

Community Education Courses CASS CAREER CENTER Spring 2023



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HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

A Harrisonville Schools Publication
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District celebrates completion of bond projects



This fall, the district celebrated the completion of bond projects made possible through the support of the community with ribbon cutting events. Prop N bond provided much needed safety and maintenance upgrades, as well as program expansion. To commemorate the completion, students helped the the Board of Education cut ribbons at Harrisonville Early Childhood Center/Harrisonville Middle School, Harrisonville High School and Cass Career Center. In addition to the Board and students, community members who played a role in the bond campaign and partners, Hollis + Miller Architects, Newkirk Novak, and LJ Hart were on hand.

From Blueprint to Reality

During the fall of 2019, the district set out to develop a blueprint for the future of our schools. This strategic plan would guide the work of the district over the next five years. A committee composed of staff, parents, and community members helped the district in this work.

As part of the process, nearly 1,300 students, parents, staff & community members provided their feedback through a survey. Among the top five challenges facing the district, respondents cited maintaining and improving the safety and security of our schools. Two of the top financial priorities were to increase/expand

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Board introduces next superintendent

The Harrisonville Schools Board of Education is excited to announce the hiring of Josh Chastain, Ed. D., as the next Superintendent of the Harrisonville School District beginning July 1, 2023.

Dr. Chastain is currently the Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment and the Federal Programs Director in the Nixa School District.

Dr. Chastain has worked in his current position for four years, but has served as a district level administrator in Nixa for seven years. He

also served as a school principal for the preceding eight years. His administrative positions include the Executive Director of Digital and Professional Learning and the principal at John Thomas School of Discovery, Summit Intermediate, and Main Street School. He started his career as a second and third grade teacher in the Springfield School District. While in the Springfield School District, he also served as an Education Technology Specialist.

Dr. Chastain earned his Bachelor of Science in Education and his Master's in Education Administration from Missouri State University. He earned his Specialist and Doctorate *(Continued on Page 12)*





HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

Students gain real world experience through marketing internships

Seven Harrisonville High School students are gaining real world experience through a new marketing intern program at Cass Career Center. The students are completing internships with businesses in the community as part of their coursework.

Mrs. Amy Schroeder, the marketing instructor at CCC, oversees the interns who meet in class on Mondays and then work at their business on the other two block days of the week.

"I am thrilled with what my interns are doing. I have seen them doing so many different things, all over town. I have one student who is focusing on merchandising through social media, by creating weekly Instagram reels for her business. I have another student who just completed a pricing comparison project, where he updated his business' product prices, ensuring that their prices were better than their competitors. Another intern has been updating their business' website. These are all things that we have talked about in class, but now they are actually making it happen!"

Mrs. Schroeder's first reference was to Josie Moore who is working for Artisan's Corner. She said, "I have gotten to learn lots of different marketing and business aspects that I didn't know, and that you really have to think about all these different things and take them into account when running and marketing a business. Even something as simple as what music plays in the store matters."

Josie's boss, Kelly Filer, said, "We've loved having Josie. She brings energy, excitement and a desire to learn. She has assisted with merchandising vendor spaces and social media and loves to work hard. What a great opportunity for her, as well as us."

Cort DeVenney works at Studio Blush and, as Mrs. Schroeder said, has been working more on the business side of things.

"I've learned what it takes to be a business owner and many aspects of running a business. I've learned you need to be flexible because you never know what ups and downs you'll face as a business owner."

Additionally, Cort has helped the owner of Studio Blush move to online appointment scheduling and payments with the purchase of an iPad and Square.

Aubrey Hall is working at Blue River Church of Christ and one of her main projects has been updating the church's website. "I've learned the importance of communication. With the whole leadership wanting to help me in any way, it's been hard to make sure that we aren't working on the same projects."

Dayton Hoffman is busy designing posters, taking pictures, and helping with day-to-day merchandising at Red Barn Ranch. She said, "The biggest lesson I have learned is to be willing to be flexible in projects and adjust to the needs of my boss. And how my 'job' affects the business."

Alyssa Meade works at Bona Fide Bakery and assists with social media. She hopes her experience can benefit her in the future. "I plan to use this experience to get job recommendations and expand my marketing knowledge."

