Ballot Question:

Shall Unified School District No. 347, Edwards County, Kansas (Kinsley-Offerle), issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed $5,900,000, to pay the costs to: (a) construct, furnish and equip additions to the existing Junior/Senior High School building, including but not limited to HVAC systems, computer infrastructure, plumbing, lighting, restrooms, Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility measures; (b) construct, furnish and equip renovations to the existing Junior/Senior High School building, including additional parking areas and classrooms; (c) construct, furnish and equip renovations to the existing Elementary School building, including but not limited to HVAC systems, computer infrastructure, plumbing, lighting, restrooms, and Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility measures; (d) make all other necessary improvements appurtenant thereto (collectively the “Project”); and (e) pay costs of issuance on said general obligation bonds in the District and make all other necessary appurtenances thereto; all pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 10-101 et seq.; K.S.A. 25-2018(f); K.S.A. 72-6761; and K.S.A. 75-2315 et seq.? 

Project Financing:

If approved by the voters, the project will be financed through the sale of general obligation bonds. It is anticipated that the bonds will be structured with a 20-year repayment schedule at an average interest rate of approximately 3.35%. Under the current school finance formula, the State of Kansas will pay 13% of all principal and interest payments on the bonds.

State Aid for Bond Issues:

Under the current school finance formula, the State of Kansas will pay 13% of all principal and interest payments due on the District’s bond issues that will be paid by the State of Kansas.

Current Interest Rates:

Interest rates for municipal bonds are currently well below the average for the past 20 years. Earlier in 2012, interest rates on municipal bonds set a record low rate for the past 50 years. In fact, according to the Bond Buyer 20 General Obligation Bond Index, interest rates on municipal bonds have been higher 98.9% of the time since 1987. (See chart below.)

Continued on page 2.
District Newsletter

September 7, 2012

Continued from page 1...

Projected Mill Levy Increase

In 2012/2013, the Bond & Interest Fund Mill Levy of the District was 0 mills. With voter approval of the proposed project, the District’s Bond & Interest Fund mill levy is projected to increase to 13.90 mills. The increase to the taxpayers in the District from the proposed bond election is expected to be 13.90 mills.

Historical Total Mill Levy

The following table shows the total mill levy of the District for all funds, including the Bond & Interest Fund. As you will notice, the total mill levy of the District has been as high as 75 mills and is currently 45.99 mills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>Historical Total Mill Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991-1992</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-1993</td>
<td>43.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-1994</td>
<td>44.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-1995</td>
<td>44.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-1996</td>
<td>48.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>43.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>43.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>43.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>42.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>42.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>36.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The School Finance Formula changed in 1992 and resulted in a lower property tax mill levy for local taxpayers in the District.

Additional Cost of the Bond Issue

The anticipated additional cost to a taxpayer with a home that has an appraised value of $100,000, $150,000 or $200,000 in the District from this bond issue assuming a mill levy increase of 13.90 mills is set forth in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY</th>
<th>2012-13 Bond &amp; Interest Mill Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 Home</td>
<td>$29.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 Home</td>
<td>$59.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000 Home</td>
<td>$89.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Election Day is November 6

Title One Program for USD 347

By Lisa Ebert
KOES Teacher

The Title 1 program for USD 347 is a federally funded program intended to provide reinforcement and enrichment in the areas of reading and math. The program serves students in grades kindergarten through 6th and is staffed with one certified teacher and three para-professionals. The teacher is Mrs. Lisa Ebert, who has held this capacity for twelve years now. The paras are Carol Neely - starting her 12th year, Kellie Katz - her 4th year, and Chrissa Bowman - her 3rd year. Criteria used to qualify a student for services include: scores below grade level on STAR reading and/or STAR math assessment, below grade level on MAP reading and/or math assessment, score below “met standards” or borderline on KCA, as well as teacher referral for skills not mastered in reading and math. A parent may also refer their child if they so wish. When students reach grade level performance and master the identified skills, they may be exited from the program. Letters for those qualifying or referred are sent to the parents two weeks after school starts.

Blanca Hernandez and Sara Swart model the uniform shirts the district purchased for the kitchen staff.
KOES Welcomes New Staff

Kinsley-Offerle Elementary is happy to welcome two new staff members to their team! Kendra Morris, Resource Room teacher, graduated from Sterling College. She comes to KOES from Lansing, KS, where she taught for seven years in a Resource Room. Kendra grew up in this area — graduating from Macksville High School. She is excited to be back in her “home” area closer to her family.

