

**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, Cass County Health Department and the library. As always, page 8 includes a Community Calendar of Events for the spring/summer. We hope you enjoy this expanded edition and we appreciate the relationship with our partners.

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# HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

A Harrisonville Schools Publication  
**Spring 2020**

## District seeks voter approval for bond, levy

On April 7, voters will consider two propositions placed on the ballot by the Harrisonville Schools Board of Education.

The Board approved these issues for the ballot based on the recommendation from a steering committee made up of community members, parents, and staff.

Proposition I seeks a 50 cent operating levy increase for the purpose of attracting and retaining quality staff through salary increases. This issue requires a simple majority to pass. If passed, the district's operating levy would increase from \$3.9000 to \$4.4000.

Prop N is a no tax rate increase issue for \$22,700,000 for providing funds to improve safety & security, replace roofs, HVAC units, and boilers; improve technology and playgrounds, and other repairs & improvements as identified in the Hollis+Miller (architect) facilities needs assessment. This issue requires a 4/7 majority to pass and would result in a 10 cent debt service levy rollback. The district's debt service levy would decrease from \$1.1772 to \$1.0772.

If both measures pass, the net

levy would increase from \$5.0772 to \$5.4772 per \$100 assessed valuation.

Last fall, the district asked for input from parents, staff, the community and students through the Blueprint survey. Nearly 1,300 people provided their feedback. Respondents indicated that the #1 challenge/issue facing the district was "Hiring and retaining quality educators in an increasingly competitive market" and the #1 financial priority was "Keeping salaries and benefits competitive in order to attract and retain quality staff."

Number 2 on the financial priorities was "Maintain clean, well-repaired, secure buildings" while #4 was "Maintain up-to-date technology."

Through a series of meetings in the fall, the district's strategic planning committee - composed of parents, community, and staff - met to learn and ask questions about district finances and needs and to review survey data. The committee's purpose was to develop focus areas for the future. Those focus areas are life-ready graduates, high-quality staff, financial stability, and



community.

The Blueprint Survey results and strategic planning committee's work can be viewed on the district website - [www.harrisonvilleschools.org/blueprint](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/blueprint).

All of this work led to the formation of the steering committee and their recommendation to the Board of Education for the ballot issues.

Pages 4-5 of this newsletter provide additional information on Props I+N. You can also visit the website at [www.harrisonville.schools.org/PropsIN](http://www.harrisonville.schools.org/PropsIN) for more information or call Superintendent Paul Mensching at 380-3273, ext. 1222.

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

**Harrisonville High School**  
1504 E. Elm • 380-3273  
Grades 9-12  
Mark Wieggers, Principal - ext. 6222

**Cass Career Center**  
1600 E. Elm • 380-3253  
Grades 9-Post-Secondary  
Jeanette Flanner, Director - ext. 7222

**Harrisonville Middle School**  
601 S. Highland • 380-7654  
Grades 6-8  
Chris Grantham, Principal - ext. 5222

**McEowen Elementary School**  
1901 S. Halsey • 380-4545  
Grades 4-5  
Beth Love, Principal - ext. 4222

**Harrisonville Elementary School**  
101 Meghan Drive • 380-4131  
Grades 1-3  
Dr. Derrick Hartley, Principal - ext. 3222

**Early Childhood Center**  
500 Polar Lane • 380-4421  
Grades Preschool - Kindergarten  
Becky Campbell, Principal - ext. 2222



## HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

From the Desk of Superintendent Paul Mensching

### Community feedback vital to decision to place issues on ballot

On April 7th, voters will have the chance to provide additional input in the operations of the Harrisonville School District via the ballot box. This edition of "Harrisonville Highlights" provides many of the details of the impending levy and bond issues. The process of discovering the physical needs of the district formally began in 2016 when the Board of Education commissioned a study of the facilities by the architectural firm of Hollis + Miller. From this study, a needs matrix was developed with specific costs associated, including an estimate of the price increases in subsequent years. With available assets, the district has attempted to address those concerns since that time. The more expensive items on the list are simply too expensive to pay for out of the existing budget.

In May 2018, I was fortunate

enough to be hired as the Superintendent of the Harrisonville School District. Prior to accepting the position, I had done extensive background on the financial status of the district and some issues were certainly apparent. Assessed valuation was flat for several years, while enrollment was declining. It was clear that revenues for operating expenses were not going up. As I canvassed the community in my first year, we came to the conclusion that it was time to start addressing the community with our needs and concerns. In March 2019, we held a community forum discussing the revenues and expenditures. The district started the difficult decision to reduce staff and eight positions were eliminated, including the second highest paid position in the district.

As the 2019-20 school year be-

gan, we worked with several community representatives to develop a strategic plan with a limited number of focus areas which would be the guiding influence for the district for the next five years. The strategic planning process is an important part of a district's work with the community to provide direction for the future. During those meetings, a survey was created and through the survey process, we were able to collect over 1,300 responses which helped create our four focus areas: Life-Ready Graduates, High Quality Staff, Financial Stability, and Community.

