



Inman USD 448

News & Notes

October 2011

iPads @ USD No. 448 provide new 'app'ortunities

From the Superintendent's Desk . . . *By Kevin Case*

This past week I have had the opportunity to discuss and reflect upon where we are with our implementation of iPads in fourth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades here at USD No. 448. To date, it has been an interesting, productive and eventful journey.

Monday night, we hosted a community meeting to share how staff and students are using iPads as learning tools. If you were unable to attend, you definitely missed an informative evening. A special thanks goes out to Inman Elementary School staff members Keri Maurer, Bentley Richert and Tamara Padfield for sharing their perspective about how iPads are being used in Inman Elementary's fourth grade classrooms. Inman High School staff members Scott Flaming, Greg Froese and

Jason Lindstrom also presented information about how iPads are being utilized at Inman High School. Thank you for your willingness to update us on the progress that is being made. Additionally, a number of other staff members recently took time from their busy schedules to share their insight into iPads with administrators from a nearby school district. After spending about four hours listening to staff and students share their thoughts about iPads, I would like to share some common themes that resulted from those discussions:

- Curriculum -- The iPads are not the focus of what we are doing, they are simply a tool to which our students have access. The basic curriculum we are teaching has not changed, but the iPad allows for a number of variations on the delivery of the curriculum.

- Access -- Students having access to iPads throughout the school day has allowed for immediate access to resources when needed, just in time, if you will. In the past, if a teacher had not signed up for the laptop cart, or if the laptops were not available, the teachable moment may or may not have been available until tomorrow or the next day when the technology was available. Secondly, our entire campus supports wireless internet access, allowing students to utilize technology as needed while they are at school.

- Apps -- Teachers and students were given a number of free and paid apps (applications) to use on their iPads to assist them with effectively utilizing their device. What we have found is that staff members have done an excellent job of finding specific apps that fit their subject matter and enhance what they are doing in the classroom. Daily news apps (CNN, USA Today, Fox News) give students the ability to receive up-to-date and differing views relating to current events. Art students have been using Photoshop Express,

Photo Editor and Pixlr-o-matic to assist them with completing art projects. In addition, the iPad camera has been a beneficial resource as students complete art projects. In general, the iPad has been a good resource for art students as they look at a variety of examples and different creation medias.

- Apps continued -- Mr. Froese shared how he is utilizing iBooks, Pages and Good Reader to move to a more paperless environment with students in his English classes. Many of the books that students read are available at no cost and students can highlight and add notes to their e-books. . . . and the list goes on.

- Apps, one more thing -- Fourth grade staff shared how they are using Spellboard which helps students study their weekly spelling words. Students used the app Photo Card to allow them to make digital post cards for a Kansas History project. Edmodo allows students and staff to post journal entries, share ideas and respond to teacher prompts on a variety of topics. ShowMe allows both staff and students to make and post tutorials that other students can watch to review a concept. As you can see, the app store is FULL of apps!

- Staff Dedication -- I have been extremely impressed with the level of buy-in and dedication that USD No. 448 staff members have given to learning and effectively utilizing this new technology. I continue to be impressed with their willingness to embrace this concept and take it to new heights. Thank you staff for your willingness to make this a success!

If you would like to become more familiar with iPads, how they can be used in your daily life, or would just like to share your thoughts about them, please do not hesitate to contact me at kcase@usd448.com, by phone 585-6424, or stop by 119 South Main and we can talk in person.

Inside

IES News
IJH/IHS news
Upcoming Events

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All-American Learning

Staff and students are off to a star-spangled start! Students have totally amazed us with their excitement for learning! Their demonstration of the IES Life Skills and Boys Town Social Skills has been exceptional.

We, once again, want to extend a warm welcome to our new students and families. We have 25 new students in grades 1-6, more than any other year in recent memory. New students and families, your addition to our school has made us better than ever. We know that by giving 100% Personal Best we, as a learning community, can have our best year yet.

