

The Special Edition

May 2023

Greetings Coop Family~

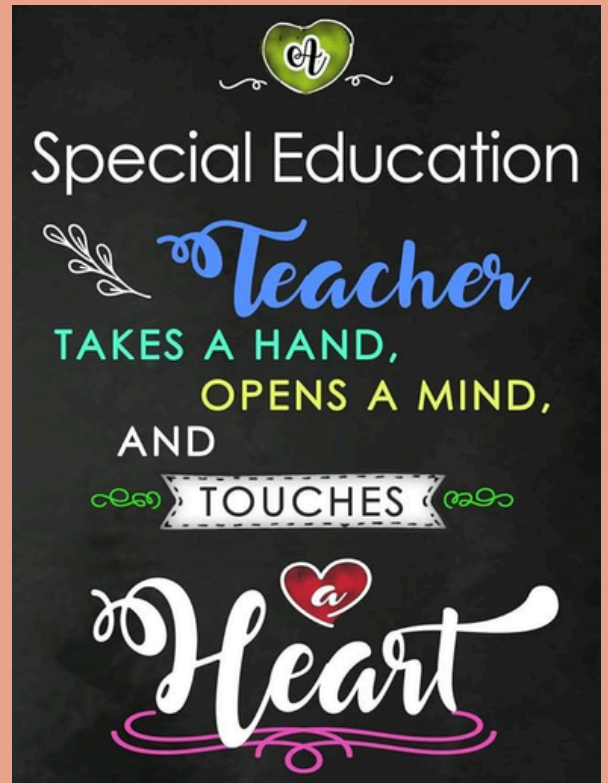
May is here! HAPPY TEACHER APPRECIATION TO YOU! THANK YOU so much for your hard work and dedication day in and day out! I hope our small token of appreciation brought a smile to your face. Because of you our students have a brighter and more hopeful future for the life they will lead. As the year comes to a close it's with a reminder that our graduates have reached this important milestone with so many of you having a big impact on this significant life achievement! WAY TO GO!

So many of you have reached out and checked in on me and I am so grateful for you. Thank you for your kind words, prayers, encouragement, and the funny jokes too! I will be having a steroid epidural soon to hopefully bring down swelling on my spine, alleviate some pain and restore some quality of life. The results of this procedure will guide my orthopedic surgeon's next steps for moving forward.

I am excited to welcome Mrs. Erica Bammes, our new special education director. Please join me in a warm welcome! If you would like to reach out to her with a welcome message you can do so at: ericabammes@gmail.com. It has been an incredible joy working beside each of you through the years. As I embark on the next chapter of adventures in retirement, my belief in the power of inclusive education remains steadfast. I will always cheer on our exceptional team as you move forward continuing to inspire and uplift our students.

With heartfelt gratitude!
~ Deb

TEACHER APPRECIATION
MAY 1-5, 2024



HAPPY TEACHER
APPRECIATION WEEK!!

The world is a better place for our students because you are in their life. It's not just during this week we salute you for all you do, you are much appreciated every day. We hope you are well loved and spoiled! We're excited to join you in this celebration!



Welcome Mrs. Erica Bammes

USD 320 Special Education Director



Erica Bammes has worked in public education in the State of Kansas for 22 years. She currently serves as principal at Lee Elementary in the USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden school district before transitioning to the role of Director of Special Education for the Special Services Cooperative for USD 320, 323, and 329 on July 1.

Mrs. Bammes earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Fort Hays State University in 2002. Her first teaching job was in a general education classroom in an elementary school in rural northwest Kansas. Later she pursued a Master of Science degree in Adaptive Special Education through Fort Hays State University and continued to work as an early childhood special education teacher in northwest Kansas.

In 2010, Mrs. Bammes and her family moved to Manhattan (her husband's hometown) where Mrs. Bammes has taught, served as assistant principal/MTSS coordinator, and currently serves as head principal at Lee Elementary for USD 383. She joined the teacher leadership academy in 2015 and graduated from Kansas State University in 2017 with a Master of Science in Educational Leadership.

She has served in a variety of leadership roles throughout her service in public education. Mrs. Bammes is a Kansas Horizon Award winner, has previously been a building nominee for the Kansas Teacher of the Year, and served as region four chairperson for Kansas Principal's Association.

