

NEWSLETTER

USD 407 - State of the Schools

Russell County Leadership - Class IV, participated in their third seminar. Diving right into things with a Class III associate and Simpson/Bickerdyke, Principal Mrs. Katie Revell. Katie spoke with the associates about enrollment numbers from preschool to 6th grade and shared that $\frac{1}{3}$ of the staff at SES/BES is new to education, new to their roles, or new to administration levels. Katie Revell was very welcoming with her input and insight regarding the power of positive relationships with the students and how challenges are taken into account.

Afterwards the class heard from RJSHS Principal, Dr. Andrew Dempewolf who shared information about how the transition of combining middle school and high school facilities to one has been positive and well received over the past 2 years. Exciting things are happening including Career Tech Education (CTE), that allows the students contacts with different industries and gain real world skills throughout their time in high school including 11 different areas of focus for students. Virtual learning with Greenbush is also working out well for the 12 students enrolled, with this being their first year. These school leaders have a positive effect on the facilities, staff and students making positive movement for the future.



CLASS IV FALL FUNDRAISER

The Russell County Leadership (RCL) organization is proud to host the Fall Fundraiser Raffle, beginning October 4th through November 5th. This exciting community/county-wide event will take place both online and in person, making it easy for everyone to take part. Join our nonprofit raffle for a chance to win big while supporting our mission too! By participating, you help strengthen our mission to bring together the citizens and members of Russell County, fostering leadership, collaboration, and community development. Your participation is not only a chance to win prizes but also plays a vital role in supporting our success. Each ticket you purchase directly contributes to our efforts in making a meaningful impact in our community. Proceeds from the raffle will directly support the continued growth and success of the RCL program.



Conflict Resolution & Touring the facilities

The associates were able to get the inside scoop of the good, bad and ugly regarding the facilities, including things that need improvement. Afterwards, Class III Associate, Katie Revell presented the class with a skit of "how not to" have a difficult conversation with peers. Touching on key points of - learning why it matters, preparing yourself, setting the right tone, becoming an active listener, managing emotions, and working towards a resolution. "The goal isn't to win, it's to move forward with understanding and an action plan!"



BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS HERE

Engaging Youth & Involved Organizations

Information is knowledge...and we all gained insight to the different organizations that create forward movement for the future of our school system. The associates had a discussion on the chapter "Engaging your Youth", in the 13 Ways to Kill Your Community book. Mandy Trout discussed in depth about the \$13.5 million bond possibility in the upcoming election on November 4th and the importance and impact it can have for our community. Some of the main goals being safety and security, HVAC and plumbing, ADA compliant accessibility, overall efficiency, and how to educate the public and communicate by answering the hard questions. Throughout the remainder of the day the class was visited by JAG-K, Community for Classrooms, Rotary Interact, the Student Resource Officer, PTO and the Booster Club.

Thank you to our sponsors, hosts and speakers! Your investment in the future of Russell County is appreciated.