

HOME OF THE
Chargers

February Newsletter

Santa Fe Trail High School

Welcome to the February 2026 issue of the Santa Fe Trail High School Newsletter.

 by Kyle Ellis



Message from the Principal

Dear Charger Families,

As we settle into February, it is wonderful to see the continued energy within our halls despite the winter chill. While the novelty of the new year might be wearing off, this is the time when our commitment to engagement and connection matters most. Staying active and involved during these shorter winter days isn't just about filling a calendar; it's about maintaining the momentum that drives student success and well-being. Whether it is through volunteering, cheering from the bleachers, or helping students study at home your presence and support helps make our school a vibrant place to learn and grow.

February marks a pivotal moment for our Junior class. This month, our Junior students will be sitting for the ACT and WorkKeys exams. These assessments are significant milestones that open doors for college admissions, scholarships, and career opportunities.

To our Juniors: We believe in your hard work and preparation. To our families: Thank you for providing the support and encouragement these students need as they navigate these important steps toward their futures.

Our winter athletes have been training and competing since November, and we are now entering the most exciting part of the season. February is "crunch time" for our teams, and they deserve a packed house! Please come out and support our Chargers, whether at home or away.

Thank you for being the foundation our school community is built. Your involvement is what defines our school spirit. Let's finish the winter season strong, together.

Warm regards,

Kyle Ellis

Principal, Santa Fe Trail High School



Message From the Athletics/Activities Director

January has been a very busy and exciting month for activities and athletics at Santa Fe Trail High School. Our student organizations have been actively representing SFT with pride. FFA and FBLA members have stayed busy attending a variety of events and leadership activities for their respective chapters. Scholars Bowl has also been hard at work and will compete at the Regional Meet in Chanute on **February 5th**.

Powerlifting kicked off its season by attending its first meet of the year at Royal Valley, where our athletes represented Santa Fe Trail High School extremely well. Several additional meets are scheduled throughout February, and we are excited to see their continued progress.

Athletically, our teams have been competing hard and preparing for late-season pushes as postseason play approaches in mid to late February. Practices and competitions have been competitive and focused, with our student-athletes making the most of every opportunity.

We look forward to continued success as we head into February and the postseason season.

Good luck, and Charge On!

Go, Chargers!

Kris Henry

Athletics & Activities Director/Assistant Principal, Santa Fe Trail High School

SANTA FE TRAIL

HIGH SCHOOL

Activities Highlights

Social Media

Follow Santa Fe Trail High School's Facebook page for up-to-date postings of athletics and activities using the link below:

[Santa Fe Trail High School](#)



Band

Submitted by Eduardo Villanueva

The SFT band is staying busy this winter season supporting our Basketball teams with a pep band at every home game. You can hear them rocking out before and during the Varsity games. Along with the pep band music, they started working on concert band music for the upcoming season. To start this off, the band participated in a little competition. They students were split in two teams, assigned music and then given three classes to work on it (with little adult guidance.) Teams were then judged blindly to see what band came out on top. Nothing like friendly competition to get students to have fun while learning music!!!



