

May 2023

**Dare to SOAR!**

# SUNSET NEWS



## A Note from the Principal

Sunset Families,

I have really enjoyed the 2022-2023 school year. As another school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours all of the very best for the summer. May it be a safe, healthy and happy one and whatever your holiday plans are, may they be most enjoyable!

The school year seems to have gone by really quickly.

- The students did a great job taking their time on state assessments.
- We are looking forward to the end of the year activities.
- Please encourage the students to finish the school year out strong and continue to strive to improve.

Thank you all for partnering with us and trusting us with your child this school year. Summer vacation is certainly a time to recharge and enjoy family time. The staff looks forward to welcoming back our students in August and having another great school year!

Best regards,

Brandon Cheeks

Sunset Elementary Principal

## New! Fourth Video about School Safety

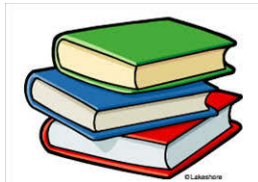
We understand the importance of prevention and preparedness in school safety. In our fourth video about school safety at Salina Public Schools (SPS), Superintendent Exline discusses anonymous reporting opportunities and coordination with First Responders. The five videos in this series share proactive steps taken at SPS to prioritize, improve and implement safety measures. We appreciate your interest and support about this important subject. To learn more, please view the newest school safety video on our website, [www.usd305.com](http://www.usd305.com), and find all videos on our YouTube channel, **Salina Public Schools**.

## Q: How can I help my child improve reading comprehension?

A: One way to boost reading comprehension is to ask questions about what your child is reading. Ask your child questions such as, *What happened in the beginning of the story? The middle? The end? Why do you think the author wrote this book? What did you like or dislike about it and why?*

## Sunset's Library Summer Check Out

There will be summer checkout at Sunset again this summer! The plan is to be open on Thursdays after lunch starting May 25th. This will continue through the month of June. Sunset students who want to check out should come to the front door of the school between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on those Thursdays. If a day has to be canceled due to summer cleaning, etc. that will be announced on the Sunset Elementary Library Facebook page, [@Sunset305Library](#). June 29th will only be a day to turn in books.



## Summer reading programs can give students' reading skills a boost

Have you looked into your library's summer reading program yet? These programs can help children keep their literacy skills sharp over the summer months.

Summer reading programs typically:

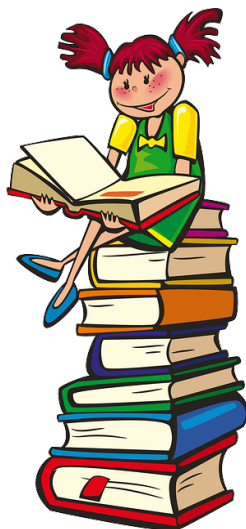
**Provide a safe environment** for readers of all ages to socialize and connect with others.

**Offer literacy-rich experiences.** For example, children may do art projects, form book clubs and meet authors.

**Encourage the enjoyment** of all types of reading materials - from magazines to graphic novels and audiobooks.

**Build good habits**, such as visiting the library often. After a summer filled with literacy events, your child will know that reading new things makes life more interesting!

**All Sunset  
library books  
are due  
May 5, 2023.**



## Kansas Kids Fitness Day for 3rd grade May 5, 2023



# Sunset Play Day



## Sunset Play Day

Friday, May 12th

**K-2 → (9-11AM) // 3-5 → (1-3PM)**



On Friday, May 12th Sunset Elementary will be having its annual Play Day celebration. All students will be participating in Play Day. This year we are fortunate to have TWO bouncy houses for play day if the weather permits it! Students will be with their class and guided on where to start and which station to go to. There will also be 4 activity stations where they get 8 minutes at each station. Cross your fingers for good weather on Play Day!

If we can't put up the bouncy houses, play day will look a lot like last year. A more traditional look with 10 stations/ 10 minutes at each station!

