
EAGLE PROFILE



Vaping and JUULing! A Health Risk for our Students!

What is it:

Electronic devices known as “ENDS” (electronic nicotine delivery systems), “e-cigs”, vaporizers, vapes, or hookah pens are generally battery-operated and use a heating element to convert a liquid called e-liquid or e-juice into a toxic, nicotine aerosol or vapor, which the user inhales.

Are they safe:

The e-juices and e-liquids contain many chemicals and toxins that are ingested by the user. Recent studies have shown that even e-juices labeled as Nicotine Free contain small amounts of nicotine. In fact, 99% of e-juices sold in the United States contain nicotine. Also,

"Teenagers are becoming regular users, and the proportion of regular users is increasing," says Gottlieb, a physician.

"We're going to have to take action. "No one can look at the data and say there's no problem," he says.

- JAYNE O'DONNELL

1/3 of all kids that use these devices use it with a chemical other than nicotine. The most common chemical used is marijuana oil. They also contain chemicals such as antifreeze, formaldehyde, diacetyl, and artificial flavoring known to cause cancer and lung irritation.

Health risks:

Nicotine is highly addictive and negatively impacts adolescent brain development. Recent studies have shown that many e-juice units or pods contain more nicotine than a pack of cigarettes. Additionally, the nicotine used in these devices differs from the nicotine in a cigarette. These e-juices contain a nicotine salt produced using benzoic acid that makes the nicotine less harsh and therefore easier to smoke and ingest. The easier it is to smoke the more the user ingests. Furthermore, diacetyl can cause irreversible lung disease, and of course, antifreeze and formaldehyde are not safe for ingestion.

Common misconceptions:

It is just water vapor!

No, in fact, it is an aerosol similar to what makes spray paint, hair spray, and deodorant. If it was just water, you would not get a vapor.

It is safer than cigarettes!

No, in fact, due to recent studies, the FDA has begun cracking down on manufacturers of these products due to misleading and out right deceitful advertising. The FDA is currently in the process of placing further restrictions on these devices and will more than likely label them similar to cigarettes.

It is legal!

Not for anyone under the age of 18. In fact, USD 303 administration will treat it just like it was a cigarette if found on any USD 303 property.

What can I do:

If you saw a teenager smoking a cigarette, you would say something. These devices are no different. Talk to your kids, they will listen. You are the number one reason children choose not to participate in activities such as these. Please talk to your kids, share the dangers of vaping and JUULing just like you share the dangers of smoking, and don't provide these dangerous chemicals to your child. And don't forget, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess or use these devices, and they will be treated no different than a cigarette on school property.

Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb on Wednesday declared youth vaping an "epidemic," and said the agency will halt sales of flavored electronic cigarettes if the major manufacturers can't prove they are doing enough to keep them out of the hands of children and teens.

- JAYNE O'DONNELL

Donors Choose: What is it and why do teachers use it?

Many people have probably either heard of Donors Choose or have seen links shared by teachers on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or some other form of social media. But what exactly is it? And why do we use it?

Donors Choose is a website designed for teachers and school personnel to request items for their classroom or school group. Educators can request things such as books, manipulatives, projects, electronics, experiences, etc. for their classrooms that would otherwise be purchased using their own personal funds or by the school. It then puts the power in the hands of the donors, who are able to choose the individual projects they would like to put their money towards. These materials, once fully funded by generous donors, are then purchased, shipped and belong to the school. Students write the donors thank you's and are then able to enjoy the items to the fullest. It's that simple!

Teachers use Donors Choose for different reasons but there are two reasons most common. We know budgets are limited and so are our own. We also all want what is best for our students and to give them every opportunity we can. With the limitations in our own budgets, we tend to find other ways to "make it happen." In the short year that I have been using Donors Choose personally, I have been able to get sets of books that the students are EXCITED to read (ask most any 6th grader about a series called *Amulet* and you'll get an ear full), an Osmo kit for my math students to practice money skills, math facts, and letters in a fun and engaging way, two circuit robots/rovers for our MakerSpace kids to enjoy, a large number rug to utilize in my classroom, upon a handful of other small items that can make a big difference.

