

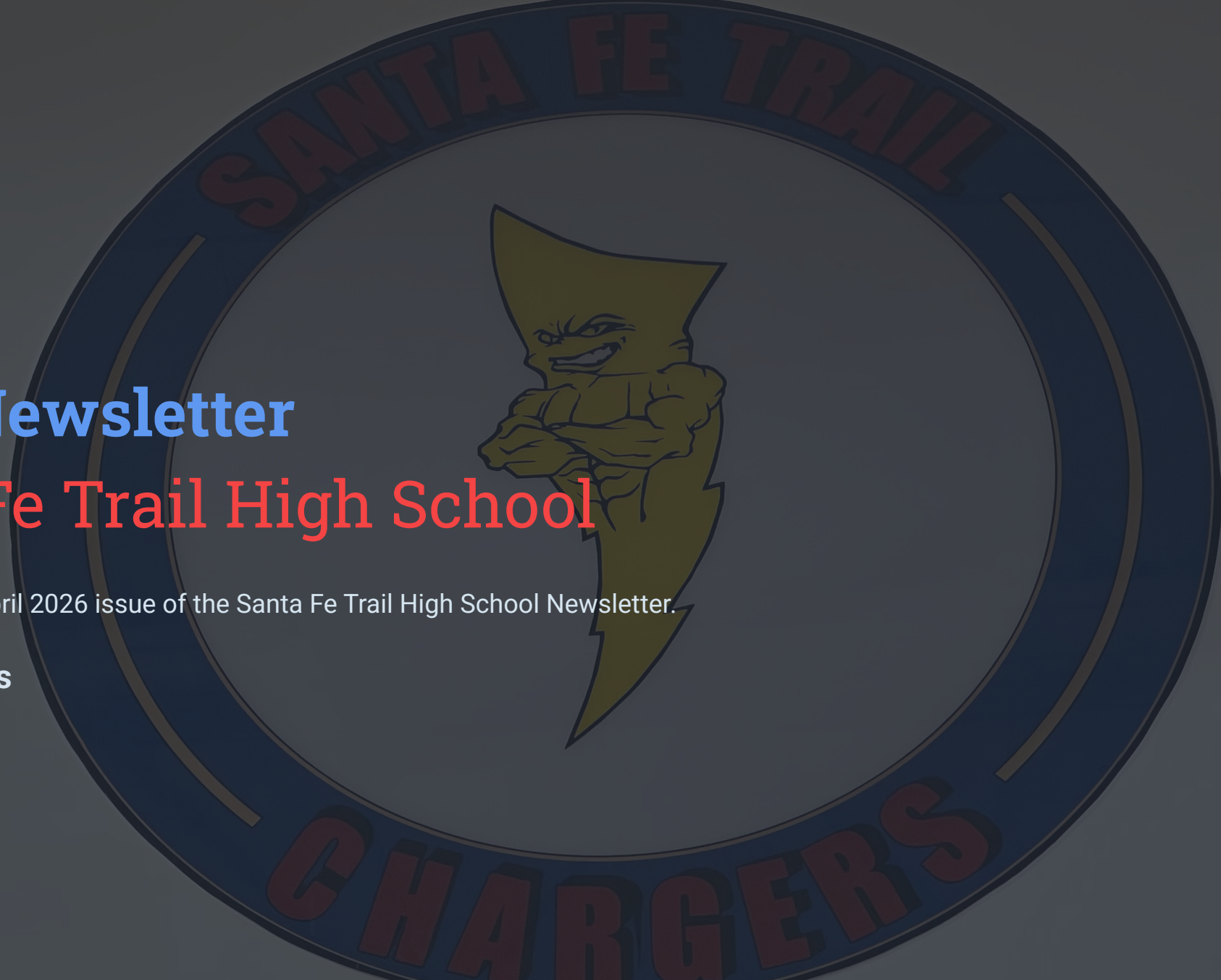
# April Newsletter

## Santa Fe Trail High School

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



by Kyle Ellis





## Message from the Principal

Dear Charger Families,

Welcome to April! There is a renewed energy in our building since we have returned from Spring Break and head into one of the most vibrant and busy times of the school year. April is often defined by growth, not just in the world around us, but in the academic and personal achievements of our students as they begin to see the results of their hard work since August.

As we move into this final stretch, our focus remains on finishing strong, staying engaged, and celebrating the many milestones that define the high school experience.

- **The Final Push:** With the end of the semester appearing on the horizon, this is the time for students to stay diligent. Encourage your students to check their progress in their classes and connect with teachers if they need a some support to reach their goals.
- **Prom:** April brings many of our most cherished social traditions. We are looking forward to a safe and memorable Prom celebration.
- **Showcasing Talent:** From spring concerts and performances to competitions for our clubs like FFA, FBLA, and Forensics, our students are representing Santa Fe Trail with pride. We invite you to check the school calendar and join us for these showcases of talent.
- **State Assessments:** Our sophomores and juniors will be taking state assessments this month. Please provide encouragement and support as they prepare to demonstrate their learning within Mathematics, English, and Science.
- **Senior Transitions:** For our Class of 2026, April is a month of big decisions and "lasts." We are working closely with our seniors to ensure they are on track to meet all requirements and that they are prepared for the exciting transition to their post-secondary ventures whether it be college, trade school, or the workforce.

As the weather warms up, we often see a shift in energy. I want to take a moment to remind our students that how we finish is just as important as how we start. Let's continue to treat one another with respect and maintain the high standards of character that make us Chargers.