Members of the strategic planning committee transitioned into a steering committee which came to the Board of Education with the recommendation to place Proposition I and Proposition N on the April 7 ballot. These ballot issues address two

of our focus areas - High Quality Staff, and Financial Stability. Consistent engagement with our community via survey and now ballot request also invoke the Community focus area.

We now look forward to hearing the voice of our voters in April at the polls! I implore each of you to become educated on these vital issues. In addition to the three community forums which we have hosted with one remaining on March 30, we are willing to arrange informational meetings with any group. I am also available for direct questions anytime. As always, it is a great day to be a Wildcat!

- Paul

### HHS students open The Royal Roast as lab for job skills

Harrisonville High School Life Careers students hosted a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for their coffee shop, The Royal Roast, with the Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce in early February.

"Last year we served the Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce coffee in the concession area, and it sparked great interest in what the Life Careers class is doing," said Life Careers teacher Nicole Potter. "Now, to be able to show them our new space this year is really exciting."

Previously the Life Careers class sold coffee on carts and in the Commons area. Through donations and fundraising, the class was able to complete a fully functioning coffee cafe inside Harrisonville High School.

"I think having a dedicated space just lends itself more to our students' needs like having more student interaction with peers and serving the high school building," Potter said. "The Royal Roast also gives all the students access to a place to hang out, get good coffee, and really integrate with the Life Careers students."

Paraprofessional Aron Wilburn

assists students in the coffee shop in the mornings.

"Every morning we look forward to opening our doors and greeting our customers. Our new location and our new abilities to have special coffee have already increased our customer presence," Wilburn said.

The Royal Roast is a way for students like senior Sylvia Thrift to see what having a job is like. You can find Thrift's smiling face most mornings working the cash register.

"I am proud of myself because I enjoy helping people at the coffee shop. I want to make people happy. The coffee shop is really important to me because I want to work in a coffee shop after I graduate," Thrift said.

In fact, Potter said each of the Life Careers students has a role in helping to make the shop run smoothly.

"We have students working on lots of different skills in the coffee shop. We have some students who are starting out by learning what a job is like, we have some students who already have jobs in the community, and we have students learning everything in between," Potter stated. "We are really lucky to indi-



vidualize for each one of our students' needs and utilize their gifts and talents in The Royal Roast."

Wilburn sees the increase in customers as an opportunity for students to learn.

"Right now, I assist Sylvia and the other students when the coffee shop gets too busy to manage, but the goal is to get the kids working the shop every day and eventually running the coffee shop independently without help," Wilburn said.

The Royal Roast grand opening

allowed the class to show off their hard work thus far but they continue to look forward to ways they can grow and improve the cafe.

"My goal is to eventually be a self-sustaining business," Potter said. "We have a great start with our space. We can continue to work on getting the word out to the rest of our student population that we have this cool hangout space they can utilize."

Story written by HHS Journalism 2 student Jayden Osborn

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



### CCC adds new training facility thanks to grant funding, donations

Cass Career Center, the district's career and technical school, has added a new training resource for its Fire Science students.

A new fire training tower has been built next to the school. The tower will be used for hose and ladder drills, team building, search and rescue drills, and live burn testing.

Cass Career Center Director Jeanette Flanner said, "The need for the fire tower comes from the need to get students practice time and a testing location that doesn't cost us every time they need to train or test. Also, we don't have time in a typical school day to get students and gear loaded, get to a training facility, unload, practice, load up a bus and get back to the CCC before it is time for students to get back to their home schools. Currently, students are giving up Saturdays when we can get training time at a facility."

The fire training tower was built by Custom Container Living, LLC in Archie which constructed a similar tower for the Dolan-West Fire Department.

Flanner said, "They (Custom

Container Living) have been very supportive to us throughout the planning, and we have been able to visit the other tower they built. Our tower does not have some of the bells and whistles theirs does, however it will more than meet our needs for students."

In addition to use by the CCC Fire Science students, the tower will also benefit local fire departments.

"Many local fire departments give of their time, equipment and expertise throughout the year in working with our students. Some fire departments do not have their own fire towers, so we look forward to partnering with them from time to time to give back to them for all of the ways they support our students all year long by sharing access when not in use by students. This benefits all of our fire houses and surround-



ing communities," said Flanner.

The funding for the fire training tower came from the state's CTE (Career and Technical Education) Performance Grant. The state education department supported the need for the project and gave special permission for use of the grant monies by CCC. There were also two local companies, Elliott Construction of Pleasant Hill and Reasoner Grading of Creighton, who donated time and effort at no cost to the school.

### Foundation announces new addition to Excellence in Academics

The Harrisonville Public School Foundation recently announced the creation of a new program benefiting Harrisonville Schools and honoring a long-time Foundation board member.

