

West Elementary Items for the Good
September 12, 2022

- **Welcome to New Staff at West!**

We welcome several new staff members to our team at West this year! Welcome to the following individuals:

- Kim Ross - Fourth Grade
- Kaycee Bieberle - Family & Community Resource Liaison (Shared with Central)
- School Mental Health Initiative Liaison - TBD (Shared between all 320 Schools)
- Brianna Rowe - Instructional Aide (Replacing Lindsey Lull)
- Tyler Schmidt - Instructional Aide (Replacing Jessica Johnson - increased to I.A. from B.A.)
- Esme Harrison - Instructional Aide (Filling open Building Aide position vacant from last year, but will be an Instructional Aide)
- Desirae Barnett - Paraeducator
- Abigail Jeanneret - Paraeducator
- Kathleen Shepard - Part time Paraeducator
- Kelly Sigg – Paraeducator
- Will Watson - Paraeducator
- Reade Wohler - Paraeducator
- Hope Wheeler-Halstead - Student Intern with Jacy McIntosh in Fourth Grade
- Cassandra Smith - MAT Student Intern with Stacey Hirt in Fifth Grade (Practicum Fall/Student Teach Spring)
- Taryn Claine - Counseling Student Intern with Robin Butler
- Lizzie Allenbrand (KSU Student) - Will be completing her Service Learning Practicum with Madi Cravens on Fridays from 8:30-10:00am.

In House Transfers

- Emily Ruby - Third to Fourth Grade
- Amanda Beason - Fourth to Fifth Grade
- Lindsey Lull - Instructional Aide to Special Education

PMHS

- Sarah Dunevent - Therapist
- KaiaMae Treadwell - Case Management

- **Back to School/Open House Night and Parent Night at West for 2022**

We were so happy to offer in person Back to School and Parent Nights again this year for our families! We had excellent attendance at Back to School Night with almost 100% attending! Parent Night had less in attendance this year with about 52% attending, overall. This is an event that where we seem to have fewer attend every year and we are brainstorming ways we can get more parents to attend. It is definitely an important night, as it is the time for parents to learn more about what to expect from their child's teacher and grade level. Our teachers did ensure that all families had access to the presentations shared by sending these to all "no shows". Regardless of our attendance, we still believe this is an important event and will continue to provide it at West Elementary.

- **West Elementary Students and Staff Recognize Patriot Day for 9/11 – Participate in Celebrate Freedom Week and Constitution Day September 13-16**

First thing in the morning on Friday, September 9, 2022, our students and staff gathered at our flagpole at West Elementary to pay our respects and give honor to all impacted by the horrific events of September 11, 2001. Our students at West weren't born yet when the attacks took place. However, we believe it is important to take time to remember and honor all those who lost their lives, as well as their families, emergency response personnel, and our military men and women who have fought and continue to fight to protect us and our freedom.

During the short ceremony, the following information was shared by Mrs. Flinn:

On September 11, 2001 (21 years ago today), 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group, al-Qaeda, hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people were killed during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which triggered major U.S. initiatives to combat terrorism.

Today, we gather to remember all those who lost their lives as a result of these attacks, including all those on one of the airplanes or at one of the targeted sites, their families and loved ones, all law enforcement and emergency response personnel that were involved, and all those in our military who have fought and continue to fight to protect our freedom and keep us safe. It is important for all of us to remember what happened on that day and to keep the memory of those who perished alive in our hearts. Please join me in a moment of silence to pay our respects. God bless America and may we never forget.

Following our moment of silence, we recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang our National Anthem, led by Music Teacher, Marcia Hermes. We believe strongly that it is important for our students to understand the gravity of what happened and how it has shaped our country and our history.

September 17 is Constitution Day. September 13 - 16 is Celebrate Freedom Week. All staff will take time next week to teach our students about the founding of the United States and its key documents. Emphasis will be given on the Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution. May we never forget. God bless the USA.



- **Positive Principal Visits with Mrs. Flinn**

As an incentive to meet class and building-wide expectations, students at West can earn Class Dojo points to receive various rewards. One of these rewards they can select is a “Positive Principal Visit”. This is a time where the child can visit with Mrs. Flinn for generally about 15-20 minutes about anything he/she is interested in discussing. It normally turns out to be a conversation about all sorts of different topics, most specifically about the child and his/her interests. This is one of Mrs. Flinn’s very favorite activities at school and she is promoting this with her teachers to encourage students to request a Positive Principal Visit. This is the fifth year for this project in our school.