Finally, Maddie Lalman and Menda Schroeder are interns for Harrisonville Schools. They work to support the six schools by posting social media stories and announcements, as well as creating regular newsletters for the buildings to keep families and staff informed.

"We've enjoyed interacting with school administrators, teachers, and

students to share what is going on day-to-day in our classrooms through social media."

Mrs. Schroeder says she has received a lot of positive feedback from the businesses. "My hope is that students get to experience various aspects of marketing in the workplace. For years, they have learned about marketing in the classroom. I want them to be able to apply the skills that



they have learned in a real world job setting."

The CCC marketing internship program is one of the first steps to increasing students' opportunities to earn a market value asset. The Harrisonville School District is part of the Kauffman Foundation's Real World Learning program and MVAs are an integral part of that program. The goal of the RWL program is for all students across the Kansas City region to graduate with market value assets and a diploma by 2030.

A market value asset is defined as one of the following: work experiences such as internships or client-centered projects, college credits, industry-recognized credentials, or

entrepreneurial experiences. The district has several market value asset opportunities in place including industry-recognized credentials at Cass Career Center and college credit opportunities at Harrisonville High School. The internship program at CCC is the initial offering in student internships.

Pictured above: Senior Cort DeVenney decorates Studio Blush for the holidays. Artisan's Corner introduced their intern, senior Josie Moore, with an Instagram post.



First semester packed with honors, awards, and giving back

- District students, staff and families filled two box trucks with donations for the local food pantry in late October.
- The Harrisonville Public School Foundation presented more than \$9,300 in grants to teachers this fall.
- Harrisonville Middle School raised over \$2,400 for the Veterans Community Project during a coin drive.
- A student-led effort brought back a long-gone tradition and raised nearly \$4,000 for cancer research. HHS senior Elizabeth Allen planned and managed the 2022 HHS Powder Puff Football games on the last Saturday in October. The games netted \$3,869.75 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and a ton of fun for all involved.
- Harrisonville High School students have been selected to honor bands based on their talent! They include Ben Wooten, Josie Cable, Brierly Hasek, Jackson Hayes, Kayla Mason, Jozie Tindle, Hailey Bagby, Ayden Christensen, Jackson Glover, Ava Kelly, Noah Norman, Cayden

- Ritter, and Callie Shoemaker.
- Harrisonville Middle School band students were selected to the All-District Middle School Band! They include Ashley Hunt, Chloe Wooten, Jocelyn Courter, Flor Lomeli, London Wooten, Jack Wright, Spencer Truman, Noah Chapman, Elliott Stone, and Elissa Busby.
 - Harrisonville High School inducted 16 new members into its National Honor Society chapter during an induction ceremony in late October. The 2022 inductees included Kayla Mason, Kirstin Talley, Dayton Hoffman, Emma Schrock, Brooklyn Rooney, India Paris, Grace Atkinson, McKenzie Meeks, Ann O'Reilly, Aidan Walton, Miranda Fisher, Alex Bullock, Sydney Ballard, Zayda Jones, Noah Norman, and Eli Norman.
 - Harrisonville Middle School students were selected for and performed as part of two Junior High Honor Choirs. HMS students selected for the honor were Chloe Wooten, Lorraine Hall, Breonna

- Johnson, Caleb Malone, Dany Droege, Anna Tews, Ashlynn Adams, Bethany Sharp, and Maddie Eggers.
- Harrisonville Schools announced a new partnership between Cass Career Center and Cass Regional Medical Center. Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, second year students enrolled in the CCC Health Services program will have the opportunity to participate in an internship experience at the hospital.
 - Harrisonville High School sophomore Kayleigh Norris earned All-State honors by finishing ninth at the State Cross Country meet. She also set the school record during the season. Senior Alex Barta also competed at State for the third time.
 - HHS senior volleyball player Kennedy Smalley earned Class 4 1st Team All-State honors. She also broke the career assists record.
 - The Wildcat soccer team won the conference championship with a 6-1 record.
 - Harrisonville High School junior