The new Bill Mills Leaving A Legacy Grant will be an addition to the Foundation's Excellence in Academics program which honors students who complete the year in the top 15% of their class. For the past 12 years, seniors who earn this honor for four years have received a \$500 scholarship from the Foundation. The Foundation has presented 314 scholarships totaling \$157,000.

Through the new Leaving a

Legacy initiative, each four-year Excellence in Academics recipient will also now have the opportunity to choose a school-sponsored program, department or extracurricular activity to receive a \$250 mini grant from the Foundation. The program creates an opportunity for four-year Excellence in Academics recipients to pay it forward within the school district.

Leaving a Legacy aligns with the Foundation's goal to enhance, supplement, support and expand student- and school-based learning activities and initiatives. The Foundation created this initiative in honor of Mr. Mills because of his desire to invest in Harrisonville Schools pro-

grams and activities that benefit students throughout the district and to provide a small thank you for all he's given to the Foundation over the years.

Mr. Mills served on the Foundation board for more than 25 years and retired from the board last June. He is a past president and a Founding Donor at the Platinum Level. He is a 1972 graduate of Harrisonville High School and a 2014 inductee into the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame.

The announcement was made at the January 15 Harrisonville Rotary Club meeting with Foundation trustees surprising Mr. Mills in front of friends and family.

### Kindergarten enrollment underway

Harrisonville Early Childhood Center is making kindergarten enrollment easier with information, enrollment packets, videos and appointment scheduling all online.

Parents of 2020-21 Harrisonville Schools kindergarten students can access enrollment information and videos and schedule their kindergarten enrollment/screening appointment at [www.harrisonvilleschools.org](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org); click on Kindergarten Enrollment for 2020-21.

Families who do not have Internet access or have additional questions can visit Harrisonville Early Childhood Center, 500 Polar Lane, to pick up an enrollment packet, ask questions, and sign up for a screening appointment. The school is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Screening for Harrisonville kindergarten students for the 2020-21 school year will be held April 20-23 at the Early Childhood Center. Parents can call the Early Childhood Center, 380-4421, to schedule an appointment if they are unable to sign up online.

To be eligible for kindergarten, children must be five years of age before July 31, 2020 and must live in the Harrisonville school district. Parents must bring a certified copy of the child's state issued birth certificate and his/her current immunization records to enrollment. The parent/guardian should also bring his/her driver's license. A proof of residency such as a current utility bill will be required in August.

For more information, call 816-380-4421.



## District provides Props I+N information in Q&A format

### What is Prop I?

Prop I seeks a 50 cent operating levy increase for the purpose of attracting and retaining quality staff through salary increases. If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the District will increase from \$3.9000, currently, to \$4.4000 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

### Why is Prop I on the ballot?

The district's average teacher salary is approximately \$5,000 below the state's average salary. Our starting teacher pay is \$2,750 below Cass Midway, \$1,600 below Pleasant Hill and \$3,000 below Ray-Pec.

Our pay for secretaries & paraprofessionals is also below surrounding districts.

Our state revenue is decreasing due to a decline in enrollment - we've lost 265 students in six years which equates to \$1.1 million in lost revenue.

Our local revenue which makes up 54% of our revenue is based on assessed valuation. Over the last 10 years, assessed valuation has remained relatively flat. It did increase last year, however, due to the Hancock Amendment we could only capture 1.9% of that growth in our operating levy.

Last year, we cut eight positions saving nearly \$500,000. We also moved to contracted services for food service & maintenance to reduce costs associated with insurance & benefits.

### What does it take to pass Prop I?

Prop I needs a simple majority to pass (50% +1)

### How was Prop I developed?

Last fall, district parents, staff, & community members were asked to complete our Blueprint Survey to develop focus areas for the district. Respondents indicated that the #1 challenge/issue facing the district was "Hiring and retaining quality educators in an increasingly competitive market" and the #1 financial priority was "Keeping salaries and benefits competitive in order to attract and retain quality staff."

A strategic planning committee developed four focus areas for the district and one of those areas is "High Quality Staff."

After reviewing this information in addition to district financial information, a steering committee made up of parents, community members & staff recommended Prop I to the Board of Education.

### What will happen if Prop I does not pass?

Over the last two years, the district has worked to cut expenses in order to continue giving salary increases to our staff and to take care of emergency capital needs such as HVAC unit and boiler replacements and water main breaks. However, if the levy does not pass, we will have to

consider a salary freeze, as well as decreasing expenditures by approximately \$1 million. Those cuts could include staff and programs therefore increasing class size and reducing opportunities for students.

### What is Prop N?

Prop N is a no tax rate increase bond issue for \$22.7 million to provide funds to meet needs within our district including capital improvement of safety & security upgrades, replacing roofs, HVAC units, and boilers; improving technology infrastructure and playgrounds, and completing other repairs & improvements as identified in the facility needs assessment. Passage of this measure would result in a 10 cent debt service levy rollback.

### Why is Prop N on the ballot?

In 2016, the district conducted a facilities needs assessment. The report indicated \$23.2 million in needs across the district. Since that time, the district has focused capital projects work on meeting the identified needs. We have been able to complete \$3,929,278, but \$22,982,378 in work remains on the list.

