

EAGLE PROFILE

Official Newsletter of USD 303

Commissioner's Award

Every district serves a slightly different population. Outside influences, such as the extent to which chronic absenteeism, poverty, and student mobility are present in student populations, impact student achievement. Student populations in which these risk factors are more prevalent require districts to implement different student strategies than those where these factors are less prevalent. A district's predicted postsecondary effectiveness rate factors in the degree to which identified risk factors known to depress effective rates are present in a district's student population. Districts that outperform their predictive rate by 1-1.99 standard deviations will be recognized with honors and those outperforming by 2 or more standard deviations will be recognized with highest distinction.

Graduation Rate

Based on the 4-year graduation color, this category recognizes a district's annual high school graduation rate. To be eligible, a district must perform at or above its predicted postsecondary effective rate.

Postsecondary Effectiveness

This rate is the percent of ninth graders that graduate in four years and meet one of the four following outcomes:

1. Earned an Industry Recognized Certification in High School
2. Earned a Postsecondary Certification
3. Earned a Postsecondary Degree
4. Enrolled in Postsecondary in both 1st and 2nd year following High School



KSDE Recognizes USD 303 for Achievements

Four years ago, the Kansas State Board of Education launched its new vision for education - Kansas Leads the World in the Success of Each Student - and identified key outcomes Kansans said they valued. These outcomes include social-emotional growth, kindergarten readiness, individual plans of study, civic engagement, high school graduation and postsecondary success. For Kansas to reach this vision and meet these outcomes, systemic change is necessary. We have to rethink the way we approach education in Kansas. To recognize School Districts for the work they have accomplished to meet the State Board Outcomes, the Kansas Can Star Recognition Program was created. For this inaugural year of the program, the State Board is recognizing districts in these areas:

- Commissioner's Award: Exceeding predicted postsecondary effectiveness rate
- Kansans Can Star Recognition (Levels: Gold, Silver, Bronze, Copper)
 - Academically Prepared for Postsecondary Success
 - High School Graduation
 - Postsecondary Effectiveness

The Kansas State Board of Education is pleased to award USD 303 with the following recognitions:

- Commissioner's Award**
- Graduation Rate - Gold Level**
- Post Secondary Effectiveness - Silver Level**



Curriculum Alignment and Development

Curriculum is often associated with the text books that are used in the classroom for the different subjects. In reality, the text books, workbooks, technology programs, and other materials are simply resources used to teach curriculum. The alignment and development of curriculum is not an easy task. It takes days of work to gain a strong understanding of the State Standards, followed by days of transferring that information into a language staff, students, and parents can understand, and finally, several more days of creating a document that outlines what is taught at each grade level and how that information is conferred to the next grade level. Developing a complete, correct, and usable curriculum is laborious, time consuming, and frankly, not fun.

We are extremely proud of the work the English Language Arts (ELA) teachers have done to align the K-12 ELA curriculum this year. This process has helped us better understand what we are currently teaching, and what we are not teaching, but should be. One of the biggest areas we have discovered at this point is academic vocabulary.

We often assume that our students pick up academic vocabulary through the lessons we teach. What we have found is that vocabulary has to be explicitly taught for students to retain and be able to utilize that vocabulary. This has been a big emphasis this year with all teachers. We have spent professional development time creating stronger vocabulary instructional techniques, and building academic vocabulary lists for all content areas.

As we finish this process with our ELA curriculum, we will have a better understanding of the impact our current resources have, and what additional resources we need. Once we have completed our ELA curriculum, we will move on to other content areas, ultimately creating a fully developed and aligned K-12 curriculum in all content areas.



State Champion Basketball Team Recognized at Banner Raising Ceremony During Final Home Game before Break

Between the girls and boys games versus Kinsley, the community took time to recognize the 2019 State Champion Boys Basketball team during a banner raising ceremony. Winning a State Championship is no easy task. When it happens, we memorialize the accomplishment with a banner in the gym.



“THE CRIMSON HOUSE MURDER” ALL SCHOOL-PLAY

It was NO mystery when all found “The Crimson House Murder” All-School Play to be very entertaining. After many hours of blocking the scenes, practicing their lines, and perfecting their characters, the Ness City students made this play a hit.

This murder mystery farce spoofed the private eye shows of the past. It was the story of Crimson House, a seedy hotel where the guests paid outrageous rent for shoddy service. Arriving on the scene was the famous, inept, yet very funny Hoboken detective, Hercules Porridge, who goes by Junior, played by J.D. Moore.

A corpse had been discovered in the sitting room, and a beautiful secretary was done in by deadly orchid juice. Who could have done such dastardly deeds? The guest list included a mystery writer, Anguish Crispie, (Taylor Starr) an eccentric young man who dresses like a jungle explorer, (Edwin Rodriguez) and a strange actress who

always dresses in black. (Caidyn Horton) Or maybe it was Colonel Chutney, (Tristan Schwien) a crazy neighbor, who thought he was in England in 1880. There was also Jeeves, the butler, (Dallin Walter) who had a wandering mind. Other important cast members were A.J. Garcia, Makenzie Flax, Samantha Kleweno, Alexa Reinhardt, Jadon Copeland, J.D. Moore, Janate' Kerr, Austin Snodgrass, Amy Foos, Ava Reis, Jena Ratliffe, Summer Woods, and Kenzee Cupp.

