



Mustang Express 2.0

Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School

April 2012

Principal 9-12:

Dennis Post

Assistant Principal 7-8:

Scott Harshbarger

USD 323

Superintendent:

Dr. Darrel Stufflebeam

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Champs of The Rock



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Tevon Tebbutt

Stephanie Vanderlinde

Student Teachers

As the school year is coming to a close, the seniors aren't the only ones thinking and dreaming about graduating. There are also seven student teachers that are just itching to get out of school.

Evan Dahlgren is a music education major at K-State and is student teaching under Todd Walters in the choral program. He was born in Manhattan but moved around a lot due to his father being in the military. Mr. Dahlgren enjoys Rock Creek because of the cooperation between programs. This allows students to participate in a wide range of activities. One teaching quality Mr. Dahlgren has learned from Mr. Walters is his patience. Mr. Walters gains the students' respect, because he clearly respects students.

Drew Duskie is student teaching in the math program with Shirley Vandahl. He is currently a student at K-State and is looking forward to graduating in May. He grew up in Cawker City and will return there to teach in his hometown school district. Mr. Duskie enjoys fishing and camping at Waconda Lake. He also sings and plays guitar. Mrs. Vandahl has advised him to take whatever he likes from his student teaching experience and use it in the future, but change whatever he doesn't like.

Danielle Evans grew up in Sharon Springs from a family of teachers; her mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, three aunts and a grandfather have taught. She has a bachelor's degree from Washburn University in history and she will finish her teaching license in May. She is almost halfway through with her Master's degree in Adaptive Special Education from Fort Hays. Her favorite advice from Mr. Chris Schmitz is, "When seniors whine, double their work." Seriously, he also advised her to know what you want the students to get out of a lesson before you teach it.

Brad Gober grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, but moved and graduated from Wamego High School his senior year. His hobbies include playing basketball and football, fishing, hanging out with friends, and watching K-State sports. Mr. Gober has been assisting in the Rock Creek football program for the last two years and really enjoys it. Mike Zabel is his supervising teacher in social studies. The best advice he received from Mr. Zabel is to just be himself in front of the class and most of all have fun.

Ben Kershner's supervising teacher is LeAnn Rottinghaus. She strongly encourages him to use activities to engage students. This helps the students better understand the information. Mr. Kershner grew up in Overland Park in a family that emphasized education and the arts. He graduated from Shawnee Mission South High School. Kershner says his biggest hobby in college has been band. He was in K-State's marching band and the basketball pep band for 5 years.

Daniel Knapp is from Buhler, Kansas. Knapp has an Associate's Degree in Science from Hutchinson Community College and is finishing a Bachelor Degree in Agriculture Education with a minor in Ag Business. David Holliday is his supervising teacher. One thing Mr. Holliday emphasized is to have a good working relationship with the students. Knapp enjoys many things that pertain to the outdoors, such as hunting, target shooting, dog training and riding his Honda Vtx 1300 cruiser.

Mark Weatherford grew up near Stull and graduated from Perry-Lecompton High School. He and his wife Jessica expect their first child in June. He is the youngest of ten children and eight of his siblings went to K-State. Mr. Weatherford will have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education with a focus in Spanish. Mr. Weatherford says that he enjoys the outdoors; some activities include hunting/trapping, gardening, and a little woodworking. Sara Miller is his supervising teacher in Spanish. Mr. Weatherford says the best advice he received is to "ham it up" while you are teaching so the students get excited about what you have to teach.