The district's facilities and the mechanical systems are aging including over 105 roof top units - 63 of which are 15+ years old, roofs that leak (in particular HHS & CCC need complete replacement), and boilers are aging.

Only two of our buildings have secure entrances (vestibules). Many of our classrooms have glass windows next to the door which creates safety concerns in the event of an intruder. Safety glass film would provide another layer of security to keep our students and staff safe. Also the playground at McEowen is the only one without a perimeter fence which is a safety concern.

In addition, our technology infrastructure is in need of updates. This would include wireless access points, firewall improvement, and network upgrades. These funds would not be used to purchase new computers.

The last bond issue was April 2007.





## Voters to consider issues on April 7 ballot

### What does it take to pass Prop N?

Prop N requires 4/7 (57%) to pass.

### How was Prop N developed?

Last fall, district parents, staff, & community members were asked to complete our Blueprint Survey to develop focus areas for the district. Number 2 on the financial priorities was “Maintain clean, well-repaired, secure buildings” while #4 was “Maintain up-to-date technology.” In terms of challenges/issues facing the district, “Maintaining/improving the safety/security of our schools” was #5.

Using information from the facilities need assessment, the survey, and our district's bonding company, a steering committee made up of parents, community members & staff recommended Prop N to the Board of Education.

### What will happen if Prop N does not pass?

District facilities/equipment will continue to break down or fail causing emergency situations for repair. The debt service levy will eventually disappear and the district will have to go to the voters to request an increase for any large repairs or improvements.

### How will the passage of these issues impact me?

The net 40 cent increase if both measures pass will cost an individual or family with a home assessed at \$150,000 an additional \$114 a year in property taxes, or \$9.50 per month. See the table below for additional examples of impact. For a full list of impact for residential, personal, and commercial property, visit our website - [www.harrisonvilleschools.org/propsIN](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/propsIN).

Home Market Value	Added Annual Cost	Added Monthly Cost
\$80,000	\$60.80	\$5.07
\$100,000	\$76.99	\$6.33
\$150,000	\$114	\$9.50
\$200,000	\$152	\$12.67

### Why a bond & a levy?

Bond issues can fund debt incurred by one-time capital projects for the district, but cannot be used for salaries. Bond issue funds go into the district's debt service fund and cannot be transferred to another fund or used for purposes other than those specified.

### How will passage impact our students & staff?

Prop I will provide a projected \$1,180,664 increase in revenue for staff salaries based on current assessed valuation. Passage of Prop I will allow the district to increase the base pay for staff and provide more competitive salaries to keep quality people in our district.

Passage of Prop N gives us the ability to take care of immediate facility & safety needs and allow district to implement schedule for future maintenance & repair to head off future emergency repairs/replacements.

It will also provide funds to improve safety & security for our staff and students and upgrade our technology infrastructure.

### Actual Ballot Language

#### PROPOSITION I

Shall the Board of Education of the Harrisonville R-IX School District, Missouri, be authorized to increase the operating tax levy by \$0.5000 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation for the purposes of attracting and retaining quality certified staff and support staff?

(If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the District is estimated to increase by \$0.5000 from \$3.9000, currently, to \$4.4000 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation for the 2020 Tax Year and will be applied to the assessed valuation each year thereafter.)

#### PROPOSITION N

Shall the Board of Education of the Harrisonville R-IX School District, Missouri, without any estimated increase in the current debt service property tax levy, borrow money in the amount of Twenty Two Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$22,700,000) for the purpose of providing funds for safety and security improvements; to replace roofs and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in each of the District's facilities; to improve technology infrastructure; to improve playgrounds; to the extent funds are available, to complete other repairs and improvements to the existing facilities of the District and to prepay a portion of the existing lease financing; and issue general obligation bonds for the payment thereof?

(If this proposition is approved, the adjusted debt service levy of the School District is estimated to be reduced from \$1.1772 to \$1.0772 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation of real and personal property.)

### For more I+Nformation...

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

Community Conversation • Monday, March 30 • 7 p.m. • Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce  
Call Superintendent Paul Mensching at (816) 380-3273, ext. 1222



## Four file for two open seats on Board of Education



Voters will elect three members to the Harrisonville Schools Board of Education on April 7 for a three-year term. The candidates and information on each is listed below in the order they will appear on the ballot.

**Name:** Nancy L. Shelton

**Occupation/Business:** Office Manager for our family construction business, Shelton & Sons LLC

**Educational Background:** Business College

**Community organizations/memberships:** Harrisonville Rotary Club, where I am currently serving as President; attend Church on the Rock, where I am currently President of the Women's Ministry.

**Why did you decide to run for school board?** My current term is expiring, and I believe I can continue to offer valuable insight for the District.

**What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools?** Our deficit spending and the challenges that come with that. I fully support additional income in the form of the proposed tax levy and bond issue on the ballot in April. We have come to that important decision, even though it was difficult, it is the correct one.

