



THE CHARGER

USD 329 hires superintendent

Emma Alderman | editor in chief

Wabaunsee hired a new superintendent at its meeting Monday night.

Dr. Troy Pitsch graduated from Arkansas State University where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Social Studies Education. He then went on to earn his Masters degree in Education Administration at Texas State University and PhD in Education Policy and Planning from the University of Texas. Pitsch spent time in Alma as a child, attending both public school and St. John Lutheran.

Pitsch currently serves as an Instructional Improvement Officer for the Kansas City, KS Public School District. Some of his duties in this role have included principal supervision of the five high schools and two alternative campuses, KESA accreditation, principal and assistant principal leadership development, and learning & assessment data reporting and evaluation.

Pitsch released a statement after the announcement. "I am deeply honored to be given the opportunity to work with the USD 329 Board of Education and district staff to support the strong focus on teaching and learning for our Chargers. It was in evidence to me as we visited district sites and talked with stakeholders that Wabaunsee County remains a very special place to live, learn, and grow. Words cannot truly express how exciting it will be to spend time reconnecting and listening to our school community as we plan for the future of our district. I look forward to getting to know each of you in the months ahead as we carry on the great work of growing our children."

OTHER BOARD NOTES

- Currently one student, no staff with COVID-19

-March meeting moved from March 14 to March 7



Dr. Troy Pitsch

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Eli McDaniel | social media editor

For Valentine's Day, the Charger asked students and staff to discuss relationships and dating. Participants have varying levels of dating experience — so take their advice at your own risk!

WHAT IS YOUR IDEAL FIRST DATE?

Senior Cade Oliver: Something kinda laid back but still fun and outgoing. Like... get some pizza, go out, drive around, put some blankets in the bed of the truck, and go hang out and look at the stars.

Teacher Jason Miller: Wings and Football.

Teacher Brandi Miller: Going to dinner and a movie.

Freshman Payton Wurtz: Backroad. Go up to the top of Clapboard and look at the stars. Then... sit at the little bench by my pond, and talk and eat Ben & Jerry's.

Teacher David Amer: Hiking in the mountains. Active, outdoors and in nature, time to talk, and if it's awkward and silent you're still doing something fun.

Senior Sarah Vanstory: Going to El Corral in St. Marys with Sean (Sarah's Boyfriend).

FIRST DATE ADVICE?

Brandi Miller: Double date and drive separately so if it is a bad time you can just leave and hang out with friends.

Oliver: Be yourself, try to be laid back, and don't be up in their face about stuff.

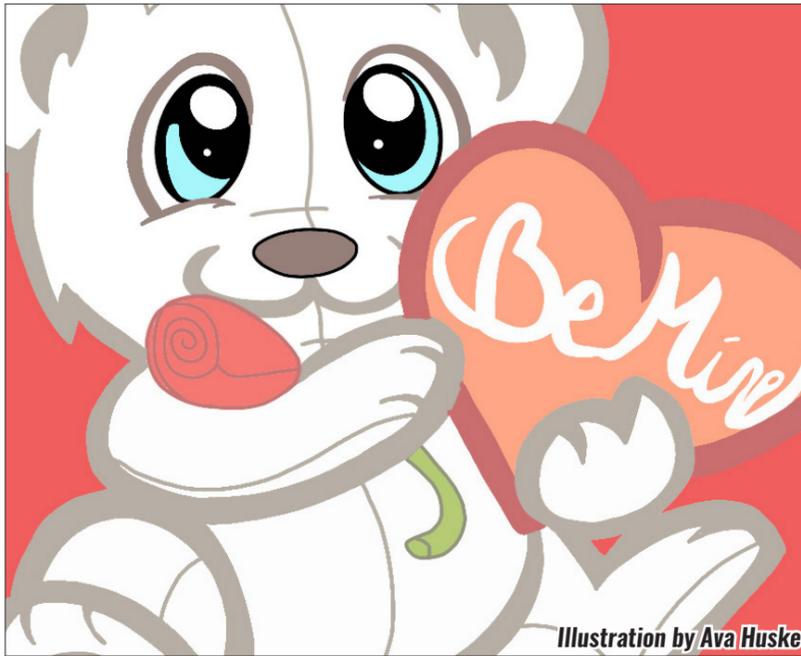


Illustration by Ava Huske

Wurtz: Don't try to be somebody else, and dress comfy.

Amer: Talk about things that are interesting, learn about the other person.

Vanstory: Relax. Make sure you make eye contact and make sure he pays for your food.

WHAT TO DO ON A BAD FIRST DATE?

Jason Miller: Leave.

Wurtz: You just say "Oh this was a date? I thought we were here as friends," then leave.

Amer: Play it off, do the best you can to enjoy the moment, and recognize that this will never happen again.

WHAT DOES DATING MEAN TO YOU/WHAT DOES A DATE ENTAIL?