- **Class-wide Fluency Work – From West MTSS Team**

After our multiyear work with the ELA TASN team, the Building Leadership Team at West Elementary took a deeper look at how to implement best reading practices as quickly as possible to start the school year. Our staff agreed to implement a class-wide fluency intervention for all three grade levels during the first few weeks of school.

Our Reading Specialists and Title I Interventionists, Lisa Kruse and Abby Ross, created a procedure and schedule for this routine. After formally presenting to the staff, teachers implemented this procedure with fidelity during the daily scheduled intervention time. Students learned the routine, which will be used frequently in small reading groups, CKLA (ELA curriculum), science, social studies, and math.

This fluency routine helped our students ease into the school year and prepared students to perform their best on all oral reading fluency assessments after a long summer break! After several weeks of this instructional routine, our students will be moved to small reading groups based on their fall benchmark screening reading data. These groups can include decoding interventions, fluency support, novel studies, and enrichment reading activities.

- **FastBridge Assessments**

Our students have completed the Fall FastBridge Benchmark Assessments in the following areas:

- FastTrack Math – aMath and CBM Math Automaticity. Not doing CBM Math CAP.
- FastTrack Reading- aReading, CBM Reading English, AUTO Reading (fourth/fifth only)

These assessments will allow us to access the Screening to Intervention (S2i) Reports and use the intervention materials/plans from FastBridge in both reading and math!

To start the year, we will be doing *Class-wide Interventions* for the first two weeks, as shared above.

We plan to progress monitor every Tuesday so that we have “fresh data” for any progress monitoring data meetings on Wednesdays. We’ll be creating a *Collaborative Calendar for Reviewing PM Data and Decision-Making* for some Wednesdays.

Our Reading Mini BLT created the following Reading Protocols after working with TASN last year:

[West Elementary Reading Protocol](#)

[West Elementary Intervention Protocol](#)

- **News from West Specialized Team: Art, Counselor, Library, Music, P.E., and Technology**

Art News for September – Mrs. Havice:

We are off to a busy start in Elementary Art at West Elementary! The students in all three grade levels have been working on creating a design for the cover of their art folder based on the work of Charles Demuth's "I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold". For our twist on the famous work of art, the students are using the number that represents their specific grade level - three, four, or five. From there, the students have been working with diagonal lines to help create movement in their artwork. Once diagonal lines were added over the grade level number, the students worked on adding color to their composition. They were given the opportunity to use however many colors they wanted, as well as the option of using crayons, colored pencils, markers, or a combination of the three. While working, the students focused on using good craftsmanship by the way they worked with markers, crayons, and colored pencils, as well as with pencils and permanent markers. We even discussed how chisel point markers can produce three different types of lines by simply rotating the marker to write or draw with a different part of the chisel tip. Many of the students had experienced the variations in line when writing with dry erase markers without even knowing why the lines varied.

Counselor News for September – Mrs. Butler:

Welcome back for another exciting and educational school year. I am so happy to see all the students and to meet our incoming Third Graders and our new students.

To begin our school year together, students learned the expectations and they started our schoolwide digital Second Step lessons. The lessons begin with Unit 1: Growth Mindset and Goal Setting. Each week, the classroom teacher will teach the skill and then the students will practice during their class time with me.

During this unit:

- Third Grade students will learn how to develop a growth mindset and how to make an effective plan for how to get better at a skill.
- Fourth Grade students will learn how to develop a growth mindset and apply strategies to make effective plans to reach goals.
- Fifth Grade students will learn how to develop a growth mindset and to plan, modify, and achieve goals.

For Explore this year, half of the students will have counselor for Explore and the other half will have technology until October 17th. At that time, students will switch to finish up the semester. During Explore with Mrs. Butler, they will be exploring careers through Xello. Xello is an engaging online program that helps students build the skills, knowledge, and plans to be future ready. The program uses an investigative, discovery-based learning process. Students better understand themselves, their future career options, and the 21st century skills they'll need to succeed.

Finally, there will be a mindset theme that will guide our discussions about mindset. Here are our monthly themes for the year.