Stage management, lights and curtains were handled by Jay Cupp, J.C. Payne, Brendon Reed, and Rylee Starr. Elaine Wierman directed this hilarious play and Carrie Beutler assisted.



JH Girls Basketball

In my third season as head coach for the Jr. High girls basketball team I am fortunate to not only have a supportive assistant coach, Patrick Younger, but to have an awesome group of ladies to work with as well. At the beginning of this year we were only going to have a small group of players from the 8th and 7th grades. With such a small number of girls we asked the 6th graders to join us. Both Younger and myself were excited for this move. We believe that the sooner that we could work with the younger kids, the better our program would be in the future. The 8th grade girls, Diana, Danae, Alexis, Tiana, and Angela have been with Younger and I from the beginning. Each day we challenge everyone to come in ready to work hard. With this group of girls our game plan is to be aggressive on defense as well as be a fast transitioning team on offense. As a coach I am pleased to say that the girls have stepped up and worked hard before heading into Christmas break. With only a month left for the season I can confidently say that the girls will keep pushing forward to continue to be the best that we can be as a team. Can't wait to see how the season unfolds.

KAYS

For the 2019-20 school year the Ness City High School Kansas Association for Youth (KAYS) club has 20 members. KAYS is a service organization sponsored by KSHSAA. Participation in KAYS is open to all students in ninth through twelfth grade. Again this school year KAYS is running the NCHS paper recycling program. They also sponsored the 2019 Football Homecoming Dance for NCHS students. If you are aware of opportunities for KAYS to serve in the community, please contact sponsor Matt Clay at matt.clay@usd303.org or call the school.

6th Grade Halloween Candy-grams

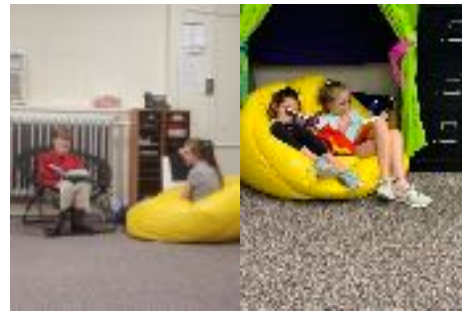
Mr. Schulte's 6th grade math classes finalized their Candy-Gram project during the afternoon hours on October 31st during Halloween classroom parties. His students were both excited and surprised with how their project turned out. Their project started in early October. After learning about variables, patterns, and equations, Mr. Schulte wanted his students to have a real-world experience with these newly taught concepts. After thinking about some different ideas, students decided they wanted to sell "Candy-Grams" in order to try to make a profit. They sold Halloween treat bags and Reese's Candy Pumpkins.

This project provided students the opportunity to explore other interests and ideas. Some of the other lessons taught were photography, unit cost, customer service, how to create a business display, and much more. Once students realized they were going to have a profit, they began deciding on how they should spend the money they earned. They have discussed having a 6th grade bbq cookout, donating books to the elementary library, having an all-school snack, updating playground equipment, and much more.

Individual Student Needs Met at NCES

On December 19th, Ness City Elementary students spent most of the day in the gym enjoying a basketball tournament to celebrate their hard work raising money for Hoops for Heart. It was a fun day for many of the students that were participating in basketball or cheering on their friends while they play. Although the day was well structured and fun for so many, there was a group of kids that did not like being in the loud gym watching game after game of basketball. Those students were given the opportunity to relax in a classroom across from the gym where they were able to read books, play games, and just take a break from the noise and chaos of the gym.

It is important to recognize the needs of our kids during activities that could be causing them added stress. Take time to listen to what they are telling you and allow for a break from busy activities when needed. Allow them to read a book, offer to play a board game with them, or just let them sit and unwind.



Mrs. Alber's 5th Grade Participate in Global Read Aloud

During the month of October, Mrs. Alber's 5th grade students participated in the Global Read Aloud. Global Read Aloud is an opportunity for students from all over the world to connect with each other over a great book. As a class we read aloud a predetermined number of pages each week. Every Friday we connect with other classes via Skype, video blogging, or blogging. The students then ask each other questions about the book and make predictions. They also were able to learn about different states, countries, schools, and cultures. The students loved hearing how big some of the other schools were. By the end of the Global Read Aloud, our Ness City 5th graders were able to connect with four different schools from the United States and two from Canada. It was an amazing opportunity for students to learn about different regions while remaining in Ness City.

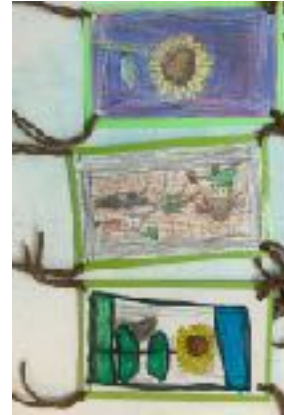


Mrs. Tillitson's 3rd Grade

It has been a long standing tradition that the Ness City Elementary School library displays a Christmas tree where each class creates ornaments to go along with the library's "theme" for the year. This year, the library's theme is Aladdin.

Third grade used this opportunity to connect with fellow American students who have primarily lived in the Middle East. We FaceTimed with now friends who have lived in Abu Dhabi, UAE and Cairo, Egypt. These same friends have traveled through much of the Middle East. Specifically they taught us about the Moroccan culture and “magic carpets.” In addition, we learned the purpose of rugs in the Middle Eastern culture.

