



**Editor’s Note:** We are proud to once again offer a very special edition of Harrisonville Highlights. This edition features a partnership between the Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce, Cass Regional Medical Center, the City, and the library. Page 8 includes a Community Calendar of Events for the spring.

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HARRISONVILLE  
*Highlights*

A Harrisonville Schools Publication  
Spring 2022

## Phase 1 bond construction complete, Phase 2 underway

In February, the final projects in Phase 1 of the district’s Prop N \$22.7 million bond work were completed at Cass Career Center and in March, work began on Phase 2 at Harrisonville High School.

The final additions to the west side of Cass Career Center include two new agriculture classrooms and a lab area, a new secure student entrance for HHS students, a new classroom and shop area for the EMT program, and a carport for the school’s emergency vehicles.

The former EMT classroom space will be used for the school’s new Teaching Professions program which begins in the fall.

Over spring break, demolition work began at Harrisonville High School for the Phase 2 projects. The work includes a renovated office area and secure entrance. The new office and main entrance will move to the west side of the building adjacent to the current Commons Area (see architect renderings). The new office area will include space for the administration, nurse, and counselors. Several teachers have been moved to other areas in the building for the remainder of the school year. Work on HHS is scheduled to be complete by the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Additional Phase 2 work involves HVAC and roof work at HHS and McEowen.

The bond projects were made possible by voters’ passage of Proposition N - a \$22.7 million bond issue in June 2020.



**Administrative Offices**  
503 S. Lexington  
380-2727

**Harrisonville High School**  
1504 E. Elm • 380-3273  
Grades 9-12  
Mark Rorivg, Principal

**Cass Career Center**  
1600 E. Elm • 380-3253  
Grades 9-Post-Secondary  
Dr. Anne Hickman, Director

**Harrisonville Middle School**  
601 S. Highland • 380-7654  
Grades 6-8  
Chris Grantham, Principal

**McEowen Elementary School**  
1901 S. Halsey • 380-4545  
Grades 4-5  
Beth Love, Principal

**Harrisonville Elementary School**  
101 Meghan Drive • 380-4131  
Grades 1-3  
Dr. Tricia Falke, Principal

**Early Childhood Center**  
500 Polar Lane • 380-4421  
Grades Preschool - Kindergarten  
Becky Campbell, Principal



## HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

**From the Desk of Superintendent Paul Mensching**

### Superintendent shares budgeting process for 2022-23 year



D e a r  
Wildcat  
Family,  
Hope  
“Springs”  
eternal!  
Chances  
are that  
several in  
our com-  
m u n i t y

have heard me echo that sentiment before, but it truly fits the season which is upon us. We are excited to finish one phase of construction and begin another. We are excited to have more outside interaction in our schools as the pandemic recedes once again.

Spring presents another season in the school Superintendent world. It is the season in which we begin to prepare the budget for the next school year. The first rule of managing the budget is to determine how much revenue to plan for in the upcoming year. For schools, we receive revenues from three primary sources: federal, local, and state. Typically, federal resources are the smallest portion of the pie and are earmarked for specific programs such as special education and Title services (Title I, Title II, etc.) These sources usually represent less than 10% of a school budget depending on the number of students served in a district.

The past two years, schools across the country have received additional federal dollars known as Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) money. These funds are based on poverty numbers in a district and provided for very specific expenditures re-

lated to the pandemic. There are three phases of ESSER (I, II, and III) and the amounts allocated to each district were shared early in the process. However, the actual allocation of funds must flow through the state legislature. Fortunately, our state recently approved the final allocation of ESSER money in February. According to federal requirements, ESSER III money must have a specific plan in place to be distributed. Part of that plan included a survey of parents, which was completed in August of 2021. According to the planning process and the requirements of the federal funding bill, 20% of the money was allocated for tutoring and resources to fill the learning loss associated with the pandemic. One million dollars of the money was designated for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning improvements to improve air quality and efficiency. The third and final component of the ESSER III money was designated to provide additional mental health resources through our partnership with Compass Health. These resources include additional licensed professional counselors and coordination to help navigate the growing mental health needs of our students. Because of the ESSER funds, we have certainly seen a growth in the percentage of revenue from the federal sources. It is important to point out that these funds are one-time money and as such are not allocated to salaries.