Thank you to our amazing staff for their tireless dedication and to our parents for their unwavering support. Together, we are making this a year to remember.

Sincerely,

Kyle Ellis

Principal, Santa Fe Trail High School



# Message From the Athletics/Activities Director

It is hard to believe that April is already here. This school year has gone by incredibly fast, and we have so much to be thankful for and proud of at Santa Fe Trail High School. Our students and staff continue to work hard each day, striving for excellence in everything they do. This is a very busy and exciting time of year as spring activities are in full swing and end-of-year events are quickly approaching.

There are many great things happening this spring, including FFA events and trips, State Band and Choir competitions, State Forensics, the Art Show at the Topeka Mall, numerous field trips, FBLA State competitions, the KAY Blood Drive, Prom in Topeka and a full slate of athletic events.

Our athletic and activities programs have had tremendous success, and we look forward to that continuing as we approach postseason competition. A reminder that all spring sports will compete at the 4A level for postseason play. With warmer weather here, it is always exciting to see our students competing and representing SFT outdoors.

This is truly one of the best times of the school year, and we are excited to see all that our students accomplish in the weeks ahead.

Good luck to everyone, and continue to strive for greatness!

Go Chargers!

Kris Henry

Athletics & Activities Director/Assistant Principal, 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](#)



# Art

Submitted by Sydney Grindal

## Ceramics

Opening the kiln is always a scary and exciting time, but this batch brought a tough lesson. We lost five student projects during the firing process.

Pottery is a high-stakes science. If tiny pockets of moisture or air are trapped inside the clay, they expand rapidly as the temperature rises. If that pressure can't escape, the piece shatters. In a crowded kiln, this often creates a chain reaction. It's hard to tell which projects were the original ones to explode and which were simply innocent bystanders caught in the shrapnel. It's a frustrating reality of the craft that sometimes a perfectly made piece is just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Despite the debris, the projects that made it through look incredible! Art 1 finished some fantastic rattles. Art 2 saw their face mugs finally come to life with glaze and color. Ceramics produced some stunning lanterns.



## Westridge Mall Art Display

This past weekend, a team of student artists went to West Ridge Mall in Topeka to help with their Easter Egg hunt! They helped lead several different arts and crafts stations. Children were in and out of our part of the event constantly. So many kids had a blast learning about watercolor, drawing, and printmaking thanks to our student volunteers. In addition to the event, we have officially taken over the window space of the former Eddie Bauer in the mall. Our student volunteers worked hard to put up display walls and hang art from all art classes. If you get the chance to stop by the mall, make sure to go see the Charger Artwork on display!



# Band

Submitted by Eduardo Villanueva

## Nashville or Bust

The SFT Band had a fantastic time in Nashville during Spring Break. They got to see a show at the Grand Ole Opry, go on a downtown haunted tour, and visit the Country Music Hall of Fame among other things! Several students shared their favorite part of the trip was the dinner and a show on the General Jackson Showboat.



## League Band

When we returned, it was straight to work. The following Tuesday after spring break, we had our High School League Band event. The Band performed our concert band pieces for a judge to receive comments and a rating. They were also declared League Champions!"

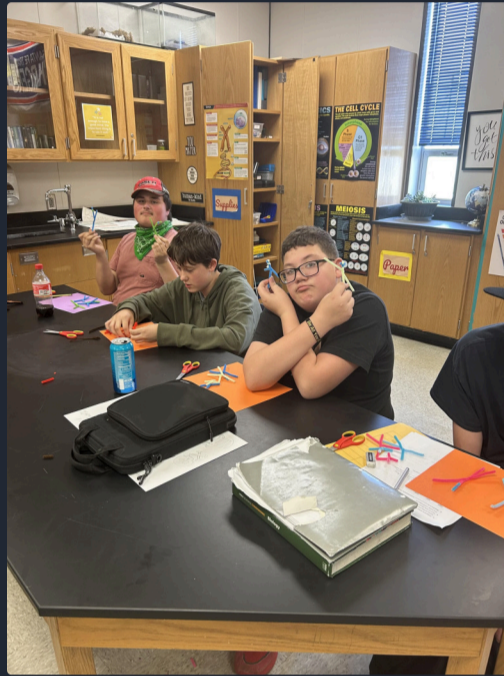


# Biology

Submitted by Michele Herren

## Pipe Cleaner Meiosis

The Biology classes have been learning the cellular process of meiosis. They participated in a hands-on activity using pipe cleaners to represent chromosomes and simulate the 2-step process.



# FBLA

*Submitted by Julie Smith*

Santa Fe Trail High School FBLA represented well this week at the Kansas FBLA State Leadership Conference amongst 1,729 registered competitors. Gabe Smith was inducted as President of this 3,000 member organization after running a successful campaign and receiving a majority vote by voting delegates across all chapters in the state.

Currently, 12 members are qualified for nationals. Results are incomplete after a technical issue with objective testing. We should have the complete results later this week.

The following were awarded certificates in the top 10 at the awards ceremony today. Business Ethics, 3rd place: Quincy Cook, Leo Sheley, Gabe Smith Business Plan, 4th place: Kaleb Baum, Quincy Cook, Madison Harding Career Portfolio, 3rd place: Macy Berkley Community Service Project, 5th place: Kaleb Baum, Macy Berkley, Reese Black Digital Video Production, 3rd Place: Macy Berkley, Scott Garcia, Connor Hudson Financial Planning, 5th place: Molly Herren, Tyler Shreve, Gabe Smith Future Business Educator, 3rd place: Molly Herren Future Business Leader, 6th place: Gabe Smith Introduction to Public Speaking, 6th place: Emily Huffman Local Chapter Business Report, 1st place: Bryson Crotinger, Gretchen Huizenga, Daniel McKee Member Gretchen Huizenga was also awarded the \$1,000 Lindell-Ferrell Emerging Leader Scholarship.



