



SCHOOL NEWS

Kinsley-Offerle
U.S.D. 347
Home of the Coyotes

Understanding FAFSA: A Key Step Toward Paying for College

For high school students planning to attend college, career school, or a technical program, one of the most important steps in the process is completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly known as FAFSA.

FAFSA is the form used by the federal government, states, and colleges to determine a student's eligibility for financial aid. Completing the application is the only way students can qualify for most types of federal financial assistance, including grants, student loans, and work-study programs. Many states and colleges also rely on FAFSA information to award their own scholarships and aid.

The FAFSA is completed online through the U.S. Department of Education's website and is available to students each year. Both students and parents may need to provide financial in-

formation, including income, household size, and tax details. The application is free, and families are encouraged to avoid any services that charge a fee to complete it.

Once submitted, the FAFSA is reviewed and processed, and students receive a FAFSA Submission Summary. This summary includes a Student Aid Index (SAI), which schools use to determine how much financial assistance a student may receive. Each college listed on the FAFSA then creates a financial aid offer outlining available grants, loans, and work-study opportunities if the student chooses to enroll.

Timing is important when completing the FAFSA. Although the federal deadline typically extends well into the following year, many states and colleges have much earlier deadlines, and some financial aid is

awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Filing as early as possible can increase a student's chances of receiving more aid.

Students should gather necessary documents before starting the application, such as tax returns, W-2 forms, Social Security numbers, and bank information. If a mistake is made or financial circumstances change, corrections can be submitted after the initial application.

FAFSA does not determine whether a student is accepted into college, but it plays a major role in how affordable higher education can be. School counselors and college financial aid offices are available to help students and families navigate the process and answer questions.

For students planning their next step after graduation, completing the FAFSA is an essential part of preparing for the future.

USD 347 BOE Meeting Minutes November 10, 2025

CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER
The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by the Board President Robby Pary.
Member Present:
Robby Parry, President
Mitchel Craft, Vice-President
Kurth Lancaster
Linette Miller
Tim Starkes
Staff Present
Dr. Lori Amaro, Superintendent
Alicia Hodges, Board Clerk
Kyle Bright, KJSHS Principal
Hannah Brown, KOES Principal
Beth Schmitt, USD 347 Treasurer
Vincent Burcher, KJSHS Teacher
Adams Brown, Audit Report Via Zoom

ADOPTION OF AGENDA
Motion was made by Mitchell Craft seconded by Tim Starkes to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed: 5-0.

APPROVE MINUTES
Motion was made by Kurth Lancaster seconded by Tim Starkes to approve the minutes for the October 13, 2025 regular board meeting. Motion passed: 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Financials
2. Ohio Pyle Logo Royalty Check
Motion was made by Mitchell Craft seconded by Tim Starkes to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed: 5-0

REPORTS
Principal Reports - Presented by Kyle Bright & Hannah Brown

EXECUTIVE SESSION Personnel
Motion was made by Mitchell Craft seconded by Tim Starkes to go into Executive Session with administration at 8:19 to discuss one or more employee's performance, pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting to resume in the boardroom at 8:24. Motion passed: 5-0.

ACTION ITEMS
Motion was made by

Mitchell Craft seconded by Tim Starkes to hire Rylie Miller as Emergency Substitute Teacher upon her receiving her license. Motion passed: 5-0.

Motion was made by Mitchell Craft seconded by Tim Starkes to approve the Open Enrollment Policy as presented. Motion passed: 5-0

Motion was made by Kurth Lancaster seconded by Tim Starkes to proceed with the RFP process with DCS for the replacement of the Dome floor with grade 1maple wood. Motion passed: 5-0

Next scheduled meetings:
Monday, December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting 6:30 pm Superintendent Evaluation
ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by Kurth Lancaster seconded by Tim Starkes adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm. Motion passed: 5-0.

Bill to Ban Cellphones in Kansas Schools Before Legislature

By Ryan Newton
WICHITA, Kan. (KSNW)—A bipartisan group of Kansas lawmakers filed legislation Tuesday to prohibit cellphones in K-12 schools.

Senate Majority Leader Chase Blasis, R-Andale, and Senate Minority Leader Dina Sykes, D-Lenexa, presented Senate Bill 302. Twenty-six other senators are co-sponsoring, which is more than two-thirds of the Senate.

"Phone-free schools give students space to think, build authentic human re-

lationships, and protect student mental health from constant digital pressure," Blasi said in a press release. "The longer phones stay in classrooms, the harder it becomes to undo the damage."

The bill would affect both public and private schools accredited by the Kansas State Department of Education.

"Studies show that classrooms without phones have more engaged students leading to face-to-face conversations, stronger peer relationships, safer school

environments, and better academic outcomes," Sykes said in the release.

The bill is expected to pass the Senate this month when the Legislature reconvenes. It will then be sent to the House.



Kinsley-Offerle Menu

Friday, Jan 2
NO SCHOOL

Monday, Jan 5
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Jan 6
BREAKFAST
Biscuit and Gravy, Pineapple, Juice, Milk Choice
LUNCH
Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Tater Tots, Broccoli Florets, Baby Carrots, Tropical Fruit, Graham Snacks, Canned Fruit (9-12), Milk Choice

Wednesday, Jan 7
BREAKFAST
Chicken Breakfast Biscuit, Banana, Juice, Milk Choice
LUNCH
Biscuits and Gravy, Sausage Patty (6-12), Fresh Veggies, Hash Brown Patty, Pineapple, Canned Fruit (9-12), Milk Choice

Thursday, Jan 8
BREAKFAST
Long John, Apple, Juice, Milk Choice

LUNCH
Hot Dog, Oven Fries, Broccoli with Cheese, Mandarin Oranges, Graham Snack, Canned Fruit (9-12), Milk Choice

Friday, Jan 9
BREAKFAST
Pancake on a Stick, Strawberries, Juice, Milk Choice
LUNCH
Chicken Strips, WW Bread with Butter, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Salad, Pears, Canned Fruit (9-12), Milk Choice



USD 347 Activities

9 - ACT Registration Deadline for 2-14-26 Test
Pep Rally at 3:00 PM
HS Basketball vs Cunningham MIDWINTER
Crowning after JV Boys game at 6:00 PM
10 - JH JV Basketball in Ness City
Midwinter Dance at 8:00 PM
12 - HS Basketball Home vs Spearville
BOE Meeting at 6:30 PM
13 - HS Basketball Home vs Otis-Bison at 4:00 PM
KOOES Site Council at 5:15 PM
14 - KOES Spelling Bee at 1:00 PM
15 - JH Basketball in Victoria at 4:00 PM
HS Basketball Home vs LaCrosse at 4:00 PM

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- Recreation Director -
Dawson Mauk

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cityofkinsley.org

Kinsley Veterinary Clinic

Wednesday 1:30 to 5
Friday 9 to 12

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8am-3pm Mon-Fri

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