

Overbrook Attendance Center

August 2021

Welcome back everyone!! We have had an outstanding beginning to our new year. **We are officially at 302 students, up 40 students at the school, welcoming a kindergarten class of 88 and 26 new families.**

Kindergarten 88

First Grade 64

Second Grade 80

Third Grade 70

The building is full – no room to spare!

This year's beginning has many new changes. **Let's begin with new staff:**

Mrs. Becky Coltrane – Kindergarten

Ms. Brooke Cregan – Kindergarten

Ms. Brittany Gamber – Kindergarten

Mrs. Erin Metsker – Counselor

Miss Amber Thompson – Kindergarten

Mr. Bill Owecke – Special education resource teacher

Mrs. Heather Hamm – Food Service clerk

Mrs. Betsy Kraus – WIN tutor

Ms. Lisa Mason – Special Education paraeducator

Mrs. Kathy Ortiz – Kitchen staff

Staff with new assignments:

Mrs. Lorle Bolt – At Risk Coordinator and Assistant Principal

Ms. Reanna Crumpton – Title

Mrs. Ashley Fawl – Explorations

Mrs. Monica Gottschamer – Second Grade

Miss Mallory Koger – First grade

Great NEW happenings:

In August OAC presented our **Redesign Launch** plan to Sarah Perryman (KSDE) and Jennifer Hanni (Greenbush) for consideration to “launch” as a redesign school. Our plan, actually underway for two years, was officially accepted!! We are the **ONLY** school in Osage County who is launching. What does all this mean? It means that we have made an intentional effort to achieve four focus area goals in hopes of creating learning opportunities that will inspire and empower our students, in hopes of creating learning opportunities that are more personalized to the students, and that we are creating learning that is valuable for a lifetime. Four areas are addressed in the plan.

- Personalized Learning – The WIN reading program was created to individual reading intervention and growth.
- Real World Application – We are so excited to start the year with our brand new EXPLORATIONS class led by Mrs. Fawl. In this classroom, student learning will be driven by lesson plans that incorporate academic and technical skills – STREAM – Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math.
- Social Emotional Learning – Leader in Me was the curriculum adopted and has been taught for three years.
- Family and Community Engagement – This area includes all the family nights, volunteers, children going into the community for learning and service, and serving our families.



We have reinstated our **Monday Assemblies**. During assembly we share shout outs, talk about school happenings, introduce Leader in Me traits and expectations, recite the Pledge of Allegiance, and just recently have

taught our students the district vision statement: *Inspiring and empowering every Charger, every day.* Each assembly ends with loud shouts of EVERY CHARGER EVERY DAY!

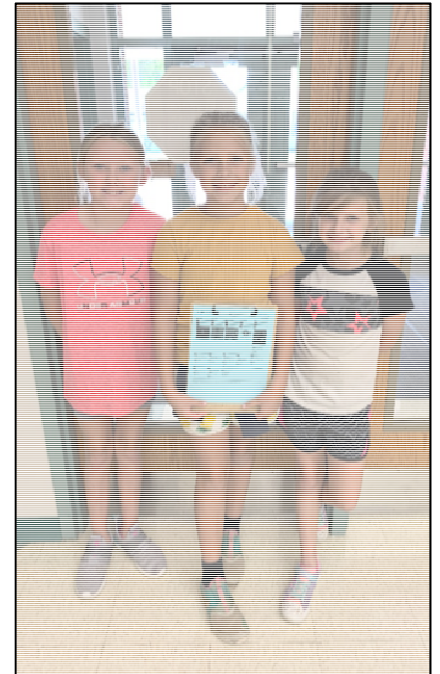
What could be better than getting to see a beautiful black Labrador retriever EVERY day at school? Right now, our population would tell you NOTHING is better! Mrs. Bolt has adopted a certified school therapy dog through CARES, Inc., and has been trained in the 47+ commands and rules! Our girl "Kam," full name Kamekona after an Hawaii Five-O character, is just one year old, but an incredible addition to our building. Students have learned how to approach Kam, ask for permission to pet, and how/where to pet. Kam is a bit sneaky...she loves a belly rub, but those are against the rules, unless Mrs. Bolt gives one!



