

Carbondale Attendance Center Parent Informer – April 2018

A Message from Mr. Flax – Snow on April 1? What! I was getting ready for spring. I hadn't planned to spend my Easter Sunday inside all day. Enough of that rant... It is so hard to believe that we are really in the last quarter of school for the year. I want to ask that you help your children by not letting them start shutting down about school at home. I have challenged the teachers to make sure they are planning engaging lessons as we get closer, and to not waste any instructional time. With so many disruptions, class time becomes even more valuable at this time of year.

Activities Update – Well, we are trying to get the track season underway. The first meet of the year was scheduled for yesterday at Central Heights. That meet was postponed until this Thursday, April 5. They did move the start time up to 2:00. Our first home track meet was scheduled for this Friday, beginning at 2:00 at Santa Fe Trail High School. It appears that the weather will not cooperate with us for that date either, so we have postponed that until next Monday, April 9 beginning at 2:00. Hopefully we can get next week's competitions in as scheduled. We will have track practice this Friday from 3:40-4:30, and the buses will shuttle students back to OAC and SAC after. The coaches have been very flexible with scheduling practices, and I know that affects you all too. Know that we will do our best to limit changes once the weather allows us to practice out at the high school again.

FBLA State Conference – Mrs. Gretta Hug and Mrs. Ashley Michaelis, sponsors of our FBLA chapter recently took our students to two competitions. The regional contest was held in Emporia on the campus of ESU. At that site several students qualified for the state contests held in Topeka. Our students received 31 top-ten places at that competition. Of those, eight of our students had multiple awards, with a total of 19 students earning top-ten finishes. Of the eight categories, our students placed first in five of them. We are proud of the students and coaches for these achievements. I am grateful that the BOE allowed us to add FBLA to our programming at the junior high. Hopefully, this is experience that will allow our students to excel at the high school level in the future.

State Assessments – The state assessments are well underway. Mrs. Hamit has been very busy directing testing traffic here as well as at OAC and SFTHS. As the district test coordinator, it falls on her to keep things on schedule and in working order. She does it masterfully. We hope to complete the testing in the next two weeks. I am hopeful the students are taking the assessments seriously, as the district does make curriculum and instructional changes based on the results of any of our testing programs.

8th Grade Conferences – Mrs. Hamit, Mrs. Mead, and I want to thank all the eighth grade students and parents for coming in for the high school transition conferences. Each year the three of us meet with each individually in an effort to give some high school preparation/knowledge and to review the ACT/Aspire Test results from the fall. Selecting classes for freshman year is an important activity, and these meetings give us the chance to help facilitate that. If any of you have feedback for us that would make these conferences better for you, please let us know. We want them to be productive and helpful, and to know that the eighth graders are ready for their movement to the high school. And if you asked any questions at those meetings that have not been answered, please remind us. I will do my best to get the answers to you with immediacy.

One More Note from Mr. Flax – Every year for at least the last three rumors have flown around that I am retiring. And every year as parents ask me about that rumor, I say I will let you know myself when that is going to happen. So this is my time to tell you that I will not be here next year. I am not counting the days (although because of activities I can tell you how many) nor am I giving up on the work until the end of July. I will be leaving here on the 31st of July. Mrs. Hamit has been hired to be the building principal, and I am excited for her and the district as she takes over. I have really enjoyed my time here, and I would not want to do this work anywhere else. Santa Fe Trail and many of you have been so very good to me. I appreciate each and every kindness you have shown, and I have never taken a single one of those for granted. Being a bit presumptuous here, I do not want retirement gifts, nor will there be a retirement reception. I would like my exit from here to be as quiet as my first day with the district.

Items for your Calendars: (I am always worried that I will leave a bunch off since we don't have the paper calendar anymore. I am sure I did so in this list.☺ Please check the district website for a more complete list.)

- 4/5 Star Base for 5Mitchell and 5Smith
- 4/5 Track Meet at Central Heights 2:00
- 4/6 Star Base for 5Shively
- 4/9 Star Base for 5Shively
- 4/9 Track Meet at SFTHS 2:00
- 4/10 4th Quarter Midterms are Sent Home
- 4/11 BOE Meeting at SAC
- 4/12 Track Meet at SFTHS 2:00
- 4/12 Star Base for 5Mitchell and 5Smith
- 4/13 No School – Comp Day for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 4/16 Star Base for 5Shively
- 4/17 Track Meet at Burlington 3:30
- 4/18 District Site Council Meeting at SFTHS 6:00
- 4/18 Drivers' Ed Parent Meeting SFTHS 7:00
- 4/19 Star Base for 5Mitchell and 5Smith
- 4/19 Track Meet at Sabetha 1:00
- 4/20 Star Base for 5Shively
- 4/21 Fly Day for 7th Grade Wright Flight
- 4/24 Career Day at CAC/SFTJH
- 4/26 Track Meet at Rossville 12:30
- 4/26 Star Base for 5Mitchell and 5Smith
- 4/27 Transition Day – 8th to SFTHS – 3rd to CAC
- 4/27 Grades 5, 7, and 8 Band Concert at SFTHS Gym 7:00
- 5/1 Grade 6 Band and Choir Concert at CAC 7:00
- 5/1 SFTJH Art Show at CAC 5:00
- 5/1 PTO Meeting at SAC 6:30
- 5/3 League Track Meet at SFTHS 2:00
- 5/4 8th Grade Celebration to Hug Farm
- 5/4 4-6 Field Day at CAC Football Field in the Afternoon
- 5/5 E-Waste Day at SFTHS 10:00
- 5/9 BOE Meeting at SAC 6:00
- 5/11 8th Grade Promotion at SFTHS 7:00
- 5/14 8th Grade Trip to Worlds of Fun
- 5/14 7th Grade Celebration to Hug Farm

5/15 Last Day of School – Dismissal at 1:00 (Shuttles at 12:40)

Have you read to your child today? Have you read with your child today?

Something the children hear me say almost every day: Be kinder than you need to be; everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.