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# SPRING HILL

SCHOOLS  
MAGAZINE

A PUBLICATION OF USD 230 | SPRING 2023



CREATIVELY  
CRAFTY P.10

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# FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Once again, another school year has come to a close. On the surface, it may appear that a 174 day school is an eternity, but while some days may seem longer than others, the year passes fast.

A big part of what makes a school year seem to pass so quickly is the continual remarkable talents on display daily from our students at all grade levels.

One (of many) particular areas which all students have an opportunity to put their talents on display is through art. Our students begin exploring the world of art as early as pre-school, and that exploration can continue at every step along the path to graduation.

In April, the Spring Hill District Administrative Center featured more than 150 individual pieces of student artwork across the K-12 spectrum throughout the building, and I must say without hesitation, the work was incredible.

Art education in USD 230 is an essential component of a well-rounded curriculum that assists with developing critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, and communication skills.

Research has also shown that students participating actively in art education perform better in other academic subjects such as math and reading. In addition, art education has been shown to improve memory and concentration.

This edition of Spring Hill Schools Magazine highlights two USD 230 high school students who work as artists, our own elementary art



program at Wolf Creek Elementary School, and a profile of one of our many talented art teachers Mr. Brad Reinking.

No doubt about it that USD 230 has many talented students in the realm of art.

On a different note, I do want to say thank you to everyone for helping me get acclimated to USD 230 during this past school year. I definitely have enjoyed most every day learning all things associated with USD 230.

Enjoy this edition of Spring Hill Schools Magazine, and it is my hope that you will have a relaxing summer. Maybe you'll even find time to do some art work in the sand of either your backyard or on a beach.

As always, feel free to reach out to me at any time with thoughts or questions. Talk to you soon and do know that I truly am proud to represent USD 230 daily as Superintendent of Schools.

Talk to you again soon,

*Link W. Luttrell*

Link W. Luttrell, Ed.D  
Superintendent  
Twitter: @usd230supt

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# SPRING 2023

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Cover Photo:

Lily Haney, SHHS Student Journalist

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**Spring Hill Early Learning Academy @SHEarlyLearningAcademy**  
Hazel the Cow stopped by SHELA to show our students how milk is made! [#Learn230](#)



**Dayton Creek Elementary @DCESCavaliers**  
Eight of our fifth graders went to the KC Metro Science Fair! The top two projects from each class were selected to represent DCES at Union Station. [#Learn230](#)



**Prairie Creek Elementary @PCESMustangs**  
Kindergarten students enjoyed a royal tea party with magic tricks and dancing! A grand time was had by all. [#Learn230](#)



**Spring Hill Elementary @SHESColts**  
Fourth grade STEM students got to learn a few principles of animation for their stop motion animation project from the district's Communication & Engagement department! [#Learn230](#)



**Timber Sage Elementary @TSES Rangers**  
Five Rangers were selected to participate and perform in the 2023 Elementary All-State Choir in Wichita, KS. It was a great, music-filled day with famous composer Jim Papoulis! [#Learn230](#)



**Wolf Creek Elementary @WCESWranglers**  
Our third grade students shared about the history of Spring Hill! [#Learn230](#)



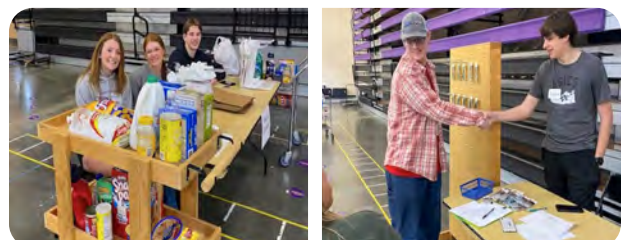
**Spring Hill Middle @SHMSMavericks**  
Sixth grade social studies classes built and tested chinampas, or floating gardens, as a wrap-up to their Meso-America unit! [#Learn230](#)



**Woodland Spring Middle @WSMSStallions**  
Eighth grade ELA students are reviewing persuasive terms/techniques in preparation for state assessments. They are creating commercials to "sell" a product using those terms/techniques! [#Learn230](#)



