
WILDCAT PRIDE



Issue 30

USD 263 District Newsletter

OCT 2011

Getting to Know Your School Board

Name: Ron Becker

Married: Married to Traci Becker

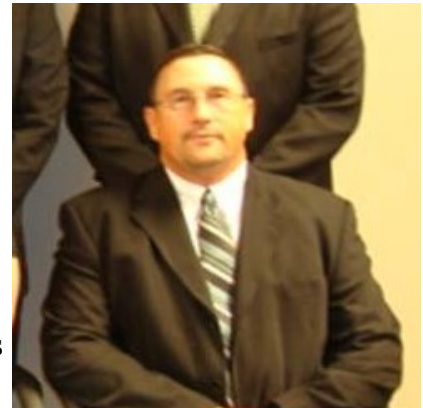
Education: Campus High School, BSBA/MSM Friends University

Current Position: General Manager in Aerospace Distribution

Years of Residency in Mulvane: 19 years

Children: Ashley, Whitney, Courtney, and Taylor all Mulvane Graduates

Grandchildren: Brett 1



Greatest Challenge: Integrating the school budget reductions into the district with the least amount of impact to instruction. Districts are redefining the word “improvise” in order to achieve the State’s mandates. Our district personnel are performing at exceptional levels and should be commended for these measured efforts. Going forward, we will need the community’s support to allow us to maintain the excellent talent we have as well as the capital/maintenance needs necessary to keep the district operating at a high level.

Favorite Teacher: I have been fortunate that there have been many teachers that have influenced me. I’m not sure if I can say just one. I believe you are never done learning; you can always be a better person and learn from others, but if I had to pick one, it would be the next one.

What's Happening at MGS

At Mulvane Grade School, students in P. E. class have been working on their soccer skills. Next up is cardiovascular fitness with lots of fun aerobic games. Included in those games will be a day in October that we bike to a near-by park to play Frisbee golf.



In Mrs. Ramsey's class, Cassie Ramsey a 2007 MHS graduate, came to class to talk about Japan and their customs. She will be leaving in October to move to Japan to teach English in four elementary schools in the Mito area. The students watched her write two of the three alphabets on the board. Each alphabet has thirty characters each. The students learned that the Japanese word taco means octopus. They learned some of the Japanese customs. For example, the Japanese have special shoes for outside and inside. Most of the Japanese students wear uniforms to school. They talked about Hiroshima and how the Japanese fold origami for luck.



Caleb Perkins tried on a kimono for the class.

Local Field Trip for 5th Grade

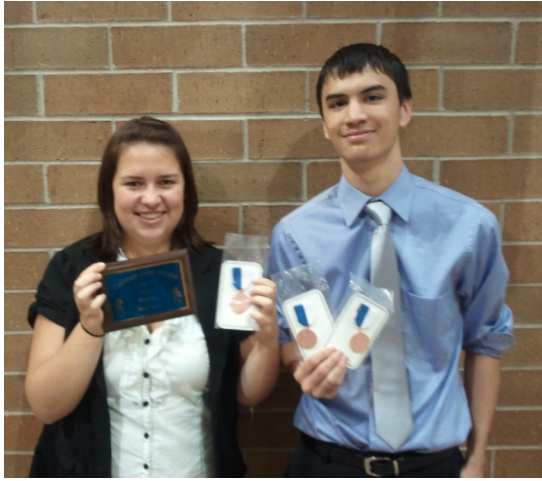


The fifth grade classes at the Grade School enjoyed a short afternoon field trip on Sept. 21-23. After stopping in Main Street park for a sack lunch, the students were treated to a tour of Carson Bank by Becky Bowers, Kale Carson, and other staff at the bank. They had previously spent some time in social studies discussing money facts and the first person correctly responding to a question about money at the bank was allowed to enter the vault. The students got to see some pretty impressive stacks of money! Mrs. Bowers explained how the ATM, the night depository, and the drive through machines at the bank are used. She pointed out the location of the original bank in Mulvane. Vicki Lee introduced the students to more Mulvane history at the Historical Museum. Many students climbed into the jail and on the train car. The kids enjoyed seeing the old corded phones and class pictures. Thank you to the staff at the museum and bank! It was a really fun and informative trip.