- September:** Everyone Can Learn!
October: My Brain Is Like A Muscle That Grows!
November: I Am A Valued Member Of This Learning Community
December: We Love A Challenge!
January: Feedback Is A Gift--Accept It
February: A Goal Without A Plan Is Just A Wish

March: Mistakes Are Opportunities For Learning
April: There's A Difference Between Not Knowing And Not Knowing Yet!
May: I Got This!

Library News for September – Mrs. Hatfield and Miss Garrett:

Library classes read *The Shelf Elf* by Jackie Mims Hopkins and are working to help their class earn the golden shelf elf award! Students have begun checking out books and have also discussed book care.



Music News for September – Mrs. Hermesch:

Welcome back to the Music Classroom!

All students are asked to bring their recorder back to school if they have one at home. Third Grade students will get their recorders soon if one was purchased at enrollment. If anyone needs to purchase a recorder, the cost is \$6. Checks should be made payable to West Elementary. Also, you can call the West Elementary office and make a payment over the phone if that is easier for you.

Fifth Grade

Students have been working on singing the “Star Spangled Banner”. They also sang the song “Good Morning”. They traveled around the room keeping the steady beat for the A section. In the B section, they stopped and performed a rhythm pattern using body percussion. They also learned the rhyme “Out Goes the Rat”. They performed the rhythm of the rhyme on the barred instruments. They learned the rhyme “Operator Operator”, as well, and are improvising rhythms using body percussion. The students reviewed how to identify Treble Clef Notes using the website Musictheory.net. This is a free website the students can use at home as well.

Fourth Grade

Students have been working on singing the “Star Spangled Banner”. They also sang the song “I Want To Rise”. Students added an accompaniment on the barred instruments to the song. Mrs. Hermesch reviewed their names by having the students perform the “Name Game” with body percussion. They are currently working on the song “Shake the Papaya Down” and performing it in ABA form.

Third Grade

Mrs. Hermesch started learning student names by having the kids sing the song “Up the Ladder”. We jumped right into learning how to sing the “Star Spangled Banner”. We also learned how to play the Statue Game and improvised creating statues. They spoke the rhyme “Please and Thank You” and added both body percussion and an accompaniment on the barred instruments. We have begun working on the Solfege Syllables Sol, La and Mi with the song “Golden Rule”. They performed this in ABA form.

All classes work every day to develop their ensemble performance skills. We talk about the importance of starting and stopping together, listening to each other, keeping the same steady beat (tempo), balancing our sound, just to name a few ensemble specific skills. We will continue to work on these all year long.

Physical Education News for September – Mr. Beam:

In PE during the month of August, we kicked off our year with a Team Building unit. During this unit we played a variety of games and activities that require teamwork to accomplish a task. During and after the activities, we discussed what it looks like to be a good teammate. Things like listening, cooperation, leadership, and filling the needed role were discussed regularly. The hope is that we can make each student a better team member for the rest of this year and onward into things beyond the classroom.



Technology News for September – Mrs. Hatfield and Miss Garrett:

In technology this month, we have honed our logging in skills and practiced our usernames and passwords in a variety of ways. In Explore, we have had a lot of discussion about what it means to be a respectful teammate. We have set group norms, practiced tone of voice and body language, and have done some team builders. We are looking forward to getting started on our STEM activities in September!

• **West Building Leadership Team Updates for 2022-2023**

Molly Townsend and Abby Ross will continue to be co-chairs and will work with Mrs. Flinn to develop the agendas. Teams are to put a heading at the top of their PLC Team agendas with “BLT Items” for discussion and any input from teams. We’ll use these in preparing our agendas. We will also continue to follow the Self-Correcting Feedback Loop to ensure communication is open and free flowing. We will continue to meet on Wednesdays and Fridays. We still need to finalize our schedule, due to PLC Fridays and those dates not being finalized yet. Please review the following updates from BLT:

- Mrs. Flinn provided input to the Admin Team on **Early Release Fridays and Vertical Team meetings**. The Admin Team agreed that we need to continue to have these meetings but need to give more clarity on what should take place (agenda items/topics). We are also planning to have a facilitator at these meetings. The grade band meetings (One Wamego B and C) don’t seem to be the issue. It is more the content area meetings (One Wamego A).
- We are giving the **KITE Mini Tests** this year, not the predictive interims. Teams need to make sure they plan for these and follow the schedule. [West Assessment Protocol](#)
- **Second Step** - Make sure you put in your teaming minutes where you need Robin to take over for each lesson.