Calendar of Events

Date	Activity	Time
4/18/12	State Band & Choir	TBD
4/19/12	HS Softball JV @ Council Grove HS Baseball JV @ Wabaunsee	4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
4/20/12	HS Softball @ Southeast of Saline	3:00 p.m.
4/23/12	HS Softball JV @ Herington HS Baseball C Team @ Herington HS Baseball JV vs Riley County Jazz Band Concert	3:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
4/24/12	HS Baseball @ Riley County HS Softball @ Riley County	4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
4/24-4/29	BPA National Leadership Conference in Chicago	TBD
4/25/12	KC Jazz Summit	TBD
4/26/12	JH Track @ Rossville HS Track @ Manhattan HS Baseball JV @ Wamego HS Softball JV vs Abilene	12:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
4/27/12	HS Track @ St. Marys HS Baseball @ Clay Center HS Softball JV @ Chapman	3:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
4/28/12	State Solo & Ensemble HS Baseball JV @ Wamego	TBD 10:00 a.m.
4/30/12	Activities/Athletics Banquet	6:00 p.m.
5/1/12	HS Track @ Nemaha Valley HS Baseball @ Wabaunsee HS Softball @ Wabaunsee	3:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
5/2/12	Bond Election Public Meeting	7:00 p.m.
5/3/12	JH Track @ Rock Creek HS Baseball vs Silver Lake Senior Night HS Softball vs Silver Lake Senior Night	3:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
5/5/12	Wamego JH Band Festival HS Softball JV @ Holton	TBD 9:00 a.m.
5/7/12	HS Track JV @ Onaga HS Baseball JV vs Council Grove	3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
5/8/12	JH Mid-East League Track @ Silver Lake HS Baseball @ Rossville HS Softball @ Rossville	1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
5/9/12	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 p.m.
5/10/12	HS Mid-East League Track @ Riley County Bond Election Public Meeting	3:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
5/11/12	Pop Concert	7:00 p.m.
5/14-5/16	HS Baseball Regional HS Softball Regional	TBD TBD
5/17/12	5-12 Band Concert	7:00 p.m.
5/18/12	HS Track Regional	TBD
5/19/12	2012 Commencement	3:00 p.m.
5/23/12	Last Day of School	
5/24/12	Teacher Workday	
5/25-5/26	HS Baseball State HS Softball State HS Track State	

Business Partnership

One of the most important things a business can do is invest in their future employees and in the education of today's youth. The Rock Creek business department is looking to partner with a local business in the area of web and digital design. Students enrolled in our application level class would be available to work for your company and perform design and workplace skills. If interested, please contact Desiree Renner or Pat Booth at 785-494-8591.

End of the Era

How do you say "Happy Retirement" to a man that has meant so much to the Rock Creek School District? As many of you may know, Dennis Post is retiring at the end of the 2012 school year after 20 years in the USD 323 School District. Countless students, staff, parents, and friends will be sending him off to enjoy his retirement at the end of May. If you would like to make a farewell/good luck tribute message to Mr. Post, please e-mail your message to Desiree Renner at www.rennerd@rockcreekschool.org at Rock Creek. Your message could be in text format or in video format (.avi). All messages will be compiled into a tribute video for Mr. Post. Please include your name, the years you attended Rock Creek (if you are a current or former student), or the years that you worked with or knew him, and your retirement message. Messages will be taken until May 19. Let's let Mr. Post know how appreciated he is!

Hidden Treasures

"One man's trash is another man's treasure." No doubt many of you have heard this saying throughout the years. How many of us have purchased the newest technological toy and stuck the older one, that's still in perfectly good working order, in the junk drawer? The Rock Creek Business Department is looking for some of those hidden treasures. If you have recently purchased a new digital camera and stuck the old one away in a drawer somewhere, we would be perfectly willing to take it off your hands. We are in need of digital cameras that have all the pieces with them: cords used to download, battery charger w/battery, instructions, etc. These cameras probably still have a lot of life left in them and can be used for classroom and project purposes. If you have a digital camera that are willing to donate to Rock Creek, please send it to the school and let it become one of our treasures!

Business Department Career Pathway

As required by the Kansas State Department of Education, the business department is creating new classes as part of the state's Career Pathways curriculum restructuring. This curriculum requires the school to choose a career pathway from a list of career clusters and develop classes at three levels: introductory, technical, and application. Our introductory level course will be Computer Applications; the technical level courses include Web Page Design, Computer Programming and Digital Graphic Design; and the application level class will be Design Technology which is a combination of computer animation and video production skills. The classes developed at the technical and application levels receive additional state funding which is critical to the success of our schools and our students.

Along with curriculum, we need to find new advisory council members with job experience in the new career pathway. Our business department is in the process of applying for the Career Pathways program and developing the required curriculum and competencies and is in need of Advisory council members who meet the digital design qualifications. These members must be employed in the business/industry of the chosen pathway and represent the local labor market. If you are interested in possibly partnering with us to develop this class for our high school students or be a member of our advisory council, please contact Desiree Renner or Pat Booth at Rock Creek High School at 785-494-8591.

