

USD #377 Weekly Update

For Parents, Patrons and Staff

Steve Wiseman, Superintendent

Monday, September 29, 2008

Good Things are Happening at Atchison County Community Schools!

Charlie Watkins, MS Business - With the help of the first hour computer class and Mr. Caplinger, Mrs. Wiseman was able to have the new computers up and running in short order. The students are now able to log on and begin working in just about two minutes. Before, it took at least 15 minutes to get everyone on the computer. It is exciting to have an additional 15 minutes of instructional time per day.

Joe Worthington, HS/MS Band – Beginning 6th grade band is 1/3 through their beginning book. The beginning book often takes 1-1 ½ years to get through. They have done this in 4 ½ weeks of playing. Wow. The band had a great day at KU Band Day. The kids were very good. They represented the school very well. In fact, after the game we stopped at a fast food restaurant. When we were about to leave the manager came up to me wanting to impress me how wonderful the kids were. He was full of compliments.

Charlotte Rathert, HS Cook Manager - This year the state is requiring that our diner rolls be made with 51% wheat flour. The high school cooks have been working hard to master this recipe and for some reason were having trouble perfecting it. But we now have a great dinner roll and once again you can call us PERFECT!!!! We'll let you be the judge!! We work hard in providing a great meal and atmosphere for the kids. We encourage any comments both positive and negative so that we may continue to provide these good meals and good atmosphere.

Becky Campbell, MS Math - Classes at the middle school were fortunate to have visitors Friday, September 19. School Board members shadowed students at all 4 grade levels throughout the day. While in math Mr. Martin and Mr. Caplinger were seen participating in a class activity dealing with factors and multiples of fractions. They were quite helpful and everyone appeared to have a good time.

Nancy Jo Fasse, Cummings 2nd Grade - The 2nd graders at Cummings have been working on persuasive writing. They learned that persuasive writing means to get the reader to agree with your opinion. First they made a planner about what each wanted, how he or she could get it, and how each would help. Then they made a rough draft of a persuasive letter, edited it, and finally wrote a neat sheet to send. We might have the next governor or president as some students were very persuasive with their writing.

Jennifer Hansen, HS Social Studies - The plans have begun for the next Traveling Tigers trip. We will be going to Ireland in June 2010. I have had 9 students show interest already. Any adult or student that is at least 14 by June 3, 2010 can go. Let me know if you want info. The more the merrier for this life changing trip.

Mrs. Erickson, K-12 Librarian - Effingham Elementary teachers sent home Accelerated Reader reading record reports on every student, grades 2-4, on Friday.

A newsletter item has been submitted to the district office informing parents of parent access to their student's Accelerated Reader and STAR reading reports. At this time parents can view the information, but cannot actually print the information in a report format. This matter is being working on by Mrs. Wiseman.

A flyer was sent home this week in all three elementary centers detailing the KU Reading Program for grades 3-4, incentives for those students earning Summer Reading Program certificates from a public library, and the incentives being offered for the Accelerated Reader program participants in the elementary schools during the current school year.

ACCHS Football Coaches - The freshmen/sophomore football team is off to a tremendous start to their season with three victories over Royal Valley, Valley Falls and Hiawatha.

Cy Wallisch, HS Social Studies - Sent contact letter exchange of information to all 109 parents of students I have and 107 responded back thought this was positive.

Noelle Walters, HS Drama/STUCO - Amy Eckert & I had 44 students audition for “Guys and Dolls!” I was able to cast nearly everybody – should be an awesome musical come November!

Also, I took the ACCHS Stu-Co officers and sophomore, junior & senior class presidents to the KSHSAA Regional Fall Workshop at Jeff West on Tuesday 9/23. The keynote speaker was Rob Miller, a nationally-known speaker, trainer & consultant. He spoke to the students on the power of leaders to guide and influence their teams (in this case, their schools). Students had a great time deciding on what type of school they want ACCHS to be known as, choosing to focus on leadership. They also brainstormed a number of activities that we can do to encourage all students to participate and show school spirit.

Mrs. Wiseman, Technology Director - We got the new IDL (Interactive Distance Learning) Lab set up and working this week. We did a video test during the Technology Committee meeting Wednesday afternoon and a video and sound test Thursday morning. The operation of this lab will give new meaning to “Opening up a whole new world” for our students – staff and community!

Mr. Wetig, Elementary Principal - At the elementary schools we have begun a “Student of the Week”. This is to recognize and reward students for many things including being, Respectful, Responsible, Kind, Caring, Organized, and many more. So far we have had 60 students chosen.

