Notes from USD #235

by Mr. Randy Rockhold

It is the mission of USD 235 to provide the best educational opportunity for all students. USD 235 strives to provide the best physical environment possible, the best staff and instructional resources, the best curriculum, and the safest environment for learning. In an effort to ensure this mission is continually pursued the USD 235 Board of Education has approved placing a bond issue before the patrons.

The following financial information explains the scope of the bond issue. If you have questions about the project please feel free to contact the Board of Education office and we will make every effort to provide you with any information you desire.
Ballot Question

Shall Unified School District No. 235, Bourbon County, Kansas (Uniontown), issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed $2,500,000, to pay the costs to construct, furnish and equip: (a) HVAC improvements and a new roof at the Junior/Senior High School building; (b) HVAC improvements at the Elementary School building; and (c) all other necessary improvements appurtenant thereto; all pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 10-101 et seq.; K.S.A. 25-2018(f); K.S.A. 72-6761; and K.S.A. 75-2315 et seq.?

Project Financing

If approved by the voters, the project will be financed through the sale of general obligation bonds. It is anticipated that the bonds will be structured with a 21-year repayment schedule at an average interest rate of approximately 3.89%.

State Aid on Bond Issues

Under the current school finance formula, the State of Kansas will pay 59% of all principal and interest payments due on the District's bond issues. This equates to approximately $2,317,384 of the principal payments due on the District's bond issues that will be paid by the State of Kansas.

The projected mill levy takes into account the anticipated annual state aid funding of 59% for principal and interest payments. In addition, the level of state aid funding is determined every year based on the District’s assessed value per pupil compared to the State wide median.

Projected Mill Levy Impact

The current Bond & Interest Fund Mill Levy of the District is 4.458 mills. With voter approval of the proposed school bond election, the District intends to structure the repayment of the Bonds in a manner whereby the mill levy of the District does not increase.
**Bond & Interest Mill Levy – School District Comparison**

In 2013-2014, the Bond & Interest Fund Mill Levy of the District was 4.458 mills. With voter approval of the proposed project, the District’s Bond & Interest Fund mill levy will not increase. The following table compares the mill levy for the Bond & Interest Fund for area school districts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>2013-14 Total Mill Levy</th>
<th>2013-14 Bond &amp; Interest Mill Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USD 250 Crawford County (Pittsburg)</td>
<td>51.518</td>
<td>8.533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 246 Crawford County (Northeast)</td>
<td>57.335</td>
<td>5.885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 249 Crawford County (Northeast)</td>
<td>47.628</td>
<td>5.541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 235 Bourbon County (Uniontown)</td>
<td>44.263</td>
<td>4.458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 247 Crawford County (Cherokee)</td>
<td>50.385</td>
<td>3.994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 234 Bourbon County (Fort Scott)</td>
<td>44.571</td>
<td>3.982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 248 Crawford County (Girard)</td>
<td>46.887</td>
<td>0.000</td>
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**Current Interest Rates**

Interest rates for municipal bonds are currently well below the average for the past 20 years. Earlier in 2012, interest rates on municipal bonds set a record low rate for the past 50 years. In fact, according to the *Bond Buyer 20 General Obligation Bond Index*, interest rates on municipal bonds have been higher 99.7% of the time since 1987.

![Graph of Bond Buyer G.O. Bond Index (1987 to Present)](image)}
Notes from WBE

by Mr. Tracy Smith

Working with your children this year with the specific focus on Reading has been a real learning curve for me and yet, I sit back and observe the WBE teachers and their expertise in “delivery” and “teaching” to the students and I am in awe of their talents!

It has been awhile since I had the opportunity to be a major part in the language development of my own children, but now as the Elementary Principal, and especially with the younger children in the building, I want to reach out to those parents and grand-parents (like me now ☺) that have the ‘developing’ infants with some research on Learning to Talk.

Some professionals believe that children who are spoken to a great deal in early infancy talk sooner and better than children who aren’t spoken to a lot. While this is difficulty to verify by means of a test, the idea matches findings that toddlers and preschoolers who are read to a great deal do read more easily and better than those having less experience.

