
WILDCAT PRIDE



Issue 18

USD 263 District Newsletter

Jan. 2017

Hazardous Weather Information

The winter season is upon us, and with it comes the possibility of inclement weather affecting school opening. We understand that our decision to open or close schools in bad weather has a big impact on families. The safety and security of our students and staff is our highest priority.

The decision to close schools is based on the best information available at the time the decision is made. Although the staff and superintendent do their best in this process, we know that often no perfect decision exists. **IF WE ARE OPEN AND YOU DO NOT FEEL THAT IT IS SAFE FOR YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND SCHOOL, THEN PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD.** Please note the reason for absence is the inclement weather. You can always wait until the bad weather passes and then bring your child to school for the remainder of the day.

How do we make school closing decisions?

The decision to open or close the schools in bad weather is based on a careful analysis of all the relevant factors, including:

- Road conditions throughout the school district
- Amount of snow and ice
- Whether precipitation is expected to continue
- Building conditions
- Parking lot and sidewalk conditions at the schools
- Temperatures and wind chill factors
- Collaboration with surrounding school Superintendents

Who makes the decision?

- The Superintendent of Schools is responsible for the final decision, based on the above factors and input from the transportation and facilities departments, and collaboration with surrounding school Superintendents.

When is the decision made?

- The decision is typically made between 5:00 - 5:30 AM

How is the public notified?

- You will be notified by a direct phone call from USD 263, using the *School Messenger* calling system.
- The notice is also posted on the local TV stations (Ch. 3, 10, 12) along with local radio stations-KFDI, KICT, KYQQ, KKRK, KRBB, KEYN, KFBZ, KFH

What Can You Do?

Be prepared! When weather is threatening the night before, please have plans for the possibility that school may be closed.

MPS STEM Community K-12 Global Project

This quarter, Munson first grade students studied community helpers, neighborhoods, and goods/services found in a thriving community. We were also curious to know what other classrooms think about their community.

In December, our students participated in the 2016 Gingerbread STEM Community K-12 Global Project hosted by Andover Schools.

Students designed and constructed their own communities. Our first step was a bus tour around town to get to know our community better. Then, students were put into teams and chose a building or landmark in our community to recreate. Next, students designed and constructed their building or landmark. Finally, students presented a tour of their gingerbread community to another class via Google Hangout. Our first graders shared with classrooms in Derby and Pratt, KS.

Thanks to all who helped make this a successful and exciting project!

Munson Primary
First Grade Teachers



Annual Capture the Turkey @ MGS

The morning of the 2016 annual "Capture the Turkey" event at the Mulvane Grade School dawned cloudy and a little uncertain as far as the prospects for an outside competition. Upon inspection of the fields and referencing the weather forecast, it was determined that the grounds were good and the weather, though a little uncertain at first, would improve steadily as the day's activities progressed. So..."All systems were Go," for beginning the preliminaries on the soccer field east of the building. By noon, all the preliminary games were out of the way and students took a break from the action over the lunch period. Classes emerging from these preliminary battles as winners were, Mrs. Brownlee's Third grade class, Mrs. Myers' Fourth grade class and Mr. Wyatt's Fifth grade class.

At 1:30, the afternoon battles began by Brownlee bowing to Myers with a score of 3-5, followed by Myers, succumbing to Wyatt with a score of 0-5. The stage was now set for the annual battle between the victors and the teachers!

At approximately 2:45, both teams were ready to begin. This year's group of teachers looked like Amazons across the field, tall and strong. Mr. Wyatt's class was eager to take them on! Mr. Wyatt's class fought fiercely, but this year's group of young teachers was just too much for them. Final Score...Teachers - 12, Wyatt's class - 0. Great effort by all and a great way to get ourselves ready for the Thanksgiving feasts to come!

Please enjoy the pictures of this event, graciously provided by Taylor Wright. Taylor is a Para by day, but a professional photographer by night and we are lucky to have her on board this year at Mulvane Grade School! Thank you Taylor for such great pictures of this year's event!



Breakfast: A Great Start to Your Day

Studies* have shown that children benefit from starting their day eating a healthy breakfast. Students that consume breakfast are reported to have fewer reports of tardiness and absenteeism, are better able to focus on their work, and have fewer trips to the school nurse. These are just some of the benefits reported as a value for students starting their day with breakfast.

