



MR. WILSON HONORED

At the Kansas Counselor Association Conference this month Mr. Wilson was recognized as the recipient of the Principal Advocate Award by the Kansas School Counselor Association!! This award is presented annually “to recognize an administrator who works collaboratively with the school counseling program to promote the academic and social-emotional growth of all students.” Congratulations to Mr. Wilson.

Pictured above is Mr. Wilson and our MS/HS Counselor Mr. Laas.

November HS Student of the Month:

Dylan White



Dylan White is the son of Daniel White and Alisha White, and the brother of Nolan White. In school, Dylan is involved in FFA, is the Vice-President of the junior class, is the Stuco Treasurer, and manages the concession stands. Outside of school, he enjoys reading, playing video games, riding his four-wheeler, and hunting. After high school, Dylan plans to attend college but is undecided on a major. Way to go, Dylan!

November MS Student of the Month:

Emily Mason



Emily Mason is the daughter of Elizabeth and Alan Mason, and the sister of Greg Mason. In school, Emily is involved in cross-country, basketball, band, and choir. In the community, she enjoys recycling cans and picking up trash during her walks in her neighborhood. She was also a member of the Salina Municipal Law Enforcement Band. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, camping, and playing outside. She also participates in summer softball. After high school, Emily plans to attend KWU to become an adoption counselor. Great job Emily!

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. Our November weather has definitely not gotten us prepared for that.

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.

Thank you to everyone who exercised their right and voted in the general election this fall. You are making a difference! However, our work is not yet done. 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 14 our 1st and 2nd Grade students entertained us with a great music program.
- ✓ Fourteen of our top instrumental students (Sr. – Avery Bradley, Josh Brandt, Madelyn Hayes, Lexi Kochanowski, Sydney Watters, Jordan Werner, Colton White, Faith Wolf; Jr. – Jaycee Wallace; So. - Brianna Byerley, Caden White; Fr. – Katelynn Brandt, Trevor Peterson, Myles Work) accompanied by Ms. Joan Grover participated in the HOA League Honors Instrumental Concert at Remington on November 7.
- ✓ The MS basketball teams under coaches Mrs. Erin Dunstan, Mr. Drew Shaver, Mr. Brandon Clark and Mr. Jesse Bengtson have started their seasons with games on the road at Inman and at home with Wilson.
- ✓ Our HS Scholars' Bowl team under the coaching of Mrs. Ashley Hanson is undefeated in the meets they've participated in.
- ✓ Our HS Drama Club under the direction of Mrs. Amanda Little put on a great performance of the play, *Crazy Town*.
- ✓ FFA students in Mr. Lee Weis' classes participated in and have done very well in several contests and events.
- ✓ Our grades 7-12 Instrumental and Vocal students under the direction of Ms. Joan Grover displayed their talents in the winter concert on November 27.
- ✓ Our HS basketball, wrestling, cheerleaders and dance teams under the direction of their coaches Mr. Jeff Vogt, Miss Kora Bergstrom, Mr. Josh Burt, Mr. Joey Hanson, Mr. John Ludes, Mr. Terry King and Mrs. Nikki Davenport have begun preparations for their seasons. Basketball begins on Friday, December 1, when they host Little River and wrestling travels to Lincoln on Saturday, December 2.

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 this holiday season.

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.

November 13 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



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V. REPORTS

BOE – Jamie Bradley reported the Cardinal Foundation board had met and awarded 11 grants totaling \$12,000.00 and that next year's fundraiser will be held on September 22 at the Sandstone Saloon.

Jeff Parker reported on the SHESC Legislative Luncheon.

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: High number of families who participated in the Family Fun Night; the Pre-school Planning Team continues to work towards preschool implementation next year; interviewing to fill a special education para position; and a thank you to the board for supporting her attendance at the NAESP National Distinguished Principal event in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Wilson – His report included: Close to 70% attendance at the Parent Teacher Conferences; fall sports coming to a close; FFA traveling to the National FFA Conference; drama club's performance of Crazy Town; winter sports activities starting soon; 14 high school band members performed in the HOA Honors Instrumental Concert; and the high school scholars' bowl is off to a great start.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: SHESC Legislative Luncheon; congratulated Mr. Wilson on being named the recipient of the Principal Advocate Award by the Kansas School Counselor Association; presented Jeff Parker with a certificate from KASB for his attendance at various KASB events during the last year; read one thank you note; and a list of dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

