

strong and healthy relationships

rigorous and relevant learning

responsive and caring culture



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SEAMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMUNICATOR

www.seamanschools.org | 2022 SECOND QUARTER



January is School Board Recognition Month, a great opportunity to say thank you to the USD 345 Seaman Board of Education who are committed to the success of every student in our community.



Frank
HENDERSON JR.



James
ADAMS



Michelle
CAUDILL



Donna
MCGINTY



Kyle
McnORTON



Chris
TRAVIS



Christy
WEILER



NEW MESSAGE Dr. Steve Noble: Superintendent Message

Every year, I have the pleasure of coming together with our area superintendents to create our legislative positions for the upcoming legislative session. Five Shawnee County public schools work collaboratively to create a document we share, both in print and in testimony, with our state legislators. Shawnee County students are our top priority with support of public schools.

Our vision statement for Seaman USD 345 is "Learning Without Limits." This means we focus our efforts to remove as many barriers to student learning and growth as possible for our kids. This includes keeping an ongoing positive and productive dialog with our elected officials.

Much like schools, the Kansas Legislature supports and addresses many areas of need on a wide range of topics. Area superintendents recently met with the Shawnee County Delegate Assembly. The topics began with Critical Race Theory (CRT) and the COVID pandemic.

As we met with the Delegate Assembly, we referenced how others have falsely interwoven CRT into what we are teaching in Shawnee County Schools. We recognized the significance of the facts of America's history and will remain true to KSDE standards. We also shared our concerns on school challenges due to the COVID pandemic.

With regard to the pandemic, we've added staff, technology connectivity, curriculum, and special programming - like school tutoring during the day and expanded summer school - to address the learning loss and social emotional needs of our students. All of these pandemic related situations involved hiring and retaining highly qualified teachers and support staff. To me, this is our most important concern going forward.

Prospective teacher and support staff shortages is both a local and national concern. We encouraged our Delegate Assembly to revise the KPERS 3 retirement system as a way to incentivize new educators into the profession. Also, our current teachers are receiving extra scrutiny in less than ideal circumstances, discouraging prospective teachers from the profession. We ask legislators to mitigate the erosion of teacher quality of life by publicly commenting on the importance of our teachers and our schools.

Our Shawnee County legislators had great questions and concerns about teacher vacancies, substitute teacher availability, improving our schools, and how we can stay better connected throughout the legislative session. I want to thank our Shawnee County Delegation for their commitment to helping us improve our school communities. When we work together, we begin to realize greater opportunities to make "Learning Without Limits" possible for all of our students.



Schools Represented by Superintendent: Shawnee Heights, Topeka Public Schools, Auburn-Washburn, Silver Lake, Seaman

5 Shawnee County Schools' Combined Facts

Student enrollment	27,386
Square miles served	483
Elementary Schools	32
Middle Schools	10
High Schools	7
Alternative Programs	7
Total FTE Staff	4,390
Economic Impact	\$254,733,557

Legislative Positions

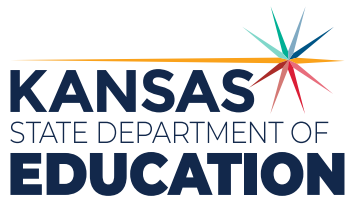
School Funding: We support public school funding, long-term commitment towards KPERS funding, equitable provisions for public employees working after retirement, fully funded preschool and special education, and full percentage of bond and interest as required by law.

Teacher Recruitment: We support hiring most qualified candidates, alternative methods for obtaining professional licensure and increasing reciprocity with other states, establishing statewide financial incentives to recruit and retain teachers, and encourage grow your own programs across the state.

Access to Technology: We support access to affordable broadband service for all Kansas students, families, and schools.

Social Emotional Health: We support increasing support for mental health needs of students and staff and expanding Medicaid, which will increase health insurance coverage for a significant number of families in our community, promoting family access to health care, as well as increased opportunities for students to be successful in school.

Constitutional Responsibilities: We support the goal under the Kansas Constitution's charge for intellectual, educational, vocational, and scientific improvement and its balance of responsibilities in Article 6, each accountable directly to voters.



Kansans Can Star Recognition Awards



Seaman School District is one of only seven school districts in the state of Kansas that received five Kansans Can Star Recognition awards from the Kansas State Department of Education.

The Kansans Can Recognition program recognizes district success associated with the new Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) model. Seaman received silvers in social-emotional growth and high school graduation and copper in individual plan of study, civic engagement, and academically prepared for postsecondary.

