

THE

AUGUST
2024



SPECIAL EDITION



Dear Cooperative Staff, Students, Families, & Stakeholders,

Welcome to August! This time of year is one of my favorites because it means that it is time to head back to school. I have always loved school. Although summer is grand, it is great to fall back into a more structured routine after the freedom from the strict school routines all summer. All are reenergized after a summer break and ready to return to the work of school and learning.

As a new director, one of my priorities will be getting to know the staff, students, families, and community across the three districts. Strengthening relationships and connections should be a top priority for everyone because of the benefits. We are all better, healthier, and happier humans when we have strong relationships and connections.

Lastly, my door is always open to you. Please feel free to reach out to me at bammese@usd320.com or 785-456-9195 extension 1204. Let's make the 2024-2025 school year the best year ever!

Respectfully,

Erica Bammes
Director of Special Education



UPCOMING

2024-2025 Important Information

Para Training

Wednesday, August 7 in PLC Building

9:00am-Noon: ALL Paras

1:00-4:00pm: NEW Paras



Child Find Screenings

August 7 - Wamego

September __ - Westmoreland

December 6 - Alma

January 24 - St. George

March __ - Wamego



NCI Training Dates

- Friday, September 20 ~ Refresher, 8:30am-Noon ~ Wabaunsee
- Friday, September 20 ~ Refresher, 12:30-4:00pm ~ Wabaunsee
- Monday, September 23 - Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm - Rock Creek
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Monday, November 11, Refresher, 8:30am-Noon - Rock Creek
- Monday, November 11, Refresher, 12:30-4:00pm - Rock Creek
- Friday, November 15, Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm - Wamego PLC Bldg
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Friday, January 3 ~ Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm ~ Rock Creek
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Friday, January 17 ~ Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm ~ Wabaunsee
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Friday, March 28 ~ Initial or Refresher as needed ~ Wamego PLC Bldg

Call Robin at the Coop, 785-456-9195, to sign up for a session.

Coop Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am-4:30 pm, and Friday, 7:30 am-4:00 pm. We follow the USD 320 calendar, which means if the USD 320 District Office is closed, we will be closed as well.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

NEW TRANSITION COORDINATOR



Name: Suzette McGuire

Role: Transition Coordinator

Education & Background: BS Psychology from University of Pittsburgh at Bradford
MS Education from Kansas State University

Anything else you want people to know: I was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, and over the past 33 years, my husband and I have moved 19 times due to his military career. In December 2023, we returned to Manhattan to be nearer to our two children and five grandchildren.

Hobbies: I love spending time with my children and grandchildren, traveling and discovering new cultures, and enjoying the theater.

What you're looking forward to most this year in your job: This year, I'm excited about collaborating with the community to create valuable resources and job opportunities for our students. I'm especially looking forward to engaging directly with students, staff, and parents to support students as they transition into their post-secondary journeys.

MEDICAID CLERK/IMC



Name: Diane Miles

Role: Medicaid Clerk/IMC

Previous work experience: Most recently worked in a credit union as a member consultant, before that worked as the office manager for a landscape/maintenance company in Colorado.

Hobbies: Long time love of baking, writing, family history research, crochet and yoga, new loves include gardening and playing pickle ball since moving to Kansas!

Other: Proud mother of six children, youngest will be a senior at Wamego High School. Moved to Wamego from Falcon, CO in 2021 due to husband's job relocation. I am excited with the opportunity to have a job in my own community where I get to work with and get to know the amazing people of Wamego.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The only bad question is the unasked question! Please reach out to us at the Coop as we are here to support you. Reminder...individual sessions on WebKIDSS or any IEP paperwork can be set up to support you with our Coop team.



All annual IEPs are due on or before April 11! IEPs held after April 11 should be **ONLY** new evals or new move-in IEPs.

IEP TIMELINE

Please follow the IEP timeline and all weeks notices, including opening the IEP in WebKIDSS, 6 weeks before the IEP date, and have the IEP draft ready and submitted for review. Be sure to send home a draft IEP for family review and input **UNLESS** it is an initial IEP.

SEPTEMBER 20TH IS NEARLY HERE!

September 20 is a **critical SPED financial count day!** You must accept or amend new IEPs and complete new placements on or before September 20. Any new evals should be given priority to meet this date.