Parent Night and Feedback

Thank you for joining us the night before school started for Parent Night. It was fun for us to connect with the all the students before our first day together. We hope it helped with some of the jitters that naturally come with the first day of school. We also hope it gave you adequate time to connect with your child's teacher and gather the necessary information you need going into the year.

Since this was our first crack at having Parent Night before school and having it with the students present, we want your feedback. Please contact Mr. Erickson and share your thoughts on how the evening went for you and your child.

Recycling

We will continue the recycling efforts that Mrs. Voboril, Mr. Traxson and their fifth graders started last year. The response from the community was awesome, and we look forward to more recycling this year.

Students may bring the following items to school to recycle: newspapers, paper, tin cans, glass and plastic. We are not recycling aluminum here at IES this year. We encourage you to use the community aluminum recycling bin south of Ampride.

McPherson County Refuse will have the trailer here on the first and third Thursday of each month. If you have any questions about this effort to recycle, please call the school and speak with Liline Simmons or Paul Erickson.

More IES News on page 3



Elementary News

Preschool visits the State Fair -- by Max Harman

On Monday, September 12, the Inman Elementary preschoolers went on a field trip to the Kansas State Fair. Sixth grade student Max Harman interviewed preschool teacher Mrs. Case about the field trip. "The kids had a great time, so did the parents," she commented. "They understood it was a day for cool learning." Parents were surprised that their kids were so excited! The first exhibit they visited was sheep shearing. Everybody loved it!

The next exhibit they visited was dairy milking. "Almost nobody knew what to do when milking a cow," Mrs. Case said. The children learned that there is a process to milking a cow! This was something most kids had never seen.

At the Birthing Center they actually saw new chicks hatching from eggs.

The group also stopped at Hedrick's Petting Zoo where they got to see, pet and feed the animals!

One of the highlights of the trip was the Wild West Show. "They were really excited to see cowboys duke it out with fake guns," Mrs. Case continued. Their other activities included visiting the KWCH weather wall, eating free ice cream, attending the pig races, and best of all, riding on the Giant Slide. At the end of the day the preschoolers got back on the bus and couldn't sleep. They must have been too excited!



Back to the drawing board

By Kirstan DeVore

The first graders at Inman Elementary are getting out their boards and writing up a storm! Their teachers, Mrs. Sneath and Mrs. Maier, have tools for the students to use, particularly ones that help their English skills.

Magnetic journals and magnetic letters are used for creating words or sounds that are dictated by arranging the letters to spell the word spoken, while the Smart Board is used by the children to check themselves. The pupils have dry erase boards to write sentences using the proper spelling, punctuation and capitalization. They have certain ways of sounding out words and spelling by marking various letters into syllables. They've also been learning to write, and this practice is helping them. It improves their spelling, handwriting, pronunciation and overall story writing. The teachers for older grades notice a lot of improvement in the children's writing, thanks to Mrs.

Maier and Mrs. Sneath!

The students especially love Smart Board interaction and playing games such as Hang Man and Quiz-Quiz-Trade, an interactive game among the students. They spell the word for their friend and then trade words. The children are clearly enjoying themselves as well as learning important skills to use when they are older.

Obviously, they are learning plenty and are geared up too! Now that I see what fun the kids are having, I'd like to be a first grader again and get back to the drawing board! See this activity by checking out a video posted on our "Inman Schools" Facebook page.

IES collecting box tops/ labels

Last year more than 1,000 box tops and labels were collected, translating to over \$2,000. This money has been used for learning supplies, materials, incentives and celebrations. Please continue to gather them for IES.



IJH/IHS News

Briggs and Stratton donates 12 engines to agricultural education program.

The Briggs and Stratton company hosts several instructor courses each year, one of which Miss Klenda attended this summer in Menomonee Falls, Wis. Educators from across the nation and continent attended the beginner course. Participants learned the operation and theory behind Briggs & Stratton air cooled engines as well as insights to tear down OHV and vertical shaft L-head engines.