VI. BUSINESS

- A. Classified Staff Recommendation—Madonna Anglin was approved as the MS/HS math para.
- B. Student Out-of-State Travel—Mr. Weis' request for 16 FFA members to travel to Denver from January 13 – 15 was approved.
- C. Change in Calendar—It was approved to dismiss school for all grades at 1:00 on Thursday, February 1, to help in preparing to host a 2A Regional Scholars' Bowl.
- D. Accept Bus Bids—The bid from Kansas Truck for a 71-passenger Blue Bird bus in the amount of \$83,069.00 was approved.
- E. Elementary Security Procedures—It was approved to include the Run, Hide, Fight program as an option in the Elementary School Crisis Plan. This had previously been approved to be included as an option in the Middle/High School Crisis Plan. It was also the consensus of the board to not lock the front doors at the building during the school day.
- F. KASB Legislative Platform and Delegate Assembly Representative—There was no action taken on this item.
- G. Board Policy – 2nd Reading—The proposed policy changes were approved as presented.
- H. Board Goals—This was an information/discussion item and will be brought back next month for final action.
- I. Elementary Storage Unit—It was approved to secure cost estimates to replace the existing wood frame outside storage structure at the elementary school.

There was one Executive Session (Personnel).

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, December 11, 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 Cheryl Higgins, Vice-President John Fouard or the District Office two weeks prior to the meeting.

Ell-Saline USD 307

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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 | NO ESE After School | Dec. 16 | 1:15 Boys vs Medicine Lodge @ McPherson |
| Dec. 1 | 4:30 HS BB Little River @ ES | Dec. 16 | 3:00 Girls vs Belle Plaine @ McPherson |
| | Fall State Recognition | Dec. 19 | END OF QUARTER/SEMESTER |
| Dec. 2 | HS KMEA @ Manhattan | Dec. 19 | 8:30 ESE Holiday Parties |
| Dec. 2 | 10:00 HS WR @ Lincoln | Dec. 19 | HS BB Inman @ ES/Little Dancers |
| Dec. 4 | NO ESE After School | Dec. 20 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 4 | 7:00 5/6 Band/Vocal Program @ ESE | Dec. 21 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 5 | 5:30 HS WR @ Southeast of Saline | Dec. 22 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 5 | 5:45 Boys HS BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 23-27 | KSHSAA Non-Practice Days |
| Dec. 5 | 7:15 Girls HS BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Dec. 25 | MERRY CHRISTMAS |
| Dec. 7 | 4:00 MS BB Moundridge @ ES | Dec. 31 | NEW YEARS EVE |
| Dec. 8 | NO ESE After School | Jan. 1 | HAPPY NEW YEAR/WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 8 | FFA KS Beef Expo Livestock Show | Jan. 2 | WINTER BREAK |
| Dec. 8 | HS BB Tournament @ Lincoln 4:00 Girls 5:30 Boys | Jan. 3 | WINTER BREAK/In-Service Day |
| Dec. 9 | ACT Test Date | Jan. 4 | Classes Resume |
| Dec. 9 | 9:00 MS BB @ Southeast of Saline | Jan. 4 | 4:00 MS BB @ Bennington |
| Dec. 9 | TBA HS BB Tournament @ Lincoln | Jan. 5 | NO ESE After School |
| Dec. 11 | 7:00 BOE Meeting @ DO | Jan. 5 | 4:30 HS BB Marion @ ES/Spring Sports Recognition |
| Dec. 12 | Preschool Day Camp | Jan. 6 | HS KMEA State Auditions |
| Dec. 12 | 4:30 HS BB @ Ellinwood | Jan. 6 | 9:00 MS BB @ Southeast of Saline |
| Dec. 14 | 3:34 CPTA Fundraiser Pickup | Jan. 6 | 9:00 HS WR @ Ellsworth |
| Dec. 14 | 4:00 MS BB Berean Academy @ ES | | |
| Dec. 14 | 6:30 Read with Santa | | |
| Dec. 15 | NO ESE After School | | |
| Dec. 15 | 5:00 HS JV WR @ Abilene | | |