

Chalkboard

Kansas State University

February/ March Issue 2010

Notes from the Editors: Katherine Hanrahan and Ashley Heptig

Hey everyone! Can you believe how quickly this year is going? I am one of the new Chalkboard editors and very excited. I am a sophomore here at Kansas State and graduated from Notre Dame de Sion in Kansas City. Spring Break is just around the corner, so before you leave make sure you take a break and read some of the fascinating articles in this February/March edition of Chalkboard. There is great insight into the life of Education students themselves! In addition there is Open House information and stories from the past. I hope everyone has a SAFE and WONDERFUL Spring Break and will be eagerly waiting to join us back at our regular Education Council meeting Tuesday, April 6, 2010.

XOXO, Katie

Greetings future Teachers! I'm super excited to be a co-editor this semester for the Chalkboard. I will start out by telling you about myself. I am from Winfield, Kansas, and I'm a junior in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Social Science. I transferred to Kansas State from a community college in south central Kansas with an Associate's degree in Elementary Education. I am also in the Pride of Wildcat Land Marching Band and the Cat Band for basketball games. I hope everyone is having a great semester so far and have a wonderful rest of the semester. Enrollment is right around the corner so make sure to get into the education office and sign-up for your enrollment appointment with your advisor.

Stay Purple and Go Cats!!! ~~Ashley

In This Issue

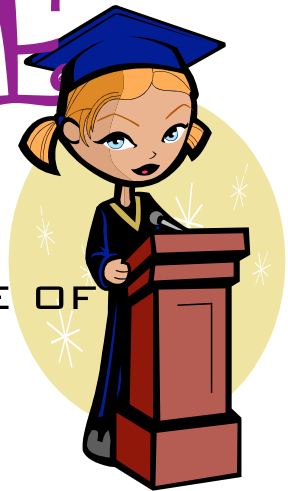
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OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH

WHERE: BLUEMONT HALL

WHAT: COME AND SEE WHAT THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION HAS TO OFFER CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS!



Some of the Activities Will Include:

"Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?"

Make it and Take it Art Projects

Balloon Animals

Learn How to Play Boccia

Meet with Advisors

And many other fun family oriented activities!

Join us for a day of fun!



Open House Memories
Joel Hardy
Education Council President

As Open House comes closer, I cannot help but think about last year's Open House and reflect fondly on it. Last year, I was one of two Open House chairs and even now I still get exhausted thinking about all that went into it; the planning, the meetings, the organizing. It seemed as though nothing was getting done and both of us felt like pulling our hair out more than once. I think that there were even one or two times when I was almost dead certain that Open House was going to have to be cancelled because it seemed as though nothing at all was getting done. The year started off slow actually. The whole first semester, there was really nothing to do. I think my co-chair and I met a total of maybe two times with each other and with our advisor. We spent that time basically planning on what we were going to do for the second semester.

*The Haps in
the College of
Ed*

February:

- 2- Ed Council Meeting,
7:30, BH 021
- 15- KNEA-SP, 7:30,
Union Ballroom
- 15- CEC Meeting, 7:30,
BH 3rd Floor
- 18- Ed Council Meeting,
7:30, BH 021

March:

- 2- Ed Council Meeting,
7:30, BH 021
- 14- Daylight Savings
Begins
- 15-19- **SPRING BREAK**
- 22- Last Day to drop a
course with a "W"
- 22- Enrollment Begins

That was when the "fun" started. From January until late March was nothing short of a whirlwind of activity. So many questions kept going through our minds. Did we have enough balloons ordered? Did we get enough tables and stakes? Did we have everything that we needed from all of the organizations? As I said before, it seemed as though nothing was going to get done. Eventually though, I started to see some kind of light at the end of the tunnel. I actually started to think that things were not only going to go, but go well.

Finally, the big day arrived. I arrived at Bluemont bright and early — 7:00 a.m. to be exact. Balloons were blown up, signs were staked into the ground, and organizations started to arrive and set up their displays and booths. The next few hours were a blur for me. It seems as though I was everywhere at once, making sure that everything was going as smoothly as possible. I did not have to worry. I was working with some outstanding people and everything seemed to be running itself. I actually started to enjoy myself...making balloon art for all of the kids that came through.

Eventually, things started to wind down and the guests started to filter out. Then the very long process of clean up started. This was a very long process as we were all tired from the events of the day, and we had to take our time

setting things up again. Soon though, Bluemont Hall looked better than it did before we started and we were all finally able to breathe a sigh of relief and look on a job well done. Open House '09 was a tremendous success, and I am proud to have been a part of it. I have no doubt at all that this year's event will be better than last year, so I encourage you all to come and check it out. I promise you will not regret it.

College of Education Open House
Danielle Spellmeier
Sophomore in Elementary Education

It's almost that time of year; at least it is for Open House at K-State. Open House is set for Saturday, April 24, 2010. The University has picked the theme for this year and it is board games. Since we're a College of Education, what better to do than "Are You Smarter Than a 5th grader?" for our college's theme?