Counselor's Notes

Deadline:	Description:
	Seniors interested in studying mathematics at KSU, may wish to apply for the 2012 KSU Freshman Mathematics Scholarships . See Mr. Sullivan for application information.
	Students, minimum age 16, may be interested in completing a summer CNA Class at Valley Vista Good Samaritan in Wamego. The class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6/5-7/26. Class registration, certification exam fees, and book rental is \$500. Contact Betsy Miller or Bonnie Dillen at 456-9482 for more information and registration details.
	Senior females presently or previously enrolled in high school choir class are eligible to apply for the 2012 Wamego Dutch Mill Scholarship (\$500) . See me for applications (deadline 5/1/12)
4/20/12	10 th grade students planning to attend KSU may want to participate in the annual "For Sophomores Only" event at KSU on April 20 and 21. See Mr. Sullivan for program details and registration information or visit www.k-state.com/fso .
4/23/12	7 th / 8 th grade females interested in math and science may attend the 11 th annual MASTER IT summer program at Emporia State University from June 3-7, 2012. The five-day residential event provides participants an opportunity to reside in a residential hall, interact with university faculty/women professionals, and enjoy various social activities. See Mr. Sullivan for application details.
5/1/12	Senior females who have taken high school choir may apply for the 2012 Wamego Dutch Mill Scholarship (\$500) . See Mr. Sullivan to apply.
5/9/12	10 th and 11 th grade students planning to pursue nursing careers may attend the annual The Nightingale Summer Experience at Fort Hays State University on June 19-20, 2012. The all-expenses paid event provides participants an opportunity to learn more about a career in nursing, visit the FHSU Nursing Department, stay at a residence hall overnight, and observe clinical units at Hays Medical Center. See Mr. Sullivan for registration information.
6/3/12	Juniors boys interested in attending the annual Boys State Leadership Academy at Kansas State University should see Mr. Sullivan for program details and registration information.
6/3/12	Junior girls interested in participating in the 2012 Girls State program, to be conducted at the University of Kansas from June 3-8, 2012, should contact Mr. Sullivan at the earliest opportunity. The annual event promotes civic leadership, representative government, and patriotism.
6/22/12	Grade 9-12 students interested in pursuing law degrees may attend the Washburn University Summer Pre-Law Camp in Topeka from 7/16-7/20. The four-day event offers an enriching and enjoyable opportunity to learn about a career in law. Register at www.washburn.edu/cas/communication/pre-law_camp.html
7/15/12	Seniors may apply for the 2012 American Legion Scholarships . See Mr. Sullivan for program details, qualifications, and information sheets. The award amounts and deadlines vary.

Senior Exit Projects

On Friday, March 16, twenty-seven Rock Creek seniors began their spring break on a positive note by successfully presenting their exit projects before a panel of three judges, including their community mentor, their senior faculty judge and another faculty judge. This 10-20 minute presentation is the final step in the exit project process, which includes writing a research paper, securing a mentor, completing a project of at least 15 hours, and compiling a portfolio. The exit project is a graduation requirement for Rock Creek High School. Students complete a wide variety of projects, spanning academic subjects, community service, career exploration, and personal growth.