We learned that the reason these carpets are called magic carpets is due to them being made from silk and when looked upon from various angles the colors change greatly. Additionally, we found out that these handmade rugs always have a story to tell. Therefore, when making our NCES library Christmas tree ornaments of magic carpets, we were sure to include a story in ours. We had everything from abstract art to Kansas wheat fields and sunflowers depicted. These ornaments are sure to be a memorable experience for years to come!



Eagle Boys Kick Off Basketball Season By Winning the Purple and Gold Tournament

The varsity team is 5 and 1 coming out of Christmas break. We won the Trego Tournament by beating Victoria, LaCrosse, and Hodgeman County. In the regular season we beat Macksville and Kinsley. Coming out of Christmas break, we have three straight home contests against Ellinwood, Dighton, and St. John (Homecoming). One thing we have focused on this season is coming together as a new unit. We lost very important roles last year and we are adapting as best we can. Player groupings are different than they have been, so getting used to new players is our first task at hand. We have shown the ability to play great defense so far in the season, which is always a key goal in Eagle Basketball.

The Junior Varsity is 3-0 with wins over Macksville, Hodgeman County, and Kinsley. During Christmas break, we traveled to Hill City for their annual JV/C Team tournament. Our C team boys fell short in all three games at the tournament, but the boys progressed nicely in each game and we found areas of improvement in all players.

During the intermission of the Kinsley games, we got to do something very special. The 2019 KSHSAA 2A State Champions unveiled the banner in the gym. A special thank you to all who attended and for the continuous support of Eagle Athletics!

NCES Students Participate in Hoops for Heart

This year was the first time the Ness City Grade School participated in Hoops for Heart and it turned out to be a big success! In preparation for the event all K-6 students shook off the rust and improved their basketball skills for most of November and December in PE. During this time the students were also hard at work raising money for the American Heart Association and learning about heart disease and prevention.

Last year the students raised just under \$2,000 during our Jump Rope for Heart event. Our goal this year is over \$2,000. As always any student that raises at least \$50 gets to throw a pie my (Mr. Younger) face! Once all of the money has been turned in, it will get sent to the American Heart Association and we will find out if we reached our goal then prizes will be handed out for the kids' effort.

The final day before Christmas was when we held our Hoops for Heart basketball tournament. There were 4 divisions: Kdg., 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th. Before lunch all of the divisions played out their bracket up until their championship game. After lunch all of the championship games were played while all of the other divisions watched which made it very exciting for the kids. After the conclusion of the championship games the 6th grade students played 4 quarters against the faculty. It was a very fun filled day of basketball as everyone played extremely hard while cheering loud and proud during the other divisions. I don't know

which was more impressive though; the students' basketball skills or Mr. Reinhardt's socks during the faculty game?!?!?!?

Thank you to all the teachers and staff for allowing me the opportunity to host this event. I'm already looking forward to next year's event as we plan to make this an annual event before Christmas break! In March we will be conducting our annual Cup Stacking tournament before we head off to Spring Break!

Dual Credit Courses

The students at Ness City High School have a great opportunity. They can take numerous general education college classes while in high school. Four of those classes are taken in my classroom. This fall, several of the seniors enrolled in Composition I and Public Speaking. These courses are online through Dodge City Community College. Public Speaking is taught concurrently with my Oral Communications high school course. This spring many of the seniors are enrolled in General Psychology, Composition II, and College Algebra. Psychology is a class that I teach both as a high school and a college course. I get asked quite often about what classes to take or how many to take while in high school. Each situation is unique, but here is a list of things to consider about taking post-secondary classes in high school.

Things to consider:

- A student can get general requirements completed and spend less time (and money) for post-secondary courses.
- Classes in high school are cheaper than in college, but if a student is Pell-eligible, it may not be cost effective. Students can not receive federal financial aid in high school.
- A student can complete high school and college requirements at the same time.
- When a student take college classes in high school, he/she begins building his/her post-secondary transcript and GPA. This could be detrimental if a student does not get a C or higher because it will not transfer.
- If a student's post-secondary GPA is also too low, it can affect the student's federal financial aid eligibility (FAFSA).
- If a student takes too many college level classes, it will affect their eligibility for freshman-level scholarships.
- FINALLY, check the list of class requirements for each post-secondary major before enrolling in a class.

Lady Eagle Basketball

The 2019 - 2020 Lady Eagle basketball year has been an exciting one as the Lady Eagles started off the season 2-4. We say exciting because all losses have been under eight points, with one loss even coming in overtime. The Lady Eagles are competing, getting better everyday and giving themselves a new reputation but they aren't satisfied or finished yet! As coaches, we're super thankful for the hardwork and dedication these ladies have put in each summer and each year. They keep getting better and our goals keep getting higher for them. We're excited to see where the rest of the season takes us! We have three seniors this year which are Makenzie Flax, Summer Pfannenstiel and Rylee Starr. These seniors have been asked a lot over the last three years and they've responded positively each time. They've taken on different positions, different roles on and off the court, and have been a voice to help and lead the rest of the team. It isn't always easy to do what's asked of you especially when it comes to roles, but they have their team's goals in mind and will do whatever it takes.