If you give a teacher a resource, they will use it to its fullest potential. We have truly found a gem of a resource available to us and our students. Please, think about going to www.donorschoose.org and seeing how YOU can help the school too! Don't see a project for us? You can STILL donate to a teacher on the site and credit their account for the future!!!

Ness City Eagle Football

"It Is A Great Day To Be An Eagle" and that is exactly how I feel about this 2018 group of Ness City Eagle Football players. It has been an exciting year so far and I am extremely excited for this 2018 Eagle Squad. Our team is comprised of 29 members this year, all of which contribute to the Success of our program in one way or another. We are very fortunate to be led by 4 great senior members. We are currently 4-1 heading into this week's District matchup at Spearville which will be the third game of District play, so now the playoff push begins. I have been excited about the start of the season, and am extremely proud of the effort this team has shown and how they have competed in the wins over Macksville, St. John, South Gray and Kinsley the last four weeks. It is hard to believe that we only have 4 weeks left.

Our JV Eagles are playing hard as well and have a 1-2 record with 3 games left to play.

Like last year, all of our Varsity games are being carried on 104.7 KISS FM and also online at www.kiss1047.net and specifically <http://streamdb4web.securenetsystems.net/v5/KXNC> You can also follow us on Maxpreps by searching for our school and selecting Varsity Football. Follow us on Twitter as well at @nesscityFB

Again Thank you for your support of Ness City Eagle Football, it is greatly appreciated.

"Go Eagles!"

STUCO

The 2018-19 school year is off to a fast and furious start! The Student Council has been busy planning activities trying to unite our student body and "Spread the Positivity". The first Friday of the school year, they held a "Yard Games" activity for



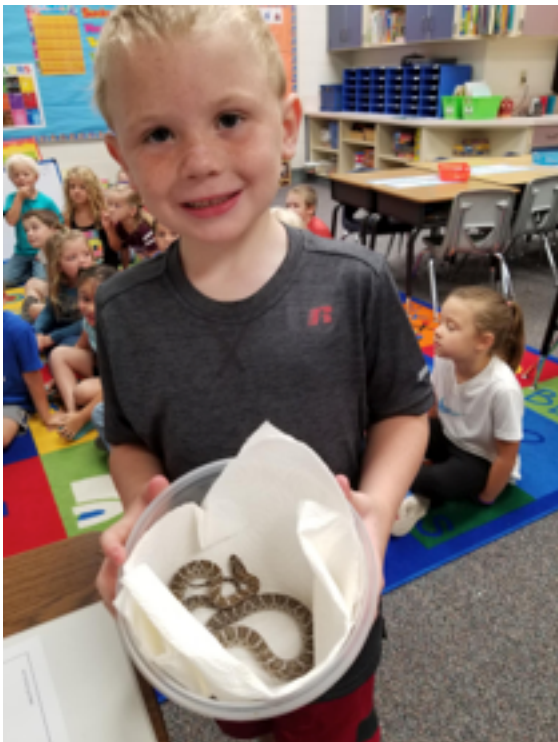
students to participate in during seminar. The whole student body gathered on the north side of the school to play games such as Lawn Jenga, Twister, Washers, and frisbee. While music played loudly, people were playing games and hanging out with friends, and the tone for the school year was set. On August 30th, Student Council hosted an “Activities Fair”, in which various activities available to students set up booths to give students a 3-minute spiel on their club and try to recruit people to join. On September 26, Stuco members attended the KSHSAA Regional Conference at Dodge City, and listened to Michael Cuestas, a motivational speaker who talked about overcoming hardships. Student Council has several activities planned for the school year, including two blood drives on October 16 and April 17, Winter Homecoming, and several student mixers. Members this year are, Dylan Bruntz,

Brendon Reed, President
Landon Reinhardt, Gavin Schreiber, Kass McGranahan, Jennifer Cardenas, Sierra Woods, Vice-President
Alysson Foos, Milton Guzman, Summer Pfannenstiel, Amy Foos, Kenzee Cupp, and Eladio Luna.



