

**SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER 2016**

**FIRE DRILL/EVACUATION DRILL**

On Monday, September 19, SFTHS participated in its September fire drill but this year put a twist on it. They also practiced an evacuation drill with it. The drill was a success. In less than 12 minutes, the entire students and staff were removed to a safe location and had attendance taken and confirmed. All in all, it went very well.

**HOMECOMING PARADE FOR 2017**

The HS would like to give the city of Carbondale the opportunity to host the 2017 Homecoming Parade. Unless there are objections, this will be the plan.

**FINANCIAL MATH NEW AT SFT**

After 2 weeks of diligently learning about financial wants versus financial needs, the importance of having a trustworthy financial advisor, career and college paths-benefits of both, modeling/learning active participation skills, taking high quality notes, and seeing the consequences first hand of poor or impulsive investment decisions versus having a sound financial plan for investing wisely, the financial math students unleashed their competitive sides and tested their skills against their peers in a competitive game of Life. Each spin poses a new financial decision and each path on the board offers opportunities for wealth, like multiple paydays in one spin, winning a lawsuit or challenge card, as well as life's unexpected bills, like having triplets, losing their job, or having to sell their home for a loss. When all the decision making is final at the end of the game, each student analyzes their profits or files for bankruptcy, then we discuss why and how some ended with millions while others next to nothing. How did their decisions during the game impact their end result? How can we relate this activity to their daily financial decisions as high school students and beyond?

This is the first year SFT has offered a Financial Math class, which is being modeled from the Dave Ramsey curriculum. Already students have gained enough knowledge and know how to predict having saved the class, as a whole, \$600,000 in future poor investment choices. Our classroom money tree bulletin board gets money added each Friday based on the skills and knowledge they gained that week, plus labels are added to the tree's roots representing those skills and knowledge to parallel how our "money tree" is growing.

Marci Alstatt, Financial Math teacher



### **Random Drug Testing at SFT**

We have continued to participate in the random drug test at SFT for our students who qualify. All in all, things are going well here.

### **ACT Aspire Test**

The freshmen and sophomores will be taking the ACT Aspire Test on Wednesday, October 26, 2016. The test is supposed to be a predictor of how well students will do on the ACT test. Our freshmen and sophomores took this test last year so we will be able to compare results. Last year, our students overall did really, really well on the test. Hopefully, that trend will continue.

### American Government

Mr. Staab worked on getting the senior class registered to vote for the 2016 election. In an election year, our students who have turned 18 prior to the November are pretty excited to get to participate this year.

### The LMC

The LMC celebrated Constitution Week the third week September. With help from the scholars bowl team over a hundred students participated in a Knowledge of the Constitution Contest. Next month the LMC, in collaboration with the social studies department, will host a mock election.



### **FALL MUSICAL REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN!**

The SFT Drama department held a series of well-attended auditions in the second week of September for our fall musical, “The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee”. Although the title is long, the show is simply a musical recount of a middle school spelling bee, as told through the eyes of very awkward twelve year old contestants. It is a modern show, winning many Tony award in 2005 for its run on Broadway.

The cast is an ensemble, with no real leads or chorus members, all players tell the story together. We had some veterans return from previous shows: Carson Stumppff, Sam Rhodes, Kylee Burgoon, Ellie Coltrane, Alyx Smith, Brooke Kuermaier, Noah Knight, Hunter Maichel, and others. We have also welcomed lots of new blood with this form of a show, opening doors for new players like Amanda Jones, Blythe Long, Kenze Hoss, and Audrey Ward.

### **SUPER-CHARGED: THE TALENT SHOW RETURNS**

The SFT Vocal Music department will be holding act reviews in the second week of October to fill out the work they have already done for their annual talent show, SuperCharged. They were unable to hold it last year due to growing pains associated with the opening of the auditorium, so there is an entire year back log of talent itching to get on stage.

Talent acts are open to the entire high school. Groups are encouraged to apply (the football team should really do some ballet, and I’m sure there will be some water bottle flipping).

