

## **Eco-troubadour Stan Slaughter sings green songs at Sacred Heart**

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by Mark Reagan

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Students at Sacred Heart Cathedral School got a special treat Thursday: A visit from eco-troubadour Stan Slaughter.

His aim is to teach students about conservation through music. The program lasted about 45 minutes and featured song and dance.

"We've got little posters about riding your bike, and turning off the water, and switching off the lights and using one paper towel," he said.



Two of those posters were titled "The Dark Door" and "The Green Door." "The Dark Door" poster listed energy use, rising oil prices, air and water pollution, habitat destruction and waste, and "The Green Door" poster listed conservation, new habits, creative thinking and team work. Slaughter told the students the Green Door should be opened and the Dark Door should be closed. His whole performance was interactive. "We're going to bring the kids up and do hand motions and hand jiving and dance around some," he said. "We don't want to get too wild." Slaughter conducted two different presentations. One was for kindergarten through fourth grade and the other was for fifth through eighth grades. "We are going to do fifth through eighth with a Power Point, which is not quite so entertaining and a little more educational," he said. "And the K-4 will be a little more entertaining with more music and not quite so much meat, but a good diet nonetheless."

The program was provided through Coronado Crossing RC & D, which is under the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Resource Conservation and Development Program. "These are people who are tasked with proving economic development, resources and conservation," he said. "Basically putting money and keeping money in our pockets and regionally." Coronado Crossing RC & D represents seven southwest Kansas counties, and Slaughter is a representative of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Slaughter has visited 1,000 schools during 14 years of running the program, which is funded by the trash tax under KDHE's Bureau of Waste Management.