MHS Debate Team Competes

The MHS Debate team has started off their competitive season with some success. On September 16th and 17th, Debate traveled to Topeka and competed at the Washburn Rural Invitational. Forty-one students and over 300 high school debaters were in attendance at this traditional first tournament of the season. In the end, Savanna Thomas and Payton Nooney took 3rd place in the novice division. In addition to the 3rd place finish, Payton Nooney placed 5th in individual speaking.



On September 23rd and 24th, MHS Debate team went to Hutchinson to compete in the Tom Kelly Classic. Jake Dennison also earned a 5th place in individual speaking. Their success in this tournament earned them a bid to the Debate Coaches Invitational Tournament which is held in January. In order to compete at the DCI, debaters must earn 2 bids in DCI qualifying tournaments. At this time, Dennison and Wilkes are only the 3rd team in the



Kansas Honors Scholars 2011

Mr. Jay Ensley, Principal at Mulvane High School, announces the seniors who have been named Kansas Honors Scholars for fall 2011. These students earned this distinction by being ranked in the top 10% of their senior class. The Kansas Honors Scholars program was held Monday, September 26, at 7:00 p.m., at Valley Center High School. Following the Honors scholars program, the KU Alumni Association hosted a reception and refreshments were served.

The following seniors are Kansas Honors Scholars:

Stephanie Baca, daughter of Leonard and Debbie Baca; Madison Bish, daughter of Francine Bish; Evan Cifor, son of Dennis and Lori Cifor; Mikayla Gerber, daughter of Shon and Tricia Gerber; Kaitlyn Gundlach, daughter of Eric and Kelly Gundlach; Taylor Hatfield, daughter of Douglas and Mae Beth Hatfield.

MHS/MMS Music Department

The high school vocal music department is off and running with Esprit de Corps singing the National Anthem at the Homecoming game, preparing for the NHS Induction ceremony and all high school choirs learning their Christmas music for the Winter Concert, December 5th.

The middle school vocal music department is preparing a sixth grade concert for first nine weeks music students to end conferences on October 11th from 7:00 -7:30 in the middle school commons. The members of the Pioneer League Honor Choir will be chosen by the end of this week and they will rehearse in preparation for the Pioneer League event on November 12th at Circle Middle School. The 7/8 Choir is busy preparing their music for the MMS Winter Concert on December 19th at the MHS Auditorium at 7:00 pm.

All school sponsored concerts are free to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. Are you in charge of finding entertainment for an event, meeting or party? Call Rachel Jansen 777-1183 to see about booking a choir.

The high school musical "Guys and Dolls" will be November 17th, 18th, and 19th under the direction of Jason Mitchell, Rachel Jansen and Lee MacDonald. The cast has been chosen and rehearsals are currently un-

Mulvane Students Continue to Shine with 19 Standard of Excellence Awards!

The Kansas State Department of Education released Standard of Excellence awards for the 2010-11 school year. These awards are given to schools that have the majority of students scoring above average in the advanced and exemplary levels on the state assessments which are administered yearly in grades 3-8 and 11. The following schools and grades are recognized with the Standard of Excellence.

Mulvane Grade School: Math - Building wide plus grades 3, 4, 5
Reading - Building wide plus grades 3, 4, 5

Mulvane Middle School: Math - Building wide plus grades 7 - 8
Reading - Building wide plus grades 6, 7, 8
Science - Building wide (grade 7)

Mulvane High School: Reading - Building wide
Math - Building wide
Science - Building wide

Munson Primary School does not administer any state assessment and therefore isn't recognized for this award; however, they are certainly a contributing factor in the success of our students. Mulvane High School can only receive building wide recognition because they are evaluated using state assessments for only one grade level.



District Conserves Energy

Like many homes and businesses, the school district has been subject to increased demand for energy usage which has translated into higher energy costs.

In an effort to make the School District more energy efficient the District has recently completed upgrades that include adjusting thermostats, winterizing drafty doors and windows, replacing lighting with more energy efficient bulbs and replacing water flow valves.

