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# CENTRAL HEIGHTS NEWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 288



521 Ellis Road  
Richmond, KS 66080  
<http://www.usd288.org>

September 2009

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Superintendent.....	785.869.3455	785.869.3809 .....	Middle School
High School.....	785.869.3555	785.869.3355 .....	Elementary School

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## News from the Superintendent...

The Central Heights Board of Education established long term goals at its July 2009 meeting. The Board's primary goal is to offer a quality education at all grade levels. But the Board determined secondary goals for the district. The goal that received the most votes is postsecondary preparation. Indicators for the goal might include the district's ACT scores, preparation for the SAT for students who are considering out of state colleges, utilizing school counselor, scholarship opportunities and advanced classes.

The second goal was staff recognition activities. Possible strategies include noting staff achievements, providing meals at inservice and enlisting staff input on ways to assist staff.

Technology was ranked third by the Central Heights Board of Education. Potential projects include a 1:1 initiative, updating the districts web page, continued installation of Smartboards, wireless technologies, and staff development.

The fourth goal was labeled public relations with students. Promotion of school organizations and communicating expectations of colleges and employers were mentioned as potential strategies.

Updating infrastructure was the fifth goal. Many of the district's heating and air conditioning units require expensive repair or replacement. Updating the

*(Continued on page 2)*

Central Heights is now on Twitter at  
<http://twitter.com/USD288>

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weight room was mentioned as a potential project. Grounds should also be attractive. Providing safe practice and completion facilities for students was also listed as a strategy. Board members noted that enhancement projects need to be completed. Facilities should be maintained and repaired in a timely manner.

School libraries were also listed as a goal. All libraries would profit from additional books. Furniture for libraries was also brainstormed. Libraries should have an inviting appearance. Painting should be done and pictures should decorate the interior.

Agriculture is an important characteristic of the Central Heights district. Maintaining the department with two full time teachers is favorable. Teachers should explore ways to increase judging opportunities. Shop equipment should be updated when needed. Finally, the district's greenhouse could be updated. Security rounds out the list of the district's new goals. While the district has



installed several control access doors, the district could install additional ones. Staff development was also noted as a need.

The district will work towards these goals for the next two years.

Jim Reece, Superintendent  
jreece@usd288.org  
785.869.3555

### Five Year Trends for Central Heights ACT Scores

Grad Yr	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2005	18.4	18.8	20.4	19.8	19.5
2006	20.5	20.8	21.1	19.0	20.5
2007	20.7	20.7	22.1	21.2	21.3
2008	19.4	19.0	21.3	20.8	20.3
2009	22.0	20.4	23.1	21.8	22.0

**Central Heights High School  
Student Council**

**2nd Annual  
Community Service Day**

**October 7, 2009**

Students getting involved in your community.  
Does your town need some muscle?  
Does someone need some help?

Contact Brenda Wadkins (High School Office)  
785-869-3555 ext 401

**FROM:** The Franklin County Crime Stoppers  
**CONTACT:** Chief Steve Gillespie (785) 883-2691,  
Wellsville Police Department  
Lt. Alan Campbell (785)-229-1200  
Franklin County Sheriffs Department

The public is invited to attend a Franklin County Crime Stoppers & Neighborhood Watch Awareness presentation at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 1, 2009 in the Central Heights High School Lunch Room. The program is offered in cooperation with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, the Ottawa Police Department, and the Wellsville Police Department; and will be hosted by Members of the Franklin County Crime Stoppers.

Franklin County Crime Stoppers are providing door prizes to be given away at the event.

**\*\*\* end \*\*\***

## Tom Horstick

Greetings from Central Heights High School:

We have started the school year with a bang! As usual, things are hectic and will be getting more so when activities start next week. I first want to introduce the two new staff members we have. First, teaching social studies is Josh Hevel. This is Mr. Hevel's first year of teaching. He graduated from K-State and grew up in Waverly. Secondly, teaching in the Ag department is Trent Page. Mr. Page also graduated from K-State is from the Altamont area. This too, is Mr. Page's first teaching position. I am very excited to have these two men at Central Heights working with our students. I want to invite everyone to come out and support our volleyball, cross country, and football teams this fall. If you don't have a schedule, please call the office or stop by to get one. I appreciate the support from our communities very much. If you have any questions, you may contact me at the office at 785-869-3555 or email me at [thorstick@usd288.org](mailto:thorstick@usd288.org).

