

UPCOMING EVENTS

RVH After School Program Begins
Tuesday, September 2

No School - Teacher Inservice
Monday, September 22

1/2 Day of School
Wednesday, October 8

Parent Teacher Conferences
Tuesday, October 28 (4:00-7:30)
Thursday, October 30 (4:00-7:30)

No School
Friday, October 31

1/2 Day of School
Wednesday, November 12



Girard Unified School District
No. 248
415 N. Summit

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Friends of U.S.D. #248

Special Services Welcomes New Faculty



Shelby Reichard
School Psychologist

As a school psychologist, Shelby Reichard will work with K-12 students and staff across the district to ensure students are receiving interventions, supports, and services to help them be successful. One key component of her job is completing special education referrals and working directly with special education teachers to support those students.

Mrs. Reichard worked for the SEK interlocal for the

past three years. During this time, she was the school psychologist at Pittsburg Community Middle School and Uniontown schools.

Shelby earned an Education Specialist degree in School Psychology from PSU. She is currently working on her PhD in Educational Psychology through Wichita State University.

Shelby lives in Fort Scott with her husband, Levi, who is a police officer. She and her husband have a ten month old daughter named Olivia. In her free time, she enjoys playing co-ed softball and volleyball. She also enjoys being a Youth Leader for middle and high school students at her church, and she enjoys spending time volunteering for non-profits and serving in board positions for organizations in her community.



Roxanne Nutt
GMS/GHS
School Nurse

Roxanne Nutt has joined the USD #248 staff as the GMS/GHS school nurse. Roxanne is a registered nurse and has worked in the hospital setting for the past 34 years. She began her career doing medical/surgical, then progressed to step-down ICU, emergency room, and then ICU. She then worked Labor/Delivery for fifteen years and has worked preoperative for the past fourteen years.

Roxanne lives in Girard with her husband, Chris, a Medical Technologist in the lab at Girard Medical Center. She has three children. Her daughter, Allie, and her husband, Evan, reside in Carl Junction. They have two daughters, Stella and Sadie, and are expecting a baby boy this December. Her son Jake lives in McKinney, TX and is a city planner. And her daughter, Belle, and her husband, Levi, live in Carl Junction and are expecting a baby girl this December.

"I'm excited to be the new nurse for GMS and GHS. I'm passionate about our community and the children/families that reside here. As an alumni and parent of three children that graduated from Girard, I want to help carry on the tradition and values of Girard schools."

USD 248

GIRARD
SCHOOLS



SUPERINTENDENT

Todd Ferguson
415 N. Summit
Girard, KS 66743
(620) 724-4325

www.girard248.org

USD 248 SCHOOL BOARD

Dave Goble, President
Henry Ashbacher
Roger Breneman
Aaron Coester
Lori Johnson
Peggy Marshall
Kelly Peak

IN THIS ISSUE:

Welcome Back to School
Superintendent's Message
New Faces to USD 248
Students Compete at Nationals

SUPERINTENDENT'S

Message

Todd Ferguson

A Message about Resilience —

As parents, we play a crucial role in teaching our children resilience, equipping them with the skills to navigate life's challenges. By modeling perseverance in the face of adversity, we will demonstrate the importance of maintaining a positive attitude and finding solutions to the challenges that come our way.

Our teachers build student resilience by encouraging a growth mindset. They will encourage our children to view challenges as opportunities to learn and grow and encourage them to take risks and step outside of their comfort zones.

My challenge to all of us in the school district is this: Let's work together to build resilient kids, so they will be prepared to tackle any challenge that comes their way.

I hope you all have a great school year!

Go Trojans!



GHS incoming senior FBLA members Josie Gronau and Madison Cranston accept their award for sixth place in Social Media Strategies.

FCCLA Nationals in Orlando, Florida

FCCLA Nationals was held in Orlando, Florida on July 5th - 9th. District J-East Officer Maggie Niggemann, who's in charge of National Programs in Action was required and paid to attend the National meeting for media coverage. GHS's other district officer, Maddie Coester, who's in charge of district finance accompanied Maggie in promoting J-East FCCLA.

During the conference, they met FCCLA members and officers

from all over the United States and even spent time with some FCCLA members from Hawaii. FCCLA sponsor, Emily Herlocker, accompanied them on the trip. Mrs. Herlocker said, "It was fun to watch the branch out and grow in leadership!"

Reflecting back on the conference, Maggie Niggemann said, "It was fun networking with people from around the country and seeing the different ways people interact within their chapter."



GHS incoming seniors Maggie Niggemann and Maddie Coester

HOSA Nationals in Nashville, Tennessee



Class of 2025 HOSA members Sarah Rose and Avery Smith

HOSA International Leadership Conference was held in Nashville, Tennessee on June 18th - 20th.