Breakfast is offered daily in each of the Mulvane USD 263 school buildings. Meal service starts at least 30 minutes before the 1st bell at each site. At least one hot entrée choice is offered for K-5 along with many cold breakfast choices and grades 6-12 are offered a variety of hot and cold breakfast choices each day.

All meals include milk, juice & fruit (may take both) along with their entrée choice. All students must take at least ½ cup of fruit or juice with their meal in order to be charged the student meal price. K-5 meals are \$1.45 and 6-12 are \$1.55. A student that chooses not to take the minimum ½ cup serving of fruit or juice would be charged either the adult meal price of \$2.40 or ala carte pricing for the items chosen.

Some of our items offered are:

Biscuit sandwiches, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, breakfast on a stick, French toast sticks, muffins, cereal, breakfast pizza, pop tarts & yogurt. *All grain items are whole grain.* We offer a variety of milk choices-white, strawberry and chocolate. Juice is 100% and a choice of apple or orange juice is available daily. A choice of fresh fruit is available most days with offerings of apples, oranges, bananas and even grapefruit.

Our menus are posted on our school website under the food service department, and then go to school menus. <http://www.usd263.com/>

National School breakfast week is March 6-10. Watch for special news and events.

School breakfast resulted in: • Increased math and reading scores • Fewer nurses' office visits • Improved classroom behavior • Improved attentiveness reported by teachers • Improved performance reported by parents*

*Minnesota Dept. of Children, Families and Learning & University of Minnesota "School Breakfast Programs/Energizing the Classroom" <http://cfl.state.mn.us/energize.pdf>



Bob Papenhaus named USD 263 bus driver of the month

He operates a safe bus and safe environment
for our students.

Thank you Bob!



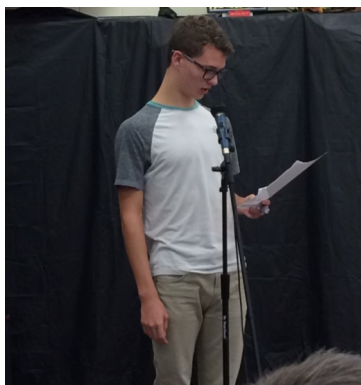
Poetry Readings at MMS

Mrs. Roderick's 8th grade Language Arts classes performed a poem and evaluated each other to select the top three winners of each class. The poems were selected from one of the many poetry books in the library or online.

Mrs. Entwisle and Mrs. Snider turned the library into a coffee shop. Students could order hot chocolate, coffee, tea, water and enjoyed cookies.

Parents also volunteered to help, as well as, enjoy the event as audience members. Winners were given a candy bar. First place also received a homework pass.

The purpose of the event is to practice fluency skills as well as apply skills required to read and understand poetry.



Congratulations Jason Mitchell

Jason Mitchell, MHS Speech and Drama Teacher, has earned the Fall 2016 Leading Chapter Award in the South Kansas District.

This honor, based on student participation, is the highest recognition level you can receive from the National Speech & Debate Association. Only one school in each district earns this designation each year, and each school must wait at least five years before being eligible again. Out of more than 3,000 member schools nation wide, MHS is one of only 110 to receive the Leading Chapter Award.

The award reflects 657 members and degrees over 6 years. In that time, several hundred students have been taught communication, analysis, leadership, and social skills. The Leading Chapter Award serves as an indication of Jason's relentless dedication to these students and to speech and debate education.

Congratulations on this remarkable achievement!

“MURDER IS SERVED”

On January 21st, the MHS Thespian Club and MHS Vocal Music Department will be hosting the 8th annual Mystery Dinner Theatre.

This year's show is “Murder is Served” by Jo West. This audience-participation “whodunit” features a meal provided by Vocal Music and a mystery-comedy performance where the cast mingles with the audience. Audience members get to interrogate the suspects and see if they can figure out who the real culprit is. Awards are provided for our top 3 audience detectives. Two performances are scheduled with a 1:00 p.m. luncheon and a 7:00 p.m. dinner.

Tickets for a performance are \$10. For more information or ticket sales, call 316-777-1183 or email: jmitchell@usd263.org.

