



## Carbondale Attendance Center Board of Education Report Submitted Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

USD 434 Board Members,

The students and staff at Carbondale have run like wildfire through January. We have had some students and staff quarantined this month for COVID-19 concerns, though nothing so far has been widespread. Staff requesting the COVID vaccine are being inoculated, with many already having received the first of two shots through the Osage County Health Department in Lyndon. We expect to have a majority of the staff vaccinated with both shots by March.

The first semester Honor Roll list was released to the Osage County Herald-Chronicle and published. We subsequently learned that the list was not accurate due to an error in PowerSchool that our staff have still not been able to explain. Angela Black went back and reviewed each individual student record from first semester and compiled an accurate honor roll list. That new list has been re-submitted to the Osage County Herald-Chronicle to be published on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Notification of the updated accurate information will also be provided to the community via parent notice sent from CAC on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

The staff at CAC are moving towards the KESA goal of a functional Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). Having a more effective system in place as of the 2021-2022 school year has been a goal we set as a building back in August, and progress is slowly being made. We have staff slated for specific training to support the initiative, and are trying to comprehensively align the structures and platforms in use as seamlessly as possible between core teachers, interventional instructors, and Three Lakes staff. This is very much a work in progress, and moving forward we will update the Board of Education monthly as plans become more concrete.

Spelling Bee time came and went in January. We began with grade level competitions in the building. Here are our winners from the CAC building event by grade level:

4th Grade - Alaina Richardson, Brenna Heder, Konnor Williams.

5th Grade - Alexa Heder, Matthew Fechter, Lilly Barnes.

6th Grade - Kynlee Ard, Trevor Moreno, Justice McBurney.

7th Grade - Mirriam Williams, Addison Harmison, Hunter Boggs.

8th Grade - Layton Lind, Trenten Ditty, Morgan Pickering.

The winners across all grades then went head-to-head to set our team for the county completion. We were represented at the county spelling bee on February 2<sup>nd</sup> by three students:

1st place - Alexa Heder; 2nd place - Kynlee Ard; Alternate - Lilly Barnes.

I am proud to report that sixth grade student Kynlee Ard won the Osage County Spelling Bee. Many thanks to Alicia Amborski for steering the building process that led to a great result at the Osage County Spelling Bee.

Athletically speaking, Boys basketball is rolling into its final weeks. As stated previously, we are streaming the games for our families to watch the action from home since KSHSAA has limited our numbers of spectators.

The week of January 25<sup>th</sup> the entire building celebrated the State of Kansas with a spirit week of events culminating with Kansas cookies at lunch on January 29<sup>th</sup> (Kansas Day). Thanks go out to Gretta Hug for spearheading the weeklong celebration of our state. We followed one successful week with another – February 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> has been Random Acts of Kindness week led by the Community Volunteers classes of Melanie Wallace. Students have passed along encouraging comments, donated “Coins for Kindness,” and focused student attention on the power of kindness in making our school and communities better. Kudos to Melanie for her leadership.

# *Carbondale Attendance Center*



In January our students have connected in new ways with the school through the formation of two new student clubs. The two clubs, an AirSoft club and a Team Building Club, were conceived of and planned by students. In both cases a group of students brought a basic proposal to administration for the club, which we then talked out together to make sure we keep things compliant with school rules (like not actually bringing AirSoft guns to school, as an example). Students then canvassed the student body to create a list of students to sign up as interested in participating. They secured the support of a teacher to sponsor the groups. Lastly, the newly minted clubs began meeting after school with students and their teacher sponsors. Both groups have met and are moving forward. We are extremely proud to add these two student-led initiatives to our growing list of student clubs. It is a positive sign that our kids are investing more of themselves into the school community. Research has shown that the more ways that students connect with school the better outcomes they experience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben O'Dell".

Ben O'Dell