The second largest source of revenue for the district is from the state of Missouri. The Missouri General Assembly begins the process of approving the next year's

budget almost as soon as they begin their session each January. The Governor presents a plan, and the executive branch works with the legislative branch to get the budget passed early in May. The state money is based primarily on enrollment, which has been our biggest challenge in the last decade. As a point of reference, in December of 2012, the district's student enrollment was 2,581, and the December 2021 student enrollment was 2,165. We have a sustained plan to continue to work with our local governmental entities to build our community together so that we can grow in a healthy manner. We understand that good schools are an integral part of a successful community, and we are strategically striving to do our part to constantly improve the education we provide so that growth can occur. A large focus of our effort is tied to the Real World Learning efforts in a partnership with the Kauffman Foundation. We have produced articles and videos in our communication which explain those efforts, but if you have any questions, please reach out to us and we will be happy to share!

The final component of our revenue is the biggest, which is our local dollars. Local revenue comes from a variety of sources such as real estate property tax and personal property taxes, primarily based on assessed valuation (AV). Our community has experienced tremendous growth in AV every other year for the past four years. However, we are limited by the Missouri Constitution on how much growth we can utilize for operating expenses. For example, if the AV grows 10% but

the Consumer Price Index (used to measure inflation) has only grown 1.5%, we can only levy an increase of 1.5% in our operating funds.

With a decline in state funding and a restrictive cap on growth during boom economic times, it becomes extremely problematic to budget for services experiencing inflation higher than most of us have witnessed in our lifetime. For example, last month we were offered an extension of our transportation services for a 20% increase. That rate was only good for two years and included no new buses. That was the price to handle the company's growth in expenditures related to necessary salary increases. Several of our contracts are presenting these same types of challenges, including bus fuel and natural gas for heating.

In the school finance world, revenues are known up front but not easy to increase. Expenditures are the easiest thing to control. We are a service industry, so the biggest part of our budget is tied to human resources. To control costs, we reduce our human resources. In the past three years we have reduced 30 plus positions in our district. We have reduced administration, teachers, and support staff. If enrollment continues to decline, we will continue to reduce staffing accordingly through attrition. One of our biggest obstacles during this inflationary period is to balance staffing numbers with a necessary increase in salaries so that our staff can afford the increases they will experience in their personal lives. Proposition I was a huge boost for our staff mem-

*(Continued on Page 8)*

[www.harrisonvilleschools.org](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org)





# Kindergarten, preschool enrollment set for May

Harrisonville Early Childhood Center kindergarten enrollment for 2022-23 is underway now and preschool enrollment will take place in May. The kindergarten program is open to all students who will turn five by July 31 and who live in the Harrisonville School District. The preschool program is open to all children who turn four by July 31 and live in the district. Kindergarten runs five full days a week, while preschool is a half day program for five days a week- morning classes from 8:50-11:20 a.m. and afternoon classes from 12:50-3:20 p.m.

Current ECC preschool students will be screened for kindergarten while they are at school during the month of April. A copy of the screening sheet will be sent home to parents following the screening. A packet of paperwork will also be sent home with students for parents to complete. State-issued birth certificates are already on file, but the school asks that immunization records are updated and submitted

to the office as soon as each student receives their “kindergarten shots.”

Students who are new to the Early Childhood Center and who will be five years old by July 31, 2022 can sign up for a kindergarten screening appointment online at [www.harrisonvilleschools.org/ecc](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/ecc). The screenings will take place during the week of May 10-13. There is a link for parents to download the enrollment packet to complete. Packets will be available at the screening appointments for those who are unable to access them electronically. To complete the process, a state issued birth certificate and updated copy of immunizations will be required as well. During the week of May 10-13, one adult will be allowed to accompany the student into the building for the screening and enrollment process.