Individual Plans of Study: Only three other districts in Kansas received a higher ranking than Seaman School district in the category of Individual Plans of Study. The Individual Plan of Study Star Recognition program recognizes school districts that offer quality and inclusive opportunities for each student to experience connected learning which develops academic knowledge, as well as technical and employability skills.

Seaman Middle and Seaman High School offer our students a wide range of courses aligned to student career interests. Students are able to explore many careers before graduation which allow for a more clearly defined path. Our counselors, college and career advocates, and teachers do a tremendous job of including parents through student-led parent-teacher conferences as well as providing high school families an electronic portfolio with postsecondary plans, documentation of the student's growth and career discovery experiences. Students at the high school have an opportunity to choose from 26 career pathways, job shadow, and participate in student internships with local professionals.

Social-Emotional Growth: Seaman School District received a silver in social-emotional growth, the highest level bestowed upon any district in Kansas. Only four other districts received a silver. Social-emotional learning creates the equitable conditions necessary for student achievement and a safe, positive and healthy school climate. Our district prioritizes, supports, and sustains equitable and culturally relevant school-building climates through policy and resources. Each grade level has an evidenced-based social-emotional learning curriculum with age-appropriate content. We are constantly looking for ways to strengthen school culture, climate, and our ability to provide more opportunities for diversity, equity and inclusion. In fact, the district has recently purchased a database to assist in assessing student needs with the increased ability to identify supports we can provide students and families in the areas of academic and social-emotional needs.

Civic Engagement: Only eight other districts in Kansas received a higher ranking than Seaman School District in the category of civic engagement. This award highlights districts with schools in the Civic Advocacy Network (CAN). Seaman High School and Northern Hills Elementary are both CAN schools for sharing their skills and knowledge through actions intended to improve communities, states, nations, the world, and themselves.

Academically Prepared for Postsecondary: District recognition for this category is based on our data and completely quantitative. Our district is recognized for scoring above the state average, in levels 3 and 4 on Kansas state assessments in math, English language arts and science. It is the combination of all grades in all three assessed subjects. Level 3 shows an effective ability to understand and use the skills and knowledge needed for postsecondary academic readiness. Level 4 shows an excellent ability to understand and use the skills and knowledge needed for postsecondary academic readiness.

High School Graduation: District recognition for this category is based on our data and completely quantitative. The High School Graduation Star Award recognizes those districts with graduation rates above the state average, with the highest recognition for those districts at or above 95% and our graduation rate is at 94.8%.

1 of only seven districts with stars in 5 different areas



WINTER WEATHER UPDATE



1 Snow Day
No Make-Up Date

2 Snow Days
No Make-Up Date

3 Snow Days
Make up on April 18

4 Snow Days
Make up on April 15

Winter weather season is here. Please remember the district's response to winter weather conditions that may affect school days.

LATE START

A late start schedule could enable the school district to have school after a two-hour delay. This would allow road crews and mother nature to help make it safe for students, staff, and families to travel to school. Late-start schedules will be determined by building principals.

SNOW DAYS

A school day may be canceled due to winter weather conditions. When school days are canceled, all school activities and events are canceled for that day, including facility rentals. The first and second snow day will not be made up. The third and fourth snow days will be made up using our build in snow days. April 18 will be an in-session school day if there are three snow days used. April 15 will be an in-session school day if there are four snow days used.

HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHEN SCHOOL IS CANCELED OR A LATE START WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER?

Local news channels will relay school closing and late start information to the public.

USD 345 websites are updated with pop-up notifications to reflect the district status.