In addition to sending instructors home with teaching resources and materials, each participant received a dozen engines for use in their agricultural education program. These engines are to stay with the program as Briggs and Stratton continues to support educators and strives to put their engines in the hands of young people. Many thanks to all those who support our school's many programs.

The class is covering internal combustion engines, safety and tools, and engine operation before getting their hands dirty.



Ryan Bengston is eager to start working on the donated Briggs and Stratton engines.

Greenhands attend FFA Greenhand Conference

Seven first-year agricultural education students traveled with Miss Klenda to Arkansas City on Sept. 19, for the 2011 South Central District Greenhand Conference.

District officers led the Dr. Seuss' "Whoville" themed conference for the over 400 FFA members in attendance. State FFA officers, Jordan Pieschel of Ell-Saline and Cole Smith of Plainville, were also present and led students in an "I Believe" workshop. Wyatt Dejong, National Central Region Vice President from South Dakota, challenged every person present to work towards becoming everyday superheroes by simply trying, being aware of those around you and continually giving more of yourselves.

"I think the Greenhand Conference was fun. It was nice to meet new people that like things like me," said Cheyenne Teeter when reflecting upon her experience.

Rachel Barlow said, "It was fun meeting new people and hearing Wyatt talk."

Students have numerous opportunities to become involved in FFA activities throughout the year.

Stellar spellers compete at State Fair

Ten students represented Inman at the Kansas State Fair's annual spelling bee on Sept. 12. The competition for grades 6-8 began with a written test, then 20 finalists advanced to an onstage oral competition. Sixth-grade student Kirstan DeVore advanced to the finals, receiving eighth place and a T-shirt. The following participated in this year's bee:

8th grade: Kyler Blank, Lily Bledsoe and Caleb Renner

7th grade: Aaron Leck, Joseph Lucas, Kane Thimmesch and Rachel Ulrey

6th grade: Kirstan DeVore, MaKayla Michael and Kassie Sneath

IES news continued....

Before and after school....

If parents park on the east side of the street in front of the elementary school, please have students use one of the crosswalks on the corners. For students' safety, we do not cross in the middle of the street. Thanks for helping all of us be safe at the beginning and end of the day.

PE cones are lost

Lost: Approximately 30 orange and multi-colored 12" rubber cones from Inman Elementary Physical Education Department. They were borrowed sometime in June and not returned. They are used on a daily basis. Please call Inman Elementary, 585-6555, with any information concerning the lost cones.

Thanks a ton to....

... Val Shober and Emily Baumann for joining Site Council/PTO this year. Other members are Julie Wedel, Jennifer Carter, Audrey Hoffman, Keri Maurer, Sandy Erickson, Bentley Richert and Abby Epp. Feel free to contact these folks for information on meetings or potential topics of interest.

... Max Harman, Kirstan DeVore, Connor Sivils, Ethan Stubbs, Baylie Jo Ediger and Jerron Schroeder for rejoining Student Council this year. Fifth grade members were to be elected in mid-September.

... All community members and the Inman Ministerial Alliance for their organization of and contributions to Stuff the Bus. WOW! Words can't describe how thankful we are for this act of generosity. We are blessed with you at our backs.

... EVERYBODY for supporting our school as we kick off another unprecedented year of achievement!!!



Around Our Schools



From top left clockwise: Fall Homecoming Court, varsity volleyball, varsity football, first day of school at IES, IHS band students perform The Star Spangled Banner at Santa Fe Days.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 3		Dental Screening - IES
Oct. 6		IES Fall Pictures
Oct. 7	4-7 pm	Pizza Kit/Cookie Dough Pickup
Oct. 11	7 pm	IES Site Council
Oct. 14		Fire Prevention Activities
Oct. 17	6 pm	BOE Meeting - Central Office
Oct. 20		End of 9 weeks
Oct. 21		No School
Oct. 24-27		IES Book Fair
Oct. 24, 25	4-8	Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct. 24	7 pm	Booster Club Meeting
Oct. 28		No School
Oct. 31	6 pm	Firemen's Costume Party



Art work by IHS student Sarah Krehbiel