

Buchanan County R-IV School District

**DeKalb
Middle/High
School**



**Rushville
Elementary**

Travis Dittmore, Superintendent Brian Hansen, Middle/High School Principal Jennifer Dittmore, Elementary Principal

Buchanan County R-IV has joined the 275 Conference

Beginning with this school year, Buchanan County will no longer be a part of the Platte Valley Conference. We have joined the 275 Conference. The administrators from each of these schools envisioned the opportunity to realign two conferences into one in order to offer more opportunities both academically and athletically to our students at all levels.

New possibilities that exist for the students at DeKalb and Rushville include, but are not limited to, conference spelling bee, middle school academic tournaments, conference band day, golf, volleyball, and conference cross country competition, in addition to the activities that already existed in what was the Platte Valley Conference.

The following schools are part of the 275 Conference:

DeKalb	Platte Valley (Jefferson/South Nodaway)
East Atchison Wolves (Tarkio/Fairfax)	Rock Port
Mound City/Craig	South Holt
Nodaway-Holt	Southwest Livingston
North Nodaway	Stewartsville
Northeast Nodaway	Union Star
Osborn	West Nodaway

HOME OF THE TIGERS

From the Desk of the Superintendent

Hello Everyone:

The summer of 2016 seems to have gone by even faster than others! I hope you and your family had a safe and happy summer and were able to spend some time together before we get busy with the 2016-2017 school year.

The staff worked very hard this summer preparing for the students' return. Their task was complicated even more so with summer projects taking place both at the elementary and high school.

A major plumbing renovation project has been completed at Rushville Elementary that has allowed us to reroute drainage from the kitchen area. The Football Press Box at DeKalb High School received a complete renovation and was ready to go for the Jamboree at DHS on August 12. You will also notice upgrades to the gym floor, new landscaping at the Vo-Ag building as well as the bus fuel tank receiving a makeover.

We have a few new people to our district this year. Adrienne Wyatt will be our new Librarian for both buildings in our district. In the high school we have Peirce White as Middle School Math Teacher. Our new elementary school counselor is Korri Paden and Diane Chamberlin will also be joining us as at Rushville as a para-professional. We certainly welcome these individuals to our staff!

'Thank you' to each of you for the support that you have shown our schools! It is great to have the students back with us and the new school year underway. As always, please feel free to contact us with anything we can help you with!

Please follow our calendar, activities, and district updates on our website at www.bcr4.k12.mo.us or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/#!/buchanancounty-school-district>. If you would like a hard copy of our newsletter or know of someone that might please contact us!

HAVE A GREAT YEAR!

Sincerely,

Travis Dittmore
Superintendent

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Superintendent's Office
816-685-3160 phone 816-685-3203 fax

DeKalb Middle/High School Office
816-685-3211 phone 816-685-3156 fax

Rushville Elementary Office
816-688-7777 phone 816-688-7775 fax

These office phones will be answered by either an individual or an automated attendant giving you different options to choose from.

BUS INFORMATION:

Transportation information may be obtained by contacting the building level principal or Linda McDowell at 816-646-2267.

INSURANCE:

Student accident insurance is available.
Insurance forms are available in each office.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION:

Our school uses an electronic notification system called Blackboard Connect to notify parent(s)/ guardian(s) of emergency information or school closings. Please notify us anytime throughout the school year should your contact information change as it is very important that the information reach everyone as quickly as possible. When there is an emergency situation or school is closed for some reason you will receive a call, text message and/or email to your phone numbers and email addresses with the information. When school is dismissed early for inclement weather, such as heat, ice, snow, etc. the following radio and television stations will also be notified and asked to announce the information.

KFEQ	680	AM	KQ	2	TV
KAIR	1470	AM	KNPN	26	TV
KKJO	1050	FM			

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Michael Reagan, President
Pam Browning, Vice-President
Alan Crockett, Treasurer
Christy Weigel, Member
Shane Hartman, Member
Douglas Hickman, Member
Shawna Gillis, Member

A Word From the Middle/High School Principal

We are well underway in the 2016-2017 school year, and I have to say it has been a great start! As I walk the hallways, I see a lot of student engagement, smiles, and positive attitudes. Our teachers and coaches have worked hard all summer to build on our continued success and it shows.

We have two new staff members this year. Mr. Peirce White is teaching middle school math and Algebra. Mr. White describes himself as a geek of all trades with interests in technology, comics, and video games. I've already noticed how he uses these interests to connect with the kids. He is a recent graduate of UMKC in middle school education with an emphasis in mathematics. Another graduate of UMKC, Mrs. Adrienne Wyatt, is our new librarian. She is well traveled, but is originally from Agency, MO. She loves to read, and do arts and crafts. If you get a chance, please say hello and welcome them to the community!

In order to increase student achievement, teams of teachers are now meeting once a week to discuss student learning. The teams are made up of three to four teachers from different content areas. Discussions are focused around teaching strategies, identifying student weaknesses and how to improve them, how to challenge students that already understand the content, better ways to assess learning, and so on. Such collaboration should really lead to positive outcomes in student achievement.

