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September 6, 2013

Principal's Building Report  
September, 2013  
Santa Fe Trail High School

### **Homecoming Activities**

The 2013-2014 school year marks another promotion of school pride in the individual communities of the district. On Homecoming Day – September 27, the high school will be holding the Homecoming Parade and pep rally at 1:00 p.m. Carbondale will serve as our host for the parade and pep rally this year. Our parade route will begin around the police station and end with the pep rally held at the CAC practice field. Also on the 27th, the Chargers will crown a new Homecoming King and Queen before the football game. This will be a very special time and event for the students, staff, communities, and all who are proud to be Chargers.

To celebrate Homecoming, the SFTHS Student Council began meeting in June to plan activities for the week. During that time, students picked a theme, developed ideas for class t-shirts, and planned special building activities for each day of Homecoming week. The “Spirit Week” will be held from September 24 - 28. The annual KAY volleyball tournament will be held that week as well as a school cookout to promote school spirit.

### **Grill Time Again**

At SFTHS, we are in our 6th year of the Student Incentive Program. We try to recognize and “reward” those students at SFT who do not receive any disciplinary points. In December, we do a drawing giving away items for students with no discipline points. In May, we do this again. We have given away a variety of items over the years—from t-shirts to laptop computers. The amount of prizes is all based on the amount of money we have to use. This year like last year, the high school office is grilling out at all the home varsity football games. All proceeds from the grilling will go to the Student Incentive Program. Our first night to fire up the grill will be at the Holton game on September 13.

### **2013-2014 SFTHS Building Goals**

- Improve student achievement through implementation of effective instructional strategies.
- Through instructional planning, teachers will move from knowing about research

based instructional strategies to doing what is most appropriate with those strategies to help students learn.

- Indoctrinate the teaching staff to the McRel Teacher Evaluation System to assess the teacher's performance in relation to the Professional Teaching Standards. A plan for professional growth will be developed for each staff member. The building principals will conduct the evaluation process through the use of teacher self-assessment reflection, presentation of artifacts, and classroom observations.

### **Students Enjoy New Class Opportunities**

The 2013-2014 school year has seen the addition of many new course offerings for our students. Our teachers have worked hard to develop and implement the courses into our regular school day. Many of the courses have a technology component and have proved to be popular with our students. New classes include Game Design, Web Page Design, Computer Graphics, Flash Animation, and Multimedia.

### **SFT and ACC Career Connection**

SFTHS students now have access to many career option classes offered through ACCC at no cost. The Allen Career Connection Program provides students at Santa Fe Trail High School the opportunity to gain skills needed for future workplace success. Qualified high school juniors and seniors are eligible for a special partnership between the college, Santa Fe Trail High School and the Kansas Board of Regents that allows them to complete career and technical education coursework.

Career Connection courses help students develop skills and knowledge for a variety of career fields. All courses are certified by the Kansas Board of Regents as Career and Technical Education Courses and many programs include an industry recognized credential. Students may also take exploratory coursework to gain insight into possible employment fields to assist with future career planning. Students planning on attending college after high school graduation can complete training while in high school to enhance their learning options while completing their university education. During the first semester, several SFTHS students are taking advantage of the ACC option by taking online courses at no cost. Students are enrolled in courses such as animal science, criminal justice, early childhood growth and development, and medical terminology. We look forward to providing this great opportunity for our students in the future as this program will certainly expand as students and parents become aware of the opportunity.

### **Building Projects**

As we begin the 2013-2014 school year, the staff at SFTHS would like to thank Dr. Pegram and the USD 434 Board of Education for supporting the structural changes that have occurred at the high school throughout the summer. There has been tremendous excitement among staff, students, and parents as the changes have been viewed. We look forward to a great year as we work with our students in the arts in a new, up to date facility.

## Activities Report

On September 6, 2013, The Lady Chargers from SFT traveled north to play the ACCHS Tigers. When the smoke had cleared, SFT had swept all games from the Tigers. Freshmen match scores were 2-0, Junior Varsity also swept by the same 2-0 score, and our varsity ladies completed a perfect night by winning by the same 2-0 score. On September 10, the Chargers will host the Jefferson West Tigers in a key Big Seven match at SFT. Game time is 5:00 p.m. Come out and cheer the Chargers on to another sweep!

Also on September 6, the SFTHS Chargers played host to the Royal Valley Panthers in a freshmen game at SFTHS. The Chargers were able to dominate the Panthers through most of the game and came out with a 30-6 victory. Our next football action will be on Monday against the Royal Valley JV with our varsity playing next week at SFT against Holton.

Our Cross country teams began action on September 6<sup>th</sup> as well. Results were as follows:

Cross Country at Anderson County 9/5/13:

Boys Varsity

Derrick Zaldivar - 11th place medalist

Kyle Wechsler - 20th place medalist

Girls Varsity

Devin Deshazer - 8th place medalist

Jennifer Hall - 18th place medalist

Our next action will be on Thursday, September 12 as we host our junior high and high school meets beginning at 3:30 p.m.