

# THE ANNOUNCER

USD 470: MOVING FROM GOOD TO *GREAT* THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS!

## *Welcome to another exciting year*

Dear USD 470 Patrons:

**W**ELCOME to the 2003-2004 school year in the Arkansas City School District. This year promises to be an exciting year of teaching and learning throughout the district. We expect to build on the successes of last year, which included three schools reaching the state's highly regarded Standards of Excellence. We expect our students to learn to higher and higher standards. We expect all of our students to graduate from high school ready for the next step and ready to be successful in a constantly changing and challenging world.

The community can expect from the district professional experts in teaching and learning in each and every classroom in the district. The

**“This is a ‘we’re in this together’ project.”**

~ DR. PERRY L. PERKINS  
*Superintendent of Schools*

community can expect its children to be cared for and treated with dignity, reflective of the integrity of each staff member employed by USD 470!

However, these expectations are just part of the picture if all students in the Arkansas City School District are to be successful. The district should be able to expect support and cooperation from the entire community, the leaders of the community, and particularly the parents of the children who share them with us. This is a “we’re in this together” project. What other mission is as important as our children?

Thank you for your support of USD 470 as we continue “to move from good to great.”

Sincerely,  
Dr. Perry L. Perkins  
Superintendent of Schools

## Back-to-school celebration planned

USD 470 and KSOK Radio will again sponsor the back-to-school enrollment celebration this year. The event will air live every 15 minutes on 95.9 FM and 1280 AM from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, Aug. 4.

Free food and drinks will be offered for the first 100 people from KSOK and Mr. Goodcents. Activities will be available to keep the kids entertained, including moonwalk and face painting. Prizes also will be given away.

Enrollment for all students pre-kindergarten through fifth grade will

take place Monday, Aug. 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Central Christian Church, 206 W. Central.

Bilingual interpreters will be available to aid non-English speaking parents.

All students should enroll and pay



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## INFORMATION CORNER

### *Board of Education*

Glenn Clarkson  
Daren Reese  
Sue Saia  
Dr. Pat Simmons  
Joelyn Squires  
Gary Wilson

### *Administration*

Dr. Perry L. Perkins, Superintendent  
Dr. Ron Ballard, Asst. Superintendent/  
Business Manager  
Dr. Jan Voss, Assistant Superintendent  
of Curriculum and Instruction

**REMINDER: The first day of school for grades 1-12 is Aug. 18 and is a FULL DAY. The first day for kindergarten and pre-k programs is Aug. 25.**

## Problems or questions?

Most often questions concerning the day-to-day operations of the schools are best answered by the teacher, coach, sponsor, principal or administrator working closest to that area.

It is recommended that problems or concerns first be taken to the teacher, coach or sponsor and second to the principal. If the situation still has not been resolved, it should be taken to the superintendent, and finally, if not resolved, to the board of education.

The Central Office will be pleased to direct you to the person who can best answer your questions or concerns. Call 441-2000 for such information.

Now is the time to be getting your student ready for the first day of school. Not only do you get enrollment fees paid and school supplies purchased but there are other things you should consider too.

For all students who are new to the district or are entering school for the first time, they will need:

1. Up-to-date proof of immunization.
2. Health assessment for students 8 years of age and younger, to be completed by your family physician or the health department.
3. State birth certificate (not a hospital-issued certificate)
4. A dental check-up is recommended.

Students have 90 days after the start of school before the health assessment is due and the birth certificate is due in 30 days.

For older students who haven't had a Tetanus-diphtheria in the last 10 years, this will need to be done before they can start school. **This means that if your student comes to school on the first day and hasn't had the Tetanus-diphtheria updated, he or she will go home that day.** This usually involves the students who have reached their 14th birthday.

Transfer students have 30 days after starting school to complete their immunizations if they are not complete.

If your student needs medication during the school day it needs to be in the original container and a permission note from the parent. The first dose always needs to be given at home in case there is an allergic reaction.

What a great way to start a new school year. Get these things done before school starts.

## Enrollment info

*Continued from page 1*

fees at this time. Elementary students who have been pre-enrolled need to make any necessary changes, i.e. updating changed phone numbers, addresses, emergency contacts, etc. All eligible enrollees must complete a free and reduced lunch application.

Building assignments will be completed and transfer requests processed following this enrollment period. There are classroom limits, and late enrollees are placed where space is available.

Parents are asked to accompany their children for enrollment. To be eligible for the 4-year-old program, state law requires that a child reach the age of 4 on or before Aug. 31 of the current year. To be eligible for kindergarten, state law requires that a child turn 5 by Aug. 31 of the current year. A state-certified birth certificate is required for all 4-year-olds, kindergartners and first graders who did not attend kindergarten.