Preschool enrollment for the 2022-23 school year will take place in May. Children who are actively enrolled in Parents as Teachers will

enroll for preschool classes on May 9 and children new to the building will enroll on May 16. To enroll, a sign-up will be available on our website on April 4. Parents will sign up for a time to bring in paperwork, birth certificates and immunization records. Paperwork can be accessed from our website beginning April 4 or will be available at school

during the enrollment process. Students do not need to attend as they will not be screened until the week of August 25-29. Preschool classes will begin on August 31.

Families with questions about preschool or kindergarten can call Harrisonville Early Childhood Center at (816) 380-4421.

## End-of-the-Year Dates; plus 2022-23 school calendar

May 13 Class of 2022 Graduation, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium

May 19 Last Day of School - Early Release for Students

### 2022-23 School Year

July 2-10 All Activites Dead Week

July 30-Aug. 7 Fall Sports Dead Week

August 22 Meet the Teacher Night

August 24 First Day of School

September 5 No School (Labor Day)

October 21 No School (Staff Work Day)

November 1 No School (Staff In-Service)

Nov. 21-22 No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov. 23-25 No School (Thanksgiving Break)

December 21 Early Release for Students

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 No School (Winter Break)

January 3 No School (Staff In-Service Day)

January 16 No School (MLK Day)

February 17 No School or Snow Make-up Day #1 (Staff In-Service)

February 20 No School or Snow Make-up Day #2

March 20-21 No School or Snow Make-Up Days #5 & 6

March 22-24 No School - Spring Break

April 7 No School

May 19 Class of 2023 Graduation

May 24 Last Day of School - Early Release for Students

May 25-26 Snow Make-Up Days #3 & #4



Cass Career Center Criminal Justice/CSI students used the new EMT shop area which was recently completed as part of the bond renovations and additions. The students were competing with classmates for a spot to represent the program at the State level. The competition was held on a Saturday so they were able to use the entire building for their skills tests.



## HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

# Five file for seats on Board of Education;

Five people have filed to run for election to the Harrisonville School Board. Candidates are:

- Brittney Sexton
- Emily Stone
- Jenny Wagoner
- David W. Reece
- David Peterman

On April 5, 2022, voters will select two people to serve three-year terms. Board members whose terms expire in 2022 are Tina Graef and Brittney Sexton. Information on each candidate is listed below in the order they will appear on the ballot.

Name: Brittney Sexton  
Occupation/Business: Marketing and Outreach Coordinator/Physician Liaison, Cass Regional Medical Center  
Educational Background: 2008 Harrisonville High School graduate, 2011 Avila University graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Marketing and Management  
Community organizations/memberships: Harrisonville School Board Member, Harrisonville Rotary Club, Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce Ambassador and former Board Member (2019-2021), attend Eagle Creek Church  
Why did you decide to run for school board? I am seeking re-election because I have a vested interest in our school district. I grew up in Harrisonville, my husband and I both graduated from Harrisonville and our three children are attending school here. I believe in the importance of ensuring that every child receives a quality education. I enjoy learning about new programs and opportunities for our students and advocating for each and every child in our district. I want to continue serving the district, and see through the projects we have started and have been working on over the past couple of years.  
What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools? I believe budget cuts have created a huge problem for public



Brittney Sexton

schools, including our district. Less funding means smaller staff and fewer resources for students. It is time for educators, lawmakers and parents to come together and find solutions for the benefit of all students in public schools.  
What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? The district's biggest strength is definitely the staff! Our administrators, teachers and support staff all go above and beyond on a daily basis for the kids in our district. The past few years have been trying to say the least, and our staff has been amazing through all of it!  
Family: Husband: David Sexton  
Children: Logan Sexton (9), Tanner Sexton (7) and Hadley Sexton (6)

Name: Emily Stone  
Occupation/Business: I have worked for General Mills, Inc. as a Customer Account Lead for 20 years. I am in the Sales Division, selling products to grocery stores supplied by Associated Wholesale Grocers across the Midwest and Southern United States, including Price Chopper and Hen House in our area.  
Educational Background: Bachelor of Arts degree in Radio/TV Communications from the University of Missouri-Columbia; Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from the University of Missouri-Columbia; Master of Business



