



November 2022

South Middle

The mission of South Middle School is to provide a high quality education for all students in a safe, 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.

A Note from the Principal

As we prepare for the second quarter of the school year, we will continue to focus on our school wide academic goal of 75 percent of our students earning A's, B's and C's and our social and emotional goal of reducing office referrals. October was a busy month, we concluded our fall sports season, held our first annual Academic Open House and concluded the month with our annual Halloween Dance. As we move into November, we will begin girls basketball and wrestling competitions. SMS would like to thank all of our students and families that participated in our fall fundraiser. Students will receive their prizes in November. We were able to collect close to \$15,000 for our school and our Parent Teachers Organization. Thank You!



Wrestling

We are excited that the 2022 SMS Wrestling season is finally here! Our season opens up on November 1st with a meet at Lakewood. We are returning a strong core of eighth graders who will provide valuable experience and leadership to our team. We currently have 69 wrestlers on the team, including 19 girls. The majority of our team is first year wrestlers who are eager to learn a new sport. We hope to see you at our home meets on November 17th and December 6th.



6th Grade English

Sixth grade English classes are busy tackling parts of speech and different types of writing. Quarter one was spent working with nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs, as well as narrative writing. Students had the opportunity to write about a favorite childhood memory. Quarter two will focus on verbs, interjections, and using commas in a sentence. Students will wrap up the quarter writing an informative paper that coincides with articles from the sixth grade English and Reading textbook.



Technical Education

Students will learn to work with basic hand tools and some power tools in a safe and productive manner. Students will construct several small projects using different materials and processes. The projects constructed will go home with the students. Measuring skills will be taught, along with Basic Drafting. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) are a part of the curriculum, providing students exposure to real world problems and finding solutions to those problems. Student accountability and responsibility are stressed in the curriculum. This class is an elective choice for students in both 7th & 8th grades.

Winter Weather Ahead!

There may be days when the start of school is delayed because of weather. This option may be used if snowy roads could be cleared given a few hours or if wind chills are too low during early morning hours but temperatures are expected to warm up within a few hours.

The advantage of a delayed start is that we can minimize the loss of instruction while maintaining the safety of students and staff.

Whether a school cancellation or a delayed start is announced, the district will communicate as soon as possible using its rapid notification system. Notifications will be sent to families and staff via phone, email and text. [\(Parents and guardians are encouraged to update their contact information in Skyward.\)](#)

Details of a delayed start:

- **Bus routes:** General education and special education bus routes will proceed on a 2-hour delay.
- **Pre-K:** Morning classes will be cancelled. Afternoon classes will run as normal.
- **Foodservice:** Breakfast will not be served and there will not be a choice lunch option at elementary schools.
- **Elementary Band/Strings:** Band/strings at elementary schools will be cancel.
- **Heartland:** a.m. Pre-K will be cancelled. Breakfast will not be served.
- **Salina Adult Education Center:** All a.m. sessions and any GED testing scheduled for the day will be cancelled.

Changes to the school schedule are not taken lightly. While calling cancellation and delayed-start days creates inconveniences for families and impacts instruction time, upholding the safety of students and staff is our priority.

As always, the final decision about your students' safety is yours. If you choose to keep your student home when inclement weather occurs and school is in session, please contact the school attendance office and follow the procedures to report an absence.

Teacher of the Month

Congratulations to SMS Guitar and Music teacher Matt Gerry for earning teacher of the month. "Mr. Gerry has always made me feel comfortable in his classroom, he is always respectful and kind to his students. He is very good at his job." Congratulations, Mr. Gerry!

Payment Reminder for Meals

School meals help students be ready to learn. Please monitor and keep current your family's food service balance on a regular basis. We appreciate partnering with you to nourish students' mind and bodies.

SPIRIT WEEK

Monday

Pajama Day



Tuesday

Crazy Hat & Sock Day



Wednesday

Green & Gold Day



Thursday

Pink Out

Dillon's Rewards

South Middle 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/communityrewards
- 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 Dillons and scan your existing shopper's Plus Card

American Education Week

Take the time to celebrate greatness in your school community during November 14 - 18 for American Education Week! As you may have noticed, Salina Public Schools is growing greatness and we wanted to share a few recent accomplishments. Our district is proud of who we are and proud of what we do!

- Stop, drop and roll! A third grader at Sunset Elementary, Dean, won the 2022 Fire Safety Poster Contest. His poster about having 2 points of escape now hangs in the Salina Fire Department's Fire Safety Trailer as well as in his school. Partnerships with the community like this help us create great opportunities for students. Congratulations Dean!
- One of our recent You Make a Difference Award winners was Bus Driver Cory Acheson who demonstrates kindness, respect and care every day on his Meadowlark Ridge route. With a kind word or joke for every student and a wave to every parent, Cory makes everyone around him feel safe and valued. Congratulations Cory!

Check out our district social media pages from November 14-18 to learn more about the greatness that takes place every day, thanks to the amazing staff and community in our buildings.

