

USD 461

Board of Education

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January 2019 Superintendent Newsletter

Dear USD #461 Bluestreak Family,

Happy New Year! We here at Neodesha USD #461 hope the promise of a new year brings you great blessings, encouragement, and joy!

New Start, New Chance for Success! The vision statement from the Kansas Department of Education is "Kansas leads the world in the success of each student." As we begin the second semester of 2018-2019, we hope you do not hesitate to visit with our teachers throughout the rest of the year to provide an additional layer of support from home if this is needed. The partnership between our families and our district is extremely important for the success of each student!

Emergency School Information: If ever any emergency or disaster situation arises while your student is in school, be aware that our schools have made preparations to respond effectively. Neodesha Schools has an emergency plan that has been formulated to respond to large or small emergencies. This plan has been developed to ensure the safety and protection of all students. None of us likes to dwell on emergency situations. However, we believe that planning ahead will help alleviate additional stress and concern. Please be assured that our entire staff is trained to respond to emergencies in a calm and professional way. Here are some ways that you can help us: 1.) Remember that our telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication with police, fire, and other emergency personnel. 2.) During an emergency, access to the school must be kept clear for emergency vehicles. By "self-responding" to the school you may jeopardize the safety of your child. 3.) Communication from your child by cell phone can be alarming. Also, conflicting and unconfirmed information is then widespread which causes panic. Communication is better left to the officials to report on the situation. 4.) Impress upon your student(s) the need for them to follow the directions of any school personnel in times of an emergency. 5.) In the event our students are evacuated to an off-site location and we have received permission to dismiss them, we will release students to parents or persons you have specified on the emergency release form. Please be patient at the release location as security will be tightened up and release procedures will require identification before the release of any student. Keeping each student safe and feeling secure at school is important to Neodesha Schools!

There is **no school on Monday, January 21** as we have Teacher Inservice.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to give us a call or send us an email. It is a great day to be a Bluestreak!

Juanita Erickson
Superintendent