We also implemented an ACT Prep course using an online interactive program. With the growing competition for scholarship money, and the state requiring all juniors to take the ACT we felt we really needed to provide a class above and beyond what we have done in the past to prepare students. So far it seems to be going well, but we will track the progress of the students in the class to measure the effectiveness of the program.

Athletics and activities are well underway. Currently our High School Football team is 0-3, but we have a lot of young players in a rebuilding program.

High school softball is 4-5 with an impressive win over Mid-Buchanan. Middle school softball is just getting started, and we wish them luck on their season as well!

We are definitely in store for an exciting school year! As always, please feel free to visit our school anytime. Remember, you may follow school schedules, student progress, activities, etc. at www.bcr4.k12.mo.us. Also, feel free to like our Facebook page and follow our Twitter accounts @DeKalbTigers or @DeKalbAthletics.

Sincerely,

Brian Hansen
DeKalb Middle/High School Principal



@DeKalbTigers

@DeKalbAthletics



Breakfast and Lunch Prices

Elementary Breakfast	\$1.75
Elementary Lunch	\$2.75
Middle/High School Brkfst	\$1.85
Middle/High School Lunch	\$2.85

If you have any questions or need additional information, call 816-685-3211.

STUDENT LUNCH ACCOUNTS:

No student will be allowed to charge meals or purchase items if there is not sufficient money in his/her account. All balances, either positive or negative, from last year have been transferred to this year.

Asbestos Notice

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA 40 CFR 763) requires the Buchanan County R-IV School District to inspect its building for asbestos, and to develop a management plan for those asbestos-containing materials that were located within its buildings. These management plans are available for review during normal business hours at the district's administrative offices. These management plans have been implemented to meet requirements set forth in the regulation.

A Word From the Elementary Principal

Welcome back! It always amazes me at how much our students grow and mature over the summer. Advancing each grade level has its challenges, but the kids are always up for the task as we continue to prepare them for the future.

Many people may think summer is a time for rest and relaxation for teachers and school staff. While everyone needs time to rejuvenate themselves, we also spend time working to better ourselves. Mrs. Black and Mrs. Matthews are participating in the Teacher Academy. Mrs. Matthews, Miss Wilson, and Ms. Reddick attended a week of Kagan Cooperative Learning. The elementary math teachers spent two days in June working on curriculum and assessments. Our leadership team which involved building level principals, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Eivins, and Mr. Jenkins attended a two day Professional Learning Communities workshop. In addition, you probably saw cars at the elementary weekly during the summer as teachers restructure, reorganize, and prepare for the upcoming school year. We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff!

Congratulations to the 2016 Academic Team! These students will compete in 4 meets this year.

Landon Williams	McKayla Chatman
Gracie Hanshaw	Adrian Hankins
Dylan Johnson	Chris Weinmann

Our guidance counselor, Mrs. Paden, has set the peer mentor schedules and students are already assisting other classes. We are proud of our mentors and look forward to their leadership and support.

4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade
Anna Sampson	Harlie Hall	Brayton Furr
Tori Hawk	Rachel Reagan	Gracie Hanshaw
Cloi Kneib	Kalyn Hartman	Chris Weinmann
Isabelle Bowen	Allison Bramble	Rylie Johnson
Avalon Box	Takara Elliott	Lainie Vogon
Brooklyn Frakes	Rawley Mydland	
Paige Flory	Mason Punzo	
Alexis Nell		
Patricia Simpson		

A big thank you goes out to Jennifer Hanshaw for coordinating our yearbook this year. This is a huge task and we are fortunate to have volunteers to ensure the continuation of these keepsakes.

You can purchase a yearbook for \$12.00. Also, we have class photos from last spring available for \$5.00.

The elementary is using a new math program this year, Engaged NY. This will cover our state standards with a high level of rigor. Kindergarten used the program last year with a great deal of success. It is a challenge anytime you implement a new series/program as there is a transition in foundational skills. We thank you for your patience as we make this move and please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

The elementary will begin posting on the district's Facebook page, Buchanan County R-IV. If you did not give permission for your child's photo to be published we will honor that and not include any photos of them. However, if you have changed your mind about this please contact the office and we will send home a new photo permission form.

We are excited to begin another successful school year and look forward to working with our families. Feel free to stop by my office or call anytime.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dittmore
Rushville Elementary Principal

September

14	Grandparents' Day Ice Cream Social
16	12:33 Dismissal-Homecoming
16,30	Grade Checks (Grades 4-6)
19	No School-275Conference Inservice
20	4th Grade to Conservation Kids Day, Scholar Bowl @ Stewartville-4:30
21	NED Character Ed Assembly 8:30
27	Scholar Bowl @ Rushville

October

3	No School-Teacher Inservice
4	Scholar Bowl @ St. Paul Lutheran-4:30
6	5th Grade to St. Joseph Symphony
14	12:33 Dismissal-End of Quarter Work Day
18	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00
20	12:33 Dismissal-Parent/Teacher Conferences 1-7
21	No School
27	2nd & 3rd Concert @ Rushville-6:30
28	Grade Checks
31	Halloween Parties 2:20