It’s always busy here in Kindergarten! Here are a few highlights:

Show and tell



Creating bubble wands



Grandparents day



Reading with high schoolers



Homecoming Spirit Week (America Day)



Cardboard Challenge



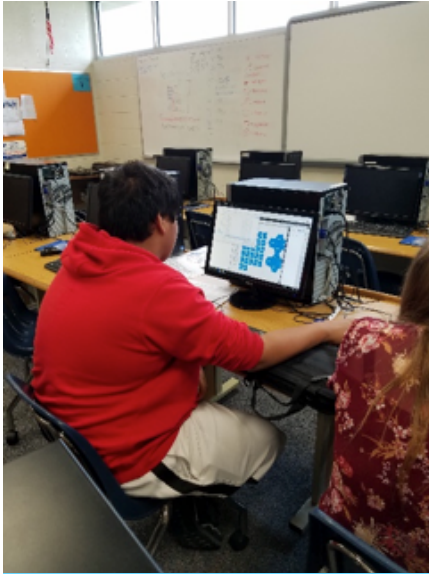
We look forward to our next adventure...a trip to the pumpkin patch!

JH Volleyball

We have had our ups and downs this season but the girls continue to improve every day. We started off the season with a win versus Leoti, and then had a losing streak until our win last week versus Otis-Bison. Early this season our varsity girls competed in a tournament that was held in Plainville. The girls showed a lot of improvement and worked very hard but fell short by just a couple of points in each game. I was very proud of their effort and hard work during these games. Our junior varsity team competed in their CPL tournament this weekend in Otis and took home the gold. We are very proud of this group as we have won the tournament for the past three years. This weekend our varsity team will be traveling to Lacrosse for their CPL tournament. I am hoping that after our win last week and a good week of practice that our girls will keep up the momentum and bring home the gold!

Wow, it is BUSY in the Business/Computer Department!!!

1st hour we have FOUR classes, all learning different business and computer concepts and skills. These four classes include Computer Applications, Graphic Design, Digital Media



Eladio Luna designing the layout of a yearbook page during Digital Media Design & Production.

Design & Production, and Teaching as a Career. Computer Applications is currently learning to use all the features of MS Word. They will then learn how to use MS Excel, MS Access and MS Powerpoint. Graphic Design is also using MS Word to design projects for print and digital based. Digital Media Design & Production is designing and creating the 2019 yearbook. Teaching as a Career is getting a taste of what it takes to become a teacher. They have studied the growth and development of children and are currently learning about the history of education. Every week they spend a day observing different classrooms. 3rd hour the 7th grade students are perfecting their skills on a keyboard in Keyboarding. They are currently learning the placement of all letters and characters. After this is accomplished, they will move on to learning how to format Personal Business Letters, Business Letters,

Simplified Memos and Standard Memos.

4th hour the 8th grade students are being introduced to the many opportunities available to them in the business world. In Business Essentials, students are learning about the different areas of business, what careers are available in each of these areas, characteristics and skills needed, along with developing job seeking skills. Areas covered include Professionalism, Customer Service, Management, Marketing, Business Law, International Business, Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Personal Finance Literacy, Economics and Job Seeking Skills.

5th hour is another time where there are four different classes being taught. These classes are Accounting I, Graphic Design, Digital Media Design & Production, and Teaching as a Career. The great part of having four classes being taught at the same time...all the students get to learn what is being taught in 3 other classes!



Gwendolyn Copeland working with an interactive video about Customer Service during Business Essentials.

Cross Country

This season we have 6 high school runners and 5 junior high runners: Senior Savannah Moore, Sophomores Cynthia Guzman and Andrea Morales, Freshmen Jadon Copeland, Erick Gomez and Corbin Ross, 7th graders Jaiden Braun, Danae Rodriguez, Diana Salazar, Tiana Smith and William Childers. Even though we are very young, I am extremely excited for the potential of this team. If the 1st half of the season is any indication, we could



have 11 very strong runners by the end of the season. This is a very fun group and one that is only going to grow closer and get stronger as they become more fit and more confident.