Mrs. Bammes is married to her husband, Shawn. He is a teacher and coach for USD 383. She has three children, Blaisen, Brenna, and Brogan. Blaisen is a sophomore in college attending Fort Hays State University, Brenna will graduate from high school this month with plans to attend KSU in the fall, and Brogan is 12 years old and finishing his sixth-grade year in school. Brogan loves baseball, so the family spends many hours watching him play his favorite sport. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, exercising, and spending time with family and friends.

Erica grew up in a rural community in northwest Kansas with demographics similar to Rock Creek, Wamego, and Wabaunsee County. She is excited to get back to serving smaller towns similar to her roots. Her mission is to serve students, teachers, staff, families, and stakeholders to ensure the best possible public education for the students in our great state. Another passion of hers is serving students with exceptionalities, those who have experienced trauma, and those who are struggling with behaviors to help them be successful in school as well as helping teachers find the tools to be successful with all students. She is overwhelmed with gratitude for the opportunity and excited to join the Rock Creek, Wamego, and Wabaunsee Special Services Cooperative.



One Wamego. Many voices. Many choices. One result: Excellence

REMINDERS

Medicaid Logs Due Date

May 24 (March 18-May 21) Please submit to Mary Bates by the due date.

Licensure - Be sure to check to see if your license is expiring this summer. You will want to get that process started ASAP so it doesn't lapse. Processing can take 4-8 weeks.

All Paras - Inservice logs (including college transcripts for those counting college classes toward required inservice hours) and evaluations are due to the Coop immediately.

Wamego Unified School District 320
2023 - 2024

Retirement Reception

Honoring...

Mrs. Anita Aubert

Mrs. Marcia Beachler

Mr. Curtis Eckart

Mrs. Pam Hendricks

Mrs. Kathryn Mayfield

Dr. Deb Nauwerth

Ms. Kim Nelsen

Mrs. Mary Piper

Mr. Greg Webb

May 15, 2024 3:45pm - 5:00pm

1008 8th Street Professional Learning Center

Cake and refreshments will be served.

Come and go as you please.

Coop Level of Determination (LOD)

Once again we have earned 3 Gold Stars! Each district "Meets Requirements," which is the highest status level for district IDEA level of determination. This is met by meeting substantial compliance on all compliance State Performance Plan (SPP) district-level indicators, including the timely submission of accurate data, compliant fiscal management, and system wide correction of non-compliance.



CONGRATS TO OUR ENTIRE TEAM!
TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!





EVENTS



May 14

Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) Transition Tuesday Webinars for 2024

May 14- VR Pre-Employment Transition Services 101 Referral to Closure

All webinars are recorded and posted at www.ksdetasn.org from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Registration: Register for all events at the following link: https://ksdetasn.org/event_groups/wdCrOg
Please contact Stacie Martin, smartin@ksde.org for any questions.

May 15-23

END OF YEAR CHECK-OUT 2023-2024

You should have received an email from Robin about sign-ups and the checklist. Every sped teacher and provider **MUST** complete the check-out process at the Coop. REMINDER: You will meet with Coop office staff and do a final reflection meeting with Deb/Teri. ***All paperwork and files must be complete by your check-out appointment. **The IEP Due Date is Friday, April 12!****

Check-Out dates and times are as follows:

USD 329

Wednesday, May 15 - 8:00am-noon

Thursday, May 16 - 8:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm

USD 323

Friday, May 17 - 8:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm

Monday, May 20 - 8:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm

USD 320

Tuesday, May 21 - 8:00am-noon

Wednesday, May 22 - 1:00-4:00pm

Thurs., May 23 - 8:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm

May/June 2024

ESY dates are:

USD 323

May 28-31, June 3-6, and June 10-13
7:45-11:45 am

USD 320/329

June 3-6, June 10-13, and June 17-20
7:45-11:45 am
(Monday-Thursday for 3 weeks)

IMPORTANT REMINDER: If you are referring any students for ESY, ***you MUST provide daily lesson plans and all materials for student learning for the whole duration of ESY.*** These lesson plans and materials must be turned in no later than your check-out time with the Coop, and can be left in the Coop for pickup.

August 2024

Are you interested in an opportunity to become LETRs trained?

