



Cheney USD 268
Educating Minds...Connecting Hearts...
Touching Lives...
Welcome to Our Family

Cheney USD 268
Patron Newsletter
April/May

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From the Superintendent, Thomas J. Alstrom



What a great winter season we have had. The weather was mild and the students have done a great job both in the classroom and in athletic competition. This is the first time in many years that we have sent two teams to the State Basketball tournament to represent our school and community. They both did a great job and need to be commended for the outstanding season.

As we change into the spring season, we are going to be working diligently on the State Testing which started before Spring Break and will continue for the next few weeks. We try and stagger the testing out as much as possible so that we can continue to have school in as normal a fashion as possible. Please make sure that if you have children in school, you check on their testing dates and make sure that they are getting plenty of rest and have a good breakfast before coming to school.

As most of you know, we are still facing a budget deficit from the State of Kansas for this year and next. I wanted to let you know that we have taken measures to reduce the budget this year in ways that we feel will not adversely affect the students in the classroom. We have continued to offer the educational trips that teachers had scheduled and have tried to maintain the classroom situation as close to normal as possible. We have tried to make the cuts in areas that will make the least amount of impact on the classroom. This may not be as easy to do for next year as they have still not given us the exact amount for the cuts in our budget for next year. The Governor's plan will be very workable, as she is trying hard not to affect schools any more than she has to, but the House of Representatives and the Senate want the

schools to feel more of the effect of the cuts in the State. As we plan for next year we want to continue with the quality of education we have established but also want patrons to know that some things will have to be different just because of the situation we are facing. The control is in the legislature at this time, any contact to your legislators will be appreciated!

If you want to contact your representatives and let them know your thoughts on the effects of budget cuts on our local system, you can find their email address at www.kslegislature.org. Go to the; I want to find window, use the pull down menu and select either House or Senate. Each page will have a menu for rosters where you can email your Representative or Senator.

I want to remind you that we have school board elections coming up on the 7th of April. There are four candidates for the three seats we have open. The candidates are: Mark Graf (incumbent), Van Dewey (incumbent), Amy Scheer and Chris Winkler. I want to encourage you to get out and vote.

One of the budget cuts we are looking at for next year is to place our newsletters online for patrons to read. This will save quite a bit in postage each year. We are also trying to determine the best way to distribute the calendars next fall. We have found that many calendars get thrown away and the cost of mailing those to every household is high. We do want everyone to have a calendar that wants one, so we are trying to determine a better way of distribution to those who want to have the school calendar.

Cheney USD 268
Board of
Education

- Don Albers**
- Van Dewey**
- Greg Giefer**
- Mark Graf**
- Marcia Kampling**
- Terry Kohler**
- Mark Zerener**



*"Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play.
Every individual makes a difference."*
~Jane Goodall



Curriculum/Technology Update Richard Soash, Director



Backing Up Your Computer

What would happen if the hard drive in your home computer crashed? Do you have a back-up copy of all those files you've spent years creating? Names, addresses and phone numbers? How about all those digital pictures that would be impossible to replace? As we become more dependent on computers, the more disastrous hardware failures become.

You have several options to backup your files before the inevitable happens.

- Add a second hard drive to your computer and save your important files to the new drive. This solution works well for hardware failure, but it does not protect you in case of fire or theft of the computer.
- An external hard drive / flash drive (jump or thumb drive). Windows Vista & XP have backup options in **Start – All Programs – Accessories – System Tools – Backup** in order to back up to either a second hard drive or an external drive. If you use this option, it is important to keep the backup disk in a different location.
- There are a number of online sites that allow you to back up your files to their sites. There are a few free sites and many fee based options:
 - ◇ aDrive - <http://www.adrive.com/>
 - ◇ Online Windows Live OneCare Backup - <http://onecare.live.com/site/en-us/default.htm>
 - ◇ SOS Online - <http://www.sosonlinebackup.com/>
 - ◇ iDrive - <http://www.idrive.com/>
 - ◇ Mozy Online Backup - <http://mozy.com/>

You should also backup your favorites in Internet Explorer by going to **File - Import & Export**.

It may cost a little money and take a little time each month to back up your computer. But consider what you will lose if you do not back up your computers.

Wellness Corner.....Wacky Trends of Dieting By Michelle Higgins

It seems like everyone you talk to today is dieting or exercising. The Biggest Loser has seemed to ignite an enthusiasm for losing weight or it might be we are just becoming a more weight conscience society. Diets have been around for many years and many of them are what we call fad diets. Women have fought weight loss for the past century and it will probably continue for many more years.

