



# *The Andover Update*

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ANDOVER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 385



Schools across Andover held Veterans Day assemblies and activities to honor those who have sacrificed for our freedom and country. Andover Public Schools takes pride in their Veteran's Day activities and look forward to spending the day with family and friends of the community who have served in our nation's military.

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**The mission of Andover Public Schools is to prepare learners for a lifetime of responsible living and learning in a changing society by creating partnerships, high expectations and meaningful educational opportunities.**

# Letter from the Superintendent



It is a pleasure to bring you this publication that will be sent to all patrons of the Andover School District several times a year. The purpose is to keep you informed about the many outstanding activities going on in your school district, and I hope you will take the time to share the news with others. We realize that a good school system is a vital part of any successful community and want you to know we take that responsibility very seriously.

I sincerely believe that school districts are either working hard to improve or they are declining in some way. In Andover, we are extremely proud of our accomplishments, but we are never completely satisfied and constantly strive to improve. We know our community has high expectations for us and demands more than just an average education. So with that in mind, we continue to find ways to promote higher levels of student learning while at the same time, operate in a cost efficient and effective way. Education is going through many changes as we implement new state standards, and our talented staff is always learning and looking for new, innovative ways to create the type of classrooms that will prepare our students for success not only in Kansas, but as

they pursue careers throughout the country and the world.

Andover is a great place to live and raise a family as evidenced in us being selected the #1 city in Kansas for young families by NerdWallet.com for two years in a row. The schools were a large reason for that and continue to be one of the primary reasons people move to our community. As you know, the heart of any successful organization is quality people. You just don't have excellence like we have in Andover without a dedicated, committed and professional staff, and we are fortunate to recruit and retain the very best teachers, administrators and support staff in Kansas. We have much to be proud of in Andover. Our test scores are some of the highest in the state, our facilities are some of the best, our staff members continue to win numerous state and national awards and our students demonstrate excellence in the classroom, on the playing field and through our outstanding visual and performing arts programs. At just over 5,200 students, our enrollment is the highest it has ever been and continues to grow. We feel fortunate for the privilege of serving you, the patrons of the Andover School District, and commit to doing all we can to make our school system a point of pride in the community.

As you look through the pages of this publication, I hope you will sense the great deal of pride we have as a school district. "We Are Andover," and "We are Building on a Foundation of Excellence!"

Please don't hesitate to let us know how we are doing by contacting one of our schools or the district office. We like to receive feedback and appreciate the opportunity to better explain what we are doing for our students and our community.

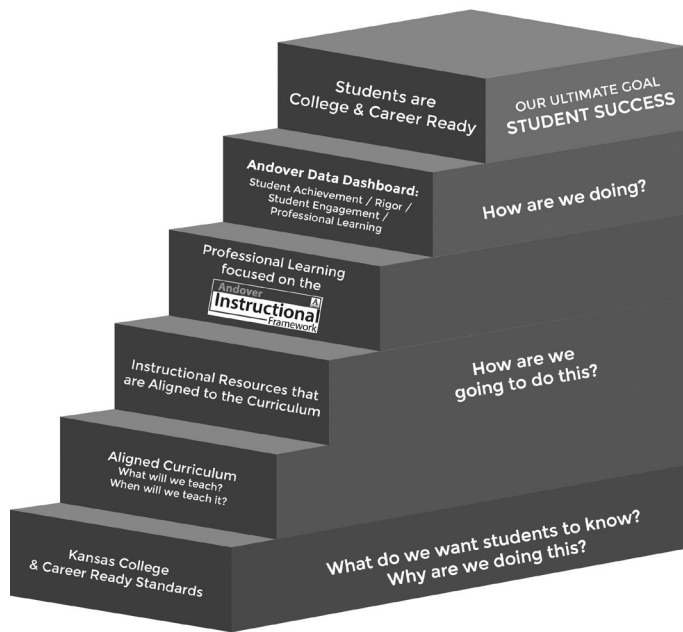
Greg Rasmussen, Superintendent of Schools

## ALL THE BEST PARTS OF SCHOOL

Andover eCademy is a blended online K-12 public school program for students in Kansas, offered by the award-winning Andover Public Schools. Students throughout the state can now take advantage of the same high-quality, state-certified education they expect from Andover – available virtually and in person when needed, tuition-free with minimal student fees.



