

*Haven USD 312*

# PAW PRINTS



||||| District Newsletter  
March 2019

## **Parent University Comes to USD 312**

Our district will be hosting “Parent University” on March 28 from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Haven Grade School. We are hoping to be able to have parents attend and obtain important information that will help better prepare their students for preschool and kindergarten success.

We know that being a parent is a tough job and we are hoping to be able to help with this opportunity to inform and make resources available. We will have a free dinner for those that attend, beginning at 6:00 pm. At the conclusion of dinner, at 6:45 pm, we will begin sessions to allow parents an opportunity to learn from, and ask questions of our experts. We will have free babysitting from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm for those parents in attendance to allow you an opportunity to listen to the sessions without feeling overwhelmed.

The sessions will include:

Alice Glendening, HGS Principal, will present, “Social Emotional Development.” Mrs. Glendening will present a discussion of our approach to social emotional learning and things to work on as your child develops.

Kelbe McGill, RCEC Behavior Interventionist, will present, “Zones of Regulation.” Green zone, blue zone, what are the “Zones” I’m hearing about? Zones of Regulation is a program designed to help individuals better identify feelings, use the perspective of others, and learn ways to respond by practicing brain and body calming strategies. Social Emotional Learning offers children and adults tools for understanding how to manage emotions, set and achieve goals, show empathy for others, maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Come prepared to join in on what your children are learning and gather ideas for how you can also use it at home.

Gayle Delzer, YCS teacher, and Terrie Goering, YCS teacher, will present, "The Magic of Reading." The ladies will offer information on the importance of reading beginning at age zero.

Lena Kisner, RCEC Director, will present, "Managing Children's Behavior." What can I do to help my child with behavior? Join us as we discuss self-regulation and share ideas that you can use at home. There will be time for you to ask questions of the presenter and learn about available resources.

Alicia Harbaugh, Haven Preschool Director, and Rebecca Behnk, USD 312 nurse, will present, "A Checklist for Preschool." There are always going to be things that help your child reach their full potential and have the skills needed when they reach preschool. Everything from immunizations to conscious discipline. They will present a checklist of things to do.

Our Haven Grade School Kindergarten teachers, Cori Krol, Lisa Vierthaler, and Charity Kincaid will present, "Preparing for Kindergarten A Checklist to Help." These ladies will be talking about all the things that a child needs prior to starting Kindergarten. They'll visit about preparation and a checklist for parents to help children be successful as they start their academic careers.

Each session will allow for an opportunity to ask questions and discover where there are resources for parents to get the help we all need. If you plan on attending, please go to this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QF55ZXL> and let us know so we can insure that we have enough food for everyone. We'd love to see you attend this event if you have children that will be going to Preschool and Kindergarten in the next few years. This evening will be for informational purposes. Which leads us to our next events:

We will have our Kindergarten round-up scheduled for April 15 at Haven Grade School. This will be a time for you to bring your student and allow a discussion and information sharing for your child to begin Kindergarten in the Fall of 2019.

Additionally, we will have a Preschool round-up later this spring. As with the Kindergarten round-up, we will have discussion and information sharing so your child is ready to begin Preschool in the Fall of 2019.





**Redesign thoughts from Mr. Moore:**

As we progress into the redesign process we have explored the need for employability skills in the 21st century workplace. Kansas employers, academic leaders, parents, students and community members were surveyed by the Kansas State Department of Education in respects to work skills. The results showed a gap in the acquisition of employability skills by students as well as entry level workers in today's industry. So what are employability skills? These skills surround the social emotional function of the workplace, as well as the individual's ability to self regulate, obtain grit and personal drive.

Employees must be able to handle the workplace environment through non cognitive skills. This social/emotional regulation is needed in conflict resolution, teamwork, and compromising with peers. Self regulation is related to the individual's ability to control emotional reactions and sort responses into workplace appropriate actions. For example if an employee is asked why they did not meet quota, will they accept responsibility or blame others? This leads to grit in the workplace. Grit is the factor that determines one's ability persevere, even when times are tough. Grit is the driving force within that produces actions of success and redirection. It is the ability to learn from mistakes and make appropriate adjustments to challenges.

Our challenge is defined. Can schools impact employability skills in our students to better prepare them for employment and life success? As part of the redesign process, HHS is committing to the development of employability competencies and universal expectations in hopes to strengthen student skills. From in class assignments to on site internships, HHS is looking at all programing avenues and ways to better prepare our students for the 21st century workforce.



How can you be involved? We are looking for community members that would be interested in attending site council and giving their input on such initiatives. We would also encourage community members to volunteer time with our career day and mock interviewing processes. We hope you get involved in increasing our student's chances at success.