- Kenny Barnard has earned a spot in the 2022 Missouri All-State Choir!
- The HHS Traction team received the Kansas City Region Show Me Zero Award at the 2022 Highway Safety Heroes Awards Banquet.
 - The Wildcat girls' tennis team won both the conference tournament and the regular season conference championships! Senior Abby Overbay and sophomore Kayleigh Norris earned 1st & 2nd place in singles at the District Tennis Tournament.
 - The Cass Career Center Fire Science program received a big donation from the Harrisonville Fire Department - a truck! The 1997 Smeal Pumper/Tanker served our community for over 20 years.
 - McEowen Elementary School students raised \$1,367.24 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital through their Coins for the Cure fundraiser.
 - Cass Career Center FFA member Case Melzer earned first at the District FFA Fall Speech Contest in MO Institute of Cooperatives and will compete at State.

Voters support leads to safety, maintenance, program improvements around district

career & technical education (CTE) opportunities for high school students and to maintain clean, well-repaired, secure buildings.

After learning about the current state of the district and listening to the feedback provided through the survey, the committee recommended the Board of Education consider placing a \$22.7 million bond issue on the ballot.

In January 2020, the Board of Education followed the committee's recommendation and placed Propositions I and N on the April ballot. Prop I was a tax levy increase for staff salaries while Prop N was the bond issue.

Due to the onset of the COVID pandemic that spring, the election was pushed back to June. Both issues

passed with Prop N earning 66.8% approval.

Groundbreaking on the bond projects took place in March 2021.

All our schools now have secure entry points, every school received upgrades and improvements to the heating and cooling systems, roofs have been replaced, and the Cass Career Center has expanded and updated the space for many programs. Additionally, the elementary schools have much-needed new playgrounds to enjoy; all schools have received "facelifts" with updated office areas, new flooring and paint; and additional safety improvements including fencing, sidewalks, and reconfigured parking and traffic loops are complete.

Proposition N Bond Projects

<u>Early Childhood Center</u>	Updated, expanded kitchen
Secure Entry	Expanded cafeteria
Expanded Office Area	Outdoor terrace
Expanded Cafeteria/Kitchen	Renovated Office & Counselors' Office
New Playground	Track Resurfacing
New Parking/Traffic Flow	<u>Harrisonville High School</u>
Updated Heating/Cooling	HVAC Updates
<u>Harrisonville Elementary School</u>	Secure Entry
Secure Entry	New Office Area
Renovated Office Area	New flooring
New Conference Area	<u>Cass Career Center</u>
New Playground	Secure Entry
New Boiler	Renovated Office, Teacher Workroom
<u>McEowen Elementary School</u>	New Greenhouse*, Ag classrooms, Ag lab
HVAC Units	New EMT classroom & shop
Roof Improvements	New Fire Science shop
Floors & Paint	Flooring & paint
Renovated Office	Renovated Welding & Ag shops
New Playground	New Sidewalk/Student Entrance
Playground Fence	Practical Nursing Addition*
<u>Harrisonville Middle School</u>	Exterior Paint & Signage
Updated heating/cooling	Upgraded Yard Fencing
New Parking/Traffic Flow	
Collaboration Spaces, Makerspace	