A baby’s receptive language—that is, the language she hears—depends upon her good listening and looking habits with parents or other familiar people. The very young child doesn’t understand the meaning of words, but she does understand something of what is meant because the words are delivered along with feelings, facial expressions, gestures, and body movements.

For example, when Dad says, “Come here”, he holds his hands out to receive the baby. When Mommy says, “Give it to me”, she reaches out for the object, and when she says, “Here, I’ll give it back to you”, she hands it back. Another example is when an adult pretends he can’t see the baby and says, “Where’s Baby, where’s Baby” as he dramatically searches for the baby, and finally exclaims: “Here she is!”

One thing that I am thoroughly enjoying with my granddaughter is playing games and talking with and to her. The really fun stuff is to be a ham—put lots of drama into your voice. Make it rise and fall; change from soft to loud; alternate from slow to fast! The smiles and giggles you get back are so fulfilling, but also I know that these fun times are contributing to her developing capacity to understand language.

Your involvement with your children at home pays huge dividend’s back here at school! But don’t forget to take some time for yourself too. Just by making a conscious effort to slow down a bit, reduce stress and enjoy the simple things of life can benefit everyone in your household.

February reminders for WBE:

-County Wide Spelling Bee: Wednesday, Feb. 4th. 1:30PM @ WBE Gym

-5th Graders will be at Greenbush on Tuesday, Feb. 10th

-6th Grade “Garage Band” presentations on Friday, Feb. 13th

-Valentine’s Class Parties: Friday, Feb. 13th @ 2:30. (please park in the Gym Lot)

-NO SCHOOL on Monday, Feb. 16th

-STUCO Dress Up Day: “Career Day” is Friday, Feb. 27th.

Other Dates to Remember

Child Find: Monday, March 30

Kindergarten Round-Up: Wednesday & Thursday, April 22-23.
2015 Jump Rope for Heart 2015
By: Jackie Hall

The 2015 Jump Rope for Heart event is underway! WBE students, who choose to participate in the event, will ask friends and family to sponsor them in order to raise money for the Heart Association’s fight against Heart Disease.

Students are learning to make physical activity and eating healthy a habit, limit the use of salt, soda or sugary drinks in their diet and avoid tobacco products. These are all habits that lead to heart health.

As of this writing, seventy students have signed up to participate in the event----Students, who are participating, will count the time they jump in PE class towards the JRFH event.

All money raised by student jumpers will be due February 25....

“THANK YOU” to those who help sponsor student jumpers in this worthwhile event.

American Heart Association
Learn and Live

IT TAKES HEART TO BE A HERO!
UJH/Q2 Honor Rolls

“All A” Honor Roll
Cheyanne Carpenter
Jordan Ford
Liberty Franks
Luke George
Jeanna Hill
Cristine Micabalo
Sophie Miller
Jezeriah Simpson

“All A & B” Honor Roll
Alissa Button
Ty Davidson
Angelica Gonzalez
Dalton Graham
Jacquelyn Hampton
Matthew Harclerode
Sivanah McAnulty
Lauren Shinn
Madelynn Ard
Brendan Atkins
Hannah Beerbower
Makenzee Franklin
Chance Fuhrman
Michael Goebel
Graham Hathaway
Nick Hathaway
Abby Jefferis
Anna Jefferis
Aubry Ruggles
Brenda Shafer-Sweat
Alejandro Sonora
Tristan Stone
Matthew Sweat
Emily Vallely
Mackenzie Wilson

UHS Q2 Honor Rolls

“Principal’s Honor Roll”
Nikki Bolinger
Brenna Bower
Gavin Fry
Ben George
Keely Goodridge
Breanna Hampton
Victoria Reed
Blair Rockhold
Megan Smith
Madison Wilkinson
Ty Covey
Kaitlynn Sampson
Megan Blythe
Zach Davis
Draven George
John Reed
Hannah Fry
Michaela Nietfeld