Tom Horstick, Principal  
thorstick@usd288.org  
785-869-3555

## H1N1 Flu Update

### Dear Parents/Guardians

**We are asking parents and guardians to partner with us in our attempt to mitigate the transmission of the Swine Flu Virus (H1N1 virus). Children have been shown to be at high risk for this virus, with the greatest number of people affected being in the age range of 5-24.**

### What you can do:

Keep sick kids at home and well kids at school. If your children exhibit any of the following symptoms, particularly in conjunction with a **fever of 100 degrees or greater**, please keep them home and call your primary care physician for further instructions.

Cough, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue and in some cases, nausea and vomiting have also been reported with H1N1.

Keep us informed. When you call your student in sick, please report their symptoms to us. This helps us better track illness trends in our school population, and allows us to report these trends to the community health authority.

Promote good hand hygiene, cough etiquette, avoid touching eyes, ears, mouth, and nose with hands, especially after sneezing or coughing.

Thank You

Sandee Meyer, RN  
Health Office

## Board of Education: Board Goals Progress Report

The Central Heights Board of Education received a report of the progress made on the district's goals that were established in 2007 by the Board of Education.

Facilities were the number one goal. Sixteen security cameras have been installed over the last two years. Three control access doors have been installed in the school. Performance Electric performed amp tests on breaker boxes to ensure that loads were acceptable. A lockable breaker box was installed in the gymnasium.

Epoxy floors were installed in the food service kitchen and two locker rooms. Carpet was installed in three rooms. Painting is done every summer by two employees. Chalk boards were replaced with marker boards. Bathroom fixtures have been installed that require less contact. Window tinting replaced applied to windows in the multipurpose room.

The front of the school was landscaped and parking lines refreshed.

Rooftop units that serve the high school cafeteria were replaced.

Attention to personnel has increased. Staff turnover has decreased. Teachers and classified staff participate in educational workshops and conferences. Personnel files were reorganized. Employee handbooks and job descriptions were developed.

Early education was another goal. A preschool now educates four year old students. Franklin County Head Start has submitted a grant for an additional preschool that would be located at Cen-

tral Heights.

Central Heights continues to financially support Parents As Teachers. Parents As Teachers helps parents who have a child from birth to age three.

Enrichment for students was another goal. The middle school offers a robotics class. This year the middle school has expanded by offering an advanced robotics class.

In addition to robotics, the middle school increased student exposure to career options. A class on leadership is also offered.

Public relations was the last goal that the board developed. High school and middle school students do community service projects in Princeton, Richmond, Lane and Rantoul. Area senior citizens enjoy a holiday meal prepared by the food service department and music is provided by high school students. The high school salutes area veterans with a program on Veteran's Day.

The PTO hosts book fairs as well as a lively, school carnival. The high school booster club also recognizes students for their commitment in numerous activities. Central Heights often applies to host regional competition to cut down on travel time for fans. This past year, Central Heights hosted regional volleyball and softball.

Central Heights Public Schools achieved many of the goals that were established by the Board of Education in 2007. Let's wish the board good luck with the new goals established at the July 2009 meeting.

***Facilities were the number one goal.***

## **The Kinyon Korner**

### **Sponsoring Key Club** A Central Heights Service Program

Key Club is a strong organization created to help adolescents provide services to their community. As the new sponsor of the Central Heights Key Club, I would like to use their motto: **Caring: Our Way of Life** as our motto. There are many ways for the students at CHHS to illustrate their compassion, from visiting the people at the Richmond Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, helping keep the school grounds clean, helping recycle,

and even protecting our environment. Those are a few of the ideas that I have about what we can do this year as Key Club.

Please think about joining Key Club not only for yourself, but for our community.