## Andover Organization Focus creates alignment in curriculum, teaching



This year, Andover Public Schools has focused on aligning our curriculum and teaching practices with student success in mind. Our goal is to prepare students for success and through organizational focus, we are creating an aligned system to ensure we reach our goals. In order to accomplish this task, we have organized and aligned our school district focus. The Andover Organizational Focus breaks down our different areas of focus to specifically target student success. Divided into three parts, we are asking ourselves the questions “Why are we doing this?”, “How are we going to do this?” and “How are we doing?” in order to measure our teaching practices compared to student performance. Through these three questions, we are centering ourselves on the areas below to achieve best practices to gain the maximum levels of student success:

### ***Kansas College and Career Ready Standards - Why are we doing this?***

Today’s students are preparing to enter a world in which colleges and businesses are seeking highly-skilled, critical thinkers. To ensure all students are ready for success, the new standards establish clear, consistent guidelines for what every student should know and be able to do. The standards are rigorous and will help our students be competitive in a global marketplace.

### ***Aligned Curriculum and Instructional Resources - How are we going to do this?***

Our school district is committed to ensuring students are on the pathway to success in their academic careers. Educators across the district collaborate to align their curriculum and what is taught to students by selecting the materials, resources, textbooks and technology tools students will use to learn.

### ***Andover Instructional Framework - How are we going to do this?***

One of our district goals is the implementation of the Andover Instructional Framework. Educators are responsible for preparing students for success and we feel it is important to transform how we teach and facilitate learning in the classroom. Students who are highly engaged, experience cognitive rigor and who are invested in learning through relevant classroom experiences will receive an excellent education in our district. The Andover Instructional Framework is designed to create these learning opportunities for students.



Teachers come together on Professional Learning Days to learn about the Andover Instructional Framework, helpful tools and best practices for implementing the Framework into their classrooms.

### ***Andover Data Dashboard - How are we doing?***

As a successful school district, we engage in a system of continuous improvement. We monitor our progress by setting goals, analyzing data and making decisions based on the results. The Andover Data Dashboard shows us results as a visual “dashboard,” much like a vehicle. We monitor our academic progress through the STAR assessment given in the Fall, Winter and Spring to all students in Kindergarten through 10th grade. We also look at data from classroom instruction in areas of student engagement and cognitive rigor. The data dashboard also monitors the effectiveness of our professional learning. A highly skilled and effective educator is the most important factor in student achievement. We believe professional learning increases educator effectiveness and results for all students.

## Flying Classroom pilot visits Martin Elementary

In September, Martin 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students had a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet Captain Barrington Irving. His stop in Wichita was the first leg of his travels that will take him across North America, Asia, Indonesia and Australia on his three-year Flying Classroom journey.

Captain Irving became the youngest person and only African American ever to fly solo around the world. He is a National Geographic Emerging Explorer and Guinness World Record Holder. Captain Irving talked about having goals and overcoming obstacles in order to reach those goals. Students will participate in Captain Irving's Flying Classroom program, following his expeditions over the remainder of the year. Students using the Flying Classroom curriculum, including Martin Elementary, will study subjects relevant to each expedition as they track Irving's team. In addition to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math topics, they will also learn about geography, history and the humanities.



For more information regarding Captain Irving and his program, visit [www.flyingclassroom.com](http://www.flyingclassroom.com).

## District facilities requests have gone electronic

In an effort to maintain efficiency at our district facilities, Support Services has rolled out a new online program to reserve facilities for outside users called FS Direct. This program is part of a suite that we currently use for transportation, technology and maintenance requests. This online option for the district came with the ability to give schools more efficient planning for outside organizations reserving the facilities, allowing schools to adequately clean and set up the space requested. This update also allows the district to better track its facilities, heating, air, and lighting usages throughout the year. Another benefit of this change for public requests is the ability to give quicker responses for those requests as well as the added bonus of electronic billing.

Some important things you need to know as a public user:

- To be able to use the online program, an email address is required. Once you set up your account, your email address will serve as your username as well as give the district the ability to communicate with you quickly.
- All requests must be entered into the system at least 5 days prior to the date being requested. The 5 day period will start after you have submitted an online Facility Request.
- In the event that school is canceled for ANY REASON, all practices, events and activities are canceled. The Requester will be responsible for notifying their participants.
- Step-by-step instructions for completing your initial setup and future reservations can be found on our website - [www.usd385.org](http://www.usd385.org).

