



## District Highlights:

### EMS students earn state recognition

Duke TIP (Talent Identification Program) 7th Grade Talent Search State Recognition — **Hannah Albright, Katharine Goebel, Allison McKibban, Daniel Wagner, and Dayton Winter.** The Duke Talent Search Program identifies academically talented seventh grade students.

### Retirement Receptions:

- Grandview will host a retirement reception for **Debbie Hall** on Wednesday, May 14, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the school gym.
- Jefferson Elementary will host a retirement reception on Wednesday, May 14, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. for **Sherry Keller, Debbie Melcher and Sharon Pooler.** The reception will be held in the school gym.
- El Dorado High School plans a retirement reception for **Dorothy Beer, Chris Knott and Gary Melcher** on Friday, May 2, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. The reception will be held in the high school gym. Please use the Recreation Center entrance and follow the signs.
- Margo Funk's** reception is set for Wednesday, May 14, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the El Dorado Middle School Library.

### Tennis added to EMS sports schedule

At their April meeting, the USD 490 Board of Education approved adding boys' and girls' tennis to EMS 7th and 8th grade extracurricular activities, to begin in the fall of 2008. An intramural program was instituted this year to determine interest in anticipation of new Pioneer League opportunities. In addition, the middle school conducted a student survey to determine interest in participating. The middle school will coordinate practices and matches with the high school as both schools will use the Water Works courts.

### National Honor Society Inductees

Sunday, April 27, the following El Dorado High School students were inducted into National Honor Society: **Hayley Fellers, Elizabeth Francis, Kate Green, Robert Lee Huff, Spencer Jensen, Adam Just, Joshua Lauber, Patrick Wilson and Nicole Zepeda.**

### DARE Essay Contest Winners

USD 490 fifth graders participated in DARE graduation on Thursday, April 17th. During the ceremony **Garrett Howland**, a fifth grader at Grandview Elementary, was named the city-wide winner of the DARE Essay Contest. He received a \$500 savings bond from Fenton Ford. Heartland Monument provided \$50 savings bonds to the following classroom essay winners: Howland, **Kristyn Utech**, Grandview; **Riley Payé**, Washington; **Breck Towner**, Washington; **Katy Swan**, Washington; **Marissa Sparks**, Lincoln; **Stephanie McGivern**, Lincoln; and **Logan Cooper**, Lincoln.

### EHS & EMS KAYs help raise money for local organizations

The middle school KAY club hosted their first dog wash on April 12, 2008. They washed 20 dogs and made over \$160 for the local animal shelter. The donation helped the animal shelter build a dog run. The dogs received first class treatment with doggie treats and warm water. The students look forward to having another dog wash next year. —*Kristy McNary, EMS KAY sponsor*

El Dorado High School KAY members hosted a poetry reading at the Book Grinder on April 25th. It went very well! We raised money for the Kansas Food Bank (to benefit the backpack program). EHS students Kelly Oltman and Kassai Moorhead chaired the event. —*Heather Fangmann McCluggage, EHS KAY sponsor*

## Stan Ruff moves to Washington next fall

El Dorado Middle School Principal Stan Ruff will take on a new leadership role next August. Ruff will replace Scott Ennis as principal at Washington Elementary. (Last month Ennis accepted the position of Athletic Director at El Dorado High School.)



Ruff has worked at the middle school for 20 years, as a science teacher, assistant principal/athletic director and most recently as principal. Ruff said he is looking forward to new and exciting challenges in his new position.

## Every day is Earth Day at El Dorado school district

Earth Day (this year on April 22) has been a driving force in raising environmental awareness around the globe and in the United States. For the past 28 months, USD 490 has been implementing a rigorous energy savings program with the help of a company, Energy Education, Inc., that specializes in people-driven energy conservation. Through the partnership with Energy Education, USD 490 has significantly reduced the amount of energy the schools use.

Since the district began, electric consumption has declined by 8,097 MMBTU and natural gas use by 20,760 MMBTU. The district's conservation program has led to a 24% reduction in overall energy consumption. By reducing consumption,

the district has helped preserve the local environment. The less electricity used the less electricity that has to be generated, thereby reducing pollution from generation plants. According to the EPA, this decrease in energy use from electricity alone is the equivalent of taking 1,183 cars off our local roads or planting 2,453 acres of trees in our community.

Since the conservation program began, USD 490 has experienced a calculated cost avoidance of \$344,871 as identified by Energy Education, Inc. The savings has helped the district to allocate resources to instruction rather than utilities.

—*Information submitted by Steve Fellers, USD 490 Energy Coordinator*



## Students lobby Legislators for COF funding

Members of EHS and EMS Circle of Friends traveled to Topeka on April 22nd at the request of Senator Donald Betts to help lobby for money to support the COF program in Kansas. There were four schools from Sedgwick and Butler Counties represented with over 120 students participating. Students wrote letters and made brochures to pass out to Legislators. The students received word that two days after their visit the proposal passed the Senate and is on its way to the Appropriations and Ways and Means committees. Students also toured the Capitol and talked with Senator Betts (front row, middle).