“Honor Roll”
Audrey Chaplin
Morgan Gates
Casie Geddry
Beau Hendershot
Robyn Martin
Danielle Nading
Dylan Ruggles
Laryn Thompson
David Bradbury
Trevor Crossland
Kaylyn Crystal
Kaylan Hall
Shalina Harper
Jimme Keller
Gavin O’Brien
Alexis Ross
Haley Ruggles
Holly Shinn
Kalen Simpson
Colton Sutterby
Jason Wilson
Kyley Brown
Taylor Cooper
Kate-Aira Dela Cuadra
Shaynna Harper
Tyler Johns
Lindsay Nietfeld
Josh Wisely
Giulia Bertea
Rachel DeMoss
Jacob Duffey
Kyle Gier
John Kuns
Tyeesha Perry
Lane Sutterby
Sarah Townsend
Jonathan Wheeler
Jana Wilkinson
And
Homecoming
Queen Is...
Submitted by Sabrina Wilkinson
Friday, February 13th will be a special and exciting evening in Uniontown. Not only will we celebrate the 2015 Basketball Homecoming, but also during the girls and boys varsity games, the SOS (Send Off Seniors) Committee will be sponsoring a silent auction. Many items will be available to bid on and win, including fantastic baked goods made by Sugar Creations aka Rebecca Sutterby.

Uniontown will be playing against Pleasanton. Come out, watch the crowning of this year’s Homecoming Royalty, and support the basketball players with the cheerleaders, while also supporting the SOS cause. The games begin at 6:00 pm.

Uniontown High School FFA will be doing a cooperative project with First Missionary Baptist Church by hosting a blood drive on February 19. The blood drive will be at the new location of First Missionary Baptist Church in Uniontown.

The FFA started this project in 1983. Since then they have had 1,789 pints of blood donated through this project. Mr. Kevin Gleason said, “I think this is one of the best FFA projects we have.” Every pint of blood has potential to help and possibly save the lives of several people.

Make sure you come out and participate in this project. In addition to donating a unit of blood, there will be a free cholesterol screening!
FAST Program
Submitted by Delta Pollock

Last chance for the Spring 2015 FAST Program.

Don’t miss out on the fun family activities, the chance to meet other WBE families, a weekly FREE meal, adult conversation, and exciting activities for the kids and the nightly door prize basket! Contact Delta at WBE today to be a part of our family fun nights!

Families must have a K-3 student. Sessions will begin on Thursdays in early February. Call 620-756-4335 today to learn more!

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Students from UJH and WBE participated in the SE Kansas Music Educator’s Honor Ensemble on Saturday, January 17 in Chanute.

Participants in the Elementary Honor Choir are: (back row, left to right) Aiden Holt, Paige Mason, Gwenyth Fry, Melody Harper (front row, left to right) Kaydra Woods, Adelay Martin, Rhian Gorman, Laney Covey.

