



GBHS Newsletter

September
2011

Notes from the Principal

Hello,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year at Great Bend High School! We are off to a great start and excited about the year! We at GBHS have a strong desire to see our students succeed and we have started off running towards that goal. If you are reading this message, then you probably have a strong desire to see your student succeed also. We want to work with you as the parent to ensure that each of our students has the best opportunity to succeed in whatever they choose to pursue. I tell students all of the time that one of my goals is to shake hands with them whenever they cross the stage at Graduation time. A simple goal, yes, but a realistic one for some. Again, welcome to the new school year and we at GBHS look forward to seeing you and working with you in any way possible.

We don't waste much time in getting started with activities! Join us in the month of September to watch your son/daughter in Football, Volleyball, Cross-Country, Tennis, Soccer, Golf, Debate and/or Band. Come in and see us at anytime and work with us to make this year a great one for your student. Help us to make this a great year for everyone involved! I look forward to seeing you at any of our school functions.

Tim Friess

Sale

Check out the USD 428 Surplus Property that we have for sale. The property pictures and pricing are located on the school webpage - www.usd428.net . USD 428 Surplus Property icon is on the left side of the screen.

Yearbooks

(1) If you bought last year's yearbook and have not picked it up, see Mrs. Basden in room 100 before and after school. If you need to come during school hours, email Mrs. Basden at Rachel.Basden@usd428.net with the day you need to pick it up, and it will be waiting for you in the main office.

(2) 2011-2012 Yearbooks are now on sale! You can only purchase a yearbook through October and no extras are purchased, so don't miss out. There is a discount if you buy your yearbook early. Get your yearbook order forms in either the main office or room 100. Take your order forms and payment to Mrs. Basden, in room 100, before and after school.

Mrs. Rachel Basden
Great Bend High School
Journalism & English Teacher
620-793-1521 ext. 372



FBLA Induction Ceremony

Tuesday, September 13

7:00 p.m.

GBHS Auditorium

This is for all students who are FBLA members for the 2011-2012 school year and their parents. Dress is business attire for members. Contact Mrs. Lee at cody.lee@usd428.net for questions or more information. Letters will be sent home to parents prior to the event.

Variety Show Reunion

On Saturday October 8th (football homecoming weekend) there will be a reunion Variety Show for any former vocal or instrumental music department students who wish to participate. The acts previously performed by any 'former' students during any Variety show during the last 40 years can be presented. This is an event that will be enjoyed without the pressure of perfection.

There will be a rehearsal on Saturday with a performance in the evening at 7pm. There will be a get together after the show for participants and members of the audience to reconnect with each other and some of the former directors who have taught at GBHS in the music dept.

This will hopefully be a time to reconnect and enjoy reliving some great memories!!!

If you are interested in more information, please email



Bullying

As school is back into full swing, many students look forward to learning and engaging with their teachers and classmates in the adventure of learning. However, some students simply dread school each and every day. Sometimes these students are targets of bullying behavior. This is a problem that parents and school personnel, working together, can address.

Great Bend Public Schools prohibits bullying in any form, including electronic means on or while using school property, in a school vehicle or at a school sponsored activity or event. Each school addresses bullying prevention. A bully, or a person who is showing bullying behavior, is someone who repeatedly and intentionally hurts or intimidates others without provocation. Because such behavior often occurs when an adult is not within hearing range, it is essential for school staff and parents to work together to confront the issue. Parents are encouraged to contact their school with any concerns and to talk to their children at home about what he or she has learned.

At school, we emphasize that everyone has the right to be respected and no one deserves to be bullied. Please let your child know that if he or she is a target of bullying, it is not their fault.

We encourage parents to work with the school if their child is being bullied or witnessing another child being bullied. It is essential for parents and school staff to work together to stop bullying.

If your child is a target, in addition to contacting school personnel, encourage your child to investigate new interests, make new friends, and develop current interests and friendships. Activities will help build self-esteem, and friends can help insulate a child from bullies.

Point out bullying behavior in movies and on television, and talk to your child about what the different characters in the story could do about the situation.

Social skills are essential for a successful future. Thank you for supporting the work we do at school with your child.

News from the Guidance Office – September 2011

ACT Information

GBHS Code 171-158

Test	Registration
Date	Deadline
10/22/11	9/16/11
12/10/11	11/4/11
02/11/12	01/13/12
04/14/12	03/09/12

Web Resources

www.fastweb.com

www.collegeparents.org

www.ed.gov

www.collegesaving.org

www.fafsa.gov

www.finaid.org

www.wiredscholar.com

www.collegiatefunding.com

www.nasfaa.org

www.cashe.com

www.sfahelp.gov

www.careertech.com

www.saludos.com

www.militarycareers.com

www.hsf.net

College Applications

Now is the time to begin to think about schools and to narrow your choices down to three to five. Most colleges and universities have application fees which range from \$15 to as much as \$75, so it's not a good idea to apply to a lot of schools. Try to find three schools that you're really interested in, and apply to just those schools. If you're not familiar with a school, but think you might like to go there because of certain programs they offer, you should arrange a college visitation day. We can help you with those arrangements, or you can make them yourself by contacting the College and High Schools Relations Office of the college you wish to visit. Application deadlines vary from school to school. **K-State and KU have a November 1st** deadline for applications if you want to be considered for the priority scholarships; **October 1st** is the priority scholarship deadline for **WSU**. Regardless of which schools you choose, get your applications in as early as possible. Waiting until the last minute may result in mistakes which could delay the processing of your application. If you're waiting for an ACT score, most schools will allow you to update that on your application. You can obtain an application via the school website or stop by the guidance office as we may have the application you need.

