



# THE CHARGER

## 329 Board meeting notes

The USD 329 board of education met Monday night. The full meeting can be viewed on the USD 329 Youtube page.

- Mid East League game admissions will be increased to \$5 with a \$25 family cap for high school games. \$3 with a \$15 cap for junior high games next year.
- The board approved the non-school sponsored club "Rooted in Christ." The club, started by freshman Payton Wurtz and junior Ally Garst, encourages young women to grow in their faith.
- The vacant high school Spanish position is advertised as a part-time position, but since there have been no applications, there is a plan for it to be made into a virtual class through Greenbush.
- The board approved the contribution of \$12,000 to help the FCCLA students in their trip to the national convention. This will pay for 40 percent of the cost for the 24 students, the same percentage that they have contributed in previous years.
- The board briefly discussed the bond. Contractor Patrick Schutter of BHS construction has been working on potential plans and the board will revisit it at the next meeting.
- Superintendent Brad Starnes announced that although the district tries to avoid events on Wednesday nights because of conflicts with religious activities, the FFA banquet (May 11) and high school awards (May 4) night were unable to be scheduled on different days.
- The board accepted the resignations of Brandi Stanley - AES secretary, Jordan Dunn - HS cheer coach, Miriam Barton - HS cheer coach, Garrett Eck - assistant boys basketball coach, Jason Miller - state testing organizer, Joe Dee Tarbutton - JH basketball coach and Jan Hutley - HS principal.

## Havenstein Signs with Allen County softball

Eli McDaniel | social media editor

Senior Madisyn Havenstein signed her national letter of intent to play softball at Allen County Community College and celebrated her signing on March 28 at WHS.

Havenstein's Kansas Valor softball coach Kelly Jordan spoke first, highlighting her softball abilities and sharing some words of encouragement. One of Havenstein's "bonuses" is being a good teammate, "celebrating her teammates' successes more than her own, you can preach that all you want but the buy-in has to come from the student-athlete, and she exemplifies that," Jordan said. He described Havenstein as self-driven, self-motivated, hard-working, and always positive. "She will continue to do great things wherever she places her positive energy. Allen County has hit the lottery with Madisyn joining their program, and in that, I want to wish you the best of luck from the Kansas Valor Family," Jordan said.

Principal Jan Hutley then shared some inspirational messages from two of Havenstein's other coaches, coach Billy Norwood of Kansas Wildfire, and her private hitting coach Cori Munoz. Both ex-



Senior Madisyn Havenstein thanks attendees at her signing ceremony. She is joined by her parents Curt and Traci and her brother Maverick.

pressed how proud they were of Havenstein's work ethic and softball career.

Next was assistant softball coach Garret Eck who kept his speech short and sweet. He talked about how hard she pushed herself throughout each season and even during her leg injury, which sidelined her during volleyball and basketball this season. "Work

ethic is unmatched, so Allen is getting a fantastic young lady," Eck said.

Coach Joe Dee Tarbutton spoke next and brought up two of Havenstein's current teammates, Kaelyn Conrad and Kara Hafenstine. Each girl congratulated Havenstein and expressed their gratitude toward her. Tarbutton recalled his coaching history with Ha-

venstein, "She used to tootle up on her little bicycle, with her little glove on the handlebars," he said. He called attention to Havenstein's growth at-bat, "this year she is hitting things to centerfield or left field, and hitting with power."

Wabaunsee graduate Kinsey Stuewe sent Havenstein a surprise video congratulating Havenstein on her signing with Allen, where Stuewe currently plays. "Hey Havi, congratulations on signing to Allen, this school is gonna be a great fit for you, and the softball program is super excited to have you as you are an amazing student-athlete. Go Chargers and Roll Devs," Stuewe said.

