September 2024

# The Charger

Jodi Testa, Principal Austin Hershberger, AP/AD 1.800.836.9525

#### The Official Newsletter of SFTJH/CAC

Welcome to a new school year! We are thrilled to have your children back in our classrooms, ready to embark on another exciting journey of learning and growth. As we settle into the rhythm of the school year, I want to take a moment to highlight some key aspects of our school culture and share how we can work together to support your child's success.

At our school, we embrace the motto "Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Responsible" as the cornerstone of our code of conduct. These three principles guide our students in their interactions with others, their approach to learning, and their overall behavior. We encourage you to reinforce these values at home, as they play a significant role in creating a positive and productive school environment.

One of the most important factors in your child's academic success is their attendance. Consistent and timely attendance is crucial for ensuring that your child does not miss out on essential learning opportunities. When students are present and engaged, they are more likely to grasp new concepts, build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and develop a love for learning. We ask that you make every effort to ensure your child arrives on time and is present every day. If your child must miss school, please communicate with us promptly so we can provide the necessary support.

I also want to invite you to take an active role in your child's education. Your involvement is invaluable, whether it's helping with homework, studying for tests, reviewing skills, attending school events, or simply asking about their day. When parents and teachers work together, we create a strong support system that encourages students to put their best effort into their daily work and tests. Let's remind our children that their hard work pays off and that perseverance is key to their success.

To keep you informed and engaged, we will be sending out a monthly newsletter from the principal's office, like this one, to share important updates, upcoming events, and helpful resources. In addition, your child's teachers will be providing two pieces of written communication each month. This will give you insights into your child's progress and how you can support their learning at home.

Thank you for being our partners in education. Together, we can ensure that every child in our school is "Ready, Respectful, and Responsible" and that they have a successful and fulfilling school year.

With Warm Regards, Jodi JTesta@usd434.us

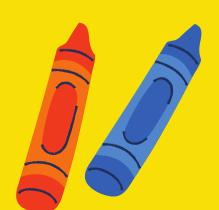
## Nursing News ...

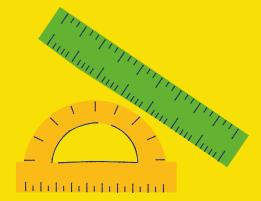
Now that school is back in session...some items to consider...

- 1. Students need adequate sleep!!
  - 2. Hydrate!!!
- 3. Breakfast is vital--no skipping meals!!

Did you know that to stay hydrated you need to be drinking more fluids 3 days prior to activity/heat?

IF your child gets headaches & cannot swallow pills — please send in chewable medications. The nursing office does not stock chewable meds!!!









## **BE HEAT AWARE...**

## **Heat Exhaustion**

## **Heat Stroke**

#### **ACT FAST**

- Move to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing
- Sip cool water
- Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve

**Dizziness** 

**Thirst** 

Heavy Sweating

Nausea

Weakness



Dizziness

Becomes Unconscious

#### **ACT FAST**

## **CALL 911**

- Move person to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing and remove extra layers
- Cool with water or ice

Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.

**Heat stroke** can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.











#### StuCo News

by Tiffany Burget

StuCo is ready to kick off the year. We have our applications up and they are due to me (Ms. Burget) by 3:40 on September 5. I want to reinforce that StuCo is a leadership position and I am looking for great role models for our student body. The following are expectations that we hold for our StuCo members.

- I agree to conduct myself in a way that earns respect from my teachers, other school personnel, and peers.
- I understand that I must have great behavior and must maintain good grades.
- I understand that I must attend meetings (Twice a month during homeroom)
- I understand that I will need to occasionally help before school to implement and plan activities for the school.

Failure to meet these expectations may result in the removal of the student from StuCo.

I am excited and ready to work with a new group of StuCo members who want to make a positive impact on our school.

#### Leads on Learning

by Kaytee Deines

Welcome back! We have made several changes to our intervention program this fall. There are now 6 academic coaches at CAC who are providing pullout instruction to students in grades 4-8. These academic coaches work alongside myself as the interventionist to provide small group instruction in targeted skill areas for both math and reading. Students receive this help during Charger Time. Charger Time instruction is also provided by grade level math and reading teachers. Students who receive these services are identified using our district FastBridge assessments. We will be taking our fall FastBridge assessments in the next few weeks. Our fall math assessments are September 3 for grades 4/5 and September 4 for grades 6/7/8. Our fall reading assessments are September 10 for grades s4/5 and September 11 for grades 6/7/8. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me by email, kdeines@usd434.us.

SEPTEMBER 2024 | BY KARA HOLBERT

### CHOIR & MUSIC ANNOUNCEMENTS



**6th Grade Choir** - Students were sent home with their Syllabus the first week of school that has all information and policies in it, including the date of our concert! Contact Mrs. Holbert if you have any questions!

7th & 8th Grade Choir - Students were sent home with their Syllabus the first week of school that has all information and policies in it, including a concert calendar! They were also sent home with T-Shirt Order Forms last week—Payment & Form are due Friday, 9/6!

#### **COMING UP:**

- October 23 @ Osawatomie JH League Choir Concert more info to come!
- November 11th @ CAC Veteran's Day Assembly
- December 4th @ CAC 7th & 8th Grade Band & Choir Concert
- December 11th @ CAC 6th Grade Band & Choir Concert



### Band Announcements

by McKenzie Rice and Lance Quilling

Welcome back to the 2024-25 school year! We are beyond excited for some amazing opportunities this year within the band program. Our high school band has the record number of 124 students, and this would not be possible without all of the hard work they complete in band while at CAC! We are looking forward to another wonderful year of instrumental music! You can find our fall concert dates listed below.