The choirs get a chance to sing some pop tunes to start their year. It’s a great time, as well as a FUNdraiser for the choirs. The \$3 suggested donation at the door helps cover some extras the choir enjoys. The show is Wednesday, October 19 at 7 pm. Hope to see you there!

### **FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

The science department has been super busy this past month. The Earth Science students are studying plate tectonics and used graham crackers to represent continental crust, Fruit Rollups to represent oceanic plates and frosting to represent the magma. Using these items they were able to see the plate actions that resemble what is happening due to the plate movements.

Biology classes have been working on many different projects. Testing seed germination rates, evaluating fertilizers and which has the least runoff into the water table, observing ant lions in their habitat and learning to make qualitative and quantitative observations of them in that setting. In addition, students have also created and carried out their own scientific experiment investigating habitat preference of roly polys!

Environmental science is working hard making an insect collection while anatomy students are learning about how cells work within tissues by creating a museum exhibit geared towards Jr. High students which will be on display at Family Science Night.

The science department is also planning the Family Science Night to be held at the high school on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6 – 8 pm. Dinner will be served with prices to be set by the PTO at the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. More information to follow soon.

**FROM MS. LINDELL**

Yearbook Staff—to celebrate National Yearbook Week (October 4-10), the SFT Charger Yearbook staff created a display of previous yearbooks spanning over 50 years. The staff members this year include: Co-Editors, Dakota Thompson & Bailey Springer; Business Manager, Cheyenne Gassman; Jaden Bone, Hailey Hall, Sawyer McClendon, Morgan Hermann, and T.J. Masters.

The SFT Charger Yearbook for 2016 received an award for a **PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE**. This honor is awarded to only a few yearbook staffs around the country to recognize excellence in yearbook creation and distribution. The banner, presented by area Josten's rep, Jeff Jasper, will be placed in a high area of visibility in the school.



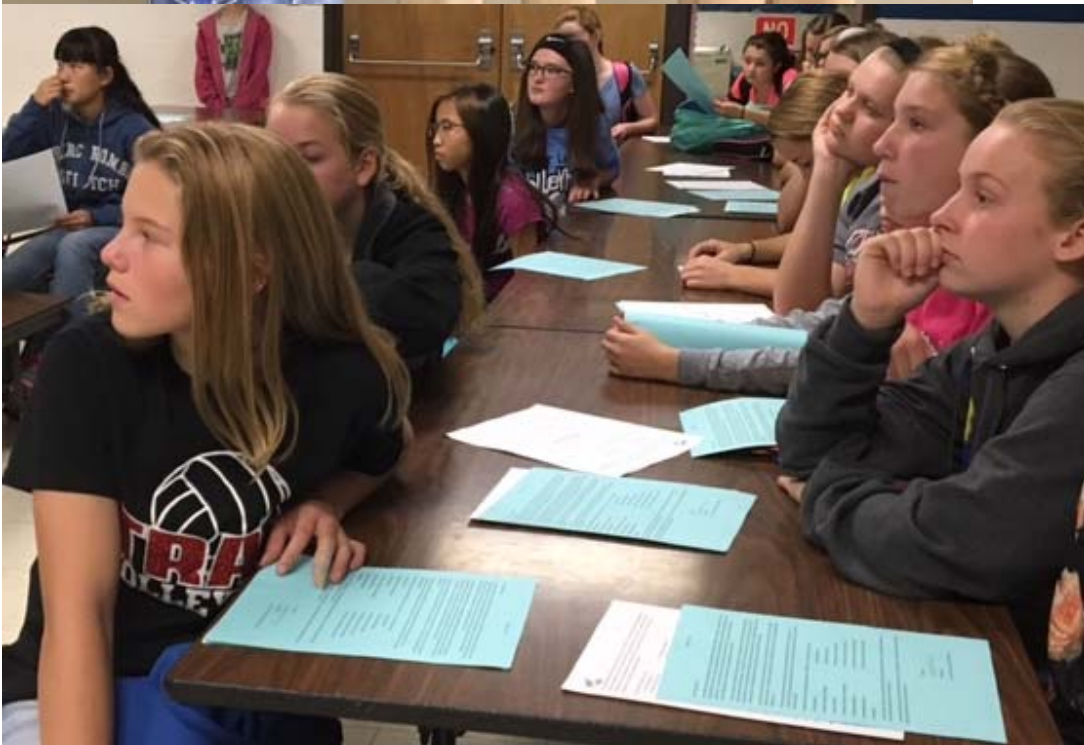
Hailey Hall, Bailey Springer, Morgan Hermann, Sawyer McClendon, TJ Masters, Jaden Bone, Dakota Thompson & Cheyenne Gassman