Jonathan Trackwell is a new Resource Room paraprofessional at KOES. This is his first position as a full time paraprofessional, but he has done substituting for Tri-County as a para prior to this school year. He calls Larned his hometown, but he attended school at Cowley County, KU, and Chapman University in CA. Jonathon’s background is creative writing so in his “spare” time he enjoys writing screenplays.

Welcome to Kinsley-Offerle Elementary and to USD 347!

A Show of Hands

By Jennifer Thomas
KOES Teacher

Third graders at KOES are back and ready to learn. Students have been taking STAR reading and math tests so they can begin AR and AM and many students jumped at the chance to check out their first books of the year from the school’s library. It’s wonderful to see so many familiar faces in the hall and I’ve enjoyed meeting the new students as well. Open House was August 21, and I was pleased with the number of parents and students who attended. I enjoyed getting to meet the families of the students and it was a great time to cover the “basics” of third grade. Third Graders created individual posters called “A Show of Hands -- Who Think 3rd Grade is Awesome” and it is great to see the number of hands drawn to show student’s enthusiasm. Thank you to all who could attend Open House and I am looking forward to a wonderful school year! A “Show of Hands” who agree!
KJSHS Welcomes New Students and Staff

By Taran Thorp  
Staff Reporter

Justin Dwight Fisher

Justin is from Salina, Kansas. He came to Kinsley to come to Kinsley Junior Senior High School; his cousin, Brooke Hattrup, told him about our school. He is in tenth grade. He said, “I like it here. There’s not a lot of drama.”

Justin’s favorite sport is football; therefore he is the ball manager for the Coyote football team. Country is his favorite type of music, and his favorite music artist is Justin Moore. He wants to be a plumber. Justin’s favorite subject in school is computers. He has a dog, but his favorite animal is a snake. If he could combine two animals he would choose the anaconda and eagle, and name it Angle. He likes to go fishing. His favorite number is seven. Justin’s favorite quote is “What goes around comes around.” Adam Sandler is his role model. His favorite food is a cheeseburger. He explains his style as laid back. Blue is his favorite color. Something unique about him is he’s a dramatic person.

By Dayna Haynes  
Staff Reporter

Mrs. Boese is our new teacher in the Resource Room. She had been a para for nine weeks before, but this is her first year teaching in her own classroom. She just moved here from San Angell, Texas, because her husband wanted to be closer to his family, who are from Kinsley. Her favorite hobby is watching television (most people’s new favorite past-time). When she was in high school she didn’t play any sports; however, she was on her school’s yearbook staff. Her favorite book series is Outlander by Diana Gabaldon. Something people wouldn’t expect of her would be that she has three tattoos. On her foot there are the Chinese symbols for Live Laugh Love. One on her shoulder is of a butterfly, and the last are daisies on her hip. The reason she wanted to become a teacher was to bring new life to old concepts and broaden the spectrum for teaching.

Lacy Steele

Lacy Steele is a new student here at KJSHS. She is in eighth grade. She came from Oklahoma. The best thing that happened to her this summer was moving here to Kinsley. Her main hobby is hanging with friends. Lacy’s favorite article of clothing is her shoes. The first thing Lacy does when she gets home from school is her homework.

By Dakota Schulte  
Staff Reporter

If she could combine two animals, she would combine the lion and tiger, called the liger. There are many different jobs; she doesn’t know what she wants to be when she grows up. She considers her mom her hero! Lacy likes all kinds of food, but she likes pizza more than anything. She enjoys listening to music by Usher.

We are glad to have you here at KJSHS this year!

By Laura Werner  
Staff Reporter

Mrs. Ginger Butler is a new special ed teacher that we have this year. She has been a teacher for 23 years. She chose this job because she likes working with kids. She has always wanted to be a teacher since she was younger.

She has lived in Larned for 20 years. She has two daughters, Brittany, who is 15, and Brooke, who is 11. Her husband’s name is Ross, who is also a teacher. One of her favorite hobbies is reading, but she also likes to sing and play the piano, which she has known how to do since she was six. Her favorite book is The Hunger Games.

