

**SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2014**

A New School Year

The students at Santa Fe Trail High School have experienced some really great opportunities the past few school years regarding facility upgrades. This summer was no different. The high school is fully under construction providing some great opportunities for our students in the future.

Construction

1. The HS commons area was remodeled removing the stage and repairing the walls. It is still a work in progress but you can see the potential additional space.
2. The HS track project was completed. They began the final stages in August and have completed the track for use next spring.
3. The bond issue is well underway. If you look out back, you can see the buildings starting to take form. Each and every day something new is happening with the project.

Rolling with the Punches

As with any major project, there will have to be plans made on dealing with the ever changing situations. This speaks true for our construction project. Students have to use the red double doors to access the back area from the band room and the locker room. This is something new for our students but something we have adapted to.

We have also closed the back parking lot for student parking during the day until the project has been completed. The additional traffic for the construction crews is trying to be avoided.

All in all, the students and staff at SFTHS, have done a great job with the changes we have had to make in our normal routines due to construction.

Dewslly

More information will be come of this new website for SFTHS, but in the future, this will be a great source for up-to-date pictures and information from SFT.

Compass Test

Friday, September 19, the entire sophomore class will travel to Allen County Community College in Burlingame to take the Compass Test. Passing test scores on the Compass Test will allow students to enroll in ACCC classes and also at Washburn Tech.

Aspire Test Day (Part of the ACT family)

There are plans being made to have the entire freshman and sophomore class take the Aspire Test which is part of the ACT family the first part of October. The plan is to make it one big testing day for them. The seniors and juniors will be doing something completely different. The seniors will be traveling to Lyndon to register to vote, take a tour of the

prison, and work on their senior resumes. The juniors will be traveling to Kansas City to attend a college exploration day with universities from throughout the nation. All in all, this should be a great learning opportunity for the students at SFTHS.

Homecoming for SFT

SFT Homecoming will be on Friday, September 26. The SFT Chargers will play the Anderson County Bulldogs at 7 pm. The Homecoming Parade will be in Scranton starting at 1 pm.

Substance Abuse Policy

I have attached the policy from the SFTHS handbook. Testing will begin ASAP.

SFT SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Controlled Substances, Alcoholic Liquor, & Cereal Malt Beverages Policy

Santa Fe Trail High School and Santa Fe Trail Junior High are committed to the education of every student in drug and alcohol awareness and have pledged to work cooperatively with parents to create a substance free educational environment. Santa Fe Trail High School and Santa Fe Trail Junior High have established policies that are consistent with our mission of supporting a safe and drug free educational facility. This policy recognizes that students of high school and junior high age are physically and emotionally vulnerable to social pressure that may lead to the illegal use of controlled substances and potential addiction. The policy is intended to provide students and their parents with assistance in identifying and addressing the use of these substances. The Santa Fe Trail Substance Abuse Policy is defined in accordance with Kansas's statutes concerning alcoholic liquor, cereal malt beverages and controlled substances. Nicotine and other tobacco products are also prohibited on school property and carry consequences for use consistent with the disciplinary policy/point system. The Santa Fe Trail policy for alcohol and drugs (controlled substances) prohibits:

- The possession, use, consumption or sale of drugs/alcohol on school property or at school activities.
- Any student who comes onto school property or attends school activities under the influence of controlled substances as defined above.
- Any student who has substances, residue or paraphernalia in their vehicle, on their person or in their belongings while at school.

In order to provide a drug free environment and to assist in the education and treatment of students who have engaged in drug use, Santa Fe Trail students in grades 7-12 who participate in extracurricular activities, school organizations, are issued a school parking permit and/or use the school parking lot will be subject to random drug testing. The mandatory random drug screening process is outlined below:

Drug Testing Process:

1. Psychomedics Testing Facility will randomly select students for testing throughout the school year.

2. The Principal or his or her designee will clip a sample of hair from the student and place it in an envelope. The student will witness the sealing of the envelope, confirm his/her identification number and verify accuracy by initialing the envelope. Parents/Guardians who have requested notification of testing of their student will be given not less than twenty-four hours (24) notice that a sample will be collected from the student. Parents/Guardians who wish to observe the collection of the sample may do so by informing the Principal or his or her designee of their intent to observe sample collection not less than four hours before the designated collection time. Parents/Guardians who attend the testing shall not be permitted to participate in the sample collection and may only observe collection.
3. The collected samples will be sent to a drug testing facility for analysis.
4. Parents/Guardians will be contacted by the Principal and given the results of each test within two to three weeks of the taking of the hair sample. Contact by phone and/or mail will be made for negative test results. Contact by phone will be made for positive test results.
5. Students whose test has a positive result will meet with their parents/guardians and the Principal.
6. A FIRST positive test result, will result in the following consequences:
 - A one calendar week suspension from school activities. Student is expected to continue to practice with the team/organization, but will not attend competitions/activities outside of practice during this time period.
 - Santa Fe Trail will cooperate with the student and parents/guardians by providing information regarding a drug education and/or treatment program options.
7. TWO positive test results will result in the following consequences:
 - No practice or competition as a participant or spectator at any district event for thirty (30) calendar days.
 - Information in drug education and/or treatment program options will again be provided to the student and parents/guardians and attendance will be strongly encouraged.
8. The THIRD positive test result, will result in the following consequences:
 - A 365 day ban, including participation in and as a spectator, from all district activities. Participation in graduation exercises will be at the discretion of the school administration. To be reinstated after serving the 365 day ban, student must successfully pass a drug test administered by the school.
 - Information in drug education and/or treatment program options will again be provided to the student and parents/guardians and attendance will be strongly encouraged.

9. Test results will be available only to the student, the parents/guardians, and to Santa Fe Trail Administration with a legitimate educational interest in the student.
10. Once a student has been tested and the results have been returned, his/her number is placed in the general pool for further random testing. Therefore, it is possible that a student may be tested more than once during the school year and several times during their six years at Santa Fe Trail Junior High or Senior High.
11. If parents/guardians question the validity of the test results they may request a second test be conducted on the same specimen at their own expense. It is important to note that any Psychomedics positive result has had two completely separate tests performed – an immunoassay screen and a mass spectrometry confirmation test. Additionally, environmental contamination is a non-issue because Psychomedics utilizes the most extensive wash procedure in the industry. Numerous studies demonstrate the effectiveness of the Psychomedics wash procedure.
12. The Psychomedics Lab uses a liquefying method to process hair samples. Hair samples taken from areas of the body other than the scalp (which retain drug traces for longer periods of time) may be used. To help ensure valid test results, students taking prescription medications and/or any supplements will write the names of any and all medications or supplements they are taking on the envelope that will be sent to the lab.
13. Any student who refuses to submit to a drug test after being randomly selected and is currently participating, been participating in, or plans to participate in any of the school activities listed, will be deemed a positive result and will result in the discipline actions outlined above.

Use, consumption of, and/or possession of any drug and/or alcohol on school property is prohibited and are subject to the disciplinary actions outlined in the student handbook.

Santa Fe Trail High School and Santa Fe Trail Junior High Activities

- The Santa Fe Trail High School and Santa Fe Trail Junior High School reserve the right to randomly use a Breathalyzer for students participating in school activities, including, but not limited to, school dances.

Participating in the following activities at SFT will subject you to the substance abuse policy:

All KSHSAA sponsored athletics and/ or activities

- Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Girls and Boys Golf, Wrestling, Boys and Girls Basketball, Baseball, Softball, and Track
- FBLA, KAY, SADD, NHS, Band, Choraliers, Debate, Forensics, StuCo, Multimedia (Newspaper), Digital D & P (Yearbook), HS Musical, HS

Play, Cheerleading, Dance Team, Scholar's Bowl, Odyssey of the Mind, and Renaissance

- Students driving to school

ACT Results from 2013-14

2014: 41 students tested from SFT

English (SFT): 21.4

English (State): 21.4

Mathematics (SFT): 20.2

Mathematics (State): 21.7

Reading (SFT): 23.5

Reading (State): 22.5

Science (SFT): 22.0

Science (State): 21.8

Composite (SFT): 21.9

Composite (State): 22.0

Athletics and Activities at Santa Fe Trail High School

Athletic teams began practice on August 18th in the heat and very extreme August like conditions. Santa Fe Trail is proud to encourage all of our students involved in activities in their quest to support our school and community in a positive way. Participating in the new Pioneer League will provide a formidable test each time our students enter a competition. If you get the opportunity, please come out and support them.

Football

The 2014 Charger football team consists of 54 players. SFT is able to support a schedule consisting of freshmen, junior varsity, and varsity teams. The annual Blue/White scrimmage was held on August 29th allowing the coaching staff to see the team in a setting other than the practice field. The Chargers will take the field in a home debut on Friday, September 5th against the Iola Mustangs. The JV and Freshmen will travel to Iola on Monday, September 8th to open their seasons.