The energy program is conserving electricity and will achieve a significant savings. Faculty, staff and students are helping with the little things such as remembering to turn off lights and shutting down computers at the end of the school day. A lot of the small actions will add up to big savings for the district. The district will monitor and report the savings in the next newsletter.

School Messenger Parent Notification System - Text Message Notification

School Messenger is a messaging service that assists us in communicating important information regarding emergencies, weather closings, cancellations, and general announcements. You can change/add a phone number, e-mail or receive SMS (Text) messages by doing the following:

1. Sign in to your Family Access account which can be found at www.usd263.org. Click on the Skyward Family Access box on the right side of screen.
2. On this home screen, you will see your student's name at the top of screen.
3. Click "Skylert" on the left side of screen.
4. You will now see your contact settings.
5. On the far right of screen click "Edit"
6. This will open a screen that lists the contact preferences under Phone, E-mail and SMS (text) messages
7. You can change/add a phone number, an e-mail address or SMS (text) phone number. You can also check the boxes to the right to determine which messages you want to receive.
8. Once you have made your selections, be sure to SAVE your changes (on far right).
9. If you have more than one student in the school system be sure to make changes to each student's settings by changing the student name in the top box and following instruction 3-8 for each child.



Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for, marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- *Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) -
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- *Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of* -
 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration or use -
 1. Protected information surveys of students;
 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales or other distribution purposes; and
 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Mulvane School District has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing sales or other distribution purposes. Mulvane School District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Mulvane School District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. Mulvane School district will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202



Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the School [principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the School principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosures without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student’s enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202



Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Mulvane School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Mulvane School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Mulvane School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Mulvane School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by the first day of school. Mulvane School district has designated the following information as directory information.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Student's name-Address-Telephone listing-Electronic mail address-Photograph-Date and place of birth-Major field of study-Dates of attendance-Grade level | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Participation in officially recognized activities and sports-Weight and height of members of athletic teams-Degrees, honors, and awards received-The most recent educational agency or institution attended-Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student's SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.) |
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¹ These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).



Mulvane USD 263 Mission Statement:

The mission of the Mulvane Public Schools is to prepare all students with academic and life skills while respecting the diverse social, educational, and cultural characteristics of each individual student.

The core values of Mulvane students and staff are based on a foundation of:

- *Respectful, positive relationships*
- *Safe learning environment*
- *Competent, knowledgeable staff*
- *Appropriate social skills and citizenship*
- *Professionalism with integrity*
- *Open and honest communication*

Mulvane USD 263
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Superintendent of Schools
 Dr. Brad Rahe

Board of Education
 Tim Snider, President
 Travis Cottrell, Vice President
 Richard Canfield
 Dennis Springer
 Jennifer Keys
 Ron Becker
 Steve Fry

Board of Education meetings are held at the Mulvane District Office at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month.



Munson Primary - 777-0151
 Terri Lemos, Principal
Grade School - 777-1981
 Raquel Charbonneau, Principal
Middle School - 777-2022
 Traci Becker, Principal
 Brad Hoy, Asst. Principal/Athletic Dir.
High School - 777-1183
 Jay Ensley, Principal
 Cathi Wilson, Asst. Principal
 Doug Evers, Asst. Principal/Athletic Dir.
Mulvane Academy - 777-3070
 Barbie Hamlin, Principal
Special Services - 777-1102
 Don Pennington, Director
Financial Officer - 777-1102
 Carolyn Young, Director
Human Resources - 777-1102
 Tom Keil, Director
Special Education - 777-1102
 Gay Younkin, Director
Assessment/Curriculum/Inst. - 777-1102
 Joyce Harting, Director
Transportation/Maintenance - 777-0501
 Daniel Fenn, Director
Food Service/Maintenance - 777-3003
 Richard Hampton, Director
Technology - 777-1102
 Dave Johnson, Director

Wildcat Pride edited by: Angela Sagely
If you have any items for this publication, please contact Angela Sagely at the Administrative Office at 777-1102 or email to asagely@usd263.k12.ks.us

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