- Teachers will complete **SAEBERS** the week of **September 26**. Students will complete **mySAEBERS** that week, too. Teams will analyze data during Early Release PLCs on **Friday, September 30**.
- **CHAMPS Stars and CHAMPS Code** - We are eliminating the CHAMPS stars and CHAMPS Code, due to the confusion with the CHAMPS classroom management acronym. We are working on a new theme that will be easier to remember. We will keep our School-wide Expectations of West Elementary Raiders are Respectful, Responsible, and Safe. Mrs. Flinn and Mrs. Butler will update the posters for our School-wide Expectations:
 - West Elementary Raiders are respectful, responsible, and safe!
 - List procedure/expectations for each area (no more than 5).
 - Update posters for arrival, dismissal, assemblies, lunchroom, bathroom, and hallways
- We also plan to keep our **School-wide Cheer** and hope to incorporate this into morning announcements periodically.
- **Student Recognition Activity** - Students will have a template with a school picture on one side and lines to write what they are proud of on the other side. These will then be placed into the word "RAIDERS" in the specialized hallway. This will replace the CHAMPS stars and Hall of Fame.
- **KAP Schedule** will be over a two-week period. We are hoping to get everyone tested in the mornings.
- **New Bus Procedures:**
 - Second and Third set will be sitting in lines in the gym by their bus # and dismiss as the buses come.
 - Esme Harrison will be in the gym waiting for Fifth Graders until Fifth Grade teachers arrive.
 - Third Grade: Take all students down the hallway and first set exits through gym doors.
 - Fourth and Fifth Grade: One teacher takes out the first set of kids through the front doors.
 - Other teachers take second and third sets to the gym.
- **Collaborative Data Calendar** - First meeting was **August 31**. We plan to do this more regularly and will create a calendar for teams to follow. We will start Progress Monitoring the week of **September 12**.
 - Progress Monitoring on Tuesdays
 - 5-7 data points per meeting
 - Take 5-10 minutes at the beginning of Wednesday teaming to look at a handful of students
- **Homework** - Start after Parent Night. All teams doing the same homework format - math on front, reading on back, handout on Fridays, due the next Thursday. **Parent Letters should go home for EVERY CKLA unit and Eureka Math Module!** Fourth/Fifth Grade Parent Letters for CKLA are digital.
- **Building Goals** - We will wait to discuss these until the DLT returns from the MTSS Symposium.
- **West support of USD 320 Strategic Plan** - We will be looking at how we as a building are supporting the USD 320 Strategic Plan. Here is a start for this document: [WES Strategic Plan](#)
- **Positive Behavior Supports at West Elementary and Development of Class-wide and Building-wide Expectations for All**

We are coming up with a new theme at West so that we don't confuse students with our "CHAMPS" behavior management approach and "CHAMPS Code". We are keeping our three schoolwide expectations - Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be safe, and keeping our school-wide cheer:

*"We are Champions here at West. High expectations - nothing less!
Respectful, safe, responsible, too. We show we care in all we say and do!
We are Champions here at West. We work hard and do our best!"*

FIRST and FOREMOST, all staff must spend the first few weeks building positive **RELATIONSHIPS** with our students! Get to know them and let them get to know YOU!

We need all staff to diligently **TEACH, REINFORCE, and EXPECT** students to follow the expectations for behavior in the arrival, dismissal, hallways, lunchroom, playground, bathrooms, and assemblies. Spend adequate time on this the first few weeks of school so that there is no question from students. Make sure you take time to teach students that enroll throughout the year, as well!

School-wide Expectations should be taught explicitly in every classroom and at a minimum in August/September, January, and April.

CHAMPS is simply a way of establishing how you want your classroom to function and providing clear expectations for students. All staff should have their CHAMPS expectations posted in their classrooms and these should regularly be communicated to students. I strongly encourage you to support each other in this effort as PLC teams. Visuals for students are very helpful—please share your ideas and creations.

Classroom Rules - Must be posted and communicated frequently!

Teachers should be implementing the components of **CHAMPS (Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation)** for specific learning activities in their classrooms. However, CHAMPS is just one component to a school-wide positive behavior support model. **The other elements of S.T.O.I.C. (Structure, Teaching—this is CHAMPS, Observe, Interact Positively, and Correct Fluently) are equally important.** It is very important for ALL staff to familiarize themselves with the contents of the CHAMPS book by Randy Sprick so that you clearly understand the components of S.T.O.I.C. and implement these in all classrooms.