We have had 5 meets so far and Jaiden and Danae have placed in the top 5 at every meet! Tiana and Diana medaled for the first time September 25th at Lyons as well as Andrea. Savannah has done a great job pacing the team and has finished in the top 10 at every meet. Cynthia Guzman has developed very nicely and has medaled in 3 out of the 5 meets. The 3 high school boys are really starting to develop and getting stronger every week.

We just had our 11th Annual Ness City Invitational Sept 27th at the golf course. Every year since the 2010, the meet has grown. This year we had 20 schools and over 180 runners. This also marked the 6th Annual Future Runnin' Eagle race consisting of prek-6th grade students. This year we had over 50 runners compete in the race!

We host the CPL meet October 11th at the golf course. We hope to see a lot of you out there cheering on your Runnin' Eagles!

Things are looking very bright again for the program. It is great to have Taylor Dreiling back helping me. We look to add more 7th graders next year to the program. As always, thank you all for your continued support throughout the season.



FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is off to a strong start this school year. In August members attended the Take Aim conference in Manhattan where they learned more about the organization and how to be a leader in their chapter. In September, the members participated in the national FCCLA RUSH WEEK. Each day during the week of September 17-21 members planned activities to promote FCCLA and encourage fellow students to join. There were locker signs, prizes for daily trivia questions, a “red out” day where everyone was encouraged to wear red for FCCLA, and even a scavenger hunt. The week culminated in a breakfast Friday morning where the club began a service project to collect and recycle old markers to promote the state chosen theme of “going green.” Many new members were gained through this week.

JOIN
the Ness City



to help the planet by recycling old markers!

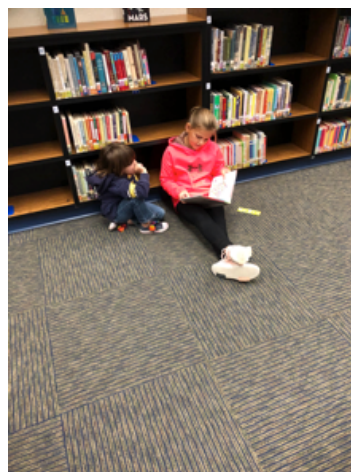
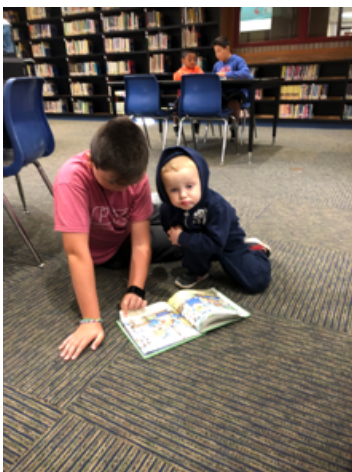
FCCLA also had the opportunity to host Jana's Campaign for all NCHS students. Jana's Campaign is a partner with the FCCLA organization and has done countless presentations in Kansas and the surrounding states. Their mission is to educate students to reduce gender and relationship violence. Old markers can be dropped off to either the high school or grade school to be recycled.

Mrs. Albers' 5th Grade

This year in fifth grade our theme/focus is on kindness. In order to promote kindness our fifth grade class discussed how to make this a priority in our classroom, school, community, and wherever we may go. We are reading the book "Wonder" to help keep us on track. As a class we decided to do something kind for Mrs. Horchem's preschool. We are taking it upon ourselves to make time every other week to sit and read with the children in her class. We partner up with the same student each time so they begin to feel comfortable and can also learn about each other. As we progress through the year we will be doing other activities with our reading buddies. The students are looking forward to decorating cookies for Halloween. So far this has been an amazing experience for the fifth graders. It has helped them to feel self-satisfied when doing something kind for others.