Charged Up Book Club

Submitted by Ashley Michaelis

This Month's Book Club Pick: *Orbiting Jupiter*

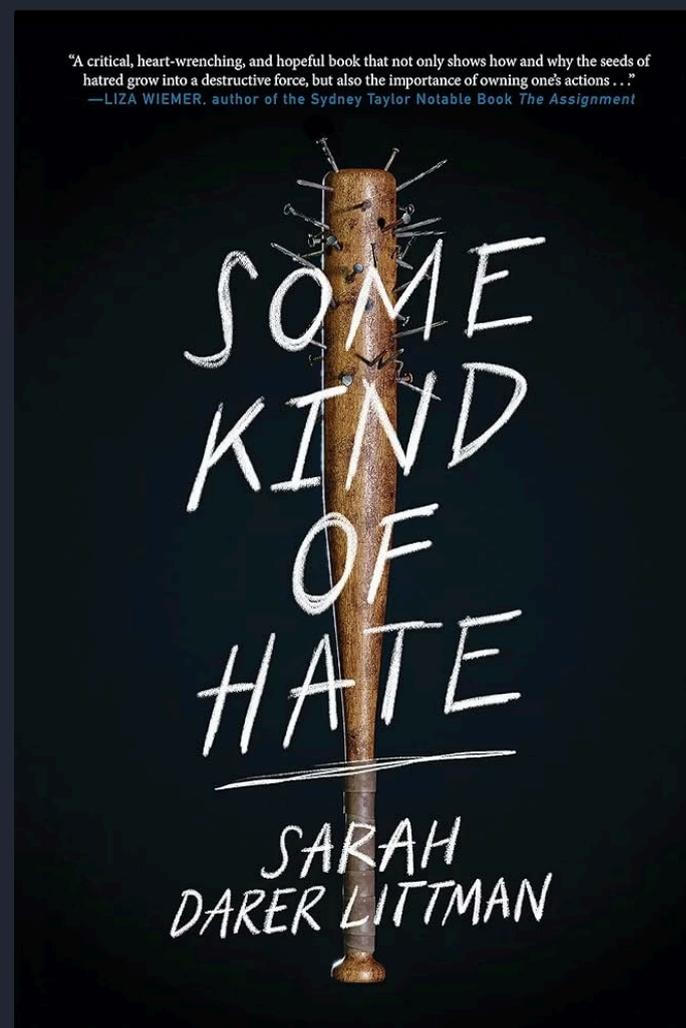
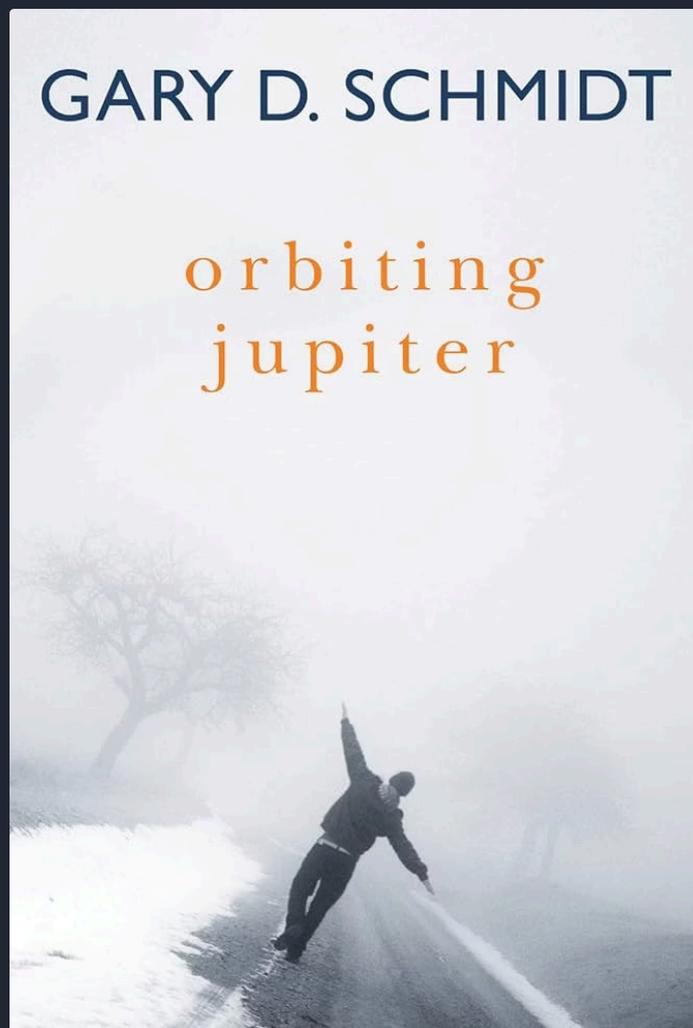
What if the quiet kid sitting next to you is carrying a story that will completely change the way you see the world? *Orbiting Jupiter* is a powerful, fast-paced read that packs an emotional punch in under 200 pages. Told through the eyes of a foster brother, this novel explores loyalty, justice, and what it means to really see someone. It's short—but don't be fooled. This is one of those books that sticks with you long after the last page.

Finished early? Take it one step further.

Readers who want to keep going are encouraged to pick up *Some Kind of Hate*, a gripping novel that dives into how ordinary people can be manipulated into extreme beliefs. This eye-opening story challenges readers to think critically about influence, online spaces, and the real-world consequences of hate and misinformation.

PICK UP A COPY TO BORROW FROM MRS. MICHAELIS IN ROOM 122.

We will meet to discuss and celebrate on Wednesday, February 25th during Activity Period.



Choir

Submitted by Kara Holbert

As we move forward with the semester, SFTHS Choirs have been hard at work preparing for the highly anticipated **contest season**. Mark your calendars! Our next concert of the school year will be our annual combined performance with the Junior High Choir on **Tuesday, March 10th, at 7:00 PM** in the **SFTHS Auditorium**. We look forward to seeing you there to support our amazing students!



Culinary Arts

Submitted by Mary Burgett

Culinary Arts II & III have been learning about different Yeast Bread mixtures and methods. They have made many examples and have individually practiced handling and shaping dough. The cinnamon roll lab is the favorite so far!



FBLA

Submitted by Julie Smith

District VII Conference

SFT FBLA's Gabe Smith successfully hosted the District VII Conference at Washburn University for 527 students with the help of 77 adult advisers and volunteers. Many of our volunteers were SFT community members, or members directly connected to SFT students, a reflection of the strong community ties our school district has built. SFT's junior, Macy Berkley, also spoke in our Opening Ceremony in her role as an FBLA Active Membership Advisory Council member.