Cortney Kinyon  
ckinyon@usd288.org  
785.869.3555

## **Quilting with Alice Walker's "Everyday Use"**

### ***Donations needed***

by Cortney Kinyon  
August 25, 2009

In September, the English 10 classes will be embarking on a journey both to the southern United States, but as well as a creative journey into the world of hand-piecing quilt blocks. They will begin reading Alice Walker's "Everyday Use" after Labor Day. This story delves deeply into the treasured family heirlooms of one family; those heirlooms happen to be quilts hand-pieced and hand-quilted by a character's grandmother.

To attach the students to an older form of art as well as connect Language Arts with Family and Consumer Sciences, each student in English 10 will make a simple quilt block. We will combine the blocks to make at least one quilt comprised of all the blocks made by our CHHS English 10 students.

I am looking for anyone with a few extra pieces of fabric. Please contact me at the school at 785-869-3555 ext. 413 or at [ckinyon@usd288.org](mailto:ckinyon@usd288.org).

\*\*\*Please do not submit old clothes.\*\*\*

## **Required Annual Announcements**

### **Free/Reduced Lunch Disclosure Statement**

Names of students and names of families of students receiving Free/Reduced Meals and eligibility status will not be released to any outside USD 288 sources unless a parent or guardian submits a signed waiver of confidentiality to the Central Office Food Service Director.

### **PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

#### **Nondiscrimination Statement**

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, natural origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### **From the Superintendent's Office**

U.S.D. 288 has been complying with the federal and state asbestos regulations for many years. Some of the building materials in our school do contain asbestos. The asbestos-containing materials are periodically inspected and maintained to ensure students, employees, and visitors. The asbestos management plan for U.S.D. 288 is located in the district office and may be inspected by interested persons at any time.

U.S. D. 288 is committed to protecting the health of all students, employees, and visitors. We will continue to ensure that asbestos-containing materials are maintained according to federal and state requirements.

## Booster Club Updates

I don't know where the time has gone.....this summer came and went way too fast for this mom! This means it is time to mark your calendars for Booster Club events. We should have a link on the CHS web-page in the near future and hope you will visit the site frequently. Our intention is to keep you up-to-date on the "goings on" of the Booster Club.

Once again we will be sponsoring the CHS Homecoming Parade. This year we move to Princeton. Please look on the web-page for further details about this year's parade. Due to a scheduling conflict, we had to cancel the Community Pep Rally this past February. We are planning on sponsoring the Community Pep Rally February 3, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at the Ike Cearfoss Gymnasium. Look for future information on the web-page.

We still collect Best Choice UPC's and the Nestle Pure Life Labels. You can turn these in to any of the offices at CHS. The secretaries are wonderful and let me know when they have things for us.

We will again raffle off something this fall/winter – we just haven't quite figured out what we will be raffling. Please see the web-page for information on this fundraiser. Our bread sale will take place the last two weeks in October. We will also have baked goods for sale/raffle during all home basketball games. Hopefully, we will be able to bring back our "Hoop Shoot" competitions during the home games during basketball season.

Something new for us is a community Taco Salad Dinner, Silent Auction and Dance. We will be having a Taco Salad Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and a Dance featuring "Bits-N-Pieces" from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Community Building.

Please note, we support both the Jr. High and High School students at CHS. Further, we support academics as well as other extra-curricular activities.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Booster Club and have questions, you can either email me: [seyleraudra@yahoo.com](mailto:seyleraudra@yahoo.com) or call me at 785-418-3917. Our meetings are generally 30 minutes long, as such, we **DO NOT** require mandatory meeting attendance. You can be active with the Booster Club in a number of ways without attending a meeting. Please see the web-page for our "official" membership application.

We look forward to another great year working with the students and CHS staff.

Audra Seyler, President  
[aseyler@mail.franklincoks.org](mailto:aseyler@mail.franklincoks.org)

## PTO Preps for New School Year

PTO is off to a quick start this year! Thank you to all who attended our first meeting. What a great turnout!

We are grateful to everyone who planned and supported the Book Fair! The committee did a fantastic job and we hope the kids all enjoyed “reading around the world”. Also, thank you to Ms. Richards for all your time and assistance.

Be sure to check out the new PTO page on the school website and feel free to contact us through the new PTO email address [centralheightspto@gmail.com](mailto:centralheightspto@gmail.com).

The PTO would like to express our gratitude to the Kice family for the donation of a much-needed outdoor play gym for the Preschool.