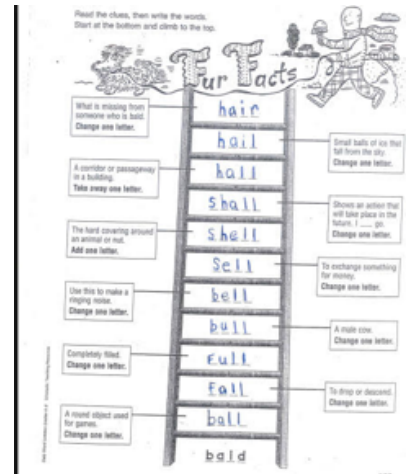
FCCLA members with Jana's Campaign presenter, Kaiti Dinges.



Teaching Skills Through Word Ladders

The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth graders that receive “extra intervention time” through Mrs. Foos have been using Word Ladders to help them build the decoding, phonics, spelling, and vocabulary skills that they may be missing. When students add or rearrange letters to make a new word from one they have already made, they must examine sound-symbol relationships closely. This is just the kind of analysis that all children need to be able to perform in order to learn to decode and spell accurately.

When the puzzle adds a bit of meaning in the form of a definition (for example, "To drop or descend" FALL) it helps to extend students' understanding of words and concepts. All of these skills are key to students' success in learning to read and write. So even though completing Word Ladders may seem like a fun game, the students are practicing essential literacy skills at the same time. These mini lessons take no longer than ten minutes to complete, but the students are gaining decoding, phonics, spelling and vocabulary skills that they have missed learning somewhere along the way in their previous elementary education learning experiences.



"Building Dreams"-KAY LEADERSHIP CAMP 2018

285 student leaders from across the state of Kansas gathered at Rock Springs 4-H Center, Junction City, July 23-27, for a "SUPERFANTASTIC" session of KAY (Kansas Association of Youth) Leadership Camp. The KAY program is a character-building, leadership-training, service organization directed by the Kansas State High School Activities Association and is designed for all students in grades 6-12.

KAY is a nationally acclaimed organization unique to Kansas which provides Kansas students an opportunity to assume their citizenship responsibilities and enrich their personalities through well-organized programs. These programs educate and inspire the members into carefully planned service projects which emphasize four areas: school, community, nation, and the world.

At KAY Leadership Camp (KLC), student leaders representing their KAY organizations, receive organizational and leadership training and learn about new and exciting service projects. They are given the opportunity to meet and share ideas with hundreds of KAY members from all over the state. Activities during the week include team and mascot meetings, leadership labs, special interest options, creative projects, housing service projects, and recreational activities. Each evening includes a special activity for campers and staff.

The camp theme this summer was "Building Dreams!" At KLC, campers were provided a memorable time as they discovered the potential they have to make a difference as well as the rewards in serving others. Student campers have the opportunity to develop lifetime leadership skills, lasting friendships across the state, a sense of responsibility and pride as they serve, and an attitude of doing for others because it's the right thing to do!

A great deal of spirit, motivation, and enthusiasm was generated from this time together. Campers return to their clubs with a better understanding of their individual potential and the KAY organization. They realize that as an active leader in their club, "YES I CAN" truly make a difference with their "I Get To" attitude.

KAY student leaders from Ness City High School attending KAY Leadership Camp this summer were co-presidents, Makenzie Flax and Ashley Foos.



“One Team. One Dream”

The Lady Eagle Volleyball Season is in full swing! From our first practice on August 13th our team motto has been “One Team. One Dream” and we continue to push for that day in and day out. We have an extremely talented and competitive group this year. We have twenty-five currently on our roster and these girls are not afraid of hard work! The freshmen girls are jammed packed with athletic ability and quite the fun and coachable group. Our C team, JV, and Varsity are now all starting to fall into their positions for the intense remainder of the season. Varsity returned six seniors this year: Jacklyn Briney, Iran Mesta, Virginia Schaben, Jenna Werth, Taylor Murray, and Tiana Epperson. These young ladies are the mold of our team. Hopefully they are learning more than just about the game. Winning is fantastic, but becoming a true leader and conducting ourselves in a manner our families, school, and City would be proud of has often become our real goal. Our juniors, sophomores, and freshmen are all on board and helping in anyway possible to keep improving our team culture and ultimately continuing our victorious path to Sub-State! I have to give a huge thank you to numerous underclassmen that have kept the “hype” throughout the season! I mean, have you guys ever watched Makenzie Flax’s reaction to a kill? Ask Iran; she’s been a key “eye” witness in those moments. Or have you ever watched Amy Foos jump up high off the bench and nearly on the court as she celebrates an ace Taylor Starr just delivered on the court? These gals are only two of the many that make it so fun to Coach and watch. If you haven’t seen them, mark your calendars and join us in Plainville on October 20th! We will have an extremely competitive Sub-State and we need all of you to join us on our quest to bring back another trophy (hopefully a Championship one this time).