SFT FBLA placed 3rd as a chapter out of 16 chapters for team points, with 65 of our 67 members competing. Full results for individuals are available here: [full district results for SFT](#).



CTSO Citizenship Day

FBLA member Gabe Smith attended CTSO Citizenship Day getting to speak with legislators and networking with various CTSO state officers from across Kansas and the Governor's Proclamation Day at the capitol building to acquire a proclamation of FBLA Week February 8-14 across the state of Kansas.



Play

Submitted by Kara Holbert

The SFTHS Theatre Department is excited to present "**Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind**" for the Spring Play.

Forget everything you know about traditional "quiet" theater. This season, the SFTHS Theatre Department is bringing Greg Allen's "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind" to our stage, and it's unlike anything you've ever seen. It's not one long story—it's a high-speed theatrical marathon where we attempt to perform 40 original plays in just 80 minutes.

How it works:

- **You (The Audience) Run the Show:** There is no set script order. The plays are numbered on a clothesline, and you (the audience) shout out which number you want to see next.
- **The Race Against Time:** A clock will be ticking down. If we don't finish all 40 plays before the buzzer hits zero, the show simply ends!
- **Total Honesty:** There are no costumes or fake accents. We're performing as ourselves, delivering a mix of comedy, drama, and beautiful weirdness in two-minute bursts.

It's fast, it's chaotic, and it's different every single night. Come ready to shout, participate, and keep us on our toes! Save the dates for the shows!

Friday, March 6th @ 7pm,

Saturday, March 7th @ 7pm

Sunday, March 8th @ 2pm



Sewing Fundamentals

Submitted by Mary Burgett

Students in the Sewing Fundamentals second semester class are learning how to use sewing machines and what different types of stitches are used in clothing construction. They are practicing operating the machines and are making samples of different stitches with the correct settings needed to make the machine stitch each one.



Winter Royalty

Congratulations to the Santa Fe Trail High School Royal Court. They were recognized on Friday, January 30th during halftime of the boys varsity basketball game.



Pictured above - Front (left to right): Elaina Boyd and Kam Bevan

Middle (left to right): Taylor Long, Queen Gabby Suchi, Makenzie Galyean, Gretchen Huizenga

Back (left to right): Xavier Davis, King Hunter French, Owen Lattimer, Layton Lind

Yearbook

Submitted by Julie Smith

Visit yearbookordercenter.com and enter order number 26731. Or you can pick up a paper form from Mrs. Smith and pay with check or cash.

There are three important things to know about SENIORS and the yearbook.

1. Seniors get to submit their own photo for the portraits page with the rest of their classmates. These are often professional traditional senior portraits, but they don't have to be. The photos should be in portrait format (taller than they are wide). If a student does not submit a photo one will be submitted for them. Deadline to submit is February 15. Email them any time to jsmith@usd434.us.
2. Seniors need to submit a quote to be printed with their portrait. If they do not submit a quote, or their quote is inappropriate, one will be provided for them. They can submit quotes using this form: SENIOR QUOTES.
3. Parents, grandparents, loved ones can purchase a senior tribute in the book. We have three simple price points and sizes. Visit <https://yearbookordercenter.com>, enter order number 26731, and click on Start Your Ad then follow the prompts to purchase an ad. Deadline is March 1. I know what you're thinking, oh...March...I can just put this off. No, no you can't. March is insane. You should do it as soon as you can if you want to purchase a senior tribute.





Athletics Highlights

Sports

For Charger Seasonal Sports Previews, Event Programs and Team Rosters (for both home and visitors,) scan QR code or link below:

[SFT Programs/Rosters](#)



SCAN ME

Winter Sports Schedule

SANTA FE TRAIL CHARGERS 2025-26 Winter Sports Schedules

Please Note: Schedules are subject to change. Consult USD 434 Google calendar for updated information.

BASKETBALL

Tu 11/25 4:30 Boys Jamboree at Mission Valley

Tu 11/25 4:30 Girls Jamboree at SFT

Tu 12/2 4:30 at St. Mary's

F 12/5 4:30 at Osawatomie

Tu 12/9 Central Hts. V Tourney

Th 12/11 Central Hts. V Tourney

F 12/12 Central Hts. V Tourney

Sa 12/13 Central Hts. V Tourney

Sa 12/13 9:00 at Wellsville (Boys C-Team)

Tu 12/16 4:30 vs Prairie View

F 12/19 4:30 vs Anderson County

M 1/5 4:30 at Valley Falls

Tu 1/6 4:30 vs Iola

F 1/9 4:30 vs Burlington

Tu 1/13 4:30 vs Wellsville

F 1/16 4:30 at Anderson County

Th 1/22 Royal Valley V Tourney

F 1/23 Royal Valley V Tourney

Sa 1/24 Royal Valley V Tourney

Tu 1/27 4:30 at Council Grove

F 1/30 4:30 vs Mission Valley

(Winter Royalty)

