

Haven USD 312

District Newsletter

September 2019



New Entry to District Stadium



Home Bleachers and Press Box

As many of you will remember USD 312 passed a school bond in June of 2015. Many upgrades were made possible because of this successful election. We are very appreciative of how our district patrons support has allowed us to make several improvements. Last spring the final dollars of the 12 million dollar bond were spent to upgrade the bleachers and lights at the stadium. Our school board followed this up with allocating some extra funds to rework the entrance and also to update the scoreboard. By approving these projects, the district was able to do an overall renovation to this facility. The updates not only have provided us a facelift that will give us a facility that we can all be proud of but has also provided a much safer set of bleachers. After the bond dollars were spent the remaining funds for this project came from the Capital Outlay Budget. Let me share some information about Capital Outlay Budgets as it relates to our spending and plans for the future. Capital Outlay is supported mostly from local taxes. This is determined by a mill levee that is approved each year as part of the overall budget. Our district has been somewhat conservative with this budget so that we can use it for these substantial upgrades across our district. The Kansas State Department of Education provides the following language to outline the purpose of these funds:

"acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, remodeling, additions to, furnishing and equipping of buildings necessary for school district purposes, including housing and boarding pupils enrolled in an area vocational school operated under the board, architectural expenses incidental thereto, the acquisition of building sites, the undertaking and maintenance of asbestos control projects, the acquisition of school

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buses and the acquisition of other equipment and for the purpose of paying a portion of the principal and interest of bonds issued."

The district has further intentions to identify and approve projects that will continue to update our facilities and has made this a priority for the next several years.

Early Learning

As we provide programs for our kids for the future we want to make sure that they are prepared for what life has for them. "Early childhood experiences lay the foundation for a child's future academic success. A child's health and physical well-being, along with the development of cognitive, communication and social-emotional skills, all can be influenced by the community, educational environment, family and the individual child. Effective policies, targeted and appropriate levels of funding, and collaborative systems of support enhance a child's ability to thrive in learning environments." (Kansas State Department of Education)

As we look at how important it is to have programs for our students we would like to provide a three year old preschool program in Haven. USD 312 currently provides a grant funded preschool program for 4 year olds. Our goal is to extend accommodations to a 3 year old program and to prepare students to be academically and socially ready by the time they enter Kindergarten.

We hope to encourage parents to become involved in these programs to help prepare children for the future. If you have questions about what the program would provide we would be happy to speak with you about our program. We have a wonderful teacher that is very knowledgeable about three and four year old development. Parents are the key to helping their children be successful and as parents we want our children to be as successful. Please join us in preparing kids for the future. We are excited to begin a new program for our early learners.









High School News

Haven High

Redesign: Haven High School is up and running. The redesign work from last year is being implemented, and students are enjoying the change to the traditional practices. Our personal learning time slots (PLT) are proving to be a favorite for students. Students are allowed the freedom to move about the school and get help where they see fit. Theses two periods take place at the lunch hour and 30 minutes at the end of the day. Students and staff alike are learning how to best navigate this opportunity. Some students have indicated not knowing what to do with their time, or perhaps, even feeling bored, but to be honest, this is what we wanted. It's important to help students learn how to manage their time, how to prioritize, how to make choices for themselves, and how to push themselves when they are feeling unsure. The Kansas Department of Education encourages giving students educational choices to help them build self-direction and regulation. As a staff, we feel PLT is an answer to this calling. We are growing together and look forward to the refined process that is developing in front of us.

Volleyball has had some solid wins this season over teams like Hoisington, Halstead, and Pratt. We are excited to announce that we will be hosting the 2019 KSHSAA 3A Sub-State Tournament on October 26th. The Cross Country team has 35 runners and has only competed in two meets so far this season. They have had multiple runners place at those meets and Coach Roper is encouraged by the continued improvement and hard work that his runners are demonstrating. The football team is off to a 2-1 start. They had a big win on Homecoming night vs. Hillsboro. Congratulations to our Homecoming King and Queen, Mario Quintero and Sara Yutzy. As the JV Tennis season is coming to an end, the Varsity prepares for regionals on October 11. The team may have been mostly new faces, but the girls are showing that they are competitive and will be ready for postseason play.





Middle School News



Haven Middle School is having an amazing start to the 2019-2020 school year. We've had a few changes over the past couple of months and the excitement level, from students and staff, is at an all time high. One change has been our new lockers. They have brightened up the hallway and offered more space than the previous ones.



Every student has a locker and students are utilizing them to the fullest.





Another change is the foyer area. An updated addition where students can hang out, work on schoolwork, and check out the schedule and various pictures on the TV.

Also, HMS classrooms are offering flexible seating options. Students have a choice where they sit so they can stay focused and productive.





Yoder Charter News



The students and staff at Yoder Charter School are excited about this school year. Last year's redesign phase has brought some wonderful changes for 2019 - 2020. The hard work of collecting research, and the dedication to student success, is paying dividends with the implementation of these items.



We had a schoolwide assembly to kick off Tiger Time. This weekly program allows students to be a part of a school family. The peer relationships built during this time will help students feel safer and cared for.



The students received a piece of breakfast pizza, met their school family, and had a wonderful time.



The Yoder Tiger Cafe is going well. Students have a choice of who they'd like to sit with and what they'd like to eat. The open lunch model is receiving a two thumbs up review from the students.







Grade School News

MORNING CHOICES

As the Haven Grade School students arrive in the morning they are greeted by Sharon Green at the front door! From there they are given four choices: 1. They may get breakfast in the lunchroom supervised by Brad Russell and Troy Meis. 2. Students may go to the library for quiet reading or homework time under the supervision of Tiffany Larson and Ginger Russell.

3. In the band room are Brandae Tate and Tonya Hoskinson supervising students playing board games, coloring, or putting puzzles together. 4. The final choice for students is walking or playing on the playground, weather permitting. This will be taken inside if needed. Steven Snyder, April Schoonover and Christa Swartz are the outside supervisors. While the students are in their groups with our U.S.D. 312 paraprofessionals, teachers are collaborating together in grade level teams, with resource room teachers, the administrator, or specials teachers to analyze data and make daily menus for the students to follow. This change was brought about by teachers asking for more collaboration time and personalizing the learning for our students through our redesign efforts. We would love to have volunteers from the community come in and listen to students read before school, also. Please call 620-465-2501.

SENSORY HALLS

While walking through the hallways at HGS you will see an alphabet snake, a counting sunflower, ladybugs with dots, wildcat pawprints and lily pads. What does this have to do with school, you might ask? These are all parts of the four different sensory paths painted by our own Brad Russell this summer. When students are feeling anxious or full of energy and need to just move, they may walk, hop, skip, and jump over the sensory paths.



Thalia Chavez





