

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

FLINT HILLS TECHNICAL COLLEGE

SFT was visited on Wednesday, November 19 by representatives from Flint Hill Technical College in Emporia. The purpose of their visit was to share a few new programs they have for our students desiring a technical education. The two programs that caught our attention were the: Power Plant Technology (PPT) and the Business Administrative Technology (BAT). Of the two programs, the Power Plant Technology is very unique and has many great possibilities for our students at SFT. Another attraction for SFT to the PPT program is that the contact person is Ben Coltrane, Luke Coltrane's brother. Both programs can be completed on-line with an internship possibly over the summer.

STUDENTS FROM SFT TRAVEL TO KU'S THEATRE

Friday, November 21st, Santa Fe Trail's Technical Theatre class took a field trip to the Kansas University Theatre Department at Murphy Hall. While there the class was able to hear from students and staff about what it means to be a Jayhawk and more specifically be a Drama Hawk. The students were told about scholarship options and even studying abroad. The tech class was able to attend a theatre class called Approaching Design, while in class the students were not only able to see how a college class runs, but it also reinforced many skills that they were already being taught here at SFT! The students were excited to see that the skills that were being taught during Approaching Design; set/stage design, drafting, lighting/sound plots, were just an extension of their lessons and that professionals are using the information they are being taught. Lastly, the students were able to have an all access, behind the scenes look at KU Theatre. They were able to talk with actors, lighting/sound assistants, and the director of KU's upcoming show, *The Big Meal*; they even got to sit on the stage. The students were given a tour of the sound/light board, the catwalks above the stage, the prop and set design shop, the costume shop, the wardrobe and makeup department. Not only did this experience provide a wonderful opportunity for the students at SFT to start a relationship with KU, and for the tech theatre students to learn the ins and outs of a professional theatre, but the experience helped a senior at SFT decide to attend college.

2014-2015 MICROSOFT ACADEMY PROGRAM

The demands for graduates with postsecondary technical skills in Kansas are high. With 71% of the jobs in Kansas requiring some postsecondary education (credential through an advance degree) by 2020 (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2012), it's important to lead high school students to a credential in addition to a high school diploma.

To help in this effort, the 2014 Kansas Legislature passed House Bill 2231, infusing \$500,000 in state general funds to provide information technology education opportunities to high school students. These opportunities include **Microsoft certification exams to all Kansas high school students free-of-charge** in 2015. The purpose of this letter is to simply inform interested parties of this program. Notifications of the testing sites and the trainings will be forthcoming.

Microsoft Academy testing sites (high schools) will be identified throughout the state where the certification exams will be administered. Each **testing site will receive free-of-charge 50 copies of Microsoft 2010 or 2013 (whichever best fits with the school's current IT platform).**

JourneyEd, a company specializing in software program implementation will provide Microsoft Academy program training for Kansas educators beginning January 2015. Continuing throughout the winter/spring months, the training will also focus on community outreach (e.g., students, parents, teachers, etc.), making them aware of the opportunity to gain Microsoft training and certifications at no charge. Students begin testing in the spring of 2015.

We are certainly excited about this valuable opportunity for your students. It will not only help Kansas students more fully prepare for their career interests, but it will also positively impact the workforce in Kansas.

Dale M. Dennis, Deputy
Commissioner of Education

Blake Flanders, Ph.D.
Vice President for Workforce Development
Kansas Board of Regents

WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION INSTALLED AT SFT

The first step in the "recycling" process is to reduce the number of throw away objects used and replace them with items that can be reused. With that thought in mind the SFT Green Team set out to eliminate the enormous number of plastic bottles thrown out each day at the high school, hopefully by recycling them. The Green Team sold Sonic cards at many home events as well as in the community and raised enough money to purchase the Elkay retrofit water bottle filling station that allows you to place your own BPA free reusable water bottle under the spout and have it refilled. In addition to eliminating throw away bottles, the water is also filtered which was appealing to many of our students and staff.

Shawn Conklin, SFT alumni, donated some of the time necessary to install the filling station which we are extremely thankful for. The remaining expenses will be paid for by the donation from the Auburn Pharmacy Caps to Cash program.

To date we have eliminated 1498 water bottles from being used (as I type this).



NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS PROGRAM

Mark your calendar for the evening of December 15 (There will be a band and vocal music concert at 7 pm in conjunction with this.) The Industrial Education department will be displaying this semesters work from the following classes: Cabinet I, Cabinet II, General Industrial Education and Architectural design class (Computer aided design). You will be amazed at the woodworking projects and blue print drawings Santa Fe Trail High School students are producing in these classes. Students in Cabinet I class design tables and then make that table in class. Students in Cabinet II classes design some kind of a cabinet and then make that cabinet during class. General Industrial Education students make a bench and then design a computer generated design that will be machined into the top of the bench with a computerized router. And finally, the Architectural design class is designing their own house, making blue prints, floor plans, foundation plans, and elevations of the house they chose.

