

**SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2017**

GEMINI PROJECT

The main project that we are working on with this is “Charger” Day that will have the high school students working on many career and life opportunities. It is still a work in progress but here is the latest:

- a. The Building Leadership Team (BLT) is looking at having a Red and Blue Day schedule like we had with block scheduling. The Red Day would be the current bells schedule with activity period. The Blue Day would be a new schedule without activity period. By doing this, there would still be an opportunity for our clubs and organizations to meet.
- b. The BLT is planning on doing a practice day this Spring. As of right now, the anticipated day will be Tuesday, March 27th. It is still a work in progress but the two areas of focus will be: ACT prep and CPR training for students. SFT will be hosting on Tuesday, April 3rd the real ACT Test for the juniors who are interested in taking the test.

ALLEN COUNTY COLLEGE AND THE ACCUPLACER

Allen County College representatives traveled to SFT on Wednesday, December 7 to test our students wishing to enroll ACC College Algebra, ACC Biology, or ACC Comp I. Students must have a passing Accuplacer score to enroll in these classes. SFT had 39 students sign-up to test.

FINALS AT SFT

This year marks the second annual semester finals at SFTHS. The finals days will be Wednesday, December 20 and Thursday, December 21.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The 2017 National Honor Society Winter Formal had the very unique theme of “The Enchanted Forest.” In the forest, attendees were treated to specially designed leaf shaped tickets, created by Sabrina Simons, Kelsey Hug, and Travisray Salyers, a wide variety of forest esque decorations, from a candle lit walkway to golden entry gates, designed by Ellie Coltrane, opening up to a brilliant waterfall, designed by Wynter Ziegler, and a picture perfect bridge nestled in a backdrop of forest, designed by Hailey Hall with the bridge being built by Scott & Breanna Adams, Wynter Ziegler, and Alexis Massey. At the same time, guests were served exceptional punch with chocolate dipped fruit, marshmallows, pretzels and cookies. This year was the first year in NHS history that we did not rent a DJ, instead the DJ came from two NHS members at Santa Fe Trail, Xavier Ard and Gabe Rose, which provided an exceptional dance playlist provided by themselves and other NHS members. Nearly 170 attendees dressed to impress and had an enchanted evening. The purpose of this wonderous dance was for NHS to raise money for our graduation pins, honor cords, and national fees.

NHS would like to thank Lance Quilling for being vital in getting the DJ’s equipment and thank you also to our custodial staff for assisting in locating the optimal placement for our dance lights. We’d also like to give a special thank you to all the chaperones and grand food

and drink prep staff that staved off our thirst and starvation, Scott Adams, Jessica Frye, Jonas and Dana Mentzer, Theresa Foster, Shelly Robinson, Gretta Hug, and Carey Sisson. Lastly, a special thank you to our advisor, Marci Alstatt, for the numerous after school hours she dedicated so members could design and create “The Enchanted Forest” atmosphere and decorations, as well as Travisray Salyers for offering attendees professionally taken enchanted forest photo opportunities.

Pictured below are the NHS members and their advisor at the conclusion of the winter formal on December 2nd.



Pictured above are the National Honor Society Charger Chapter members and their advisor for Santa Fe Trail High School. Left to right in the back row: Audrey Ward, Breanna Adams, Sarah Ralston, Maddie Foster, Alexis Massey, Tara Turner, Ana Caskey, Gabe Rose, Hailey Hall, Josh Stone, Reegan Sisson, and Emma Lacey. Left to right in the front row: Marci Alstatt (advisor), Xavier Ard, Megan Mentzer, Kali Drake, Sabrina Simons, Kelsey Hug, Savannah Lankton, and Ellie Coltrane. Not pictured: Wynter Ziegler.

THE SPRING PLAY

This year's spring play will be, William Gleason's adaptation of the widely popular and hilarious film, *The Pink Panther Strikes Again*.