Julie Amick fed farm animals; *Levi Anderson* constructed a muzzle loader; *Alisha Banta* painted a mural; *Tyler Buss* participated in an archeological dig; *Dylon Dunaway* created an informational website about local fishing spots; *Abby Glendening* learned to sky dive; *Garrett Hudson* created a mount of a coyote using taxidermy; *Shaunee Hulbert* researched and gave presentations to youth about dating violence; *Nicole Koonce* learned to play violin and gave public performances; *Caitlin Leiker* renovated St. Joseph Catholic Church's holy water fount with mosaic; *Cody Liming* designed a bridge and built a scale model; *Joshua Lohse* built a gun cabinet; *Dakota McAdams* organized a "No Texting While Driving" campaign; *Paige Miller* wrote poetry, compiled a portfolio, and submitted poetry for publication; *Sam Reves* learned to crochet and crocheted blanket to donate; *Zachary Saueressig* designed, repaired, and built a shed roof and overhang; *Trever Sotelo* rebuilt a retaining wall; *Shane Schaaake* researched nutrition value of animal feeds; *Devin Stamm* researched and gave presentations on drinking and driving; *Trevor Sutton* refurbished a horse trailer; *Tevon Tebbutt* and *Nick Wells* designed and built doghouses; *Karl Thompson* designed and programmed a video game; *Stephanie Vanderlinde* learned how to select, measure, and drill bowling balls; *Ryan Weber* build a computer; *Eric Willard* learned and demonstrated broadcasting skills; *Sam Wilson* trained and worked as a cameraman, and created a sports highlight video.

★ **Champs of the Rock** ★



KSHSAA 2012 State Sportsmanship

Rock Creek High School

All-Flint Hills Basketball

1st Team

Lizz Herrs, Jacob Miller

2nd Team

K.J. Dobbins

Honorable Mention

Dillon Johnston

Aaron Kuecker

2012 Outstanding Junior High Youth Award State Winner

Jackson Fike

LEAGUE ART

9 Gold Medals

8 Silver Medals

11 Bronze Medals

29 Honorable Mentions

Mid-East League Forensics

Dramatic Solo Acting: *Sara Nider, 1st; Kelsey Cook, 3rd*

Duet Acting: *Sara Nider/Jackson Meyer, 1st;
Justin Ward/Trey Basa, 2nd*

Extemporaneous: *Chance Maginness, 1st; Dylan Meyer, 3rd*

Humorous Solo Acting: *Jessi Snapp, 1st; Jacob Miller, 2nd*

Improvised Duet Acting:

Jackson Meyer/William Henry, 2nd;

Matt Pearson/Justin Ward, 5th

Informative: *Crystal Chitwood, 1st; Jessi Snapp, 2nd*

Oration: *Paige Nickell, 2nd*

Poetry: *Aaron Kuecker, 1st; Isaac Camacho, 3rd*

Prose: *Jacob Miller, 1st; Trey Basa, 2nd*

Junction City Forensics

Dramatic Solo Acting: *Sara Nider, 1st; Kelsey Cook, 2nd;
Jackson Meyer, 6th*

Duet Acting: *Jackson Meyer/Sara Nider, 1st;
Trey Basa/Justin Ward, 2nd; Aaron Kuecker/Jessi Snapp, 4th;
Matt Pearson/Andrew Butterfield, 5th*

Extemporaneous: *Chance Maginness, 2nd; Jacy Johnson, 3rd;
Rachel Forrester, 6th*

Humorous Solo Acting: *Jessi Snapp, 1st; Jacob Miller, 2nd;
Justin Ward, 5th*

Improvised Duet Acting:

Andrew Butterfield/Alexis Engelken, 7th

Informative: *Crystal Chitwood, 3rd*

Oration: *Kelsey Cook, 5th*

Poetry: *Trey Basa, 2nd*

Prose: *Jacob Miller, 4th*

Ottawa Forensics

Humorous Solo Acting: *Charlie Pyle, 6th*

Prose: *McKenzy Umscheid, 6th*

Wamego Forensics

Dramatic Solo Acting: *Kelsey Cook, 2nd;*

Brooke Minihan, 3rd; Kennedy Brown, 6th

Duet Acting: *Andrew Butterfield/Matt Pearson, 1st;*

Brooke Minihan/Spencer Bowers, 4th;

Aaron Kuecker/Alexis Engelken, 5th

Extemporaneous: *Dani Rakowitz, 3rd*

Humorous Solo Acting: *Justin Ward, 3rd;*

William Henry, 6th

Improvised Duet Acting: *Jackson Meyer/William Henry, 1st;*

Matt Pearson/Justin Ward, 5th

Informative: *Shannon Oakley, 2nd; Alexis Engelken, 6th*

Oration: *Paige Nickell, 5th; Kelsey Cook, 5th*

Poetry: *Isaac Camacho, 3rd; Aaron Kuecker, 4th*

Prose: *Molly Pyle, 5th*