Emily Stone

Administration from Baker University  
Community organizations/memberships: Member of Harrisonville Community Church  
Why did you decide to run for school board? The School Board will be facing some very challenging decisions over the next three years given education and economic conditions. As a parent of kids in the District, I am personally invested in seeing Harrisonville schools succeed and provide the best possible education for our students. It is important to have parents on the Board as we are the closest to the concerns and needs for our kids in schools. I would like to see the Board focus on: Assessing student results from curriculum and making necessary improvements; Championing current teachers and attracting new teachers; Making choices that provide the tools needed for students to learn. Our community benefits with successful schools, and I want to be a member of the Board making the best choices possible for our community. I would be honored to serve the Harrisonville community as a member of the School Board.  
What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools? Our District needs strong, qualified, and motivated teachers in a time of high teacher burnout and



Jenny Wagoner

increased costs around the community. It will be financially challenging to balance: Retaining our current teachers and attracting new teachers to the district; Offering educational and extra-curricular activities for our students; Remaining fiscally sound. Difficult decisions will need to be made to accomplish these goals.  
What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? The Harrisonville School District has many wonderful, caring, and talented educators and staff members. There are a variety of opportunities for students to get involved and expand their interests with extra-curricular activities. The Cass Career Center is a local asset that exposes high school students to a variety of career choices and prepares them for their future.  
Family: My husband, Darrin, and I have been married for 16-years and moved to Harrisonville after we married. We have three kids in the district: Ethan (8th grade), Elliott (6th grade), and Aubrey (4th grade). We share our home with two dogs, Jack & Maggie.

Name: Jenny Wagoner  
Occupation/ Business: Music Teacher and Financial Administrator for Custom Container Living INC  
Educational Background: Bachelors of Science Degree in Secondary

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# election set for April 5



David Reece

Education.  
Community Organizations/memberships: Our family attends Abundant Life Church.  
Why did you decide to run for school board? Education has always been a passion of mine which is why I chose to make teaching my career. I have taught for 17 years in various settings from Pre-school through 12th grade. As I have attended the school board meetings these last 6 months, I began to think about how I can utilize my talents and experience to help support the teachers, the staff, the students and the parents in our district. My desire is to help our district understand all sides that are needed to best educate our students, as well as support our staff, and to allow the parents' to have a voice.  
What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools? One of the biggest challenge we currently face in our district is the inconsistency with the curriculum and teaching methods. In a short matter of time our teachers had to learn new ways to instruct our students and our students had to adapt to the various instructions. This has caused parents, students and staff to be disconnected. I believe it is vital that we focus on staying consistent across the board with our standards for all grades and levels in our curriculum and methods of teaching.



David Peterman

We need to focus on catching our students up to where they need to be academically. Making sure that each student has the tools they need before entering into the next grade level by staying consistent.  
What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? I believe our district has many strengths but the one that stands out for me is that we have the "home town" feel. This gives us the opportunity to continue to nurture the teacher, student and parent relationships and making them personal. Listening to our parents is vital to encourage teacher/student relationships. As we focus on making things more personal for our parents, teachers and students we will continue to see our district thrive.  
Family: I am married to Robert Wagoner and we have three children that attend the Harrisonville School District. Summer Wagoner is 17 and in the 11th grade. Lacey Crespo is 13 and in the 8th grade. Logan Crespo is 12 and in the 6th grade.  
Name: David Reece  
Occupation/Business: Network Planning and Security  
Educational Background: 1985 Graduate, Harrisonville High School. Masters, Electrical Engineering, University of Missouri, Columbia  
Why did you decide to run for school board? To ensure that our students