Winter Weightlifting

South Middle had a lot of success with our summer weight lifting program and our coaches would like to continue that growth through the winter season. SMS students will have access to the South High weightroom on Wednesday and Sunday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. SMS students will be using the Rack Coach program utilized by the high school. Some exercises will be modified to better suit middle school athletes. The weightroom is open to all SMS students, regardless of age or gender. This is a great opportunity for our students to continue along the disciplined path and continue to make gains in strength and endurance.

Student Council

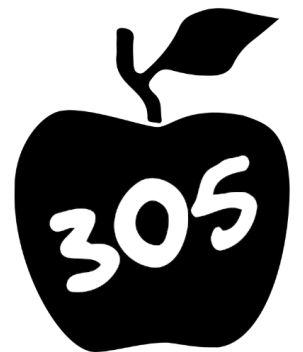
Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween Dance! We had a great turnout and a lot of fun! Penny Wars is coming up soon! All money raised will be used to purchase gifts for South Middle School students and their families in need of assistance for the holidays. Advisory classes will compete against each to raise the most money.

7th Grade English

7th grade English finished quarter one by writing a Personal Narrative Essay about a day they will never forget. For the first part of the second quarter, we are focusing on grammar components including prepositions, compound subjects and predicates, and types of sentences. We will also be writing an Explanatory Essay the first week of November. After Thanksgiving Break, we will begin reading, analyzing, and writing about the famous Charles Dickens story "A Christmas Carol." Finally, we will end the semester by comparing and contrasting this well-loved literature with its movie version. We are looking forward to a fun and festive time with lots of learning along the way!

8th Grade English

Our English curriculum, My Perspectives, provides opportunities to strengthen students' abilities in reading, writing, and using proper grammar and conventions. Our first unit of study focused on Rites of Passage. In this unit, students read and researched about important milestones on the path to growing up from different cultures and wrote nonfiction narratives about their own milestones. This quarter, they will be reading, analyzing, and discussing texts and poems that focus on what matters in life and when it is appropriate to take a stand. Students will write an argumentative essay that will involve making a claim and researching evidence to support that claim. If you have any questions about your student's progress in English or questions regarding the curriculum, please do not hesitate to reach out!





Technical Education

Library Policies

Library Catalog Access for Families:

Parents have access to the library materials currently checked out by their student(s). For access, parents will have their student log into Destiny, the library card catalog:

1. Go to the school's website.
2. Under the Our School tab, click on Library.
3. Under Library, click on the school's library Card Catalog tab.
4. For your student to log in, they can click the Log In button on the top right corner.
5. Next, click on the Sign in with Google button.

Process for Parental Oversight:

Library media specialists should be contacted directly if parents would like to provide expressed permission before their student checks out any book. At elementary, the library media specialist will notify parent by email or phone regarding the book the student would like to check out to get permission. At middle school and high school, the student will provide their parent with the title of the book they wish to check out. The parent will contact the library media specialist by email or phone to give permission.

Checking Out Materials and Loan Periods:

Elementary:

Students may check out books for a two week period. (The number of books a student can checkout depends on the student's grade level.)

Middle School:

Students may check out 3 books for a three week checkout period.

High School:

Students may check out 8 books for a three week checkout period.

Procedimientos De La Biblioteca

Acceso al Catálogo de la Biblioteca para Familias:

Los padres tienen acceso a los materiales de la biblioteca actualmente prestados por sus estudiantes. Para acceso, los padres harán que su estudiante inicie sesión en Destiny, el catálogo de tarjetas de la biblioteca:

1. Vaya al sitio web de la escuela.
2. En la pestaña Our School, haga clic en Library.
3. En Library, haga clic en la pestaña Card Catalog de la biblioteca de la escuela.
4. Para que su estudiante inicie sesión, puede hacer clic en el botón Log In en la
5. esquina superior derecha.
6. A continuación, haga clic en el botón Sign in with Google.

Proceso de Supervisión para los Padres:

Se debe contactar directamente a los especialistas en medios de la biblioteca si los padres desean dar permiso antes de que su estudiante saque cualquier libro. En la escuela primaria, el especialista en medios de la biblioteca notificará a los padres por correo electrónico o por teléfono sobre el libro que el estudiante desea sacar para obtener el permiso. En la escuela secundaria y preparatoria, el estudiante proporcionará a sus padres el título del libro que desea sacar. El padre se comunicará con el especialista en medios de la biblioteca por correo electrónico o por teléfono para dar permiso.

Verificación de Materiales y Períodos de Préstamo:

Primaria:

Los estudiantes pueden sacar libros por un período de dos semanas. (La cantidad de libros que un estudiante puede sacar depende del nivel de grado del estudiante).

Escuela Secundaria:

Los estudiantes pueden sacar 3 libros por un período de tres semanas.

Escuela Preparatoria:

Los estudiantes pueden sacar 8 libros por un período de tres semanas.

Congratulations to SMS 8th Grade History teacher, Mike Rasette for being chosen by Credit Union of America as a teacher who makes a difference. Mr. Rasette received gift cards and supplies to help in the classroom. Congratulations Mr. Rasette and a big thank you to Credit Union of America for sponsoring this wonderful program.



