



November 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the activity calendar on the last page of the newsletter for all athletic events.

11-3 (12:00) PTO and Site Council Meeting

11-15 (2:45) Building Leadership Team Meeting

11-24 - 11-26 Thanksgiving Break - No School



SPIRIT WEEK

Monday, October 11th through Thursday, October 14th was spirit week for South Middle School. Monday was pajama day, Tuesday was Hawaiiin day, Wednesday was twin day and Thursday was Green and Gold Day. A big thank you to our Student Council for organizing the week and for all our students and staff who participated.



6TH GRADE MATH

Sixth graders are currently working on solving multi-digit computations with the order of operations. New for 6th grade is evaluating exponents with fractional bases. We have already extended knowledge of decimal operations with long division and multiplication as well as activities that help students explore mean, median and mode for a given set of data. We most recently completed our geometry unit where we focused on the relationship between the volume and surface area of a cube, identifying polygons and polyhedra, and finding the surface area of any polyhedron's net. To finish the semester we will begin analyzing ratios and rates, including percentages. By the end of the semester ask your student to apply what they have learned and calculate the percentage they earn on any of their assignments. This is a meaningful way for students to connect what they have learned to their real world experiences.

HALLOWEEN DANCE

Student Council is sponsoring a Halloween Dance featuring DJ Cain on Friday, October 29th from 7-9 pm at South Middle. Halloween costumes are encouraged under these guidelines: no face paint, staff must be able to see the students face (no body suits) and the costume must be school appropriate. There will be a costume contest and pop up games during the dance with prizes! There will also be a photo booth free of charge. Tickets will be sold during lunch on Wednesday, October 27, Thursday, October 28 and Friday, October 29 for \$3.00. They will also be for sale the night of the dance for \$5.00. Concession stand items will be available for additional cost.

Additional Information to Know:

- * No outside guests will be permitted to the dance, only enrolled students at South Middle School. SMS students who do attend school the day of the dance or who were in ISS will not be admitted.
- * Students will not be admitted to the dance before 7:00 pm and entry to the dance will close 30 minutes from the start. Students are not to leave the building until their ride has arrived or the school has been notified that the student is to walk.
- * Students will enter through Door #17 on the south end of the building.
- * No book bags, purses or bags of any sort are allowed into the dance.
- * All school rules, as outlined in the student handbook, will be enforced by administration.
- * School personnel will be the final judge of the appropriateness of a particular dance style.



PICK UP AND DROP OFF

As many are aware student pick up and drop off can be a challenge at SMS. While it is wonderful to be a true neighborhood school, it does present issues for dropping off and picking up students. Parents and guardians can help by dropping off students curbside, closest to the sidewalk. It is dangerous to drop off opposite the curb and have students walk across the street. If a student is dropped off, opposite the curb, please have them use the crosswalk.

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

A big thank you to all the students and families who participated in our annual fundraiser with "World's Finest Chocolate." We raised several thousand dollars that will be deposited into our student fundraising account. These dollars can only be spent on students and will be used for incentives and PBIS celebrations throughout the school year.

DILLONS REWARDS

SMS Families can support the South Middle School PTO by using their Dillon's Plus shopper's card. A percentage of all purchases are allotted to our PTO. Here's how to enroll in the Dillon's Community Rewards program:

- visit www.dillons.com/community-rewards
- sign in to your existing online account or create an account
- find and select South Middle School PTO or Organization #VN011 and click save
- Shop at Dillon's and scan your existing Plus Shopper's Card

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of South Middle School is to ensure a high quality education for all students in a safe and equitable learning environment. This mission is best accomplished through a partnership including students, family, community, teachers and staff, preparing students to become life-long learners in an ever-changing world.

LADY COUGAR BASKETBALL

The Lady Cougar Basketball Team completed tryouts on October 20. The coaches would like to thank all the South Middle School girls that had the courage to participate in the tryouts. We had a fantastic tryout process!

