

Carbondale Attendance Center
Parent Informer – Back-To-School 2016-2017

A Note from Mr. Flax – Wow! Here we are, gearing up for another new school year. I hope the summer found you relaxing with your children, and that you and they are ready for the school year to begin. I always enjoy the quiet of my office during June and July, but by this time of summer I am ready for the noise and busy-ness of school. It will be good to have the students and staff back in the building. We are excited about the new staff and the addition of fourth grade to CAC. There will be items devoted to them in this newsletter just below this. Mrs. Hamit and I are looking forward to meeting those of you we don't know, and seeing again those that we do. Do not hesitate to call school if you have questions or concerns. While we may not always agree, I would rather hear your concerns directly than from an outside source. Thanks and enjoy the rest of this and next week.

New Staff – We have several new staff in our building this year. Some on the teaching end, some on the classified staff end, and a few support personnel as well. I am excited to welcome back the fourth grade staff, as all of that group has worked with me previously. It will be great to have them back here, as well as the new personnel as well. The new staff and their assignments are:

Ms. Jackie Beatty – School Resource Officer
Mr. Garry DeBrot – School Nurse
Mr. Thatcher Decker – Jr. High Social Studies Teacher
Mr. Brit Dewey – Elementary Special Education Teacher
Mr. Russell Fawl – 4th Grade Teacher
Mrs. Carrie Gregoire – 4th Grade Teacher
Mrs. Carrie Hawks – Title 1 Teacher
Ms. Karen Hay – Special Education Teacher
Mr. Zach Johnson – 4th Grade Physical Education Teacher
Ms. Alexis Jones – 4th Grade Music Teacher
Mr. Robert Holmes – District Paraprofessional
Mrs. Marni Phillips – District Paraprofessional
Mrs. Stephanie Ziegler – District Paraprofessional/Technology Paraprofessional
Ms. Linda Arrendondo – TLEC Paraprofessional
Ms. Kylee Fine – TLEC Paraprofessional
Mr. Mitch Hawkins – TLEC Paraprofessional
Mr. Kevin Jordan – TLEC Paraprofessional
Ms. Jeannie Piper – TLEC Paraprofessional
Ms. Kimberly Speer – TLEC Paraprofessional
Ms. Megan Torneden – TLEC Paraprofessional
Mr. Jeff Payne – 4th Grade Counseling
Mrs. Bev Rose – Special Education Teacher
Mr. William Theodore – Jr. High Technology Teacher
Mrs. Cyndee Washington – 4th Grade Teacher

4th Grade – I am excited to bring another grade level to the building. I spent part of my teaching career at the fourth grade level. It was, and is, a great age of child. Having the fourth grade here will make for two somewhat separate “schools” here. One being the elementary grades 4-6, and the other being the junior high. The total enrollment in the building will be upwards of 375 students, with final numbers to be determined and reported after school begins. The classrooms will be in the north wing upstairs with additional rooms being just below that area in the north wing. With their move over here we gain Mrs. Hamit as the assistant principal. I am glad to have her back here with us.

Technology – As you are probably aware, we begin this year with a new technology approach. All students in grades 4-12 will be assigned a Chrome Book for their use this year. Part of the instructional day will be spent with students using these devices for research, classwork, and learning activities. Our CAC/SFTJH students will not be allowed to bring the Chrome Books home. They will pick them up off the charging carts first hour and will return them at the end of each day. By next Monday morning all of our students will be trained in signing in, appropriate use and care, and how to make sure they are plugged in each evening for recharging. The students will also be bringing home a form that must be signed by both parents and students before they will be allowed to use one. Please make sure that you read over the information and send that form back to us for the second day of school. Students will not be allowed to use them without that form being signed and on file here. I know for many parents (as well as myself) that some of the new developments in education are confusing and a bit frightening. School isn’t the same as it was when we were attending. I do believe that it is getting better and better, though.

Transportation – The first day of transportation is behind us. It took a while to get everyone boarded on the buses, and yes, we had some students head the wrong direction, get on the wrong bus, or not get on a bus at all. I know that is frustrating to all of you, and for that I apologize. We here just know that that is part of the first day. Hopefully the second day will be a bit better, with all the kinks worked out by next Monday. Thanks for your patience with us, and know we take the safety and well-being of all district children seriously. We will do our best to get everyone where they belong each day. If you have a change to the usual routine, please notify the office before 3:00 so we can let those who need to know what that change is before buses start to load.