Audiences will be in stitches as the world's most unusual criminologist, Chief Inspector Jacques Clouseau—a role originally created by Peter Sellers—fights for his life and for the

future of all mankind in the most bizarre and dangerous caper of his brilliantly successful and utterly clumsy career. Paul Dreyfus, once his long-suffering boss, now turned into a raving lunatic, holds the world at bay with the ultimate weapon, the Doomsday Machine. Dreyfus is out to get Clouseau, the man whose undeserved success has driven him crazy, and he threatens to vaporize continents if the nations of the world don't deliver Clouseau to him—alive or, if at all possible, dead! Blissfully unaware that the army of deadly assassins is gunning for him, or that the beautiful girl who seeks him out is a Russian agent, Clouseau incredibly stumbles and slips by every attack. However, the world is running out of time because the increasingly frustrated Dreyfus, doodling with the Doomsday Machine, is running out of patience. At the critical moment, it suddenly appears that Clouseau is finally running out of luck. Then he fires from the hip and hits...our funny bone!

I think this will be a real hit with the community! Hitting multiple generations, loving the films and the television show. The Pink Panther is still an icon, and with nostalgia being a popular these days, I think this one will be a homerun.

FROM THE DESK OF MR. SALYERS

FBLA

November was a busy month for FBLA! We did a plethora of activities as well behind the scene to support the organization.

On November 2nd, FBLA hosted the annual Dodgeball Tournament. 6 teams were registered. Over \$60 was raised for the March of Dimes and over 50 food can items were collected to be donated to the Lyndon Help House.

6 FBLA members (Cameron Koger, Kelsey Hug, Hunter Ellenburg, Savannah Lankton, Brock Robert, and Derek Stahel) along with Mr. Salyers, Adviser attended the National Fall Leadership Conference in St. Louis, MO from November 9th-11th. Members attended workshops, networked, and gained valuable leadership knowledge.

November 15th was American Free Enterprise Day which our very own members (Cameron Koger, Otis Costlow, Calvin Young, and Carson Stumpff) spoke to the Governor about proclaiming the day as so. To celebrate the occasion, FBLA hosted a special meeting to educate members about the American Free Enterprise system and hear from a local entrepreneur and SFT teacher, Mr. Terry Stanton.

Then on November 17th, FBLA raised awareness of premature births by having students wear purple.

Yearbook

Yearbook members have been working hard to create the newest edition of the Charger Yearbook. Getting maximum coverage by being present at almost all school events. As a first year adviser Mr. Salyers is very proud of where we are at this point. Students have been doing a fine job of being present at events, working on their pages, selling ads, and always thinking of new ideas for the book.

Business Department

Students in Mr. Salyers' class have also been very busy during the month of November. Working on various projects for the classes they are in.

Career Friday – in the latest edition of Career Friday, students answered the most common job interview questions “speed dating” style. They had about 30 seconds to ask their question and have it answered, then have the same done to them. Then switch to the next

person and do the process all over again. After the rotation was over, student then reflected on their answers and thought of way to improve their answers for a real interview. Proper job interview etiquette was also discussed.

ACC ELEMENTARY SPANISH

The Allen County Spanish class went on a field trip to Lawrence, KS on Wednesday, December 6th. The students in the class had the opportunity to talk to Amy Rossomondo, director of the Spanish Language Program at the University of Kansas. She conducted a class specific for our students and it was entirely in Spanish. Later on, the students had the opportunity to extend their Spanish practice by ordering at a local Mexican restaurant all in Spanish. It was a lot of fun!



FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

Holiday Gift Ideas from the Art Department

We have downloaded over 300 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 "Irises" now hanging at the end of the Senior hall.

Winter Art and Woodworking Show

Join us December 11th right before the Winter Musical Concerts for the Winter Art and Woodworking Show. It will be held in the Commons area from 6:00-7:00 pm, and display students' woodworking and art projects from this semester.

CHEERLEADERS COMPETING AT KSHSAA GAME DAY

The Santa Fe Trail Cheer Team participated in the first annual KSHSAA Game Day Spirit Showcase on Saturday, November 18 at the Kansas Expo Center. Over 80 teams competed in the event and SFT was part of the 4A division. The Team performed a crowd leading cheer, band dance, and fight song representing Trail with great pride. Judges provided feedback for each performance. This was a great experience for the team and something they may be interested in taking part in again in the future. The team appreciates those who came out to support them during the Showcase. Go Trail!