SFT-FBLA members Cameron Koger, Kelsey Hug and Carson Stumpff traveled to the Santa Fe Trail Junior High on October 4 to visit with the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students about starting a Middle Level FBLA chapter. Mrs. Gretta Hug is the assistant SFT-FBLA adviser and will head the chapter at the Junior High.





Kelsey Hug,  
Carson Stumpff,  
Cameron Koger



SFT Junior  
High 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
graders  
listening to  
the benefits of  
becoming a  
member of  
FBLA



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

The Activities at Santa Fe Trail have gotten off to a GREAT start in 2016!! Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate for the Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally, but we made the best of it and had a fun time at SFTHS!! Thanks for your support of SFT Students and Activities they are involved in!

#### **Football**

Currently, the varsity Chargers are 5-0 on the season and ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the state in 4A Division II!! On September 30<sup>th</sup>, the Chargers downed the Wellsville Eagles securing a Pioneer League Title!! The Chargers have Topeka-Hayden, Jefferson West, and Holton in their district this year. The top 2 in districts will advance to the playoffs. The junior varsity is 3-1 on the season while the freshmen have competed well, and are 3-0.

#### **Volleyball**

As of September October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Santa Fe Trail Charger varsity volleyball team is 4-2 in league, and 21-5 overall and ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state in 4A Division II. SFT has performed well in their 3 tournaments. They took 2<sup>nd</sup> at Jefferson West, 1<sup>st</sup> at Wamego, and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Wellsville. Piper Johnson and Kelsey Simmons were named to the all-tournament team at Wellsville. The team will travel to Council Grove this weekend for their final regular season tournament. Santa Fe Trail has 1 home game remaining; Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> against Prairie View and Anderson County. On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Chargers will travel to Burlington for Sub-State action. The other teams involved in that Sub-State will be Iola, Burlington, and Topeka-Hayden. State volleyball will be played in Salina, October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Bicentennial Center.

### **Girls Golf**

The girls' golf team continues to improve on their individual scores and places as the season rolls on. Santa Fe Trail hosted our tournament on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Hidden Springs Golf Course. We will attend regionals on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> hosted by Topeka-Hayden at Cypress Ridge Golf Course, 2533 SW Urish Road, Topeka. State girl's golf will be Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at Hesston Golf Park, 520 Yost Drive, Hesston, 67062.

### **Cross Country**

The Santa Fe Trail cross country team continues to work hard and gather momentum as the season progresses. Both the boys and girls teams have 2 to 3 runners in the top 20 in about each race they participate in. The boys have been led by Ian Trego and on the girl's side, Hannah Honeyman has three 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes this season. On October 13<sup>th</sup>, the cross country team will travel to Burlington to compete in the Pioneer League meet and on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, they will compete in regionals at Kansas City-Turner (Pierson Park). State Cross Country will be at the Wamego Country Club on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Scholars Bowl**

The Scholar's Bowl team will see their first action on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Bonner Springs. Coach Eric Lynch is very excited for the upcoming season and has 23 students on the team roster.

### **KAY**

The KAY volleyball tournament during homecoming week was once again a big success this year!! The Staff Team was victorious this year, after relinquishing the title last year. Those attending were asked to bring canned goods or non-perishable food items. KAY plans to host a blood drive at the high school on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am – 12:30 pm.

### **Student Council**

The Student Council did a wonderful job of planning for this year's Spirit Week!! Each day was filled with some type of theme for dressing up. Beautiful weather greeted those who participated in and attended the homecoming festivities on Friday night.

### **Debate**

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> the SFT Debate team began their season with a tournament at Washburn Rural. In October, the team will participate in tournaments at DeSoto and Silver Lake.