Our small but mighty group of juniors are Cynthia Guzman and Andrea Morales. Don't let this small group fool you, Cynthia and Andrea know exactly how to hold their own in the post. As two of our smaller posts, they go up against competitors who are taller than they are but they've worked hard to perfect their post moves as well as their outside shots. The sophomores this year are Alexa Reinhardt, Taylor Starr, Caidyn Horton, Amy Foos, Zoe Seib and Kennedy Liggett. These sophomores have been put into roles that they weren't comfortable with at first, but now with a year of experience under their belts they're doing exactly what they're asked to do and even going above and beyond. Their ability to lead and compliment the rest of the team is really fun to watch on the court.

Our new freshmen are Hannah Delaney, Vanessa Guzman, Betsabe Guzman, Avril Garcia, Aneth Reyes-Rodriguez, Mackenzy Tillitson and Andrea Lopez. We're excited about this group of new freshmen. They round us out as a complete team and challenge our team every single day. Practice is so competitive with this group and they make us as a team better. As always, we couldn't do what we do without our managers Kaleigh Backstrom and Monica Lopez. They do whatever is needed for us to succeed and we're super thankful to have them in our corner!

JH Boys Basketball

Ness City Junior High basketball team is working diligently this season. Our Junior High Eagles basketball team has eighteen players, who we have seen improve every week in all aspect of the game. Our team has made progress throughout the year revamping our skills of working together as a team.

Going into Christmas break, the varsity team is 1-5 on the season so far. The junior varsity is 1-5 at their level. For a second year, we have the sixth grade joining our junior high basketball team. This has given us an opportunity to set up scrimaging during practice and more subs throughout our games. We believe these students will be advanced when they are in 8th grade due to the experience they will have. It has been a great experience to see these 6th graders growth on the

court. Our eighth graders have shown tremendous leadership skills in taking the sixth grade and helping them succeed in practice.

Mark Hager and I have enjoyed coaching the players this year because of their dedication to working hard. Having the opportunity to work with these students everyday is always enjoyable because of the relationships and bonds you are able to create with them. I would like to thank the families, friends, and teachers, for all of the support this season.

PUBLIC NOTICE

USD 303 will continue to monitor and regulate the utilization of the district's computer network to assure patrons of USD 303's compliance with the federal regulation of the Children's Internet Protection Act. The USD 303 Board of Education reviews our local policy annually.

PRIVACY NOTICE

The superintendent, the board and staff shall protect the right of privacy of students and their families in connection with any surveys or physical examinations conducted, assisted, or authorized by the board or administration. The district shall provide parents notice of their rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment annually, at the beginning of each school year, and at any other time the school district policies in this area are substantially changed.

BUILDING REPORT CARD

Information on counties, districts, and schools in the State of Kansas can be found online. Information includes data on: building/districts, staff and salary information, attendance, schedules, enrollment, dropout/graduation, vocational education, discipline, advanced courses, student improvement plans, and student satisfaction. Data relating to Ness City Schools (and all other schools in the state of Kansas) can be found at <http://ksreportcard.ksde.org>

New Eagle Bus Finally Ready for the Road

It took a year after the wreck, but the new Eagle Bus is finally fully ready to transport our students. The bus has seat belts on every seat to better protect our students, and more space than the old bus to get all our gear and supplies to our events. A big thank you to Travis Snyder and his crew for the graphic work on the bus.

America's Farmers Grow Rural Education STEM Grant

Jobs in STEM are only becoming more valued, and that gives educators a clear game plan: Get kids excited about science, technology, engineering and math. These skills can lead to a successful career in agriculture and other industries. The Grow Rural Education program allows eligible farmers to nominate their local public school district for grants to help enhance STEM education. Once nominated, school districts submit applications to compete for \$15,000 grant to help fund projects that enhance their STEM curriculum. While these grants are helping to improve test scores today, better yet, they're getting kids to think bigger about their tomorrows. Calling all farmers. The chance to leave your mark on a



school district in your community is at your fingertips. Simply fill out this form to nominate the school you support. Then, we will contact the school district and provide them with instructions on how to access and fill out an application. To nominate Ness City Schools, go to: www.americasfarmers.com.

NCHS Looking for Advertisement Sponsorships to Replace Score Boards

NCHS is working on replacing the existing score board on the football field and in the high school gym. Due to the age and use of the score boards, it is becoming harder and harder to repair issues with the boards, and replace light bulbs. Our goal is to fully fund the cost of these boards by providing advertising opportunities for local businesses and families. Ultimately, we would like to secure funding for the project so the boards can be replaced over this next summer. Pictured to the right are examples of the proposed new boards. The cost to replace and install the basketball score boards are \$19,415, and the cost to replace and install the football score board is \$28,055. There are two ways to advertise or sponsor this project. A \$1000 sponsorship/advertisement will get the name of the business/family on banner that hangs in the gym or out at the football grandstands. This will provide the sponsor with a 6” x 36” space to list their name. The other way to sponsor is to purchase an advertising panel that will be attached to the scoreboard of the sponsors choice. The advertisement panels on the basketball score boards measure 2’ x 5’ and there will be 8 spots available for advertisement. The advertisement panels on the football score board measure 2’ x 6’, and there will be 6 spots available for advertisement. The sponsor will be able to fill that panel with any advertisement they wish for their business or family. Each panel will cost the sponsor \$3000. The panels and banners will be displayed for the life of the score board, in general this is 15-20 years. If you are interested in either sponsorship/advertisement, or would like more information please contact Derek Reinhardt or Tom Flax.