1930's-1940's diet trends: **smoking and the Master Cleanse**

Models and celebrities got the idea to smoke from somewhere and they would like to blame the 1920's and 30's ad campaign. Women wanting something to work quicker chose the lemonade diet which consists of only lemon juice, cayenne pepper, and maple syrup. Now, nearly 70 years later this is the same diet Beyonce' used to shed pounds.

1950's diet trend: **prayer**

Many books were published to set this trend, one of these was "Pray Your Weight Away". The Christian dieting industry exploded and the notion of confusing physical hunger and spiritual hunger began.

1960's diet trend: **support groups and cabbage soup**

The "share the love" idea of the 60's began to apply to dieting. Dieters began forming support groups; Overeaters Anonymous and Weight Watchers were started.

1970's diet trend: **diet pills**

These pills promised you could still eat what you wanted and not gain a pound. Some began creating health problems and were pulled from the shelves. A good rule to live by is unless diet pills are prescribed by your doctor, they are almost never a good idea.

1980's diet trend: **Scarsdale Diet**

This decade went from easy fixes back to hard nose discipline with the Scarsdale Diet. It was a two week high-protein, low carb and super-low calorie diet (less than 1,000 calories per day). This diet had very little food variety and even fewer calories.

1990's diet trend: **low-carb Atkins**

This diet was a reaction to the anti-red meat campaign of the 80's. Dr. Atkins' popularity grew after the book "Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution" was released.

Top 5 diet trends of today

Celebrity-endorsed diets: Stars swear by certain diets and the public follows.

Portion control: 100 calorie packs were marketed.

Organic Diets: Followers believe that organic foods, those without preservatives and additives, may help the digestive system run better.

Diet delivery: Services like Chefs Diet and NutriSystem deliver prepackaged meals to your home.

Sweet and savory diets: Very similar to the Cookie Diet of the 70's. Reportedly, Jennifer Hudson is a fan of this; eat croissants for breakfast and veggies for lunch philosophy.

The bottom line is, you need to eat a balanced diet and exercise regularly. The weather is getting nicer and there are many programs to get involved with so set a goal and get with it!!!!



Cheney High School-Ron Traxson, Principal

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you've always imagined."

~Henry David Thoreau



Principally Speaking....

Cheney Qualifies Both Basketball Teams For 4A State Sportsmanship Awards

It is with great pride that I announce that Cheney High School qualified for the sportsmanship awards at the KSHSAA State Basketball Tournament. The boy's basketball team qualified for the Sportsmanship Certificate, and the girl's basketball team qualified for the Sportsmanship Plaque and Medals.

The Kansas State High School Activities Association, through its member schools, defines sportsmanship as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, an awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others.

The excitement of a basketball game can create concerns for fans, students and officials. Citizenship/ Sportsmanship Rule 52 addresses this challenge by stating: **"Win with character and lose with dignity."**

Outstanding sportsmanship is acknowledged each year by presenting sportsmanship certificates, plaques and medals. All ninety-six high school teams participating in KSHSAA State Basketball Tournaments may qualify for an award. A "rating" system is used allowing schools to compete against a "standard of excellence", rather than competing against one another.

Schools whose teams did not advance to the semifinal rounds were eligible to receive a certificate if they met the qualifying standards of sportsmanship. Schools participating in all three days of the tournament were eligible to receive a plaque for their school and medals for cheerleaders.

A special sportsmanship committee appointed by the KSHSAA evaluated and rated the cheerleaders, school cheering section, adult and non-high school followers, team and coach of each school.

Congratulations to the Cheerleaders, the Students, and the Fans in attendance at the games for being recognized for the Sportsmanship qualities we strive for at Cheney High School.

Cardinal Connection Goes Paperless

The newspaper staff just put the Cardinal Connection online in an effort to save paper and printing costs. The newspaper staff thanks Mr. Casner, for his help in accomplishing this.

Go to the high school's homepage and click the Cardinal Connection link. Issue 5 is the only one up right now; if you click that you'll come to a page with thumbnails of the six newspaper pages. Click the page you want to read, and it will open a PDF file. We will send an e-mail each time we link a new issue.

Do we have your email? With our AlertNow Notification System, we send out a weekly memo and other notices such as when the Cardinal Connection comes out. Contact the office. Don't miss out on any more timely information.

Drivers Education Information

It's that time of year again when incoming freshmen and those freshmen who have not taken Driver's Ed. anxiously await the first of June and the beginning of Drivers Ed. classes. Sign-Up sheets are located in the middle and high school offices. Enrollment fees are \$150 for those **students** residing in USD 268 during the 2008-2009 school year. Non-District students wanting to take drivers education will be charged \$300. Classes will be held on June 1-5, & 8-12. These ten classroom dates will be the only time classroom instruction is given. Students will need to be in attendance each day with no absences or they will have to take drivers education next year.

