

Santa Fe Trail High School October Newsletter

Welcome to our October newsletter, featuring the latest updates and highlights from our high school community. We're excited to share the accomplishments and upcoming events that make this such a special time of year.

 by Kyle Ellis

SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL

Message from the Principal

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents,

October is here, and with it comes cooler weather, exciting events, and opportunities for growth! I'm pleased to report that the first seven weeks of the fall semester have been very successful. We've established positive routines, students have shown dedication and enthusiasm, and teachers have worked hard to create engaging learning experiences. We've continued building a strong sense of community and positive relationships within our school, as evidenced by our Homecoming celebration! Student engagement in extracurricular activities has been high, showing a collaborative spirit. As we move deeper into the semester, our focus will remain on providing a supportive learning environment and maximizing each student's potential. We encourage students to stay engaged, reach out for help when needed, and participate in the many activities planned for this month.

Wishing everyone a productive and fun October!

Sincerely,

Kyle Ellis

Homecoming Recap



Spirited Festivities

Our Homecoming celebrations were a huge success, filled with school spirit, great competition, and joyful memories.



Parade & Pep Rally

The Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally served as a great representation of our community's support for each other.



Crowning Moments

The Homecoming Court ceremony was a highlight, honoring our outstanding student leaders and their contributions to the school.



Parent-Teacher Conferences



Open Communication

Conferences are an invaluable opportunity to discuss your child's academic progress and address any concerns.



Wednesday, October 23rd from 4pm - 8pm

Thursday, October 24th from 8am - 8pm.



Student Feedback

Teachers will provide detailed insights into your child's strengths, areas for improvement, and overall performance.



Important Dates and Deadlines

1

No School

Students will not be in regular attendance on Oct. 14th, Oct. 18th, Oct. 24th, or Oct. 25th.

2

Apply Free Days

The Kansas Apply Free Days will be held on October 7-9, 2024! During these three days, any Kansas resident, regardless of age or income can apply for free at any of our 7 public universities, 19 community colleges, 6 Technical colleges, and the 21 private member institutions of the Kansas Independent College Association. Eligible programs include general applications, certificate programs, associate degree programs, and bachelor degree programs. (Graduate programs or other mid-degree applications will not qualify.)

**Kansas Apply
Free Days**
October 7-9, 2024



3

Senior Caps & Gowns

Jostens recently visited with our seniors about purchasing their graduation regalia. Please be sure to speak with your senior about orders and submission deadlines.

Message from the Athletics & Activities Director

The 2024-25 school year is off and running! Our athletics teams are in the heart of their seasons, gearing up for a strong push toward postseason success. In addition to athletics, the SFT band has been practicing hard in preparation for their competition on October 7 at Eudora High School. Meanwhile, the cast and crew of the musical "All Shook Up" are putting in long hours of rehearsal, with performances scheduled for November 15, 16, and 17. The Scholars' Bowl team is preparing for their competitions, which begin in November, and winter activities are already starting to meet and plan for their seasons. If your student is planning to participate in a winter sport but is not currently in a fall sport, please make sure all necessary paperwork is submitted to the office before the first day of practice to ensure they are eligible to practice and compete. We truly appreciate all the support and cheering from our Charger community. Let's keep that energy going as we continue striving for success both in the classroom and in competitions!

Go Chargers!!!

Kris Henry

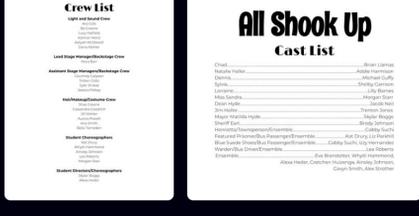




Activities Update

Choir: SFTHS Choirs are gearing up for their first concert of the school year, which is on Wednesday October 9th at 7:00 PM in the SFTHS Auditorium. Join us for a wonderful evening of music to showcase our amazing singers here at Trail! Students have been working hard in their ensembles, some of them seasoned veterans and some of them brand new to choir. We have been discovering and exploring our sounds as individuals and as a group, as well as growing our musicianship skills to prepare for our first concert and our future concerts and contests. We hope you can make it out! Admission is FREE!