**Spring Hill High @SHHS\_Broncos**  
SHHS hosted a Job Olympics event with students showcasing their job skills and practicing job interviews! [#Learn230](#)







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# GRAPHIC DESIGN FUTURE

*Story by Marissa Winkel, SHHS Student Journalist*

**Some students take the graphic design courses for a path towards a design career or to lead them towards other things it could benefit for.**



*Caleb Brewer, student, works on a new shirt design.*

Students at the high school have the opportunity to take courses in graphic design. These courses, taught by art teacher Brad Reinking, teach students how to create art through Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and other platforms. Many graphic design students have participated in design contests that have given opportunities to win prize money, and students have also created logo designs for school organizations and other clients. One of just two students this year who took the highest level of graphic design in high school is taking advantage of these benefits to lead him toward his career after high school.

Caleb Brewer, a junior at SHHS, found that taking the graphic design courses is his calling. After discovering the many possibilities of his work in creating art through immaculate technology, he decided to lead his future toward getting a degree in graphic design.

After taking two years of graphic design courses, he decided to advance to this third year pursuing Project Management.

This course proceeds after Graphic Design I and II giving students a chance to excel in ways that could benefit them for real-world scenarios. "[There are] t-shirts we [make] for different clubs and programs that we have here in the [high school], and we [design] posters and what not," Brewer said.

While the previous courses focus primarily on the aspects of computer graphics, Project Management allows students to create their own projects and print them on t-shirts. Located in a subdivision of the graphic design classroom is a large machine that students use to construct the t-shirts. Despite the advancements this class entailed, Brewer had reasons to move on to this course.



"I wanted to continue making designs for the school and learning how we make the t-shirts here, and just the basics of it...I chose [to take on Project Management] because I want to do graphic design as my career, and so I wanted to take all three classes that the [high school] offers," he said.

## SPRING HILL HIGH SCHOOL BRONCO PRIDE

Brewer has had his own experiences of providing t-shirts for the Bronco merchandise store. He said this opportunity was the coolest experience he had this year in Project Management as he even earned revenue off of his finished product. Brewer spoke on how much it takes to be a graphic designer.

"It's going to be rough because you've got to learn new things....you've got to be patient and go along with the process of it. I'm always learning new things just as the days go on," Brewer said. "It was really hard in the beginning [of learning how to graphic design]."



While Project Management brings t-shirt making into the picture, Brewer mentioned that his graphic design career will likely not incorporate shirt making, but could remain to

be a hobby of his. He elaborated on what process he goes through in his projects.

"We first get our design [and] we create it...We would make a silk screen [where] we could put the ink and the shirt, and we put the silk screen over....[Then] we dry the shirts, and we put them out [in the Bronco store]."

Brewer has also created t-shirt and poster designs for the Zombie Prom play, as well as designs for forensics, band, concerts, and many others. He is most proud of several of his previous projects, one

of which was a design for Girl Scout Troop 3343. He's also helped to design t-shirts for the high school's art department now giving all the art teachers their own unique t-shirt design.

This year is also Brewer's second year taking Photo Imaging and Video Production; both of these classes could also help

him toward his career. In Photo Imaging, Brewer discovered that he could take photos that he could then graphically design through a computer. While editing his photos using Adobe Photoshop, it was simple for him as he already had experience using Photoshop. While Video Production was something he took for fun, this class also teaches him the concept of creating content a client likes similar to that of a career in graphic design.

"They've helped me to be better at seeing multiple sides of how different softwares work because you can use different softwares to make designs and they [can] contribute to each other....and video production helps me with my communication skills."

Brewer plans to take this experience in high school and incorporate it toward his degree upon reaching college. He has had great experiences in learning how to design, physically put his own design on a t-shirt, and has even taken advantage of those abilities in his other classes. He plans to work for businesses and more one day; he's discovered this great interest of his and could use it to impact businesses all around the world.