With the law changes being considered, parents and patrons may have various questions surrounding the laws as it pertains to first time drivers. Currently, revision of laws affecting teen drivers sits on the governor's desk. HB 2143 would modify the requirements for driving permits and drivers' licenses for drivers younger than 17 years old. The changes from current law are explained on the following page;

Continued on next page....

CHS, Continued...

Instruction permit. The bill would require the adult who has a valid driver's license and is accompanying the holder of an instruction permit to be at least 21 years old. (Current law does not list a specific age for the adult.) The bill would add that an instruction permit could be suspended or revoked like any other driver's license. The minimum age for application would continue to be 14.

Farm permit. A farm permit would be available from age 14 until age 17 (changed from age 16). The bill would continue to allow farm permit holders to drive in connection with any farm work and to drive to and from school. The bill would allow permit holders who are 16 or older also to drive at any time from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and while going to or from authorized school activities.

Restricted license. Under the bill, an applicant for a restricted license must have held an instruction permit for at least one year instead of the current six months. If the applicant is younger than 16, the applicant must have completed driver's education. (Current law requires driver's education for all applicants.) The bill would require a 16-year-old applicant to have completed at least 50 hours of adult supervised driving, with 10 of those hours at night; a 15-year-old applicant would continue to be subject to a requirement for 25 hours of adult-supervised driving. The bill would allow licensees who are 16 or older also to drive at any time from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and while going to or from authorized school activities.

Restrictions on non-sibling passengers. The bill would continue to ban non-sibling minor passengers if the holder of the restricted license or farm permit is younger than 16. It would allow the holder of a farm permit or a restricted license who is at least 16 years old to have one passenger younger than 18 who is not a member of the permit holder's or licensee's immediate family.

Restrictions on use of wireless devices. The bill would ban those with instruction permits, farm permits, or restricted licenses from operating wireless communication devices while driving except to report illegal activity or to summon emergency help. The bill would define "wireless communication device" as "any wireless electronic communication device that provides for voice or data communication between two or more parties."

Lifting of restrictions. The bill would lift restrictions such as limits on non-sibling passengers and time of day when driving would be allowed on holders of farm permits and restricted licenses who are at least 16 years old and who have not violated any of the restrictions for at least six months. The permit or restricted license would continue to be considered a permit or restricted license for purposes of imposing penalties.

Full licensure. Under the bill, a first-time applicant would have to be at least 17 years old; current law allows full licensure at 16. The applicant for a full license who is younger than 18 must have completed at least 50 hours of supervised driving, with 10 of those hours at night, as in current law.

Penalties. The bill would make several changes to penalties for violations of driving restrictions:

1. The bill would require – rather than allow as in current law – suspension of a farm permit or restricted license for any violation of restrictions or if the holder has two or more accidents chargeable to the holder.
2. Under the terms of the bill, a suspended restricted license or farm permit could not be reinstated for one year if two or more accidents are charged to the holder. Current law stipulates a suspended license cannot be reinstated for one year or until the license holder reaches 16, whichever is longer.
3. Under current law, the holder who is younger than 16 and convicted of two moving violations committed on separate occasions is not eligible to receive an unrestricted license until age 17. The bill would add to current law that if the holder of a farm permit or restricted license is 16 and convicted of two or more moving violations committed on separate occasions, the holder may not receive a driver's license that is not restricted until age 18. The bill would add required suspensions of driving privileges for those guilty of violating permit or license restrictions: 30 days for a first conviction, 90 days for a second conviction, and one year for a third or subsequent conviction.

Effective date. The bill would become effective January 1, 2010.

Continuation of current requirements. The bill would apply the conditions, limitations, and restrictions in place as of December 31, 2009, to those who hold any valid driving license or permit as of January 1, 2010

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By Debbie Hillman, CHS Counselor-dhillman@cheney268.com or 542-3113:

COUNSELOR'S FINAL CLIP OF 2008-2009

When you think of writing the **final** newsletter of the 2008-2009 school year, you stop and ask yourself, "is it really almost over?" I can honestly say that the time since Christmas has just zipped by. I am sure that students don't always feel that way, but they will soon realize how quickly their high school years have gone. Again, it has been a great year with the students accomplishing a lot of wonderful things both in and out of the classroom. As the year comes to a close, different feelings come with each class.