Other things going on at HHS:

- HHS Choir will be traveling to St. Louis March 14th to perform at the St. Louis Basilica. They have been working hard preparing for the performance. The HHS family wishes them well!
- Basketball season has come to an end. We want to congratulate our teams on their hard work and commitment.
- Spring sports practices have begun at HHS. We are excited to see our teams compete and represent USD 312.
- The track and football stadium is scheduled to be finished in Mid April.

***Remember every day is a great day to be a Wildcat!***



Chorale 3/12/19 performance





# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



Why are we redesigning? “To continue to evolve Haven Middle School by helping kids be responsible and independent learners, and to aid preparation for high school and beyond.”

The Haven Middle School redesign process has been amazing. And the great thing about it is... It's not over. We will continue to redesign in the future years, to insure we are doing what's best for our kids and our community. Change can be difficult, but throughout this process, we always refer back to our above Why statement.

Haven Middle School has applied with Summit Learning, to be our new instructional approach next year. This is an exciting opportunity to move into a direction that fits our Why statement. The Middle School staff has visited many places to see Summit in action, we've done a lot of research on it, and truly feel it's a great opportunity for our students. Here is an informational link

<https://help.summitlearning.org/hc/en-us/articles/225773488-Summit-Learning-Platform-Overview>

Another item of redesign we are looking at for next year is scheduling PLT (Personalized Learning Time). The PLT would allow students to work on individual or group projects, allot time to finish work that is not completed, and provide an individualized, enrichment opportunity for all students. This time is a component of Summit Learning which is essential for the program to work effectively. With our research, we have found buildings had difficulty with Summit, because they did not use this time properly. We understand PLT is a big component of Summit and we plan to utilize the time effectively.



HMS cont.

Other items happening with Haven Middle School are...

We had a Middle School dance last month. After not having one last year, the kids were excited to show their dance moves this year. The night was drama free and the students had a great time.



Also, our 7th grade Scholars' Bowl team took second place in the league tournament. They went undefeated in pool play and lost to a tough Pratt team. Congratulations to them, as well as, the 8th grade team, on great seasons.



Finally, Mr. Miller is doing exciting things in his Digital Media class. The students have started a 'weekly' production. You can follow them and subscribe on Youtube at HMS Wildcat Productions

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWS6lC4RwTiSJH6t4GSsRPg>

Check out their first episode here [https://youtu.be/XhrU\\_dgyE98](https://youtu.be/XhrU_dgyE98)





# GRADE SCHOOL NEWS



Many people have asked, “What is Redesign? Why are we redesigning? What do you mean, Principles of Redesign?”

Let’s begin first with the Principles of Redesign. There are four areas or principles of redesign: 1. Student Success Skills. 2. Personalized Learning. 3. Community Partnerships. 4. Real World Applications.

Why are we redesigning is simply answered, to do what is best for students. At Haven Grade School, the question was asked, “Is every student in your classroom where you would like for them to be academically, social emotionally, and civically? If you answer no to any of these questions, then an adjustment to what is happening in the school day needs to be made.” Which also answers the question, “What is Redesign?”.

Haven Grade has been piloting and discussing many things throughout this planning year. One of our most successful programs is Wildcat Dens.

Dr. Becky Bailey, founder of “Conscious Discipline,” writes “The school family does not replace the family unit, but uses the healthy family metaphor as a guideline to create a positive school climate that promotes optimal development of all children, staff and faculty. It builds on the success of the family model for children who already have a balanced family life, and provides a sense of safety and belonging for children who lack the experience of successful relationships at home.”

Using this research of building strong family units, we have created our Wildcat Dens. We have 40 Dens comprised of a Den leader and seven or eight multi-grade level students. These leaders and students will stay together for the duration of time at HGS. Our Den leaders are classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, the school nurse, the secretaries, the counselor, our cooks, and even a volunteer from Horizons. During the current year we have been meeting one time a month, on late start Wednesday. We plan to meet weekly during the 2019-2020 school year as part of our redesign efforts under the redesign principle *Student Success Skills*.

The students and staff at HGS are also learning to recognize their emotions using Zones of Regulation. If success in life is determined by our reactions and resilience, we must equip teachers and students with strategies to respond, rather than react, to life situations. “Self-regulation is something everyone continually works on whether or not we are cognizant of it. We all encounter trying circumstances that test our limits from time to time. If we are able to recognize when we are becoming less regulated, we are able to do something about it to manage



HGS cont.

our feelings and get ourselves to a healthy place. This comes naturally for some, but for others is a skill that needs to be taught and practiced. This is the goal of The Zones of Regulations. The zones can be compared to traffic signs as in the picture below. Click on the link below the signs to learn everything you would like to know about Zones of Regulation.