# Hungry, Hungry Hippos

*Submitted by Jessica Nicholson*

Students and staff came together for a fun and energetic bonding activity led and facilitated by Mr. Staab, where teams competed to collect as much “hippo food” as possible. The lighthearted competition brought plenty of laughter and friendly rivalry, giving everyone a chance to interact engagingly. It turned an ordinary lunchtime into something exciting and memorable, strengthening connections between students and staff while creating a positive, shared experience for all involved.



# International Night

*Submitted by Emma Fernandez*

International Night on March 10th was a big success ! Thanks to our guests, awesome students who cooked dishes from around the world, and our two guests and former Trail students Ajah Banks and Caroline Chiddix. Looking forward to next year already!



# KAY Club

Submitted by Mary Burgett

## Leadership Camp

The Theme for KLC (KAY Leadership Camp) was announced at Unit Conference, "Wild About Service". Registration is now open for KLC. Contact SFT HS KAY Sponsor, Mary Burgett, for information about KLC.



# Leadership Challenge

*Submitted by Kim DeWeese*

Two Sante Fe Trail High School teams took part in the 16th annual Washburn Leadership Challenge Event on February 26 & 27. The WLCE is a simulation put on by the Washburn Aleshire Leadership department and entirely planned and staffed by Washburn students and community volunteers. This year's simulation asked students to take on the role of high school administration during a student protest brought on by mental health concerns. Students Vanessa Roberts, Jordan Brun, Kynlee Ard, Alexa Heder, Justin Fechter, Brenna Heder, Addy Kramer and Alaina Richardson represented SFTHS with distinction, with the team of Jordan, Kynlee, Alexa and Justin bringing home the Transformation Award for the team that made the most significant improvement from the beginning to the end of the simulation. If you see them, make sure to ask them about the experience!

Congratulations!!



# NHS

*Submitted by Jessica Nicholson*

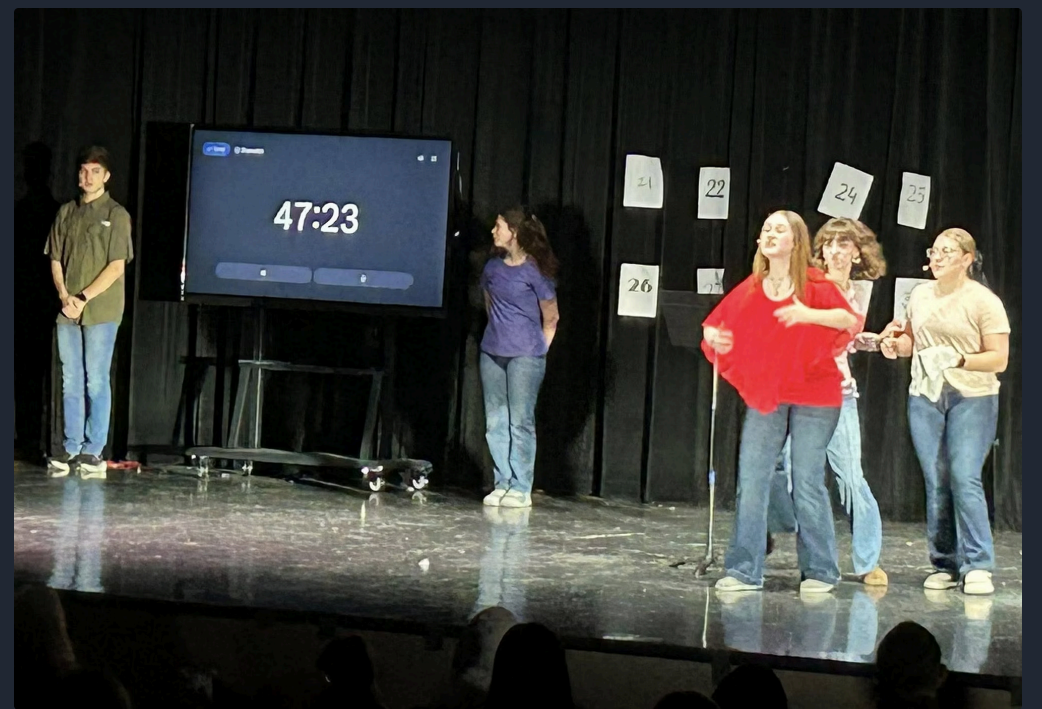


On March 3rd, the National Honor Society spent time at the preschool, sharing their love of reading with younger students for Read Across America Week. They read stories aloud, bringing characters to life and creating a warm, engaging atmosphere for the children. Afterward, they worked together on a fun arts and crafts project, giving the preschoolers a chance to be creative while building connections with their high school mentors. It was a meaningful experience that highlighted leadership, service, and the joy of giving back to the community.