Tu 2/3 4:30 at Iola

F 2/6 4:30 at Prairie View

Sa 2/7 at Jeff West JV Girls Tournament

Tu 2/10 4:30 vs Baldwin

F 2/13 4:30 vs Osawatomie

(Senior Night)

Tu 2/17 4:30 at Burlington

F 2/20 4:30 at Wellsville

Sa 2/21 at Royal Valley JV Tournament

W 3/2 to Sa 3/7 Sub State at TBD

W 3/11 to Sa 3/14 State at Hutchinson

**Blue dates are SFT hosted events.*

WRESTLING

W 12/3 4:00 JV Boys/Girls & V Girls at SFT Tourney

F 12/5 4:00 V Girls at Olathe West Tourney

Sa 12/6 JV Boys at Highland Park Tourney

F 12/5 2:00 V Boys at Spring Hill Dual

W 12/10 4:00 JV Boys at Paola Mixer

F 12/12 at 11:00 V Girls at Great Bend Tourney

F 12/12 at 1:00 V Boys at Colby Tourney

Sa 12/13 9:00 V Girls at Great Bend Tourney

Sa 12/13 9:30 V Boys at Colby Tourney

Th 12/18 4:30 JV Girls at Olathe West Mixer

F 12/19 3:00 JV Boys at Council Grove Tourney

F 12/19 4:30 Boys/Girls Dual at Holton

Sa 12/20 9:00 V Boys at Abilene Tourney

Sa 12/20 9:00 V Girls at Basehor-Linwood Tourney

F 1/9 1:00 Girls at Rossville Tourney

Sa 1/10 9:00 Girls at Shawnee Heights Tourney

Sa 1/10 9:00 V Boys at Rossville Tourney

Th 1/15 1:00 V Girls/JV Boys at Wellsville Tourney

F 1/16 11:30 V Boys at Basehor-Linwood Tourney

Sa 1/17 9:00 V Boys at Basehor-Linwood Tourney

W 1/21 4:30 at JV/V Girls & JV Boys at Louisburg Mixer

Th 1/22 5:00 Boys/Girls at Baldwin Triangular

F 1/23 2:30 V Boys at Hays Tourney

Sa 1/24 9:00 V Boys at Hays Tourney

Sa 1/24 9:00 V Girls at Council Grove Tourney

Th 1/29 5:30 Boys/Girls Dual at Eudora

F 1/30 4:00 V Girls at Baldwin Tourney

Sa 1/31 9:00 V Boys at Baldwin Tourney

Tu 2/3 5:00 Boys/Girls Dual vs Louisburg

(Senior Night)