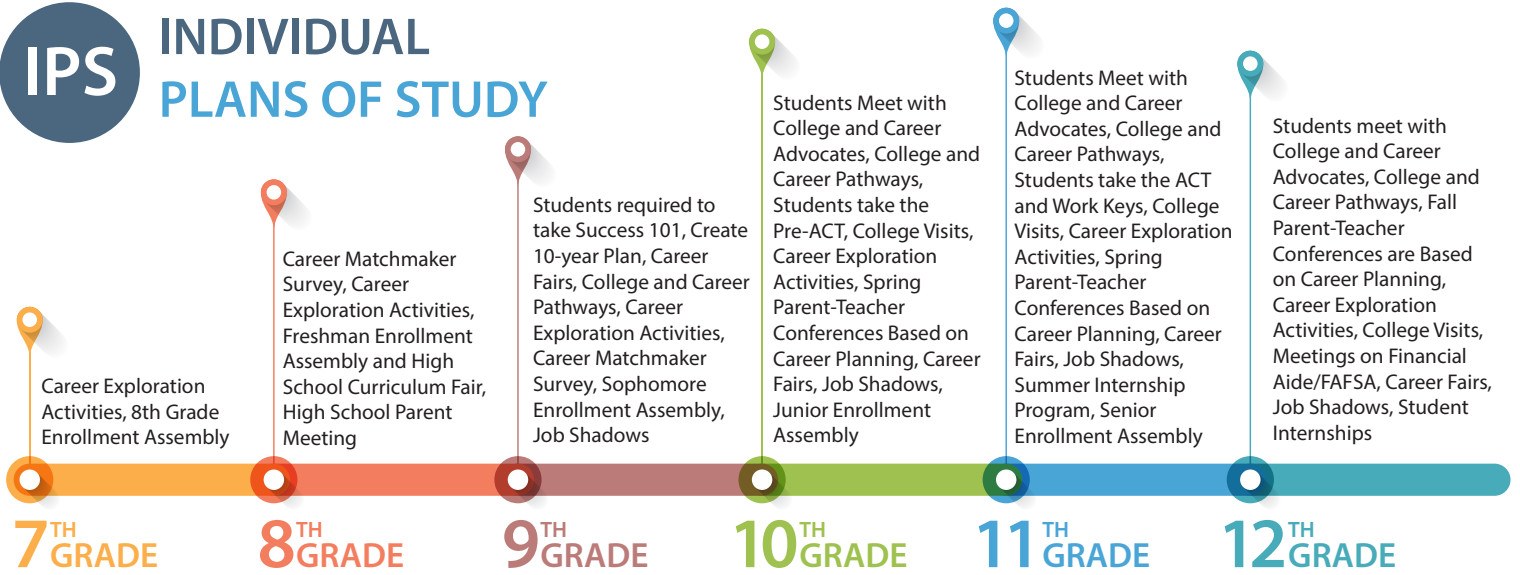
SchoolMessenger (mass messaging service) messages are sent to families & staff. These messages will be sent in all formats to ensure all parties receive the message (email, text, and voice).

Social media pages will be updated to reflect the district status.

Please be sure your contact information is updated. You can make changes by contacting your school office.



INDIVIDUAL PLANS OF STUDY



Seaman Middle and High School help students create a roadmap for success in 7th-12th grade and beyond with a focus on careers, postsecondary plans, work-based experiences, and more. An individual plan of study is used to help guide students through middle and high school with career and life goals in mind.

Every student in the Seaman Middle and High School develops a plan that is tied to their career and life aspirations, called an Individual Plan of Study (IPS).

With the help of the school counseling department, students establish an IPS to help navigate a personalized experience through middle and high school centered around their personal interests. Students utilize a resource called Xello to implement these plans beginning in middle school.

Currently, students in 8th grade take a matchmaker survey on the Xello computer program. The students answer questions about their interests, their personality style and their learning style. Based on the results, it shows them careers that match their interests and also shows salary, amount of education needed, workload and if it's an industry that's in demand.

"I thought it was interesting," said one middle school student. "My career match listed animation with other engineering type jobs. I've never thought about animation as a job so it was cool to learn about other possibilities. I do think I would be interested in that but the salary range was a little lower than some of my other options and didn't require as much education. I'm planning to stick with the engineering pathway but I guess it's good to know other options."

Individual plans of study in Seaman School District involve students, counselors, teachers, and family members. "Parents are an active part of our IPS process," said Seaman Middle School Principal Joshua Snyder. "We utilize student-led conferences to discuss life and career goals, course options and review any updates needed within their IPS. A student's IPS is stored in Xello and will follow them throughout their educational career. Parents also have access to this resource through PowerSchool."

Students take the matchmaker survey again their freshman year to see if their interests have changed and to help guide students to consider classes that match their interests. "Their IPS in middle school might look different in high school and that's okay. We want kids to explore different careers, learn about their strengths, and

ultimately find a path that is right for them," said Snyder.

Student IPS's are revised each year and supported by career exploration activities. Counselors look at a student's IPS with them when it's time to enroll in courses each year.

"After students select courses, we build a schedule of classes that will prepare them for postsecondary success," said Seaman High School Principal Dr. Laura Lyons. "Despite the fact that postsecondary plans look different from student to student, we can build programs and pathways that help prepare them for any level of post-secondary preparation using data about their individual plans of study. Teachers can even plan projects centered around career choices based on a student's IPS."

IPS's prepare students for postsecondary success in education and/or the workforce. Students develop individualized selections, including career pathways, which allow project-based learning in their field of interest, while meeting graduation requirements.

Lyons added, "Having data on students' career interests from their individual plans of study affects all the decisions that we make at the high school level, from the courses offered to the curricular materials used, from the teachers hired to teach those courses to the number of sections available. The IPS data that students provide drives the ways that we support students' experiences during the transitional years of high school into the world of post-secondary preparation and work."