## ACHS Science Teacher Wins Horizon Award

Patrick Huddleston, chemistry teacher at Andover Central High School, was named a 2015 Kansas Horizon Award winner. This award recognizes exemplary first-year educators. Thirty-two first-year educators from around the state received this distinction and will be honored at a special ceremony during the Kansas Exemplary Educators Network (KEEN) State Education Conference on Feb. 20, 2015 in Topeka.

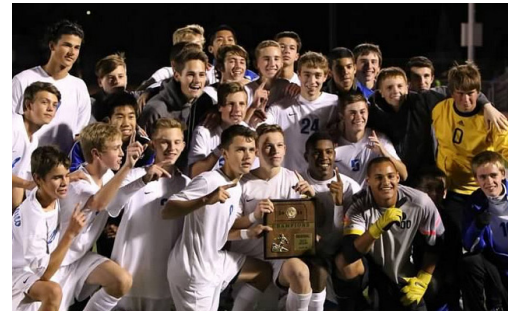
The Kansas Horizon Award program, which is sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education, allows all school districts in the state an opportunity to nominate one elementary and one secondary teacher for the award. To be eligible for the award, teachers must successfully complete their first year of teaching and perform in such a way as to distinguish themselves as outstanding. The program is a regional competition with four regions corresponding to the state's U.S. Congressional districts. Four elementary and four secondary classroom teachers may be selected for the award from each region. Huddleston is the tenth Andover teacher to receive this award.



Superintendent Greg Rasmussen, Patrick's fiancée Ginny Bixler, Principal Cheryl Hochhalter, and Assistant Superintendent Brett White were on hand to congratulate Patrick when he received the phone call from the Kansas State Department of Education.

# andover in COLOR

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The Andover High School boys' soccer team took 4th place in the state soccer championships. Leading up to state, the Trojans shut out Goddard-Eisenhower and Emporia to win the regional championship and also earned a win against Goddard in the quarterfinal round. They finished the season with a 16-4-1 record.



At Opening Assembly in August, staff were recognized for their years of service to the district. Those having 20 and more years of service were honored at the assembly. Kurtis Boughton, Janet Crouch, Sophia Davis, Lori Gunzelman, Kim Hett, Tricia Lawrence, Tracy McEwen, Tracy Smith, Greg Smith, Michelle Snyder, Dan Taylor and Shelley Zerbe have served 20 years; Kellie Bamford, Sue Coffman, David Klein, Katie Oller, and Ellen Wilson, 25 years; Linda Lawson, 30 years and Lori Hays has served 35 years.



5th grade students from Sunflower Elementary attended STARBASE - a 5-week program at McConnell Air Force Base that encourages elementary students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields of study throughout their education.



Students at Cottonwood Elementary created art projects that contained dots for International Dot Day on Sept. 15. International Dot Day is a celebration of creativity, courage, and collaboration inspired by Peter H. Reynolds' book, "The Dot."



Prairie Creek Elementary always enjoys participating in the Greater Andover Days parade in September.



Andover Middle and Andover Central Middle School students participated in the Annual Pioneer League Food Drive Nov. 17-21. Middle schools in the league host a food drive and donate all the food and money collected to a local food bank. All Andover school's proceeds were given to the Andover Community Food Bank. At the end of the competition, all middle school classes assisted in calculating the total of items and dollars collected. The middle schools collected a total of 13,513 non perishable items for the Andover Food Bank! Andover Middle averaged 12.74 cans per student and Andover Central Middle averaged 8.60 cans per student.



Wichita State basketball player Tom "Bush" Wamukota visited Martin Elementary to talk about his Kenyan heritage.



Students from Sunflower, Prairie Creek, and Central Middle attended the 2014 William Allen White Award Ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 4 at Emporia State University. They met the winning William Allen White authors and toured Red Rocks - William Allen White's house.



Andover High School's broadcast program, the Andover Sports Network, earned the recognition of being a 2014-15 National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Network Select School. Their program earned this achievement by demonstrating excellent broadcasting skills over the past year through producing quality broadcasts of their high school games and events.