Pictured Above - Proposed Basketball Score Boards

Pictured Below - Proposed Football Score Boards



Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA)

After several years of developing a new model, Kansas implemented a systems approach to accreditation beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. This Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) and the Kansans Can Vision give school systems the leverage to implement systemic improvement by identifying the underlying causes of academic and nonacademic challenges. Purposeful redesign will create a sustainable culture of improvement evidenced by process and results. An atmosphere of accountability within schools and among schools across the system will ensure that “Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.” The KESA process is a five year process that school systems work through to identify areas of concerns, develop a plan to improve those areas, and implement that plan. Throughout the five year process an Outside Visitation Team (OVT) works with the system to ensure fidelity of the process.

Due to work USD 303 had done previous to the 2017-2018 school year, we started the new KESA process in year three. Because we started in year three, our five year process and accreditation review will be at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. One area the OVT and the Accreditation Review Council (ARC) will be focused on is the process we have made in the five State Board Outcomes. Those outcomes are:

1. Social Emotional Factors Measure Locally
2. Kindergarten Readiness
3. Individual Plans of Study
4. High School Graduation
5. Post-Secondary Success

What follows is some of the work that USD 303 has done over the last several years to meet these goals. We encourage all parents and community members to review this information, and then join us on **Feb 20, at 7:00 pm in the NCHS Library for a Site Council Meeting** to further discuss and begin a goal setting process for the District.

Social Emotional Growth Measured Locally

USD 303 has adopted and implemented the Kansas Social, Emotional, and Character Development Standards to help students develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success. To accomplish this:

- Teachers and Staff were provided training in KSECD Standards on multiple occasions
- Students are introduced to skills through weekly lessons and goal setting
 - Ness City Elementary School
 - Character Development lessons are provided weekly by the MTSS Behavior teacher and reinforced by the classroom teacher
 - A family structure has been developed and implemented allowing students to develop relationships with a multitude of different aged students. This also occurs weekly.
 - Ness City Junior/Senior High School
 - Character Development lessons are provided through weekly lessons through “The Harbor” video series provided by the school counselor to the teacher/advisors to use during Eagle Hour for instruction.
 - Activities such as a District Christmas breakfast, writing thank you notes and becoming pen pals with veterans in Ness County have encouraged students to reach out and begin relationships with others not in the building.
- USD 303 developed a two page document defining and outlining what parents, staff, and students can and will do to properly deal with inappropriate/mean behavior, and bullying. Having these thoughts and procedures outlined has helped change the culture in the buildings.

To measure our progress in this area, USD 303 will use data from:

- Annual Kansas Communities That Care Survey
- SAEBRs Survey

Now, thinking back over the past year, how often did you: enjoy being in school?

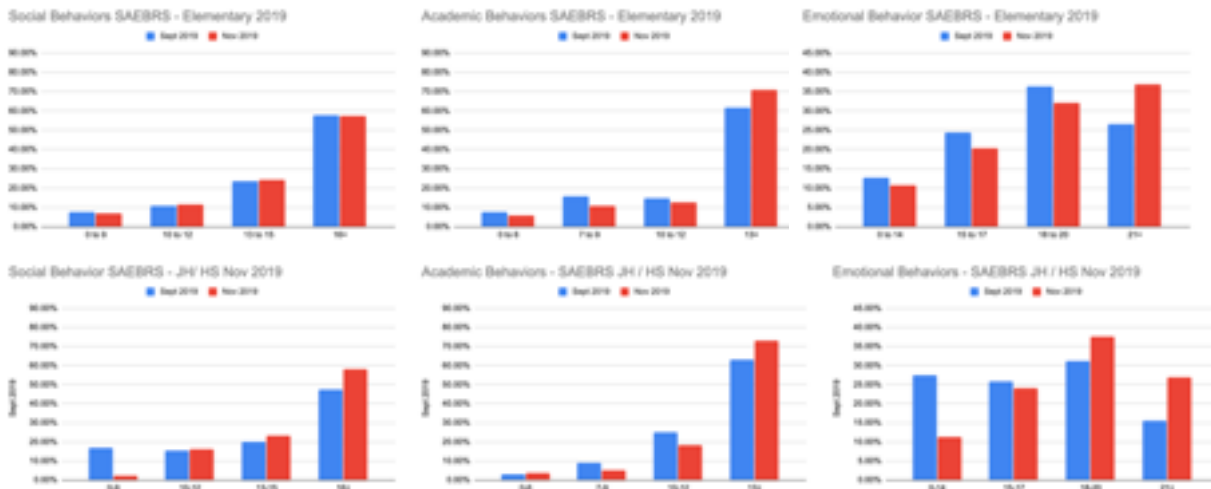
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Never	12.5	4.49	5.13	9.76	9.64	9.72
	Seldom	15	5.62	16.67	8.54	22.89	16.67
	Total	27.5	10.11	21.8	18.3	32.53	26.39

During this school year, how often have you been bullied at school?