Communication with Parents - All behavior concerns should be communicated with parents. This is IMPORTANT! Parents need to know how their children are performing in the classroom.

Focus on **Positive Reinforcement** for those students who are doing what they should be doing.

- **West Continues to Focus on Social/Emotional Learning with Second Step Curriculum**

We want each child to be successful in school and that means supporting and encouraging their whole development. While excelling in academic classes is important, children also need skills to take on learning challenges, make good decisions, manage strong emotions, and get along with others.

In early September, we began Second Step® Elementary, a research-based social-emotional learning program designed to improve children's social-emotional skills. Second Step skills and concepts are designed to help children both in and out of school. Four units will cover the following:

- **Growth Mindset & Goal Setting:** Children learn how to pay attention and manage distractions, develop a growth mindset, and apply goal-setting strategies to their social and academic lives.
- **Emotion Management:** Children learn how to identify and label emotions and use emotion-management strategies – including stress management for older students – to calm strong feelings.
- **Empathy & Kindness:** Children learn how to recognize kindness and act kindly, have empathy for others and take others' perspectives, and recognize kind acts and empathy as important elements of building and maintaining relationships.

- **Problem-Solving:** Children learn how to identify and state a problem, recognized if a problem is an accident, and use the STEP problem-solving process:
 - **S:** Say the problem
 - **T:** Think of solutions
 - **E:** Explore the outcomes
 - **P:** Pick a solution

Families will receive weekly communications from their child's teacher or our school to help them reinforce Second Step language, skills, and goals at home. If families have any questions about Second Step Elementary, we ask them to contact Mrs. Flinn, Mrs. Butler, or their child's teacher for more information. Thank you for your support as we work to build a safe and supportive school community.

- **Class Lists and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)**

This year, Mrs. Flinn will again meet with each teacher to review his/her class list and any ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) for the students in their classes. This provides insights into information on the students' history and how the teacher can best support each child in the classroom. Understanding ACEs is part of developing a "Trauma Informed School/Classroom".

- **Be the Light Care Packages and Harvesters BackSnacks Program**

We have a local group that will be creating care packages for up to 50 students each at West and Central. These will include snacks that students can take home for the weekend. Libby Mize is our community contact. Robin Butler and Kaycee Bieberle will be coordinating these efforts with teachers. Robin has sent info to teachers to collect names/permission forms. This is a great opportunity for our students. She will also be sending info on the Harvesters BackSnacks Program when it becomes available.

- **Counseling Groups**

Mrs. Butler has sent out information on group counseling opportunities for students. She will be providing sessions on anxiety, grief, and emotion management this year. She will also be doing individual counseling on Thursdays and Fridays.

- **Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures at West Elementary**

We are extremely fortunate that the district has supported our initiative to implement Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures in all four schools! We have 13 people trained now at West (Cathy Wilber, Emily Ruby, Haylee Haynes, Kandy Williams, Jennifer Blume, Sara Greene, Jacy McIntosh, Katie Buhler, Curtis Eckart, Samantha Brancatella, Skyler Fiske, and Robin Butler), as well as a WES Kagan Coach, Molly Townsend. Kagan will continue to be a focus during professional development and will also be a focus during PLC Teaming.

EVERY teacher is expected to set up their class in Kagan Cooperative groups and to use the structures ON A REGULAR AND DAILY BASIS. Teams should plan together which structures they are going to use and should work to implement multiple structures per week in their classrooms, as well as a team building/class building structure/activity.

Our Kagan Team will continue to provide resources and support to all teachers. Mrs. Townsend is also available to coach/model!

All teachers that have not yet been through the 5-Day Kagan Training went through Day 1 on September 12. Our Specialized Area Staff will complete the remaining 4 days this semester while classroom teachers, Title Teachers, Sped Teachers, and Instructional Aides go through training on the Science of Math. Next year, all remaining elementary teachers that have not completed Days 2-5 of Kagan will have that same opportunity. This is great professional development and more importantly, has a high effect size on student achievement if done correctly! We look forward to continuing to improve our instructional practices at West Elementary and in USD 320.