Seaman High School also follows a unique approach to supporting students after high school graduation. Career and Life Planning teachers reach out to graduates during the first two years of their post-secondary lives to check in on their progress. Teachers learn if there's anything we could have done to better prepare students and also offer support and assistance if students find themselves a little off track with their post-secondary plans. "High school graduation is a major milestone for Kansas students, but it's no longer the finish line it once was." (KSDE)



**BEST
IN THE
STATE**

Seaman Middle School Counselor Selected as Finalist For Best in State

**Emily Baker was chosen by the
Kansas School Counselor Association
as one of five nominees for award**

Emily Baker was chosen from more than 50 nominations for the statewide honor. The award celebrates counselors in the state who devote their careers to serving as advocates for students, helping them achieve success in school and in life.

Baker has served as a school counselor for five years. This is her second year at Seaman Middle School. She also has served in the district at Elmont Elementary School.

"I wanted to make sure that I was making an impact with what I do every day, and because of every day being different, every student's needs being different, it continues to challenge me and make sure I can better myself to meet those needs of students," Baker said.

Mrs. Baker is not only there for students but also an exemplary co-worker. "Mrs. Baker goes above and beyond every day and would do anything to help a colleague or student whenever she can," Seaman Middle School Counselor Daniel Ruda said. "She consistently advocates for the needs of our students as well as the profession of a school counselor."

Seaman Middle School Principal Joshua Snyder said the recognition shines a light on the positive work happening at the school.

"She is a person that strives continuously to improve herself, her practice, and her interactions with her students," Snyder said. It just makes me proud to know someone so deserving gets that opportunity to be recognized."

The winner of 2021 School Counselor of the Year will be announced in January.

Seaman Band Directors Named Among Best in State

**Cary Stahly & Ryan Simpson selected by the
Northeast District of the
Kansas Music Educators Association**

Two Seaman School District music teachers have been announced as 2021 NEKMEA High School and Middle School Band Directors of the Year. The two received the awards at the district mini-convention hosted at Seaman High School on Saturday, December 4, 2021.

Cary Stahly has worked at Seaman High School since 1998. It's his second time winning the award. "He's just very well-known across the state, as well as his district, he's been the state jazz chair," NEKMEA President Damian Johnson said about Stahly. "He does a wonderful job with everything he does."

Stahly and Ryan Simpson said they are honored by the awards, as they are chosen by fellow music teachers in the state. Simpson has been teaching for 25 years, this being his 17th in the district.

"While I don't know a single teacher that does the job for the accolades, it's nice to receive recognition from colleagues that I admire and respect. Using music to help young people navigate their world while developing character and life skills is a real blessing," Simpson said.

Stahly said it's a great feeling to see students learn something new. "Teaching is very satisfying, it gives me goals," Stahly said. "Every day is different and that's how I can continue doing this for all these years."

The awards are given to experienced band teachers where their school's music program has improved or has been consistently good.

"Mr. Stahly provides his band students with excellent experiences in competition and performance, building the finest musicians through the experiences in his program," Seaman High School Principal Laura Lyons said. "He understands the delicate balance between holding students to high standards and supporting them in reaching their highest potential as musicians and fine people"

"His classroom is a place where students feel seen and encouraged. He builds intentional relationships. You can see his students' excitement for learning and passion for instrumental music," Seaman Middle School Principal Joshua Snyder said. "There is no doubt he loves what he does."



MELC—Josie Dease
Elmont—Tim Nussbaum
Logan—Beth Smith
North Fairview—Kendra Cochran
Northern Hills—Kim Sipp
West Indianola—Chelsea Pelfrey
Seaman Middle School—Rob Jackson
Seaman High School—Rick Rineberg



Elementary Teacher of the Year—Kendra Cochran
Secondary Teacher of the Year—Rob Jackson

Congratulations to all of our Teachers of the Year and our nominees for 2023 Kansas Teacher of the Year!

Seaman Middle School's Rob Jackson was named secondary Teacher of the Year and North Fairview's Kendra Cochran was named elementary Teacher of the Year for the district.

Excerpt from Rob Jackson's Nomination

"The energy Rob brings to the classroom is contagious. He easily engages students with his positive energy and the excitement he has for learning and science. Rob's voice can be heard in numerous circles as an advocate for both students and teachers; he is respected and listened to by his peers and administration. He is highly engaged in promoting a positive culture at SMS outside of the classroom."