# Play

Submitted by Kara Holbert

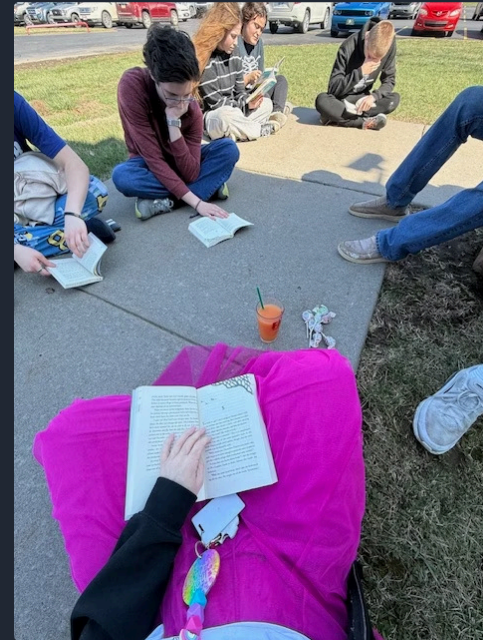
The spring play "Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind!" was a huge success! Great job by all the cast and crew.



# Sophomore English

*Submitted by Jessica Nicholson*

With spring finally here, our English classes are taking advantage of the sunshine and fresh air by reading outside. As we sit under open skies, we're diving into a novel about a young girl navigating the foster care system. A story that explores personal growth, identity, and what it means to find your place in the world. Being outdoors adds something special to the experience, giving students space to reflect, connect with the character's journey, and consider their own paths as they turn each page.



# Yearbook

*Submitted by Julie Smith*

Don't forget to get your yearbook ordered. Visit [yearbookordercenter.com](http://yearbookordercenter.com) and enter order number 26731. Or you can pick up a paper form from Mrs. Smith and pay with check or cash.



# 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

# Spring Sports Schedules

\*\* Schedules are subject to change. Consult USD 434 Google calendar for updated information.

## SANTA FE TRAIL CHARGERS 2026 Spring Sports Schedules

### BASEBALL

F 3/20 1:00 Jamboree at Paola (JV/V)  
Th 3/26 4:00 at Spring Hill (JV)  
**Th 3/26 vs 4:00 Silver Lake (V)**  
F 3/27 4:30 at Perry LeCompton (V)  
**M 3/30 4:00 vs Prairie View (JV)**  
M 3/30 4:30 at Louisburg (V)  
Tu 3/31 4:00 at Prairie View (V)  
Th 4/2 4:30 at Olathe Heritage (V)  
M 4/6 4:30 at ACCHS-Effingham (V)  
**Tu 4/7 4:00 vs Baldwin (JV/V)**  
**F 4/10 4:00 vs Iola (V)**  
**M 4/13 4:00 vs Osawatomie (JV)**  
Tu 4/14 4:00 at Osawatomie (V)  
Th 4/16 4:30 at Eudora (V)  
M 4/20 4:00 at Burlington (JV)  
**Tu 4/21 4:00 vs Burlington (V)**  
**Th 4/23 4:30 vs Ottawa (V)**  
M 4/27 4:00 at Wellsville (JV)  
**M 4/27 4:30 vs Louisburg (V)**  
*(Senior Night)*  
**Tu 4/28 4:00 vs. Mission Valley (JV)**  
Tu 4/28 4:00 at Wellsville (V)  
**F 5/1 2:30 vs St. Mary's (V)**  
M 5/4 4:00 at Anderson County (JV)  
**Tu 5/5 4:00 vs Anderson Co (V)**  
Th 5/7 4:00 at Baldwin (JV/V)  
M 5/11 4:00 at Iola (JV)  
M-Th 5/18-5/21 Regionals at TBD  
Th-F 5/28-5/29 State at Salina

\* Bold red/blue dates  
are SFT hosted events.

\*\* Schedules are subject  
to change. Consult USD  
434 Google calendar for  
updated information.



### SOFTBALL

Th 3/12 4:30 Jamboree at Holton (JV/V)  
Tu 3/24 4:30 at Holton (V)  
F 3/27 4:30 at Perry LeCompton (JV/V)  
Tu 3/31 4:00 at Prairie View (JV/V)  
**Tu 4/7 4:00 vs Rossville (JV/V)**  
F 4/10 4:00 at Mission Valley (JV)  
**F 4/10 4:00 vs St. Mary's (V)**  
Tu 4/14 4:00 at Osawatomie (V)  
Th 4/16 4:30 at Ottawa (V)  
M 4/20 4:00 at Burlington (JV)  
**Tu 4/21 4:00 vs Burlington (V)**  
**Th 4/23 4:00 vs Rock Creek (V)**  
F 4/24 4:00 at Rock Creek (JV)  
**M 4/27 4:00 vs Wellsville (JV)**  
Tu 4/28 4:00 at Wellsville (V)  
**M 5/4 4:00 vs Anderson County (JV)**  
Tu 5/5 4:30 vs Baldwin (JV/V)  
**Th 5/7 4:00 vs Anderson County (JV/V)**  
*(Senior Night)*  
M 5/11 4:00 at Iola (JV)  
**Tu 5/12 4:00 vs Iola (V)**  
M-Th 5/18-5/21 Regionals at TBD  
Th-F 5/28-5/29 State at TBD

### TRACK

Th 4/2 3:00 at Silver Lake (JV/V)  
M 4/6 3:30 at Prairie View (JV)  
Tu 4/7 4:00 at Osage City (V)  
F 4/10 3:30 V at Basehor-Linwood (V)  
Tu 4/14 4:00 at Royal Valley (V)  
F 4/17 3:30 at Tonganoxie (V)  
Tu 4/21 3:30 at Jeff West (V)  
F 4/24 3:00 at Rossville (V)  
**Th 4/30 4:00 at SFT (JV)**  
F 5/1 3:00 at Seaman (V)  
Tu 5/5 3:00 at Burlington (V)  
Th 5/7 4:00 at Royal Valley (V)  
M 5/11 3:30 at Iola (JV)  
**Th 5/14 3:30 Pioneer League Meet at SFT (V)**  
Th 5/21 Regionals  
F-Sa 5/29-5/30 State at WSU