As the seniors are saying, "Yes, we are out of here," they are also thinking, "wow, am I really about to go out and be on my own?" I just want to take this time to remind all seniors to finish their high school career in the best fashion they can. If you are going on to college, make sure you have all paperwork and anything else that needs to be done when preparing for August. I especially like this time of year because seniors are starting to hear about financial aid and especially scholarships. Some of them are being awarded nice scholarships, which excites me and I know thrills parents. The seniors have been given instructions as to how and when the local ones are due so they should be frantically working to produce a top-notch letter, resume, or essay whatever is required. Another step that needs to be taken care of is making sure all college transcripts are sent to the institution they are attending. I will give them the sheets that need to be filled out in April. As I say goodbye to the Class of 2009, I do so with a reminder that I will continue to be available should they ever need assistance once they walk out the doors of CHS. Enjoy whatever journey you take and always make the best of every situation.

Juniors, it is now your turn to take the reins of leadership at Cheney High School. I challenge you to do so with energy, excitement, and integrity. It is time to start thinking about the courses you want to take your final year. I want to remind you that we do offer quite a few options for college credit. We offer English Composition I, II, Public Speaking, and Sociology via ITV through Pratt Community College. We also offer College Algebra through Newman and English Composition through WSU. Students can also take online classes during the day, but I want to remind everyone that all college courses taken at CHS are also recorded on their high school transcript. What an exciting time for juniors as they start winding down one phase of their life and gear up for another. Get ready to hit the ground running for the 2009-2010 year.

Freshmen and sophomores, don't feel left out as you know what comes with moving up through the ranks. You can start thinking about enrollment and the things you want to accomplish while being a Cheney Cardinal. Don't let any opportunity pass you by in the next few years. They only come around once, which means grab on and go. You will have your own roles to fill next year. Challenge yourself to do great things with great style.

To all students who will be walking the halls of CHS next year, start thinking about the courses you want to take during the 2009-2010 school year. Enrollment is right around the corner, and I know I want to make it as stress free as possible. The more you think and plan, the easier it is for everyone. Again, it has been another successful year so remember what made it that way and improve on it for next year.

Have a great spring! And of course, think down the road and have an awesome summer!

By Linda Patterson, CMS Counselor-lpatterson@cheney268.com or 542-0060:

Bridging the Gap

Children live with stress. Whatever the situation, most stressors involve a transition of some kind. Stress and change often go hand in hand. Even one life transition can create a number of challenges for children and the school. As school counselors, we can help students through times of transition by teaching life skills and helping them build resiliency, all while ensuring academic success.

We know that all students will experience some form of transition. Teaching students the skills for dealing with change will benefit them academically, personally, and socially. We teach students the skills for dealing with change, but some children have needs that are more personal. We can provide support to these individuals through group work or individual counseling.

As you and your child prepare to end this school year and begin another, please feel free to communicate and collaborate with us about issues your child may be having. We will be having an orientation for children beginning kindergarten as well as meeting with those who will be moving into middle school and high school. Seniors will be given that last piece of advice before exiting the doors of CHS for the last time.

If you need anything, please feel free to contact the counselor in your student's building:

Jeanine Long, Elementary – jlong@cheney268.com

Linda Patterson, Middle School – lpatterson@cheney268.com

Debbie Hillman, High School – dhillman@cheney268.com

COUNSELOR'S CORNER, cont'd...

By Linda Patterson, CMS Counselor-lpatterson@cheney268.com or 542-0060:

CMS Parents

It is hard to believe that another year is nearing the end. There are so many great things taking place at CMS it is tough to know what to write. It seems like yesterday our 6th grade students were trying to figure out how to open their lockers, the 7th graders were making survival kits for the new students, and these 8th graders could hardly wait to take over as "top dog". Each year I reflect back on the wonderful experience I have had working with your son/daughter. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity! I cherish all the hugs, laughs, couch time, candy seekers, morning greeters, and smiles that have been given to me throughout the year! It truly is a joy to come to school every day!

Move Up Day

As we come to the end of another great year filled with memories and successes, CMS Ambassadors will begin focusing on our new class of 6th grade students who will enter our building come August. Ambassadors are planning a day when the 5th grade class can venture over for a "Move up Day" to experience "a day in the life of a 6th grader". The students will have an opportunity to ask questions, eat lunch, participate in activities, and follow students to class as we help them make the transition from elementary to middle school students. In August, parents and students will have a chance to learn more about 6th grade when they attend an Open House just for them. Information and details will be sent later. We look forward to the new class while sending best wishes to our 8th grade students as they journey to high school.

