

**SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2019**

CHARGER DAYS

The latest Charger Day (January 16th) featured students rotating through sessions lead by staff from the University of Kansas and Washburn University. Their topics were Nutrition, Stress Management, Human Trafficking, and Healthy Relationships. Once this concluded students, worked on their Project Based Learning and participated in the survey from Myers Briggs Personality Test. Again, it was a pretty neat day on the Trail.

Our next Charger Day will be Wednesday, February 27.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

I would like to recommend the following changes for next year:

1. Starting with the Class of 2022, I would like to recommend that these students be required to enroll in and earn a semester credit for Economics of Personal Finance. This class will be required the second semester of their senior year. This class will be offered as a social studies credit.
2. Starting with the Class of 2022, the graduation requirement will be reduced to 24 overall credits. Students will still have to meet the state minimum requirement on courses. (We currently require 25 credits to graduate.)

ENGLISH CLASSES WILL LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT NEXT YEAR

For the 2019-2020 school year, the Santa Fe Trail High School will be revamping the course offerings in the English Department for juniors and seniors. Students will be able to have more choice in their course selection, while still fulfilling the necessary reading, writing, and speaking and listening standards and meeting the requirements for graduation. These electives will take the place of the traditional English III and English IV courses for juniors and seniors. The new courses available to juniors and seniors will be Mythology and Folklore, Sports Literature, Modern Literature, American Literature, College English Prep, and Film as Literature. Additionally, juniors who have completed Honors English II will have the ability to take Honors English III as well as Allen Community College (ACC) Composition I with a qualifying score. ACC Composition I and II and Introduction to Literature will remain as offerings to seniors with qualifying scores as well.

A NEW BENCH AT SFT—BURCHETT AND BRYANT

A message from Jennifer Mason, Craig Burchett's and Donnie Bryant's sister.

Thank you for the opportunity to memorialize my brothers at Santa Fe Trail. As you know, Donnie died in a car accident in November of 2017 and Craig was killed in a workplace accident at Westar Energy in June of 2018. This loss has been overwhelming for our family and it is our desire to remember them as the great guys they were.

Both Donnie and Craig were football players while in high school and then avid supporters after graduation. Many Friday nights, you could find them standing down by the concession stand watching the team in action, Craig watching his stepson, Gabe Dunnaway and Donnie

watching his son, Riley Bryant play football or his daughter, Kayla Bryant, dance. They loved this time together as proud SFT alumni.

Upon their deaths, the alumni from classes 1990-1992, collected money to contribute to a memorial on their behalf. Most of this money went toward a bench that can be seen on Main Street in Overbrook and our desire is to place another at the high school to honor them there. I am attaching a picture of the bench in Overbrook that we are hoping to replicate at SFT. We have people in place to construct the bench and secure it at the designated spot by the concession stand. Donnie and Craig were the types of guys that SFT should hold proud as alumni. Both of them hardworking and committed to making a lasting effect on the SFT community. Thank you again for the opportunity to honor them.



(This is what it would look like.)

ART DEPARTMENT

Exciting news from the Art Department we had a couple of entries for "Doodle a Google." The first display cases are up for this semester walk by and check them out. We will be hosting Professor Linda Ganstrom from Fort Hays State University on April 18th for Ceramics Demo and Portfolio review. Gearing up for Art League in April. Look forward to the Fine Art & Practical Art Show with Terry Stanton, in May 3rd.

Athletics and Activities at Santa Fe Trail High School

The winter sports season has resumed in full force after the winter break!! The spring sports season is just around the corner with practices starting on Monday, February 25th. Student athletes must have their physical, district activity form and concussion form completed and turned in. They must also have completed an on-line concussion education program (more information below). There will be a High School Spring Sports Parent Meeting on Monday, February 25th at 7:00 pm in the high school gym.

Basketball

The Santa Fe Trail boys and girls basketball teams are all battling really tough this season. Currently, the Varsity boys are 13-0 and ranked #1 in the state in some polls. The JV boys are 5-3 and the Freshmen/C boys are 7-1. The Varsity girls are 4-9 on the season, while the

JV girls are 3-6, and the Freshmen/C girls are 3-4. Winter Royalty is on Friday, February 1st and the ceremonies will be at halftime of the boys' varsity game against Prairie View. Senior night will be held on Thursday, February 15th when we host Wellsville. SFTHS will play in the basketball sub-state held at Perry-Lecompton the week of February 25th. Since we are now 3A for basketball, the first games will be held at the higher seeded team's home site. Girls games will start on Monday and boy's games will start on Tuesday. The sub-state winners will advance to state to be held at Hutchinson Community College-Sports Arena in Hutchinson the following week.

Wrestling

Senior night will be on Thursday, January 31st this year along with some SFTHS Hall of Fame inductions when we duel Gardner-Edgerton. Santa Fe Trail will travel to Iola on Thursday, February 7th for the Pioneer League Wrestling tournament starting at 3:00 pm. Santa Fe Trail will travel to Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg for Regional Wrestling on February 15th and 16th. Those wrestlers who place 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th at Regionals will then go on to state competition at the Bicentennial Center in Salina on February 22nd and 23rd. SFT is still in Class 4A for Wrestling.

Dual Sport Participation

There has been some interest from students who would like to participate in 2 sports during the spring season. Below is the Board policy on this issue:

Students may participate in two sports during one season, with approval from the coaches of both sports. In addition, a parent meeting with the coaches and athlete will occur prior to the first day of practice for that season, as set forth by KSHSAA. During this meeting, the athlete will need to choose which sport will be designated as their primary sport. Practice expectations will be discussed and outlined, along with how competition days will be determined per sport. Next, two sport athletes are expected to begin their dual sports on the same day. If they do not, the days missed will be considered to be unexcused. After two unexcused absences from one sport, they will no longer be able to participate in both sports.

Forensics

The Forensics Squad got off to a great start to the 2017 season with a 2nd place team finish at the McClouth Invitational on Saturday, January 26th. There were 4 state qualifiers on this day also. Their next competition will be Saturday, February 8th at Rock Creek.

Concussion Program

Santa Fe Trail High School students who are planning to participate in sports/cheer/dance anytime during the 2018-2019 school year are required to attend a free Concussion In Sports on-line course prior to starting practices. Those students who are participating in spring sports will be required to have this process completed prior to the start of practice on Monday, February 25th. Those that have not completed this requirement by that time, will not be allowed to practice until they have it completed. This is a requirement by the Kansas State High School Activities Association Executive Board. Anyone can participate in these courses and many others offered by NFHS by going to NFHSLearn.com. Once completed, you can either print off your certificate or take a photo of it for proof of completion. Again,

this is a requirement for any student who plans to participate in sports/cheer/dance during the 2018-2019 school year.

Any of the following online courses are recommended by the KSHSAA and the KSHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee for coaches, student-athletes and school administrators to meet the concussion and head injury education requirement:

Concussion in Sports (www.NFHSLearn.com) approximately 45 minutes

*Concussion for Students (www.NFHSLearn.com) approximately 30 minutes

*ConcussionWise, athlete version (www.sportsafetyinternational.org/cw-athlete-course/)

ConcussionWise, coach version (www.sportsafetyinternational.org/cw-coach-course/)

CDC Heads Up Concussion in Youth Sports (<http://usafootball.com/health-safety/concussion-awareness>)

*Course content designed for student-athletes.