Cummings - Xhander Suhajda, Dwight Kaser, Brooklyn Grippen, Grace Wagner, Hannah Eagle, Jessica Genova, Ryan Eagle, Trevor Lindsey, Jentri Fowler, Kathy Tull, Chase Wohlgemuth, Brayden Brull, Leah Robertson, Allison Schuele, Zachary Dobbs, Ashlyn Bonnel, Colton Scholz, Jaycee Ernzen, Casey Coder, Jared Wagner. **Lancaster** - Tanner Buttron, Emily Crossland, Tannah Forbes, Jonathan Joice, Ashton Armstrong, Victoria Caplinger, Evan Caudle, Colton Drimmel, Bodie Vandello, Madison Umphenour-Nolan, Katherine Postma, Daisey Norris, Luke Miller, Mamie West, Andrew Pino, Augi Scholz, Jacob Chalfant, Kaelob Jones, Jamie Doyle, Bailey Buttron. **Effingham** - Izek Boyce, Tanner Brull, Hannah Lawrence, Linda Sowers, Alexys Campbell, Earl Coder, Kevin Coder, Elizabeth Webster, Philip Boyce, Emily Handke, Matthew Oswalt, Amber Rodriguez, Jade Hollands, Sara Razo, Curtis Stirton, Jenna Watkins, Autumn Hardin, Ryder McAlexander, Kennedy Jo Parnell, Brooklyn Royer.

Mr. Hinrichs, Director of Curriculum and Instruction - District third grade teachers Brenda Royer, Nola Crooks, and Jennifer Gigstad along with academic coach Rita Eckert, principal Jamie Wetig and curriculum director Tom Hinrichs visited Royal Valley Elementary School on Tuesday, Sept. 23 to observe the Royal Valley A+ Learning program in action.

High School math teacher, Angie Kimmi, conducted BAIP (Blending Assessment and Instruction Program) training with district third grade teachers following the visit to Royal Valley.

We received word from KSDE that the district’s application to participate in the KSDE Mentoring Program has been approved. District teachers who qualify will be eligible to receive a stipend for mentoring beginning teachers.

Mr. Wiseman, Superintendent – The Kansas Department of Transportation has completed the project to place signs and flashing lights with a 45 M.P.H. speed zone on Highway 59 in front of Cummings Elementary.

Mr. Flores, Athletic Director –
Volleyball Fr. Team 9/18/08

Lost to Maur Hill 25-15, 25-2, Lost to Horton 25-20, 13-25, 15-11, Lost to Atchison 25-13, 25-22

Four Middle School Runners medaled, **Ricky Kearney** finished 2nd for the boys. **Lilly Holtgrave** finished 1st for the girls, **Kiley Warriner** finished 3rd and **Sarah Wagner** finished 4th.

For the high school, both girls medaled. **Hannah Boos** finished 24th and **Gentry Linscott** won the race over her rival from Horton. This is **Gentry's** third straight victory!

The boys finished with four medals, their best performance in two year.

Tobin Warriner placed 22nd, **Kinson Billings** 18th, **Steven Rathert** finished 14th and **Trevor Lutz** finished 13th with a time of 20:20. Trevor became the fourth boy to letter this year.

ACCHS Volleyball Team

ACCHS beat Nemaha Valley 23-25, 25-22, 25-8, ACCHS lost to Holton 23-25 and 25-27

Football vs Hiawatha 9/19/08

The 7th grade football team won in overtime 8-6. The 8th grade football team won 14-0

9/22/08

ACCHS JV Football beat Hiawatha 33-6

JV Volleyball Quad

ACCHS vs DeSoto 21-25, 18-25, ACCHS vs Spring Hill 9-25, 9-25, ACCHS vs A-High 25-14, 13-25, 13-15

Fr. Volleyball Quad

ACCHS vs Royal Valley 19-25, 21-25, ACCHS vs MH-MA 17-25, 19-25, ACCHS vs Jeff West 16-25, 17-25

Noelle Walters, ACCHS Stu-Co Advisor - The ACCHS Student Council wanted to let you know what we are planning for Homecoming Spirit Week, Sept. 29 – Oct. 3 in case you would like to have your students participate as well (or in a similar fashion).

Mon 9/29: Mismatch Day

- Come dressed in your best clashing outfit
- Prizes given to the most mismatched individual in each grade

Tues 9/30: Decade Day

- Come dressed in an outfit from the past:
 - Seniors = 1980's
 - Juniors = 1970's
 - Sophomores = 1960's
 - Freshmen = 1950's
 - Faculty & Staff = the decade that you graduated from high school!
- A prize will be awarded to the most spirited class

Wed 10/1: Nerd Day

- Come dressed in your nerdiest best
- Prizes given to the biggest nerd in each grade

Thur 10/2: Class Color Day

- Come dressed in your class color:
 - Seniors = Black
 - Juniors = Blue
 - Sophomores = Red
 - Freshmen = White
 - Faculty & Staff = Pink
- A prize will be awarded to the most spirited class

Fri 10/3: Orange & Black Spirit Day

- Come dressed in your Tiger finest
- Prizes given to the best display of school colors in each grade