GHS HOSA members Sarah Rose and Avery Smith joined 13,000 competitors from over 54 states and countries.

To qualify to compete at Nationals, students must place in the top three in their event at the state leadership conference.

During the national competition, Sarah competed in Occupational Therapy and

placed second while Avery competed in Health Career Photography and placed seventh. They were two of only six high school individuals or teams from Kansas to place in the top ten for their events.

HOSA sponsor Kristi Blair accompanied them on the trip.

During their trip, they also experienced the Grand Ole Opry, visited Broadway Street, and ate at the famous Hattie B's Hot Chicken.

FBLA Nationals in Anaheim, California

Thirteen Business Trojans represented Kansas at the Future Business Leaders of America national competition at the Anaheim Convention Center in California on June 28th - July 2nd. They earned this opportunity by winning their events at the state level of competition last spring.

Josie Gronau and Madison Cranston were awarded sixth place with their Social Media Strategies presentation, and Seth Wilson broke into finals in Sales Presentation. Others representing Kansas were

Kenneth Pope and Caleb Humble in Entrepreneurship, Sarah Rose in Business Communications, Avery Smith in Digital Video Production, Allison Huber in Parliamentary Procedures, Mackenzie Wood and Bailey Glaser in Intro to Social Media Strategies, Liam Leadstrom and Mason Crozier in Business Presentation, and Ben Scheibe in Insurance and Risk Management. They also experienced a luncheon cruise, time at the beach and a day at Disneyland.



GHS FBLA members outside of the Anaheim Convention Center

New Faces to USD #248 — Welcome to Girard!



Rachel Trezona
7th Grade English

Rachel Trezona grew up on a farm near Mapleton, KS. She was the oldest of four children, so she often played school with her little brother. She graduated from PSU with a BSed in English Education. She has ten years of teaching experience. "I am excited to have the opportunity to teach in Girard, and I love being a teacher. Kids are the best!"



Regina Jameson
High School Math

Regina Jameson taught junior high and high school math at the Ottawa and Maris des Cygnes Valley School Districts before moving to Columbus in 1997. She received her master's in administration and then retired from Columbus in 2019. She and her husband Steve, a Girard graduate, have five children and twelve grandchildren. During the summer, she coordinates a free lunch program for adults and children in Columbus. She is actively involved in her church and in the Lions Club. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and playing golf.



Megan Gazaway
6th Grade
Social Studies

Megan Gazaway grew up in Cherokee, KS and attended Southeast schools. She continued her education at Fort Scott Community College, where she also played softball. She then transferred to PSU and graduated in the fall of 2024 with a Bachelor of Science in History, with an emphasis in education. In her free time, she enjoys playing pickleball, traveling, and spending time in her pumpkin patch with her husband, Lucas.



Patty LaRoche
Drama

Patty LaRoche has spent twenty years teaching high school speech, theater, debate and forensics. She speaks professionally and writes a weekly religion column for area newspapers. In her spare time, she plays tennis and pickleball, reads, hangs out with family and friends, roots for the KC Chiefs and thinks about exercising. Patty has been certified to speak on the evils of sex trafficking, a fight her son Adam entered when he quit professional baseball. Patty presented a Tedx Talk on the Rewards of Rejection

after publishing her first book, *A Little Faith Lift... Finding Joy Beyond Rejection*, which dealt with the same issue. Her hope is that she can inspire her students to understand their value and leave her class with a renewed sense of confidence.



Maddie Kramer
6th/7th Grade
Reading

Maddie Kramer grew up in Erie, KS and graduated from PSU in May of 2025. She loves animals and currently owns five hedgehogs. "I am very excited to start the new year and meet everyone!"



Tiffany Poyner
Physical Education

Tiffany Poyner grew up in Uniontown and attended PSU. She has spent the last three years teaching and coaching at Iola High School. She has a love for sports and fitness, so being able to share that with students every day is something that she really enjoys. Her goal is to make PE fun, help students feel confident in themselves, and encourage healthy habits that stick for life. Outside of



Sheldynn Grilz
1st Grade

Sheldynn Grilz graduated from PSU and has spent the last six years teaching 1st grade in Texas. She and her husband recently moved back to Girard to be closer to family. Outside of school, she enjoys running, fishing, taking her dog on a walk, and spending time with friends and family.



Machia Davenport
Kindergarten

Machia Davenport is from McCune and graduated from GHS. She recently graduated from PSU with her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education: Unified: Birth through Kindergarten. She married her high school sweetheart, Gage, and they are expecting their first child at the end of the year. "I am very excited to come back to Girard and begin my first year of teaching at RVH!"