Th 2/5 3:30 Boys/Girls League at Burlington

Sa 2/7 8:30 JV Tussle on the Trail

F 2/13 & Sa 2/14 Girls Regionals at TBD

F 2/20 & Sa 2/21 Boys Regionals at TBD

F 2/27 & Sa 2/28 State at TBD

**Red dates are SFT hosted events.*



Powerlifting

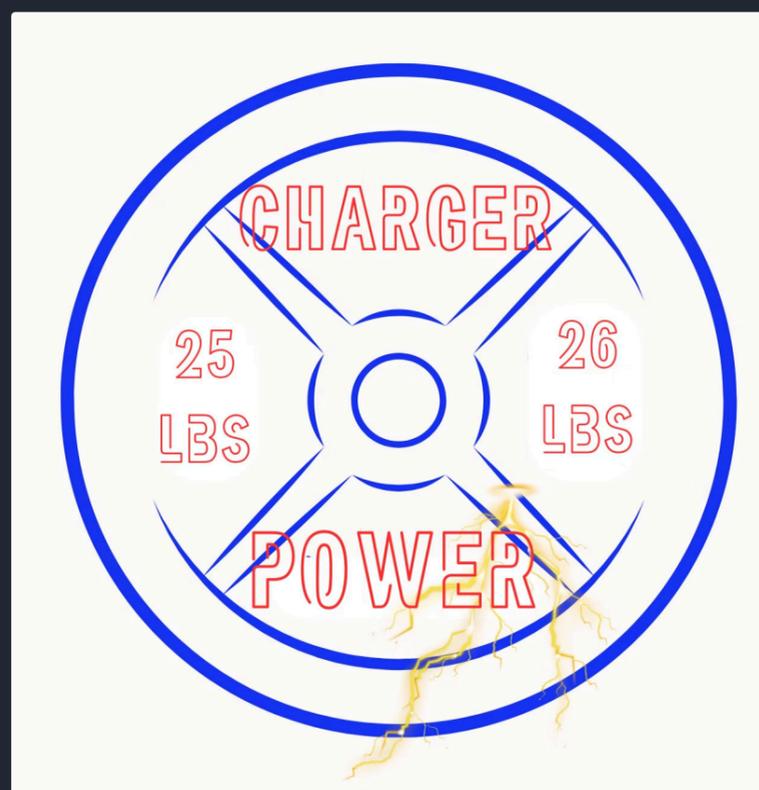
Submitted by Kim Kesl

Powerlifting has started and these athletes have represented SFT in big ways. The team is led by Seniors Gretchen Huizenga, Gabby Suchi, Julion Daniels, Isaiah Jones and Connor Hudson. To make up the team they have Juniors Tyler Shreve, Molly Herren, Braden Vandevord, Jordan Brum and Van Banister; Sophomores Alexia Garcia and Justin Fechter, and Freshmen Nora Kesl and Andy Lyda. The Powerlifters are coached by Will Herren with the help of Greg Slade in the weight room.

At their first meet at Royal Valley on 1/17 a total of eight boys and five girls competed out of a total of 415 lifters. As a team the girls placed 5th out of 21 teams with 80 points. The boys placed 4th out of 28 teams in the Sr. Division with 88 points and 14th out of 22 teams in the Jr. Division with 38 points. A total of nine PR's were set across the board.

Their second meet was 1/31 which was a Virtual Meet held by Pratt High School. This meet allowed the athletes to complete their lifts in the comforts of their home weight room. Five boys and six girls competed and set multiple PR's on lifts as well as overall team placings. The girls took 2nd out of 15 teams with 140 points and the boys took 9th out of 19 teams with 57 points. PR's were set by Connor Hudson, Jordan Brun, Gretchen Huizenga, Molly Herren, Alexia Garcia and Nora Kesl.

Let's Go, Chargers!



Football

Submitted by Coach Slade

Families, players, managers and coaches gathered to celebrate a phenomenal 2025 football season on Thursday, January 8th. The Charger football team achieved Pioneer League and District Championships as well as a 3A Sectional Championship, ending the season with a record of 11-1. Congratulations! Charger Proud!



Shrine Bowl

Congratulations to Santa Fe Trail's Coach Slade and Julion Daniels for being selected to participate in the 2026 Kansas Shrine Bowl. Coach Slade has been selected to coach and Julion Daniels has been selected to play in the Shrine Bowl—a tremendous honor for both individuals and our school. A recognition ceremony was held at Santa Fe Trail High School on Friday, January 30, between the girls and boys basketball games, to celebrate this achievement.

The Kansas Shrine Bowl football game will take place on June 27, 2026, at Welch Stadium in Emporia at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to come out and support the Shriners and our Chargers!

For more information about the 2026 Shrine Bowl, visit:

<https://www.kansasshrinebowl.com/football.html>



2026 Kansas Shrine Bowl – West Roster						
#	Name	School	Class	Ht	Wt	Position
0	Rashawn Johnson	Wichita South	6A	5'8	175	WR
1	Landon Steven	Bishop Carroll	5A	6'0	185	DB
2	Brecken Albert	Augusta	4A	6'2	185	WR
3	Daxton Minton	Great Bend	5A	6'0	190	QB
4	Cody Wright	Colby	3A	6'0	190	RB
5	Taylen Morales	Holsington	2A	5'10	170	LB
6	Garrison Vikander	Manhattan	6A	6'2	220	DL
7	Jhett Price	Garden City	6A	6'3	230	LB
8	James Fieser	Liberal	5A	6'3	195	WR
9	Pharrell Adams	Wichita East	6A	5'11	215	LB
10	Manny Myers	Mulvane	4A	6'0	181	QB
11	Jackson Anderson	Hutchinson	5A	6'0	195	LB
12	Taygen Funston	Abilene	4A	6'1	175	DB
13	Jacob Miller	Buhler	4A	6'1	225	LB
14	Brodie Jarvis	Maize	6A	5'8	165	DB
15	Miguel Hernandez Jr	Hugoton	3A	5'10	176	DB
16	Drew Dechant	Hutchinson Trinity Catholic	1A	6'3	205	DB
18	Jaxon Myers	Salina South	5A	5'10	155	WR
19	Cooper McGowan	Ellsworth	2A	6'3	190	DL
21	Cooper Reves	Salina Central	5A	6'1	220	RB
22	Sam Harp	Andale	3A	5'11	185	ATH
23	Holden Lind	Hays High	5A	5'7	175	RB
25	Zane Farney	Sterling	1A	6'0	180	RB
28	Emrick Hays	Garden Plain	2A	5'11	180	LB
31	Issac Nikolas	Derby	6A	5'9	165	DB
44	Jesus Delgado	Salina Central	5A	6'1	220	LB
45	Nolan Durr	Cheney	3A	6'4	250	DL
51	Trenton Kern	Great Bend	5A	6'1	220	LB
59	Braxton Koller	Goddard	5A	5'11	260	OL
60	Paxton McLeod	Andover Central	4A	5'10	260	OL
62	Ryddik Bethel	Plainville	1A	6'0	250	OL
63	Ethan Coutre	Hesston	3A	6'2	225	OL
64	Brody Litton	Beloit	2A	6'6	275	OL
65	Kharson Montgomery	Smith Center	1A	5'11	270	DL
67	Nick Ancliaux	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	4A	6'5	280	OL
72	Kyle Huser	Victoria	8M-II	6'3	270	OL
75	Brody Chambers	Southeast of Saline	2A	6'1	285	DL
77	Matthew Rosen	Holcomb	3A	6'5	300	OL
79	Roman Gage	Valley Center	5A	5'11	285	OL
85	Jack Herd	South Central	8M-I	6'3	210	TE
87	Jackson Hollie	Junction City	6A	6'6	230	DL
90	Bishop Smith	Wichita Northwest	6A	6'2	250	DL
95	Josiah Schmidt	Pratt	3A	6'2	225	DL
99	Houston Bowlin	Derby	6A	6'2	285	OL
Coaching Staff						
	Daniel Myers	Mulvane	HC			
	Randall Zimmerman	Junction City	6A			
	Erin Beck	Great Bend	5A			
	Dawson Elliott	Augusta	4A			
	Brent Hoelting	Pratt	3A			
	Todd Rice	Garden Plain	2A			
	Brent Schneider	Sterling	1A			
Support Staff						
	Jim Hallberg	Camp Director				
	Ralph Streit	Camp Director				
	Taylor Rohleder	Athletic Trainer				
	Dakota Metzler	Assistant Trainer				
	Colton Metzler	Manager, Ellis				
	Kamryn Hoelting	Manager, Pratt				
	Jessica Rice	Manager, Garden Plain				