R.A.K.e WEEK

During the months of January and February, classroom-counseling lessons focused on teamwork and the importance of showing kindness. They learned the value of working together to accomplish a task as well as the affect showing compassion has on others. During our lessons, students participated in fun teaming activities as well as brainstormed ways to help those who are less fortunate making a difference in the lives of others. Since February is Random Act of Kindness Month, we decided to work together to have a Random Acts of Kindness for everyone Week. Each day of the week, students participated in "kind" activities. Monday – Ambassadors greeted elementary students as they came to school handing out smarties to start their day. During advisory, the students went to the gym to participate in an all school Lap Sit. This takes a great deal of cooperation and WE DID IT! Thanks to the great leadership of the 8th grade class. Tuesday – students spent advisory time cleaning classrooms for the janitorial staff. We wanted to say Thanks for keeping our school looking so nice. Wednesday – students wrote thank you notes to various people thanking them for their dedication to our school. Thursday – Ambassadors hosted a "Mix It Up" Day at lunch. Friday was spent supporting their peers watching the school play. Throughout the week, teachers handed out "Gotcha" stickers to students they caught doing a kind act. At the end of the week, names were drawn for lunch out at Cardinal Corner.

By Jeanine Long, CES Counselor- jlong@cheney268.com or 542-3137

This has been a great school year and it amazes me we are already writing our last newsletter of the year. I truly appreciate your support of the programs we've had in the guidance department this year. I look forward to continuing with and improving them during the upcoming school year.

There are some new things to look for during the 09-10 school year. One will be Rachel's Challenge. This program focuses on Rachel Scott, a victim of the Columbine shooting, and how she lived her life. She lived a lifestyle that promoted kindness and reaching out to those in need. We will be doing activities and lessons throughout the year that focus on her life and how she chose to live it.

In addition, we will continue with a number of programs we've had this year. We will continue to offer the Love and Logic Parent training. This program has been a wonderful addition to what we can offer the parents in our community and we appreciate the support we've received for this training. We will again offer classes in the fall and another in the spring.

We will also continue What's the Issue book club in grades K-2 and YouthFriends book club in grades 4 and 5. I would like to offer a book club for the 3rd grade students as well. If you would be interested in facilitating this group, please let me know. I will also be doing an adult book club for parents. I've chosen books that focus on current parenting issues.

The YouthFriends volunteer program continues to grow and I look forward to adding yet another component of this program next year. If you are interested in volunteering or would like me to speak to a group or organization you belong to about this program, please don't hesitate to call.

As always, my goal as a school counselor is to work with parents and students to make this school year a positive one. Please allow me to be a resource for you and your child in any way. I invite you to access my page on the school website and to call or email me at any time.

Cheney Middle School-Amy Wallace, Principal

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." ~Eleanor Roosevelt



STATE ASSESSMENT DATES

By the time you read this, many of our Kansas State Assessments will be taken. However, this year some of the tests are taking place in April; those tests that are still coming up are listed below. These assessments are very important and it is critical that your children be in school on test days. We ask for your help in scheduling appointments, etc. around these dates if possible. CMS testing dates are:

6 th Reading	March 31, April 1-2
6 th Math	April 6 and 8 th
7 th Math	April 3 rd and 7 th
7 th Science	April 20 and 22
8 th Math	March 30, April 6



END OF YEAR PLANS

It may seem early to be thinking about the end of the year, but it will be here before we know it. Below is the schedule of our end-of-year awards ceremonies. The public is invited and encouraged to attend all awards programs and promotion exercises.

Monday, May 18 : at 8:30 AM we will have the 6th grade awards in the HS Auditorium.

Tuesday, May 19 : at 8:30 AM we will have the 8th grade awards. Immediately following the awards ceremony, we will have promotion practice. At the completion of practice, 8th graders will be dismissed for the day. I would estimate that this will be no later than 11:15 am.

8th grade Promotion is today at 7 p.m. in the HS Gymnasium.

Today is the last day of school for 8th graders.

Wednesday, May 20: at 8:30 AM we will have 7th grade awards.

Thursday, May 21: is the last day of school for 6th and 7th graders!

FAREWELL 2008-2009!

Mrs. Paula Voth (8th grade communications) and Mrs. Amy Schroeder (7th and 8th grade science) have resigned their positions for next year. Between them they represent 40 years of teaching experience. Think of all the lives they have touched over the years! We will certainly miss them both and wish them well in their future endeavors.

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

The Cheney Middle School had another successful fundraiser for the Pennies for Patients campaign of 2009. We surpassed our goal and collected a total of \$1,262.58!! Student Council would like to thank each and every student, parent, and teacher who helped make this fundraiser possible.