If you missed our opening professional development and training on July 31 or August 1, please be sure you get all information you missed from a colleague or reach out to the Coop for a packet if you need one.

Have a new student?

We must accept or amend within 5 school days!

Have an exiting student?

Be sure to notify Diana Phillips within 5 school days! (phillpsd@usd320.com)

REMINDERS

- Mileage forms are due the 25th of every month.
- Please complete your annual required training as soon as possible. It's important to complete all the trainings by August 31.

SCHEDULES

Please provide the Coop with a copy of your schedule as soon as possible. **DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31.** This includes para schedules. New para schedules are due by the end of their first week.

Random Moment Time Study

This applies to Related Service Providers, a few Special Education Teachers, Administrators, and School Counselors. The RMTS is a survey that is used to determine the amount of time spent on activities that are Medicaid related. Your participation helps your school receive federal funds for activities done that are necessary to provide students with health-related services like speech therapy.

Diane Miles will send more detailed information out during the last week in September to the people that are on the Staff Pool that could be selected for a Moment Survey.

Surveys begin in October.



1010 8th Street ~ Wamego, KS 66547
Phone: 785-456-9195 ~ Fax: 785-456-1591

Updated: 8/5/24
New Sped Staff
Needs Filled

Erica Bammes (Nauerth), Dir. of SPED

Teri Johnson, Asst. Director
Robin Laughlin, Admin. Asst.

2024-2025

Diana Phillips, Webkidss/MIS Admin.

Diane Miles (Bates), IMC/Medicaid

Jennifer Nider, Integrated Specialist

USD 320 Wamego

Mr. Rob McKim, Superintendent
Paige Padgham, Admin. Asst.

1008 8th Street ~ Wamego, KS 66547

Phone: 785-456-7643 ~ Fax: 785-456-8125

Carole Hay, Psych, Trevor Keller, Psych
Erin Hudson, SW (Smith), Social Work

PK-2nd

Central Elementary School

900 7th St.

Wamego, KS 66547

785-456-7271

8:00 am - 3:25 pm

Teri Dow, Principal
Alicia Thomas, Admin Asst
Office Asst

Jamie Mauldin, Secretary/Nurse Aid

3rd-5th

West Elementary School

1911 6th St.

Wamego, KS 66547

785-456-8333

8:05 am - 3:20 pm

Amy Flinn, Principal
Courtney Gann, Admin Asst
Sarah Bloom, Office Aide
Niki Lattimer, Nurse Aid

6th-8th

Wamego Middle School

1701 Kaw Valley Rd.

Wamego, KS 66547

785-456-7682

7:55 am - 3:05 pm

Brad Couture, Principal
Brian McIntosh, Asst./AD
Diana Kleiner, Admin Asst
Tami Weaber, Office Asst

9th-12th

Wamego High School

801 N. Lincoln

Wamego, KS 66547

785-456-2214

7:55 am - 3:00 pm

Julie Schrum, Principal
Travis Graber, Asst./AD
Kim Stewart, Admin Asst
Aubrey Brown, Athletic Secretary
Anitta Staats, Registrar
McKensie Sisco, LI
Lisa Hartley (Estes)
Savannah Barvais (McGuire)
Esme Harrison Dillingier
Suzette McGuire (Hegarty) Transition

Carrie Ficke, Preschool

Terri Cragg, Preschool

Sarah Fiehler, Preschool

Cassidi Green (Clark)

Olivia O'Neill

Aggie Hansen HI

(Brown)

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

(Winter) SLP (H)

Theresa Pettay, SLP

Amanda Marfield, OT (H)

Tara Roberts, PT

Reade Wohler (Garrett)

Nicole Thomas (Beachler)

Sara McCarter, LI

Penny Graber

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

Erin Moody, SLP (H)

Amanda Marfield, OT

Tara Roberts, PT

Jodi Hecht (Wieggers)

(Garetson)

Kim Marquardt HI

Travis Bender (Davidson)

Andrew Mosby, Gifted

Erin Moody, SLP

Amanda Marfield, OT

Tara Roberts, PT

Andrew Mosby, Gifted (H)

(Winter) SLP

Erin Moody, SLP

Amanda Marfield, OT

Tara Roberts, PT

USD 323 Rock Creek

Mrs. Joan Simoneau, Superintendent

Kelley Blankley, Reception/Treas.

