

**SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2020**

DRUG TESTING

Things are going well in the world of drug testing at the high school. Lots of students are being tested and the process is going well. The change to urine has been a nice change.

STUDENTS WORKING FROM HOME

One positive of the crazy changes to the school year is that if a student is not feeling well or has to be quarantined for a few days, they are able to stay up with their classwork. I've had numerous parents tell me how well this new option has worked for their high schooler.

REMOTE LEARNERS

After digging a little into our Remote Learners, I have mixed reviews. Some students are doing well, others not so much. Another interesting discovery was when you look at their high school transcripts, the students are doing about the same whether they are Remote or in-person.

THE BELL SCHEDULE

So far, so good. It is accomplishing what we hoped it would for this school year. We've been able to limit exposure to staff and students. We're still all in. On the bonus, most of students should not have homework as there is time built into the week to accomplish this.

FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

I wish we were at 100% participation for both breakfast and lunch since it is free for all students until September of 2021. We are not but hope to get closer each and every day. A special thanks to Tosha Smith for making this possible for our students. Her attention to detail with the paperwork required has been expectational.

DENTAL CHECK-UPS

Healthy Futures Dental Clinic is coming to Santa Fe Trail School District on November 2-4, 2020. Please see the attached flyer and dental consent form for more information. If you would like your child to participate, the consent form is due October 19, 2020. Please contact Hannah Sheridan-Duque, Healthy Futures Coordinator at 785.841.7297 ext 351 or healthyfutures@heartlandhealth.org for questions or concerns regarding the dental clinic.

FLU SHOTS AT SFT

Walgreens Flu Vaccination Clinic will be on Monday, October 19, 2020 for USD 434 staff and their families.

COUNSELOR'S COURNER

Paying for Post-Secondary Education

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opened on October 1st, 2020.

In order to apply you will need to:

- Create a FSA ID at fsaid.ed.gov

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at fafsa.ed.gov

If you need additional information:

- The following link gives a great step-by-step description of the entire process. <https://www.nitrocollege.com/fafsa-application>
- The helpline number for FAFSA is 1-800-433-3243.

Scholarship Search

Kansas State Treasurer, Jake LaTurner, in partnership with Sallie Mae has created a Scholarship search for Kansas High School Seniors. Register for your free account at salliemae.com/kansas

Learn more about the program at KansasStateTreasurer.com/Scholarship.

VOCAL MUSIC

SFTHS Drama Department is holding auditions for our musical, "Elf" on October 8th. We are planning to shoot the musical like a movie, and have it premiere in December. We hope to shoot on location in the communities, so keep your eyes peeled for a tall elf in a green coat.

SFTHS Choraliers put together their first recording--the national anthem for the Homecoming Game. There is still some learning curve to the process, but we hope to have a music video or two out in the near future.

ART

Mrs. Kitten is working on a Senior Show that will be up soon 434 SFTHS ART Facebook site.

Also, please remember OPEN STUDIO which is every other Tuesday from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (Next one is 10/13). Students can come in and work on projects they may not have had time to finish in class.

Mrs. Kitten is building a list of students that are interested in a Zoom meeting with Kansas City Art Institute for more information on their program.

If there is another art school your student is interested, please let Mrs. Kitten know if she can be of assistance.

CULINARY SPANISH

Culinary Spanish is a brand new class at Santa Fe Trail High School. It is a practical arts class co-taught by Mrs. Burgett and Mrs. Fernandez. Both teachers bring their expertise (language, culture and cooking) to offer a hands-on class that focuses on diversity. At the beginning of October, the class finished its first unit. Unit 1 featured the country of Spain and its cuisine. Students had the opportunity to interview people from Spain via Zoom and ask them about their meals and favorite foods. Then, after watching Mrs. Fernandez demonstrate how to make a typical Spanish dish, each student had the opportunity to make their first Spanish

tortilla (a potato omelette) during class. It has been a great start to this new and exciting class and we can't wait for what is coming ahead!



Athletics and Activities at Santa Fe Trail High School

The Activities at Santa Fe Trail have gotten 5 weeks in the book!! Any other year, that would mean nothing, but this year, it is a very satisfying feeling! In 2016, I remember how bummed we were that the rain canceled the parade and several festivities. As it turns out, that was nothing in comparison to this situation. But, SFTHS made due with what we could do, and I believe the students enjoyed getting to dress up for spirit week, and having a pep rally outside at the stadium. Game show host Mr. Bob Hug, provided SFTHS history questions to test the homecoming candidates in a jeopardy type contest. A big THANKS goes out to everyone that made the day a success!!

Football

Currently, the varsity Chargers are 2-3 on the season. Homecoming was a success with the 55-42 victory over Bishop Ward. Three of the four King candidates scored touchdowns (the fourth candidate just had surgery, otherwise it likely would have been all 4). The Chargers have Topeka-Hayden, Osawatomie, Bishop Ward, Baldwin, and Perry-Lecompton in their district this year. The top 4 teams in districts will advance to the playoffs. Varsity is 2-0 in district play, with Hayden, Baldwin, and Perry-Lecompton left. The junior varsity is 3-2 on the season while the freshmen have competed well, and are 3-1. Each squad has 3 games left.

Volleyball

As of October 7th, the Santa Fe Trail Charger varsity volleyball team is 5-1 in league, and 10-13 overall. The varsity team will travel to Council Grove this weekend for their final regular season tournament. The JV travel to Perry-Lecompton for their final tournament. On Saturday, October 21st, the Chargers will travel to Burlington for Sub-State action. The other teams involved in that Sub-State will be Burlington, Eureka, Fredonia, Anderson County, Neodesha, Osage City, and West Franklin. State volleyball will be played in Hutchinson, October 31th.

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 15th at Lamont Hill Golf Course. We will attend regionals on Monday, October 12th hosted by Silver Lake at Lake Shawnee Golf Course. State girl's golf will be October 19th and 20th at Cherry Oaks Golf Course, 1119 N Main St, Cheney KS, 67025.

Cross Country

The Santa Fe Trail cross country team continues to work hard and gather momentum as the season progresses. The boys and girls have been very competitive individually in all of their events, with the girls also being competitive as a team as well. On October 15th, the cross country team will travel to Prairie View to compete in the Pioneer League meet and on Saturday, October 24th, they will compete in regionals at Anderson County. State Cross Country will be at the Wamego Country Club on Saturday, October 28th.

Scholars Bowl

The Scholar's Bowl team will see their first action on November 3rd at West Franklin. Coach Eric Lynch is very excited for the upcoming season and has 20 students on the team roster, with 15 of those returning from last year's team.

Student Council

The Student Council once again, 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

The Debate Team is ready for their first event on October 17th, at Blue Valley North High School. Debate events are among many that have been affected by COVID, but they do have 3 additional events scheduled thus far.