2026 Kansas Shrine Bowl – East Roster						
#	Name	School	Class	Ht	Wt	Position
1	Dominic Falco	Wamego	4A	6'0	175	WR
2	Bryce Randall	Olathe Northwest	6A	5'11	205	RB
3	Blake Jay	Mill Valley	5A	6'0	180	ATH
4	Colin Shaughnessy	Axtell	8M-II	6'2	190	WR
5	Kasen Parsons	Osage City	2A	6'1	215	QB
6	Carter Hajek	Nemaha Central	2A	5'11	215	RB
7	Tremaine Savage	Highland Park	5A	5'10	150	DB
8	Chandler Hentzen	Parsons	3A	5'10	190	DB
9	Julion Daniels	Santa Fe Trail	3A	6'2	215	DL
10	Alec Jett	St. James Academy	5A	6'2	205	WR
11	Dayne Johnson	Silver Lake	2A	6'4	185	WR
12	De'Marus Partee	Pittsburg	5A	6'1	195	LB
13	Klayton Adamson	Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan	1A	5'9	175	ATH
14	Cael Frazier	Holton	3A	6'1	212	LB
15	Trai Woodruff	Shawnee Mission Northwest	6A	5'11	185	QB
16	DyVair McCray	Leavenworth	5A	5'11	185	DB
17	Nash Morrison	Basehor-Linwood	5A	6'4	190	WR
18	Savion Stone	Washington	5A	6'2	205	ATH
20	Syre Padilla	Gardner Edgerton	6A	6'1	210	RB
21	Brody Butler	Olathe West	6A	6'2	185	DB
22	Jack Reeves	Shawnee Mission East	6A	6'0	195	RB
23	Austin Zeller	Jackson Heights	1A	6'4	220	TE
24	Andre Johnson	Rossville	1A	5'11	185	LB
25	Kade Mitchell	Topeka Hayden Catholic	3A	5'9	180	DB
26	Dallas Kayhill	Saint Thomas Aquinas	5A	5'11	165	DB
32	Parker Pinamonti	Pittsburg	5A	5'11	225	DL
42	Brody Haas	Washburn Rural	6A	5'11	195	DB
43	Luke Orrick	Blue Valley Southwest	5A	6'3	215	LB
50	Duncan Pinkham	Spring Hill	5A	6'2	280	OL
51	Wade Rottinghaus	Rock Creek	3A	5'8	190	DL
52	Cameron Brian	Topeka Seaman	5A	6'1	210	LB
55	Parker Olson	Gardner Edgerton	6A	6'3	285	OL
62	Isaac Renfro	Basehor-Linwood	5A	6'4	340	OL
64	Mikel Reed	Labette County	4A	6'3	260	DL
71	Leeland Barth	Olathe North	6A	6'2	280	OL
72	Brody Barnes	Atchison	4A	6'5	315	OL
73	Cage Crabill	Eudora	4A	6'1	250	OL
75	Mason Barth	Shawnee Mission Northwest	6A	6'1	285	OL
77	Brady Alonzo	Chanute	4A	6'5	272	OL
85	Aiden McCullough	Ottawa	4A	6'3	210	TE
91	Devin Davis	Bishop Miege	4A	6'1	250	DL
93	Roch Emanuel	Piper	4A	6'5	270	DL
94	Hayden Heller	Mill Valley	5A	6'0	280	DL
99	Osiris Unruh	Jefferson West	3A	6'0	290	DL
Coaching Staff						
	Mike Berg	Wellsville	HC			
	Kurt Webster	Shawnee Mission Northwest	6A			
	Rod Stallbaumer	Basehor-Linwood	5A			
	Bradley Argabright	Labette County	4A			
	Greg Slade	Santa Fe Trail	3A			
	Andrew Gantenbein	Osage City	2A			
	Derick Hammes	Rossville	1A			
Support Staff						
	Jim Whitehead	Camp Director				
	Tim Williams	Camp Director				
	Gary Stevanus	Athletic Trainer				
	Shelby Coleman	Manager				
	Emily Rodriguez Gastelum	Manager				
	Lucas Gantenbein	Manager, Osage City				
	Cade Streeter	Manager, Basehor-Linwood				