- **Third Grade Team Building**

A new school year means new friendships. A great way to get students to interact with their classmates is a team challenge. The cup stacking challenge helps students see the value in communication, working together, and building trust in each other. The object is for each team to build a pyramid out of their cups. The challenge is the students cannot touch the cups and must hold on to their one piece of string that is attached to a rubber band. Through organization and communication, the teams become successful and extremely proud of their success! It is a fun and interactive way to build relationships at the beginning of the year.



- **Third Grade Mapping**

In Third Grade, we learn about maps and mapping skills. We look at all the different parts that make up a map such as a scale, key, compass rose, etc. Students then create their own maps following explicit directions and placing their buildings based on cardinal directions. To complete the unit, the students use Google Maps on their iPads to look up Wamego and key places in their town. The students had a great time with their partner looking at the shape of our City Park Pond, the words written on the end of our football field end zones, and the name of the river that is south of Wamego.



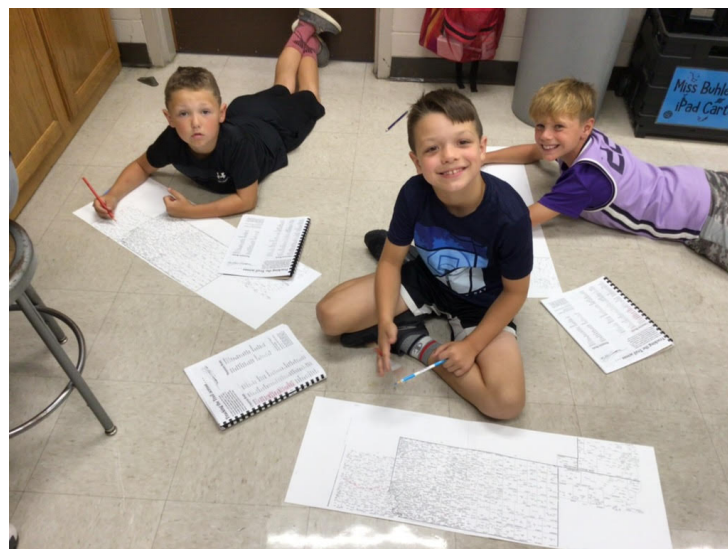
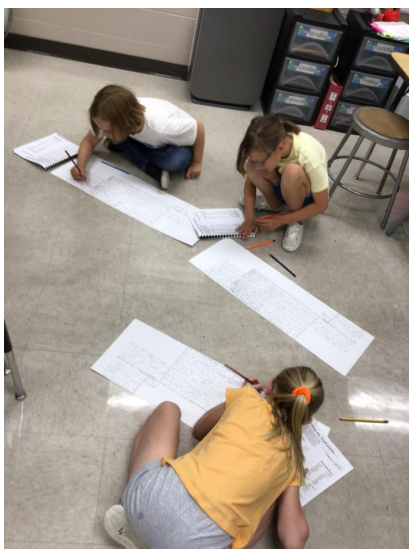
- **Fourth Grade Participates in Team Building Activities**

During the first few days of school, fourth graders spent time getting to know their classmates and engaging in activities that created teamwork. One challenge, "Saving Fred," had students work together to save Fred without using their hands.