With tryouts complete, the Lady Cougars have been preparing with a sense of urgency for our first games. The Lady Cougars open the season on November 1 at Maize. The Lady Cougars follow that with a November 2 contest at Abilene, before wrapping up the first week of their season with their first home game against Hutchinson on November 4. We have an outstanding group of young ladies that will represent South Middle School this upcoming season, and we are looking forward to a great season for the Lady Cougar Basketball teams!



SCHOOL NURSE

Reminder! All 7th grade students are required by the state of Kansas to have a Tdap booster and a meningococcal vaccine. Both vaccines are due by December 1, 2021. Please send a copy of student vaccination records to school nurse, nicole.gheen@usd305.com. Also, dental screenings will take place at SMS, December 15th and 16th. Please keep an eye on your emails for more information regarding the screenings. Thank You!





8TH GRADE MATH

8th grade math began the year working with some of our geometry concepts including translations, reflections, rotations and dilations. We have moved into graphing and writing equations and will also start our big unit on solving multi-step equations this month.

Students are enjoying digital escape room opportunities as well as our team building and math based escape rooms that use actual locks and hands on clues.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Penny Wars are November 1 through November 18. Students will bring pennies and paper bills for their advisory container to add to their total and place silver coins into other advisory containers to lower their total. The advisory class with the most "positive" money from each grade level will win a pizza party from Student Council. The money is being raised to help purchase Christmas gifts for South Middle School students and their families who are in need of assistance.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to SMS 6th grade Reading and PE teacher McKenzie Weishaar for earning November teacher of the month. McKenzie is the ultimate professional and we are lucky to have her on our SMS staff. Congratulations McKenzie!



7TH MATH

7th Grade math has been working hard on understanding and developing the concepts of Rates, Ratios, and Proportional Relationships. Within the Proportional relationship we have talked about scale factors and constants of proportionality. With these concepts, the students then are able to increase or decrease a certain relationship, such as a recipe, using this concept. For example, if a cookie recipe calls for 2 cups of flour and 1 cup of sugar, we can then use that ratio to make a larger or smaller batch of cookies by using scale factors and multiplying each of the items in the recipe by that number.

We are currently just finishing up with Unit 2 and will soon be starting Unit 3 which deals with Circles. Parts of a circle, measuring circles, and area and circumference of a circle.

WRESTLING

We are excited that the 2021 SMS Wrestling season is finally here! Our season opens up on November 2nd with a home meet against Emporia and Lakewood. We are returning several eighth graders who are looking to continue to build off of their momentum from last year as they provide valuable experience and leadership to our team. This season we also have a large group of first year wrestlers that are eager to get to work and learn a new sport. After our first couple weeks of practice this group is really coming together as a team, pushing themselves and each other every day, learning, and improving their strength and conditioning. We hope to see you at our home meets on November 2nd and November 30th.

S COUGARS

October '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Salina South Middle School

November 2021

December '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Halloween	1 5:00 7/8GBB @ Maize	2 4:30 7/8GBB @. Abilene 4:30 WR @ SMS	3 12:00 Site Council / PTO	4 5:00 7/8GBB vs. Hutch 4:30 WR @ Maize South	5	6
7 Daylight Saving	8 5:00 7/8GBB @ Lakewood	9 4:30 7/8GBB vs. Hays 4:30 WR @ Newton	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 9:00 WR @ Concorida HS 9:00 League Honors Music at Hutchinson
14	15 5:00 7/8GBB @ Newton	16 3:30 7/8GBB @ Manhattan - Anthony 4:30 WR @ McPherson	17	18 5:00 7/8GBB vs. McPherson	19 Western Kansas Orchestra Festival	20 Western Kansas Orchestra Festival
21	22 5:00 7/8GBB vs. Derby North	23	24 No School Thanksgiving Recess	25 Thanksgiving Day No School Thanksgiving Recess	26 No School Thanksgiving Recess	27
28	29 4:30 7/8GBB vs. Junction City	30 5:00 7/8GBB @ Hutchinson 4:30 WR @ SMS	1	2	3	4
5	6	Notes				