Havenstein said she is not only excited to play softball at Allen, but also to meeting new people. "My knee injury took a lot out of me, but I pushed through the pain and tried my hardest each day," Havenstein said. It was difficult for her to talk to and practice for different coaches because of her knee, but Allen's coaches were the first ones to reach back out to her. They understood her struggle and offered up a position on the team. "I'm really excited to continue playing the sport that I love the most and can't wait to do it with new people," Havenstein said.

## Top-Five | Horror movies comprise several genres



Eliza Barton | entertainment editor

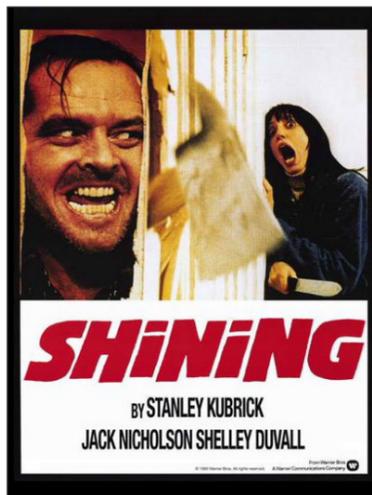
Horror is straight-up the coolest genre ever. I've been into horror since I was young (probably too young). These are my top picks from a few different sub-genres and why they are my favorites.

### THE SHINING (1980)

**Sub-genre:** Psychological Horror

**Summary:** A family heads to an isolated hotel for the winter where a sinister presence influences the father into violence, while his psychic son sees horrific forebodings from both past and future.

**My Take:** When I first watched The Shining, I was stunned by the cinematography. It was bright, sharp, and really set the tone for the film overall. Besides this movie



being an absolute classic, the plot was very entertaining and the actors really brought the characters to life.

**Streaming on HBO Max and The Roku Channel**

### TEXAS CHAIN SAW MASSACRE (1974)

**Sub-genre:** Slasher Film

**Summary:** Five friends head out to rural Texas to visit the grave of a grandfather. On the way they stumble across

what appears to be a deserted house, only to discover something sinister within. Something armed with a chain saw.

**My Take:** Firstly, slasher films tend to rely a lot on gore for effect, but even without it this movie is still very good. Beyond that, the characters

in this movie are very distinct, making it all the more entertaining for the audience. It is one of my favorites because of that eerie beauty that it can possess at times. Even in film today, Texas Chain Saw Massacre is still referenced.

**Streaming on Amazon Prime and Tubi**

### FALLEN (1998)

**Sub-genre:** Supernatural Horror/Crime

**Summary:** Homicide detective John Hobbes witnesses the execution of serial killer Edgar Reese.

Soon after the execution, the killings start again, and they are very similar to Reese's style.

**My Take:**

This is actually one of my favorite movies that I have ever seen regardless of genre. Washington's acting really puts viewers on edge and the plot keeps you wondering until the very end. It almost makes you expect several jump scares, but when it doesn't happen it only builds up the suspense.

### MIDSOMMAR (2019)

**Sub-genre:** Folk Horror

**Summary:** A couple travels to Northern Europe to visit a rural hometown's fabled Swedish midsummer festival. What begins as an idyllic retreat quickly devolves into an increasingly violent and bizarre competition at the hands of a pagan cult.

**My Take:** What I love about



"Midsommar" is that the scenes don't have an intense build up, so when everything happens it always catches you off guard and leaves you disturbed. The cinematography is absolutely beautiful, like all A24 films. This movie is so haunting, poetic, and can manipulate the

viewer if they aren't careful. **Streaming on Showtime**

### The Blair Witch Project (1999)

**Sub-genre:** Found-Footage Horror

**Summary:** Three film students vanish after traveling into a Maryland forest to film a documentary on the local Blair Witch legend, leaving only their footage behind.

**My Take:** This film was truly frightening because the footage is so raw. After you have finished watching you wonder if it all really happened. This genre in particular can be difficult to capture well, but The Blair Witch Project is one of the best that I have seen.

**Streaming on The Roku Channel**

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