



# Cougar Pause



*We build positive relationships between home and school so  
that all students are safe, honorable, and successful.*

February 2024

South High School | Salina, Kansas

## Principal's Message

The second semester is underway and South High students are involved in a variety of academics, athletics, and activities. Please come cheer on our athletes, contribute to our activities and clubs, and attend performances and presentations. Your presence makes a big difference in the success of our students.

This month, Parent-Teacher Conferences will be different from conferences in the Fall. On February 7 and 8, South High will host student-lead IPS (Individual Plans of Study) conferences. Conference times are Wednesday, February 7 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. and Thursday, February 8 from 7:15 -11:15 a.m., 12:00-3:00 p.m., and again from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

The State of Kansas and Salina Public Schools have set forth the expectation that students will have an IPS and parents and families be engaged in the students' preparation for college and career readiness. The conferences will be scheduled with the students' ELO teachers. Please look for the email with the scheduling link to set up a time with your student's ELO teacher.

Students will be preparing individual presentations in order to share their academic plans while at South High. When scheduling your time, keep in mind that students will be expected at the conference.

Administrators, counselors, and additional support staff will be available at conferences if parents and students need more assistance. Our school's goal is to build a positive partnership between home and school so that all students are safe, honorable, and successful. We will work hard to ensure parents and students do not leave our building with any questions.

Additionally on February 7 from 6:00-8:00 p.m., the counseling department will host Concurrent/Dual Credit Information Night in the South High Auditorium.

If your student is a senior, please make sure your information is up to date in Skyward in order to receive important graduation information.

Parents can look up their student's grades using Skyward. If you need help with a username or password, please call Ms. Armas in the counseling office at (785) 309-3715.

Dr. Ginger Jones, Principal



## February Conferences

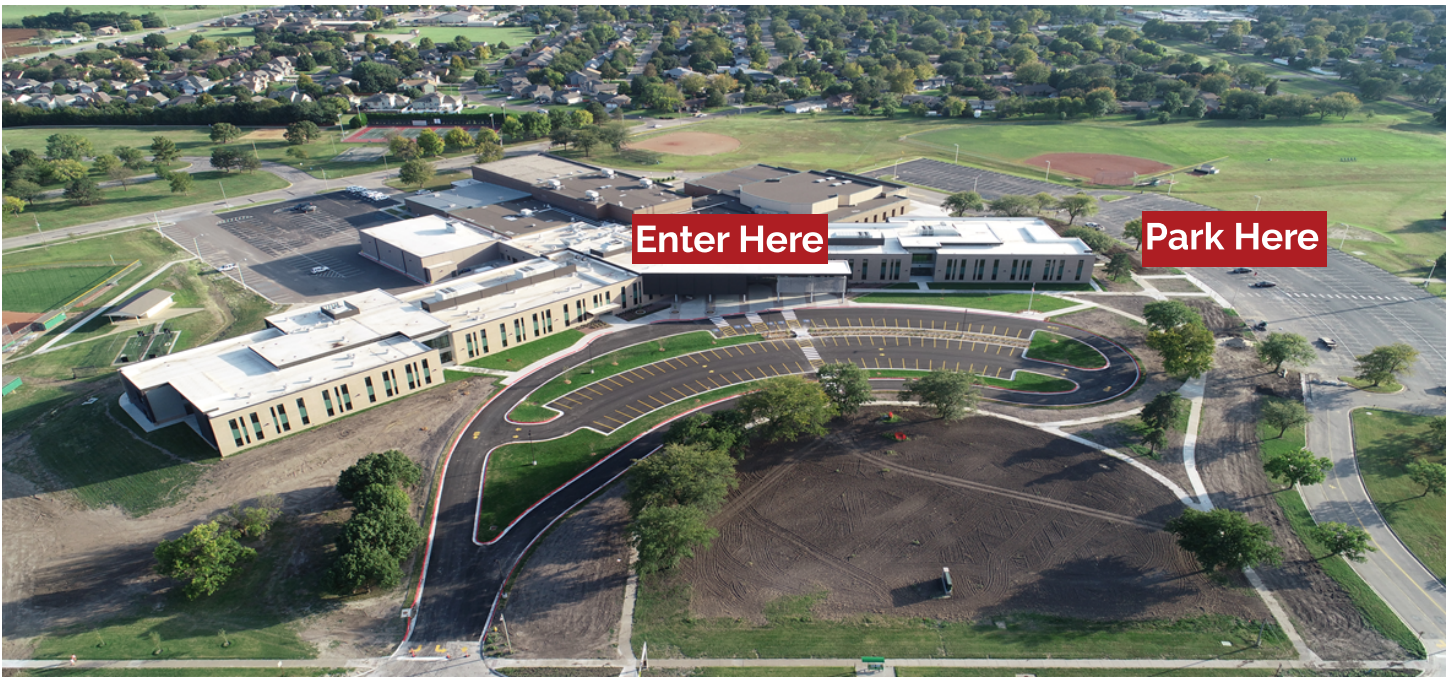
### When are conferences and how do I sign up?

