

August 2023

**Dare to SOAR!**

# SUNSET NEWS



## A Note from the Principal

Sunset Parents/Guardians,

We are excited about the 2023-2024 school year. Sunset staff has worked diligently to ensure everything is ready. The school year has started well and it has been great seeing the students back in school. We wish each student an amazing start to their academic journey!

We are asking that students stand outside and wait in a line until they enter the doors in the morning. To keep everyone safe, please drop off students next to the curb and not in the middle of the street.

- Parents of K-2nd should use the circle drive to help with traffic flow.
- Third - fifth grades should enter door 3 on Republic St.

Breakfast starts at 7:55 a.m. and the rest of the students are let into the building at 8:00 a.m.

We are working hard to provide the best instruction and school environment for all of our students. In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to contact our office at 785-309-4520. We are always here to answer your questions and/or assist you as needed.

Best regards,  
Mr. Brandon J. Cheeks  
Principal  
Sunset Elementary School  
P: 785-309-4520

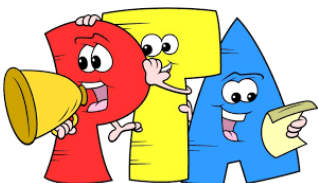
[Brandon.Cheeks@usd305.com](mailto:Brandon.Cheeks@usd305.com)

### Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting

Thursday, September 7, 2023

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Art room



# Notice of Nondiscrimination

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.

## School Marathon Starts August 21

### What is the School Marathon?

Students have the opportunity to run or walk a total of 26.2 miles (131 laps) for 8 weeks. Students will earn prizes for completing 5, 10, 15, 20, and 26.2 miles.

### When does it Start?

The marathon begins August 21 and ends October 13.



### The Details

Students can begin running or walking laps around the track on the playground each morning at 8 a.m. Students still must come through their designated morning entrances and then walk out to the playground. Students that eat breakfast at school, will eat their breakfast first and then will begin their laps. Students may also complete laps during their recess each day if they choose.

### Can Parents Participate?

We welcome parents to walk with their student(s) in the morning, but unfortunately you are not eligible to earn the prizes. If you would like to come to the marathon in the morning, you must sign in at the office first.



## Receive Important Texts on Your Cell Phone



In order to get text messages (cancellations, emergencies, and other school communications) from your school and USD 305, simply text Y to the number 67587.

## Screen for Illness Symptoms



It is important to screen your student for illness every day before coming to school. Keep your student at home if sick with any illness. By making sure students are healthy when they come to school, we all can help prevent illnesses that disrupt learning. Thank you for your support!

## Breakfast/Lunch Room News

Breakfast is served until 8:30 a.m.

We have started the lunch choice options this year. The students will have a choice between the hot entrée and the cold entrée.

### Cold Entrée choices:

Mon. and Wed. - Students can choose yogurt, string cheese and granola.

Tue. and Thurs. - Students can choose bean dip, cheese and tortilla chips.

Fri. - Students can choose hummus, cheese stick and sun chips.

Students can choose the hot entrée or the cold entrée but they cannot have both.



## Steps to Success: Communicating with Your Child's School

We strive to be the best place to learn. The only way we can improve is to know about concerns so we are able to address them. Here are some tips for communicating with your child's school when concerns arise.

The fastest way to a positive result is to start with the people closest to the situation in the school. Talk with the teacher or coach about your questions and concerns before going to the principal.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to reach out to teachers and school staff by:

- Calling the school's phone number. Because they are teaching, you often will need to leave a message for your child's teacher or coach.
- Emailing the teacher or coach directly. All teacher emails are available on our school website.

We want to be responsive to parents' questions and requests for information. Our staff will respond to your call or email as soon as possible, in most cases within 2 school days.

If you have had a conversation with your child's teacher and the principal and are still needing assistance, the director of elementary or secondary programs will be able to provide additional support.

We are excited for this new school year and look forward to partnering with you to support a great school experience for your student.

## Directory Information

In accordance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), USD 305 has designated certain information as directory information. This information is considered public information which may be released from the school district without your prior consent. Please inform your school building in writing that any or all of the directory information should not be released without your prior consent (by August 25, 2023 to ensure it is not included in a parent directory). The following information is considered directory information:

- a) The student's name and age
- b) Parent's name, address and telephone number
- c) The student's major field of study and class designation (i.e. first grade, tenth grade)
- d) The student's participation in officially recognized activities or sports
- e) The weight and height of members of athletic teams
- f) Dates of attendance (period of time during which a student was enrolled in an educational agency or institution, i.e. academic year, spring semester)

## **Title 1 Information for Parents**

### **Annual Notice of Teacher Qualifications**

Our school qualifies for Federal Title 1 dollars to support the education of our students. As a Title 1 school, we are required to notify parents and guardians that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including at a minimum the following:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualification licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Parents may contact Mr. Cheeks if they should have questions.

### **Annual Notice of Assessment**

Our school receives Title 1 funds. Schools that receive these funds are expected to provide to each parent information on the level of achievement and academic growth of the student, if applicable and available, on the Kansas Assessments. Students in grades 3-5 take the Kansas Assessments each spring. Your child's Kansas Assessment results will be sent home in your child's grade card at the end of the school year. The results of the Kansas Assessments are important to our school because we use them to evaluate the effectiveness of our educational programming. As a parent/guardian, you do have the right to opt out of the Kansas Assessments by sending a written request to the building principal stating that you wish for your child to not be tested. Please contact the building principal for more information. Additional assessment information, including our building and district report cards and a list of assessments given at each grade level, is available on the district website.

Follow the steps below:

- [USD305.com](http://USD305.com)
- Departments
- School Improvement Department
- Assessments in USD 305

# August Calendar

|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|           |           | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b> |
| <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b> |
| <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b> |
| <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b> |           |           |

## August

- 11 - First day of school
- 21 - Marathon begins
- 25 - No School/Inservice



## September

- 4 - No School
- 7 - PTA meeting
- 14 & 15 - No school
- 19 - Donuts with Grown ups
- 28 - Marathon Family Walk Night

## Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal  
 Christal Lantz - Lead Teacher  
 Gena Koch - Secretary  
 Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

**#SunsetGrowsGreatness**  
**#305GrowsGreatness**

- [Sunset Eagles 305](#)
- [@Sunset Eagles 305](#)
- [@SunsetEagles305](#)
- [School Website](#)
- [District Website](#)

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