Due to Labor Day, our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the library. Hope to see you there

Sara Brown, president  
browntownks@yahoo.com  
785-878-3563

## Upcoming Events

**Sept 15-** Deadline for merchandise orders. For more information, email us at [centralheightspto@gmail.com](mailto:centralheightspto@gmail.com)

**September 25 -** PTO Funnel Cake Fundraiser at the Homecoming Football game-please stop by! We are still looking for a few volunteers! If you are interested please email us at [centralheightspto@gmail.com](mailto:centralheightspto@gmail.com) or contact the elementary office.

**October 2-** 6:30-8:30pm- Movie Night- PTO is sponsoring a Pajama party with popcorn and a movie. Look for information coming home soon.

**October 5-9-** Fire Prevention Week- Presentation by the Ottawa Fire Department

### **Qualifying for Free/Reduced Meals:** From Food Service

If you have experienced a decrease in wages due to lay off, reduction in hours, etc., I encourage you to complete a free/reduced meal application if you have not already done so. This is a great program that benefits your family and the school district.

The application only takes a few minutes to complete and I will be happy to assist you. You can contact me at 785-869-3455, ext 207 for an application or with any questions.

Dawn Burns  
Food Service Director  
dburns@usd288.org

MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING-BOARD OF EDUCATION-CENTRAL  
HEIGHTS USD #288-RICHMOND, KS-FRANKLIN COUNTY-AUGUST 17TH,  
2009-7:00PM.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with Ron Sluder presiding.

Members Present: Gene Schaefer, David Mitchell, Ron Sluder, Rick Pryor, Angie Wiederholt, and Jack Davis.

Employees Present: Jim Reece, Bud Schaub, Bob Stegner, Dawn Burns, Kenny Teter, Tom Horstick, Bud Welch, and Luis Hinojosa.

A motion by Rick Pryor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gene Schaefer to approve the regular and consent agendas as amended. Passed 6-0

Bud Schaub presented the Treasurer's report. 7:04 p.m.

A motion by David Mitchell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gene Schaefer to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Passed 6-0

Bob Stegner gave the Technology report. 7:10 p.m.

Kenny Teter presented the Facility report. 7:05 pm.

Bud Welch, Luis Hinojosa, and Tom Horstick gave their building level reports.

Jim Reece gave the Superintendent report going over budget projections and enrollment numbers. 7:14 pm.

The facilities tour began. 7:29 pm.

Returned to regular meeting. 8:16 pm.

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Mitchell to approve the July 2009 expenditures as presented. Passed 6-0 8:27 pm.

A motion by David Mitchell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Angie Wiederholt to approve the lease through Patriots Bank of the Chevy Impala from Beckman Motors. Passed 4-2

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rick Pryor to approve the hiring of Phil McClintock as an Assistant High School Football Coach. Passed 6-0

A motion by David Mitchell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rick Pryor to go into executive session personnel to include the BOE and Superintendent for 10 minutes. Passed 6-0 8:52p.m.

9:02 pm. Extend executive session same way for 5 minutes.

9:06 Open session resumed.

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Angie Wiederholt to approve the hiring of Vance Johnson as the part time custodian. Passed 6-0

A motion by David Mitchell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Davis to advertise for an Title I paraeducator. Passed 6-0 9:15 pm.

A motion by Rick Pryor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gene Schaefer to dispose of surplus equipment to county free of charge. Passed 6-0

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Mitchell to accept the donation of the playground equipment. Passed 6-0

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rick Pryor to approve Darlene Springer as Junior Class sponsor to replace Mike Swendson. Passed 6-0

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Davis to accept the resignation of board member Tony Johnson and to post the board member vacancy notice. Passed 6-0

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rick Pryor to approve the Family Pass at \$75 and \$40 for individuals. Passed 6-0

A motion by Rick Pryor, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Mitchell to go into executive session personnel to include the BOE, Superintendent, and Luis Hinojosa for 15 minutes. Passed 6-0 9:24 pm.

Luis Hinojosa exits executive session at 9:31 pm.

Open resumes. 9:39 pm.

A motion by Gene Schaefer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Angie Wiederholt to adjourn. Passed 6-0 9:40 p.m.

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