Conferences are February 7 & 8. The conference times for February 7 are 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Thursday's conference times are 7:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m., 12:00 - 3:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. There will be no school on Thursday or Friday. **Please remember that all conferences are scheduled.**

You should have received an email with a link to choose a conference time from your student's ELO teacher. If you need assistance, please call or email that ELO teacher.

### When should I enter the building and where do I park?

Please arrive about 10-minutes before your conference time starts, so you will have enough time to retrieve your student's information at the entrance and locate the classroom of your scheduled conference. Park on the west side of the building (the track side of the building), and enter through the front entrance to retrieve your student's grades.





## February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				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		

## Calendar of Events

- 2/7 ~ PM Conferences
- 2/8 ~ Conferences/No School
- 2/9 ~ No School
- 2/12 ~ No School

### Act Registration and Test Dates 2024

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Registration Fee Required)
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024

### Act Test Options and Prices for 2024

Testing Options	Fee	Details
The full ACT (no writing)	\$68	Includes reports for you, your high school, and up to four colleges (if codes are provided when you register).
The full ACT with writing	\$93	Includes reports for you, your high school, and up to four colleges (if codes are provided when you register). See counselor for more information.
Test option change	\$25	The writing test fee is refundable on written request if you are absent on test day or switch to ACT (no writing) before testing begins.





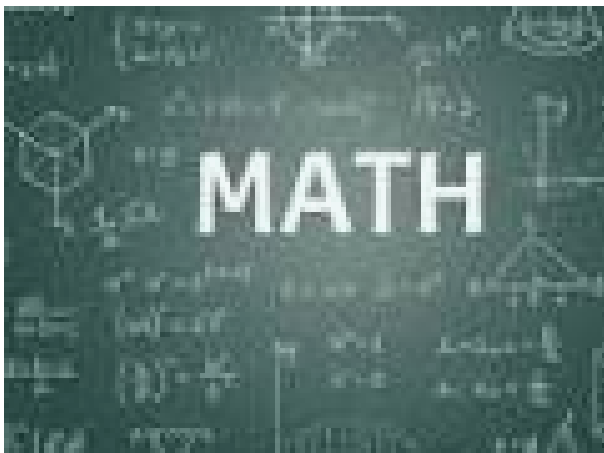
## FAFSA Help Sessions

The Counseling Department will host FAFSA Help Sessions for parents and students on Tuesday, February 7, and Wednesday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the South High Library. Financial Aid representatives from Kansas Wesleyan University and K-State Salina will be on-hand both evenings to assist families with completing the new simplified version of the FAFSA. Parents can RSVP via the email sent to your senior student or contact the Student Center at 785-309-3715. Walk-ins also welcome!

Attention Juniors! Flex schedule applications are now available to pick up in the Counseling Center with Ms. Armas. Juniors who wish to pursue a flex schedule during the Spring semester of their senior year must:

1. Be a student in good standing
2. Have all Xello activities completed prior to and during the flex schedule agreement
3. Be enrolled in 5 or more new classes to be eligible for KSHSAA activities
4. Be on track in meeting USD 305 graduation requirements

Applications are due back in the counseling center complete with student and parent signatures by March 1. No late applications will be accepted.



The South High School Math Center is still open during ELO on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. You can sign up for an appointment at [https://www.305southhigh.com/for\\_students](https://www.305southhigh.com/for_students).