The Andover Central High School football team celebrates their win as 4A Regional Champions. They completed their season with a 6-5 record. Senior Tyler Harris & Coach Tom Audley of Andover Central High School were selected to be part of the 42nd annual Kansas Shrine Bowl West Team that will play the East team on July 25, 2015.



Sunflower Elementary teacher Brooke Cox was honored with the KAKE Golden Apple Award on Sept. 18. As the first KAKE Golden Apple Award winner at Sunflower Elementary, her letter of recommendation from a former parent stated "she is the epitome of what any parent would want from a teacher. She cries with them, laughs with them, and when they need correcting she does it with love. She may never know the impact she has on her students, but I do."



Students from Sunflower Elementary were encouraged to read 540 minutes over the course of summer break. Students that attained this goal were given an afternoon to interact with students from Andover Central High School who are in band, play soccer, football or participate in cheerleading.



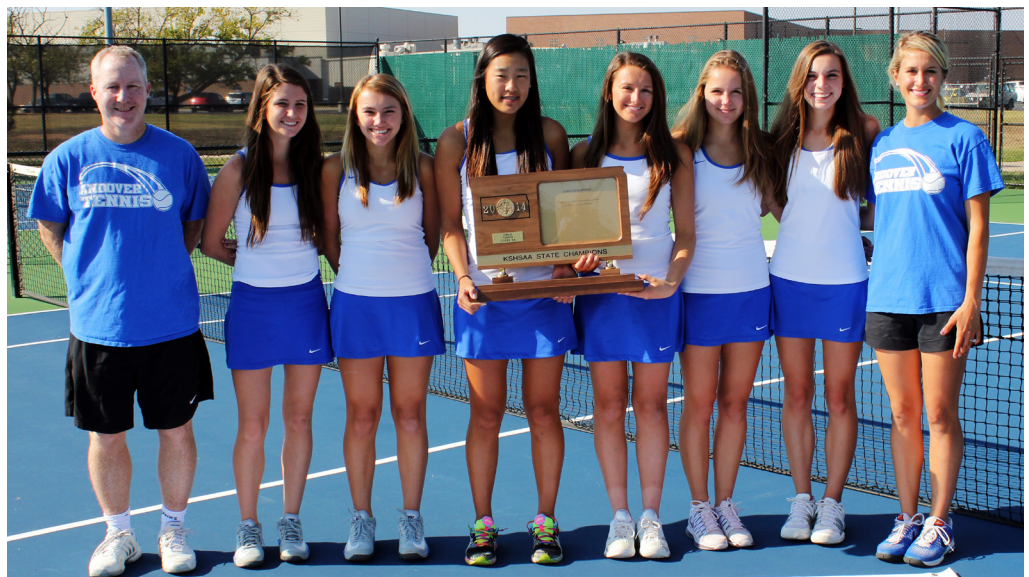
Students of Wheatland Elementary collected gifts to donate to the Wichita Children's Home. Student Council, teacher and parent volunteers delivered the gifts to the Wichita Children's Home for Christmas.



The Andover Middle School Scholar's Bowl 7th and 8th grade teams took first place at the Pioneer League Championship.



Every year, schools across the district build floats to participate in the Greater Andover Parade held in late September. Meadowlark Elementary themed their float "Dream on & on" and took first place in the Best Non-Commercial Parade entry category.



Under the leadership of head coach Jessica Dibble, and assistant coach Steven Alexander, the Andover High School girl's tennis team won this year's State 5A Girls Tennis Championship. Team members include Grace Ball, Robyn Fritze, Madi Hearne, Do-Hee Lee, Caitlyn White and Lena Zadruzynski. In addition to the team winning the championship, Do-Hee Lee won the State Singles title and Grace Ball was the runner up. This is the 2nd year in a row that the team has won the state title. They competed against 23 teams in the state competition and ended the season with a 27-0 record.



## New program allows students to take PRIDE in their work

Andover Central Middle School has taken the opportunity to create a unique program to give students the ability to learn and collaborate on character education, community connections, team building and 21st century skills called PRIDE Time. PRIDE Time brings sixth, seventh and eighth grade students together each Friday for a session with a new teacher each week. The time together builds connections amongst students, allows teachers to meet new students or reconnect with past students and brings a fun close to an action packed week.

Andover Central middle school principal Tim Hayden decided to start this program last year after feedback from their Climate Advocacy Team. "For two years this team has wanted to find a time to interact and teach character education, build cross grade level relationships amongst students and find a way to reward students for doing the right things," says Hayden.