Since 1994, Pennies for Patients has raised millions of dollars in pennies and other spare change by more than 10 million elementary, middle and high school students throughout the country. The funds collected benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

AMBASSADOR ELECTIONS

Ambassador elections for the 2009-2010 school year will take place in late April-early May. If you want to act as a mentor to help new students integrate themselves into our school and community, help organize activities to increase student involvement, and represent our school in a helpful and encouraging fashion, this job's for you! Information about the application process will be shared during the month of April. If you have any questions please stop by Linda Patterson's office.

Sixth Grade Orientation has been cancelled on April 27. Information students and parents need to have will be addressed during 6th Grade Open House Night prior to the start of school in August. If you happen to have any questions or concerns please feel free to call Linda Patterson at 542-0060 or email her at lpatterson@cheney268.com.

More From the Middle...

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

On Wednesday, February 25, 2009, students from Cheney Middle School, Garden Plain, Norwich, St. Joseph's Catholic School, and St. Paul's Lutheran School met to "battle" over books. The host for the tournament was St. Joseph - Ost. Students from each of the schools were asked in the fall semester to read sixteen books. Throughout the month of February, the teams met on Wednesday afternoons, (three teams at each competition), to test their knowledge of the books. At the final tournament on Wednesday, Cheney Middle School finished first! Students who participated for Cheney Middle School were Ryley Dewey, Eli Fast, Kathryn Helten, Oakley Kauffman, Samantha Montgomery and Justyn Temme. The team was coached by Mary Butel. Kim Walker, a volunteer, helped with the development of questions for the competitions.

CMS ANNUAL 6TH GRADE CAMPOUT

It is almost time for our annual 6th grade campout. Our trip to Camp Mennoscah will be on May 14th and 15th. We will be doing all sorts of great activities like fishing, hiking, tree classification, arts and crafts, archery, and many more. Remember we are funding this trip through recycled cans. 6th Graders need to continue to collect these! Parents will be getting letters soon asking for volunteers to come out and supervise some of the activities. The campout has always been a highlight of our 6th grade year. We hope everyone is looking forward to it as much as we are!!

BEGINNING OF SCHOOL, AUGUST 2009

The calendar for 2009-2010 has not been set yet, but the board of education has determined that school will begin no sooner than August 17. Hopefully this will help you plan your summer. As soon as we have final dates, we will get those out to you!

8th GRADE COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY.....COMING IN MAY

Contact Amy Wallace at the middle school, 542-0060, for any service needs! We can rake leaves, help with cleaning, plant flowers, the sky is the limit! Call if you need help with anything, we will be glad to lend you a helping hand.

FUTURES

During the 4th nine weeks, 8th grade students will continue to explore numerous career interests using the Kansas Career Pipeline internet website. Students will examine the results of their interest and skill inventories making possible career choices to study in further depth. Students will also learn about high school course planning as it relates to educational and career goals. Time will be given to explain the high school enrollment process and answer any questions the students might have. A "Senior Visit Day" is being scheduled so older students can share their knowledge to help the 8th grade class begin their high school experience on a positive note.

***Kansas Career Pipeline website can be accessed at home by logging on to www.kansascareerpipeline.org. If your student has forgotten his /her log on information, please contact Linda Patterson. This is a great tool for both student and parents!*

Middle School Art News By Michaeline Kohler

This semester, a class of Art II students has embarked on a project of epic proportions. Using a painting by Dutch artist, Vincent Van Gogh as inspiration, they are re-creating "Starry Night." These students are painting on 4 ceiling tiles, which will result in a 4'X 8' painting. The artists are: Aaron Gengler, Montana Ruddick, Nic Sanders, Morgan Dreiling and Clete Wells.

The mural will be installed in the art room.

Our talented 6th grade artists were highlighted by a display at the Citizens State Bank in the month of March. March is Youth Art Month and focuses on the role of art in student's lives.

Also in March, 8th grader Haley Jacobs, had a painting of hers on display at the State Capitol in Topeka. Our middle school art students are very talented and creative!

Cheney Elementary School - Jamie Rumford, Principal

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about." ~ Unknown



Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

The major focus of this school year at CES has been targeting specific student needs and then offering explicit instruction to those students in order to meet those needs. This is the premise of MTSS. Our teaching staff has done an outstanding job with this. All of this has been taking place while continuing the focus of teaching the state standards. We have overcome some of the obstacles that come with making time to do this, but I have been very pleased with what we've accomplished. This will remain a major focus in the future as we continue to look for ways to meet

all students' needs. If you'd like to know more information about MTSS, you can go to www.ksde.org and click on the "Public" tab on the left side of the page. This will take you to a website that contains information on the philosophy behind it.