If parents/guardians did not have the child's birth certificate, immunization record and/or Social Security card at the kindergarten pre-enrollment, those documents need to be brought to the enrollment.

Parents/guardians will also have the opportunity to enroll their child in the following programs: PALS located at Lincoln Early Childhood Center for children 3-5 years old; Head Start located at Lincoln for children ages 3 and 4; Parents as Teachers, 1423 S. Summit, for children age 0-5; and Migrant Even Start for migrant parents and children age 0-8.

A list of required supplies will be



passed out at enrollment and is also available at local retailers.

Elementary attendance areas are approved by the Board of Education and may vary slightly from year to year. Parents should check at enrollment or call the Curriculum Office at 441-2003 if they have questions.

### **Middle school**

ACMS students will pay fees at the Middle School on Monday, Aug. 4, and Tuesday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. on both days. Sixth-grade orientation will be on the morning of Thursday, Aug. 14. Flyers will be handed out at enrollment offering a time and more information.

### **High school**

ACHS students will pay fees at the High School on Monday, Aug. 4 and Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. on both days. Students may also purchase a yearbook and an activity ticket at this time. Lockers will be randomly pre-assigned before fee payment, and the assignments will be given to students during fee payment period.

Freshmen orientation will be Thursday, Aug. 14. More information will be available at enrollment.

Students who are new to the district should enroll and pay fees after Aug. 6. Aug. 4 and 5 are reserved for students who have already completed the enrollment process.

**Note:** All book rentals are to be paid at the time of enrollment or arrangements for payment must be made at that time. The USD 470 Board of Education will set fees for the 2003-2004 school year at the July 14 meeting.

For questions regarding fees, please call your child's school.

# New Board policies affect students

The USD 470 Board of Education is undergoing an on-going, two-three year process of reviewing all Board policies as necessary. The district uses the Kansas Association of School Board updates to ensure the policies meet legal requirements. Several new and revised policies were approved by the Board during the 2002-2003 school year. Two of these policies that have a direct impact on students are the Early Graduation and the Acceptable Use of Technology policies. For more information, please call the Central Office at 441-2000.

## **Early Graduation**

Early graduation will be allowed when a student has met all graduation requirements. However, students are required to be in attendance full-time through seven semesters at which time they may have a reduced schedule or graduate early.

Students who wish to graduate early must complete a mid-term graduation application. The student and parents shall consult with high school administrative and/or guidance personnel by an announced deadline in May of the student's junior year. This will allow priority status for necessary classes.

## **Acceptable Use of Technology**

The Acceptable Use of Technology policy and the Student Access Contract, which must be signed before a student will be allowed to use school technology applications, are both included in the enrollment packets that parents will fill out on Aug. 4 and 5.

USD 470 supports the use of advanced technology and increased access to learning opportunities by all students. The goal of the district in providing access to computers, computer networks, Internet resources, electronic mail and other online services for students is to promote educa-

tional excellence by facilitating resource sharing and communications, and improving access to information.

Students are responsible for good behavior and appropriate communication on computers, networks, the Internet, or other online services just as they are in a classroom or on school property. School rules apply.

Activities and communication on the district network are not private. Network administrators, teachers, and other appropriate district staff may review and/or delete student files and student communications from time to time to prevent misuse and to ensure students are using the system responsibly and in compliance with laws and district policies.

The use of the district's computer technology resources is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges. USD 470 reserves the right to deny, revoke, suspend, or close any user account at any time, based upon its determination of inappropriate use by the account holder or user. Inappropriate use may also result in disciplinary or legal action and assessment of the cost of damages.

Content found on Internet resources may contain defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive or illegal material. USD 470 does not condone the use of such information and will not knowingly permit usage in the school environment. Internet sites that are considered obscene or harmful to minors are inappropriate under any circumstances and access to those sites is restricted, partially through using a technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access.

District professional staff shall supervise students utilizing district-provided Internet access. Students

shall not be allowed to utilize electronic communications unless a signed consent form is on file. A family's right to decide whether or not to sign the Student Access Contract for their student shall be supported and respected. Permission is not transferable from one student to another and may not be shared.

Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's risk. The district denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of user privileges and disciplinary action per the district discipline handbook; and assessment of the cost of damages to hardware/software.

Procedures for classroom and library use will be established at each building. Teachers and other staff will be responsible for appropriate classroom usage and direct instruction about acceptable use.