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Sometimes (monthly)	22.5	23.6	28.21	19.54	34.48	23.03
	Regularly (weekly)	7.5	8.99	7.69	11.49	9.2	5.13
	Total	30	32.59	35.9	31.03	43.68	28.16

What do adults do at school when they see bullying?

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Nothing, They Ignore It	11.39	11.24	7.69	10.34	12.64	16.67
	Not Certain	35.44	33.71	32.05	33.33	34.48	38.46
	Total	46.83	44.95	39.74	43.67	47.12	55.13



Kindergarten Readiness

Due to a strong belief in the positive impact early childhood development has on academic success, USD 303 will provide the opportunity for all 3-5 year old children in the District with the opportunity to attend an early childhood program prior to attending Kindergarten. To accomplish this:

- The District will maintain a Special Education Preschool program for children aged 3-5 years old
 - Programing will be provided 3.25 hours a day 4 days a week for all qualifying students
 - The year prior to attending Kindergarten, students will attend an additional 3.25 hour class each week
- The District will maintain a Regular Education Preschool program for children aged 3-5 years old
 - Programing will be provided 3.25 hours a day 4 days a week for all qualifying students
 - The year prior to attending Kindergarten, students will attend an additional 3.25 hour class each week
- The District will maintain a transitional program for students aged 3-5 years old requiring additional early childhood programming to be Kindergarten Readiness
 - Full day preschool will be provided for qualifying students prior to attending Kindergarten
 - These students will attend both the Special Education Preschool and the Regular Education Preschool to create a full day program
 - A transitional program consisting of ½ day preschool and ½ day Kindergarten will be provided for qualifying students

We believe that academic success begins with a strong base. The development of a strong base begins in Kindergarten, and being at or above grade level when leaving Kindergarten is paramount to overall academic success. To measure growth and success in our Kindergarten Readiness:

- The District sets a goal of 90% of all students attend at least one year of early childhood programming before attending Kindergarten. The district acknowledges that some parents have a strong personal belief of delaying formal schooling until a later age. Furthermore, our goal must account for a mobile population with students moving in and out of our district.
- The District sets a goal of 60% of all students entering Kindergarten score at or above grade level in Math and Reading on the AIMSWeb Benchmark Assessment in the Fall of their Kindergarten year

- The District sets a goal of 80% of all students leaving Kindergarten score at or above grade level in Math and Reading on the AIMSweb Benchmark Assessment in the Spring of their Kindergarten year

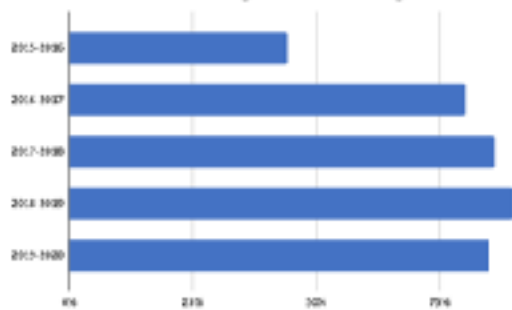
Kindergarten Readiness: % on/above Grade Level entering Kindergarten

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Math	73%	69%	67%	92%
Reading	36%	54%	61%	62%

Kindergarten Readiness: % on/above Grade Level leaving Kindergarten

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Math	82%	92%	72%	
Reading	91%	77%	83%	

Percent of Students Attending PK Prior to Kindergarten



Individual Plan of Study Focused on Career Interest

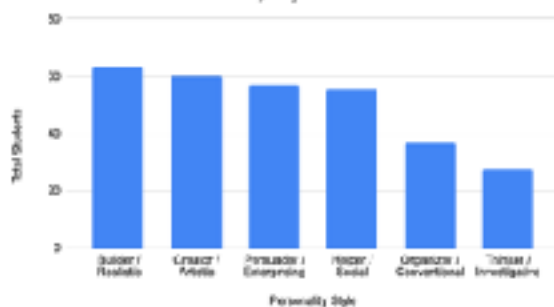
As students navigate through high school and into career and college, it is imperative that students set educational goals and create a roadmap for success in high school and beyond. This roadmap, or individual plan of study, includes development of a flexible career focus and an education plan that is clearly-defined, rigorous, and relevant to assure a successful and efficient transition to postsecondary education and/or the workforce.

The foundational elements of the individual plan of study are the career interests identified by the student through a career interest inventory provided through Xello (our online IPS implementation toolkit). Students at NCHS are introduced to Xello during 7th grade and will utilize this program through their senior year. This is our

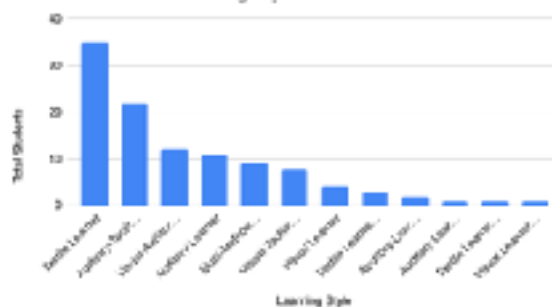
first full year using Xello for the IPS implementation process. Our school district has transitioned to Xello after using Career Cruising in 18-19. The two school years prior to that, NCHS utilized Kansas Career Pipeline for career interest inventories. Because of the change in toolkits, data from previous years is difficult to compare to current data. The following two tables indicates our current student body's personality and Learning styles taken from Xello.