Students must be in good academic and behavioral standing to participate in PRIDE Time. Classes are shortened by seven minutes on Fridays to allow 45 minutes for PRIDE at the end of the day with students still having normal allotted time for passing periods and lunch. Students who are in need of some extra help are referred to the PASS (Prescribed Academic Student Support) Program in which six to eight adults are there to give the support they need.

There is an array of activities that students will discover during PRIDE Time. Some of those activities include creating birthday and get well cards for The Fountains Assisted Living & Retirement Facility, Human Knot and Cup Challenge, the creation of inspirational placemats for the cafeteria, the Dangers of Rumors and Misinformation, assisting custodial staff with Friday shutdown, iPad Animation, Healthy Snack Creation, Good Day cards for patients at St Joseph's Hospital, Using Google to solve every day problems, career exploration through the BLS.gov website and much more.

Two of the many classes that students enjoy are both humanitarian projects. Seventh-grade teacher Kacy Bookout has facilitated the packaging of one box of Numana meals for the Andover Food Bank each session. "The students are impressed that they can package 216 meals during their short time! It is important for them to be involved in activities that require teamwork and provide much needed service to others," says Bookout. Mrs. Bookout's students have packaged over 865 meals so far this year and have learned valuable lessons from doing a service for others.

Eighth-grade teacher Lori Gunzelman spends her PRIDE time helping students make origami cranes for Cranes for Cancer. Cranes for Cancer's mission is to provide baskets or vases of 1,000 cranes to cancer patients. "We discuss the legend and old Japanese tradition of how cranes are symbols of good luck and the story of a Japanese girl who was diagnosed with leukemia and tried to make 1,000 paper cranes before her death. We then make origami paper cranes to donate to Cranes for Cancer," says Gunzelman. Mrs. Gunzelman hopes to reach her 1,000 total soon so those good luck crane "wishes" can be shared.

With all the educational benefits students receive from PRIDE Time, they truly are excited about these opportunities and look forward to each Friday. Hayden says "They like ending their Friday with something new and are never sure what to expect with each week bringing a different activity. They are connected to a new group of people and are constantly commenting to teachers on how much they enjoy their PRIDE Time. This program not only enhances our students, but the school community as a whole."



## Skype Around the World

Andover Public Schools has gone global! For the past 18 months, many of our teachers have embraced the latest video conferencing tools such as Skype and Google Hangouts to speak with students in far off places like Australia, Kenya, Costa Rica, Turkey, Ireland, and even in remote areas such as the Arctic Circle. Additionally, teachers are providing opportunities for students to connect with content area experts, professionals working in industry, National Park Rangers, National Geographic Explorers, NASA Educators and even professional authors at absolutely no cost. These experiences are building student excitement and passion for the curriculum while directly linking the real world connections to classroom learning. Students are sharing perspectives, conducting research, listening to experts, and exploring the earth like no previous generation has had the opportunity to do before. As a result, Andover students are becoming more curious, inspiring new passions, asking more challenging questions and showing a love for learning that is contagious beyond the walls of our schools.



Teachers all across the district are discovering the power of video conferencing and are actively designing and seeking out more opportunities for their classrooms. Because of this passion, Skype has identified five of our Andover teachers as Skype Master Teachers: Todd Flory of Wheatland Elementary, Andrea Friend and Stacey Ryan of Andover Middle School and Micah Brown and Dyane Smokorowski, Technology Integration Coaches for the district. These five educators are now showcasing the Andover global learning success story with teachers across the globe.

Some fantastic global travel highlights from Andover Public Schools include: Skype around the world day (seven continents in one day); virtual field trips with animal experts at the Colorado Snake Conservatory and Minnesota Zoo; historic research investigations with National Historic Civil War Battlefields; Biome research with classrooms around the globe; art literacy training with the Nelson-Atkins; and many more!

# Pre-Kindergarten @ Andover Public Schools

Did you know we offer Pre-Kindergarten opportunities for students in our district? In order to qualify for these programs, your child must be 4 years old by Aug. 31 and reside in the Andover School District.

### Fee-Based Pre-K

For preschool aged children who are not eligible for the State Pre-Kindergarten program or Early Childhood Special Education, we offer a fee-based program at a rate of \$250 per month with 16 spots available.

