

of A TRADITION EXCELLENCE

Piper USD 203



Piper Rural High School District #1
3130 North 122 Street, Kansas City, KS

the TRADITION BEGINS

In the spring of 1919, a community meeting was held and plans for a rural high school in Piper, Kansas were discussed. At the time of this meeting there was no rural high school in Wyandotte County. Piper Rural High School District #1 was organized with James Glenn as director, William Einhellig as clerk and W. B. Vining serving as treasurer of the board. This board was given authority to go ahead and map out the boundaries of District #1 and issue bonds for the erection of a new building. It was decided the district boundaries should extend as far west as the Wyandotte/Leavenworth County line and north, east and south to the "opposition," that is, to a line bounding territory where there would be opposition to voting bonds for the school. Thus,

the district's lines are a little irregular. District #1 as platted at that time had a valuation of \$1,800,000. In the fall of 1919 the Piper Rural High School District #1 was opened with an enrollment of 65 pupils. The first class graduated in May of 1920. This class graduated the following four students: Delila Barker, Mike Einhellig, Helen Freedle and Dwight Vining.

Furthermore, the community chose a design of a building that could hold over 150 students. They had reasons to believe that a high school education was attainable for all children in the community. They had conviction that went beyond the current status quo. We can only imagine there were sacrifices that were made.

the TRADITION CONTINUES

The class of 2021 marks the 101st to graduate from Piper High School with 146 graduates in this year's class. Today, the Piper School is a diverse school district serving more than 2,600 students Pre-K through 12 in western Wyandotte County. The school district consists of 32 square miles including the Village West/Kansas Speedway retail and destination area. The district serves as the community center for this area of Kansas City, Kansas. Piper Schools offer facilities that include one Early Childhood Center, one K-2 elementary school, one 3-5 elementary school, one 6-8 middle school, and one 9-12 high school. Students benefit from cooperative agreements with Kansas City Kansas Community College and Vocational/Technical Center, Donnelly College,

Piper High School
Class of 2021



Baker University as well as, cooperative special education services through the Wyandotte Comprehensive Special Education Cooperative.

All Piper students have access to a wide variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities to ensure a well-rounded educational experience. STEAM curriculum for K-12 was developed and implemented and continues to provide all students with STEAM opportunities, career exploration, and is aligned with students' individual plans of study.

Piper students are among the top performing in Kansas. This fall, Piper Prairie Elementary School was one of only 367 schools in the country named a National Blue Ribbon School. Piper High School is recognized as one of the top-performing high schools in the Kansas City Metropolitan area based on reading and math assessments. Over 95% of our students meet or exceed state and federal adequate yearly progress measures. Over 75% of our students exceed expected standards. Piper High School has been named as a Governor's Distinguished School for Math,

Reading and Graduation Performance. Their ACT composite scores rank in the top 10% of the 21 county - metro Kansas City area. This spring they were named to the US News and World Report Best High Schools scoring as the 28th best high school in the state of Kansas and 4,196th in the nation!

It's easy to see why the Piper School District is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state of Kansas. The district has increased enrollment on average of 5% each year for the last 20 years. ***It is currently the 3rd fastest-growing school districts in the state and is projected to be 2nd fastest growing school district in the state within the next 5 years.***

Therefore, a gratitude of thanks goes out to James Glenn, William Einhellig, and W.B. Vining, the first Board of Education for Piper Rural High School District #1, for inspiring a community to see well beyond four high school graduates and launching a ***tradition of excellence*** among the community of Piper School District, Unified School District 203.