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 challenging competition on the hardwood and mat.

Fall Awards - Football

Angel Esparza – 1st Team All Pioneer League Offense, Topeka Capital Journal Class 4A DII Offense Honorable Mention and Wichita Eagle Honorable Mention Class 4A DII Offense.

Will Herren – 1st Team All Pioneer League Offense, Topeka Capital Journal Class 4A DII Offense Honorable Mention and Wichita Eagle Honorable Mention Class 4A DII Offense.

Otis Costlow – 1st Team All Pioneer League Offense and Wichita Eagle Honorable Mention Class 4A DII Offense.

Carter Greenfield – 1st Team All Pioneer League Defense, Topeka Capital Journal and Wichita Eagle Honorable Mention Class 4A DII Defense.

Evan Dean – 1st Team All Pioneer League Defense.
Mark Huddleston – 2nd Team All Pioneer League Defense.
Dakota Baker – 2nd Team All Pioneer League Punter.

Fall Awards - Volleyball

Kelsey Simmons – 1st Team All Pioneer League and 2nd Team Class 4A DII Kansas Volleyball Coaches Assn.
Marrit Mead – 1st Team All Pioneer League.
Greta Costlow – 2nd Team All Pioneer League.
Piper Johnson – 2nd Team All Pioneer League.

Fall Awards – Cross Country

Hannah Honeyman – 1st Team All Pioneer League and the 7th place finisher in the 4A State Cross Country Meet. Hannah was a 4 Time State Medalist in Cross Country!!
Parker Roberts - 1st Team All Pioneer League.

Wrestling

The Chargers began their season on Thursday, December 1st with a win over Eudora. The team didn't get much rest as they traveled to Spring Hill for a very tough dual tournament on Friday, December 2nd. The Spring Hill dual tournament is a big school vs. small school format. SFT went 3-2 on the day. There are 31 wrestlers and 3 managers on the team this year. Santa Fe Trail will host a Junior Varsity Tournament on Friday, December 8th and then head to Anderson County for a Varsity Tournament on Saturday, December 9th. December is a busy month for the young Charger Wrestlers but Coach Erickson and the team are excited about the upcoming season.

Basketball

The SFT boys' team has 30 members out this season, plus 4 managers and the girls' team consists of 19 players and 3 managers. On Monday, December 4th the Chargers opened up the season with 3 teams in action. The "C" boys beat Osage City in non-league action, and the varsity teams also beat Osage City in the Ike Cearfoss – Central Heights Tournament, an early season tournament. Due to limited space at Central Heights, Santa Fe Trail is hosting 2 rounds of the tournament. On Tuesday, December 5th, the "C" boys and JV girls beat West Franklin, while the JV boys lost. Each team will open the regular season at home on Tuesday, December 13th against Prairie View. The boys and the girls will both have freshmen, junior varsity and varsity teams this year. Games are normally played on Tuesdays and Fridays. When the teams are at home, games are played at Santa Fe Trail High School main and auxiliary gyms.

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.

Cheer Team

Our cheerleaders will be providing entertainment and promoting school spirit at each of our home basketball games this year.

Scholars Bowl

Our home Scholars Bowl tournament was on Tuesday, December 5th. SFT did not participate, as it is typical for the host school to utilize team members to assist in running the tournament.

SFT Debate is having a fantastic year. As a team, we have placed in multiple tournaments, and individually we have qualified three teams for State Debate.

Xavier Ard and Trevor Beavers have been mowing down competition, earning their spot early, qualifying for State in October.

Calvin Young and Otis Costlow, have been consistent all year, heading to State with a lot of momentum and confidence.

Novice team, Carson Stumpff and Aidan Thompson have surprised everyone with their incredible speaking skills and ability to thrash the competition in cross-examination.

All three teams will represent SFT at State Debate, capping off the most successful debate season in many years.