**What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths?** Our dedicated staff, which includes administration and teachers and support staff. They are truly dedicated. Our patrons are so supportive. I look forward to regaining ground in several areas for our district.

**Family:** Husband Bill; children Isac (Sarah); Kyle (Heather) and Naomi (Mer). Grandchildren Ella, Isabelle and Alexa. All of my children/grandchildren have/are attending Harrisonville schools.

**Name:** Bing Schimmelpfenning

**Occupation/Business:** Executive Director, Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce

**Educational Background:** 1988 Harrisonville High School Grad, 1992 University of Missouri-Kansas City Grad-Bachelor's Degree

**Community Organizations/memberships:** Harrisonville Rotary Club-Assistant District Governor #6080, Sunrise Optimist Club of Belton-Raymore, Trustee-Harrisonville Public School Foundation, President-Cass County Coalition of Chambers, Advisory Committee-Raymore Peculiar Public Schools, Special Events Committee-Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation, 5k Walk/Run Committee-Cass County

Health Foundation, Steering/Workforce Ready Committee-Cass County Corporation for Economic Development, Safety Committee-Harrisonville Public Schools

**Why did you decide to run for school board?** I decided to seek re-election to the school board in order to continue bringing value to our organization. As a School Board Director over the past three years, I have brought value to our schools. I have provided value to our students by supporting the adoption of STEM curriculum. This has helped our students excel in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. I have provided value to our teachers and staff by voting each of the last three years for pay raises. I have provided value to the district by supporting and championing the "Right Student, Right Test" initiative that has improved our ACT test scores for the first time in years. This initiative lets the students decide which of 4 tests they will take, in their junior and senior year, based on their chosen future path in life. Whether they are going to college, into the military, to a two-year community college or into a career, they now can choose the test that is the best fit for them. As a member of the school safety committee, I have provided value by always placing the safety and security of our students, staff and community as one of the highest priorities we have as a district. As a Trustee of the Harrisonville Public Schools Foundation, I have provided value by helping distribute teacher grants to over a dozen teachers in all buildings throughout the district, allowing them to improve the learning environment for our students. As a member of the Cass County Corporation for Economic Development, I have provided value by connecting our school district with the Kauffman Foundation, in order for our district to take part in a local cohort of school districts able to receive grant monies to improve our workforce readiness. This will allow our students to participate in internships and apprenticeships with local businesses, as well as externships for our teachers to improve upon their skills. And at the end of the day, I truly enjoy volunteering to serve my community as a member of the Harrisonville School Board.

**What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools?** Currently, our biggest challenge facing the district is multi-fold. First is declining student enrollment, followed by low teacher salaries, in comparison to nearby districts, and lastly, our aging infrastructure.

**What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths?**

Hands down, our biggest strengths are our students! Closely followed by our teachers and staff and our community. We are truly blessed to be in the community we are in, it is definitely HOME OF THE WILDCATS!

**Family:** Myself, sister, niece and mother.

**Name:** Cameron Chenoweth

**Occupation/Business:** Cameron Chenoweth Agency – American Family Insurance

**Educational Background:** Graduated from HHS in 2006 and went on to Culver Stockton College to play football and graduated with a major in Business Administration and a minor in Sports Management

**Community organizations/memberships:** Chamber of Commerce Member, Chamber Ambassador, Cornerstone Community Church

**Why did you decide to run for school board?** The answer may sound cliché but I truly want to make a difference in my community. I was born and raised here and outside of my immediate family, this town, school district, teachers and coaches have made me who I am today. In every community, the school district is the heart of it all. If the school district goes backwards then our community will go backwards and vice versa. I want to be able to  
*(Continued on Page 7)*





## Students earn state-level recognition in variety of activities

Harrisonville students have qualified for state-level competition or been named as All-State honorees in many sports and activities this year.

**DECA State Qualifiers** - Michael Schuhler, Maddie Hoffman, Kara Lemmer, Elizabeth Bostic, Katelyn Young, Emily Gray, Riley Mathew, Amy Tracy and Ethan Danner.

**FBLA State Qualifiers** - Carson Crowley, Keigan Rowe, Mia Cardenas, Ethan Danner, Evan Filer, Emma Fischer, and River Riley

