

October 2024

**Dare to SOAR!**

# SUNSET NEWS



## A Note from the Principal

Dear Sunset Elementary Families,

As we wrap up another exciting month, I want to thank you for your continued support and partnership in making our school a wonderful place for learning and growth. Your involvement, whether through attending school events, assisting with homework, or simply encouraging your child each day, has a huge impact on our school community.

This past month has been full of achievements and milestones with iReady testing taking place. Our students continue to impress us with their dedication, creativity and perseverance. Whether it's through academic accomplishments, participation in specials, art contest, or showing kindness to their peers, we are proud of the growth we see each day.

As we move into the next month, let's continue to work together to provide the best possible experience for all of our students. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

October is an exciting month filled with vibrant colors, cooler weather and a lot of activities that bring our school community together. Here are some important updates and upcoming events to keep you informed:

- We hope that you were able to attend the **Parent-Teacher Conferences**. Please be sure to contact your child's teacher if you couldn't make it or still have questions. This was a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress and set goals for the rest of the school year.
- Please look for announcements for the **Costume Parade**. Students are invited to wear their favorite costumes and enjoy an afternoon of fun. Please remember to avoid costumes with scary masks or weapons, as we want this to be a safe and enjoyable experience for all.
- As we move into the **colder months**, please remind your children to dress appropriately for the weather. Coats, hats and gloves are a must, especially for recess. We appreciate your help in ensuring that all students are prepared.
- Please consider joining the **Sunset PTA**. This is a great way to stay connected and get involved with school activities. We encourage all parents to attend!

We are looking forward to a wonderful October filled with learning, laughter and community spirit. Thank you for your ongoing support and for being an essential part of our school community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brandon J. Cheeks

Principal

785-309-4520

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

Please help...

Please put your child's name in coats and backpack so when they are misplaced we can return to your child.  
Thank you.

## Costume Parade

### Halloween Costume Parade

**Thursday, Oct. 31**

**8:45 a.m.**

All students will parade through the hallways of Sunset. Guests are welcome to come watch. Please enter through the office to get a visitor sticker.

Students are invited to wear their favorite costumes. Please remember to avoid costumes with scary masks or weapons, as we want this to be a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

## Sunset Artist

Each year, the Salina Fire Department asks for help to design a poster to be displayed on the Mobile Fire Safety House and around town at the local fire stations. This year's theme is "Smoke Alarms: Make them work for you!"

Fourth grader Jaivion Homer is this year's Fire Safety Contest Winner from Sunset!

Way to go Jaivion!



## Food 4 Kids

We are currently working on getting services set up for our Food 4 Kids program. If your child could benefit from a supplemental program to help with food on the weekends, please contact your child's teacher or school counselor, Mrs. Nordell.



Contact information:  
kadie.dreiling@usd305.com

## STEM night with K-State Salina

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Night)

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2024

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Experience a flight simulator, drones up close, a solar cart, and more.

Free food will be provided.

Watch for fliers to come home with more information.

## Letting you know

Mrs. Stockwell, our social worker, is out on maternity leave. If you need assistance, please contact our counselor, Mrs. Nordell.

## PTA Meeting

Parent/Teacher Association Meeting:  
Thursday, Oct. 3  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the art room.

## Marathon

Last marathon walk day is Thursday, October 10.

## Picture day

Wed., October 2  
Please see your child's backpack for ordering information.

## ***Congratulations!***

Three of our Sunset staff have added children to their families this fall.

Congratulations to:

- Mr. Wallace (fourth grade teacher) on the birth of twins, a boy and a girl.
- Mrs. Clark (fourth grade teacher) on the birth of a baby boy.
- Mrs. Stockwell (school social worker) on the birth of a baby boy.

## ***Red Ribbon Week***

Red Ribbon Week is October 28 - November 1. Students will get a free ice cream cone, if they are wearing their Red Ribbon Week bracelet or ribbon, and eating inside at McDonald's. Spirit week themes are still to be determined, but be watching for those to be posted on the school social media/website.