Clima Invernal por Delante! Recordatorio Amistoso Sobre el Inicio Retrasado

Puede haber días en que el inicio de clases se retrase debido al clima. Esta opción se puede usar si los caminos nevados se pueden despejar en unas pocas horas o temperatura del vientos demasiado bajo durante las primeras horas de la mañana, pero se espera que las temperaturas aumenten en unas pocas horas.

La ventaja de un inicio retrasado es que podemos minimizar la pérdida de instrucción mientras mantenemos la seguridad de los estudiantes y el personal.

Ya sea que se anuncie una cancelación de la escuela o un inicio retrasado, el distrito se comunicará lo antes posible mediante su sistema de notificación rápida. Se enviarán notificaciones a las familias y al personal por teléfono, correo electrónico y mensaje de texto. [\(Se alienta a los padres y tutores a actualizar su información de contacto en Skyward\).](#)

Detalles de un inicio retrasado:

- **Rutas de autobús:** Las rutas de autobús de educación general y educación especial procederán con un retraso de 2 horas.
- **Pre-K:** Se cancelarán las clases de la mañana. Las clases de la tarde se desarrollarán con normalidad.
- **Servicio de alimentos:** No se servirá desayuno y no habrá opción de elección de almuerzo en las escuelas primarias.
- **Banda/Cuerdas de Primaria:** La banda/cuerdas en las escuelas primarias se cancelará.
- **Heartland:** se cancelará el pre kínder de la mañana. No se servirá desayuno.
- **Centro de Educación para Adultos de Salina:** Se cancelarán todas las sesiones de la mañana y cualquier examen de GED programado para el día.

Los cambios en el horario escolar no se toman a la ligera. Mientras las llamadas de cancelación y los días de inicio retrasado crean inconvenientes para las familias y afectan el tiempo de instrucción, nuestra prioridad es mantener la seguridad de los estudiantes y el personal.

Como siempre, la decisión final sobre la seguridad de sus estudiantes es suya. Si elige mantener a su estudiante en casa cuando ocurre mal tiempo y la escuela está en sesión, comuníquese con la oficina de asistencia de la escuela y siga los procedimientos para reportar una ausencia.

Semana de la Educación Estadounidense

¡Tómese el tiempo para celebrar la grandeza en su comunidad escolar del 14 al 18 de noviembre para la Semana de la Educación Estadounidense! Como habrá notado, las Escuelas Públicas de Salina están creciendo en grandeza y queremos compartir algunos logros recientes. ¡Nuestro distrito está orgulloso de lo que somos y de lo que hacemos!

- ¡Detente, Tírate y Rueda! Un estudiante de tercer grado de la escuela Primaria Sunset, Dean, ganó el concurso de carteles de seguridad contra incendios de 2022. Su póster sobre tener 2 puntos de escape ahora cuelga en el Tráiler de Seguridad Contra Incendios del Departamento de Bomberos de Salina, así como en su escuela. Asociaciones con la comunidad como esta nos ayudan a crear grandes oportunidades para los estudiantes. ¡Felicidades Dean!
- Uno de nuestros ganadores recientes del Premio Tú Haces la Diferencia fue el conductor de autobús Cory Acheson, quien demuestra amabilidad, respeto y cuidado todos los días en su ruta de Meadowlark Ridge. Con una palabra amable o una broma para cada estudiante y un saludo a cada padre, Cory hace que todos los que lo rodean se sientan seguros y valorados. ¡Felicidades Cory!

Consulte las páginas de redes sociales de nuestro distrito del 14 al 18 de noviembre para obtener más información sobre la grandeza que se lleva a cabo todos los días, gracias al increíble personal y la comunidad en nuestros edificios.

Academic Open House

On Thursday, October 27th, South Middle School hosted an Academic Open House. The evening was highlighted with pizza, musical performances and academic themed activities for families to participate in. We want to thank everyone who attended!



Halloween Dance

On Friday, October 28th, SMS held it's annual Halloween Dance. Students wore costumes, danced and enjoyed the evening with their classmates. We had a great turnout and hope all students enjoyed the festivities!



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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			

Important Dates in November

11 - Veteran's Day

23 - No School

24 - No School / Thanksgiving Day

25 - No School

Contact Us

Dustin Dooley

Principal

Tina Akers

Assistant Principal

Curt Exline

Assistant Principal

Jamie Jackson

Secretary

Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-3900

#SMSCougars
#305GrowsGreatness



f South Middle

@USD305

➔ School Website

305 District Website

Unified School District #305 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Any person having inquiries concerning Unified School District #305 compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, ADA, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Unified School District #305 Executive Director of Human Resources, P.O. Box 797, Salina, Kansas 67402, 785-309-4726.



**THE SALVATION ARMY
CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE
2022 APPLICATIONS**

**Applications for
Angel Tree and Toys
will be taken the following days**

**Wednesday – Nov. 2 Friday – Nov. 4
Monday – Nov. 7 Wednesday - Nov. 9 Friday - Nov. 11
10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Applications will be taken in person only
1137 N. Santa Fe**

Each applicant **MUST** provide proof of total
household income, names, ages,
AND identification
for **EACH** household member
(i.e. School ID, Med. card, Birth cert.,etc.)

Questions please call 785-823-2251



These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education
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