### BOYS GOLF

M 3/30 1:00 at Fire Keeper GC (V)  
Th 4/2 1:00 at Emporia Municipal GC (V)  
Tu 4/7 3:00 at Village Green GC (JV)  
Tu 4/7 1:00 at Wamego CC (V)  
M 4/13 1:00 at Manhattan CC (V)  
Th 4/16 1:30 at Osage City CC (V)  
M 4/20 2:00 at Anderson Co CC (JV)  
Tu 4/21 1:00 at Lamont Hill GC (JV)  
**W 4/22 1:00 at Lamont Hill GC (V)**  
M 4/27 10:00 at Lake Shawnee GC (JV/V)  
M 4/27 1:00 at Topeka CC (V)  
Th 4/30 9:00 at Cypress Ridge GC (V)  
F 5/1 3:00 at Lamont Hill GC (JV)  
M 5/4 3:00 at Rock Creek CC (JV)  
**W 5/6 3:00 JV at Lamont Hill GC (JV)**  
Th 5/7 1:00 Pioneer League at Osawatomie  
M 5/18 Regionals  
M-Tu 5/25-5/26 State at Hesston GC

\*Last Revised 3/24/26

# Upcoming Summer Activities

## 2026 SFTHS SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Locations/details will be sent out by individual teams/coaches. Please contact the head coach with any questions.

	5/31	6/1-6/5	6/8-6/12	6/15-6/19	6/22-6/26	7/6-7/10	7/13-7/17*	7/20-7/24	7/27-7/31	8/3-8/7	8/10-8/14
Yearbook Workshop 5/31 Gr. 9-12 8 am-10 pm Mrs. Smith jsmith@usd434.us	<b>Girls BB Camp</b> 6/1 - 6/4 Gr. 7-12 8-10 am Coach Soderlund dsoderlund@usd434.us  <b>Youth BB Camp</b> 6/2 - 6/4 Gr. 4-6 10:30-noon Grades 1-3 12:30-2 pm Coach Soderlund dsoderlund@usd434.us  <b>Boys BB Team Camp</b> 6/1, 6/3, 6/4 Gr. 9-12 10-11:30 am Coach Decker tdecker@usd434.us  <b>FB Team Camp</b> 6/1 - 6/5 Gr. 9-12 7-9 am Coach Slade gslade@usd434.us  <b>Open Wrestling Room</b> 6/1 & 6/4 Gr. 7-12 8-9:15 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us	<b>Girls Golf Camp</b> 6/11 Gr. 9-12 9-10:30 am Coach Burgett mburgett@usd434.us (RSVP by 6/7)  <b>Youth BB Camp</b> 6/10 & 6/12 Gr. 1-8 9-1:30 pm Coach Decker tdecker@usd434.us  <b>Track &amp; Field Training Clinic</b> 6/11 Gr. 7-12 7-8 pm Coach Herren mherren@usd434.us  <b>Baseball Hitting</b> 6/9 Gr. 9-12 9:00 am Coach Gloss wgloss@usd434.us  <b>Open Wrestling</b> 6/8 & 6/11 Gr. 7-12 8-9:15 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us	<b>Girls Golf Clinic</b> 6/18 Gr. 9-12 9-11:30 am Coach Burgett mburgett@usd434.us  <b>Youth BB Camp</b> 6/17 and 6/19 Gr. 1-8 9-1:30 pm Coach Decker tdecker@usd434.us  <b>Track &amp; Field Training Clinic</b> 6/18 Gr. 7-12 7-8 pm Coach Herren mherren@usd434.us  <b>Baseball Hitting</b> 6/16 Gr. 9-12 9:00 am Coach Gloss wgloss@usd434.us  <b>Boys Wrestling Team Camp</b> 6/15-6/17 Gr. 7-12 8-10 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us	<b>Girls Golf Clinic</b> 6/25 Gr. 9-12 9-11:30 am Coach Burgett mburgett@usd434.us  <b>Track &amp; Field Training Clinic</b> 6/25 Gr. 7-12 7-8 pm Coach Herren mherren@usd434.us  <b>Baseball Hitting</b> 6/23 Gr. 9-12 9:00 am Coach Gloss wgloss@usd434.us  <b>Open Wrestling</b> 6/22 & 6/25 Gr. 7-12 8-9:15 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us	<b>NO ACTIVITIES 6/29 - 7/5</b>	<b>Football Team Camp</b> 7/6 - 7/10 Gr. 9-12 6:30-9 am Coach Slade gslade@usd434.us  <b>Wrestling Takedown League</b> 7/6 & 7/8 Gr. K-12 6:30-8:30 pm Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us  <b>FBLA Nationals</b> 6/28 - 7/3 San Antonio, Texas Mrs. Smith jsmith@usd434.us	<b>Youth FB Camps</b> 7/13 - 7/15 Gr. 3-6 7-8:30 pm  7/14 - 7/16 Gr. 7-8 9-10:30 am Coach Slade gslade@usd434.us  <b>Volleyball Camp</b> 7/13 - 7/15 Gr. 9-12 7-11 am Gr. 3-6 8-9:30 am Gr. 7-8 9:30-11 am Coach Fawl afawl@usd434.us  * Main Gym closed July 17 - 19 for floor refinishing	<b>Open Wrestling</b> 7/20 & 7/23 Gr. 7-12 8-9:15 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us  <b>FBLA Summer Leadership Seminar</b> 7/20 Manhattan Gr. 9-12 Mrs. Smith jsmith@usd434.us	<b>Open Wrestling</b> 7/27 & 7/30 Gr. 7-12 8-9:15 am Coach Robb trobb@usd434.us  <b>KAY Leadership Camp</b> 7/27 - 7/31 Gr. 9-12 Rock Springs Ranch mburgett@usd434.us	<b>Band Camp</b> *8/3 - 8/8 Gr. 9-12 Mrs. Rice mrice@usd434.us (*dates and times to be finalized after Overbrook Parade Date is released.)	<b>HIT Week</b> 8/10 - 8/13 Gr. 9-12 3:30-5 pm Coach Slade gslade@usd434.us



