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October 7, 2013

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

**SAFE Program**



Beginning in October, Santa Fe Trail High School will begin the process of establishing a SAFE Program for the students and staff. The SAFE Program is much like a school club. It is focused on and run by the students with adult supervision. The program starts out with a meeting/training session. This is when the county organizers come to our school and teach our students how to implement the program. The student group will then preform a seatbelt survey. The program will kick off with some sort of intro event and traffic safety message.

Each month, the SAFE team will do some sort of educational activity such as traffic safety statistic in the morning announcements, hang posters or flyers, give their peers the opportunity to sign a pledge card and draw for prizes. In the spring, there will be an enforcement period with a zero tolerance policy and the program will wrap up with a final seatbelt survey.

Deputy Ralston and Mr. Swaim will be working with the students to assist with organization and planning. We look forward to helping our students and hope they are able to reach many in the school communities with this important message. Santa Fe Trail High School will be the only school in Osage County to date to have an active SAFE organization and Osage County will be one of just 36 counties in Kansas to have such an organization. We will keep you posted on our team activities as the year progresses.

## **Senior Jostens Orders**

On October 1, 2013, SFTHS Seniors met with Jeff Heline from Jostens. Jeff is an annual visitor to the high school and the sales representative for us. Seniors received information from Jeff regarding the purchase options for items for their 2014 Graduation. While May 10, 2014 may seem a long way down the road, SFTHS Seniors are already thinking about graduation plans.

Graduation is about more than just one day. It's a time for parents, friends, family, and of course our graduates to celebrate everything they have done to reach this point in their lives. They have worked hard to get to this point and our hope is that Graduation Day is unforgettable and memorable for them.

## **Website Projects**

With the development of the new format of the district website, the high school has begun the process of utilizing the site to provide information about the happenings in the classrooms at SFTHS. The first project has been developed and will appear soon under my section of the HS portion of the website. I have spoken with the high school staff in our early staff meetings about the development of posting classroom projects on the school website. They seem to be excited about the projects and the opportunity to share their work via the website.

During the last week or so, I have had the opportunity to join Mr. Hug's geography classes as they have worked through projects on European countries. His project with his students will be our first posted work. Project postings for the site do not need to be elaborate or semester long projects being done in classrooms. Rather, we are simply wanting to provide a sample of all the good things that occur in classes on a daily basis. In the near future, I have a spaghetti and marshmallow project and a Pi project waiting to be developed and posted. We look forward to sharing our good work with all who are a part of the high school family.

## **Athletics and Activities at Santa Fe Trail High School**

The Activities at Santa Fe Trail have gotten off to a GREAT start in 2013!! The best indication of our schools impact on the community is the AWESOME turnout and participation in this year's Homecoming Parade in Carbondale on Friday, September 27th!! Thanks for your support of SFT Students!

### **Football**

The Chargers did not have to search far for that first victory on the varsity level!! On September 6th, the Chargers downed the Royal Valley Panthers in overtime to get a crucial Big 7 League victory. The team then endured 3 tough games from Holton, Perry-Lecompton, and Jefferson West. Although they did not come out on top in those games, the young team continues to get better each week. The junior varsity is 2-2 on the season and the freshmen are 1-2 on the season.

### **Volleyball**

As of October 2nd, the Santa Fe Trail Charger volleyball team is 10 – 0 in league, and 18 – 2 overall. That league record has the Chargers in first place in the Big Seven and a number 1 ranking in Class 4A Division II!! In the 2 tournaments that they have

competed in, the varsity volleyball team has placed 1st and 5th. Two tough tournaments are still lurking ahead on the schedule; Wellsville on October 5th and Council Grove on October 12th. Santa Fe Trail has 2 home games remaining; Tuesday, October 8th against Hiawatha (Dig Pink Night) and Tuesday, October 15th vs. Riverside (Senior Night). The junior varsity team is doing well also placing 2nd in the Highland Park tournament and 3rd in the SFT Invitational. The freshmen are a respectable 7 and 12 on the season. On Saturday, October 26th, the Chargers will join Osawatomie and Eudora at the Class 4A Sub-State hosted by Prairie View.

### **Girls Golf**

The girls' golf team continues to improve on their individual scores and places as the season rolls on. In a recent golf tournament at North Topeka Golf Club, SFT won the tournament and had 4 top 10 medalists; with Peyton Workman the tournament winner. Santa Fe Trail hosted our tournament on October 1st at Hidden Springs Golf Course. SFT sophomore Peyton Workman was the leading scorer for SFT, carding 57 and earning the 12th place individual medal. Bri Beckman was the 15th medalist carding a 58 for the Chargers. We will attend regionals on Monday, October 14th hosted by Kansas City-Piper at Dub's Dread Golf Course.

### **Cross Country**

The Santa Fe Trail cross country team continues to work hard and get better each time they run. Both the boys and girls teams have 2 to 3 runners in the top 20 in about each race they participate in. In recent weeks, the boys have been led by Derrick Zaldivar with a 5th place finish at Northern Heights and a 1st place finish at Royal Valley. On the girls side, Devin Deshazer placed 2nd at Northern Heights and Jennifer Hall placed 3rd at Royal Valley. On October 17th, the cross country team will travel to Royal Valley to compete in the Big Seven League meet and on Saturday, October 26th, they will compete in regionals in Ottawa.