receive the best opportunities and make it possible for them to stay and thrive in our community. To achieve that, we need engaged teachers and parents to work together for the overall health of the district.  
What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools? The politicization of our schools and children, leading to unnecessary community strife and adverse outcomes for students, teachers, and administrators.  
What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? There are three that are great advantages. We have great teachers, Cass Career Center is an awesome resource, and the introduction of Drury University has a ton of untapped potential to be life-changing for our community.  
Family: Wife of 25 years, two children (HHS 2017, UCM, 2021 BS Computer Science, Cum Laude with Honors) (HHS 2020, UCM, 2024 BA Graphic Design), our family moved back to the community in 2003.  
Name: David Peterman  
Occupation/Business: IT Systems Analyst  
Educational Background: BS Marketing – Northwest Missouri State University  
Community Organizations/Memberships: President – Harrisonville Athletic Booster Club, Member – Harrisonville Band Booster Club, Current Coach – 14U Harrisonville Wildcats Baseball  
Why did you decide to run for school board? The Harrisonville School District always needs positive support for our students, faculty and administration. Over the past 5 to 6 years, I've worked specifically with student/athletes and believe I was a positive influence on those young students lives as well as their families. I want to expand my school support, not just on the field but in the classroom as well. Being on multiple booster clubs has helped me better understand the needs of coaches, teachers and our students and I want to do more for

them all, and to help them succeed.  
What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools? I feel the biggest challenge our schools always face is providing the administration, faculty, and students with the safest environment possible while also providing every opportunity for them to succeed. So many things happen that are out of the school districts control, making it very challenging that both are met.  
What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths? I feel the biggest strength of our district is having a lot of passionate people within our administration, faculty and community that want the best for our students. Supporting our students and teachers when they succeed is a huge strength as well as finding the support and help students need when they are struggling. These are where the strengths do and always should shine in our school district.  
Family: I have been married to my wife Tammy for 20 years and together we have 2 sons, Jalen who graduated from Harrisonville High School in 2020 and Garrett who is a current Junior at Harrisonville High School. We also have 2 nieces at Harrisonville Middle School and a nephew at Harrisonville Elementary School. Before our oldest son began pre-school, we had to make a decision of what school district we wanted our children to attend. At the time, we lived in Belton. We looked at homes in every town in southern KC. We ultimately chose Harrisonville because of the schools and the community. I am proud to say that moving here over 18 years ago was the best decision for our family.



## HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

# Students shine: State Qualification, Giving back to the Community

### State Qualification

Twenty-five Cass Career Center DECA members qualified for state competition. They were Macie Collins, Morgan Evans, Kylee Hastings, Dayton Hoffman, Elizabeth Allen, Cort DeVenney, Isaiah Bliss, Donovan Huser, Alyssa Meade, Chloe Shepard, Skyla Thresher, Katelyn Young, Isabella Tracy, Grace Atkinson, Aubrey Hall, Brianna Taylor, Lucille Thomas, Mary Beth Bronson, Caleb Baker, Preston Baker, Sydney Farr, Miranda Fisher, and Kate Eickhorst. State results were not yet available at press time.

A team of students from Harrisonville Middle School qualified for State Science Olympiad. They include Shelby Anderson, Annie Rhoney, Brayden Johnson, Garrett Parris, Ayden Cunningham, Brecken Sullivan, Mia Jackson, Austin Eng, Ben Wooten, Ethan Hiser, Alden Davis, Kaydence Grigsby, Conner Peebles and Eden Thayer.

Two Harrisonville High School business students are headed to State after earning top places at the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) District Leadership Conference. Those headed to state are

Isaiah Bliss who placed 4th in Accounting 1 and Mason Mitchell who placed 5th in Introduction to Finance. State is set for April.

Two Harrisonville High School wrestlers brought home top places from the State Wrestling Tournament. Senior Carson Miller earned first in his class and junior Chloe Herrick earned second place.

Cass Career Center FFA members were selected to receive the Area FFA Degree and now advance to the state level to see if they qualify for the State FFA Degree. They include George Frees, Trey Hoffman, Josie Moore, Amy Rhodes, and Ella Shelton. Two students qualified for State with their SAE project through Proficiency Awards. They are Javen Fogle and Summer Wagoner. George Frees is also a State Finalist for the State Star in Agriscience.