It is such an honor to work with this group and it’s quite exciting to see the talent within our 2A school. Also a huge thank you to my Assistant Coach Lyn Bernbeck for all her hard work and effort. I know you are a busy mom, aunt, sister, and daughter but are taking time out of your life for these girls and we all appreciate you more than you know!

We really are “One Team with One Dream”, and with you, our Adoptive parents, families, and all of the community behind us we will do big things the remainder of the season! Thank you all for your continued support and GO EAGLES!

Eli the Eagle Kicks Off LiNK Grant Activities During Halftime of Homecoming

On September 14th, the Ness City High School FCS class hosted a “Read with Eli.” Reading with Eli was a chance for all children to listen to Eli the Eagle read during halftime of the homecoming game. Reading aloud is one of the most important things we can do for our little eagles. It builds foundational skills, lays the groundwork for loving books, and



introduces vocabulary and new ideas.

As the little eagles were leaving the field, they also received a free book to take home.

This program was made possible through a Literacy Network of Kansas (LiNK) project grant that USD 303 was awarded during the June 12th, State Board of Education Meeting in Topeka. USD 303 worked with nine other area School Districts to secure a 3 year \$3.2 million grant designed to improve literacy in children Birth through 12th grade helping them become successful readers and writers.

During the 3 year grant cycle, USD 303 will receive \$79,881 a year for a total of \$239,043. These funds will be used to provide training and support for all USD 303 teachers, purchase materials and aides designed to improve reading, oral, and written literacy, and develop community engagement centered around literacy. The District will be working with local daycare providers, pre-schools, health department, extension service, library, Rotary, and other community organizations to strengthen the literacy skills of our entire community.

“This is an exciting opportunity that several staff members worked hard to obtain. This grant will help not only our school, but our entire community grow and improve. We are excited to work with several community partners to provide the best literacy based education possible.” Derek Reinhardt, Superintendent USD 303

A big thank you goes out to the Ness City Rotary Club for helping with the activity and supporting literacy. We look forward to working with all students, staff, and community members to improve the literacy skills of all children in Ness City. If you are interested in participating in this process, please contact Mr. Reinhardt at the school.

Small But Mighty 3rd Grade

Third grade is a small, but mighty class this year. Since beginning the school year, we have focused primarily on building our independent reading stamina. The student’s favorite way to read is by flashlight on Friday afternoons. Most Fridays we participate in Flashlight Friday where we turn off the overhead lights, shut the blinds, and cozy up in our favorite part of the room with a good book and a flashlight. This is often the only time a pin drop could be heard in our classroom.

Last week, third and fourth grades finished a collaborative 3-D printing project. Students learned the Engineering and Design Process for creating tennis shoes. After choosing the materials, testing their prototypes and redesigning if need be, together the two classes printed a tennis shoe using our 3-D printer courtesy of the GE Additive Education Program!



We have lots of upcoming plans this month. Just this week we began reading, *A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold as part of Global Read Aloud 2018. Throughout the next six weeks we will connect with classes all over the world to discuss our take on this wildly popular novel. In October we will also be taking the great multiplication plunge in math. Students are very excited to learn the concept of multiplication. Finally, first, third and sixth grades will be participating in a virtual hog farm field trip at the end of the month.