**K-2** will have play day in the morning: **9-11AM**

**3-5** will have play day in the afternoon: **1-3PM**

Some stations will include **WATER** (*students may get wet*)

### List of helpful necessities for your child on Play Day:

- **Sunscreen**
- **Tennis shoes**
- **Change of socks**
- **comfortable appropriate outdoor play clothes**

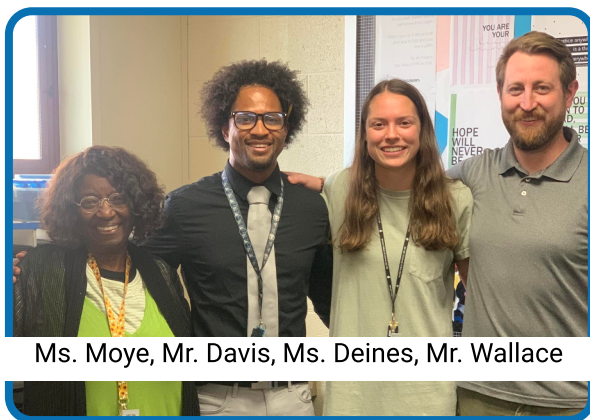
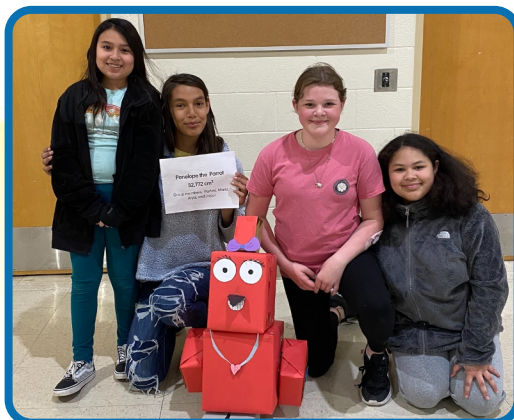
Hope to see you all on Play Day!

Sincerely,

Mr. Weir



# Spotlight on Fifth Grade



Ms. Moye, Mr. Davis, Ms. Deines, Mr. Wallace

Fifth grade is finishing off the school year's final semester with some very exciting experiences, enjoyed by them and the rest of the school. From exotic wildlife, to traveling through outer space, this is an exciting time to be in fifth grade.

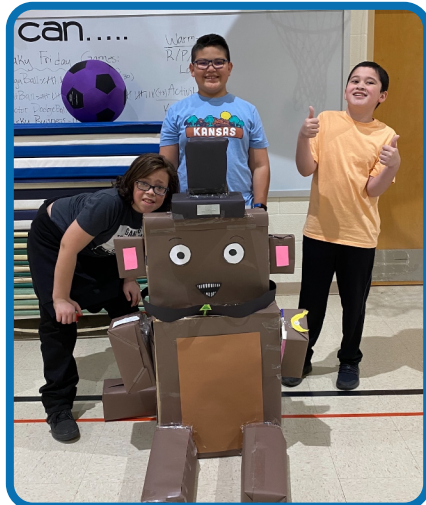
Fifth grade has been learning how to find volume in math this semester, but they decided to take things a step further. Anyone can find the volume of a container, but our fifth graders here at Sunset used that knowledge to design and create animals out of boxes and many other art supplies. There was a dragon, a turtle and panda bears. Oh my! Then we got to share them with the entire school by hosting a zoo for every class to come by and see what our fifth grade students created.

From the zoo to outer space we go. Fifth grade was able to travel to the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, KS. There we got to see what life deep in the ocean, as well as life all the way out on Mars would be like through a dome theater experience. They also got to learn about the science of rockets through a series of science lab demonstrations. Finally, we were able to walk through a museum that is home to many amazing artifacts from the history of rockets.

In writing, we are working on persuasive essays about what genre is the most important for 5th graders to read.

In reading, we are talking about mysteries and what makes something mysterious/what drives people to solve mysteries.

Finally, coming up, is the fifth grade honor night. Our fifth grades have worked incredibly hard over the course of their time in elementary school. On May 9, we get the chance to honor them and celebrate with them as they graduate from their completion of school through grade five. We are so very proud of them!





# 5th Grade Honor Night

***5th Grade Honor Night***

***May 9, 2023***

***6:30 p.m.***

***at Sunset Elementary***



## Immunization News

### Buzz by for back-to-school immunizations

Don't wait until summer is over. BEE-gin your summer up to date on back-to-school immunizations.

Special Walk-in event

**May 17 & May 31 from 3-6:00 p.m.**

(Spanish interpretation currently available May 31)

Other dates available by appointment for a shorter wait time.



\*Hot dogs and chips will be provided by the Saline County Health Department

\*Any child receiving vaccinations in May will be entered into a drawing for a prize!

Stop by to grab some dinner and get back-to-school immunizations off your summer to do list.

Saline County Health Department

125 W. Elm Street

785-826-6602



## **Thanks for all the support for Sunset PTA!**

Our final meeting for the school year will be held **May 4** at 6:30 p.m. in the Art Room or via Zoom link (please request this link). We will be having a brief meeting and then a Volunteer Celebration! If you have volunteered or helped with PTA please join us!