HHS volleyball and softball players were honored with Academic All-State recognition. They include Kylee Hastings, Ann O'Reilly, Katelyn Young, Elizabeth Osterberg, Olivia Quick, Mackenna Graef, Kylie Meeks, Peyton Ritter, Kennedy Smalley, Aubrey Hall, Kendra Riggs,

Lauren Durnell, Maddie Lalman, Chloe Shepard, Lexi George, and Desta Mitchell.

Six Cass Career Center students who are members of HOSA, a future health professionals organization, have qualified for state competition. They competed at districts and scored in the top 10% of the state. The state qualifiers include Health Science seniors Jessica Vitti and Ashlyn Hamblin, Ray-Pec who earned top placement in the Nurse Assisting test. Two EMT teams qualified and included senior Savannah Rogo, Archie and senior Lillian Roscoe, Ray-Pec and senior Layne Lynn, Ray-Pec and senior Chris Obersteadt, Ray-Pec. The HOSA State Leadership conference is March 28-29 in Rolla.

SkillsUSA also held a district competition on Feb. 22 and Cass Career Center senior Hanna Christensen, Belton, placed third in Job Interview. She will compete at State April 7-9th at State Tech in Linn, Mo.

### Giving Back

McEowen students participated in the annual math-a-thon and raised over \$8,000 for the Child Life pro-

gram at Children's Mercy Hospital.

The HHS Student Council collected non-perishable food items at the Courtwarming basketball game as a "sweet" deal for fans. The 2022 Sweetheart Courtwarming offer of free admission to the game with two cans of food netted a carload of donations for the local food pantry.

Several HHS clubs have volunteered their time over the last few months to help with food prep and packing for the Bright Futures Food 4 Thought weekend food program. Members of the National Honor Society, Key Club and the cheer team have volunteered.

The Cass Career Center FFA Chapter donated 70 bags of clementine oranges in January and 70 bags of grapes in February to the Bright Futures Food 4 Thought weekend food program. This donation was partially funded by Missouri Farmers Care.

The McEowen #My42 Kids Club has spent time helping to organize and shelve books at the new Bright Futures library area in the basement of the Rockford One-Room Schoolhouse. The books will be available for teachers to give to students who don't have access to books in their home.

*Pictured: Fifth grader Niyah Zaroor and Macie Cummins work on their McEowen math-a-thon packet with help from Mrs. Henderson. FFA members Weston Coppedge, Toni Jones and John Paul Peterman deliver grapes for Bright Futurew weekend food program.*







## Summer school set for May 31- June 30

The Harrisonville School District will be offering summer school to students entering grades K-8. Summer School is set for May 31-June 30.

Summer school will be a four-day per week program this year. The first week will run Tuesday-Friday (May 31- June 3) and the remaining weeks will run Monday-Thursday. Daily hours are 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. for grades 1-8 and 8 a.m.-12 p.m. for incoming kindergarten students.

Students entering kindergarten will attend class at Harrisonville Early Childhood Center. Students entering grades 1-3 will attend class at Harrisonville Elementary School while those students entering grades 4-8 will attend class at Harrisonville Middle School.

This year the district will once again partner with Catapult to offer Summer Journey. The program provides a combination of core academic courses and enriching Journey classes which include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) courses. In the morning, all students will review skills from this year to help prepare them for the next grade level. In the afternoon, students will be able to pick from six different exploratory classes where they can extend their learning.

Students entering grades 9-12 will have the opportunity to enroll in Edgenuity (online) courses including Personal Finance and Health, and on-site classes including Lifetime Sports and Driver's Education.

Additional information regarding summer school will be sent home with students in April.

## Speaker Series shares timely info with families

In January, the Harrisonville School District launched a new program for families and community members to learn and connect with the district. The Speaker Series is a twice-monthly video series which focuses on timely topics of interest. The Speaker Series videos air via the district's YouTube channel and Facebook page on scheduled Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The videos are then available at any time on those platforms.