Musical: Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of the 2024 Fall musical, "All Shook Up"! We are in the full swing of rehearsals, getting ready for performances in November. The music of Elvis comes alive in "All Shook Up" Inspired by Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, "All Shook Up" follows a small Midwestern town in the mid-1950's that is thrown into a frenzy with the arrival of Chad, a good-looking, motorcycle-riding roustabout, who rides from town to town with a guitar on his back, blue suede shoes on his feet, and a song in his heart. Repressed by their crazy mayor, the town begins to come alive once more under Chad's influence. Many people meet and cross unlikely paths, in the pursuit of their dreams, all in one zany night that will change the town forever. "All Shook Up" is a rocking, heartwarming tale about following dreams, finding love, and the power of music. Save the date for the performances: November 15th @ 7:00 PM, November 16th @ 7:00 PM, and November 17th @ 2:00 PM. We hope to see you there!



Band: The high school band has hit the ground running at the start of this school year! We have had 2 successful football game performances, including homecoming, and the Carbondale Fall Festival Parade. We are now working towards our marching competition in Eudora on October 7th. At this event, we will compete against 9 other schools and be scored by 2 high quality judges. If you have not had the opportunity to watch this awesome group of kids perform I highly recommend watching our halftime show "Epic Battles" at the football games on October 18th and 25th!

FBLA: The SFT Chapter of FBLA membership continues to grow, up to 50 members as of September 30. There is still time for your student to join if they'd like. Have them see Mrs. Smith in Room 102 for a membership form. Dues for FBLA are \$20. If your student is in need of financial assistance to join please reach out to Mrs. Smith at jsmith@usd434.us.



In August FBLA officers hosted the Back to School Bash for students. The team decided on a fiesta theme and offered nachos to level up the fun of this year's Bash.



In September a team of 12 traveled to OAC for DOT Day, a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration. FBLA members assisted specials teachers with DOT Day lessons and activities.



Tyler Bolt, District VII Vice President for Kansas FBLA, met with the team of state officers at Emporia State University on September 20th. In Tyler's position he will host the District VII Conference at Washburn University in January. If you'd like to be contacted about judging an event please email jsmith@usd434.us.



The FBLA float was inspired by this year's Homecoming theme, 'Merica and the successful hunting and outdoor recreation company, Duck Commander.

Yearbook: The Charger staff has been hard at work covering events, collaborating on a theme for the 2025 publication, and selling ads. Currently we are 85% of our way to ad goal. If your business would like to purchase a yearbook ad send an email to jsmith@usd434.us. Why do we sell ads? To help keep costs of the book lower for students. We will also use ad sale proceeds to upgrade our aging camera equipment.

3 Important Yearbook Things: Order a yearbook prior to November 24, when it's the lowest it'll be all year, and have your student's name placed into a drawing for a \$25 gift card. Get a form from Mrs. Smith, or order online at jostens.com. Senior tributes are now on sale. Emails went out to all senior parents, if you need more information, or have questions, email jsmith@usd434.us. Follow us on Instagram and TikTok! @the_charger_yearbook

Yearbook staff write expectations for the year and seal them with pinky promises.



KAY

Coed Volleyball/Membership Drive: KAY has been busy participating in Fall Spirit Week activities. The club hosted their annual Coed Volleyball tournament open to high school students and staff on September 25. Students took on the roles of coaches, players, and officials. Many coaches, coaching styles, and team strategies were impersonated by the students and the staff participants. It was a great evening of fun, exercise, and sportsmanship.



HOCO Parade: The 2024-25 KSHSAA theme for KAY is "Waves of Service". KAY members participated in the SFT Homecoming parade with a beach themed float representing KAY service and leadership objectives.

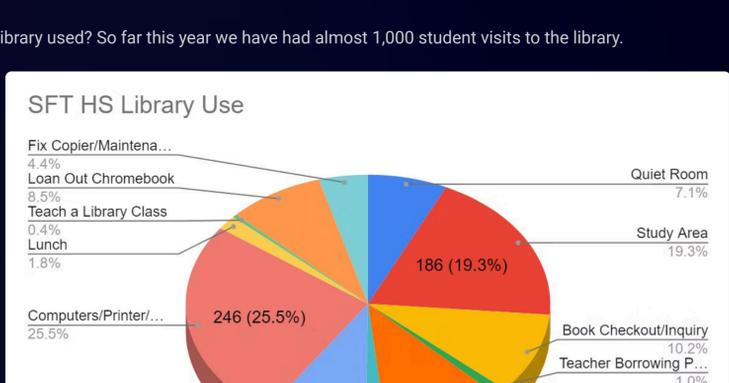


Color Dash & Throw: KAY sponsored a crazy fun-filled activity September 28 at the Carbondale Fall Festival; Color Dash/Walk & Color Throw. People of all ages love to get doused in the biodegradable food safe color powder. The "Dash" has four color stations powered by KAY members that participants walk or run past. KAY members then sprinkle or spray the color powder on the participants as they pass by. The "Throw" is when individuals each get their own small packet of color powder to sprinkle or throw onto each other. It's difficult to tell who enjoys this KAY community service project more; adults, teens, or the youngest of children.