Upcoming Concerts:

November 11th: 7th/8th Grade Veterans Day Performance (during school day)

November 20th: 5th Grade Concert 7:00pm

December 4th: 7th/8th Concert 7:00pm

December 11th: 6th Concert 7:00pm

## Technology Classes

#### 4th & 5th grade

Mrs. Dayhoff

The schedule for 4th and 5th grade tech class this year is different than last year. 2 of the 4 grade level sections will have technology class every other day for 2 nine weeks. Mrs. Gregoire's class (4th grade) and Mrs. Rhoades and Mr. Prost's 5th grade classes have tech class Quarter 1. These students started their school year with some activities about themselves including an All About Me hoodie design. The students are reviewing classroom procedures along with learning technology vocabulary that they are putting into a google slide presentation.

#### 6th Grade

The students are learning about digital citizenship which includes new vocabulary and all the do's and don'ts when living in a digital world.

Students will continue to practice and work on their typing technique on Tuesday and Thursdays using typing.com. They are also designing projects that reflect what they know about the 6 topics of digital citizenship, including making meme's and posters.

The students are also learning real life situations through banzai.org which is a digital citizenship simulation program.



#### 7th/8th Grade

This semester's combo class of 7th and 8th graders started off with some basic google doc skills and then will advance those skills as they will also learn the rest of the google apps suite: google sheets, google slides and forms.

They have typing lessons twice a week using typing.com website and they will then continue to practice through all their daily lessons.

Students are also working on independent projects that provide them a very wide variety of technology and innovative programs, skills and interests.

Students are learning 3D design, using the 3D pens, coding, use of the Cricut and how to use google sheets for pixel art or a wordsearch creator. I encourage the students to think outside the box and if they can tie their project to a technology skill or many skills then I allow their project idea. The students work on these projects when they are done with their regular assigned work and most Fridays are set aside for project work time too.

Students are also learning about financial literacy, budgeting and running a lemonade stand through the banzai simulation website.





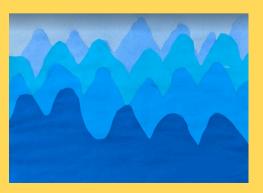
Students practiced working in teams to build the tallest paper tower at the end of class.



6th Grade and Junior High students are jumping right into their first project "Peeking at a Monochromatic Scene" after a quick review of the color wheel and color schemes. Students practiced atmospheric depth with layered paper, and will paint their projects next.









4th and 5th Graders started their first project, "My Identity Letter". Students are exploring how to use symbolism to express meaning, and discussing how art in the real world affects our everyday lives.



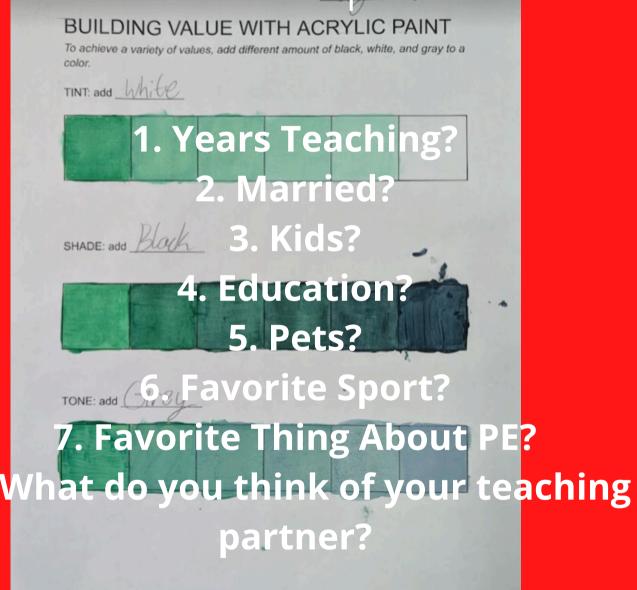
## PE & Weights

Meet the PE Department!



#### **Coach Duncan**

- Years Teaching 26 great years
- Married Yes, wife Tanya, and we have been married for 23 years
- Kids Just 1 Son, Tyler, He is a 21 yr old Senior in College, Plays golf at Ottawa University
- Education Washburn, B-Ed in Physical Education, and Collegiate Golfer
- Pets 4 dogs, Cash, Tucker, Bogey, and Scooter (Only wanted 2 but love all 4)
- Favorite Sport To play- Golf, To watch-Football, To officiate - Basketball
- Favorite thing about PE class- I like making PE fun and joking around with the kids, it forms good relationships, and it keeps me young!
- What do you think about your teaching partner, Coach Staten- "He reminds me of myself 25 years ago, he is eager, has a great sense of humor, fun to be around, he has a great football mind along with a knack for teaching and coaching. He does alot of things better than I did, however, he won't ever have my great looks, but he can't help that!!



#### **Coach Staten**

- Years Teaching- 3 years
- Married- Engaged to my Beautiful Fiance
- Kids- None
- Education- Washburn University B-ED physical Education, And Football
- Pets- 1 Dog, Riley
- Favorite Sport- Football
- Favorite thing about Weights Class-I enjoy physical movement and enjoy introducing kids to weight lifting and physical movement.
- What do you think of your teaching partner? - Coach Duncan Is the man!
   Coach is hands down greatest PE teacher to ever walk the halls of SFT!

# Mental Health Minute

## Set Your Student UP For Success!!

The start of a new school year brings a great opportunity to establish a routine, which is important for academic success and overall well-being. A solid routine helps reduce stress by providing clear structure and teaching healthy habits. Stable and consistent routines also teach children time management and organizational skills. Sleep is an important part of establishing a routine. Getting enough sleep helps students learn and experience more positive interactions by improving attention, problem-solving skills, and emotional regulation.