I have included some pictures of students who are working on these projects to get them done. At the end of the semester, it is expected that each student have a project that they personally constructed and designed.



Holiday Gift Ideas from the Art Department

We have downloaded over 400 pieces of artwork from the high school art department to Artsonia this year alone! If you are looking for some great gift ideas, follow the Artsonia link from the high school website or go to www.artsonia.com/schools/santafe2. You can order T-shirts, mugs, mouse pads and more with your student's artwork on it. Great gift ideas! Also, 20% of money spent on orders from our school go to the art department. Last year this helped fund part of the paint for the collaborative art piece of Van Gogh's "Starry Night" now hanging in the middle school.

Athletics and Activities at Santa Fe Trail High School

Basketball and Wrestling are in full swing to kick off the winter season!! There are many upcoming events on the road and at home. Get out and watch the Chargers as they face the challenge of competition on the hardwood and mat.

Fall Awards

Darric Cashier – 1st team All Pioneer League, Offense and Defense.

Jacob Hastings – 1st team All Pioneer League Offense.

Cal Lyle – 1st team All Pioneer League Defense.

Connor Fannin – 1st team All Pioneer League Defense.

Cody Vandevord – 1st team All Pioneer League Defense.

Weston Gloss – 2nd team All Pioneer League Offense.

Skylar Swaney – 2nd team Pioneer All League Offense.

Kelsey Simmons – 2nd Team All Pioneer League

Football

The 2014 Chargers were one of the most successful teams in school history!! Santa Fe Trail beat Jefferson West 24-12 to win Regionals, then went on to beat a stubborn Frontenac team 15-14 to secure the Sectional title. SFT then had to travel to Columbus for a Sub-State match-up. Although the Chargers didn't come out on top in this game, they battled hard until the end.



Wrestling

The Chargers begin their season on Thursday, December 4th when they host Eudora. The team doesn't get much rest as they travel to Spring Hill for a very tough dual tournament on Friday, December 5th. There are 28 wrestlers on this year, and 13 of them are freshmen. Santa Fe Trail will host a Junior Varsity Tournament on Friday, December 12th and then head to Anderson County for a Varsity Tournament on Saturday, December 13th.

Basketball

The SFT boys' team has 35 members out this season and the girls' team consists of 16. Each team will open the season at home Friday, December 5th against Olpe. The boys will have freshmen, junior varsity and varsity teams while the girls will only field junior varsity and varsity squads this year. Games are played on Tuesdays and Fridays. When the teams are at home, games are played at Santa Fe Trail High School and the Overbrook Attendance Center.

Dance Team

The Santa Fe Trail Dance Team will perform at each home basketball event this year. Their performance will be at the halftime of the boy's game.

KAY

Twelve members of the Santa Fe Trail KAY Club attended the Area 1 KAY Regional Conference on November 4th at Hoyt-Royal Valley High School.

Santa Fe Trail KAY Club received the Gold Award, recognizing their student leadership and service to their school, community, nation and world for the 2013-14 school year.

The Kansas Association for Youth (KAY) is a character-building, leadership training program directed by the Kansas State High School Activities Association. This nationally acclaimed organization provides students an opportunity to learn to assume their citizenship responsibilities and to enrich their personalities through well-organized programs. These programs emphasize four areas of service: school, community, nation, and world.

The theme for the 2014 Regional Conference was “Color My World”! This conference affords opportunities for student leaders and sponsors from clubs to share successes and challenges, as well as exchange ideas. Sessions in leadership training and organizational skills are also offered. These conferences inspire delegates to return to their clubs to challenge their local members. SFT KAY members are working to aspire their club goal of Gold for the 2014-15 KSHSAA Award program.

On Wednesday, November 12th, KAY hosted a successful blood drive at Santa Fe Trail High School.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Game Design class: students are now able to create their own games using computer programs called **SCRATCH** and **GAME SALAD**. Students have explored possible careers as a game designer or developer.

Photo Imaging class: students completed their Photoshop introduction units and now are working on individual projects. Such as: Mr. Potato Head (finding images of fruits, vegetables and pasta and making a face with the images), BLT sandwich, student’s face on a magazine cover, Where in the World is the Yellow Peep, and calendars.

The second edition of the **Red & Blue Review** will be available online December 10. Senior portraits for the 2015 Charger yearbook are due December 19.