Excerpt from Kendra Cochran's Nomination

"Mrs. Cochran is an outstanding educator and highly respected by her staff, students, families, and community. Kendra is reliable, hardworking, dedicated, and professional. It is clear that she loves and is dedicated to her students, school, and her profession."

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

1	Saturday	No School - Winter Break
2	Sunday	No School - Winter Break
3	Monday	No School - Winter Break
4	Tuesday	No School - PD Day
5	Wednesday	No School - PD Day
6	Thursday	SEBO resumes
10	Monday	Board Meeting 6:00 pm
11	Tuesday	NH PTO Mtg 5:30; LO PTO Mtg. 5:30 pm; EL Spelling Bee 9:15 am
12	Wednesday	NF PTO/Site Council 5:30 pm; MELC PTO 5:30 pm
13	Thursday	WI Site Council 5:30 pm; WI PTO 6:30 pm
17	Monday	No School - MLK Day
18	Tuesday	Elementary District Spelling Bee @ SHS 9:30 am
19	Wednesday	SHS Site Council 12:00 pm
20	Thursday	LO PTO Chili Bingo
27	Thursday	MELC Blockfest/STEAM Night 5:30-7:00 pm; SHS Curriculum Fair for 8th graders
31	Monday	EL Site Council 6:00 pm; EL PTO 7:00 pm

FEBRUARY

1	Tuesday	SHS Pathways Fair 3:30 pm
2	Wednesday	MELC PTO 5:30 pm; SMS PTO 5:30 pm
3	Thursday	SMS Site Council 5:00 pm
4	Friday	MELC No School First Friday Developmental Screenings
7	Monday	NF Class/Spring Picture Day; EL Conferences 4:10-7:30 pm
8	Tuesday	LO PTO 5:30 pm; EL Conferences 4:10-7:30 pm
9	Wednesday	EL Ind & Group Picture Day; MELC Conferences 4:00-8:00 pm
10	Thursday	No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences; EL Conferences 7:30 am-3:30 pm; MELC Conferences 8:00 am-8:00 pm
11	Friday	No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences
14	Monday	Board Meeting 6:00 pm; Show Choir Singing Telegrams - All day
15	Tuesday	NH PTO Mtg 5:30 pm; NH Site Council 6:30 pm
16	Wednesday	SHS Site Council 12:00 pm; Wellness Night @ LO 6:00 pm
17	Thursday	SMS Band Concert 7:00 pm; MELC-Site Council 5:30 pm
18	Friday	LO Site Council
21	Monday	WI Spring Pictures Class/Individual; LO Book Fair 21st-25th
22	Tuesday	LO Class/Spring Pictures
23	Wednesday	NF 3rd/4th grade Music Program @ SHS 6:30 pm
24	Thursday	LO Title 1 Night 5:30-6:30 pm

MARCH

2	Wednesday	MELC PTO 5:30 pm
3	Thursday	End of Third Quarter; SHS/SMS Choir Concerts 7:00 pm; WI Art Walk 5:30-7:00 pm
4	Friday	No School-PD Day/Work Day; MELC No School-First Friday Developmental Screenings
7	Monday	EL PTO 7:00 pm
8	Tuesday	NH PTO 5:30 pm; LO PTO 5:30 pm; EL Pad Night 4:00-8:00 pm
9	Wednesday	SEB/SMS/SHS District Band Concert 7:00 pm @ SHS; NF PTO/Site Council 5:30 pm
10	Thursday	MELC Make and Take Family Engagement Night 5:30-6:30; WI Site Council 5:30 pm; WI PTO 6:30 pm; LO 3rd/4th Musical 6:00 pm LO 5th/6th Musical 7:15 pm
14	Monday	No School - Spring Break
15	Tuesday	No School - Spring Break
16	Wednesday	No School - Spring Break
17	Thursday	No School - Spring Break
18	Friday	No School - Spring Break
21	Monday	Board Meeting 6:00 pm; NH Class Pictures 9:30 am
23	Wednesday	SHS Site Council 12:00 pm
30	Wednesday	SHS Winter Park Send-Off Band Concert 7:00 pm
31	Thursday	SHS Spring Musical 7:00 pm

Please check school website calendars for the most current information.

CALLING ALL FUTURE KINDERGARTENERS!

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before August 31, 2022 and you live in the Seaman School District, please sign up for Kindergarten Orientation.

Sign up for Kindergarten Orientation Online or by Calling your School.

www.seamanschools.org/kindergartenorientation

Elmont Elementary School | 785-286-8450

Logan Elementary School | 785-575-8700

North Fairview Elementary School | 785-286-8500

Northern Hills Elementary School | 785-286-2992

West Indianola Elementary School | 785-286-8550

Kindergarten Orientation
April 21, 2022
5:30-7:30 pm

What will you need to bring?
Birth Certificate
Immunization Records
Proof of Residency

Go online to check the boundary map or call 785-575-8600 to find your school.