### ABOUT THE JOURNALIST

*My name is Marissa Winkel and I am a senior this year at SHHS. This year, I am the high school yearbook and website's copy editor, and I am also the managing editor of the high school website! I absolutely love what I do in Student Publications, and I can't wait to see where I go in my journey of journalism after high school. I believe one should do what they are passionate about; this is my passion!*

# MIDDLE SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Story by Hannah King SHHS Student Journalist



Students move through the halls of WSMS.

**Woodland Spring Middle School offers a new course where students can be an assistant for the teacher. The new Ambassador Program has given Woodland Spring elective choices a complete makeover.**

Mrs. Wells is the middle counselor and wants to create as many options for the students as possible.

After meeting with students, she realized that many students struggle to pursue their interests with the limited options. The passion was not missing, the courses were. The Ambassador Program creates a unique opportunity for students to further their education in a specific subject after they have taken the course. Cameron Donahay is an 8th grade ambassador for an English class and has various duties.

"English is one of my favorite subjects. I'm not the best at it, but I like to read and I like learning about english," Donahey said.

"What that all entails is, you're working with the teacher to assist, like a teachers assistant. I usually get things from the copy machine, print things, and I do lessons some time," Donahey said.

Ben McConaughy is also an 8th grader at Woodland Spring Middle and is an ambassador for 6th grade science. He made a goal to help the students respect their teacher and pay attention.

"It gives you a higher sense of responsibility and it's always good to have those privileges because not only do you learn more about yourself but also how you think and how you handle things." McConnohughey said.

The Ambassador program connects students in different grade levels. Hannah Mathy is an ambassador for Computer Science. She uses the class to prepare her for her future career in software engineering.

"I think it helps grow leadership a lot and that's really important for our future. I have taught the class before and it helped with my communication skills and seeing how they took in the information and how to change it," Mathy said.

The Ambassador program has stepped up Spring Hill's elective options and helped the students learn more about themselves.

Spring Hill is always improving and innovating when it comes to education. The Ambassador program is just one simple proof that the future of Spring Hill is bright and coming.



## ABOUT THE JOURNALIST

*My name is Hannah King and I am a Sophomore at Spring Hill High School. This is my first year on the student publications staff. We live in a world full of people who have different experiences, opinions, and perspectives that deserve to be shared, so my goal is to reach my community through journalism and inspire my peers.*





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*Ruby Dickie, student, practices her pottery skills.*

# CREATIVELY CRAFTY

*Story and photo by Lily Haney, SHHS Student Journalist*

**The high school offers many art classes, creating an outlet for the artists in the school. One of these artists is Ruby Dickie, 12.**

Dickie has taken many art classes since she was a freshman. She has taken painting, drawing, and ceramics. Majority of her time at school is spent in the ceramics room. Being a Ceramics Seven Student, she is able to create her own assignments and make any piece she wants. Dickie's favorite pottery piece to make is mugs.

"They are just so fun and cute," Dickie said. "There are so many different ways to make them, like patterns, textures, and forms you can do. They just make me really happy so I make them a lot."

Dickie's love for ceramics traces back to her older sister, Amanda. She saw her artwork, loved it, and wanted to give it a try, too.

Since then, she fell in love with pottery. Dickie has won several ribbons for her artwork. Last year, she won a throwing competition at an art competition the high school attended. She currently has many pieces of work lined up to appear in upcoming spring shows.

Dickie makes a variety of pieces, and she draws her inspiration from other artists in the world.

"I draw inspiration from a bunch of different artists. I see other artists do things and I want to try them because they are techniques I have never done before."

Some artists are perfectionists with their art; however, Dickie does not believe in this mindset.



66 It's kind of nice to have the idea that somebody, somewhere out there is drinking their morning coffee from your mug. That's kind of adorable. 99



All artwork created by Ruby Dickie, student.

"That's kind of my thing, I'm not a perfectionist. I make stupid little mistakes all the time, I've learned from those mistakes and so I'm pretty picky on details now. I mess things up all the time [but still keep and finish the piece]."

Dickie is moving up in the world of art, now selling her ceramic pieces at Sweet Tee's Coffee Shop and on Instagram. Dickie mostly sells mugs, but she also does commission pieces. Creating and being able to sell her work gives Dickie a sense of joy.

