

ABOUT The 8th grade students have

completed interest inventories.

online IQ testing, and have studied the finer points of the hospitality and industry, business tourism management and administration, finance, information technology, and marketing, all of which is included in their curriculum plus, they have completed more than just the state standards. Becoming more aware of the digital and online opportunities, the students have completed project assignments based which included how each of these industries could be marketed in a variety of ways including honing in on the online market. Students have brainstormed ideas of their interests combined with what they are capable of marketing online. Each of them has their own 1, 3, 5, and 10 year plans to present to investors potential or banking institutions for financing purposes. Students have studied about saving money for their potential business interest so they may be able to make money at an early age and before graduation if possible. Students have been provided examples such as The Sneaker Industry on how to buy and resell "hot" items as well as study the demand of the markets and what is bought and sold on different online sites such as e-bay and etsy. This has caught on to the 7th graders in becoming interested in doing these things as well.

MARKETING STRAT

Students listened to entrepreneur minded guest speaker, Kenneth Gage, who talked about diversification in their skills and education and how to start a business. One idea that he birthed was to obtain certifications while in high school and also take online college credit classes for those who are college bound. Girls interested in cosmetology could possibly begin beauty school during the summer months and nearly graduate from beauty school by the time they graduate from high school. Students have been instructed to always have a job in their back pocket in case of sudden downsizing or market changes. Since statistics prove that this generation will change careers multiple times throughout their lifetimes. Kenneth reiterated that the years 2024 and 2025 have been predicted to have a huge



shortage in welders due to replacing infrastructure as well as building brand new structure. Kenneth said that the key element in all of this is a willingness to work and take risks, be open to new ideas, and to develop leadership skills. Being a great leader is another topic that has been discussed among the students. Since SWOSU has developed an e-sports program and is building an arena, the students have also researched what the program entails. SM has already had one alum who took gaming to an upper level and created his own games for profit. This student is now an air traffic controller. Also in their studies, students have learned how to give back to their communities to charities through special events that they choose to create or honor people and holidays. The latest instruction has been to view a credit report from Experian, obtaini a bank loan, incorporate a business, and start a business that students can conduct on their cell phones. Great job young men and women!

Senior of the month

Name: Kobe Bellows

Parents/Guardian: Ricky and Lisa Bellows

gettvimage

Siblings: Hailee Bellows, Marlee Bellows, Kortni Johnson, Erika Lirette

Favorite Meal: Cheesy Chicken

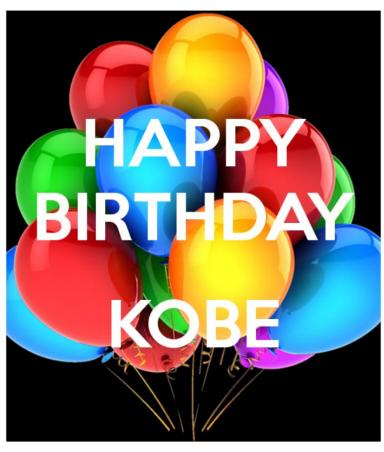
Favorite Class: Coach Nelson

Hobbies: Playing sports

Who Do You Admire: My mom and dad

Future Plans: Going to college





Hello, my name is Bryson Farrell! I'm in the 7th grade and I'm going to tell you about my hobby, wood burning. Wood burning is when you use a "pen" and burn an image into wood. Here are the steps of wood burning.

- 1. Find or draw an image on a piece of paper.
- 2. Copy it to the wood using graphite (carbon) paper.
- 3. Put the bit you want to use to burn and let it heat up (preferably 3-5 minutes).
- 4. Touch pen to the wood and lightly press and follow the line you drew with the carbon paper. Here is a picture of the design that I completed for Ms. Beers.



Editor's Note: Sometimes we get wrapped up in our own lives and need to be reminded of the outside world. In the article below, one of our students who has been attending SM for just over a year, writes of his experiences and comparisons of a big city school in Utah versus our small, rural Oklahoma school.

Guest Writer, 8th Grader, Damian Dryman, Founder of Dry Days

I am going to tell you a short story of how a small Oklahoma school is different or better than a big school in Utah. One of the things that make a small school better is that there is way less chance for bullies because in Utah, no one will take anyone seriously. Also, most of the small schools are broke...like BROKE, if you know what I mean. And most of the big schools in Utah are well funded. When I was in Utah I did not play sports out of the entire time I was in Utah. But in the first year that I was in a small school, I played all of the sports that I could. And I played sports here because I knew there weren't as many people to judge you if you fail at something. But when you are at a big school you feel like you are being judged by every person that is around you. Plus when you are in a class in Utah, there are so many people you might be too scared to ask a question so you might not always pass every class.



Mardi Gras dates back to medieval Europe. When the French settled Louisiana territory, they continued the Mardi Gras tradition. However, in 1703, the French celebrated America's first Mardi Gras as recorded from the official Mardi Gras website, "On March 2, 1699, French-Canadian explorer Jean Baptiste Le Moyne Sieur de Bienville arrived at a plot of ground 60 miles directly south of New Orleans, and named it "Pointe du Mardi Gras" when his men realized it was the eve of the festive holiday. Bienville also established "Fort Louis de la Louisiane" (which is now Mobile) in 1702. In 1703, the tiny settlement of Fort Louis de la Mobile celebrated America's very first Mardi Gras."

Fat Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of lent. Fat Tuesday is known as Mardi Gras. The day was joined with the one feast before the Lenten fast. Christians were supposed to eat all meat and food that came from animals, which included milk, cheese, butter, eggs, and animal fats. But all of the food needed to be used up before the fast started. Ash Wednesday is 46 days before Easter Sunday and is for Catholics, but some Christians do it too. Ash Wednesday involves wearing ashes on your forehead. The ashes mean the dust God made us. As the priest puts ashes on a person's forehead, he says: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust, you shall return." And then the priest says "Repent and believe in the Gospel. Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

The King's Cake is from the Three Wise Men in the Bible, who brought presents for Baby Jesus on the Twelfth Night. King's Cake is first served on King's Day (January 6) and lasts through the day before Mardi Gras to celebrate the three kings, and to honor them. The King's Cake has purple, green, and gold-colored frosting for the royal colors. In one part of the cake, there is a baby Jesus baked into it. And whoever gets the piece of cake with the baby Jesus has to bake the King's cake next year. Today, Mardi Gras has added parades and Masquerade balls to the tradition.

By: Emery Keene

Since Lisa Bellows if originally from Houma, Louisiana, the staff knows that she will appreciate the Mardi Gras pictures below and references to The King's Cake.













Congratulations to senior Gabe Sessoms for being an Academic 270 Conference All-Star.

Congratulations to junior Peyton Mulbery for being selected as a 270 Conference All-Star.

Congratulations to senior Justin Roberts for being selected as High Plains Tech student of the month for December.

Congratulations to Mia McLain for being recognized as a DAR Good Citizen.

Congratulations to Trojan Powerlifters JD Sessoms for 1st place, Carson Groff for 3rd place, and Austin Baird for 3rd in their separate weight classes.

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the SM Local Livestock Show.

Congratulations to Kashlyn Spencer, Olivia Clem, Jaxon Irving, Gracie Mabra, Raelyn Syms, Abbey Elam, Destinie Thompson, Ben Elam, Lanie Marlatt, Arley Keene, and Kaitlyn Culp who participated in Circle the State With Song.