By Edwin Ramirez  
Staff Reporter

Mrs. Burghart has returned to KJSHS. Her hobbies are working outside in her garden, and she loves to swim and work with numbers. She spends a lot of time working on math problems, accounting, algebra, and geometry, even when she is not teaching. She enjoys traveling to Colorado where she climbs small mountains. Her favorite food is cheesecake. Something that no one would expect of her would be feeding cows alfalfa pellets by hand.

Free Flu Shots Available in Edwards County

By Edwin Ramirez  
Staff Reporter

The Edwards County Auxiliary hospital is giving free flu shots to all students and staff, as well as anybody in Edwards County. USD 347 school nurse Mrs. McKinney will be giving shots on October 2nd and 3rd at KJSHS. Permission slips will be given out at the end of September to sign and return to school.

If the permission slips haven’t been signed, students and staff will not get their shots that day. October 6th there will be a drive through flu shot clinic from 8 to 11. These will be given at the Edwards County Hospital. Then, after that, if you want a free shot you can go to the Midway Clinic or the Edwards County Health Department.

Mrs. McKinney says this is generous for the Auxiliary hospital to do for Edwards County.

Watch next month’s paper for more coverage of new students and staff!

Lacy's favorite color is purple. She likes football and the Chiefs is her favorite team.

By Taran Thorp  
Staff Reporter

When she was in school, she played basketball for three years. She was also on the swim team at her school in Iowa. In her free time she swims, walks, watches movies, and goes to her kids’ activities. Her favorite subject in school was social studies.

MRS. BURGHAERT KNOWS WHAT YOU NEED

Her favorite color is green. She likes a lot of animals but her favorite animals are puppies or baby calves. Her favorite thing in her classroom is the periodic table. She said there are a lot of funny moments here at KJSHS but her favorite would be whenever they blow up eggs in chemistry. She always laughs because she never knows when they will blow up and it scares her every time.
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<td>HS JV FB @ Coldwater (South Central) 6:00 pm</td>
<td>HS VB Quad @ Fowler (Ashland, Satanta) 4:00 pm</td>
<td>KJSHS &quot;0/11&quot; Ceremony</td>
<td>KOES Faculty Mtg. 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>Joint Elem. &amp; JH/HS Site Council @ KJSHS Cafeteria 5:15 pm</td>
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<td>BOE Mtg. 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>HS JV FB @ Fairfield 6:00 pm</td>
<td>HS VB Triangular @ Central Plains (Cliaflin, LaCrosse) 6:00 pm</td>
<td>KOES Progress Reports mailed</td>
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<td>No School Teacher In-Service</td>
<td>HS JV FB @ Greensburg (Kiowa County) 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>BOE Mtg. 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>29</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Event Details:**
- **September 7, 2012**: Calendar page.
- **September 8, 2012**: HS VB Tournament @ LaCrosse/Otis-Bison 9:00 am.
- **September 9, 2012**: ACT Testing @ KJSHS 8:00 am.
- **September 22, 2012**: HS Dance.
- **September 23, 2012**: No School Teacher In-Service.
- **September 24, 2012**: HS VB vs Ness City @ KINSLEY 4:00 pm.
- **September 26, 2012**: STUCO Conference @ Dodge City High School 8:30 am.
- **September 27, 2012**: HS CC @ Ness City 4:00 pm.
- **September 28, 2012**: HS FB @ St. John 7:00 pm.
- **September 29, 2012**: HS JV VB Tournament @ Central Plains (Claflin).
As some of you have noticed, there have been many changes to school menus for breakfast and lunch. I am very excited to see healthier changes come to our meals for the entire state of Kansas. These changes are different and they don’t go unnoticed. Some of the changes are smaller bread items and bigger servings of fruits and vegetables.

Sometimes change is difficult; however, it’s step in the right direction in getting school meals on a healthier track. Students should feel free to try all the new menu items, even if they are unsure they will like them. Then they can say, “Hey, I tried that, and you know what? It was pretty good.”

I have noticed that as students get into the upper grades they tend to think it’s not as “cool” to eat breakfast at school. Students should feel free to try all the new menu items, even if they are unsure they will like them. Then they can say, “Hey, I tried that, and you know what? It was pretty good.”

I’m hoping new menu items and a new way of thinking may help with this issue. Just a reminder, breakfast is available to all students PreK-12th grade. Breakfast is served at Kinsley-Offerle Elementary School in Offerle from 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m. and Kinsley-Junior Senior High School from 7:40 a.m. to 8:13 a.m. Pre-School and Kindergarten students who would like breakfast will report to the Kinsley Jr./Sr. High school cafeteria as well.