After high school, Dickie plans to go to school for aesthetics. She would like to continue creating art on the side, specifically her ceramic pieces.



Dickie said people have told her they wish they could make creative pieces like hers, and she rebuts this, claiming to struggle with finding her creativity at times. Dickie believes everyone can express their creativity in some form or another. She believes every person has a sense of creativity, they just need to work with it.

Each person has their own thing. Dickie still believes to be in search of hers despite having artistic talents. She is in search of what makes her happy, and she believes others should find that, as well.

"If you don't think you're artistic, find something that makes you happy and find something that makes you excited and find your thing. Make what makes you happy."



#### ABOUT THE JOURNALIST

Hey! My name is Lily Haney and I'm a senior at the high school. In addition to being the editor in chief for the Stampede News website for SPUB, I do StuCo, color guard, basketball, track, and National Honor Society. Writing has brought me lots of joy, and I can only hope my writing will do the same for others!

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# BRADLEY REINKING:

## A LOOK BACK

Story by Blake McLaughlin, SHHS Student Journalist

**For 37 years, Mr. Reinking has been instilling a passion for art into his students. First being hired at Spring Hill in 1991, Reinking would simultaneously teach elementary, middle, and high school students.**

As Spring Hill grew, so did the district; Reinking was moved to just teaching at the high school.

"I still taught art 1, 2, 3, and 4 for four or five years. I told them, we're getting bigger and getting more interest. We need to separate this out into drawing and painting and ceramics," said Reinking.

It wasn't until the late 90's that Spring Hill High School would start offering more focused art classes, most notably ceramics. While other mediums like painting and drawing had, for the most part, come and went for him; ceramics has remained one of Reinking's most fruitful.

While attending Bethany College, Reinking would partake in an abundance of art classes but none of his professors would affect him like his ceramics professor, Ray Kahmeyer.

"It was really the professor I gravitated towards... In college I had learned to paint a certain way and they wanted me to paint a different way. [Kahmeyer] was laid back and just a super person. Really calm and relaxing, I never heard him raise his voice. I really got to know him well and liked him... I'm glad I did because I really enjoy ceramics."

Reinking also has a passion for teaching graphic design. He grew an interest in it through one of his students. He quickly became infatuated with the program and graphic design.

"It is how quick, direct, and spontaneous it is. You can click a button and get immediate



Bradley Reinking, 2023 (above).  
Bradley Reinking, 1991 (left).

results in... For a few years, I tried to get them to start a graphic design program. It took a couple years before it happened.

Sadly, this school year is Mr. Reinking's last. He will be retiring after 32 years in Spring Hill. While reflecting on his tenured career, Reinking most remembers the students who share the same passion he does for art.

"I'm really proud of having those students that are professionals or making a living, doing art, or even being an art teacher."

Almost poetically, one of Mr. Reinking's former students: Sydney Goldman, will be taking the reins of ceramics next school year. Almost 10 years after Mr. Reinking last gave her advice as a student, he can as his successor:

"Do not get bored with it. Don't get caught in a rut, always be looking for the next better thing to be doing."



### ABOUT THE JOURNALIST

*My name is Blake McLaughlin, I am a Junior at Spring Hill High School. This is my second year in Student Publications and my first year as Design Editor. I love hearing students and staff tell their stories. Everyone, no matter their age, profession, or interests, has a unique story to tell and it's a privilege to get to share them.*



# ART THROUGH THE AGES

Story by Faye Dent, SHHS Student Journalist



*Michelle Seichepine, teacher, helps a student during art class.*

**“You let people be free like butterflies.” Rylan Hojnacki, third grade, said.**

Last year, Michelle Seichepine, introduced global art into the classroom. This year, she has been teaching the kids about the history of art. They started with caveman paintings, and are now studying Claude Monet’s impressionist paintings.

“When we did the Mona Lisa, we smeared oil pastels and traced the picture,” Molly Helms, fifth grade, said.

To make sure art is consistently interesting and interactive for the kids, Mrs. Seichepine makes sure to change up the lessons each year. She researches art ideas for the kids at the school to make sure it is fun and exciting, and of course, unique.

