



of A TRADITION EXCELLENCE

During the 2021 legislative session, Senate Bill 13 passed the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) into law. The district's RNR is the mill levy required to collect exactly the same amount of tax dollars based on the assessed valuation as the year prior.

If the assessed valuation decreases the mill levy would need to increase to collect the same amount of taxes. Conversely, if the assessed valuation increases, the district would need fewer mills to collect the same amount of taxes. The legislation in SB 13 requires the school district to notify the County Clerk by July 20th of each year of their intent to exceed the RNR in order to raise adequate funds to support the operation of the school district. This intent is in turn distributed to taxpayers in the district.

In the coming weeks all households in Piper will be receiving communication from the Wyandotte County Clerk regarding the Piper School District's Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR). In order to meet the deadlines associated with the RNR, levy estimates are required to be made very early in the school district's budgeting process prior to the final publication of the budget in September. As the budgeting process evolves, a more accurate levy rate is able to be calculated.

#FROM *the* HELM *Piper* USD 203

For example, during the 2021-2022 school year, the published RNR Intent from the school district in July 2021 was 64.250 mills, but after finalizing our budget in September 2021, the actual level rate was significantly lower and finalized at 57.796.

Thanks to the patrons' support of the January bond issue, we do expect a higher levy rate to pay for the bonds that will allow for facility additions and learning enhancements throughout the district. While the final levy rate will be finalized during the budget building process, it is expected to be what was discussed during the bond campaign - an increase of approximately 7.500 mills with a total levy of approximately 64.000 mills. For the July 2022 RNR Intent report due to the County, the total mills we will be publishing is 68.250. Again, we are hopeful this will decrease once we finalize our district budget in September.

As you begin receiving communication from the County Clerk, it is important to note that some of the levies assessed by the school district are actually dictated by Kansas State Statute. For instance, by statute the General Fund levy is set at 20 mills, leaving a district no choice but to exceed the RNR if assessed valuation is increasing.



Important Facts to Remember About the Revenue Neutral Rate:

- ***This is NOT the final levy rate.***
- ***The district can, and likely will, adopt a lower levy rate but CANNOT exceed the rates in the intent published by the County Clerk.***
- ***The final levy rates will be determined as part of the 2022-2023 budgeting process.***
- ***The final levy rates will be approved when the budget is adopted at the September Board of Education meeting. All Board meetings are open to the public.***

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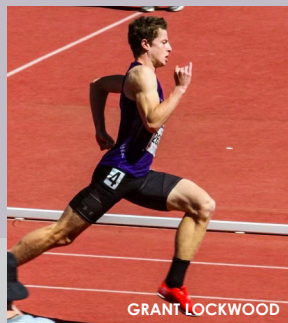
Piper High School Spring 2022 Track & Field

Our Piper High School Spring Track Athletes had an amazing spring season including several state champions! The boys team finished 6th and the girls team finished 7th overall. That is the highest team finish at the 5A level in school history. That means our athletes defeated 29 girls teams and 30 boys teams all of which are larger schools than we are since we are the smallest 5A in Kansas. The following athletes not only won state titles but also had the best performance in the state, all classes combined, meaning they had the best performance of the entire state meet 1A through 6A.

Kaitlin Lindstrom was the 5A state champion in the pole vault with a jump of 11'06". She also had the highest vault at the state meet all classes combined. Kaitlin is Piper's first 5A state champion in school history! She is also Piper's first jumps state champion in school history!

The next group of young men not only are state champions but now hold the 5A state record. To put a state record in perspective, the Kansas Track & Field State Championships have been taking place since 1911. That is 111 years of track and field in Kansas and a state record is the best performance at that classification in the entire history of Kansas track & field. This is the second time in school history Piper set two state records in the same season. The first time Piper broke 2 state records in one season was 2010. In addition to the two set this year, Piper also holds the 4A state girls 100m dash record set in 2010 and the 4A state girls 4x100m relay record set in 2019.

Our first state record of 2022 was set by Grant Lockwood. Grant shattered the 5A state record in the 400m dash to become state champion! The previous record was 48.05 and Grant ran 47.86 two times. He amazingly ran that time in the



preliminaries on Friday then ran the exact same time into a huge head wind Saturday during finals.

The boys 4x100m relay team of Dominique Herrig-Brittian, Grant Lockwood, LaMar Lynch, & Divante Herrig-Brittian now have the fastest time in the entire state of Kansas, all classes combined, and set a 5A state record with a time of 41.64 to become the 5A state champions. This team had the fastest time

in Kansas since the third week of the competitive phase of the season and held that spot clear through to the end and completed the ultimate goal of state champions and state record holders!

Congratulations to our state champions, state medalists TyJanae Hooks (7th Shot Put), Ryann Clark (5th 400m Dash), Aaron Henson (5th Shot Put), Jahnye Jamison, Jack Bakarich, Jamar Ray-Air Jarrett, & Grant Lockwood (5th Boys 4x400m Relay), Jayden Henry (3rd 110m Hurdles), and state qualifiers Sophia Derks (100m hurdles), Ellis English, Jake Huisman, DJ Thomas, & Jose Hernandez (4x800m Relay), LaMar Lynch (Long Jump), Genevieve Kulis (100m hurdles and 300m hurdles), Genevieve Kulas, Kylie Rice, Addisyn McCarty, & Ryann Clark (4x400m Relay), Camden Beebe (Discus), Grant Lockwood (800m Run), and Jayden Henry (300m Hurdles) for an incredible spring track season!

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