Not quite ready for Kindergarten?

If your child will be five but not quite ready for kindergarten, contact us at 785-575-8600 and ask us about kindergarten programming options.

TIPS FROM A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

Kindergarten is an amazing year of growth and development for young learners. However, many students and their families may feel a wide range of emotions as you prepare for the first day of school. Excited, nervous, sad, and scared are emotions your child or you may feel as they get on the bus. As a parent, you may also wonder if your student is prepared for kindergarten. There are a variety of academic and non-academic skills your child should develop before starting kindergarten.



Kelsie Nicholson
West Indianola Elementary

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist Academic Skills

- o Recognizes and produce rhyming words
- o Identifies own name
- o Writes name
- o Recognizes upper and lowercase letters
- o Holds a book correctly
- o Counts to 30
- o Counts objects to 10 with one-to-one correspondence
- o Recognizes and name numbers 0-10
- o Identifies patterns
- o Recognizes groups of objects that are greater than, less than, or equal
- o Sorts objects
- o Correctly name shapes

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist Non-Academic Skills

- o Holds pencil correctly
- o Uses scissors correctly
- o Puts on coat and zip it up
- o Ties shoes
- o Follows simple directions
- o Washes hands
- o Covers mouth while coughing or sneezing
- o Uses a tissue when necessary
- o Uses restroom by his/herself
- o Opens food containers at lunch
- o Plays/works with peers and adults
- o Recognizes emotions of self and others
- o Manages emotions, impulses, and behaviors
- o Friendship skills

Activities to help prepare your child for Kindergarten:

- o Plays games
- o Focuses on the same activity for 15 minutes (ex: puzzles, blocks, etc.)
- o Reads for at least 15 minutes a day
- o Provides opportunities to play with same-aged peers
- o Provides opportunities to be responsible for belongings and keeping them organized
- o Practices using manners

While you may feel many emotions as your little one begins kindergarten, rest assured their kindergarten teacher will be with you every step of the way. The kindergarten teachers at each school are supportive and willing to answer any questions you may have as you and your child prepare for their first day of kindergarten!



Little vikes

2022-23

Preschool Info



Fees: \$57.50 Annually (Free & Reduced Rates Available)

Location: Mathes Learning Center, 2032 N Kansas Ave

Program Info: Mathes Early Learning Center is a fully inclusive preschool program. This means that the school serves all types of students in the same classrooms with the same teachers. As children learn better in an inclusive environment, our school serves children with special needs, children with other needs factors, and general community students together. Children do not have to "qualify" to be accepted at MELC. As this program is comprised of a variety of funding streams, children who meet specific criteria are selected based on the number of slots available for that population.

Transportation: Transportation is available to some families based on qualifying factors. Selected families will be notified of transportation options in August. If your student does not qualify, there is a Pay-to-Ride option available

Some eligibility factors that may be considered include:

- Children identified with potential developmental delays
- Children whose primary language is not English
- Children whose parents lack a high school diploma or GED
- Children with a parent who was 19 or younger at the time of the child's birth
- Children whose residential parent is not married
- Children that have been directly referred by the Kansas Department for Children and Families
- Children whose parents are migratory agricultural workers
- Children who qualify for the free school lunch program

As an inclusive program, MELC offers a full spectrum of special education services to children who need them. MELC screenings are available the first Friday of every month of school, for families who would like their child to be screened on developmental milestones.

These services may include:

- Speech and Language Therapy
- Social Work Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Nursing Services
- Special Education Teacher Services

Schedule: 5 days/week (exception of 1st Friday of the month)

AM Class: 8:30 am – 11:30 am

PM Class: 12:45 pm – 3:45 pm

Screenings: First Friday of each month at Mathes Early Learning Center, must pre-register

Pre-Registration: All parents interested in preschool will need to pre-register online at melc.seamanschools.org or by calling 785-286-7103.

Program Selection: Children are selected for the program three times prior to the upcoming school year. The first selection is in March, the second in May and final selections are made at the beginning of August. As class sizes are limited at MELC, families placed on a wait list are notified and are considered when openings become available. Applications submitted during the summer months are reviewed in August.