### SUMMER WORKOUTS

- HS Football** every Tuesday & Wednesday from 8-9 am
- HS Boys Basketball** every Monday & Thursday from 10-11:30 am
- HS Volleyball** every Tuesday & Thursday from 9-10:30 am
- HS Girls Basketball** every Monday & Wednesday from 9-10:30 am
- HS /JH Wrestling** most Mondays & Thursdays 8-9:15 am (see schedule above)

### SUMMER STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

- Monday through Thursday beginning Monday, June 8th
- Session 1:** Grades 9 -12 / 6:30 am
- Session 2:** Grades 9-12 / 7:30 am
- Session 3:** Grades 7-8 / 8:00 am

last updated 3/26/2026

# Baseball

*Submitted by Weston Gloss*

The SFT Baseball Team opened up their season with an exciting 17-16 win against Silver Lake. Trail looks to continue their success throughout the coming weeks



## Upcoming Home Games:

4/7 4:00 JV/V vs. Baldwin

4/10 4:00 V vs. Iola

4/13 4:00 JV vs. Osawatomie

4/21 4:00 V vs. Burlington

4/23 4:30 V vs. Ottawa

4/27 4:30 V vs. Louisburg (Senior Night)

4/28 4:00 JV vs. Mission Valley

5/1 2:30 V vs. St. Mary's

5/5 4:00 V vs. Anderson Co.



# Basketball

*Submitted by Coach Soderlund:*

Congratulations to our Santa Fe Trail Players who made the 2025-2026 Pioneer League Basketball All League Teams.

Girls First Team: Addalyn Sleichter - Sr

Girls First Team: Reese Black - Jr

Boys First Team: Rigley Sleichter - So

Boys 2nd Team: Layton Lind - Sr

Congratulations also to Senior Addalyn Sleichter for being awarded Academic All State by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association! This recognition highlights her dedication to both basketball and academics!



# Cheer

Submitted by Coach Ball:

So incredibly proud of our Santa Fe Trail Chargers Cheer Team! On February 28th, our Chargers hit the mats at the Baldwin Cheer competition and showed so much heart, grit, and determination. Their hard work is paying off, and we couldn't be prouder of how they represented our program!

Group Routine – 2 Rating

Tumbling: Holden – 2 Rating

Stunt Group: Brynna, Morgan, Eva & Michael – 2 Rating

Stunt Group: Michael, Holden, Morgan & Eva – 1 Rating

Jumps: Ellie , Eva , Holden , Michael

All Around: Morgan, Brynna

Every athlete stepped onto that mat with confidence and determination. The growth, teamwork, and dedication they've shown this season truly shines. We are beyond proud of each and every one of you!

Chargers, keep pushing, keep believing, and keep shining!



# Dance



## Congratulations

26 - 27 Chargerettes Dance Team!

Ainsley Johnson

Georgia Lynch

Brooklyn Brown

Kenna Washington

Caitlyn Heronime

Olivia Roberts

Courtney Galyean

Payton Craig

Danika Freund

Sarah Mann

Ellie Sowers

Taegyn Fawl

Emily Huffman



# Golf - Boys

*Submitted by Coach Duncan:*

## Trail takes 2nd at Firekeeper!

Led by medalists Brody Buessing (3rd), and Cale Anshutz (7th), Santa Fe Trail finished 2nd behind Tonganoxie at a windy Firekeeper golf course in Mayetta. Up next the Chargers travel to Emporia on Thursday.



# Softball

Come cheer on the Charger softball team at home on the following dates:

4/7 4:00 JV/V vs. Rossville

4/10 4:00 V vs. St. Mary's

4/21 4:00 V vs. Burlington

4/23 4:00 V vs. Rock Creek

4/27 4:00 JV vs. Wellsville

5/4 4:00 JV vs. Anderson Co.

5/7 4:00 JV/V vs. Anderson Co. (Senior Night)

5/12 4:00 V vs. Iola



# Powerlifting

Submitted by Kim Kesl

## 20th Annual Horton High School Powerlifting Meet.

Trail Power Lifting attended the 20th Annual Horton High School Powerlifting Meet. There were a total of 185 lifters from 17 schools that competed. Trail was small but mighty with 7 student athletes competing. As a team the women finished 4th overall with 29 points and the men finished 8th with 16 points.