Library Media Center: September is an exciting month at the SFTHS Library! It's National Library Card Sign-Up Month, a perfect opportunity to explore the free resources available to you with your library card. Not only can you check out books, but you also have access to computers, copiers, technology loans, tutoring, and technical assistance. Be sure to check in with your local public library for even more resources! For instance: Overbrook Public Library: Check out baking and cake pans! Burlingame Library: You can borrow power washers and other equipment. Carbondale Library: Offers special Teen Time programming for youth after school on select days. Additionally, we are currently observing Freedom to Read Week, which runs from September 22 to 28. This annual event emphasizes the importance of access to diverse information and viewpoints. A fundamental aspect of a free society is the ability for individuals to question, research, and debate topics of their interest. Make the most of this month by utilizing your library card and participating in these valuable programs!

How is our school library used? So far this year we have had almost 1,000 student visits to the library.





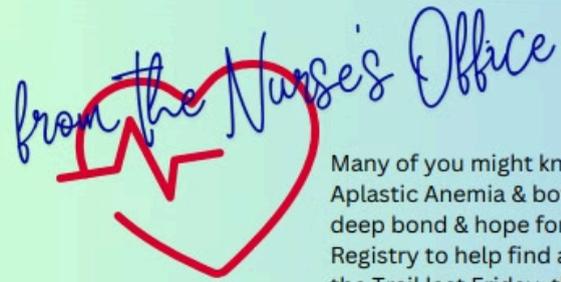
Athletics Update

Girls Golf: Girls Golf is two weeks away from post season play. The newer players' scores have improved tremendously from the beginning of the season. They are setting individual goals and seeing personal growth in scoring and skills. Four year Varsity player, Bailey Anshutz, has medaled in the top 3 positions for every tournament in September as an Individual. Bailey placed 2nd in West Franklin Inv at Lamont Hill, 3rd at Osage City Inv, 2nd in Jeff West Inv at Village Greens & she was the 1st place Medalist in the SFT Invitational at Lamont Hill on September 17. SFT will compete in the 4A division for 2024 Regional & State Girls Golf playoffs. Good Luck Chargers!



Cross Country: Cross country is off to a great start. We have completed 4 meets so far this season. Our boys varsity team placed 2nd in our first meet at Anderson Co. and our boys JV placed 3rd as a team. In addition we brought home 8 individual medals. Our JV team competed at Holton on September 12 with 8 of our 13 athletes running a PR that day. Our varsity also competed at the very competitive Wamego meet on September 14, where 5 of our 10 boys and girls varsity members medaled and our boys placed 4th overall as a team. Every single one of the boys and girls varsity members who raced that day got either a personal best or a season best. These are great results for such a tough course! On September 19th we competed at an extremely hot Wellsville meet. This week our JV will compete at Royal Valley on Thursday the 26th and our varsity will compete at Rim Rock on Saturday the 28th. This season seems to be flying by already. After this week we will only have two regular season meets left - Council Grove on October 3rd and Osage on October 10th. The Osage meet is at their Golf Course in Osage City. It's a meet close to home with plenty of spots to see our runners - come on out and support the XC team! Let's go Trail!

Wrestling: Any boy or girl interested in wrestling needs to reach out to Coach Gonzales, tgonzales@usd434.us or stop by his classroom and get connected with the Team Remind, information is going out to current athletes and parents about Team Events, Apparel and Season information.



Many of you might know that we have two students in our district that are battling Aplastic Anemia & both urgently need a bone marrow transplant. These girls share a deep bond & hope for a brighter future. The family is working closely with The NMDP Registry to help find a marrow match for BOTH of these girls. At Homecoming's Shop the Trail last Friday, the SFT Nursing Department teamed up with the family and other staff to host a Blood Stem Cell Donor Registry event along with their fundraising efforts. At the end of the night, 45 members of our community signed up to get their name on the National Registry List in hopes to find a match, if not for these girls, then for someone else.

It's no more than a cheek swab and answering some questions to get registered - 5 minutes tops. Anyone in the age range of 18-40 can join the registry AT NO COST.

If you are not yet 18 but would like to join, PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME!! I can help you fill out the paperwork and get you on the waiting list. A swab kit will be mailed to you on your 18th birthday.