NCAA Information for Parents and Prospective Athletes

If your teen wants to participate in college athletics as a freshman, the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse must certify him/her as an athlete. Please contact your guidance counselor to discuss these eligibility requirements. Any senior wanting to compete in athletics at a Division I and/or Division II School must complete the NCAA Clearinghouse form at www.ncaa.org and pay the fee with a Visa or Master Card. The Clearinghouse will no longer accept ACT scores mailed from high schools - put code 9999 in Section O and your ACT scores will be sent directly to the Clearinghouse.

Watch Out!

If you have received mail offers to conduct scholarship searches for your teen, throw them away. These companies charge fees that range from \$40 to \$800 to conduct a scholarship search for your teen. They provide information that can be obtained at no cost if you search the Internet. Many of the companies are fly by night operations and will take off with your money if you send it to them. These companies take advantage of parents' concerns that they will not be able to afford to send their teen to college. A family in the Hays area spent over \$900 and a family in Great Bend spent over \$500 before they realized they were being scammed. Don't let this happen to you. Some of the companies are legitimate, but there is no reason for you to pay for information that is available for free. Check out Mapping Your Future, a web site that offers up-to-date information on college, career, and financial aid choices and is available in English and Spanish. You can find it at www.mappingyourfuture.org.

College News & Events

Barton Community College

BCC will hold the **College Planning Conference** in the GBHS gym on Monday, September 19th. Students will be able to meet with Kansas College and University representatives between 1:30-3:00.

Kansas State University

Oct. 28th Senior Day

Register at <http://consider.k-state.edu/seniors/>

Dec. 2nd Junior Day

Dec. 5th Junior Day

Multicultural Pride Day for juniors and seniors will be held on Friday, October 3rd. Seniors will have the opportunity to discuss their academic interests with K-State faculty and juniors can attend sessions about being a multicultural student at KSU and about financial aid. The cost is \$20 for students, which includes program materials, parking, and lunch. Parents and guests may attend for \$15 each.

KSU Women's Rowing team is interested in recruiting female athletes. The rowing program has Division I scholarship opportunities for students who may have little or no rowing experience. A competitive sports history and height – the ideal rower is 5'10 or taller - are the two primary criteria considered by KSU recruiters when making scholarship offers.

University of Kansas

KU offers many senior days. Space is limited and is available on a first-come, first serve basis, so register early at: http://admissions.ku.edu/visit/senior_days.shtml

These Senior Days focus on a variety of academic areas:

Sept. 12th

Sept. 19th

Sept. 26th

Oct. 10th

Oct. 31st

Nov. 11th

Nov. 18th

Senior Days that focus on specific academic areas:

Sept. 23 rd	School of Journalism & School of Education
Sept. 30 th	Pre-Health Professions
Oct. 3 rd	Engineering
Oct. 21 st	School of Architecture & Design
Oct. 28 th	Creative Arts & Business

Pittsburg State University

PSU offers the following special visit days:

Sept. 10 th	Rumble in the Jungle senior Saturday
Oct. 7 th	KS Technology Center Open House
Oct. 20 th	Opportunities in Business Day
Nov. 17 th	Art Day
Nov. 21 st	Family & Consumer Science Career Day

Hutchinson Community College

HCC is hosting the annual Fire Student Field Day on **October 12th** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for students interested in a career in fire service. Students will discover and participate in fire fighting techniques and gain first-hand knowledge of fire-fighting as a career. Students wanting to attend should register prior to **October 7th** – a free barbeque is planned so pre-registration is required. www.hutchcc.edu/fire

Wichita State University

WSU is offering high school seniors the chance to compete in the Distinguished Scholarship Invitational (DSI) for an opportunity to earn scholarships. To be considered for an invitation a student **MUST** complete the following **BY October 1st**:

- Submit an official high school transcript with a minimum 3.50 GPA
- Have a minimum ACT composite score of 24 or SAT score of 1110 on file with WSU

Be admitted to WSU

See your high school counselor for more information.

Salina Area Technical College

Sept. 9th Senior Days

Register at www.salinatech.edu

Scholarship/Award Information

Wendy's High School Heisman Award

The Wendy's Heisman Award is presented annually to one male and one female high school senior who best exemplify the designation of scholar-citizen-athletes.

Men and women entering their senior year of high school who have at least a 3.0 grade point average and participate in at least one of 28 sports officially sanctioned by the National Federation of State High School. Students are judged on their academic achievements, community and school service and athletic accomplishments.

The online application must be completed and reviewed and confirmed by a high school counselor no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 1st. Access the application at www.wendysheisman.com.

Coca-Cola Scholarship

This scholarship program is dedicated to selecting well-rounded students from every type of community across the nation. The Coca-Cola Foundation awards 250 merit based scholarships – 50 awards are for \$20,000 and 200 awards are for \$4,000. The scholarship can be used for any line of study at any accredited U.S. college or university. The application can be accessed at www.coca-colascholars.org and must be submitted before October 31st.

Lang Diesel Inc. (LDI) Service Technician Scholarship and Tuition Reimbursement Program

LDI selects multiple students to receive a \$4000 award that are enrolled in a diesel mechanics program at a vocational school. LDI will also select multiple students who have already graduated from a diesel mechanics program and will reimburse them for some of their tuition if they are employed with LDI. If a student is interested in diesel mechanics and wants more information about this program, please contact Danielle at the Hays location at 785-735-2651, or see your counselor for a brochure.

Horatio Alger Scholars Program

Students who have overcome adversity so they may pursue higher education may be eligible for the Horatio Alger Scholarship. For more information go to

www.horatioalger.org/scholarships. Application deadline is October 31st.