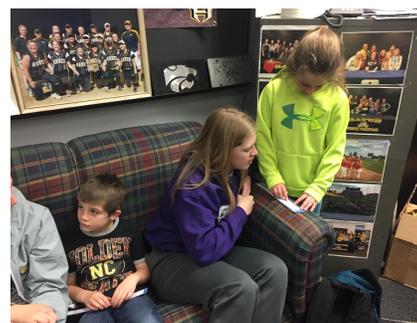


<https://www.zonesofregulation.com/learn-more-about-the-zones.html>

We are looking into students working at their grade level, their speed, and their interest areas for the *Personalized Learning* principle. We have applied to use *Summit Learning* at the 5th and 6th grade levels in the next school year. We currently are using *Lexia Reading*, *IXL Math*, *AR*, and *NWEA* for data collecting and skill practice. Next year we will be using these programs to help place students where their needs are utilizing our MTSS (Multi-tiered System of Supports) groups more for all students grade K-4. Personalized Learning time will be built into the daily schedule of all grades K-6. Haven Grade School is active with our *Community Partnerships* in many ways. Our students go to Mt. Hope Nursing Home for visits, 1st graders read to senior citizens the first Friday of each month, HGS Christmas carolling in the town square, and the annual Halloween parade are a few activities we have. Our PTO helps with Donuts with Dads in the fall and Muffins with Moms in the spring. The change wars during the Christmas season brought in over \$1,500.00 to be divided between three food banks of Haven, Mt. Hope, and Partridge. We have visited local businesses by grade level and Haven Fire/EMT/PD coming to our schools for the *Real World Application* principle. You are encouraged to visit any of our school sites for updates on Redesign.



HGS cont.



The pictures above and below this text are of Mrs. Mathias's first grade class demonstrating to the Senior class students their knowledge of the Presidents. They can sing/say all the Presidents in order and tell a bit about each of them. The first graders were able to teach the Seniors a thing or two they didn't already know and were so excited!



The following picture is one of Mrs. Roepka's PE classes roller-skating. All students Grades K-6 had the opportunity to apply their skating skills during this unit.



HGS cont.

Happy Birthday Kansas! The Second Grade class celebrated Kansas Day by wearing their pioneer clothes, square dancing and singing Kansas songs. In the morning, the class traveled to the Mount Hope Nursing Center to entertain the residents. At the end of the day, the class gave a yee-haw to the grade school and many parents and grandparents.



Mrs. Allsup's 4th grade class researched then presented reports on famous Kansas people in celebration of Kansas Day. The following pictures are a few of the ones chosen.



Bill Snyder a.k.a. Max Hoffman  
<-

Emmett Kelley a.k.a. Brynn Littlejohn.      ->



Laura Ingalls Wilder  
a.k.a. Abby Thalmann  
<-



# YODER CHARTER NEWS

Why are we redesigning? “To support, motivate, and enrich each individual student’s learning experience.”

The Yoder Charter School redesign process has been fantastic. We are researching and collaborating about changes that will work towards our Why statement. Some people ask, “Does Yoder Charter need to redesign? Do they need to change?” I refer back to our Why statement, “Are we meeting *each individual student’s learning experience?*” The honest answer is no. And that is why we are researching items that will benefit ALL of our students. These are not drastic changes, but worthwhile changes.

Zones of Regulation, just like Haven Grade, is one item we are piloting. Zones offers a social/emotional component for students, that is needed in today’s education. It is not tied to behavior, but instead, focuses on coping skills that many of our students can utilize. According to Educational and Licensed School Psychologist Lori Jackson, MS, “While most adults manage their feelings throughout the day by taking a walk or deep breaths, many kids don’t have those coping skills. That management, known as *emotional regulation*, takes place deep inside the emotional center of your brain. When it’s working, you can go smoothly from one event to another, managing the different emotions that arise”. Last month, we had a schoolwide presentation and currently piloting it at the K-4 grades.



YCS cont.

Another item we are looking at, for the 7th/8th grades, is Summit Learning. Again, this item aligns with our Why statement, by having an individualized, personalized component. The new instructional approach, is a research-backed approach, that leads to better student outcomes. Also, students are able to articulate what they are learning, why they are learning, and how they learn best. They can advocate for themselves, know their passions and interests and have a long-term goal, and plan rooted in these passions and interests.

Also, we are looking at Micro-Credentials and Badging. This would look different at each grade level, but essentially it allows the student to research/complete a skill/project and they can earn a badge. For example, a student may research what it takes to be a welder; the requirements, how much they make, how to get the job, etc. Or it could be a 4H type skill with a similar research process. The student would complete a project to show their knowledge learned. The 'badge' could be a 3D printout, a certificate, a button, etc. Also, they could have an opportunity to job shadow after they receive the 'badge'.

Other items happening with Yoder Charter School are...

Kindergarteners are getting sent to the Principal's office. Getting sent to the Principal's office isn't always a bad thing. When Kindergarten students complete a reading, they get the privilege to read to Mr. Atherton.



YCS cont.

First/Second graders displaying what they want to be when they grow up.