### **Scholars Bowl**

The Scholar's Bowl team will see their first action on October 22nd at Bonner Springs. Coach Eric Lynch is ready to get started and is very excited for the upcoming season.

### **KAY**

The KAY volleyball tournament during homecoming week was a big success once again this year!! In addition to being a very fun night for the students, it is a chance for our community to give back in the form of donating canned goods to the Help House in Lyndon. KAY will be hosting a blood drive at the high school on Wednesday, November 6th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. You can register at [esavealifenow.org](http://esavealifenow.org). On Tuesday, November 12th Santa Fe Trail will host the Area 1 Regional KAY Conference. The theme for the 2013-14 KAY Regional Conferences is "Leadership Round-Up".

### **FBLA**

Santa Fe Trail FBLA members volunteered to help out at the Kansas State Bank Sunset Stroll on Wednesday, September 25 at the fairgrounds in Overbrook, Kansas. Members were asked to help blow up balloons for the balloon launch at the beginning of the walk and also sold tickets at the raffle ticket table. This is the fourth year in a row that SFT-FBLA members have assisted at this event. At previous Sunset Stroll's, the money raised was to benefit breast cancer research and prevention; however, this year the money will go to two SFTHS scholarships in memory of Leslie Riner and Sarah King Graham. Leslie & Sarah were former SFTHS students and FBLA members and lost their battle

with breast cancer this past year. SFT-FBLA members that helped were: President, Garrett Stout; Vice President, Elizabeth Hill; Sophomore & Freshmen Reps, Kyle Hug and Savannah Hinck; and Stu-Co Rep, Carli Erickson.

### **Student Council**

What a week our Student Council planned and orchestrated for us this year for homecoming!! Each day was filled with some type of theme for dressing up. Beautiful weather greeted those who participated in and attended the homecoming parade in Carbondale. The day finally ended when the last dance was over at the Student Council sponsored dance Friday night.

### **Debate**

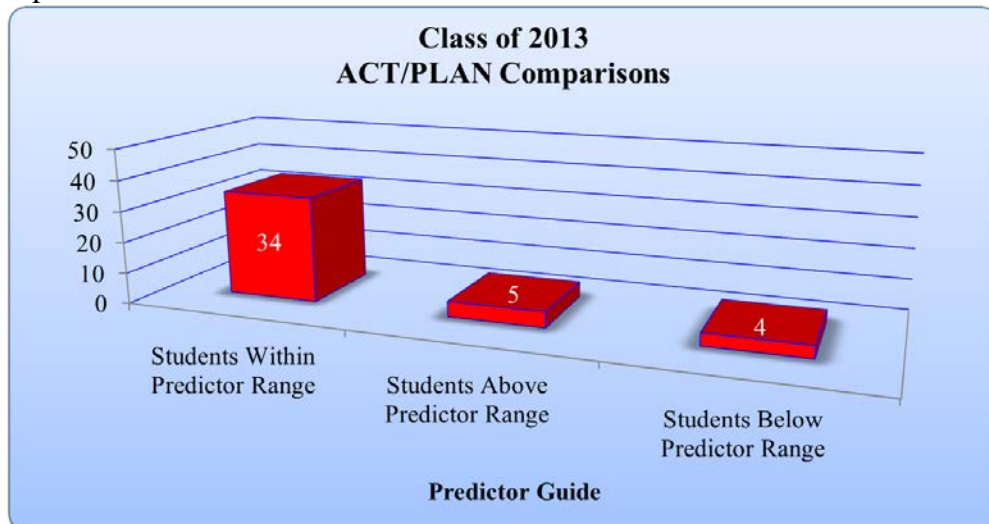
On Saturday, October 5th the SFT Debate team will begin the season with a tournament at Rock Creek. First year Coach Derek Terry is excited about the upcoming season.

### **PLAN**

For the past few years, the high school has annually tested all sophomores on the PLAN test. ACT Plan serves as the midpoint measure of academic progress in ACT's College and Career Readiness System. Our middle grades utilize the Explore test, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade use the PLAN and our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders take ACT.

ACT Plan helps 10th graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts' high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and beyond.

The largest benefit for the high school is the predictor information that we receive from the scores on the PLAN. Those scores provide a foundation for students and parents to look at as they plan for post-secondary information. The data that the PLAN test provides is almost always correct when predicting how a student might score on the ACT. The information becomes even more valuable as school personnel are able to have personal conferences with students and parents about future plans. The information listed below is the comparison for the Class of 2013 and their scores as they took they PLAN as sophomores.



**Initial PowerSchool Login Information**

August 5, 2013 to October 3, 2013

Total sign ins by parents: 920  
Total sign ins by students: 2843  
Total sign ins by parents and students combined: 3763  
Number of students whose records were accessed: 290 / 353  
(82.1%)