Tiny House Project Helps Grow Programs Across the Country

Without risk, there is rarely reward! Trying new things and sticking your foot out of the proverbial comfort zone can be risky. Often times, it can result in physical, emotional, and financial pain. But, at the same time, if we never tried new things or stepped out of our comfort zone nothing would ever change, improvements would never occur, and we would never reap the rewards we have the potential to reap. For the last four years, students and staff have been encouraged to step out of their comfort zone, and try new things. While we have encountered failure at times, we have learned from those failures, and used those opportunities to reassess, and develop a better plan of attack to achieve our goals. As we move ourselves to a growth mindset, we have been able to achieve many great things as individuals, classrooms, clubs, schools, and ultimately a community.

This mindset is very apparent in the Tiny House Project Brent Kerr's construction classes have been working on the last two years. What started as a "you want to do what" idea, has turned into a program that has been recognized across the State and even Nationally as an outstanding learning opportunity for students.

On August 21 and 22, a group of 10 students, accompanied by Mr. Kerr and helped by Keith Burdett, Jr., traveled to Leadville, Colorado to finalize the closing of last year's Tiny House. Mr. Jeremy Ricci made an offer on the home along with a request for the construction of another house, and the class jumped on the opportunity. It is important to understand how all of this came to be, because without a little risk and outside the box thinking, this sale would have never happened.

Throughout this process, social media, news media, and well connect friends of USD 303 have made this process very public. As news of what our students where doing spread, more and more



Mr. Ricci pictured with Mr. Kerr and his construction class with the Tiny House outside Woodland Park, CO before being delivered to Leadville, CO

individuals and groups reached out to get more information. These questions lead to speaking engagements for the students and Mr. Kerr.

It was at one of these speaking engagements in early August where Mr. Kerr met Mr. Ricci. This chance encounter led to the purchase of the Tiny House built last year, and the plans for this year's home.

Mr. Ricci is a developer that has properties across the United States. He recently purchased a RV park in Leadville, CO, and is putting Tiny Homes in that can be rented similar to AirBNB or a motel room. This concept is what prompted him to ask for our construction class to build a Tiny Home in a similar style to the colorful, decorative homes of Leadville. The trip to Leadville allowed the students the opportunity to learn about the unique architecture and history of the community, and they came back with many ideas that they will use to design and ultimate construct this year's Tiny House.

Additionally, the program has been able to use the profits from the sale of the Tiny Houses to further develop opportunities for all students. This last year, the school started a SkillsUSA chapter. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. We provide educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms. Our SkillsUSA chapter will also be able to provide scholarships to students exploring post secondary certifications.



Mr. Ricci spoke to our students about his business, the things he has encountered in construction and property management, the importance of running an ethical business, and his plans for the Leadville RV Park.



Students in Mr. Kerr's construction class had the opportunity to explore the uniquely colorful and decorative architectural style of Leadville, CO.

The profits are also allowing us to improve the tools and machines our students have available to them. These improvements will allow our students the opportunity to expand what they are able to do, ultimately resulting in a student better prepared for the workforce. The most exciting purchase made with these profits is a CNC Router. This router will allow students to design any item they need for their projects on a computer, and then the router will cut the design out of plywood, wood, and plastics, and will allow for items to be engraved. This will greatly open the realm of possibilities for our students, school, and community. Many items that we would have to rely on entities outside of our community could now be designed and manufactured here.

The story doesn't stop there! As more and more schools witness the impact of this program on our students, their desire to step out of their own comfort zone and try something a little risky grows. More and more schools across the State and Nation are reaching out to Mr. Kerr and asking for advice as they venture into the construction of their own Tiny Houses. We wish Sterling High School, KS, Fredonia High School, KS, and Bertha Hewitt School District, Minnesota good luck as they travel down this road! We also wish good luck to all the schools that have began the conversations to start programs similar to ours.