LETRS® (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) is intensive professional learning to empower teachers to understand the science behind why students struggle to read through learning evidence-based instructional practices. LETRS® provides details for educators to understand the what, why, and how of scientifically based reading instruction including:

- What must be taught during reading and spelling lessons to obtain the best results
- Why reading instruction has several key components and how they are related to one another
- How to explain spoken and written English language structures
- How to interpret individual differences in student achievement
- How to implement instructional routines, activities, and approaches and differentiate instruction

[Registration Link for August 2024 LETRS Training Cohorts](#)

(go to the bottom of the page)

***Registration Deadline is May 31, 2024**

SAVE THE DATES

2024-2025 Back to School Meetings

Welcome Back - New Certified Staff/Providers

Wednesday, July 31
PLC Building
8:30am-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm
(lunch on your own)

ALL Certified Staff/Providers

Thursday, August 1
PLC Building
8:30am-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm
(lunch on your own)

Para Training

Wednesday, August 7 in PLC Building
9:00am-Noon: ALL Paras
1:00-4:00pm: NEW Paras

2024-2025

Child Find Screenings

August 7 - Wamego
September 27 - Westmoreland
December 6 - Alma
January 24 - St. George
March 28 - Wamego



2024-2025 NCI Training Dates

- Monday, July 29 ~ Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm ~ PLC Bldg
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Tuesday, July 30 ~ Refresher, 8:30am-Noon ~ PLC Bldg
- Tuesday, July 30 ~ Refresher, 12:30-4:00pm ~ PLC Bldg
- Friday, August 30 ~ Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm ~ PLC Bldg
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Friday, September 27 ~ Refresher, 8:30am-Noon ~ PLC Bldg
- Friday, September 27 ~ Refresher, 12:30-4:00pm ~ PLC Bldg
- Friday, January 10 ~ Initial, 8:00am-3:00pm ~ PLC Bldg
(1 hr. lunch break on your own)
- Friday, March 28 ~ Initial or Refresher as needed ~ PLC Bldg

Thank you SLPs!



Happy National
Speech-Language
Pathologist Day!

May 18, 2024

Shout out to our **FANTASTIC SLPs**:



Megan Clark



Amy Donahue



Melissa Ginavan



Erin Moody



Renee Pachta

Theresa Pettay

Michelle Spillman

YOU ARE THE BEST! We couldn't
do it without you.

Happy
Mother's Day

to all the tough, hard-working,
patient, loving, and all-around
amazing moms out there!



Items Needed: We are in need
of some "gently used" items for
our Life Skills Classes:
microwaves, toaster ovens, and
paper shredders. If you have
items to donate, please bring
them to the Coop.



TIME TO CELEBRATE

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Kylie Weber - 1
Alexandria McCallum - 3
Kyrsten Knight - 15
Michelle Stuhlsatz - 17
Krystal Nelson - 20
Tori Brown - 20
Krystal Nelson - 20
Alyssa Smith - 20
Stephanie Mocabee - 21
Amanda Marfield - 22
Laurie Temple - 27

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Sandy Clark - 1
Dani Evans - 3
Deb Wood - 4
Jill Garetson - 5
Hailey Barry - 7
Teala Jensen - 9
Kattie Phillips - 9
Anne Warner - 9
Lisa Hartley - 10
Christian Ulsaker - 12
Lexie Leisner - 19
Aaron Stinson - 21
Tearney Waterman - 30
Abby Rhodes - 31



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Melanie Stone - 2
Shantell Arthington - 7
Stephanie Downs - 11
Stephanie Hegarty - 12
Nichole Feldhausen - 14
Esme Dillinger - 15
Kelly Estes - 18
Jennifer Nider - 18
Erin Moody - 21
Tanji Cassatt - 21
Heather Swiger - 25
Sarah Fiehler - 27
Lance Fuller - 27
Brittanie Brazzle - 29



Happiness

Happiness

Is not out there, it's in you

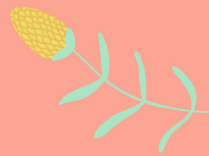


Optimism is a happiness magnet. If you stay positive, good things and good people will be drawn to you.



“Happiness held is the seed; Happiness shared is the flower.”

"Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine."



"You are enough just as you are."

JUST KEEP SWIMMING

A blue wave graphic with a small fish swimming below it.

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

– Mother Teresa