Individual results:

### Seniors

Gretchen Huizenga- 148 Division: Bench – 1st, Squat – 1st, Clean – 2nd, Overall – 1st, Ratio – 1st

\*\*Tied PR in Clean at 165# and set a new PR in Bench at 150# and Squat at 290#

Julion Daniels – 220 Division: Bench – 1st, Squat – 2nd, Clean – 1st, Overall – 2nd, Ratio – 6th

Connor Hudson – PWT Division: Bench – 4th, Squat – 1st, Clean – 5th, Overall – 2nd, Ratio – 29th

\*\*Set a new PR in Squat at 515#

### Juniors

Tyler Shreve – 156 Division: Bench – 1st, Squat – 1st, Clean – 1st, Overall – 1st, Ratio – 2nd

\*\*Set new PR's in Squat at 305# and Clean at 165

Jordan Brun – PWT Division: Bench – 11th, Squat – 10th, Clean – 7th, Overall – 9th, Ratio – 42nd

### Sophomores

Alexia Garcia – 180 Division: Bench – 1st, Squat – 1st, Clean – 2nd, Overall – 2nd, Ratio – 1st

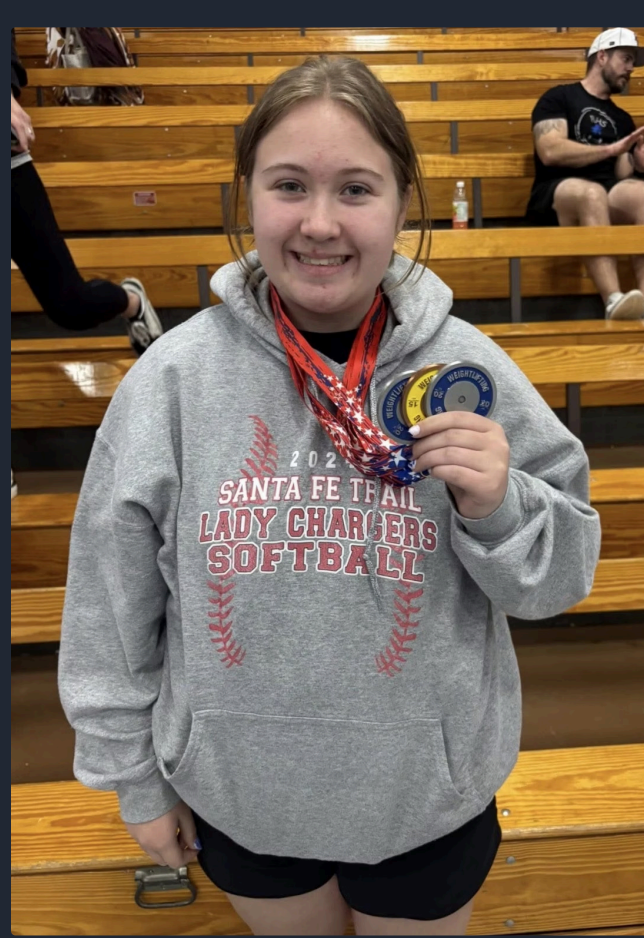
\*\*Tied her PR in Bench at 110# & Clean at 120# and set a new PR in Squat at 220#

### Freshmen

Nora Kesl – 165 Division: Bench – 5th, Squat – 6th, Clean – 4th, Overall – 6th, Ratio – 32nd

\*\*Tied her PR for Clean at 95#

Next up for the Chargers is the State Powerlifting Meet on March 28th at Chapman High School.



## State Powerlifting Meet

The Santa Fe Trail High School Powerlifting Team delivered an impressive performance at the 3A State Meet held in Chapman on Saturday, March 28. Competing against a strong field of 236 lifters representing 22 schools, Trail athletes rose to the occasion, showcasing strength, determination, and teamwork throughout the day. The team brought home an outstanding 14 medals, and seven athletes placing in the top six of their respective weight classes. Even more impressive, the team recorded 17 lifts that were either new personal records (PRs) or tied existing PRs—highlighting the athletes' continued growth and dedication this season.

**The women's team had a standout showing, finishing 4th overall.**

Leading the way was senior [Gretchen Huizenga](#) in the 148-pound weight class, who placed 2nd in bench and squat, 3rd in clean, and secured 2nd overall with a total of 610 pounds lifted and a power ratio of 4.122. She tied her PR in clean at 165 pounds and set a new PR in squat at 300 pounds.

Junior [Tyler Schreve](#) dominated the 156-pound weight class, earning 1st place in both squat and clean, 5th in bench, and capturing the overall state title with a total of 605 pounds and a power ratio of 3.898. Schreve tied a PR in squat (305) and set a new PR in clean (170).

Junior [Molly Herren](#) placed 3rd overall in the 181-pound class with a total of 565 pounds, finishing 6th in bench, 3rd in squat, and 4th in clean. She tied her PR in clean (140) and set a new PR in squat (305).

Sophomore [Alexia Garcia](#) competed in the 181-pound class, finishing 7th overall with a total of 455 pounds. She tied her PR in bench (110) and set a new PR in squat (230).

Freshman [Nora Kesl](#) placed 5th overall in the 165-pound class with a total of 365 pounds, finishing 6th in bench and squat and 5th in clean. She tied her PR in squat (175) and set a new PR in clean (100).

**On the men's side, the team finished an impressive 5th overall.**

Senior [Julion Daniels](#) delivered a dominant performance in the 220-pound weight class, sweeping 1st place in bench, squat, and clean to earn the overall state title with a massive total of 1,130 pounds and a power ratio of 5.355.

Senior [Isaiah Jones](#) also had a strong showing in the 148-pound class, placing 1st in bench and squat, 4th in clean, and finishing 2nd overall with a total of 740 pounds and a power ratio of 5.075.

Senior [Connor Hudson](#) competed in the power weight class and placed 2nd overall with a total of 1,045 pounds. He earned 1st in squat, 5th in bench, and 4th in clean, while setting new PRs in all three lifts: bench (285), squat (520), and clean (240).