Prior to use of school technology, each student and his/her parent, if the student is 18 or younger, desiring to use such account(s) shall sign a Student Access Contract, specifying awareness of the restrictions of the district's Acceptable Use Policy.

The Announcer is distributed to the Ark City community monthly throughout the year.

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**Dr. Perry L. Perkins**  
*Superintendent*  
**Kristen Martinez, Editor**  
*Director of Public Relations*

# Students will see new faces this fall



Several new staff members have joined the USD 470 family, and some have been reassigned to other buildings and positions.

Precia Rackley has replaced

Freedom Brass as the music teacher at Adams Elementary. Katherine Chance has replaced Neal Bachman as the library media specialist at Adams and C-4 Elementary Schools.

Jessica Gregory was transferred from Adams to Frances Willard Elementary. She will replace Misty Cunningham, second-grade teacher. Cunningham has been reassigned as an SFA facilitator, replacing Katherine Scaper, who is now a half-time Title I teacher.

Debra Richardson was transferred from Adams to Roosevelt Elementary. She will replace Marilyn McDowell as the fifth-grade teachers. Kimberly Ford is replacing Kendra Gard-Smith

as a first-grade teacher at Frances Willard.

Kami Moore has replaced Tiffany Willard as the fourth-grade teacher at Frances Willard. Evelyn Shoup has been reassigned as the SFA facilitator at Frances Willard, replacing Jeff Shearon, who is the new Arkansas City Middle School assistant principal. He is replacing Mark Littell. Shoup's position is being filled by Nicole Bass.

Gayle Ast is replacing Nancy Warren as a first-grade teacher at Roosevelt. Amy Gruen is replacing Richard Harvey as Arkansas City High School math teacher. Paula Miller is replacing Carole Wade, also a high school math teacher. Marjorie McFarland is replacing April Nittler as an ACHS math teacher.

Kelly Shultz is replacing Gary Travis as a high school English teacher. Tanya Glover is replacing Denys Golay, also an ACHS English teacher. Kevin Warner is replacing Donna Skiles as a high school science

teacher. Mark Chance is replacing Richard Leet as a high school math teacher. One high school English position, previously occupied by Matthew Madole, has been reduced.

Kelly Gillette is replacing Sandy Jones as an ACHS social studies teacher. Angela Harding is being reassigned to the career educator position, previously occupied by Julie Lockwood. Linda Stahl is replacing Harding as a counselor at ACHS. Benjamin Smith has replaced Justin Lockwood as a high school assistant principal.

Tracy Bennett is replacing Amber Seese as a teacher at Head Start. Amber Sisson has been hired as a new teacher at Head Start.

David Barclay, ACHS computer aide, is now technology support.

Additionally, Nancy Haas, part-time principal at Lincoln PALS, is now the half-time principal at C-4. She was the assistant principal at Adams and will continue as half-time principal at PALS.

## *Back-to-school open houses scheduled*

Several schools have back-to-school open houses in the coming weeks. Please check with your child's school for more information. Following is a schedule as of July 10:

C-4 Elementary: Thursday, Aug. 28, 6:30-8 p.m.

Lincoln PALS: Thursday, Sept. 4, 6-7:30 p.m.

Roosevelt: Tuesday, Aug. 26. Kindergarten and first grade at 6 p.m. Second and third grades at 6:30 and Fourth and fifth grades at 7. Ice cream will be served continuously.



## *Proof we're moving from good to great*

As a result of their scores on the spring Kansas State Assessment tests, the following elementary schools reached the state's Standards of Excellence, evidence that we're moving from good to *great* in USD 470!

C-4: science

Frances Willard: math and reading  
Jefferson: math

These schools join Roosevelt, which reached the Standard of Excellence in math last year.

These schools' accomplishments reflect significant work and time on the part of teachers, support staff, principals and the entire school community, including students and parents, Superintendent Dr. Perry L. Perkins said.

## Early childhood screenings offered

Cowley County Special Services Cooperative conducts early childhood screenings for children ages 3-5 to help parents determine if their child has any type of developmental delay. Screenings are free and voluntary.

Aug. 18 Arkansas City Aug. 15 Winfield

Sept. 2 Arkansas City Oct. 3 Winfield

For more information regarding early childhood services or to schedule a screening appointment, contact the Coop at 221-7021.



# Who ya gonna call?

Questions about ...

