to not only continue that but also to build on it throughout their next four years in high school. I encourage each of you to attend as many of these events as you can to support our students.

Along with looking back over the past years, we are also looking forward to next year as kindergarten round-up and middle/high school student enrollment are taking place. Our preliminary count of kindergartners for next year is 29 which is where we were at this time last year. We have been interviewing candidates, hiring new staff members and beginning to order necessary supplies. We are balancing next year's needs between this, and next year's, budgets.

As we do those things this spring, it is with continued uncertainty about next year's, and future years', budgets. The cause for this uncertainty is the dire situation of the State's finances. Last week the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group met and once again revised the estimate downward--by \$93.9M this year and \$134.7M next year for a total of \$228.6M. The State hasn't met the revenue projections for 11 of the past 12 months and it doesn't appear that the revenue will be keeping up with expenses anytime soon.

Yes, the legislature passed and the Governor signed Senate Sub for HB 2655 which they hope passes the Supreme Court's equity test and would be the funding formula for next year. However, the Supreme Court has set May 10 as the day for the State and plaintiffs to make their oral arguments in support of and against this bill. It is not anticipated the Court will make a ruling on it until early June. If the ruling is against the bill then the legislature will need to reconvene in a special session to come up with another formula to try to meet the Court's equity test. If they are not able to do so, the Court has said that it could shut schools down effective July 1 since they were not being funded in a constitutional manner.

If this bill does pass the Supreme Court's test then we know what our budget will be for next year and we can plan accordingly. This bill is being publicized as "holding harmless", in other words not losing any dollars, all school districts. However, that is misleading as the only way for most districts to have the same total dollars next year is if they increase the mill levy on their local taxpayers. With the considerable variation in assessed valuation from district-to-district that would not be equitable across the state. For that reason, it is thought by many legislators and school leaders that the bill will not pass the Court's equity test.

While our financial condition is still on pretty solid ground the question remains "For how long?" While our Board of Education has consistently approved budgets that have provided carryover funds as provided for by law, the legislature is now looking at withholding state aid because of those fund balances. These balances are designed to be emergency funds for these times when the State is not providing equitable and adequate funding. The tax increases enacted by the legislature last year haven't made a positive impact on the State's finances to where it can provide the needed funding to schools. It's going to take some major changes along the lines of rolling back the income tax reductions or the elimination of income taxes on small businesses to have any long-lasting, sustainable source of revenue to restore Kansas' financial condition to where once again it can provide the necessary funding for the services that Kansans deserve. Until such time the question of "For how long?" will continue to be a restraint on what we can provide for our students.

Now, as always, it is important that everyone be informed of what is going on with the State's financial condition and the actions of the legislature. This fall all of the Senator and Representative positions will be up for election. Knowing how each of our current legislators have supported and voted for measures that would have a positive impact on public K-12 education and the State's financial condition is important as you go to the polls. I greatly appreciate the financial support of CPTA and the help of many members of our elementary staff at the CPTA Ice Cream Social Legislative Update night on March 29 where many parents and patrons heard the impact that recent decisions by the legislature and Governor have had on our district.

Regardless of the challenges that are put in front of us by action of the legislature and Governor, you can be assured that your Board of Education will continue to work with our budget to provide your children a quality education. Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the Ell-Saline USD 307 school district. Please call or stop in so we can visit about the many good things going on in your district.

**The Cardinal Foundation for Educational Excellence
Celebrates
"Country Chic"
June 4, 2016**

In just over a month the 7th Annual Cardinal Foundation Endowment Dinner and Auction will be held. Don't miss out on the fun filled evening! This year it is held at C & W Ranch with the social hour and silent auction starting at 6:00. Dinner will be served at 7:00 with the endowment auction starting at 8:00. As always there are many unique items to bid on.

Time is running out but tickets are still available by contacting Courtney Schneider at 785-577-3382 or cschneider1@brookdale.com. Check us out on our Facebook page.

This annual fundraiser is the Foundation's main source of revenue for meeting our mission of awarding grants to our teachers so that additional resources can be provided for our students. You won't want to miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a great meal, for socializing with your neighbors, for spirited bidding at the auction and for supporting our students.

Put on your country best outfit and help support our Ell-Saline students and staff by attending "Country Chic". We hope to see you there!

**CONSTRUCTION BONDS REFUNDED
RESULTING IN CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS TO TAXPAYERS**

On Friday, April 1, at a special board meeting, the Board of Education approved a resolution selling a bond issue which refunded a portion of the general obligation bonds issued in 2009 to reduce the total interest cost on the bonds.

The Series 2009 bonds were originally issued 6 years ago as Build America Bonds to finance a portion of the capital improvement projects approved by voters in the District. Today's lower interest rates allowed the callable portion of the bonds to be refunded by issuing new Series 2016 bonds at average yields of approximately 2.95%.

The transaction resulted in a net savings to the district of \$264,175 in future debt service payments.

The transaction was structured and marketed by the Wichita office of George K. Baum & Company which is the same company that we worked with on the original bond project. Senior Vice President Steve Shogren of Baum said, "We are pleased to assist the District in this cost-effective savings transaction. With interest rates very near 50-year low levels, now was an opportune time to refund or refinance the debt to lock in interest cost savings for USD 307 and its taxpayers."

With the Board's approval, the new refunding bonds were printed, a transcript was submitted to the Attorney General's office for approval, and the transaction became final on April 12.