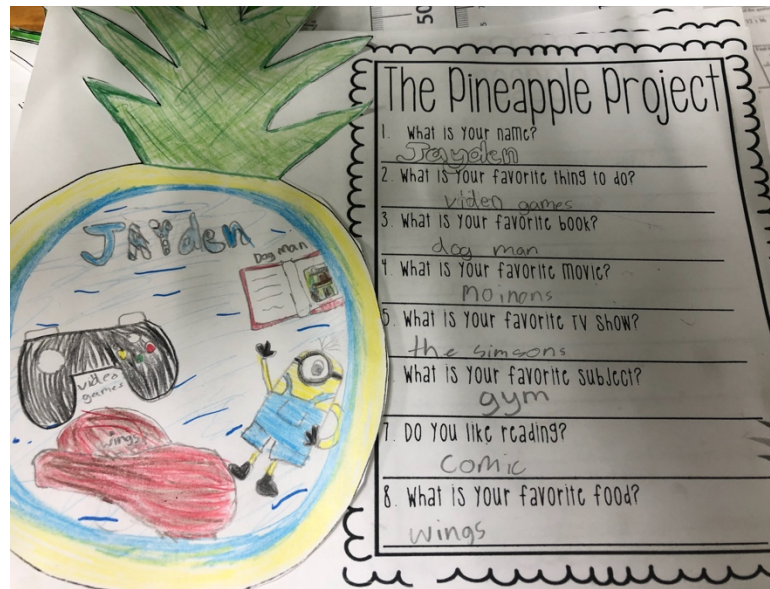


- **Fourth Grade Explores the Santa Fe Trail**

Fourth Grade has begun their journey on the Santa Fe Trail. They had the opportunity to map the various routes to Santa Fe from Missouri to Kansas over the Mountain or Cimmaron route into New Mexico. Now they are working on choosing whether they will take mules or oxen on their journey and what they will pack to trade in Santa Fe. When they wrap up their journey to Santa Fe, they will begin their adventures on the Oregon Trail!



- **Fifth Graders Strengthen Writing; Speaking & Listening Skills with Pineapple Project**
Fifth Grade students completed a back-to-school activity in ELA to create a poster for a classmate. First, we read the history of the pineapple as a symbol for hospitality. Then students were paired up to interview each other and create a pineapple-shaped poster to represent that person's interests and favorites. This was a fun way to "welcome" each other into a new class!



- **Fifth Grade Experiments with Mold Terrariums to Learn about Ecosystems**
Fifth Grade students have begun an experiment in our Ecosystems unit about decomposers. We have set up an experiment with a control plate of food for the class, and each group of students has chosen one variable to change with their own plate: adding salt or sugar, for example, or putting it in a darker or lighter place. Students will be checking in on their mold terrariums over the next week, observing what accelerates or hinders mold growth.



- **Girls on the Run Continues at West Elementary This Fall!**

Girls on the Run will be returning to West Elementary this fall. The 8-week program will begin September 13th and end with a 5K on December 3rd. The girls will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:20-4:50 at West Elementary. GOTR focuses on healthy living and self-esteem.

Thank you to our coaches, Robin Butler, Michelle Coleman, Jennifer Blume, and Brianna Rowe for providing this opportunity to our students!

- **School Fitness Challenge for West Students in Manhattan, KS on September 24, 2022**

West Elementary students have the option to participate in the School Fitness Challenge again this year in Manhattan, KS. This is a 1/2 mile or 1 mile race held at RV Christian Track at Kansas State University.

The more students that sign up to compete in the event, the more money that we get for our school to be used in our P.E. program.

- **Sign-up for Dillons/Kroger Rewards to Earn Money for West Elementary School!**

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just be a part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community.

Please link your rewards card to West Elementary School. Community Rewards is easy to use. The more you shop with Dillons, the more money our organization will earn!

The Kroger/Dillons organization is committed to carefully protecting their customer's personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, they have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Their privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation, as well.

From April 1, 2022, to June 30, 2022, our school earned \$520.74 from 119 households. PLEASE, IF YOU SHOP AT DILLONS, REGISTER YOUR COMMUNITY REWARDS CARD!

This is easy money to earn for our school, so if you shop at Dillons in Manhattan, be sure to register your Community Rewards card. Just go to the Dillons website and set up an account and you can link your Rewards card there. This is a Non-Profit Organization, and our number is LM001. **This will not take away from any savings for you or your family!** Thank you for your support!

- **Thank You to United Methodist Women Organization**

I would like once again to extend my sincere gratitude to the United Methodist Women for their generous support of our students with the donation of funds from their organization. These funds continue to provide much needed items for some of our most at-risk children. I cannot express how much we appreciate all the UMW have done for our school and students through the years. Their dedication to helping children is incredible. This group provided \$3,000 to help support at-risk students this year with such items as snack milk/juice, clothing, shoes, personal hygiene items, lice kits, nursing supplies, and more!

We live and work in a great community and the United Methodist Women model the type of generous spirit we want to instill in all of our children.

- **Mrs. Flinn to Continue Serving in KELI Leadership Mentoring Program**

Mrs. Flinn is excited to continue her participation in the KELI program (Kansas Educational Leadership Institute). She will be mentoring a first-year head principal in Junction City and a second-year head principal in Ogden. Mrs. Flinn will make a few visits to her mentees' schools this year, and the mentees will also visit West. They will also be involved in several Zoom Conference Calls with and without other mentors throughout the school year. This is Mrs. Flinn's seventh year to serve as a mentor in the KELI program and her 8th and 9th principal mentees.