If you would like to join or have questions, please reach out, my contact information is below. I would be more than happy to walk you through the steps of getting you registered.

You can also find the girl's story and get more information on the following platforms:
Facebook @ Josie and Lenna Fight On
Text JosieLennaFight to 61474
Visit my.nmdp.org/JosieLennaFight.

It's a Great Day To Be A Charger, because TOGETHER we can change lives.

CONTACT NOW

Kimberly Kesl, RN

USD 434 DIRECTOR OF NURSING
 **1-800-836-9525 X1172**

 **KKESL@USD434.US**

Upcoming School Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>4:30pm:HS Girls Volleyball at Burlington vs AC, Burlington, SFT</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30pm:NHS Powder Puff Brisketball</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:00pm:HS JV Girls Golf at LaMont host West Franklin</p> <p>4:00pm:JH/HS XC @ Council Grove</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Volleyball vs Wellsville</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Football @ Burlington</p> <p>5:00pm:SAC Preschool Family Picnic on the playground</p>	<p>4</p> <p>NO PK CLASSES - Screening at SAC</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB at Wellsville</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am:HS Girls JV Volleyball at Jeff West Tournament</p> <p>9:00am:HS Girls V Volleyball Tournament at Wellsville</p> <p>9:00am:JH Volleyball League Tournament @ Osawatomie</p>
<p>7</p> <p>HS Band Competition at Eudora</p> <p>1:00pm:HS Girls Golf at Anderson Co</p> <p>4:30pm:HS Girls C Team VB vs Baldwin and AC at SFT</p> <p>4:30pm:HS JV FB at SFT vs Wellsville</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:00pm:HS Girls League Golf at Osawatomie</p> <p>4:30pm:HS Girls Volleyball at SFT vs PV, Wellsville</p>	<p>9</p> <p>SAC PreK Picture Day</p> <p>6:00pm:Board of Education Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm:HS Fall Choir Concert in HS Auditorium</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:00pm:JH/HS XC @ Osage City</p> <p>4:30pm:HS Girls Volleyball at SFT vs Burlington, And. Co</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30am:OAC Donuts with a Grownup</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V Football at Baldwin</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00am:HS Girls V Volleyball Tournament at Council Grove</p>
<p>14</p> <p>NO SCHOOL. Professional Development Day</p> <p>8:00am:HS Girls Golf Regionals TBD</p> <p>4:30pm:HS JV FB at SFT vs Anderson Co.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Football vs Prairie View</p> <p>4:30pm:HS Volleyball at Iola vs Osawatomie, SFT</p>	<p>16</p> <p>OAC Fall Picture Day</p> <p>6:30pm:Rain Date- NHS Powder Puff Brisketball</p>	<p>17</p> <p>SFT End of 1st Quarter</p> <p>3:30pm:JH/HS XC League @ Burlington</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Iola</p>	<p>18</p> <p>SFT Teacher Prep - No School</p> <p>6:00pm:Jr. Charger Youth FB Night</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB at SFT vs Anderson Co.</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>21</p> <p>HS Volleyball 3A Regionals TBD</p> <p>8:00am:HS Girls State Golf at Hesston Day 1 and Day 2</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Wellsville</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Football 7th Grade Bowl @ Burlington</p> <p>4:30pm:HS JV FB at Anderson Co.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:00am:HS Girls State Golf at Hesston Day 1 and Day 2</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Baldwin - 7th HOME, 8th @ Baldwin</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Football 8th Grade Bowl @ Osawatomie</p>	<p>23</p> <p>JH League Choir Concert @ Osawatomie</p> <p>4:00pm:SFT PT Conferences</p>	<p>24</p> <p>No School: SFT PT Conferences 8 am to 7 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>SFT No School</p> <p>6:00pm:HS Senior Night before FB game</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB at SFT vs Bishop Ward</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00am:HS Volleyball Sub State at TBD</p> <p>9:00am:HS XC Regionals Location TBD</p>
<p>28</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball @ Burlington</p> <p>4:30pm:HS JV FB at Bishop Ward</p>	<p>29</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Girls Basketball vs Osawatomie</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Halloween</p>	<p>1</p> <p>HS Volleyball State at Hutch</p> <p>HS Picture Retake Day</p> <p>7:00pm:HS V FB Week 9 TBD</p>	<p>2</p> <p>HS Volleyball State at Hutch</p> <p>9:00am:JH Wrestling - Charger Invitational @ SFTHS</p> <p>9:00am:State XC at Rim Rock Time TBD</p>