Please contact Mrs. Fox if you have any questions at [kristen.fox@usd305.com](mailto:kristen.fox@usd305.com).







## Openings Still Available

Salina Public Schools and Saline County are excited to bring FREE training opportunities to our community.

# Building Resilient Schools and Homes

*Learn how to create safe, connected and problem-solving environments that allow adults and kids to function in their best brain state!*

*Building Resilient Schools and Homes* is a 10-week E-Learning course from Conscious Discipline.

Attendees will be provided with:

- Material resources
- Individual registration for E-Learning course
- Free childcare, limited slots available
- Snacks



Register by scanning the QR code. Registration will close one week before the first day of class.

### Questions?

Contact Jody at  
[jody.craddockiselin@usd305.com](mailto:jody.craddockiselin@usd305.com)

Who Should Attend?  
Free and open to all adults

Through this social-emotional program, we will learn to discipline ourselves to help our children learn. Conscious Discipline provides an array of behavior management strategies that anyone can use to **turn everyday situations into learning opportunities.**

### Attendance Options

#### Option 1

Monday evenings from  
5:30-7:30 p.m.  
1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/19,  
2/26, 3/4, 3/18, 3/25,  
4/1, 4/8

Coronado Elementary  
2725 Ray Ave.  
Facilitator: Karas Fairchild

Free childcare for ages 2+  
provided, limited slots

#### Option 2

Saturday mornings from  
9:00-11:00 a.m.  
1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17,  
2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16,  
3/23, 3/30

Heartland Early Education  
700 Jupiter Ave.  
Facilitator: Loree Beason

Free childcare for ages 2+  
provided, limited slots

One graduate credit from MidAmerica Nazarene University is available to certified staff. Information will be given at the first class. FREE KDHE Hours are also available for sessions attended in person.

This event is being presented by Salina Public Schools.  
We extend our thanks to Saline County for their sponsorship.





Learn to play  
**Guitar!**  
or **Ukulele!**



Learn to play  
**Piano!**



Kids &  
Adults!  
Learn to  
**Sing**  
**Better!**



151 S. Santa Fe  
P.O. Box 1871  
Salina, Kansas 67402  
785-827-1998  
stiefeltheatre.org

At The **STIEFEL THEATRE's** Mike Finnigan School of Music

Group Classes for all ages  
**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE.**  
**Tuesdays, February 6-April 2**

**SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

**[StiefelTheatre.org/School-of-Music](http://StiefelTheatre.org/School-of-Music)**

**or call 785-827-1998**



These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of U.S.D. 305, the superintendent, or this school.







## Yes! You want to make music!

Reach your goal at The Stiefel Theatre's  
Mike Finnigan School of Music.

Our 8-week classes this spring will connect you with top area teachers  
and enthusiastic fellow students.  
Classes are for both youth and adults.

🔊 Turn up the joy in your life – make music. 🎵

**CLASS DATES** (50-minute class sessions—voice class may go longer)

**Most classes:** Feb. 6 to Apr. 2 – Every Tuesday (no class spring break, March 12)  
**Ukulele class (5 sessions):** Feb. 27 to Apr. 2 – Every Tuesday (no class spring break, March 12)  
**Recitals:** April 2 – On Stage: 6pm Piano recital  
7pm General recital

Start time	Class name	Teacher	Location at the Stiefel
4:00pm	Guitar 1	Brian Pekarek	Watson Room
5:00pm	Guitar 2	Matt Gerry	Watson Room
6:00pm	Guitar 3	Matt Gerry	Watson Room
4:00pm	Piano 1	Lori Persigehl	Green Room
5:00pm	Piano 2	Lori Persigehl	Green Room
6:00pm	Adult Piano	Lori Persigehl	Green Room
5:30pm	Voice	Bill Tuzicka	On Stage
7:00pm	Ukulele	Anna Morawitz	Watson Room
Hammond B-3 Organ lessons		Paul Draper	Green Room (times vary)



### TEACHERS:

**Paul Draper (Hammond B-3 Organ)** - A member of the Kansas Music Hall of Fame, Salinan Paul Draper is a long-time player of the Hammond B-3. Now the leader of the Paul Draper Band, Mr. Draper plays gospel, rock, blues, country, jazz and pop music. He will be giving individual lessons on the Stiefel's own B-3, an instrument played by the School of Music namesake, Mike Finnigan, and donated to the Stiefel by its last owner in California. Lessons will focus on music listening and improvisation. Times and dates will be individually determined.