**The School Store Fundraiser** is a year long fundraiser and can be done anytime during the year. Family and Friends can shop from the many stores, via the site, and Sunset PTA will get a percentage of those purchases.

**A huge THANK YOU, to all who volunteered and helped with Fun Night! We cannot do this without volunteers!**

**SUNSET PTA OFFICERS ARE NEEDED FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR!** PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND TREASURER are the offices we are looking to fill! If you are interested in any of these positions, please let us know by emailing [sunsetptaks@gmail.com](mailto:sunsetptaks@gmail.com) or come to the meeting to find out more.

**A huge thanks for all the support** our families do for Sunset PTA and our staff! It is greatly appreciated!

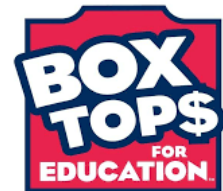
*Have a wonderful and safe summer!*

## **Ways to Help PTA:**

**Dillons Community Rewards** - Visit the Dillon's App. Sign into your existing account or create a new account. Find Sunset Elementary PTA or Organization Code KF943 and click save! Scan you shoppers reward card! Also applies to purchases made on Dillon's app!



**Box Tops for Education** - Download Box Tops App for your electronic device. Scan your receipts into the app when purchasing qualified items! Select SUNSET ELEMENTARY PTA as your school!



Join our Facebook to keep on the latest updates! Join at <https://www.facebook.com/2015SunsetPTA>

Questions for PTA? Feel free to contact us at [sunsetptaks@gmail.com](mailto:sunsetptaks@gmail.com)

# Summer Programs



Salina offers many opportunities for students in the summer. Some are inexpensive or no cost, while others may have a significant fee. Below, are a few exciting options for elementary age children that will enhance learning through new experiences.



**The YMCA**, offers many sports and activities. Give them a call 825-2151 or visit [www.salinaymca.org](http://www.salinaymca.org)

**The City of Salina Parks and Recreation program** offers many programs that would be a great addition to anyone's summer. From team sports to gymnastics, art, music, dance, or karate – the classes are too numerous to mention. Fees vary. If you need the reduced fee program there is an application to be completed and approved, so the Parks and Recreation department suggests signing up as soon as possible. Call 309-5765 or visit [www.salina-ks.gov/parksandrecreation](http://www.salina-ks.gov/parksandrecreation)

**The Salina Public Library** offers many interesting and fun activities for kids. Call 825-4624 or visit [www.salinapubliclibrary.org](http://www.salinapubliclibrary.org)



**The Rolling Hills Zoo** may provide fun experiences for kids! [www.rollinghillszoo.org](http://www.rollinghillszoo.org), 827-9488.

These are just a few programs available to students. Many organizations, churches, and family members may have other ideas about enjoyable summer activities as well. Summer is a great time to relax and have fun, but exposing your child to new experiences and settings is an easy and exciting way to keep them learning and growing. Have a great summer!!!





# Students New to Kansas Schools

## Salina Public Schools-USD #305

### School Health Services

Children entering Kansas schools for the first time must have a **physical examination** and **required immunizations** prior to the start of school. These requirements apply to all new students to USD #305 in grades Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup>.

The following should be done prior to your child's first day of school:

- Fill out the attached Health Assessment for Children and Youth form.
- Have a physical examination. The form to be completed by a physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner and can be found on the reverse side of the Health Assessment for Children and Youth form. Assessment forms completed by a chiropractor cannot be accepted.
- Bring birth certificate to school.
- Bring official documentation of immunizations. Please be advised that Kansas requirements may differ from other states. The current immunization requirements can be found on the reverse side of this information sheet.

Vision, hearing and dental screens are conducted during the school year. Exact dates are dependent on the school in which your child is enrolled. If after the screening further evaluation is recommended, you will be notified. If your student enrolls after the first day of school and you have a concern with their hearing or vision, please contact the school nurse as screenings may have already occurred.

Knowledge of your child's health and/or special needs is extremely important to the academic success of your child. Please fill out the online health update form in its entirety when you enroll your child and contact the school nurse if any health related school interventions/accommodations need to be implemented.

# Immunization Information



## Immunization Requirements for the 2023 - 2024 School Year

K.A.R. 28-1-20 defines immunizations required for any individual who attends school or a childcare program operated by a school. Below are the requirements for the indicated school year. Please carefully review the requirements. The usual number of doses required are listed; however there are exceptional circumstances that could alter the number of doses a child needs. If you have questions about your child's immunization status, contact your child's primary care provider or local health department.



