



Director of Student Learning
Jennifer Gatz
Board Report July 2019

Online Enrollment and Fee Payment

USD 113 is excited to announce an online student enrollment process for the 2019-2020 school year, powered by PowerSchool Registration. The system is a secure, green process which allows each school to verify all student demographics, emergency, and medical information for every student in a more efficient manner prior to the start of school. The system will also allow parents to electronically sign the annual permission forms. In short, this online process will replace all the hard copy student enrollment and Google permission forms that we have utilized in the past.

When it is time to fill out the online forms, each family will receive an email and/or a letter from the school with the instructions on how to access the online enrollment system for each student. This communication will contain a link and instructions to create a PowerSchool parent account that will link directly to each student. If parents already have a PowerSchool parent account to check student grades then they will use that account to access this online enrollment system. To make the process easier for families with multiple students, you will have the option to copy all generic family information to all other students in your family. Our goal is to have our online enrollment portal ready by August 1st.

Additionally, we are planning to utilize an online payment option for parents that would prefer to pay using a debit or credit card. Utilizing the online payment option and online enrollment forms will eliminate the need for parents to visit the building during the scheduled enrollment times. If a parent prefers to pay by check at the building, needs assistance logging in and completing the online enrollment forms, or does not have internet access, we will have regularly scheduled enrollment times on August 6th and 7th. Sabetha Elementary School, Sabetha High School, and Sabetha Middle School will all be set up at Sabetha Middle School for parents to complete enrollment for these three schools. Parents at Axtell and Wetmore will also be able to complete enrollment and receive assistance in their respective buildings. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the school office or Jennifer Gatz at the district office gatzj@usd113.org.

Admin Boot Camp

Our administrative team participated in professional development on June 24th and 25th at the USD 113 district office. Several activities were planned for the two days of professional learning. As a team we focused on district topics and identified priorities or “big rocks” that we should be spending the majority of our time on. The “big rocks” we discussed included the IPS process, climate and culture and curriculum/instruction including MTSS. We identified action steps, professional learning, and non-negotiables related to these topics. We will continue to revisit these plans through our KESA process at the district and building level throughout the year. Mark Dodge with Greenbush provided a Color Code

Todd Evans | Superintendent | evanst@usd113.org

Jennifer Gatz | Director of Student Learning | gatzj@usd113.org

1619 S. Old Hwy. 75 | Sabetha, KS 66534 | Phone: 785.284.2175 | Fax: 785.284.3739 | Website: usd113.org | Email: boe@usd113.org

Interpersonal Skills Workshop with a focus on identifying our individual strengths, challenges and motives when working with others. This workshop also provided us with information on how to most effectively work with our peers that may be the same or other colors. This workshop was enjoyable and informative. Finally, we had Terry Morrow with CytekMedia provide professional learning for the administrators on the Admin side of PowerSchool. Terry is a wealth of knowledge and provided useful information and suggested some updates to our student information system. I am grateful to have this time with our administrative team.

New Social Studies Textbook Training and Curriculum Writing

Our new social studies materials have arrived and several grade levels have spent time this summer working on reviewing their new resources and aligning our curriculum documents. I appreciate all of their hard work and dedication to this process. I am in the process of scheduling additional training for the online components of our new resource. These teams of teachers will continue working on this process throughout the summer and into the school year as the revised social studies standards are released in the fall or spring.

New Teacher Orientation

We have restructured our new teacher orientation, benefit sign-up and technology checkout this year. On June 17th we had all of our new teachers that were available come to the district office to checkout their technology with Lisa Suhr. This will allow our new teachers to begin accessing their district email and also utilize their laptop/iPad to begin planning for the beginning of the school year if they would like. On this day our new teachers also had the opportunity to sign up for benefits with Colonial Life and Security Benefits. We will host our traditional new teacher orientation on August 5th at the district office. This professional learning provides a time for us to share district information with our new teachers. We will begin the mentoring process and review district information and procedures. I am looking forward to a productive day of learning with the new teachers.

Instructional Support Staff Training

On August 8th our instructional support staff will receive training on using the iPads for interventions and record keeping for our MTSS process. We will review FastBridge testing protocols and look at various reports available in FastBridge to monitor student progress.

Classified Staff In-Service

We will have all of our classified staff attend professional learning at Sabetha Middle School on August 14th. This allows us to complete the required training and provide time for groups of staff to meet and discuss items specific to their role within the district.

Second Step for Middle School

We will begin implementing Second Step at the Middle School in the 2019-2020 school year as our Social Emotional curriculum. Second Step has been utilized at the Elementary School for the past two years. Last year the middle school utilized the Self-Regulation competency as part of the College and Career Competency Wheel with the High School.

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