Wurtz: When you go on dates together and not just say 'oh we're dating' but don't do anything about it, that kinda seventh-grade stuff.

Vanstory: I like to date Sean, we've been dating 20 months. I think that a good relationship requires good

communication.

Amer: We (Amer and his wife) went on our first date with the kid. We went to watch Spider-Man then we went to AJ's Pizza. Super solid. We even held hands in the movie theater, it was crazy.

QUALITIES YOU LOOK FOR IN A SIGNIFICANT OTHER?

Brandi Miller: You should spend time with someone who values you for who you are, someone who is kind, respectful, and who makes you laugh.

Jason Miller: Smart and funny.

Wurtz: Kindness and compassion. And they better believe in Jesus! Being good with kids because my mom just had a baby and I'm not good with kids.

Vanstory: Anything but a mullet. Make sure you have good communication and that you accept each other for who you are. Make sure that you get to go out and do something that makes you both happy.

Question of the Week

What do you think the biggest difference is between dating for teens today and dating when your parents were in high school?

"A lot of the way you communicate is over the phone via snapchat or instagram and it has a big influence on how we treat each other."

Senior CJ Glotzbach

"Back then they were raised to respect women, and now guys disrespect women and treat them like objects."

Freshman Ava Huske

"Age gap. My parents are seven years apart and I feel like that would definitely not be allowed now. Even a senior dating a freshman is a little weird now, but I don't judge."

Junior Olivia Mayer

"Teens in the 1950s most often dated as a couple, as opposed to a big group of kids 'hanging out.' They used cars for transportation, and it was a dress-up affair. Lots of time was spent on the proper grooming and attire. Official rules of society were expected to be followed such as who picks up whom, curfews were imposed, and manners were expected to be on display. Chaperones were often required at school related events, as well as those sponsored by the church or the community. Many female teens were required by their parents to be 16 or older. It seems to me that these days a sequence of texts can indicate a couple is 'dating.' Very sad for our culture that human contact has been reduced to interaction on a machine."

Science teacher Lisa Hull

"Today you can talk to someone and get to know them really well without even meeting face to face which most adults today can't really fathom."

Senior Justin Carlson

Describe your perfect first date.

"I don't care as long as they pay."

Freshman Emily Meyer

"The moon and stars, a bonfire, a blanket, some nice tunes dancing and delicious tapas!!"

Art Teacher Brianna Guinn

"I think it'd be cool if she was a girl and was pretty."

Senior Jacob Daley

"Eating at a nice place next to the water, not like we have places like that here in Kansas, and maybe go see a movie."

Sophomore Matthew Vanstory

"Spaghetti and meatballs."

Junior Ryan Schutter
See more responses and answer the next question of the week at whscharger.com.

Top Five | Mumpower chooses favorite romantic movies



Mayah Mumpower | news editor

Watching movies has always been a way to see different worlds and time periods. These are the movies I like to watch randomly because they always make me happy, even though they can be wildly unrealistic

5. "The Princess Bride"

I always remember watching this in third grade with Mrs. Deselms when I turn this movie on. It's hilarious and always puts me in a good mood.

There are also so many amazing quotes. It is a really good spin on fairy tales that people of all ages can watch.

Iconic Quote: "Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die." *Streaming on Disney+.*

4. "The Age of Adaline"

I watched this with my mom the first time I ever saw it and it was amazing. There are definitely some parts that seem sad. This is a great movie about a woman named Adaline who suddenly stops aging and what happens when her secret is almost revealed.

Special Award: Best Narration. *Streaming on Hulu.*

3. "Stardust"

While this is a newer find for me, I absolutely love it. It

has an amazing cast including Charlie Cox, Robert De Niro, Michelle Pfeiffer, Mark Strong and Henry Cavill. This movie also puts a twist on fairy tales with witches, magical kingdoms, and flying ships.

Special Award: Best Cast List. *Streaming on Netflix.*

2. "Dirty Dancing"

This movie is definitely in my top three movies of all time. I can not express how much I enjoy watching it. Even just listening to the sound track lifts my mood. In this classic movie, Baby has to spend her summer at a resort and ends up being the dance instructor's new partner.

Best Quote: "Nobody puts Baby in the corner." *Streaming on Hulu Premium.*

1. "10 Things I Hate About You"

It's a great romcom that I absolutely love to watch. This is my favorite movie to rewatch because I remember watching it with one of my cousins. It has amazing actors like Heath Ledger and Joseph Gordon-Levitt and many iconic scenes. The movie is roughly based on Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" but is set at a high school in the '90s.

Best Scene: Heath Ledger singing to Julia Stiles at soccer practice. *Streaming on Disney+.*

Honorable Mentions:

"The Fault in Our Stars," "Mr. and Mrs. Smith," "Crazy Rich Asians," "50 First Dates," "27 Dresses."