**Proof of receiving the required immunizations must be provided to the school prior to the student attending the first day of school.**

### Early Childhood Program Operated by a School Ages 4 Years and Under

Vaccine	Requirement
DTaP/DT (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)	4 doses
IPV (polio)	3 doses
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	1 dose
Varicella (chickenpox)	1 dose*
Hepatitis A	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Hib (haemophilus influenza type B)	4 doses**
Prevnar (pneumococcal conjugate)	4 doses**

### KDG - Grade 6

Vaccine	Requirement
DTaP/DT (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)	5 doses
IPV (polio)	4 doses***
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses*
Hepatitis A	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses

### Grades 7-9

Vaccine	Requirement
Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)	1 dose~
IPV (polio)	4 doses***
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses*
Hepatitis A	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Meningococcal (MenACWY)	1 dose

### Grade 10

Vaccine	Requirement
Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)	1 dose~
IPV (polio)	4 doses***
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses*
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Meningococcal (MenACWY)	1 dose

### Grades 11-12

Vaccine	Requirement
Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)	1 dose~
IPV (polio)	4 doses***
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses*
Hepatitis B	3 doses
Meningococcal (MenACWY)	1-2 doses See below:

*Students entering 11th and 12th grade having received no previous dose of MenACWY:* One dose is required for school entry and this completes the series.

*Students entering 11th and 12th grade having received one previous dose of MenACWY, and it has been at least 8 weeks since the first dose:* A second dose is required for school entry and this completes the series.

### Notes

\* Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is not required if child has had chickenpox disease and disease is documented by a physician signature. Without a physician signature, vaccine is still required even if you believe your child has had chickenpox disease.

\*\*Total doses needed are dependent on vaccine type and child's age when the doses were administered.

\*\*\*Three doses are acceptable if the 3rd dose was given after 4 years of age and there are at least 6 months between the second and third doses.

~ All students in grades 7-12 must have one dose of Tdap regardless of the interval since the last dose of DTaP or Td.

### Additional ACIP RECOMMENDED Vaccines Not Required for School Entry

- Influenza (Flu): Annual vaccine recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older.
- HPV (Human Papillomavirus) Vaccine:  
2 doses recommended at age 11 years  
2 doses needed if started at 11-14 years  
3 doses needed if started at 15 years or older

Hey kids, the Salina South High Football Team  
wants **YOU** to  
**JOIN THE COUGAR CREW!**  
Are you ready to yell, scream and cheer the Cougars to a victory?  
If so, you're perfect for the Cougar Crew!



**Membership includes:**

1. Crew t-shirt – shirts will be handed out on the north end of the football field **Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 6:00p-6:30p.m.**
2. Opportunity to form the pre-game tunnel at each Varsity home games (**Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, Oct 27<sup>th</sup> TBD playoff**)
3. Opportunity to attend a fun practice with the team.
4. Drawing for other fun prizes.

**COST:** \$20 per child (checks payable to *South High Football*)

**SIGN UP TODAY AND WE WILL SEE YOU AT THE GAMES! Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

<b>Cougar crew member name:</b>		
<b>Age:</b>		<b>GRADE:</b>
<b>Child's T-shirt size:</b>	<b>Youth:</b> XS S M L	<b>ADULT:</b> S M L XL 2XL
<b>Parent/Guardian Name:</b>		
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>Phone:</b>		
<b>Email:</b>		
<b>Grade school:</b>		
<b>ENCLOSED</b>	<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>CASH</b>

Mail form and payment to Karyn Underwood, 1020 Windsor Drive, Salina, KS, 67401 or venmo with your child's name @kunderwood40

Contact Karyn Underwood, 785-643-3545 or karynunderwood40@gmail.com with questions.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. (NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED)**  
**CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN AT ALL TIMES.**

**Membership to the Cougar Crew DOES NOT INCLUDE admission to the football game.**

*The cougar crew is neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of 305, the superintendent or this school.*



# May Calendar

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	31			

4th - PTA meeting

5th - Third Grade Kansas Kids  
Fitness Day

9th - Fifth Grade Honor Night

12 - Sunset Play Day - all grades

18 - last day of school,  
2:00 p.m. dismissal



## Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal

Christal Lantz - Lead Teacher

Gena Koch - Secretary

Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

### #SunsetGrowsGreatness

### #305GrowsGreatness

 [Sunset Eagles 305](#)

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 [School Website](#)

 [District Website](#)