**SkillsUSA State Qualifiers** - Brandon Johnson, Mason McDermed, Nick Bunger, Isaac Gragson, and Taylor Fordyce

**All-State Honorable Mention Band** - Landen Laizure

**All-State Cross Country** - Kaylee

Harp

**Cross Country State Qualifiers** - Harp and Conner Blixt, Alex Barta, Allie Grimes

**Academic All-State Cross Country** - Harp, Grimes, Barta, Nick Saffels

**All-State Football, 3rd Team** - Brodie Rogers

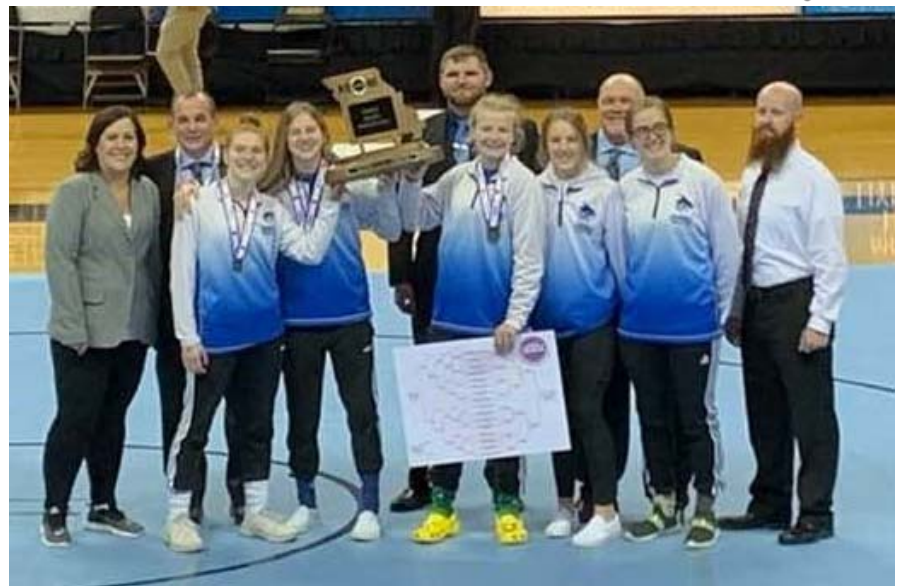
**Max Preps All-State Football, 2nd Team & Missouri Sports Writers All-State, 2nd Team** - Jace Reynolds

**All-State Soccer** - Evan Filer

**All-State Soccer Honorable Mention** - Kobe Norris and Monte Schroeder

**Academic All-State Soccer** - Filer

**Academic All-State Softball** - Addison Sousley, Alyssa Wilson, Hailee Ricker, Hanna Scott, Hattie



Wilson

**Academic All-State Volleyball** - Ericson Maxwell, Chloe Shephard, Kennedy Smalley, Rylee Smalley, Arden Middaugh, Kaylee Turner, and Elizabeth Bostic

**Swimming State Qualifier** - Emily Joseph

**Wrestling State Qualifiers** - Trevor Campbell, Nick Ripperger, Kale Weber, Melaina Beachner, Chloe Herrick, and Nonnie Justice

**Wrestling State Champions** - Justice; Girls Team

**Wrestling State Medalists** - Campbell, Herrick, Beachner

*Pictured above: The Wildcats girls' wrestling team brought home a State Championship. The team sent three wrestlers to State - they all medaled. What makes this an even bigger accomplishment is that girls' wrestling is not divided by class - all schools from across the state are in one division.*

## Teachers honored for impact

District teachers have been honored over the last few months receiving a variety of awards and recognitions at the local and state level.

In January, the Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce honored Cass Career Center agriculture teachers Jason Dieckhoff and Marshall Streit with the 2020 Community Educators of the Year Award. Harrisonville Elementary School teachers Leslie Culpepper and Sally Holman were part of a group recognized by the Chamber with the President's Award for Community Involvement for their classes' fundraising efforts to bring The Moving Wall to Harrisonville. The students raised nearly \$2,000 for the project with their annual Liberty Kids Store.

Harrisonville High School band director Ben Johnson was initiated as a member of the national Phi Beta Mu band director's honor fraternity-Missouri Lambda Chapter. He was nominated for this honor by retired Harrisonville band director Ed Roberts. To become a member, a band director must be placed in nomination through a letter of recommen-

dation. A selection committee reviews the nominees for placement on a ballot and then, the current membership of the fraternity votes. A nominee must receive 95% of the vote to be initiated. Over 20 candidates were nominated this year, eight were moved forward by the selection committee; and Johnson was one of six band directors who were selected for membership in the class of 2020.

Harrisonville Middle School Spanish teacher Maria Derner, our 2019 Educator of the Year and a Kansas City Regional Teacher of the Year finalist, was selected to be a part of the Missouri Teacher Table, a state-level coalition focused on recruiting and retaining teachers.

The district's staff recognition program is currently seeking nominations for the 2020 Educator of the Year, the 2020 Support Staff Employee of the Year, and the 2020 Community Involvement Award. Nominations can be made online at [www.harrisonvilleschools.org](http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org) and are due March 31.

## Three to be elected to Board

*(Continued from Page 6)*

help the school district thrive not only for the students and faculty but also for this community.

**What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Harrisonville Schools?**

**What do you feel are the district's biggest strengths?**

I believe our biggest challenge and our biggest strength is one in the same. We live in a small, tight knit community that is passionate about our town and our way of life but does not like change. I'm guilty in this from time to time as well because changes that are made that you have no control over are hard to swallow for most of us but they are necessary for this district and this community to thrive like it should. Our changes that we need to make will not be earth shattering but they will be small changes that will keep us on the right course for everyone in this community. We have to stay passionate about this community and embrace the changes that may come in the future for this community and district to stay relevant!