Kappa Delta Pi, Ambassadors, CEC, Business Education Club, and a few other organizations within the College of Education are all going to help out to make it fun and exciting for the children. A few of the activities that are planned to be going on the day of Open House are going to be a make it and take it art for children, learn how to play bocchia, and balloon animals.

If you are wanting to be a part of the College of Education's Open House please let Amanda Hassman, ahassman@k-state.edu, Kathleen Sexton, ksexton@k-state.edu, or me, Danielle Spellmeier, dspell@k-state.edu, know so we can let you know what we're going to be needing help with that day.

5 Tips for Student Teaching
Amanda Hassman

I am one of three Open House Co-Chairs for the College of Education Student Council this year. In addition to my service on the Council, I am currently student teaching at Lee Elementary School in Manhattan. Because of my experiences in the schools, and my contact with other pre-service teachers, I have created my own "Top 5 Tips of Student Teaching" for future teachers completing their blocked classes. I asked myself the question, "What do student teachers need to know before they begin their semester?"

1. No, you will no longer have "homework" but you will still spend many hours each week working before and after school to create lesson plans and materials. It becomes your full-time job.
2. It is important to plan out your finances for the semester ahead of time to always know your spending limits. You do not have to buy textbooks but will still pay for 16 hours of tuition as well as campus privilege fees.

3. Think long term. You will still complete a portfolio and it will, in some ways, be more detailed than the ones you made for blocked classes.
4. Prepare your materials for lessons by the time you leave school the day before the lesson is taught. Inevitably, there will be a day when you wake up too sick to go to school and will likely not want to be at school at 6:30 a.m. preparing worksheets, manipulatives, etc.
5. If you are in elementary education, be prepared to do a lot of detailed day-to-day planning. You never know where your students will be on Tuesday until after you finish your lesson on Monday.

The New Blocks *Shannon Lindstrom*

This has been the first year for something very different at K-State, and from now on, every College of Education Elementary student will be a part of it. The new blocks for the Elementary Education Program made their debut last fall. I was fortunate enough to be part of the first set of students going through the new program. So far, I love it!

Although I have found some advantages and disadvantages going through the program, I feel like the benefits strongly outweigh the bad. One of my favorite parts of the new Block A was meeting all of my fellow classmates, and getting to go through the next three semesters with the same group of people. I also really enjoyed my teachers in Block A. They taught us a lot and really prepared us for being out in the classroom. I know some of the students I have talked to that were in the old blocks, say that learning how to write lesson plans earlier will really benefit us new block people. None of them had that experience, and then they were expected to write lesson plans and present them the next week. I'm glad I could write lesson plans with confidence when entering Block B. Block A was a great experience for me, and it made me very excited for my future.

Even though I am not too far into the new Block B, I feel like I have already learned so much. One downfall of being part of the guinea pig bunch this semester is the fact that we don't really know quite how everything is going to work. This includes our teachers, cooperating teachers, and of course us students. Everyone is learning. I feel closer to my teachers because we are all learning together. A great thing about walking into my first class period of Block B was seeing everyone I knew from the previous block. We really did form a bond last semester. I am looking forward to what the rest of Block B has in store for us, and can't wait to see how Block C goes. That's right Block C, another addition to the new program. Overall, we are all learning and growing as teachers, and I am sure all of us are excited to get into the classroom even more.

How to Succeed in College

Chuck Fischer

Through my three years of being an Education major I have learned a few things. First, friendship is vitally important to success. Without friends in your classes, not only is it difficult to get motivated to go to class, it's often difficult to enjoy class. Another great thing about having friends in your classes is that when it is group project time, often you can work with your friends. Additionally, it's nice to be able to walk into a room after the bell and know that someone is saving you a spot and you don't have to sit in a place that's out of your comfort zone.

The second important thing I have learned while being an Education major is the extreme powers of the little black bean. Coffee has been a staple in schools since dinosaur times and it is still the chosen "wake-up call" of thousands of students here on campus. With working till 10 p.m. and then writing those ever time-consuming papers till the wee hours of the morning, it's almost a law to start the morning off with the coffee cup full of fresh coffee. I know I couldn't make it to those 8:30 classes without it.

Finally, getting involved is a good tip to becoming successful in college. Having joined Education Council has made me much more responsible and a better leader. Being a sophomore and having to plan an event over the summer for the first week of classes was something I would have just put off until the last week before. Now having been given so much responsibility, Darla, Joel, and I had the thing planned before we even left for the summer. Whether you want to join Education Council or just an intramural team, getting involved in something that requires your time and is not related to a certain class is great. Plus it always looks good on the resume.

*Every child should know some scrap of
uninterrupted sky to shout against;
And have one star, dependable and
bright, for wishing on.*

Anonymous

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