Transportation, call 441-2084

and lunch program, call 441-2014

- ☎ Free and reduced applications, call your child's school
- ☎ Activities and athletics, call 441-2016
- ☎ Being your baby's first teacher, call Parents as Teachers at 441-2068
- ☎ Joining a PTO or site council, call your child's school
- ☎ Services/counseling for at-risk students, call Angela Harding at 441-2010
- ☎ Afterschool program, call Aaron or Susan at 441-2003
- ☎ Lunch menus, call 441-2014
- ☎ Channel 21 or the district Web site, call Kristen at 441-2000
- ☎ Pool schedule and classes, call 441-2018
- ☎ School transfers, call 441-2003

## Freshmen to learn how to 'Make High School Count'

Arkansas City High School has scheduled the highly-rated Making High School Count presentation program for its freshmen class. The one-hour, assembly-style presentation will be delivered free to students and parents at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14, during freshmen orientation.

Making High School Count is designed to help students understand the importance of high school and what they need to accomplish to maximize their opportunities upon graduation. The program also addresses transitional issues such as time man-

agement and study skills.

"Entry into high school and college are key transition periods in a student's academic career," Patrick S. O'Brien, founding of Making It Count Programs, said. "Our goal is to provide and reinforce the positive messages counselors and teachers are giving to their students during these crucial times and help students understand that anyone can be successful if they choose to be."

Key content from all the Making It Count in-school presentation programs can be found on the company's Web site at [www.makingitcount.com](http://www.makingitcount.com).

## Ark City High School reminders, notices

Please help us limit interruptions to your students' classrooms. Messages for students are limited to urgent or emergency situations. Messages regarding rides home, errands or appointments are types of messages that should be taken care of prior to students' arrival at school.

With an enrollment of more than 850 students, messages to students can really bog down the system and

cause disruption to the learning process. Messages for students can only be taken from parents/guardians. ACHS will not take messages from friends, siblings or employers.

Fall sports for high school and middle school students will start Monday, Aug. 18. Students will need to have a sports physical on file. Physical forms may be picked up at the high and middle school offices.

## Salvation Army, churches offering help to purchase supplies, shoes

Registration to receive back-to-school supplies begins July 7-Aug. 1. Parents should bring Social Security cards for children entering school.

Please apply at the Salvation Army, 225 N. Summit, 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday.

For questions or further information,



please call the Salvation Army at 442-4357.

This project is presented in partnership with St. Paul United Methodist Church.

The First United Methodist Church will again be offering "Shoes for Kids from People Who Care." Through this project, pre-school, elementary and middle school students will be able to purchase new shoes to go back to school.

A \$20 voucher will be used to purchase the shoes. Wal-Mart, 2715 N. Summit, and Jan's Sport Shack, 202 S. Summit, have



agreed to honor the vouchers. Church members will set-up and sign-up students at elementary enrollment

on Aug. 4 and 5 at the Central Christian Church, 206 W. Central Ave. (See story on pages 1 and 2 for more information about enrollment.)

In addition, a referral basis will be used at the middle school level and also at the elementary schools IF vouchers are still available after enrollment ends.

Please look for the sign up table at enrollment. For more information, please call the First United Methodist Church at 442-4530.

## AUGUST CALENDAR

- 4-5 Enrollment/pay fees (all schools)
- 11 Band camp, a.m.  
BOE mtg., ACHS, 7 p  
HS fall sports preseason parent/  
student mtg., HS auditorium, 7p
- 12 Band camp, a.m.  
Senior FB players checkout,  
Curry Field, 6p  
MS fall sports preseason parent/  
student mtg., MS auditorium, 7p
- 14 6th/9th grade orientation, a.m.
- 18 First day of classes (grades 1-12)  
Fall sports practice begins
- 21 Booster Club hot dog feed, Agri  
Business Building, 6:30p
- 22 HS back-to-school dance
- 25 First day for kindergarten, all  
pre-k programs  
BOE mtg., 7p, ACHS
- 26 Roosevelt Elem. open house
- 28 C-4 open house, 6:30-8p

## Give us your 2¢ on 1 question

What would you like to know about a school system to convince you that it is a quality school system that provides “great” service and value?

Please e-mail your response to [kmartinez@arkcity.com](mailto:kmartinez@arkcity.com) or mail it to 119 W. Washington Ave., Arkansas City, KS 67005, or call Kristen at 441-2000.

## We want your suggestions!

USD 470’s Web site, [www.arkcity.com](http://www.arkcity.com), is in the process of being completely redesigned. Do you have suggestions of something you would like to see changed or added to the site? What items could we add that would make you want to look at the site? Is there more information about certain topics that we could add?

Please e-mail your suggestions to the Webmaster Kristen Martinez at [kmartinez@arkcity.com](mailto:kmartinez@arkcity.com) or call her at 441-2000. All suggestions are greatly appreciated. Please help us make the Web site better for you!



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