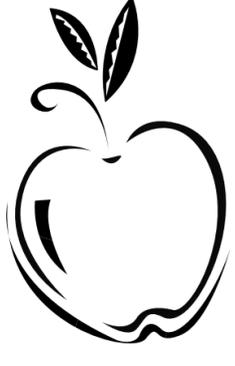


Meet the Newest Additions to Unified School Districts 211-212-213



WELCOME NEW TEACHERS



WE'RE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU WITH US FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR

Rudy Perez — Norton High School Principal



Rudy Perez is the new principal at N.C.H.S. He is originally from northeastern Colorado, but has lived in Kansas since 1993. He attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University at Goodwell, Okla., where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Social Studies with a minor in Education. Oklahoma State University was his next stop where he worked on a Master's degree in Political Science. In January of 1993, he accepted a position at Highland Park high school in Topeka. Since that time, he has made stops in Ulysses, Jetmore, Ensign and Cimarron. He also finished his Master's degree in Secondary School Administration from Fort Hays State University. This will be his 13th year in education and seventh in administration. He and his wife, Kelli, have three children — Zane, a freshman; Kylie, a third grader; and Lauren, who is just turning three. Mr. Perez is looking forward to working with everyone on the staff. It is his goal, he said, to continue the great tradition established by Mr. Stull and numerous teachers and coaches.

Shane Miller — N.C.H.S Guidance Counselor



Shane Miller is the new N.C.H.S. guidance counselor. For the past two years, he has been the high school guidance counselor in Burlington, Kan. Prior to that, he taught science and coached sports for 14 years in Eureka. In addition to being Norton's new counselor, Mr. Miller will be the senior sponsor, head junior high wrestling coach, assistant high school wrestling coach, and assistant junior high football coach. He said he is looking forward to working closely with the seniors and developing good relationships with the underclassmen. He and his wife, Jennie, are from western Kansas and are glad to be back. He attended Garden City Community College and then Fort Hays State University, where he received a Bachelor's degree in biology. He graduated with a Master's degree in K-12 Counselor Education in 1998 from Emporia State University. The Millers have three children — Juliana, 11; Kendall, 9; and Layton, 8. He said they are excited about this new opportunity and being a part of Norton's strong academic and athletic programs.

Diana Ambrosier — English



Diana Ambrosier will be teaching fifth and sixth grade English at Eisenhower Elementary. She said she is very excited to be teaching at Norton and feels as though Norton is her hometown, almost. She has lived in Norton since the fall of 1991. Her husband, Wade, grew up in Norton and farms and ranches with his father here. She is originally from Iola, in southeast Kansas. She and Wade have three girls — Bailey, 10; Casey, 8; and Jessica, 6. After staying home with her children, she went back to school and finished her teaching degree at Fort Hays State University. After graduating in 2002, she took a job in Lenora teaching fifth and sixth grade. She and her family like to spend a lot of time at the lake on their boat and also spend a lot of time on the farm taking care of their many animals.

Chance McKinney — Industrial Arts



Chance McKinney will be teaching industrial arts in Norton and will also be the assistant coach in both junior high football and high school wrestling. He grew up in Stockton and attended Fort Hays State University, where he received Bachelor's degrees in technology studies and secondary education with a minor in history and a certificate in philosophy; biblical studies. This will be his second year of teaching. He taught woods and metal classes at Lincoln, Kan., last year. He said when he got the opportunity to move home, he didn't hesitate to take the opportunity. Last December, he married Amy Griffin of Almena. He said he loves activities that require being outdoors and exercise, weight lifting, Bible studies, listening to music and being with family and friends. He said he is looking forward to being part of such a great tradition, both scholastically and athletically.

Melissa Ross — K-8 Counselor



Melissa Ross will be a counselor for kindergarten through eighth grade and the junior high student council sponsor in Norton. She grew up on a farm near Long Island and graduated from Northern Valley High School. She received a history/secondary education degree from Washburn University and taught social studies at Chapman and TMP-Marian high schools. She earned a Master's degree in counseling from Fort Hays State University and was a counselor for Topeka Public Schools last year. She will also be serving on the board of the Kansas Counseling Association this year.

Cheri Brooks — First Grade



Cheri Brooks will begin her first year of teaching at Eisenhower Elementary at the first grade level. This will be her seventh year teaching overall. She has previously taught kindergarten, first grade and second grade at Lenora Elementary for six years. She was born and raised in Norton and graduated from Norton Community High School in 1995. She attended the University of Nebraska in Kearney, where she played basketball for the Lopers for four years, graduating in 2000 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and an endorsement in physical education K-9. She and her husband, Bart Brooks, were married in the summer of 2000. They live on a farm near Clayton and have a three-year-old daughter, Addison Brooks. She said she enjoys working with kids, swimming, and spending time with her family, as well as watching and playing a variety of sports.

Erin Manning — Computer Applications



Erin Manning will be teaching seventh and eighth grade computer applications at Norton Junior High School. The eighth grade class will be responsible for video news casts that will air on Channel 56. Mrs. Manning graduated from Fort Hays State University in 2001 with a degree in business education. She has lived in Norton for the past four years. Her husband, Chad, is an owner of End Zone Sports and Office Supply.

Sandra Dole — 3- & 4-Year Old Preschool



Sandra Dole will be teaching the three- and four-year old preschool program at Northern Valley. This is her first year teaching, but she has been a substitute teacher for about five years. She graduated from University of Nebraska at Kearney with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Unified. She lives east of Almena on a farm with her husband, Dick, and their family. They have four children — Bobby, Casey, Matthew and Staci.

George Griffith — 7-12 Science



George Griffith will be teaching 7-12 science at Northern Valley and will also be the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. He has been teaching for eight years and came back to Northern Valley from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), where he was a science consultant. Before working for KSDE, he taught science for three years at Northern Valley and also taught eighth grade science for four years in Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Griffith has a Master's in educational administration from Fort Hays State and is currently working on his Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction at Kansas State University. He grew up in DuBois, Penn., where most of his family still live. He now lives in Almena with his wife, Cheri. He has four step-children — Seth, Jason, Nathan and Kristin, who live throughout Kansas.

Becky Carter — Third & Fourth Grade



Becky Carter begins her first year of teaching with the third/fourth grade combo class. However, only four third graders are expected. Previously, Miss Carter was the director of Little Cats Daycare in Lenora. She is a graduate of Jennings High School and of Kansas State University. She completed her student teaching at Ogden Elementary in Geary County. During her free time, Miss Carter enjoys horseback riding, art, reading and trapshooting. She is a member of the Jennings Library Board and the Pastor/Parish Committee of the Jennings United Methodist Church. Miss Carter lives in Jennings.

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