Outside. Wear a face mask over your mouth and nose and practice good hand hygiene.

In 2020, it is also critical to plan ahead, especially for those voting by mail. Use the checklist guide below to make sure your voice is heard on important issues!

2020 Voting Checklist

- **Registered?** Check at myvoteinfo.voteks.org to confirm correct address, party association, and polling location. If you are not listed, visit go.smokyhill.org/voter-registration, complete the form, and mail it (postmarked) by October 13 to your county election officer, or register online at www.kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg by October 13.
- **Voting by mail?** Apply for an advance ballot with the form at go.smokyhill.org/advance-ballot. Send the application to your county to be received by October 27. Remember to sign it and include your Kansas driver’s license or ID number, or a copy of another valid ID. Then, complete the ballot that will come to you in the mail and return it to the county to be received by 12 p.m. on November 2.
- **Voting in person?** Check your polling location and hours in advance and ensure you have a current, valid ID. Allow extra time to vote on November 3 and be prepared for poor weather, as social distancing requirements and long lines may mean waiting outside. Wear a face mask over your mouth and nose and practice good hand hygiene.

**Professional Development Supports Health Science Pathway**

According to the most recent employment projections from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Healthcare occupations and those associated with healthcare (including mental health) account for 13 of the 30 fastest growing occupations from 2019 to 2029.”

In addition, all Kansas Workforce regions show a high demand in the healthcare field. With these facts in mind, the Smoky Hill ESC Perkins Consortium has set a goal to increase the number of districts in the consortium offering the Health Science Pathway from 15, currently, to all 44 SHESC consortium districts during the 2020-2024 grant period. To support this goal, the service center will be offering several opportunities to assist all districts in successfully implementing a new Health Science Pathway or improving their existing Pathway.

- October 10: Using Vernier Sensors to Improve Learning in Anatomy and Physiology
- January 15: End-of-Pathway Assessments, Credentials and Certifications (virtual workshop)
- Spring 2021 (Date TBD): Hands-On Anatomy
- Spring 2021 (Date TBD): Developing a Work-Based Learning Model

Fifteen consortium districts will also receive a total of $40,922 from the Perkins grant for supplies to be used for required courses in the Health Science Pathway. All 44 consortium districts will have access to virtual reality equipment with software to provide VR learning opportunities in Health Science courses.

Contact Pam Kraus, CTE Coordinator, at pkraus@smokyhill.org, for more information about how Smoky Hill ESC can support your district in creating opportunities for your students in the high-demand healthcare occupations.

**Visiting Professional Learning Opportunities!**

- September 28 - October 1 (Zoom) Project-Based Learning
- October 1 (Zoom) CHAMPS
- October 5 (Zoom) Book Study: Scarocity
- October 6 (Zoom) SECD Support Cadre
- October 7, 21, and 28 (Zoom) Book Study: Visible Learning
- October 8 (Zoom) Chronic Absenteeism: Defining, Tracking, and Intervening
- October 12 (Zoom) Principal Council Meeting
- October 15 (Zoom) Engaging Every Family
- October 15 (Zoom) Introduction to the Mathematics Teaching Practices
- October 19 (Zoom) Navigating Text Complexity: Eliminating the Knowledge Gap
- October 19 (Zoom) Understanding Dyslexia
- October 20 (Zoom) Adding the Health Science Pathway
- October 20 (Zoom) Introduction to the Mathematical Shifts (Focus, Coherence, and Rigor) of the Mathematics Standards
- October 20 (Zoom) Book Study: Emotional Poverty in All Demographics
- October 22 (Zoom) Book Study: The Trauma-Sensitive Classroom
- October 22 (Zoom) Project-Based Learning
- October 28 (Zoom) Tech Cadre

**Visit:** go.smokyhill.org/register for more information and to register for these events.
Beat High Lumber Prices With Volume Purchasing

The National Association of Home Builders recently reported an increase in lumber prices of more than 170% since mid-April.

With this dramatic increase, shop teachers and leaders on school construction projects are looking at the prospect of a huge strain on their budgets. That is, of course, unless they participate in the volume purchasing program at Smoky Hill ESC.

Shortages and increased costs on lumber have resulted from an increased demand nationwide for new housing, negative COVID-19 effects on supply lines, and widespread forest fires on the west coast. However, those who shop the SHESC volume purchasing lumber catalog - featuring products from Liberty Hardwoods - benefit from substantial discounts off retail cost at locked-in prices.

The great news is that you can still join the program at any time, even if your organization isn’t using it currently. Any educational, governmental, and non-profit organization can order through SHESC volume purchasing, regardless of membership status.

Learn more about the program at go.smokyhill.org/vp and contact Adam Pracht, Volume Purchasing Coordinator, to sign up for the program today!

“Education does not change the world. Education changes people. People change the world.”
- Paulo Freire, Brazilian educator and philosopher

Thank You!

All of you have inspired us as Smoky Hill Education Service Center staff in 2020, which has been a difficult and challenging year for everyone.

We just want to take a moment to say THANK YOU! for everything that you are doing to safely reopen your schools successfully this fall. We are filled with pride to see you rise to the challenges and prove that Kansas educators are amazing.

Whether you are teaching, working in a support position, or leading the way as an administrator, your work is essential and valuable as you transform students’ lives every day.

Please reach out and let us know how we can help. Call 785-825-9185 or email info@smokyhill.org to connect with the best person for your need.

Anti-Bullying Awareness Week Starts October 5

The Kansas State Board of Education has named the week of October 5 “Anti-Bullying Awareness Week” and encourages schools and districts to mark the week with opportunities to educate students and staff.

Schools are encouraged to move the week, however, to best fit local schedules, as well as planning follow-up events throughout the school year.

KSDE has assembled a large number of useful resources accessible from go.smokyhill.org/anti-bullying-week to start the conversation and inspire special events.

SHESC can also support anti-bullying efforts for districts with discounts through our partner STOPit Solutions. This premier safety and bullying reporting solutions is geared for school reporting through a mobile app, website and hotline. Learn more and get a free demo at go.smokyhill.org/stopit. Noalee McDonald Augustine, Education Consultant, is also able to provided customized anti-bullying services. Learn more at go.smokyhill.org/anti-bullying.

Congratulations to Meg Wilson, Assistant Principal at Lawrence Gardner High School in Topeka, named a Selected Honoree for the 32nd Annual YWCA Women of Excellence Awards!

Mary McDonald, LGHS Principal was also an Honoree for the awards!

Smoky Hill Education Service Center provides education programming and operates LGHS.

Watch the full ceremony at go.smokyhill.org/ywcaoe.

Buildings Reopening

Both the Salina and Hays office buildings have reopened with COVID-19 precautions by appointment and for events pre-scheduled with SHESC.

Guests must wear a face mask, take their temperatures at the door, practice physical distancing of six feet or more, and use good hand hygiene.

YWCA Honors Principals

Meg Wilson

Mary McDonald

Choose Peace

STOPit SOLUTIONS™