

St. Francis schools begin with 291 students

By Karen Krien

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The school bell rang and doors to the St. Francis schools were open to students on Monday, a little later than many of the schools in the area. And, as of Monday, there were 291 students in the St. Francis schools. There are 13 less students than last year but, Scott Carmichael, principal, said there could be some changes before the official enrollment on Sept. 20.

Shirley Swihart, kindergarten teacher, had students attending the first day of school. This is the third year for all-day kindergarten. The change to all-day kindergarten helps cutting expenses since there is not the need for a noon bus and driver.

First graders are taught by part-time teachers, Gloria Cassidy and Jennifer Krien; second grade, Ramona Raile; and third grade, Cindy Wiley. Also assisting in the grades is Sandy Smull.

The fourth, fifth and sixth grades are departmentalized. Each of the three teachers have strengths in certain areas and Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said it worked out extremely well.

Mrs. McAtee, fourth grade instructor, will be teaching reading to the students in the top three grades. Lynnette Nolan, fifth, will be teaching science; and Julie Wolters, sixth grade, will be teaching math.

This is the fifth year Susan Dinkel, who has taught business in the junior-senior high school, is spending the mornings at the grade school teaching computer classes to the fourth, fifth and sixth graders. She is still teaching business in the junior-senior high school.

Mr. Schiltz said the goal is to have all students know computer basics including power point by the time they leave the sixth grade. When they enter high school, they

will be able to implement other more complicated computer uses.

Fall sports

With all the academics worked out for the time being, the students and staff are looking forward to the fall sports season. An open house was held on Friday, giving fans a chance to see the teams in action.

The Lady Indians' first volleyball meet was held on Tuesday in Hoxie. The Sainty football team will play Colby in Colby on Friday evening. Game time is 7 p.m.

Homecoming week

Homecoming week will start on Monday, Sept. 12, with the seniors painting the streets. The Homecoming queen and king will be crowned at a special assembly Friday afternoon, Sept. 16.

Students, coaches and staff appreciate community support and look forward to seeing lots of people in the bleachers.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL found these boys listening attentively to their teachers. Above, Adam Leibbrandt, first grader, had all of his supplies in front of him. To the left, Connor Hathaway was removing the items from his red sack as his teacher, Shirley Swihart, instructed.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien



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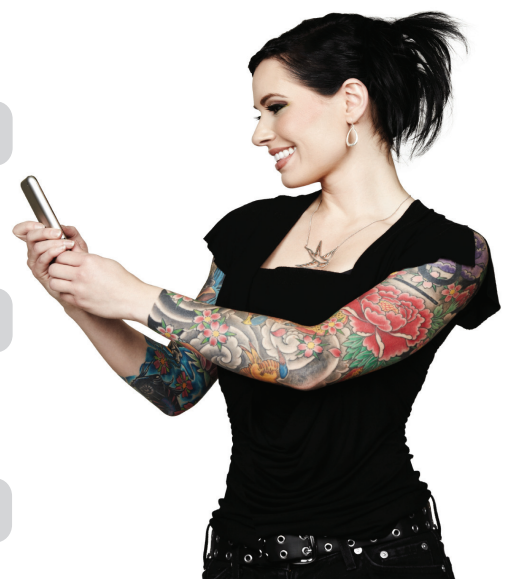
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