Volleyball

Santa Fe Trail will start the season in a varsity tournament on Saturday, September 6th at Jefferson West. All levels; freshmen, junior varsity and varsity will travel to Burlington on Tuesday, September 9th to take on Burlington and Louisburg. There are 26 volleyball players on the roster for 2014. We look forward to an exciting season on the court!!

Girls Golf

The girl's golf team was the first team to represent Santa Fe Trail High School this fall season. They participated in a tournament hosted by Jefferson West on August 23rd. There are 5 members on the girl's golf team this year. Santa Fe Trail will be hosting our tournament on September 30th at Hidden Springs Golf Course just outside of Overbrook, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Cross Country

The Santa Fe Trail Cross Country roster is comprised of 6 girls and 14 boys. The team competed at Anderson County on September 4th. We will host our meet on September 11th at Cross Country Field just south of the high school.

Dance Team

The dance team has 9 members for the 2014-2015 school year. They provide entertainment at pep rallies, at the half time of home games, and also compete in dance competitions during the school year.

Cheerleading

Our cheerleaders have been working hard all summer to increase the amount of spirit at our athletic events. They also coordinate and are in charge of all pep rallies' providing a positive atmosphere for all students and fans. This year we have a total of 13 cheerleaders.

KAY

Kansas Association for Youth is boasting a membership of about 80 students this year. This year's theme for KAY is "Color My World". The KAY volleyball tournament during homecoming week is always a big part of the weekly festivities.

FBLA

Future Business Leaders of America has 52 members this year. As the sponsor of the welcome back dance, FBLA provides an opportunity for students to kick up their heels early on. The members will again participate in the Sunset Stroll this year, which raises awareness for breast cancer.

Band

The band participated in the "Battle of the Bands" at the Overbrook Fair Parade on August 16th and provided great enthusiasm and entertainment along the parade route! There are seventy-one members in this year's band.

FBLA Students experience "Excellence in Action" at National Conference

Santa Fe Trail High School recognized with top honors at FBLA national conference

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), the largest and oldest student business organization, held their National Leadership Conference (NLC) at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel, June 28-July 2, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Over 8,500 conference participants from around the world were in attendance for the NLC and the FBLA Institute for Leaders.

Blair Urish, from the Santa Fe Trail FBLA chapter, received national recognition at the FBLA Awards of Excellence on July 2. Blair competed in Desktop Application Programming and brought home a Second place award.

SFT-FBLA was also recognized for being a Gold Seal Chapter, Top 10 Outstanding chapter, and for participating in the Super Sweeps and February Frenzy membership recruitment programs. Also representing SFT-FBLA in Nashville were

Elizabeth Hill, KS FBLA State District Vice President (competing in Word Processing II), Zane Cersovsky & Colin McIver (competing in Network Design); plus, Anna Capra (competing in Client Service)



Kansas FBLA held their annual Summer Leadership Seminar (SLS) on July 21-22 at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Lawrence, Kansas. Local SFT-FBLA members and advisers that attended were: Elizabeth Hill, SFT-FBLA President & State District VII Vice President; Kyle Hug, SFT-FBLA Treasurer; Kayla Bryant, SFT-FBLA Historian; MacKinzie Foster, SFT-FBLA Sophomore Rep; Ms. Connie Lindell and Mrs. Sheila Mumford, SFT-FBLA local advisers. Rhett Laubach, president of “YourNextSpeaker” company, was the dynamic workshop facilitator. Rhett entertained, motivated and educated the 146 Kansas FBLA members over teambuilding, leadership, and time management skills on Monday of SLS. Kansas FBLA state officers lead mini-workshop sessions on Tuesday morning in a variety of areas, such as: competitive event preparation, fundraising, planning productive meetings, campaigning for an office and useful apps.

SFT-FBLA Members attending the 2014 SLS in Lawrence, Kansas, July 21-22: Kayla Bryant, Elizabeth Hill, MacKinzie Foster and Kyle Hug



The SFT Green Team

The SFT Green Team has many ongoing projects they are working on.

1. New plastic recycling bins for the football games.
2. Collecting medicine bottle caps for the Auburn Pharmacy's Caps to Cash program. To date enough caps have been collected to receive a \$200 check for very little effort on our part.
3. In cooperation with the KAY organization, old cell phones are being collected to donate to the Wounded Warrior Program.
4. Sonic Communities that Care cards are being sold with proceeds used to purchase needed recycling receptacles.
5. A proposal has been submitted to sell reusable water bottles with proceeds used to purchase an ezH2O water BOTTLE dispenser and filtration system.
6. Planning for a second e-waste drive to be held in the spring. Last year's drive was well received by the community and we collected **7,873 pounds** of materials that were responsibly recycled and kept from the landfill.