Participants in the UJH Honor Choir are: (left to right) Zoe McClure, Emily Vallely, Matt Morgan, Cheyanne Carpenter, Jacquie Hampton, Noah Reynolds (not pictured).
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>KU Honors Program at Iola 6:30 pm</td>
<td>UHS GBBB at Chetopa – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>FFA meats at Yates Center</td>
<td>NHS Teachers Lunch</td>
<td>Band at FSCC – 8:00 to 4:00 Honor Band</td>
<td>Forensics at Iola Regional Piano</td>
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<td>Blue/Gold Sales begin</td>
<td>Q3 progress reports go out</td>
<td>FSUCC Financial Aid Mtg – 6:00 pm (Help with FAFSA &amp; general college financial aid info)</td>
<td>Candidate Picture 7:30 am</td>
<td>UHS Wrestling at Burlingame</td>
<td>Bitty Ball at Unioentown</td>
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<td>Seminar - STUCO</td>
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<td>UHS GBBB at Marmaton Valley at 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>STUCO – 7:30 am</td>
<td>Senior Class Meeting – 3rd hour</td>
<td>FFA Ag Comm./Job Interview at Erie</td>
<td>UHS Wrestling at Jayhawk Linn</td>
<td>Homecoming</td>
<td>UJH Boys BB Tournament at Central Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar - Games</td>
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<td>SSR – UJH FCA in Mrs. Cook’s Rm</td>
<td>Seminar - Games</td>
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<td>Bitty Ball at Unioentown</td>
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<td>BOE Meeting – 7:30 pm</td>
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<td>Forensics at Moran</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FFA Blood Drive at FMBC from 12:00 to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>UHS GBBB home vs. NE Arma at 6:00 pm</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>UJH Scholar’s Bowl at NE Arma</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Seminar – FFA Meeting</td>
<td>UHS GBBB home vs. Altoona at 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>UHS GBBB at SCC</td>
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<td>UHS Scholar’s Bowl at Westphalia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seminar – FFA Meeting</td>
<td>UHS GBBB home vs. NE Arma at 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>FFA Dodgeball at Fredonia</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>STUCO Coffee Night in Commons 7:00 – 10:00 pm</td>
<td>Forensics at Unioentown</td>
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<td>FFA Fun Night in AG Shop/Gym – 6:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seminar – UHS Volleyball Mtg.</td>
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## February 2015 Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Whole grain cereal, string cheese, diced pears, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Cinnamon roll, fruit cocktail, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Biscuit &amp; gravy, Mandarin oranges, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Sausage &amp; egg biscuit, pineapple chunks, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Breakfast pizza, apple, juice, milk.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meatball sub, ranch potato wedges, peas &amp; carrots, sliced peaches, milk.</td>
<td>Pizza, salad w/ranch, cherry tomatoes, orange halves, Rice Krispy treat, milk.</td>
<td>Taco burger on a bun w/lettuce &amp; tomato, tortilla chips w/salsa, Cowboy beans, banana, milk.</td>
<td>Lasagna, garlic breadsticks w/Marinara sauce, garden salad, grapes, chocolate chip cookie, milk.</td>
<td>Chicken nuggets, whole wheat roll, green beans, mashed potatoes w/gravy, pears, milk.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Breakfast bagel, yogurt cup, diced pears, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Pancake on a stick, orange, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Biscuit &amp; gravy, banana, juice, milk.</td>
<td>French toast sticks w/syrup, grapes, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Breakfast pizza, sliced peaches, juice, milk.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Pig in a blanket, roasted red potatoes, broccoli w/cheese, apple, milk.</td>
<td>Chicken wrap, Spanish rice, lettuce &amp; tomato, zucchini, fruit cocktail, milk.</td>
<td>Spaghetti w/meat sauce, garden salad, green beans, Mandarin oranges, milk.</td>
<td>Taco salad (taco meat, lettuce, tomato, shredded cheese), tortilla chips w/salsa, refried beans, cinnamon puff, milk.</td>
<td>Chicken and noodles, whole wheat roll w/honey, mashed potatoes, steamed carrots, grapes, milk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Whole grain cereal, sausage patty, apricots, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Waffles w/syrup, vanilla yogurt w/blueberries, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Biscuit &amp; gravy, banana, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Scrambled egg, sausage &amp; cheese burrito w/salsa, pineapple chunks, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Breakfast pizza, peach slices, juice, milk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pork rib on a bun, leaf lettuce, sweet potato waffle fries, peas, apple, milk.</td>
<td>Taco soup, tortilla chips w/salsa, broccoli florets w/ranch, strawberries &amp; bananas, milk.</td>
<td>Corn dog, green beans, tater tots, fruit cocktail, Snickerdoodle cookie, milk.</td>
<td>Chicken quesadilla, chips &amp; salsa, refried beans, corn, cinnamon roll, milk.</td>
<td>Mac n Cheese, meatballs, whole wheat roll, peas, baby carrots, apple salad, milk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sausage, egg &amp; cheese biscuit, pear halves, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Cinnamon roll, tropical fruit, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Biscuit &amp; gravy, pineapple slices, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Whole grain muffin, string cheese, apricots, juice, milk.</td>
<td>Breakfast pizza, sliced peaches, juice, milk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sweet &amp; sour chicken nuggets, brown rice &amp; Asian vegetables, cherry tomatoes &amp; celery sticks, Mandarin orange, sugar cookie, milk.</td>
<td>Nachos (taco meat, cheese sauce, salsa, tortilla chips), refried beans, mixed fruit cup, milk.</td>
<td>Pizza soup, cheese breadsticks w/marinara, seasoned corn, tossed salad w/ranch, pear halves, milk.</td>
<td>Pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, cole slaw, apples, milk.</td>
<td>Crunchy beef taco, shredded lettuce &amp; diced tomato, steamed carrots, broccoli w/cheese sauce, cherry crisp, milk.</td>
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