USD 345 Board of Education Unanimously Adopted a Resolution to Disavow Association with Fred A. Seaman

The USD 345 Seaman School District Board of Education adopted a resolution to disavow any association with Fred A. Seaman, given Fred A. Seaman's history as "an educator, a politician, and an exalted cyclops in the Ku Klux Klan." Going forward, the school district is "to be associated with the Seaman community and its long and proud history that has developed over the past 100 plus years, not the individual who initially founded the high school," per the resolution adopted unanimously on Monday, November 8, 2021.

The resolution condemns racism, the beliefs of the KKK and affirms the district's position as "an increasingly diverse school district that values and supports the personal identities of all of our school students and staff, while acknowledging that more work must be done to address the issues of racism and bullying that negatively affect the educational experiences of some students and staff."

The approval of this resolution affirms the district's commitment to combating racism in the district's schools whose mission is to "prepare each student for lifelong success through strong and healthy relationships, rigorous and relevant learning, and a responsive and caring culture that maximizes student talents, aspirations, and community contributions."

"The action taken by this board tonight is an incremental step towards removing racism in our district," said USD 345 Board President Keith Griffin. "By separating from Fred A. Seaman, this board is supporting that our community is larger than one person, and does not support or uphold actions of Fred A. Seaman. The approval of this resolution effectively removes all ties to Fred A. Seaman in name and association. We stand united with our community in striking down racism in any form, and recognize the name Seaman is synonymous with our community."

"I believe this resolution represents the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion of our school district in accordance with our mission," said Superintendent Dr. Steve Noble. "This has been an intense topic with preserving history on one side and providing a healthy learning environment for all on the other. I have found both sides to be compelling, but I find our students, who have experienced bullying and racism, to be most compelling. We are against racism and all types of bullying and strive for an inclusive environment for everyone. Those issues deserve our full attention right now and I am hopeful that our community can support and actively embrace that work. As I have stated before, our history is important and so is our future."

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Fred A. Seaman was an educator, a politician, and an exalted cyclops in the Ku Klux Klan; and

WHEREAS, in the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan was at the height of its national popularity, having up to four million members. "Klan tickets" listed favored candidates for state and local offices, as the Ku Klux Klan sought to influence government and public education. Fred A. Seaman both endorsed and ran on such a ticket; and

WHEREAS, in 1920, Seaman Rural High School came into existence, being the vision of Fred A. Seaman. The new high school incorporated nine grade-school districts. Students voted to name the high school after Fred A. Seaman; and

WHEREAS, covering over 84 square miles of northern Topeka and rural Shawnee County, Kansas, Seaman USD 345 district has approximately 3,800 students; and

WHEREAS, Seaman USD 345 prides itself on being an increasingly diverse school district that values and supports the personal identities of all of its school students and staff, while acknowledging that more work must be done to address the issues of racism and bullying that negatively affect the educational experiences of some students and staff.

WHEREAS, businesses, churches, and other community entities located within the boundary of Seaman USD 345 are also named Seaman after the schools in our community; and

WHEREAS, Seaman USD 345 has a history of over 100 years during which those who live, work, and go to school in the district have made the Seaman community a place where they are proud to call home;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SEAMAN USD 345:

Section 1. The actions, conduct, and beliefs of Fred A. Seaman in regard to his involvement with the Ku Klux Klan are condemned by the Seaman USD 345 Board of Education. The racist beliefs of the Ku Klux Klan and its members, including Fred A. Seaman, are contrary to those who live, work, and go to school in Seaman USD 345. These racist beliefs are revolting, vile, and have no place in a civilized society.

Section 2. All references to Fred A. Seaman, including his image and likeness, shall be removed and permanently banned from all district buildings, except as set forth herein.

Section 3. The high school student museum class is encouraged to create an exhibit in the museum that focuses on Fred A. Seaman's repulsive involvement and association with the Ku Klux Klan. Fred A. Seaman's repugnant participation with the Ku Klux Klan should not be allowed to disappear into history.

Section 4. Seaman USD 345 must continue to address the issues of racism and bullying that occur in our schools and throughout our community. The district must engage the community in discussions about diversity, while celebrating the fact that others' experiences may be different than ours.

Section 5. Seaman USD 345 disavows any association with Fred A. Seaman. From this point forward, the district, and its buildings, shall be associated with the Seaman community and its long and proud history that has developed over the past 100 plus years, not the individual who initially founded the high school.

ADOPTED by the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 345, Shawnee County, Kansas, this 8 day of November 2021.

By: _____
Board President

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Attest: _____
Clerk, Board of Education



See Something, Say Something

Our See Something, Say Something reporting tool is now anonymous. This form allows you and others to submit secure, anonymous safety concerns to district officials. This reporting tool is continuously monitored by district staff. If you would like to receive follow-up correspondence you may leave your contact information as well. Reporting observed threats, behaviors, actions, and harassment help maintain a safe and secure learning environment for all students and staff.