**Family:** Wife: Elizabeth Chenoweth, Daughters: Emma (10) Harper (5) and Peyton (2), Parents: Joe and Brenda Chenoweth, Brother: Tyler Chenoweth

**Chris R. Bell**

No information provided.



## HARRISONVILLE *Highlights*

### Community Calendar of Events

Mar. 19	CCPL Adulting 101 (Grades 6-12) Health and Medical Care, 3 p.m.	May 4	Cass Career Center Awards Ceremony, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.
Mar. 24	CCPL The Mr. Brad Music Show! ( Kids age 0-10 & families), 6:30 p.m.	May 5	McEowen 4th Grade Field Trip, 9 a.m.
Mar. 26	PAT Playgroup, 9:15 a.m., ECC	May 5	CRMC Stop the Bleed, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Mar. 26	HMS Spring Pictures	May 5	HHS Spring Choir Concert, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.
Mar. 26	Pre-Contest Choir Concert, 7 p.m., HHS-PAC	May 6	HHS Dinner Theatre Performance, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.
Mar. 26	Chamber Happy Hour	May 7	Senior Excellence Academics Ceremony, HHS, 8 a.m.
Mar. 27	Preschool Enrollment	May 7	PAT Field Trip, 9 a.m.
Mar. 27	Preschool Preview Day	May 8	HHS Graduation, Memorial Stadium, 7 p.m.
Mar. 27	McEowen Positive Action Assembly, 9:15 a.m.	May 11-15	CRMC Celebration Basket Raffle
Mar. 27	McEowen Family Movie Night, 6 p.m.	May 11	HHS Band Banquet, HHS PAC & MPR, 7 p.m.
Mar. 30	Community Conversation, Chamber of Commerce, 7 p.m.	May 12	McEowen Accent on Achievement, HHS PAC, 6 p.m.
Mar. 31	CCPL Pysanky Eggs Program, Adults, 6 p.m.	May 12	CRMC Alzheimer's Support Group, 6-7:30 p.m.
Mar. 31	ECC Terrific Citizens Assembly, 3 p.m.	May 18	HMS End of Year Awards & Talent Show, 12:30 p.m.
Mar. 31	McEowen Spring Concert, 7 p.m., HHS PAC	May 19	Last Day 5K, HMS, 8 a.m.
Mar. 31	Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office	May 19	HES End of Year Assembly, 10 a.m.
Apr. 1	ECC Spring Picture Day	May 19	Last Day of School, 1/2 day with students
Apr. 1	Free High School Physicals, Garden City Medical Clinic, 3:30-5:30 p.m.	May 19	Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office
Apr. 2	PAT Playgroup, 9:15 a.m., ECC	May 19	CCPL Bees Wax Wraps Program (Adult), 6 p.m.
Apr. 2	HES 1st Grade Music Program, HHS PAC, 6 & 7 p.m.	May 21	HCC Luncheon, Chamber, 12 p.m.
Apr. 3	HCC First Friday Coffee, Coffelt Land Title, 7:30 a.m.	May 21	CRMC Diabetes Support Group, 6:30-8 p.m.
Apr. 3	HES Spring Pictures	May 21	CCPL Nailed It! (Grades 6-12), 3 p.m.
Apr. 3	ECC Breakfast Buddies, 8:30 a.m.	May 21	HCC Thirsty Thursday, Bodeez, 5-7 p.m.
Apr. 3	HES Awards Assembly, 3 p.m.	June 1	CCPL Imagine your Story Costume Party!, 5:30 p.m.
Apr. 3	CRMC Spring into Action for Patients, Beck Event Space, 6 p.m.	June 2	CRMC Stop the Bleed, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Apr. 4	ACT, HHS, 8 a.m.	June 4	CCPL Crafternoon DIY Chainmail Keychains (Grades 6-12), 3 p.m.
Apr. 6-11	CCPL Cass County Student Art Show, Reception-April 8, 6 p.m.	June 5	CCPL Rhonda Kasper, 11 a.m.
Apr. 6-13	CCPL Hatching Chicks	June 5	HCC First Friday Coffee, Hawthorn Bank, 7:30 a.m.
Apr. 7	Election Day	June 8	CCPL Phil and Grace, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Apr. 7	CRMC Stop the Bleed, 5:30-6:30 p.m.	June 9	CRMC Alzheimer's Support Group, 6-7:30 p.m.
Apr. 9	PAT Playgroup, ECC, 9:15 a.m.	June 10	CRMC COPD Support Group, 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Apr. 9	HCC Lunch, Beck Events Center, 12 p.m.	June 10	CCPL Author Jennifer Pharr Davis, 5:30 p.m.
Apr. 9	CCPL Quilt Pattern Postcards (Adult), 5:30 pm	June 12	CCPL Rhonda Kasper, 11 a.m.
Apr. 9	HCC Mouse Races, Elks Lodge, 6 p.m.	June 13	ACT, HHS, 8 a.m.
Apr. 10	Snow Make-Up Day #2- School in Session	June 15	CCPL Big Truck Night, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Apr. 13	FFA Petting Zoo & Presentation, ECC	June 16	Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office
Apr. 13	PTO Meeting, McEowen, 6:30 p.m.	June 18	CCPL Adulting 101 – Imagine Your Future (Grades 6-12), 3 p.m.
Apr. 13-18	CCPL Peep Diorama Competition (Open to all ages)	June 18	HCC Golf Tournament, Creekmooor, 10:30 a.m.
Apr. 14	PAT Wild About Animals, ECC, 6 p.m.	June 19	CCC PN Graduation, HHS PAC
Apr. 14	CRMC Alzheimer's Support Group, 6-7:30 p.m.	June 19	CCPL Rhonda Kasper, 11 a.m.
Apr. 16	PAT Playgroup, ECC, 9:15 a.m.	June 20	CCPL Boxes and Blankets Castle Night, 2 p.m.
Apr. 16	CRMC Diabetes Support Group, 6:30-8 p.m.	June 22	CCPL Movie Night, 6 p.m.
Apr. 16	HHS Spring Play, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.	June 23	HCC Thirsty Thursday, TBD, 5-7 p.m.
Apr. 17, 20-23	Kindergarten Round-Up, ECC	June 25	CCPL Once Upon an Escape Room (Grades 6-12), 3 p.m.
Apr. 17	HHS Spring Play, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.	June 26	CCPL Rhonda Kasper, 11 a.m.
Apr. 18	HHS Spring Play, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.	June 29	CCPL There's a Monster Under My Bed: a Pajama Storytime, 6-7:30 p.m.
Apr. 19-21	State FBLA, Springfield		
Apr. 21	Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Admin Office		
Apr. 23	PAT Playgroup, ECC, 9:15 a.m.		
Apr. 23	HCC Thirsty Thursday, Chamber, 6-7 p.m.		
Apr. 23-24	State FFA Convention, Columbia		
Apr. 24	Preschool Preview Day, ECC		
Apr. 24	McEowen Positive Action Assembly, 2:50 p.m.		
Apr. 25	Music Mania (Music Makers), HHS PAC, 7 p.m.		
Apr. 27	HMS Spring Choir Concert, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.		
Apr. 28	HMS Spring Band Concert, HHS PAC, 7 p.m.		
Apr. 29	FFA Chapter Banquet, HHS MPR, 7 p.m.		
Apr. 30	PAT Playgroup, ECC, 9:15 a.m.		
Apr. 30	ECCTerrific Citizens Assembly, 3 p.m.		
Apr. 30	Theatre Department Banquet, HHS PAC, 6:30 p.m.		
May 1-2	FFA Plant Sale, 8 a.m.		
May 1	HCC First Friday Coffee, Meadowview, 7:30 a.m.		
May 1	HES Awards Assembly, 3 p.m.		
May 1	McEowen Civil War Day		
May 1	HHS Spring Band Concert, HHS-PAC, 7 p.m.		
May 2	HHS Prom, Beck Event Center, 7 p.m.		
May 4-8	Teacher Appreciation Week		