ALL HAIL THE TRAIL 

Student Services

Canine Therapy

Submitted by Senior Taylor Long

In January of 2024 the High School was assigned a full time Therapy/Service Dog - Cam. (Not to be confused with Kam at OAC with Mrs. Bolt). Over the last two years Cam has impacted so many in the SFT community, brightening everyone's mood with the way she shows excitement when she sees "people" (and enjoying the occasional treat.) She loves mingling in the hallway and joining in on classes such as Yearbook, Weights, English and Independent Study.

Normally, we would think about a school therapy dog having the most impact on students, helping to calm stress and anxiety. However, she may actually have the most impact on some of the staff in the building. This month we want to feature the relationship between math teacher Rick Huddleston and Cam. Returning to school after a prolonged illness, Rick started having lunch in the office and Cam promptly joined him, sitting next to him and providing great lunch conversation. She knows the bell schedule and when to look for Rick. When he is not at school, she still sits in their spot and pouts, letting everyone else in the office know something is not right. Rick stated, "I enjoy having lunch with Cam in the office daily, but I'm not sure who is providing therapy to who."



On a rare day in the office, both district therapy dogs (Cam on the chair and Kam on the floor) provided Mr. Huddleston with attentive company during his lunch break.

Health

Submitted by Kim Kesl, RN, Director of Nursing

Please read the following important letter from SFT nursing department.



SANTA FE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL

From the desk of Kimberly Kesl, RN, SFT Director of Nursing

Subject: Important Notice: Flu Season and Prevention

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we move into flu season, we want to take a moment to share some important information to help keep our students, staff, and families healthy.

Every year, influenza ("the flu") circulates in our community, and schools can be places where illnesses spread quickly. To reduce the risk of flu outbreaks and keep our classrooms running smoothly, we ask for your partnership in following a few simple health practices:

- 1. Keep sick children home.**
If your child has a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, persistent cough, sore throat, or other flu-like symptoms, please keep them home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours *without* the use of fever-reducing medication.
- 2. Encourage good hygiene.**
We are reminding all students to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, cover their coughs and sneezes, and avoid sharing personal items. You can help reinforce these habits at home.
- 3. Consider flu vaccination.**
Health experts recommend an annual flu shot as the best protection against influenza. If you have questions about vaccination, please consult your child's healthcare provider.
- 4. Notify the school if your child is diagnosed with the flu.**
This helps us track illness trends and take appropriate steps to protect other students.

Our school will continue regular cleaning and sanitizing of classrooms and common areas, and we are encouraging healthy habits throughout the day.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school community healthy this season. If you have any questions, please contact the nurse for your students' building.

Sincerely,
Santa Fe Trail Nursing Staff
Phone: 1-800-836-9525
Kimberly Kesl, RN, Director of Nursing, High School, ex 11742
Stephanie Lang, RN at Carbondale, ex 3122
KaeLynn Guyle, RN at Overbrook, ex 2181
Kaitlyn Ball, acting nurse at Scranton, ex 4101

Junior Announcements

Submitted by Erica French



We're excited to celebrate our juniors' dedication to their future goals! On January 29, **more than half of the junior class** participated in a district-funded ACT prep class with Power Prep. Students learned valuable test-taking strategies, gained insight into the ACT format, and strengthened skills that will help them feel more confident heading into their first experience with the ACT on February 24th !

All SFT Juniors

will have the opportunity to take either the ACT or the ACT WorkKeys test for FREE in February!

The ACT logo, featuring the letters 'ACT' in white on a dark blue background.