August 30, **third grade students began a leadership role as Morning Greeters.** Three students each week report for "duty" at 7:20. They will report to the Explorations Classroom as soon as they arrive at school each. Their responsibilities will include greeting students at the front doors and assisting students to breakfast, gym, or their classroom. We are excited to have these three 3rd Graders serve in this leadership position.

We want to thank members of NHS who came to OAC on August 19 to help teachers as they prepared their rooms for students the next day: Thomas Baughman, Carley Cox, Piper Rolla, and Ashlynn Rowe.

Speaking of THANKS! Each year our parents and families donate so much to each classroom with snacks, cleaning supplies, games, or something from the teachers' wishlists. We just couldn't do as much for your children without your generosity!



We are so grateful to those parents and patrons who are **volunteering to cover our morning crosswalks!** Having an adult at the school corners for street crossing is just one more way we ensure that the school day has a great, safe start! If you are interested in serving occasionally as a crossing guard, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/.../9040A4CAAFF2AAAF94...>

Mark your calendars for OCTOBER 21, 2021 for NATIONAL ROCK YOUR SCHOOL!

This past summer four of our teachers attended Get Your Teach On Conference. During the conference they learned about Rock Your School, and came back excited to present the idea to administrators and the Board of Education for approval. Mallory Koger and Lizzy Olorunfemi brought us all into the excitement as they introduced the ideas and an outline of plans for the day. So what is Rock Your School? Miss Koger shared: *Rock Your School is a nationally celebrated day to go above and beyond in our learning. It's all about making the day the best day ever for our students and staff! We have the power to make this the best school year ever! After the rollercoaster of last year, we are so excited to remind our students that, "We love them and believe in them!" Our ROCK YOUR SCHOOL*

DAY will include room transformations, science experiments, music, photo booths, a pep rally, and so much learning in an out-of-this-world experience. This will be their best day ever!"

"We Love you and We Believe in you" t-shirts are being sold as a fundraiser for our ROCK YOUR SCHOOL DAY! Check it out! The picture looks grey, but it is actually more of a sky blue. The order form is also attached - print it off and send with payment to school with your child. Shirts are for EVERYONE - SPREAD THE WORD!! Orders are due by Friday, September 24! If you have any questions, please contact Miss Koger (mkogger@usd434.us). The order form is available on our school Facebook and the district webpage.



If your business would like to sponsor ROCK YOUR SCHOOL DAY, please contact Miss Koger or Miss O (lolorunfemi@usd434.us).

Third grade is very excited this year to apply one of our 7 Habits to teaching, Synergize!! We know that together is better, and so far that is showing true, especially for planning our day to day! We are very excited to blend our three classes in the coming weeks to meet the individual needs of students easier! We are very excited to begin third grader school leadership roles by greeting students as they walk in the school and even taking some younger ones to breakfast or their classroom. This is the beginning duty of our Student Lighthouse Council! We will have a total of nine students in third grade who will take on school-wide leadership roles! (Mrs. Wells)

News from our counselor, Mrs. Metsker

Hello there Chargers! I am so happy to be your child's school counselor this year!

I wanted to take a minute and let you know what your child has been learning during our counseling time. Every classroom gets lessons a few times a week on a counseling topic that follows our Kansas Counseling Standards. The past few weeks we have been working on listening, getting to know each other and following directions. We are moving into regulating our emotions. We are going to work on emotion identification, reading the body language of others and creating a toolbox to help us when we feel a red zone emotion. This will follow the Zones of Regulation that we will also be learning about.

I have enjoyed working with your kids and I look forward to our time together. If you want to ask your child about our counseling time, ask them how to play the listening game, "On the Bank and in the River." As always, reach out if I can help in any way! (emetsker@usd434.us)

Finally, our news wouldn't be complete without bragging on our teachers!

- Summer School and Jump Start were HUGE successes. Mrs. Bolt led a large team of teachers, paras, and substitutes in serving 60 of our students to improve and maintain their reading skills over the summer.
- New babies are coming! Mrs. Soby is welcoming a baby girl in January, and Mrs. Wells will be just a few days later welcoming her second son!
- Mrs. Bolt completed her administrative certification and will be working with Mrs. Jennings this year to transition to principal in 2021-2022.

- Collectively, our teaching staff earned approximately 300 professional development credits this past summer! Nobody can say they had “three months off”!

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See the **PTO** page for more information about upcoming meetings and activities.

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