JH Football

This year in junior high football, we have seen a major improvement since the first day of practice. It is exciting for Mr. Schulte and I to see the football team improve everyday as they work hard. We've learned about more than just football, the team has been discussing how to act during school and how to be more respectful towards others. So far, the team is 3-1 on the season. Although there has been some injuries, players on the team have been put in places they did not expect. They have done well on unexpected changes due to these

reasons. The Ness City Junior High Football team has three games left with St. John on October 4th at home, October 11th at Macksville, and October 18th at Kinsley. We ask for you to please come out and support our team. All of our games are at 6:30. I would like to thank all of the parents for all of the support and time they give to make this a successful team.



News and notes from the desk of Tom Flax:

Fall is here as the calendar rolled over to the month of October! It's been a very busy, productive start to the 18-19 school year. Our annual "count day" was September 20th meaning, we have 147 students enrolled this year in the Jr/Sr High School with some very unique trends. We have 117 high school students meaning this is largest number that I have

ever reported to the state in my 12 years of being in Ness. On the contrast to that, we only have 30 students total enrolled in the junior high being the smallest that I have reported to the state in my tenure here. These significant disparity of sizes of classes has helped contribute to some different teaching assignments for this school year.

We do have a couple of new teachers to our building this year. Mr. Mark Hager has moved back to Ness City to take over our VoAg program. Mark has taught for several years in both Oklahoma and Kansas. Brandt Rogers is not new to USD 303 but has been transferred over to the Jr/Sr High to cover several junior high level classes for a majority of his day. Brandt is currently in his 2nd year at USD 303. Please check your PowerSchool account to see your child's teachers if you have not done so yet. Also, mark your calendar for October 29th, as that is our next parent-teacher conference day!

Using our current high school enrollment number, the KSHSAA has calculated their yearly classifications for this year's sports and activities (not football). NCHS is classified in the 2A class. This is not new to us as we have been in this class for several consecutive years. This is the first year of the new KSHSAA classification system. Even though this new system showed no impact for NCHS, there were many schools statewide who did change classifications from the previous year. We very well may see some schools in the postseasons that we have not faced before.

Over the past few years, you may have heard your child's teachers and myself put more emphasis on getting students college and career ready. One component of this is trying to help our students better prepare for and take the ACT® test. The ACT® test is the nation's most popular college entrance exam accepted and valued by all universities and colleges in the United States. The ACT® can also be very beneficial to those students looking towards vocational careers after high school also as many Tech schools use the scores to determine placement in their different programs. New this year for Kansas high schools will be the administration of the ACT® to all juniors and seniors who have not taken it yet free of charge! This will be in February during the school day, so please be looking for this information later as we get closer to that time of the year.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me for any questions you may have concerning your student(s) here at school.

Booster Club! What's That?

Booster Club has decided to try and let everyone know what we have going on, to better let everyone know and to help everyone understand the question "what does Booster Club do exactly?"

We are a parent organization that works to raise funds, for things that the school would not otherwise be able to pay for. Some of the past Booster Club projects have been the electronic

sign by the football field, suppling all of the bottled water for the concession stand, and decorating the student lockers (and teacher doors) as a “Welcome back to school” treat. We are currently working on a couple of bigger projects. Our first big project is to replace the scoreboards in the HS gymnasium and on the Football Field. Both of these scoreboards are over 20 years old, and it is getting difficult to find replacement bulbs and repairs are also difficult. We would also like to start a new tradition by decorating the gymnasium with Spirit posters similar to the ones we see in many of the gymnasiums that we visit around the league. Finally, replacing and upgrading the Eagle Mascot costume is a top priority for Booster Club. These projects all take money, and with limited members, we are finding ourselves running in more directions than one!

We do have some sports suppers that we are doing, and have recently sold stadium seats to many people, to help raise money!

As basketball nears, consider stopping by the Booster Club table to see how you can help! For more information about Booster Club contact Carolyn Gabel & Rhonda Snodgrass, Co-Chairs.

You can't fix peer pressure.

But you can *give your kids the tools* to say no to alcohol.

Let them know they can talk to you about the pressure to drink. And teach them what to say when they face it.

Talk. *It Matters*. Advice at Itmattersks.com.