“[There’s] so much use of technology nowadays. Everything we do is hands-on, it uses a different part of your brain. You have to be messy to create.” Seichepine said.

Showing off the kids’ creations is very important to demonstrate how hard they work. The Bean Coffee Shop on Main Street displays the kids’ artwork, as well as the Spring Hill Civic Center. There is also artwork presented around the school.

All of the kids vastly enjoy different aspects of their art class, even still with historical importance. Rylee Meek enjoys the videos sent in by Seichepine’s mom explaining the artwork processes.

When Seichepine is explaining historical themes and the influential people of art, she does accents for her characters and the people they learn about.

When they learned about the Mona Lisa, Seichepine told them about the extensive level of security surrounding the painting, and the aggressive efforts made to deface the face. There was a more favorable, in the eyes of the students, attempt to ruin the painting in which a full cake was thrown at the Mona Lisa.

Not only were the kids extremely excited about the history of art, they ended up bringing up a lot of other work they completed last year.

“You asking questions makes me unlock memories,” Meek said. “[I made] a 3D sloth.”

Seichepine said, “I always do the art with the kids. You need to know the steps to do it, and you need to know how to teach it.”



*A student works on a masterpiece in Michelle Seichepine’s art class.*



## ABOUT THE JOURNALIST

My name is Faye Dent and I’m a junior at SHHS. In addition to SPUB, I do backstage for the shows at the high school, I was in Scholars Bowl, and I work at Panda Express. While I enjoy writing for SPUB, I also really enjoy writing basically anything in my free time. I am currently working on improving my poetry.

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# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## ARTISTS OF SPRING HILL



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*Class of 2018*

Occupation: Full-time Potter  
[www.drtpottery.com](http://www.drtpottery.com)

### MEREDITH SHEA

*Class of 2009*

Occupation: Art Director at  
 MMGY Global  
[www.mereshea.com](http://www.mereshea.com)

### RYAN BOSSE

*Class of 2008*

Occupation: Design  
 Director/Co-Owner of  
 Progress Goods  
[www.progressgoods.com](http://www.progressgoods.com)

### EZEKIEL CROZIER

*Class of 2002*

Occupation: Retired Army/  
 Artist/Speaker  
[www.HandyCappin.org](http://www.HandyCappin.org)

### SHAWN LAVERY

*Class of 2001*

Occupation: Graphic  
 Designer/Animator at  
 TransSystems



**TANNER  
GERSTBERGER**

"I took my first pottery class when I was eight, and that sparked my interest in creating with clay. In high school, that's where I really fell in love with clay."



**MEREDITH  
SHEA**

"No matter how "successful" somebody seems, everyone starts as a beginner. It takes a lot of hours and hard work to get to where you want to be. Practice makes progress. Try new things, fail forward, and try some more."



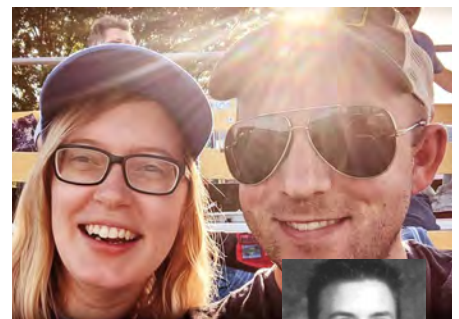
**RYAN  
BOSSE**

"I had always been interested in drawing. Being encouraged at a young age to pursue art/drawing was huge. It's really all I wanted to do in my free time."



**EZEKIEL  
CROZIER**

"While serving in the military, I suffered a severe traumatic brain injury and my left side was partially paralyzed. I found a therapeutic outlet where I create art by hitting bottle caps with a mallet to smash them and I realized it was improving my hand/eye coordination and motor skills. From handicapped to *Handy-Cappin!*"



**SHAWN  
LAVERY**

"I've loved art since I was a child. I started out like everyone else, stick figures, eventually renting or buying "draw with me" style art books that included steps to draw favorite Star Wars characters. I always immersed myself in different types of art which helped inspire more creativity."



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