Submitting a tip is a great first step in helping keep your schools and communities safe.

Here are examples of behaviors and incidents to report:

- Acts of violence, with or without weapons
- Verbal or physical abuse, assault or harassment
- Sexual abuse, assault, or harassment
- Threats seen on social media
- Hate speech
- Bullying, fighting
- Bragging about weapons or a planned attack
- Reckless behavior, theft and petty crimes
- Social isolation or withdrawal
- Substance or alcohol abuse
- Suicide threats, cutting or other self-harm
- Cyberbullying
- Any other troubling situation or behavior

See Something, Say Something
www.seamanschools.org/report

Crime Stoppers
(785) 234-0007

After you provide as much information as you have about a safety or security concern, here are the next steps the district follows:

- 1 A district official reviews your information and replies to your tip if contact info is provided.**
- 2 Your tip is forwarded to the proper administration to begin investigation.**
- 3 You are contacted (if contact info is provided) to provide any follow-up info, if needed.**
- 4 Administration follows through with the investigation and any action steps necessary.**

Crime Stoppers is another reporting tool available to Shawnee County residents. Crime Stoppers encourages members of the community to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime by overcoming fear and apathy. They assist local law enforcement agencies by gathering information through the use of online and mobile tools and encourage community members to volunteer vital information that could lead to the battle against crime.

Call the Anonymous Tip Line at (785) 234-0007 or submit information through their Mobile Application. Tips that lead to a felony arrest are eligible for a cash reward.

Crime Stoppers is another excellent way to provide information and you can stay anonymous.

**NEXT
SCHOOL
YEAR**

2022-23 School Year Calendar

- Aug 8-10: New Teachers Report
- Aug 11: All Teachers Report
- Aug 18: First day for K-10
- Aug 19: First day for 11-12
- Aug 22: First day for MELC
- Sep 5: Labor Day
- Sep 23: Early Release-Homecoming
- Oct 19: End of Quarter 1
- Oct 21: No School- PD Day/Work Day
- Nov 3-4: No School-Parent-Teacher Conf
- Nov 23-25: No School-Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 22: Early Release-Work Day
- Dec 22: End of Quarter 2
- Dec 23-Jan 3: No School-Winter Break
- Jan 4: No school-PD day
- Jan 16: No School-MLK Day
- Feb 9-10: No School-Parent-Teacher Conf
- Mar 9: End of Quarter 3
- Mar 10: No School-PD/Work Day
- Mar 13-17: No School-Spring Break
- Apr 7: No School-Snow Day 2
- Apr 10: No School-Snow Day 1
- May 18: Seniors' Last Day
- May 21: SHS Graduation
- May 23: Early Dismissal-Last day of School
- May 23: End Of Quarter 4
- May 24: No School Teacher PD Day/Work Day
- May 29: Memorial Day

- School In-Session
- Early Release
- Staff Only
- End of Quarter

August 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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September 2022						
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October 2022						
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November 2022						
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December 2022						
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January 2023						
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April 2023						
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May 2023						
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The Seaman Communicator

Seaman Unified School District #345
Steve P. Noble, Ed.D, Superintendent
Seaman Education Center
901 NW Lyman Rd.
Topeka, KS 66608
785-575-8600
www.seamanschools.org

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Affiliate

WE HAVE OPENINGS

785-286-7103 | babyvikies@gmail.com
melc.seamanschools.org/PAT

Parents as Teachers is a FREE home visitation program for any family who lives in the Seaman School District. Our playroom is open for anyone every Tuesday morning from 9:00 am-11:00 am (come and go); no registration required! Come and play! Call or text 785-221-6416 for more info.

**Are you 65
or older and
live in the
Seaman District?**

**District Senior Citizen
Athletic Event
Passes Available**

**Get free admission
to home athletic events**
Available at the
Seaman Education Center

Jobs@345

We have several job
openings posted for the
upcoming school year.
Follow this link to view
and apply online.

www.seamanschools.org/employment

Connect with us Online!



www.youtube.com/SeamanUSD345



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901 NW Lyman Rd.
Topeka, KS 66608

785-575-8600
www.seamanschools.org



SeamanUSD345



@SeamanSchools

Notice of Non-Discrimination

Seaman USD 345 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Seaman USD 345 superintendent has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies and he may be reached by contacting Steve Noble, Seaman Education Center, 901 NW Lyman Rd., Topeka, KS 66608 (785-575-8600).

Notice for a Drug Free Workplace

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in Seaman USD 345. Violators will be prosecuted.