At Ness City Jr/Sr High, we have adopted the teacher advisor/advisee model. All students are assigned to a teacher who will serve as their IPS advisor for their junior high and high school years. That advisor stays with those students from their freshmen year through graduation. The students meet two times a week with their advisor for a total of 50 minutes during a set time called Eagle Hour. This time is dedicated for students to work on activities related to their Individual Plans of Study along with other activities (like the social-emotional activities) deemed necessary and relevant. In an effort to maintain consistency to all students, lessons are developed by the counselor and/or principal and delivered by the teacher advisor to the students.

Total Students vs. Personality Style



Total Students vs. Learning Style



In an effort to increase communication and involvement by our parents, the information developed through this advisor process is shared with each parent during the spring Parent / Teacher Conference sessions. Parents are then involved in finalizing course selections for the next year.

In addition to exploration done online, we have been able to provide the following off campus opportunities for our students.

- October 24, 2016 Barton County CC College Planning Conference - Seniors
- November 2, 2016 DCCC Career Exploration Day: 7-8, 10-12
- February 23, 2017 GBT Career Fair Hosted by Ness City: 7-12
- October 31, 2017 DCCC Career Exploration Day: 7-10
- November 1, 2017 Barton County CC College Planning Conference - Seniors
- November 7, 2017 ESSDACK Career Expo: Juniors and Seniors
- October 22, 2018 Barton County CC College Planning Conference - Seniors
- November 6, 2018 ESSDACK Career Expo: Juniors (Senior optional)
- October 21, 2019 Barton County CC College Planning Conference - Seniors
- November 5, 2019 ESSDACK Career Expo: Juniors

High School Graduation Rates

High School graduation is an important step in the future success of all individuals. Lack of a high school diploma drastically reduces earning power and professional opportunities for our students. USD 303 strives for a 100% graduation rate while maintaining a high level of academic rigor for all students. To maintain our high graduation rate, USD 303 will:

- Reduce Chronic Absentee Rates
 - Focusing on building strong relationships with all stakeholders
 - Creating open communications with parents to develop a team approach to helping students find success
 - Creating an academic culture that encourages all students to use their strengths to find their academic success
- Increase Academic Relevance
 - Creating an academic culture where all students see the importance of academic success and can use their strengths and personal desires to find success in life
 - Develop a strong aligned curriculum in all content areas
 - Work to ensure all students have the opportunity to explore curricular areas that spark their own interests
- Due to our changing demographics, USD 303 is focused on providing teachers with the training and encouragement to obtain certifications in ELL
- Provide an increased opportunity for students to take dual credit courses and CTE Pathway course completion
- Implement recognition programs that encourage strong academic success

To measure success and growth in High School Graduation Rates:

- Actual Graduation Rate
- The District will utilize key KCTC data
- Chronic Absenteeism Rate
- Percent of Teaching Staff with ELL Certification
- Percent of CTE Pathway course completion
- Percent of students obtaining college credit while in high school

How often do you feel that the school work you are assigned is meaningful and important?

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Never	5	1.12	1.3	0	6.9	6.33
	Seldom	17.5	8.99	6.49	15.91	25.29	16.04
	Total	22.5	10.11	7.79	15.91	32.19	22.37

How important do you think the things you are learning in school are going to be for your later life?

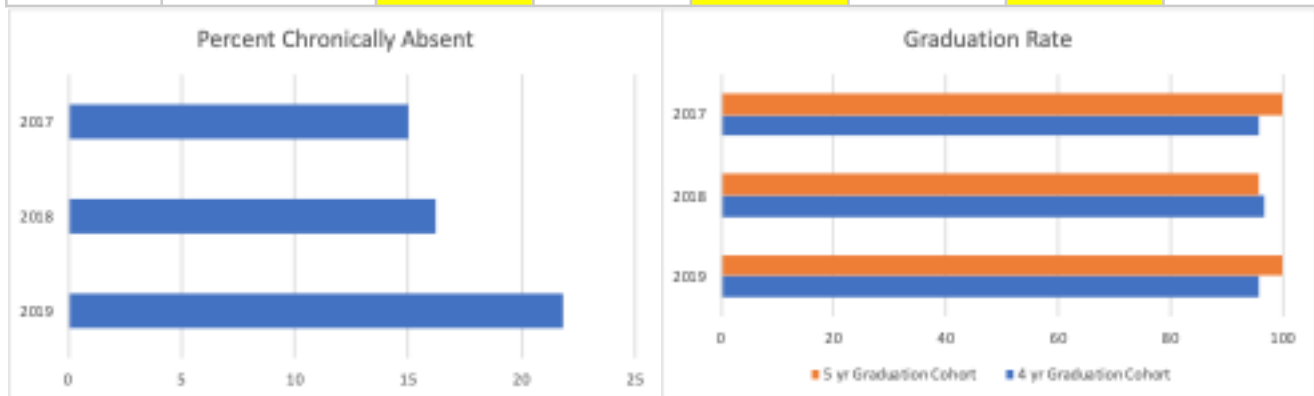
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Not at all	5	1.12	6.41	3.41	2.3	1.27
	Slightly	15	21.35	15.38	17.05	36.78	25.32
	Total	20	22.47	21.79	20.46	39.08	26.59

Now, thinking back over the past year, how often did you: try to do your best work in school?