Date: February 24th
Time: 8:30am
Location: SFTHS

Who should take the ACT test?

Students considering attending a 2 or 4-year college after high school. Some colleges require students to list their ACT score and, often times, colleges will offer scholarship money based on a student's ACT Score.

The ACT WorkKeys logo, featuring the text 'ACT WorkKeys' in blue and red on a white background with a red border.

Date: February 25th
Time: 8:30am
Location: SFTHS

Who should take the ACT WorkKeys test?

Students considering or currently attending a technical college, apprentice program, or planning to enter the workforce right after high school. Students will receive a score that can be used on their resume that provides concrete, portable proof of foundational employability skills (applied math, graphic literacy, and workplace documents) to employers.

Senior Announcements

Submitted by Tosha Smith



This is your friendly reminder...
Pictures needed for the Slideshow
1 Senior picture
3-4 Baby/Toddler pictures
****ALSO send Julie Smith a senior yearbook photo(this can be the same picture used in the slideshow) Let me know and I will add it to her file.**



~Don't forget to purchase cap and gown units. Shipping and Handling is starting to get more expensive

~If you have questions or need help, please feel free to reach out to Tosha tsmith@usd434.us

Mascot Shop

Submitted by Ashley Michaelis

Show Your Charger Pride with Our Jostens Mascot Shop!

Looking to gear up in Charger apparel? We're excited to partner with Jostens to bring you an easy way to shop for official SFT merchandise! From hoodies and t-shirts to hats and accessories, you'll find everything you need to show your school spirit.

Visit themascotshop.jostens.com/1071076 to browse the collection and place your order today. Whether you're shopping for yourself, your student, or looking for holiday gifts, now is the perfect time to stock up on Charger gear!



Santa Fe Trail High School

Make every occasion count with looks built by you! Show your team spirit all year long with custom looks for game days, special events and every day in between. The Mascot Shop has everything you need to stand out any day.

Thank You!

On January 28, the Carbondale Masons generously donated \$3,000 to USD 434 to support monetary funds for students, including assistance with lunch costs, field trips, and other student needs. The donation was distributed equally among the district's three attendance centers. Principal Lorle Bolt accepted the funds on behalf of Overbrook Attendance Center (OAC), Principal Mike Maloun for Carbondale Attendance Center (CAC), and Principal Kyle Ellis for the high school.

We sincerely thank the Carbondale Masons for their continued generosity and commitment to supporting our students and families.





February 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
2	<p>4:00pm:JH Scholars Bowl @ Burlington</p> <p>4:30pm:HS BB at lola</p> <p>5:30pm:HS Boys/Girls WR Dual with Louisburg</p>	<p>Preschool Spring Picture Day</p>	<p>3:30pm:HS Boys/Girls WR League at Burlington</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Basketball vs lola</p>	<p>No PK Classes: Screening at SAC</p> <p>1:00pm:Osage County Spelling Bee</p> <p>4:30pm:HS BB at Prairie View</p>	<p>8:00am:HS Girls JV BB at Jeff West Tourney vs AC, ACCHS, VF</p> <p>8:30pm:HS Boys/Girls JV Wrestling Tournament at SFT</p>	
9	<p>No School: Professional Development Day</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Basketball vs Anderson County</p>	<p>4:30pm:HS BB at SFT vs Baldwin</p>	<p>6:00pm:Board of Education Meeting</p>	<p>4:00pm:JH Boys Basketball vs Burlington</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Girls WR Regionals at Tonganoxie</p> <p>4:30pm:HS BB at SFT vs Osawatomie Senior Night</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Girls WR Regionals at Tonganoxie</p>
16	<p>4:00pm:JH Boys Basketball vs Osawatomie</p> <p>4:30pm:HS BB at Burlington</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Scholars Bowl HOME Meet</p> <p>4:00pm:JH Boys Basketball @ lola</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:30pm:HS BB at Wellsville</p>	<p>21</p> <p>JH Boys Basketball League Tournament - 7th @ Wellsville, 8th @ lola</p> <p>Boys WR Regionals at Holton</p> <p>9:00am:HS JV BB at Royal Valley Tourney vs Rock Creek, St. Mary's</p>
23	<p>4:00pm:JH Scholars Bowl @ Anderson County</p>	<p>24</p> <p>ACT Test Day</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Work Keys Assessment</p> <p>Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-7 pm</p> <p>School in Session</p>	<p>26</p> <p>KMEA ISW</p> <p>No School: Parent/teacher conferences 8 am to 7 pm</p> <p>4:30pm:HS V BB vs Chapman</p>	<p>27</p> <p>KMEA ISW</p> <p>No School</p> <p>WR State in Salina</p>	<p>28</p> <p>JH Cheer Competition at Baldwin JH - Time TBD</p> <p>KMEA ISW</p> <p>WR State in Salina</p>