

THE GOAL AT CHASE/ RAYMOND USD 401 IS TO

Teach kids the skills they need

Unified School District 401 includes the cities of Chase and Raymond and surrounding rural areas. The district has two buildings in Chase that house the Chase Elementary School, Raymond Junior High School and Chase High School.

The purpose of USD 401 is to assure that students will acquire basic academic and decision making skills necessary to become resourceful and responsible members of the world community.

On May 19, 1910, the voters indicated that a larger school was needed in Chase to replace a smaller one located on the west side of town. William Kenton donated two lots north of the city park; in return, the city worked on improving the park area. Sidewalks were added, trees were removed, and holes were filled in. From there, work was started on a spacious two story building. On September 19, 1911, the building opened its doors for a new school year. The senior class, two girls and four boys, were the first to graduate from the

new, accredited high school. With the new school, students also gained many activities and new experiences. Football, basketball, and baseball teams were organized for the boys; the girls played three basketball games as well. Music groups were also formed, and the first annual was published.

Later in the 1920s, the community decided that two buildings were needed. Up until that point, grade school and high school classes had been held in the 1911 building. The new high school was built in 1923 and remains part of the present day school. Students moved in midterm in early 1924. With the move, they gained space and a new gym.

In 1928, work began on finding a mascot. Drawing and suggestions were accepted for the emblem. The Student Council presented three choices to the student body. They chose "Felix the Kat" on Oct. 4, 1928. The name originated from a popular comic character. Felix was a silent movie cartoon in 1914, but he also

became a newspaper comic strip in 1923. From there, his popularity grew into comic books, toys, books, games, etc. He was also being seen in movie theaters in addition to the main feature. By 1930, the silent Felix cartoon came to an end, but in the late 1940s, Felix moved to the TV screen where he appeared in 260 short cartoons. This little cat faced adventures, enemies, and travels in his many cartoons. The district has received legal permission to use this copyrighted character for its mascot.

Over the last few years, USD 401 has worked to update curriculums, course offerings, and technology. A PreK-12 art program has been added, and students are finding success, placing in a number of art shows. The high school students take advantage of photography, 2D art, and 3D art classes. The industrial arts program has been revamped recently, allowing students to experience a variety of projects, tools, and equipment. Science course offerings have been added to fit

the Bio-Chemistry career pathway and student needs. The district has also updated their technology, moving to a 1:1 ratio for computers. PreK-second grade students work with iPads, and third through twelfth grade students work with laptops.

Sports offered at Raymond Junior High are football, volleyball, basketball and track and field. At the high school level, those sports are also offered to students in addition to golf, cheer squad, and dance team. The high school has also co-oped with Lyons for baseball.

The district encourages parents and interested community members to visit the classrooms. Interested persons are asked to sign the register which is located in the office before they visit.

For more information about the school district visit their Web site at www.usd401.com or call the district office at 620-938-2923, the elementary, located at 312 Ash Street, 938-2996, or the junior / senior high school, located at 308 East C Avenue, 620-938-2923.

The current superintendent of USD 401 is Glenna Grinstead.


There may be occasions because of snow blocked roads or bad weather when it will be necessary to either delay the opening of school, change bus routes, or cancel school for the entire day. Any such changes will always be announced over KZSN Wichita, KHUT-FM 103 Hutchinson, KVGB Great Bend, KSAL Salina, and KSKU Hutchinson. We will make the announcement on the local TV Channels 2, 10, and 12. Announcements will be made as soon as possible. The school also utilizes School Reach to call parents and staff members about calendar changes and school closings.



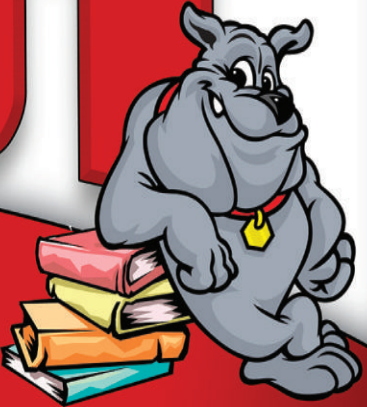
3D art student Kirsten Wood cuts the class petals for a flower she is designing. The class is working to create a glass piece that will be fused together in the kiln.



Auston Donovan and James Taverner pick up trash as part of the wildlife management's Trash Walk. Once each month, weather allowing, the wildlife management class takes a day to walk around Chase to pick up trash. The class has also been inviting a different grade school class to join them each time.



USD 401



Chase/Raymond

The Place to Be...

...Rewarded

...Involved

...Challenged

...Yourself

with

Low Student-Teacher Ratio
PreK-12 1:1 Technology
Innovative Programs
PreK-12 Art and Music
College Credits Available
Community Involvement

Free Preschool
Individualized K-12 Reading
Student-Teacher Interaction
Vocational Programs
All-day Kindergarten
Student Involvement

Chase Grade School

Raymond Junior High

Chase High School