Security Doors – The next time you are all at the building you will notice the doorbell on the front doors. Those doors will be locked always from now on with the exception of school activities in the end of the building. That gives us one extra layer of protection for all the students and staff here at CAC. When you arrive, just ring the doorbell. Someone in the office will answer over a speaker to you. They will admit you. You will need to open the door on the right side, even though the doorbell is on the left side of the entryway. Once inside, you will check in at the office like before. While it is not our intent to keep you away from your children, it is our intent to make sure that all students and staff are safe from intrusion and interruption.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up – I write this item every year, and I receive feedback about it every year...not always pleasant for me...but it bears repeating again this year. The local police chief stopped in to see me today. He wanted me to make a few reminders about where it is appropriate and legal to drop off children in the mornings. We have a drive-through lane (just one lane) in the east parking lot. The other lane in that lot is a parking lane. Please do not stop and drop students off in that lane. It doesn't allow staff or parents to park and come to the building. There is a parking lot just south of the building. You are asked to pull into that lot and drop students off so they may cross that street safely. The stop sign at both ends of the street are not safe drop-off places. Please do not stop at the stop sign and have students get out of the car. I appreciate those who are so careful to make sure all our students are safe as they try to move to the school each morning. The same "rules" apply when picking students up after school.

Fundraiser – In September I traditionally run a fundraiser. We have used Red Wheel food sales for the past several years. Our fundraisers are optional as far as student participation. I think it is important that you know we use all the money from this fundraiser to provide activities and events in the second semester. Be looking for the packets that will come home on the 7th of September. Thanks for your help in making this a success.

Activities – The fall sports' season is upon us. We offer football, cross country and volleyball at SFTJH. And every year we have a good number of students who participate. The volleyball team, coached by Nicole Prochaska, Linda Cunningham and Mak Heberling, have 35 girls out this year. They begin play next Thursday at Jefferson County West in Meriden beginning at 4:00. We have (at present time) fifteen runners for cross country. Their first meet is at Anderson County (Garnett) next Thursday beginning at 3:15. Their coaches are Scott Flanary and Heather Kirby. Thirty-four students are playing football this year under the coaching of Jim Duncan, Warren Watson, and Nick Baker. Their first game is at Wellsville next Thursday, with seventh grade starting at 4:00 with the eighth grade game to follow. Good luck to all our student athletes this season.

Items for your Calendars – You might want to add these dates to your calendars. Check the district website for changes and additions.

- 8/30 Site Council Meeting 6:00 CAC Conference Room
- 8/31 CAC All-School Picture 8:00
- 9/1 Cross Country at Anderson County 3:15
- Football at Wellsville 4:00
- Volleyball at Jeff West 4:00
- 9/2 Fall Picture Day
- 9/5 Labor Day – No School
- 9/6 Volleyball at Prairie View 4:00
- 9/7 Red Wheel Fundraiser Kickoff 2:45 Gym
- 9/8 Football vs Anderson County at SFTHS 4:00
- 9/12 Volleyball at Anderson County 4:00

- 9/14 BOE Meeting 6:00 at Scranton
- 9/15 Cross Country at Wellsville 4:00
Football at Osawatomie 4:00
- 9/16 Homecoming Parade in Carbondale 1:00
- 9/19 Volleyball vs Burlington at SFTHS 4:15
- 9/21 Red Wheel Fundraiser Sales End
- 9/22 Cross Country at Royal Valley 4:00
Football vs Iola at SFTHS 4:00
Volleyball vs Osawatomie at SFTHS 4:15
- 9/24 Volleyball at Perry Tournament 9:00 (A-teams)
Volleyball at Jeff West Tournament 9:00 (B-teams)
- 9/26 Volleyball at Iola 4:00
- 9/28 8th Grade Campus Visit to KU
- 9/29 Football at Burlington 4:00
Cross County at Council Grove 4:00
Volleyball vs Wellsville at SFTHS 4:15

I am sure I missed some dates. Just let me know if you have questions.

Have you read to your child today? Have you read with your child today?