

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.

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 Carl Helm.

Clubs and organizations offered at Chase High School include C-Club, scholar's bowl, FCCLA, forensics, National Honor Society and student council.

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 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.

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 KSKU 94.7, KHYM 93.1, and KHUT 102.9. If conditions are such that we know the night before, we will make the announcement on TV Channels 2, 10, and 12 as well as the radio stations.

There may be times when weather conditions are such that we can have school, but road conditions are not good enough to run regular bus routes. Snow routes will be used on those days. Those students not reached directly by a snow route can meet the bus at a point on the snow route nearest to their home or can drive all the way into Chase or Raymond, or not come to school at all. Snow routes will be announced after enrollment is complete and routes are established. The school also utilizes School Reach to call parents and staff members about calendar changes and school closings.



Junior Maggie Schneider works on her 1920's Flapper Dress that she made as part of her project-based learning class. Schneider chose to work on a dress to show the fashion of the time even though she had never sewn before. She concluded the project with a presentation demonstrating what she had learned.



Chase Grade School students and teachers gather for Thanksgiving dinner. To help celebrate the special meal, staff members placed tablecloths on the tables and K-12 students colored placemats. The kindergarten and the first grade classes also made turkey hats to wear. Parents, grandparents, board members and community members joined the students for the meal.

USD 401

Chase/Raymond

The Place to Be...

...Rewarded ...Involved ...Challenged ...Yourself

with

Low Student-Teacher Ratio

Project-based Learning

Innovative Programs

Career Exploration

PreK-12 Art and Music

Community Involvement

Student Involvement

Problem Solving and Life Skills

Raining Kats and Dogs Days

College Credits Available

All-day Kindergarten

Individualized K-12 Reading

Free 3- and 4-year-old Preschool Classes

Chase Grade School
Raymond Junior High
Chase High School