If parents feel eating more meals at school is an added expense, they may qualify for free or reduced meal benefits. To request an application for benefits please contact me. Information is confidential.

Remember, don’t be afraid to try those new menu items - you just may like them!

Healthier meals make healthier kids (and parents)!

IMPLEMENTING THE CHANGES TO NEW MEAL PATTERN STANDARDS AT HOME

Healthy meals are important at home

Your children are learning eating habits that will last a lifetime.

- Have fruits and vegetables on hand and ready to eat for a snack.
- Try whole grain versions of your favorites: pastas, cereals, tortillas, etc.
- Offer low-fat or fat-free milk at every meal.
- Make healthier versions of fast foods at home.
- Grill, broil, or bake lean protein.
- Look for great tasting, low-sugar cereals and desserts.
- Try seasoning foods with more herbs and spices instead of salt.
- Eat at home as a family more often.

**Easy Skillet Dinner**

- 1 large bag frozen vegetables
- 1 cup cooked lean ground beef or chicken pieces
- 2 cups instant brown rice, uncooked
- 1 cup low sodium broth
- 1 cup water

In a large skillet, combine vegetables, cooked meat, and rice. Add broth and water. Cook covered over medium heat for about 20 minutes until liquid is absorbed and rice is tender. Stir occasionally. Serves six.

**REMEMBER: HEALTHY CHOICES START WITH YOU**

Adapted with permission from

Child Nutrition & Wellness
120 SE 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182
(785) 296-2276
www.kade.org  www.kn-eat.org

Contact information:
Tina Strate
Food Service Director
620-659-3646
tstrate@usd347.org

See a copy of the Kansas School Meals Standards pamphlet at the bottom of this page and page 6.
### Kinsley-Offerle September Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>No School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Waffles w/ Syrup, Sausage links, Mandarin Oranges Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Breakfast Sunday, Raisins, Fruit Juice Choice, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Pepperoni Pizza, Salad w/ Romaine, Garlic Bread Stick w/ Marinara Sauce, Banana, Milk Choice</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Breakfast Bake with Salsa, Toast, Cheese Pizza, Fruit Cup, Italian Pasta Bake, Green Pepper Strips &amp; Baby Carrots, Apple Sauce, Royal Brownie, Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pumice Chocolate Chip Muffin, Cereal, Orange, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Beef &amp; Bean Burrito, Romaine &amp; Tomato, Apple Wedges, Milk Choice</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pancake on a Stick with Syrup, Tri-Tater Fruit Juice Choice, Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Star Spangled Pancakes, Sausage Links, Fruit Juice Choice, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Quick Blueberry Bubble Bread Sliced Peaches, Milk Choice</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Biscuit Breakfast Sandwich, Rosy Apple Sauce, Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Aloha Muffin Square, Cereal, Grapes, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Beef &amp; Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Baby Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits Milk Choice</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>BBQ Beef on a Bun, Sweet Potato Puffs, Baked Beans, Orange Smiles, Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Taco Soup, Tortilla Chips, Broccoli, Beans, Breaded Chicken, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Corn Dog, Garden Spinach Salad, Carrots, Strawberries, Milk Choice</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cereal, Toast, Fresh Orange, Milk Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>French Toast Strips w/ Syrup, Strawberries &amp; Bananas, Milk Choice</td>
<td>Chicken Tetrazzini Salad, Steamed Carrots, Broccoli, Milk Choice</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Beef &amp; Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Baby Carrots, Apple Wedges, Milk Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Western Omelet Quesadilla w/ Salsa, Potato Rounds, Pear, Milk Choice</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Teacher In-Service</td>
<td>Breakfast Lasagna, Fruit Cocktail, Milk Choice</td>
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<td>28</td>
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</table>

**Did you know?**

- Low-fat and fat-free milk offer as many nutrients as high-fat milks, but they are lower in fat and cholesterol.
- Kansas schools are required to offer a variety of milk with a fat content of 1% or less. If schools are offering a flavored milk, it must be fat-free.

**At home tip:** Choose low-fat (1%) or fat-free (skim) milk over 2% and whole milk. The difference adds up.

Condiments can add a significant amount of fat and sodium to meals. The new meal pattern encourages schools to control portions of high-fat and high-sodium condiments and encourages serving low-fat condiments and making healthier condiments from scratch.