Speaker Series which have aired include a State of the District with Superintendent Paul Mensching, Scholarships, Social-Emotional Learning, High School Enrollment, Summer School, and Kindergarten Enrollment. Upcoming topics include Real World Learning on Mar. 30, Test Taking Tips on April 13, District Transitions on April

27, Bright Futures on May 11, and Summer Reading on May 25.



The district's Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/HarrisonvilleSchools](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisonvilleSchools) and the district's YouTube channel can be accessed at [www.youtube.com/HarrisonvilleSchools](http://www.youtube.com/HarrisonvilleSchools).

To provide feedback or submit questions about Speaker Series

topic or to suggest future topics, visit the district website - [www.harrisonvilleschools.org](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org) and click on Speaker Series under District News.

## Bright Futures offers support for families in summer months

Bright Futures Harrisonville will continue to offer a couple of programs over the summer months to support families. Both programs will require registration before the end of the school year.

The Just4Me summer food program will once again offer children and families food to help in the summer months when school is not in session. Applications for this program are due April 1 and are available online. You can find the form on the Bright Futures Harrisonville Facebook page or email [jennifer.beavers@harrisonvilleschools.org](mailto:jennifer.beavers@harrisonvilleschools.org) to get the link. The program organizers plan to have a single pick-up/delivery date on June 8 at Mill-Walk Mall. Additional information will be sent



to families once applications are received and plans are finalized.

The Just4Me summer food program is funded solely through community donations. The primary fundraiser for the program is set for April 2 at 7 p.m. at the Harrisonville Community Center. The event is a prom event for adults and will include a silent auction. Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$40/person or \$75/couple - 100% of ticket sales will go towards the purchase of food items. Donations to the summer food program can be made online as well at [www.harrisonvilleschools.org/](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/)

[brightfutures.org](http://brightfutures.org).

Bright Futures will also once again offer the Back-to-School Fair event to help children with school supplies, hygiene items, shoes, and more as they prepare for the 2022-23 school year. Families will be able to complete applications for this event in April. Bright Futures will be seeking community donors to "Adopt-a-Wildcat" to provide grade-level sets of school supplies. Information will be posted on the Bright Futures Facebook page or contact Jill Filer at 380-2727 for more information.

Bright Futures is a community-based organization which strives to help students achieve success by matching student needs with resources through partnerships between the schools and the community.



## Community Calendar of Events

March 29	Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office	May 19	CCPL Schools Out for the Summer Party, 3:30 p.m., Grades 6-12
April 1	HES, McEowen Virtual Awards Assemblies	May 31	Summer School Begins
April 1	Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office	June 1	CCPL Oceans of Possibility- Summer Reading Challenge begins, Kickoff Party, 6-7 p.m.
April 5	Election Day	June 3	Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., Hawthorn Bank
April 7	CRMC Spring into Action for Patients Foundation Dinner, 7 p.m.	June 6	CCPL Summer Reading Event, 6 p.m.
April 12	McEowen Spring Concert, 7 p.m. HHS PAC	June 13	CCPL Summer Reading Event, 6 p.m.
April 13	HATS Sharing, 5:30-7 p.m., McEowen	June 16	Chamber Golf Tournament, 8 a.m., Creekmore Golf Course
April 14	Chamber Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., Community Center	June 20	CCPL Mad Science - Wacky Waves, Registration required
April 15	No School	June 27	CCPL Summer Reading Event, 6 p.m.
April 19	Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office	June 28	Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office
April 21	Kindergarten Music Program, 7 p.m., HHS PAC	June 30	Last Day of Summer School
April 21	CCPL Fun with Flowers, 3:30 p.m., Grades 6-12		
April 21	HHS & HMS Jazz Festival at 18th and Vine. School hours.		
April 25	CCPL Mr. Stinky Feet, 6 p.m.		
April 26	PAT Wild About Animals, ECC, 6 p.m.		
April 27	FFA Banquet, 7 p.m., HHS		
April 29	ECC Virtual Awards Assembly		
April 30	Prom, 8 p.m., Beck Events Center		
May 2-13	CCPL Tiny Art Show, All Ages		
May 3	HHS Spring Band Concert, 7 p.m. HHS PAC		
May 4	CCC Awards Ceremony		
May 5	PAT Alpaca Farm Visit, 9 a.m.		
May 5	HMS Spring Band Concert, 7 p.m. HHS PAC		
May 6-7	FFA Plant Sale, CCC		
May 6	Last Day of Preschool, ECC		
May 6	Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office		
May 9	CCPL Let's Draw Oceans with Rick Stromoski, 6 p.m., Virtual		
May 9	Preschool Pre-Enrollment for 2022-23		
May 10	HHS/HMS Spring Choir Concert, 7 p.m., HHS PAC		
May 10-13	Kindergarten Round-Up for 2022-23		
May 12	Senior Excellence in Academics Ceremony		
May 13	McEowen Virtual Awards Assembly		
May 13	Graduation, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium		
May 16	Preschool Enrollment for 2022-23		
May 17	Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office		
May 19	Chamber Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., Community Center		
May 19	Last Day of School, Early Release		