**Matt Gerry (Guitar 2 & 3)** - Founder of guitar classes at South Middle School, Mr. Gerry has built that program for two decades with grants and awards, producing thousands of young Salina guitarists. A graduate of Salina South, he has a music education degree from WSU and a master's in teacher leadership from KSU. He is married to Stephanie Gerry, has two teen daughters, sings and plays guitar for his church and collects vinyl records.

**Anna Pauscher Morawitz (Ukulele)** - Ms. Morawitz is a multidisciplinary artist and an arts administrator for the city of Salina where she serves as Operations & Development Manager for Salina Arts and Humanities. Her passion for the arts was ignited at a young age through music, and she has played a variety of instruments. She enjoys song-writing on the ukulele and is inspired by traditional and pop music.

**Dr. Brian Pekarek (Guitar 1)** - Former high school teacher and now senior class counselor at Salina Central, Dr. Pekarek has played guitar for over 35 years. He plays guitar, mandolin, violin and harmonica for his Abilene church. He may accompany his Stiefel guitar classes with those additional instruments to help students get a feel for playing in a band. Stiefel guitar students can learn to play either acoustic or electric guitar or both.

**Lori J. Persigehl (Piano)** - With two decades of experience as a music educator, Ms. Persigehl has a bachelor's degree from Bethany College and a master's from Northwest Missouri State. She has taught piano, voice, and general music in public schools, community colleges, music studios, recreation centers and churches. She is married to David Persigehl, and they have two adult children.

**Bill Tuzicka (Voice)** - Now in his twelfth year conducting the Salina Chorale, Mr. Tuzicka taught choral music for 37 years at Southeast of Saline Jr./Sr. High School, has a bachelor's of music degree from Bethany College and master's of music from WSU. He has many years of working one-on-one with performers. He is the Technical Director and Director of Operations for the Stiefel Theatre.

**Ann Zimmerman (School Manager)** - A singer-songwriter since the 1980s, Ms. Zimmerman performs about a hundred gigs a year in Salina, across Kansas and around the country, with four independent albums of music. Her award-winning songs tell stories of life, especially life on the windy plains. She sings for thousands of Salina school students each year, especially around Kansas Day. She is a local attorney and mediator with degrees from KSU and Harvard Law School. She has now been elected to her third term as a Salina Public Schools board member.





## Pre-Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, Class of 2025 - 2027! Over the next few months, SHS students in grades 9-11 will meet with their grade level counselor to create and/or review their course planner in Xello. These plans will be used as pre-enrollment for the upcoming school year. Parents can assist with this process by talking to their student(s) about their future career and college goals while reviewing the enrollment guide in Xello.

Incoming Freshmen, Class of 2028! Counselors will meet with the remaining students in grade 8 at South Middle School in February to do their pre-enrollment. Students will explore many high school opportunities and select classes for the upcoming school year. Selected courses will be entered into their Course Planner in Xello.

## Dual Credit Information Night – Planning for the 204-2025 School Year

Parents and students are invited to an information night to learn about the variety of ways to earn college credit while still in high school. We will have representatives from Bethany College, Hutchinson Community College, K-State Salina and Salina Area Technical College. You will have a chance to hear from each institution on opportunities available to high school students. Please join us in the South High Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February, 7.

## Recognitions

Our Renaissance Teacher of the Month was Mrs. Brittany Kisner.

Renaissance Students of the Week were Tyson Bounyareth and Destiny Hamilton.

We also recently established a "Cougar Pride Award". This award recognizes a student from each grade level each week. Students who received awards in January were: Lacy Brewer, Arturo Mendiola, Riley Ludecke, Rebecca Schutz, Drake Clark, Kalliauna Johnson, Nash Murdock, and Ezequiel Mendez Machado.

Phone		785.309.3700
Principal		Dr. Ginger Jones
Assistant Principals		Krista DeVoe, Timothy Quinn
Athletic Director		Ryan Stuart
Secretary		Tressa Heyde
Website		305southhigh.com



*#305GrowsGreatness*

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