Junior [Braden Vandevord](#) finished 9th overall in the 172-pound class with a total of 835 pounds.

Junior [Jordan Brun](#) placed 12th in the power weight class with 775 pounds, tying a PR in bench (200) and setting a new PR in squat (375).

Junior [Van Banister](#) also competed in the 172-pound class, finishing 11th overall with a total of 800 pounds and setting a new PR in squat (385).

Freshman [Andy Lyda](#) rounded out the team's performance in the 242-pound class, placing 11th overall with a total of 465 pounds and setting a new PR in clean (135).

Overall, it was a remarkable day for the Santa Fe Trail powerlifting program. With multiple podium finishes, personal records, and two individual state champions, the team proved they can compete at the highest level and continue to build a strong foundation for the future.



# Track & Field

*Submitted by Coach Herren*

The Track & Field team has been working hard all March long to prepare for our first meets. Both our Varsity and JV athletes will be competing at Silver Lake on April 2nd. The following week our JV athletes will go to Osage on April 7th and our Varsity athletes will be traveling to Basehor-Linwood HS to compete on April 10th. We are looking forward to a successful season and are excited to watch our athletes compete, improve, and support one another throughout the year.

SFT will be hosting only two home track and field meets this season: a JV meet on Thursday, April 30th and the Pioneer League Meet on Thursday, May 14th.

Come out and support the Chargers!



# STUDENT SECTION

**Student Services**

# Job & Career Fair

*Submitted by Tosha Smith*

Career Day gave our students the opportunity to hear from professionals working in a variety of career fields and learn about the paths they took to get there. Some sessions focused on careers students are already interested in pursuing, giving them a great chance to ask questions and learn what the work is really like.

Even when a session wasn't in a field they plan to pursue, students still gained valuable insight. Many speakers shared how they got started, the decisions they made along the way, and lessons they've learned throughout their careers. Their experiences provided helpful advice and encouraged students to start thinking more about their own futures.

A big thank you to our local businesses, surrounding professionals, and community members who took the time to invest in our students today. We truly appreciate you sharing your time, knowledge, and experiences with our students and future adults.

It was a great day to be a Charger!



# 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](mailto: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](https://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.



# April 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <a href="#">1:00pm:HS Boys V Golf at Emporia</a>  <a href="#">3:00pm:HS JV/V Track at Silver Lake</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Boys V BSB at Olathe Heritage Christian</a>	3  <a href="#">No School</a>	4
6  <a href="#">No School</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Boys V BSB at ACCHS</a>	7  <a href="#">No School: Professional Development Day</a>  <a href="#">1:00pm:HS Boys V Golf at Wamego CC</a>  <a href="#">3:00pm:HS Boys JV Golf at Village Greens</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:V Track at Osage City</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls SB vs Rossville at Carbondale</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys JV BB vs Baldwin</a>  <a href="#">6:00pm:HS Boys V BSB vs Baldwin</a>	8  <a href="#">6:00pm:Board of Education Meeting</a>	9  <a href="#">4:00pm:JV Baseball Double Header at Valley Falls</a>	10  <a href="#">3:30pm:V Track at Basehor Linwood</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys V BSB vs Iola</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls JV SB at Mission Valley</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls V SB vs St. Marys at Carbondale</a>	11  <a href="#">KSHSAA Regional Solo &amp; Small Ensemble</a>  <a href="#">7:00pm:Prom in Topeka</a>
13  <a href="#">1:00pm:HS Boys V Golf at Manhattan</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls JV SB vs Osawatomie</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys JV BB vs Osawatomie</a>	14  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS V Track at Royal Valley</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys V BSB at Osawatomie</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls V SB at Osawatomie</a>	15  <a href="#">KSHSAA State Large Group</a>	16  <a href="#">KSHSAA State Large Group</a>  <a href="#">1:30pm:HS Boys V Golf at Osage City</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Girls V SB at Ottawa</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Boys V BSB at Eudora</a>	17  <a href="#">3:30pm:V Track at Tonganoxie</a>	18
20  <a href="#">2:00pm:HS JV B Golf at Anderson Co.</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys JV BB at Burlington</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls JV SB at Burlington</a>	21  <a href="#">1:00pm:HS Boys JV Golf Scramble at Lamont Hill</a>  <a href="#">3:30pm:HS V Track at Jeff West</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls V SB vs Burlington</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys V BSB vs Burlington</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Boys JV BB vs Burlington</a>	22  <a href="#">1:00pm:HS Boys V Golf at Lamont Hill</a>	23  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Girls V SB at Rock Creek</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Boys V BSB vs Ottawa</a>	24  <a href="#">3:00pm:V Track at Rossville</a>  <a href="#">4:30pm:HS Girls JV SB at Rock Creek</a>	25  <a href="#">KSHSAA State Solo &amp; Small Ensemble</a>
27  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls JV SB vs Wellsville</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys V BSB vs Louisburg- Sr. Night</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys JV BB at Wellsville</a>	28  <a href="#">10:00am:HS V Boys Golf at Cypress Ridge (St. Mary's)</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Girls V SB at Wellsville</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys V BSB at Wellsville</a>  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS Boys JV BB vs Mission Valley</a>	29  <a href="#">9:00am:HS Art League at Burlington</a>  <a href="#">6:30pm:FBLA/KAY/NHS Recognition Night- Auditorium</a>	30  <a href="#">4:00pm:HS JV Track at SFT</a>		