*\*\*CCPL - Cass County Public Library (Harrisonville Branch)*  
*\*\*CRMC - Cass Regional Medical Center*

### CCPL Regular Programs

beTWEEN the lines – Book club for grades 3-6 – 4th Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m. ( Feb – April)  
Underground Gamers Club-1st Thurs.of the month, 3:30 p.m. (Grades 6-12)  
Underground Anime Club – 4th Thurs. of month @ 3:30 pm (Grades 6-12)  
Underground Readers – 2nd Thursday of month @ 3:30 pm (Grades 6-12)  
Adulting 101 – Tuesday April 5, 12, 19 & 26 @ 5 pm (Grades 6-12)  
LEGO Time – 2nd Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm (April) (Grades K-5)  
Getting Started in the Garden – April 6 @ 6 pm (Adults)  
Girls Who Code – Tuesdays @ 5 pm (May, June & July) (Grades 6-12)  
General Book Club – 2nd Monday of the month @ 2 pm (Adults)  
Brown Bag Book Club – 2nd Monday of the month @ 12 pm (Adults)  
Mystery Book Club – 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 4 pm (Adults)  
Loosely Bound Facebook Book Club at 2 pm (Adults) March 18, April 29 & May 20  
Summer Reading Teen Programs – Thursdays @ 3:00 pm  
April 5, 12, 19 ,26 Toddler Time Storytime 11:00  
April 6, 13, 20, 27 Preschool Storytime 9:30 & 11:00  
June 8, 15, 22, 29 Oceans of Stories Storytime 11:00  
June 8, 15, 22 & 29 – Minecraft (Grades 3-5) @ 4pm

## Superintendent provides school finance information

(Continued from Page 1)  
bers and allowed for the largest salary increases in 20 years. However, we still remain strategically focused on how to distribute the available revenue.

We will also continue to explore cost saving techniques that can help for these challenges, and any challenges we have yet to face. Recently the district refinanced some of our bond debt at a lower rate, which saved \$245,000 in interest! We

also received a larger than expected premium on bond sales associated with Proposition N. Those funds will be used to complete additional projects on our capital projects plan. We can request a transfer into Fund 4 (Capital Projects) for the first time in many years which will enable us to complete large projects in the future without acquiring additional debt. We are already planning for some of these projects such as additional roof top heating and cool-

ing system replacement, anticipated roofing replacement needs, asphalt maintenance, and other large capital expenditures. We are fortunate to be in this position due to the support of our community and the passage of Propositions I+N, along with prudent financial planning of a caring and knowledgeable Board of Education. We understand the importance of being good stewards of the money that our community has entrusted us with.

If anyone has a question about school finance, I encourage you to contact me and I will gladly share our plans and ideas as we move forward.

Thank you for your support. As always, it is a GREAT day to be a Wildcat!

Paul Mensching  
Superintendent

[www.harrisonvilleschools.org](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org)