PK-4th

Westmoreland Elementary School

205 S. 4th St., PO Box 350

Westmoreland, KS 66549

785-457-3462

Scott Harshbarger, Principal
Kindra Smith, Secretary

Nichole Feldhausen, Intin
Caitline Christenson

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

Tara Roberts, PT

Megan Clark, SLP (H)

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

9353 Flush Road ~ St. George, KS 66535

Phone: 785-494-8597 ~ Fax: 785-494-8900

PK-4th

St. George Elementary School

200 Blackjack Rd., PO Box 31

St. George, KS 66535

785-494-2482

Megan Umscheid, Principal
Jessica Steel, Secretary

Nichole Feldhausen, Intin
Lacy Schreck, 3/4 HI
Wendy Willi

Emma Morris

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

Tara Roberts, PT

Melissa Ginavan, SLP

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

5th-8th

Rock Creek Middle School

9357 Flush Rd.

St. George, KS 66535

785-494-8591 #2

Rachel Buessing, Principal
Kristy Ward, Secretary

Deon Bollig, Secretary
Jackson Goodmiller
Dani Evans
Michelle Kirk

Seth Holliday

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

Tara Roberts, PT

Megan Clark, SLP

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

9th-12th

Rock Creek High School

9355 Flush Rd.

St. George, KS 66535

785-494-8591 #1

Eric Koppes, Principal
Darwyn Thomlinson, Asst. Principal

Jill Blanka, Secretary
Tori Sieben
David Hill (Smith)
Sheila Burns, LI

Julie Meinhardt, Gifted

Tara Roberts, PT

Megan Clark, SLP

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

USD 329 Wabaunsee

Dr. Troy Pitsch, Superintendent

Charmin Miller, Admin. Asst.

213 E. 9th, PO Box 157 ~ Alma, KS 66401

Phone: 785-765-3394 ~ Fax: 785-765-3624

PK-5th

Wabaunsee Elementary School

215 E. 9th St., P.O. Box 326

Alma, KS 66401

785-765-3349

Robert Schawo, Principal
Cheryl Hurla, Secretary
Tayler Sievers, Secretary

Michelle Stuhlsatz, Preschool

Shannon Leitch

Andrew Mosby, Gifted

Eden Anderson Para (Donahue), SLP

Tara Roberts, PT

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

6th-8th

Wabaunsee Jr. High

112 Elm St., PO Box 128

Paxico, KS 66526

785-636-5353

Steve Oliver, Principal
Jeron Weisshaar, Asst. Principal
Jennifer Eastman, Secretary

Heather Norris (Fuller)

Andrew Mosby, Gifted

Eden Anderson Para (Donahue), SLP

Tara Roberts, PT

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

Trevor Kellor, Pysch

Annie Frank, Social Work

9th-12th

Wabaunsee High School

912 Missouri St., PO Box 218

Alma, KS 66401

785-765-3315

Steve Oliver, Principal
Jeron Weisshaar, Asst. Principal
Jessica Imthurn, Secretary
Jeanne Parry, Secretary

Jeff Stuewe (Ulsaker)

Andrew Mosby, Gifted

Eden Anderson Para (Donahue), SLP

Tara Roberts, PT

Olivia Fry, OT

Krystal Nelson, OTA

St. John Lutheran (Alma)

Mr. Harmon Butler, Principal

St. John Vianney (Maple Hill)

Fr. Eric Flood, Principal

Hearing Screening

Angie Adams (D. Lind)

angieadams80@gmail.com



TOPSOCCER

MANHATTAN, KS



SEPTEMBER 15 &
NOVEMBER 10

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER.
CONTACT ALEX@SPORTINGKV.COM WITH QUESTIONS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST

Teri Johnson - 4
Shelly Corp - 6
Kira Varnadore - 13
Arielle Wheeler - 17
Melissa Phipps - 18
Andrew Mosby - 18
McKensie Sisco - 21
Wendy Willi - 22
Kim Hall - 24
Katie Cantrell - 31

Teachers PLANT
SEEDS THAT grow
forever 

WELCOME BACK,
TEACHERS

YOUR GOOD WORKS
WILL NEVER BE ERASED
FROM THE
HEARTS AND MINDS
OF YOUR STUDENTS.

YOU ARE AMAZING!



Be your own sunshine.

"Spread love everywhere you go.
Let no one ever come to you
without leaving happier."

- Mother Teresa