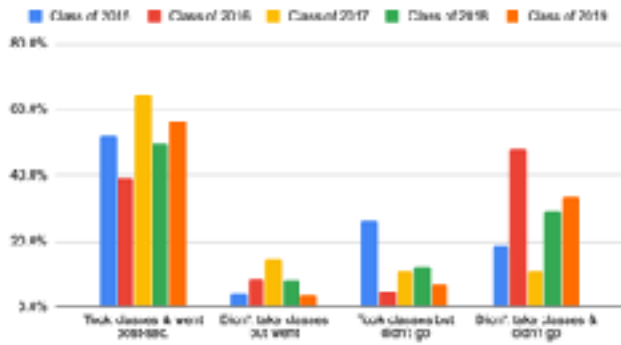
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Never	0	0	0	1.22	0	0
	Seldom	3.85	1.15	1.28	1.22	0	1.41
	Total	3.85	1.15	1.28	2.44	0	1.41

What are the chances you would be seen as cool if you: worked hard at school?

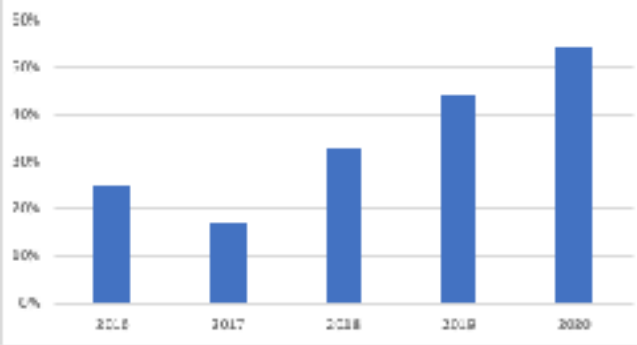
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	No or Little Chance	16.88	17.28	22.08	20.69	23.53	17.95
	Little Chance	29.87	23.46	11.69	19.54	16.47	19.23
	Total	46.75	40.74	33.77	40.23	40	37.18



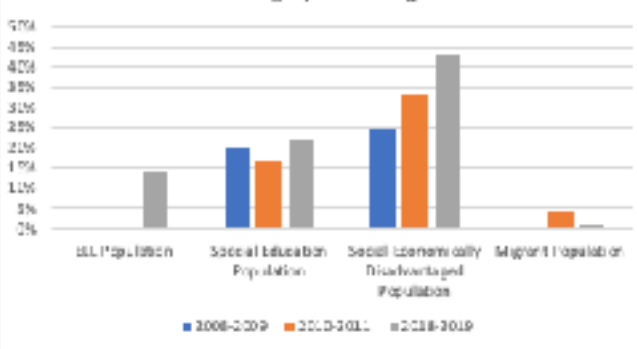
NICHE College Credit Results



Percent of Certified Staff ELL Endorsed



Demographic Changes



Post Secondary Completion/Attendance

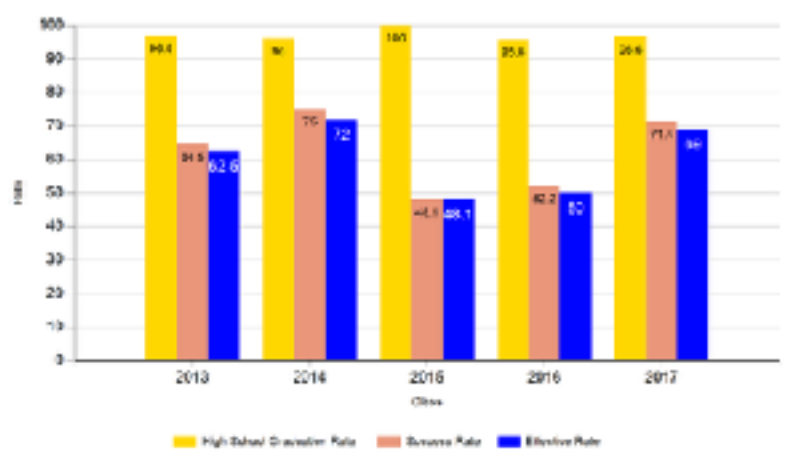
USD 303 believes the one true measure of a school system’s success is the success rate of the students that attended that system. It is our duty to do all we can to ensure that every student has the tools necessary to find professional success in life. It is USD 303’s ultimate goal to have 100% of all students obtain a Post-Secondary certification or degree. Without this completion, our students have a reduced earning potential and professional growth. USD 303 will continue to increase its post secondary completion/attendance by:

- Developing an academic relevant educational experience by creating a fully aligned curriculum in all content areas
- Developing opportunities for students to obtain industry recognized certifications prior to graduating from high school
 - Initial certification programs will focus on local industry providing graduates that stay in the community an opportunity to further advance their careers locally
 - Additional certification programs will focus on student interest
- Develop alternative academic pathways that allow students to explore their strengths and interests as they progress through high school

To measure success and growth of Post Secondary Completion/Attendance:

- Post Secondary Success Rate according to KSDE
- Annual Alumni Survey
- Percent of students completing CTE Pathway course work
- Percent of students obtaining dual credits vs percent of students reaching post secondary success

Postsecondary Progress



Again, we welcome all community members to attend our next Site Council Meeting to further discuss this information and goals for the District. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, at 7:00 pm in the NCHS Library.