*grant funding used



Community Calendar of Events

- Jan. 4 Classes Resume
- Jan. 5-17 Major Saver Card Sales, ECC, HES, & McE
- Jan. 6 Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- Jan. 19 Chamber Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., RSVP 816-380-5271
- Jan. 19 Show Choir Kick-Off Concert, 7 p.m., PAC
- Jan. 19 CCPL Adventures in Bad Cinema, 3-5 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Jan. 19 CCPL Game-Day Mug Treats, 6-7:30 p.m, Adults
- Jan. 26 McEowen Culver’s Night, 5-8 p.m.
- Jan. 26 Chamber Awards Dinner, 5:30-8 p.m., The Farm, RSVP 816-380-5271
- Jan. 28 CCPL Block Party, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., through kindergarten
- Jan. 30 CCPL Tech Help for Seniors, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Adults
- Feb. 3 Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., HHS
- Feb. 10 Winter Homecoming
- Feb. 11 Show Choir Festival, HHS, All Day
- Feb. 14 Bright Futures Night at HHS basketball, Bowls for Bright Futures Dinner
- Feb. 15 CCC Culver’s Night, 5-8 p.m.
- Feb. 16 Chamber Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., RSVP 816-380-5271
- Feb. 16 CCPL Escape Eros’ Arrow Escape Room, 3-5 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Feb. 16 CCPL Charcuterie for Everyone, 6-7:30 p.m., Adults
- Feb. 17 No School (Staff In-Service) or Snow Day Make-Up #1
- Feb. 20 No School or Snow Day Make-Up #2
- Feb. 22 HES Culver’s Night, 5-8 p.m.
- Feb. 22 CCPL Bingo for Books, 6-7 p.m., Adults
- Feb. 23-25 HMS Play, 7 p.m., HHS PAC
- Feb. 23 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HES
- Feb. 26 Band Mattress Sale, HHS
- Mar. 3 Chamber First Friday Coffee, 7:30 a.m., Harrisonville Community Center
- Mar. 4 CCPL Unique Eats & Eateries of KC, 10 a.m., Adults
- Mar. 7-9 ECC, HES, & McEowen Spring Book Fairs
- Mar. 7 HMS Band Concert, 7 p.m., HHS
- Mar. 8 PAT Tool Time, 6 p.m., Pre-registration Required, 380-4421
- Mar. 8 ECC Book Fair Family Event
- Mar. 9 Cass County Coalition of Chambers Elected Officials Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Harrisonville Community Center
- Mar. 9 HES Family Night, 5-6:30 p.m., 1st grade performs

- Mar. 9 Pre-Contest Band Concert, 7 p.m., PAC
- Mar. 13 McEowen Spring Pictures
- Mar. 14 ECC Culver’s Night, 5-8 p.m.
- Mar. 14 HMS Choir Concert, 7 p.m., PAC
- Mar. 16 Chamber Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., RSVP 816-380-5271
- Mar. 16 CCPL Teen Program, TBD, 3-5 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Mar. 20 CCPL Worldwide sips “Lemonades”, 6 p.m., Adults
- Mar. 20-21 No School or Snow Make-Up Days #5-6
- Mar. 22-24 No School - Spring Break
- Mar. 30 CCPL Underground Teen Hangout, 3-5 p.m., Grades 6-12

CCPL Regular Programs

- Underground Teen Storytime - 1st Thursday, 3 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Toddler Time - Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Through Kindergarten
- Preschool Storytime - Wednesdays, 9:30 & 11 a.m., Through Kindergarten
- Open World Game Time - Wednesdays, 3 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Underground Readers Book Club - 2nd Thursday, 3 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Dungeons & Dragons - 2nd & 4th Saturday, 2:30-4:30 p.m, Grades 9-Adult
- Underground Anime Club - 4th Thursday, 3 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Lego Night - Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Grades K-5
- Girls Who Code - Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Grades 6-12
- Messy Monday - 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Grades 1-4
- beTWEEN the Lines - 4th Monday, 6:30 p.m., Grades 4-6
- AARP Tax Aide - Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Adult
- Brown Bag Book Club - 2nd Thursday, 12 p.m., Adult
- Mystery Book Club - 2nd Tuesday, 4 p.m., Adult
- General Book Club - 3rd Friday, 3 p.m, Adult
- Loosely Bound Book Club - 3rd Friday, 2 p.m., Adult

- *CCPL - Cass County Public Library
- *PAT - Parents As Teachers
- *PAC - Performing Arts Center

Dr. Chastain to lead district beginning July 1, 2023

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in Educational Leadership from St. Louis University. He is currently serving as an adjunct professor for Southwest Baptist University.
He is a member of American Association of School Administrators and serves as a member of the Missouri State University Elementary

Education Advisory board. He is the vice president of the Southwest Curriculum Directors Association.
Board President Doug Meyer said, “The Board is pleased to have the opportunity to hire Dr. Chastain. He brings a broad and diverse educational background with significant experience in instruction, curriculum

and technology and will be a great addition to our district. With Dr. Chastain’s leadership, we look forward to growth and improvement in all areas. We welcome the Chastains to the Wildcat family.”
Dr. Chastain is married to Jennifer and they have three daughters, Aubrey, 17; Catie, 21; and Ashley,

23.
Dr. Chastain will begin his duties in the Harrisonville School District on July 1, 2023. Current Superintendent Paul Mensching has announced his retirement effective June 30.