Winter is Here

Please send your child with appropriate clothing for cold temperatures. Coats, hats and gloves are recommended as our students will be going outdoors during the winter season. Please see below our recess policy.

Cold Weather Recess Policy

We will be outdoors for recess if the temperature, including wind chill, is at least 15-20 degrees with no falling precipitation. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

Mulvane High School's FCA will be collecting gently used/new coats to donate in Mulvane to insure our community is warm this winter.

Sam Conrad is the project lead. If there are any questions, you can contact sponsor, Teresa Miller: tmiller@usd263.org or at: (316)518-6206

BOE Members Touring Mulvane High School

Mulvane School Board members, Dr. Rahe and building administrators spent the past several board meetings touring district facilities. The tours provided an excellent opportunity for board members to see what educational programs are being offered in the classrooms and first-hand information of facility improvements and upgrades needed.



USD 263 Kicked off 2nd Semester with the Employee Health Fair



Incase You Missed It

MMS Reindeer Games Assembly

On Tuesday, December 20th, MMS held its annual Reindeer Games Assembly to raise money for the Wichita Children's Home.

The event had the CO2 car race between Mr. Huss and Carsen Wall. (Mr. Huss' car won this year.)

The basketball teams played a friendly game of basketball against their coaches and staff members. Additionally, several students participated in Minute to Win It Contests. Each student paid a minimum of \$2 to attend the assembly.

This year MMS collectively raised \$1,200. The Children's Home staff was very pleased with the generous gift.

Thanks for performing at the Mulvane Senior Center



Do you have to host a church, community, or charity event that you need to book entertainment for? Please call or e-mail Rachel Jansen to book singers through the Mulvane High School Vocal Department. (316)777-1183 or rjansen@usd263.org

State Representative Carpenter Toured USD 263

Representative Carpenter recently spent a morning touring our school district. While visiting the MGS, the representative had the opportunity to learn about the School Families program. While touring MPS, Mrs. Waltrip shared the need for funding all-day Kindergarten. Dr. Ensley provided the tour of MHS. The Representative learned about many of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs we offer.

We appreciate Representative Carpenter taking the time and learning about our school district and the need for additional funding.



Circle of Friends

Circle of Friends enjoyed their visit with Santa. They played board games & were surprised when Santa came to say hello, take pictures, & hand out candy!



Mulvane USD 263 Mission Statement:

The mission of the Mulvane Public Schools is to prepare all students with academic and life skills while respecting the diverse social, educational, and cultural characteristics of each individual student.

The core values of Mulvane students and staff are based on a foundation of:

- *Respectful, positive relationships*
- *Safe learning environment*
- *Competent, knowledgeable staff*
- *Appropriate social skills and citizenship*
- *Professionalism with integrity*
- *Open and honest communication*

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 MulvanePublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/MulvanePublicSchools)
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Superintendent of Schools
 Dr. Brad Rahe

Board of Education
 Jeff Ellis, President
 Steve Fry, Vice President
 Amy Houston
 Travis Cottrell
 Jerimiah Webb
 Richard Canfield
 Ron Becker

*Board of Education meetings are
 held at the Mulvane
 District Office at
 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th
 Monday of each month.*

Munson Primary - 777-0151
 Deana Waltrip, Principal
Grade School - 777-1981
 Raquel Greer, Principal
Middle School - 777-2022
 Traci Becker, Principal
 Heidi Perkins, Asst. Principal/Athletic Dir.
High School - 777-1183
 Jay Ensley, Principal
 Brad Canfield, Asst. Principal
 Doug Evers, Asst. Principal/Athletic Dir.
Financial Officer - 777-1102
 Carolyn Young, Director
Human Resources - 777-1102
 Tom Keil, Director
Special Education - 777-1102
 Shay Carter Director
 Jodi Copeland-Baker, Coordinator
Assessment/Curriculum/Inst. - 777-1102
 Joyce Harting, Director
Transportation - 777-0501
Food Service/HVAC - 777-3003
 Richard Hampton, Director
Grounds/Maintenance - 777-1102
 Larry Wolfe, Coordinator
Technology - 777-1102
 Thomas Schmitz, Director

Wildcat Pride edited by: Angela Sagely
*If you have any items for this publication, please contact Angela Sagely
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 asagely@usd263.org*

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