HART CAREER CENTER
Board of Education Report

Mr. Chris Denham, Director

March 2026

Teaching Professions

Field Experiences & Placements

Our students have successfully completed a comprehensive rotation of our district, observing in all three elementary schools and the middle school. This broad exposure allowed them to see various teaching styles and grade-level dynamics firsthand.
Since early January, each student has transitioned into a long-term placement. This consistency in a single classroom is fostering deeper relationships with both cooperating teachers and students, providing a realistic look at the daily rhythms of the school year.

Curriculum Focus

The academic portion of the program has covered foundational pillars of the profession, including:
History of American Education
School Law & Ethics
Classroom Diversity
Current Unit: We are currently mastering instructional strategies and lesson planning, which students are now beginning to apply in the field.

Student Spotlight

Senior Brandon Ballard recently reached a significant milestone by teaching his first solo lesson in Mrs. Atkinson's 1st-grade classroom at Eugene Field. Using a hands-on approach to science, Brandon taught students how sound varies across different mediums. Using a mix of plastic and foam cups, aluminum foil, wax paper, duct tape, and string, he led the 1st graders through an experiment to discover how material density and texture create unique sounds.

Upcoming Events

To bridge the gap between their afternoon block at the Career Center and the morning curriculum, all students will participate in a "Full Day Shadow" in April.

This allows them to experience the morning literacy and math blocks they typically miss, providing a holistic view of a teacher's full schedule.

Program Impact

The pipeline for our district remains strong. Our two graduating seniors have already expressed their excitement and commitment to working within our district starting next school year, directly contributing to our local teacher recruitment goals.

Cosmetology

Graduating students will be starting to prepare for state board practical. They have started preparing for the written test. Slowly introducing practice exams to keep all knowledge fresh.

The clinic floor has been busy having lots of new clients coming in.

Application process has begun with many applications. Informational meeting is March 20th. We had a great turn out for the open house on Feb 25th.

Health Science

Health Science students helped with the MMS Health Screenings on March 11th. CNA students are working to complete their 100 hrs of clinical experience by April 15.

SkillsUSA

Hart Career Career hosted NE District SkillsUSA contest on Feb.13. Over 200 contestants competed to see who will move on to state competition at State Tech in April. Look for a full report of medals and contests next month. A big thank you to KWWR who was onsite for a live broadcast including interviews with local competitors.

FFA

Final planning for the 2nd annual FFA truck and tractor pull is wrapping up. The pull will take place May 22nd at the Audrain County Fair Grounds. FFA week takes place the last week of February with several events planned. Kicking off the week will be a trip to the Western Farm Show in Kansas City on Feb. 20.