Early Enrollment

In early May, we'll be sending out information for pre-enrollment for the 2009-10 school year. You can complete the information in the packet and return it to school by the end of this year. Enrolling early will save you some time in August with filling out paperwork and making a trip to school to sign your student up.

Also, be looking for information about prepackaged school supplies. You can sign up to get your child's supplies for next year sent to the school. This allows you to avoid the shopping rush at the beginning of the school year. The information you'll receive will have the prices of each grade level's supplies.

Kindergarten's Last Day

If you are a parent of a Kindergarten student this year, please note that their last day of school will be Monday, May 18th. All other grades will have school the next week, but Kindergarten students will be released early so that the Kindergarten teachers can do the screenings for next year's students.

2009-10 Kindergarten Parent Night/Screening

On April 6th, we will be having a parent meeting at Cheney Elementary School in the Multi-Purpose room. During this meeting, parents of next year's Kindergarten students will get a chance to meet the teachers, learn a little about what Kindergarten will be like, and set up dates and times for screening. The screening dates will be May 19th, 20th, and 21st. These are the last three days of school for all other grades. Screening incoming Kindergarten students gives us a chance to see what needs our students will have and it lets us make decisions on how to split them into the different classrooms.

Summer

As the summer approaches, be thinking of ways to keep your student progressing with reading and math. There are lots of websites, reading programs, and activities you can do at home. When students return in August, it's sometimes difficult to continue from where they left off at the end of the prior year. Keeping them active in their learning will help them maintain or grow in their levels and set them up for a successful school year. Contact the school if you need help finding ideas.

5th Grade Parents

There is a calendar change for the 6th Grade Parent Orientation night. It was originally set for April 27th the Middle School is going to move it to another date in August. The new date will be set and posted on next year's calendar.

Wow, have we had some awesome events going on at Cheney Elementary!

For starters, we had a Health Fair on Friday, February 27th. Things got started that morning with a banana burrito, milk and juice for breakfast. During the Health Fair, presentations were made by Chief Howard Bishop on bike safety, Laura Keefe on dental health, Jessa Albers and Jennifer Bartlett presented about germs and the benefits of hand washing, three firemen (Stacy Schaus, Jerry Peitz and Brad Ewy) presented a topic on fire safety and "Stop, Drop and Roll", we had a fresh fruit and cheese tasting bar and then had some "heated" games of Tug of War for a physical activity. Each student received a "goody bag" with a toothbrush, toothpaste, a pencil or fire safety coloring book, and several sheets on tips to improve healthy eating and exercise. It was a good time for all! We appreciate the help from our presenters and their willingness to help make our Health Fair a success!

On Monday, March 2, our Pre-K through 5th grades took a trip to the Orpheum Theatre in Wichita to see a presentation from Slim Goodbody on the importance of taking care of our bodies. We learned facts about the body as well as how our bodies work and why we should eat healthy food and exercise everyday. We had a great time and Slim Goodbody made learning about our bodies interesting and fun. We were able to attend by using grant money from our Coordinated School Health Grant.

The Coordinated School Health Grant that we received this year has helped with the following events in our district:

- Slim Goodbody for Pre-K to 5th grades
- CES breakfast and Health Fair
- Question of the day and prizes for all home high school games
- CMS Career Fair
- CMS Breakfast for all students
- Weight lifting posters in the HS weight room

We have been very fortunate to have this grant, giving us great opportunities that we might not have been able to do with the tightening of our budget!

A few more exciting times for us before school lets out are:

- Finishing up our Power Panther Pals lessons. We usually only have a grant for the 4th and 5th grades to participate. We were able to apply for a grant for grades 1-5 to participate this year! I think it's a hit with the younger students as well as our older ones. Be sure to ask your child what they are learning each week. You should also be getting a newsletter home on most Fridays with information about our upcoming lessons and ways to incorporate it at home.
- **Kansas Kids' Fitness Day** for our third graders and surrounding schools' third graders is on **Friday, May 1, 2009**. We are a host site and will have around 250-300 kids here from 10 am to 11:30 am enjoying fun, fitness and a healthy snack. If you are interested in helping run a station for our kids, please contact Mrs. Tolar at the school: 316-542-3137. Thanks!
- Our last big event before school lets out is our **CES Track and Field Day**. It will be held on **Thursday, May 14th, 2009 at the CHS track**. The K-2nd grades will start at 8:30am and end around 11:30 am. Our 3rd-5th Grades will start at 12:30 and end at 2:45 with the student race against Mr. Rumford. This is always a great day for students and parents too. We appreciate all the parents who have volunteered your time to help with the events, we couldn't do it without your help!