**At home tip:** Dips increase calories. Try to find healthier dips like salsa or low-fat dressings and sauces for your family.

### Make the most of school meal programs for your family:

- **Encourage breakfast:** School breakfast fuels learning.
- **Know the options:** Most schools offer a variety of selections at meals. Talk with your child about healthy choices.
- **Encourage good nutrition:** Encourage your child to take and eat the fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and low-fat milk offered in school meals.

### School meals are easy and economical:

- School meals cost less than a home-packed lunch.
- School meals offer food from all of the food groups and offer a variety of healthy foods.
- School meals save parents time.

Average price for Soda + Candy Bar + Chips = $3.29
Average price for a fast food kids meal (chicken nuggets, fries/apples, milk/soda) = $3.87
Average price for a healthy school lunch in Kansas = $2.36

### School meals are a healthy choice

**Take a look at the new standards for school meals**

- **Schools serve more of the healthy foods students need:**
  - Whole Grains: Students need more whole grains for fiber and other nutrients. Look for whole grain pasta, bread, pizza and cereals in schools.
  - Fruit and Vegetables: Variety and color are good for the body. Every breakfast will have fruit or fruit juice. Every lunch will have fruit and vegetables.
  - Low-fat and Fat-free Milk: Low-fat and fat-free milk have all the nutrients without extra calories and fat. All schools will offer low-fat and fat-free milk with every meal.
  - Legumes: Beans and dry peas (legumes) are full of fiber and nutrition. Schools must offer legumes at least once a week.
  - Fiber: Fiber is good for the body as well as fulfilling. Look for fruits, vegetables, legumes and grains high in fiber in school meals.

- **Schools serve less of the foods students don’t need:**
  - Trans Fat: Trans fats are not good for your heart and raise cholesterol. Schools are eliminating foods with trans fats.
  - Sugar: High-sugar foods provide extra calories and little nutrition. Look for healthy cereals low in sugar and desserts made with less sugar.
  - Sodium: Most students consume double the recommended amount of salt/sodium. School meals have great taste, but with less salt/sodium.
  - Cholesterol: Everyone needs to watch cholesterol. High-cholesterol foods will be replaced with healthier choices in schools.
  - Condiments: Condiments are a common source of fat, salt, and sugar in meals. Schools will control portions and offer lower fat versions of condiments.

**Encourage your child to choose a healthy school meal every day!**
Yearbooks for Sale

The Kinsley High School yearbook staff has past yearbooks for sale. Books from years 1988-2008 are $10 each, books from years 2009-2011 are $30, and books from 2012 are $36. If you are interested in purchasing any of these books, please contact Mrs. Davies (mdavies@usd347.org).

Inventory is as follows:
- 1989 – 4
- 1993 – 7
- 1995 – 1
- 1997 – 5
- 1998 – 21
- 1999 – 8
- 2000 – 6
- 2002 – 25
- 2003 – 32
- 2005 – 8
- 2006 – 5
- 2007 – 10
- 2009 – 40
- 2010 – 55
- 2011 – 30
- 2012 -- 21

Now is the time to purchase your 2012-2013 yearbook. They are on sale until April 18. Cost for the book is $36 ($41 if you want personalization). You may purchase yearbooks in the high school office. Note: There will not be an excess of books ordered this year. If you want to purchase one, you must do so before the deadline in April!

Large-Scale Prints Available

The HS journalism department has a business printing full-color large-scale documents such as posters and banners. Prints are available in a variety of sizes, up to 36 inches wide. Standard sizes and prices are as follows:

- Posters: Plain/Laminated
  - Up to 11” x 17” $8/$10
  - 12” x 18” $10/$12
  - 16” x 20” $15/$18
  - 18” x 24” $20/$24
  - 20” x 30” $25/$28
  - 24” x 36” $30/$35

Banners (printed on enhanced matte vinyl):
- 24” x 36” $40
- 36” x 72” $75

Grommets for banners are $.25 each.

We can design your document for $10. Just let us know what you want.

Prices for non-standard sizes and specialty papers will be negotiated.

Please contact Melody Davies at 659-2126 or mdavies@usd347.org if you are in need of high quality, large-scale printing services.

COYOTE CONNECTION STAFF

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