Upcoming Events



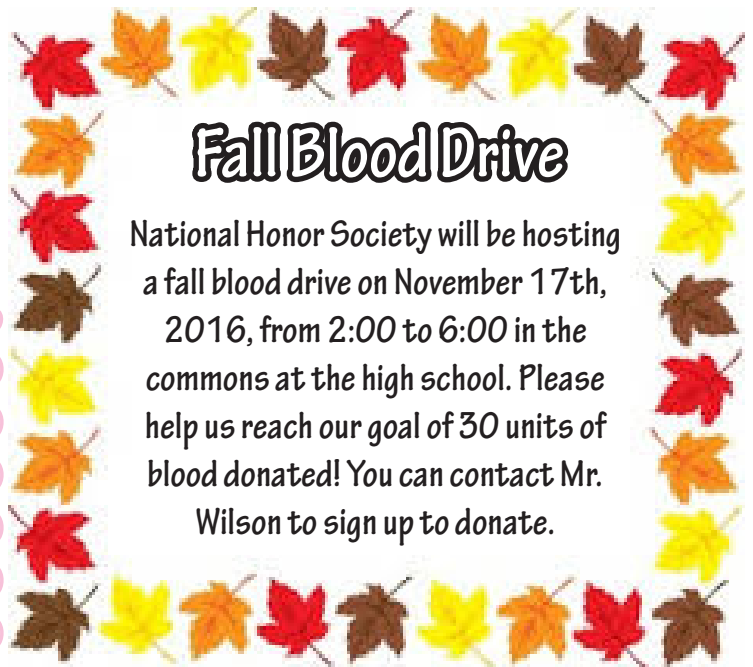
The NED show will be coming to the elementary on September 21st at 8:30am! The NED Show is a character education program that includes a 45-minute assembly and parent & teacher resources. The program centers around NED, a loveable cartoon character whose name is

an acronym for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best®. It's a simple, memorable message designed to teach valuable lessons that help kids become Champions at school and in life. They will discuss the importance of kindness, setting goals, making good choices, paying attention to teachers, and anti-bullying through humor, story telling, audience participation, and yo-yo tricks. After the show, items will be available for purchase. The funds collected will go toward future programs at other schools through the Pay It Forward Program. Because of this program, the NED show is absolutely free for our school. Parents are welcome to attend.

If you or someone you know would like a hard copy of the newsletter, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 816-685-3160.

Grandparents' Day Ice Cream Social

Rushville Elementary would like to invite all grandparents to attend an Ice Cream Social in their honor! The event will be held Wednesday, September 14 at 2:00pm in the Rushville Elementary Gym. Please RSVP to the school by Friday September 9th.



Fall Blood Drive

National Honor Society will be hosting a fall blood drive on November 17th, 2016, from 2:00 to 6:00 in the commons at the high school. Please help us reach our goal of 30 units of blood donated! You can contact Mr. Wilson to sign up to donate.



New Faces



Diane Chamberlin, Paraprofessional

My name is Diane Chamberlin and I have lived in the area for almost 25 years. I have a degree in Special Education and Elementary Education. I taught in Lexington, Missouri for 10 years before we moved to this area. I then took some time off to stay at home with my daughters. For the last 18 years I have been doing Parents As Teachers for this district. I will continue with that job as well as becoming a paraprofessional part time. I am very excited to begin this new adventure.

Korri Paden, Elementary Counselor

My name is Korri Paden. I am the new elementary counselor. I currently live in Wathena, KS with my husband Jared and two daughters. Kolbi just turned 3 in June and Kacie will be 2 in November. I love going to the lake and playing with my girls. I went to Pittsburg State University for my undergraduate degree in family and consumer sciences in education. I taught HS FACS for 2 years then went back to school for my masters in school and community mental health counseling at Fort Hays State University. This will be my first year as a school counselor. I'm eager to get this school year started!



Peirce White, Middle School Math Teacher



I am Peirce White, geek of all trades. Despite lifelong hardships, I have a background and strong interest in technology, comics, video games, and nearly anything considered geeky. I have graduated from Blinn College in Texas with an Associate of Science majoring in Mathematics, and just recently graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City with a Bachelor's of Arts majoring in Middle School Education focused on Mathematics.

Adrienne Wyatt, Librarian and Title I Math Teacher

My name is Adrienne Wyatt. I grew up in Agency, Missouri and graduated from the University of Missouri - Kansas City. I spent the last few years living in Colorado and Iowa and recently moved back to the St. Joseph area. I am very excited to be the new librarian and Title I math teacher at Rushville and DeKalb. In my free time, I enjoy working on arts and crafts, traveling both domestically and internationally, and reading. My favorite book is Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte, but I love a variety of different genres. My husband and I are expecting our first child in November.





Buchanan County R-IV School District
702 Main Street
DeKalb, MO 64440

Box Holder