

1. Sophomore Erika Smith shows freshmen Dawson Borcharding, Annie Rinne, Jarell Kane, Eric Whiteide and Lexi Hart around the cafeteria during the scavenger hunt. Photo by Tyler Benson 2. FMP sponsor and Spanish teacher Karen Tritt takes a picture of junior AJ Verdini's freshman group. "My favorite part about freshman day is the Amazing Race or the freshman pep assembly," Verdini said. 3. On the Bridge, StuCo hung up Viking helmets with the incoming freshmen names on them to welcome them into the Viking community. Photos by Kira Cravens 4. The student body recited the pledge of allegiance before the pep assembly kicked off. 5. Junior Scott Rambo shuffles cards during an icebreaker. The icebreakers were to get the freshmen more comfortable in their new setting. "I think the it helped them because they got a point of view from a student here, rather than a teacher," Rambo said. Photos by Tyler Benson 6. Oranges, cauliflower and peaches are some of the options offered to students to ensure them a nutritious lunch. Photo by Paige Parker 7. Custodian Price C. Wright, Sr. made a paper mache and mixed media elephant head for the Faculty Art Show. 8. Physical Education teacher Janine Sisk painted a watercolor piece for the art gallery. 9. Video production teacher Kelly Gill displayed photos of trips to Maine and Virginia in the art gallery. 10. Ceramics teacher Jean Lockhart made a low fire clay piece that was displayed in the art gallery during the Faculty Art Show. Photos by Kira Cravens



Words by Jennifer Mahr Design by Sarah Hinman

A few days before school began the Freshmen Mentor Program gathered to go over details concerning the freshman's first day.

Lead the Way

Their role as leaders became more real once they saw them gathered in little circles on the bridge awaiting the first bell. Mentors joined them on the bridge, in hopes the freshmen would feel more comfortable.

"I was really nervous I wouldn't be able to find my classes, but the mentors were really nice and helpful and showed me where my classes were," freshman Kara Nichols said.

Once the bell rang everyone was in their designated seminar class. The class began with get-to-know-you games followed with a detailed tour of the school, which would later help in the "Amazing Race". The mentors were only allowed to give "yes" or "no" answers, which helped the freshmen get a feel for the school on their own.

Following the "Amazing Race," freshmen attended their first pep assembly. Pep club prepared relays for them to play, they were given gift cards if they won. The band, dance team and cheerleaders gave them a little taste of what to expect at future

assemblies. The faculty gave speeches, and upper-classmen told the freshmen what was expected of them.

"It was so cute to see the freshmen nervous and anxious about starting high school," junior Heidi Schmidt said.

After lunch, students went to each class for a 10 minute visit. The freshmen were able to meet each of their teachers and were told what to expect for each class.

"I really liked the freshmen only day because I had the chance to meet all of my teachers and got to know my way around the school," freshman Mitchell Haverfield said.

After meeting each of their teachers the freshmen were welcomed into the gym with a tunnel the mentors made. For the rest of the day, the seminars competed in relays.

"I think that the freshmen had a lot of fun and were very comfortable with the change to a new school," senior Tyler Shuck said.

Words by Ali Smith

Did You Eat Your Fruits and Veggies?

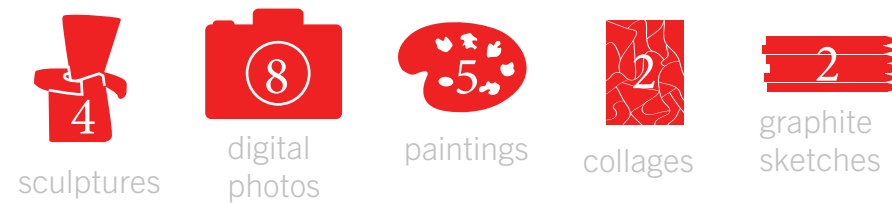
After an article in the "Kansas City Star" on local school lunches prompted an uproar among parents, food choices changed. Students were required to take fruits or vegetables with their meal. Kiwis, fresh pineapple and snap peas were introduced. The new items provided healthy sides, but the main course itself remained mostly the same.



Sketch it Out

Words by Sarah Hinman

The art department commenced the new school year by hosting the annual Faculty Art Show. Staff members that had a passion for the arts displayed their creations; in a tranquil atmosphere, observers indulged in treats while they roamed the gallery.



on the record • off the record



"The most interesting piece in the show didn't come from an art teacher. It was a paper mache mixed media elephant [made by a custodian]," Greg Schieszer, art teacher, said.

018 "I make thousands of dollars off of Runescape." Marcus Walls senior 019 "I ran over 500 miles this summer." Mitchell Kelly senior

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