### State Pre-K

This program is Kansas grant funded and has 45 spots available and children must meet at least ONE of the following qualifications:

- Single Parent Family
- Limited English speaking
- Teen Parent Family
- Parent with no high school diploma/GED
- Low Income
- Delayed in development (screening provided)

## Application deadline is Feb. 13, 2015

Applications are available online at [www.usd385.org](http://www.usd385.org).

For more information, please contact Prairie Creek Elementary School at 316-218-4830 or 654 YMCA Dr., Andover, KS 67002



## Board of Education Recognitions

Each month, the BOE recognizes students and staff for awards and achievements they have received.



Mark Cross was named the 2014 5A Tennis Coach of the year. He is the head tennis coach for Andover High School and teaches Woods & Metals. For the past two years, all six members of Mark's tennis team have qualified for state.



DeeAnn Freeman, music teacher at Cottonwood Elementary was named the South Central Kansas Music Educators Association District Outstanding Elementary Music Educator. She has taught music at Cottonwood for 10 years.



Deanna Deutscher of Sunflower Elementary and Shay Whetstone of Andover Middle School were nominated for the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year. Both nominees were honored at a reception held by the Kansas Department of Education in early September. At this reception, Shay was also recognized as a semi-finalist for Kansas Teacher of the Year.



Kenon Brinkley of Andover High School placed 10th in Original Oratory at the National Forensics Tournament held in Overland Park in June. He is the only person from Kansas to make the semi-finals (Top 14) in any event. With this placement, Kenon is automatically qualified for the National Forensics Tournament in 2015.



Andover High School baseball coach Christ Weidert was named the 2014 AVCTL Div. II Baseball Coach of the Year. Chris is the head baseball coach at Andover High School and teaches biology and anatomy. Chris' Trojan baseball team made it to state for the first time since 1989. Chris played baseball professionally before beginning his career as a teacher.



Andover Middle School teacher Jessica Dibble was nominated for the 2015 Horizon Award which honors exemplary first-year teachers. Dibble was also named the 2014 5A girls' Tennis Coach of the Year. She is the head coach of the Andover High 2-time State Champion Girls Tennis team.



Cheryl Hochhalter from Andover Central High School was named the 2014 Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals (KASSP) Area 4 High School Principal Honoree. This year, Andover Central was also named a Bronze Award winner in the US News and World Report Best High Schools report. Cheryl has been the principal for 4 years at Andover Central High.



Director of Communication Nicole Gibbs was named Kansas School Public Relations Association's (KanSPRA) 2014 Newcomer of the Year. The KanSPRA Newcomer of the Year Award is given to a member who advocates for public education; is committed to a creative, dedicated and professional approach to school communications; and is actively involved in KanSPRA.

## Board of Education Meeting Recap

July 14, 2014

- Scott Wilson was re-elected as President and Melinda Fritze was elected Vice President. Jamie Bohannon was reappointed as Clerk and Nicole Gibbs was appointed Assistant Clerk of the Board. Sherame Kneisel was reappointed as Treasurer.

August 11, 2014

- Business Manager Sherame Kneisel presented a proposed budget for the 2014-15 school year. The BOE voted to increase the LOB (Local Option Budget) from 31% to 33% for the 2014-15 school year to help offset reductions in state funding the district was facing. Even with this increase, the total mills for the district went down 2.076 from the previous year with a total mil levy of 63.917. This decrease will save an owner of a \$100,000 home approximately \$24 on their property taxes. District bonds & interest will be paid in full by end of year 2019.



September 8, 2014

- Asst. Superintendent Jill Lachenmayr reported on both Advanced Placement (AP) assessments and ACT scores for the district during the 2013-14 school year. The district had 317 students take the ACT and all performed above the state average in all areas. Our district's overall composite score is 23.3, which is above the state average of 22.0. There were 193 students that took AP assessments during the 2013-14 school year and our overall proficiency rate as a district was 76%, which is higher than the state (62.2%) and global (61.3%).