Health Facts:

Nutrition and learning go hand in hand. Kids who are nutritionally fit are more likely to have the energy, stamina and self-esteem that enhance their ability to learn.

Good breakfast options include yogurt mixed with cereal and fruit, a cereal bar with a glass of milk or a piece of fruit or a peanut butter sandwich with a glass of milk. If your kids don't like traditional breakfast fare, leftover pasta, pizza or other favorites are fine.

If your child eats lunch provided by the school, become familiar with the school lunch menu and review it with your child. If your child prefers a brown bag lunch, pack meals that are easy to prepare and fun to eat. Sandwiches, raw vegetables, crackers, string cheese, whole fruit and pudding are fun foods that supply nutrition.

Let children help plan and prepare their school lunches. When they're involved, chances are they will resist trading their carrots for cookies in the lunchroom or on the playground.



Our biggest art news in the elementary is the work by 5th graders on a mural in the building. Near the entrance by the 5th grade hallway, each student has designed a stylized sun. Using the 6X6" space that was assigned to them, each person decided on their theme or look. Some of the suns have sunglasses, hair, eyelashes or even a smile. These personalized works create a border for our school logo. The students were very excited to be allowed to paint on the wall.

4th graders have moved into "spring" with paintings in the style of American artist, Jim Dine. Their only requirement was to include a heart, a favorite subject of Dine. Each artist solved this problem in their own unique way using the elements of design. After looking through kaleidoscopes, these artists are repeating a pattern using a graphite transfer. Their colorful compositions are beautiful.

Origami flowers were the subject of a recent 3rd grade assignment. These large, colorful, 3-dimensional flowers will be on display at the art show.

2nd grade artists used line to create an action figure. They acted out an action and noticed how their arms and legs bent. After studying the human body, their next assignment involves illustrating a scene from a story. These works are watercolor landscapes.

Clay was used to make 3-dimensional bells for first graders. They formed a pinch pot, added a handle and made a clapper for sound. Using magnifying glasses, they inspected an entomology display that belongs to 5th grader, Tyler McAndrew. Students then drew their butterflies enlarged, as if they were looking through a magnifying glass.

Spring brought Easter egg designs to Kindergarten artists. They will also study the life cycle of a butterfly by reading "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle.

Projects for all grades will include flowers, spring trees and drawings of nature.

REMINDER: Each student will have 2 pieces of artwork on display in the annual Art Show. This year's show is Monday, April 20. The time is 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room at the elementary school. I hope to see you all there.

RE: VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The following changes have been made to immunization requirements by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for the **2009-2010** school year, in accordance with Kansas Immunization Law K.A.R. 28-1-20:

- Booster dose of **Tdap** required at age 11
- **Hepatitis B:** three doses required grades **K-9**.*
- **Varicella (chickenpox):** **two** doses required for Kindergarten; **one** dose required grades 1-9* unless history of varicella disease documented by a licensed physician.
- **Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV7):** four doses required for children less than 5 yrs of age in preschool operated by a school.
- **Hepatitis A:** two doses required for children less than 5 yrs of age in preschool operated by a school.

*All students will be required to have 3 doses of **Hepatitis B** and 2 doses of **varicella** for the 2010-2011 school year.

We're sending this information out early to ensure that you have plenty of time to complete these requirements for next school year. Also, please remember to get a copy of any immunization(s) received to the nurse's office to keep in the student's health folder as required by state law.

If you have any questions about these changes please feel free to contact us at 542-3137.

Thank you,

Jennifer Bartlett RN
Jessa Albers RN
Cheney USD 268 District Nurses

**Cheney USD 268
Patron Newsletter
April/May**

100 W. 6th St.
Cheney, KS 67025
316-542-3512

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Cheney, KS 67025

Cheney Public Schools
Educating Minds-Connecting Hearts-Touching Lives...
Welcome to Our Family

POSTAL PATRON



We're on the Web!
www.cheney268.com

Cheney USD 268 PreSchool

Cheney USD 268 is now accepting applications and early enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year.

As your children are growing, so is our program!

If you, or someone you know, have a 4 or 5 year old child that will not be enrolled in kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year, this is the program for you!

For more information, please call Christy Tackett at Cheney Elementary School at 316-542-3137, or Kelly Schartz at the Cheney District Office at 316-542-3512.

- Child must be at least four (4) years old on or before August 31 in the year they participate.
- Certain qualifications for some 4 year olds that meet Kansas State standards will result in no tuition fees to be paid for this pre-school. All other 4 & 5 year olds that don't meet those standards will be required to pay tuition.
- Your child's placement will be based on available openings.