## ***Salina Youth Choir***

Congratulations to Taya (grade 4) for auditioning and being accepted into the Salina Youth Choir.





# Spotlight on Pre-K



In Pre-K, we have been busy! Each student got to color their own life-size tracing and then take it home to be on display. We have been working on our tearing, cutting and gluing.

Some other skills that we are working on in class include counting objects and being able to identify common things in the world around us. We had fun using our gross motor skills during music with Miss Angie!

During the month of October we will be focusing on pumpkin related activities and take a field trip to Sunny Side Pumpkin Patch.





## Visible Learning in Action at SPS

As educational partners with parents and guardians, we want to update you about classroom strategies. You may have heard about Visible Learning at Salina Public Schools – and if so, you’re probably curious what this means. Through Visible Learning:

- Students see themselves as more than just pupils. They see themselves as active learners who are eager to explore and grow.
- Each of our schools have chosen learning dispositions that support development of critical thinking, communication and social-emotional skills.

These learning dispositions are attitudes or habits that help students become better learners. Examples in action could include:

- Self-motivation: taking charge of your own learning by setting goals
- Curiosity: asking lots of questions
- Resilience: keep trying even when something is hard

Your child’s school will be sharing the learning dispositions with you. When you read or hear about them, they’re a great way to connect and reinforce the critical, lifelong skills your child is learning. We encourage you to use them as a conversation point with your child. These discussions will strengthen your bond with your child and support them on their educational journey.



## You're invited to visit Salina Public Library

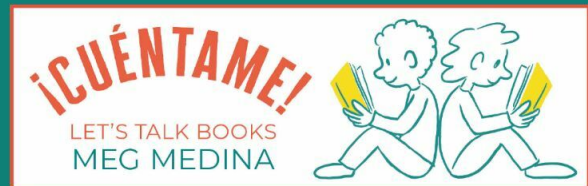
October 22, 2024

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Hear Meg Medina read and join in conversation and questions with her. Meg is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature 2023-24 and a best-selling author.

This event is offered through partnership with the Salina Public Library.

The National Ambassador  
for Young People's Literature  
is coming to our community!



You can find more details by clicking here.

## Free and Low-Cost Dental Services



*Did you know? SATC's Dental Hygiene Clinic provides free dental cleanings for patients unable to cover the cost. Other, low-cost services are available as well. For more information, please call 785-309-3146.*



**SALINA FAMILY**  
HEALTHCARE CENTER



**SALINA**  
Public Schools

# HEALTHCARE ON WHEELS

## COMING TO A SCHOOL NEAR YOU

**FOR ALL SALINA PUBLIC SCHOOL FAMILIES:  
STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF**

- ILLNESS, MINOR INJURIES, PHYSICALS
- NOT REQUIRED TO BE A SALINA FAMILY PATIENT
- WALK-INS WELCOME OR RESERVE YOUR SPOT ONLINE WITH AN APPOINTMENT
- MINORS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN
- PLEASE BRING YOUR INSURANCE CARD OR FORM OF PAYMENT

**EVERY MONDAY  
AVAILABLE 7AM-9AM**

(Excluding School Closures)

**VISIT [SALINAHEALTH.ORG/HEALTHCARE-ON-WHEELS/](https://salinahealth.org/healthcare-on-wheels/)**



### Monthly Locations:

August/September 2024 – Schilling  
October 2024 – Cottonwood  
November 2024 – Heusner  
December 2024 – Oakdale  
January/February 2025 – Sunset  
March 2025 – Coronado  
April 2025 – Meadowlark  
May 2025 – Stewart

**LEARN MORE:**



**SALINA FAMILY**  
HEALTHCARE CENTER

# October 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		

2 - Picture day

No Marathon

3 - PTA meeting

7 - Site Council, noon

10 - Last day of marathon

11 - No school



14 - No school

31 - Costume parade

November

1 - No school

25-29 - Thanksgiving break

## Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal

Kate Ozores - Lead Teacher

Gena Koch - Secretary

Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

**#SunsetGrowsGreatness**

**#305GrowsGreatness**

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