October 13, 2014

- Superintendent Greg Rasmussen gave an update on this year's enrollment and how it compared to years previous. Andover has had its highest enrollment ever in our history with an increase of 134 students putting enrollment over 5,100 students. The majority of growth came out of the middle and high schools.
- Assistant Superintendent Jill Lachenmayr and eCademy Principal Mark Templin presented on summer programs that were offered to students over the summer. At eCademy, there was a 6-week Elementary Program that allowed students to use computers at home and also receive small group instruction two days a week at the building. For middle and high school students, the eCademy offered an 8-week program that allowed students to take credit recovery and advancement classes. At Sunflower Elementary, the summer reading program encouraged children to read 540 minutes over the summer, equaling 60 minutes a week. The Andover Public Library also partners with school media specialists to promote reading over the summer.

November 10, 2014

- Administration proposed moving the land which will be the Portofino Apartment Complex from the North (Wheatland Elementary) to the South side feeder schools (Meadowlark Elementary). The area is 15.16 acres on the North side of Central, West side of 127th Street E. When construction is complete, the development will be a 278 unit apartment complex with units ranging from 789 to 1200 square feet and prices range from \$799- \$1,200 per month. We are projecting 15-20 students will be added to the district as a result of this development. The proposal was approved.

December 8, 2014

- Assistant Superintendent Jill Lachenmayr shared updated High School and Middle School Enrollment guides. A main focus for this update was to expand the Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes and create understanding of the pathways. The overview pages of the CTE clusters and pathways included an outline of specific courses in the pathway as well as real world examples of careers to help students and parents make informed decisions on choosing their class focus. There was also more information included on off-campus opportunities with Butler Community College on Health Services and Informational Technology Academies.
- The district is piloting Chromebooks and have placed a cart of 30 in 18 classrooms across the district. There is one cart in each elementary and middle school and five carts in each high school. Some of the great things about Chromebooks are they cost less than \$300, are quick to log on and off, are very easy to manage and maintain, their small size makes them very mobile and they easily integrate into Google Apps for Education, which we already use. Chromebooks are a viable option as a student device and will be a part of the computer refresh process throughout the district.



**Andover Public Schools**  
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**ANDOVER  
 ADVANTAGE  
 FOUNDATION**

**A Note from Andover Advantage Foundation Executive Director Jeanette Clement**

Hello parents, business owners and community members. I am excited to be a part of the foundation and want to get to know you and the community better. We'd like for you to get to know us better, so please like us on Facebook- [facebook.com/andoveradvantage](https://www.facebook.com/andoveradvantage), follow us on twitter- @AndoverFDN or contact me with questions and to volunteer on our committees at our website- [www.andoveradvantage.org](http://www.andoveradvantage.org).

Looking over the work that the foundation has accomplished absolutely amazes me. Did you know that over the past 18 years, AAF has invested more than \$800,000 back into the school district? Last year alone the foundation presented the district with a check for over \$75,000!

In 2015, I am excited to announce the addition of two new special events debuting in our community- The Food & Brew Fest and The Farm to Table Dinner. We are looking for volunteers and sponsors to kick them off right. Do you know someone?

- **Food and Brew Fest** - Join us for a fun Sunday afternoon festival May 3rd from 12-4 p.m. Food truck chefs and local craft beer breweries will rally to support education all to the back drop of an open air concert.
- **Farm to Table Dinner** - Promising to be an experience not soon forgotten, our Farm to Table Dinner on Sept. 12th will be a one of a kind evening complete with entertainment celebrating experiences both local and unique to Kansas and a 100 percent locally sourced dinner prepared by celebrity Chef Caleb Summers of Evolve Paelo.

The heart of the foundation has always been and will continue to be Academic Advantage grants awarded to teachers. Our number one goal is to provide essential and unique educational experiences that, due to a lack of state funding, would never be possible. A sample of funded grants in 2014 included:

- State of the art computer projectors for every school
- Installation of Picasso sculptures in art classrooms
- College quality Vernier test tube probes for high school science classrooms

Beginning this spring AAF, in partnership with the district, is launching a naming rights campaign. This is a great opportunity for businesses and individuals to invest in education by donating to name the district stadium, libraries, weight rooms, baseball fields, classrooms and the new tennis complex I've heard some amazing things about.

My job is to raise private dollars to fund public education. It is the charge the foundation has been leading for almost two decades and as we receive fewer dollars from Topeka, I ask our entire community to come together, find a place where you can dig in and help the Andover Advantage Foundation. Sponsor, donate, volunteer- support not only the 5,100 students enrolled today, but the students yet to come!