CCPL Girls Who Code (Grades 6-12), Tuesdays, thru March 31, 5 p.m.  
 CCPL Monday Movie Madness (6-12), 1st Monday, April 6 & May 4, 3:30 p.m.  
 CCPL Anime Club (Grades 6-12), Every Monday except 1st Monday, 3:30 p.m.  
 CCPL Teen Advisory Board (Grades 6-12) 1st Thursday of month, 3 p.m.  
 CCPL Minecraft (8-14) Thurs. Mar 5- April 30, Summer dates June 4-July 30, 4 p.m.  
 CCPL Toddler Storytime (Ages 18-36 months), Tuesdays, 11 a.m. (March & April)  
 CCPL Preschool Storytime, Wednesdays, 9:30 & 11 am (March & April)  
 CCPL Underground Readers Club (Grades 6-12), Apr 9, May 14, June 11, Jul 9, 3 p.m.  
 CCPL Brown Bag Book Club (Adult), April 6, May 11 & June 8, 12 p.m.  
 CCPL General Book Club (Adult), April 6, May 11, & June 8, 6:30 p.m.  
 CCPL Inspirational Book Club (Adult), April 2, May 7 & June 4, 6:30 p.m.  
 CCPL Mystery Book Club (Adult), April 14, May 12 & June 9, 6:30 p.m.  
 CCPL Storytime Tuesday, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 11 a.m.  
 CCPL Storytime Wednesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

\*\*CCPL - Cass County Public Library (Harrisonville branch)  
 \*\*CRMC - Cass Regional Medical Center  
 \*\*HCC - Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce  
 \*\* HHS PAC - Harrisonville High School Performing Arts Center