

SM SOUTH

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Values

We care about ALL students.

Beliefs

We believe ALL students can and will learn.

Vision

All means ALL! Personalized Learning for ALL students.



Brad Rector serves as our new English Language Learner aide at South and was nominated by his colleague: "I would love to nominate Brad for a shout out! He is SO wonderful. He has been a huge help with all students and is always actively involved in our classroom." Thank you, Mr. Rector for making South Awesome!

Email Dr. Dain to nominate a staff member for the Hard Hat Hero award.

HARD HAT HERO Brad Rector





Get on the 'Gram!

Follow us on social media!

Instagram: @SMSouthRaiders
Instagram: @SMSAD_Raiders
Instagram: @dr_ben_rich

Instagram: @SMSouthTDain
TikTok: @SMSouthTDain
Facebook: SMSouth Dain

Good 'Gram of the Week!



SHAWNEE MISSION SOUTH CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
OCTOBER 20 Traditional Schedule	OCTOBER 21 Even Block	OCTOBER 22 Odd Block	OCTOBER 23 LATE START Even Block	OCTOBER 24 Odd Block
OCTOBER 27 Traditional Schedule	OCTOBER 28 Even Block	OCTOBER 29 Odd Block	OCTOBER 30 LATE START Even Block	OCTOBER 31 Odd Block
NOVEMBER 3 NO SCHOOL Professional Learning 7:00pm PTSA Meeting	NOVEMBER 4 Even Block	NOVEMBER 5 Odd Block	NOVEMBER 6 LATE START Even Block	NOVEMBER 7 Odd Block
NOVEMBER 10 Traditional Schedule	NOVEMBER 11 Even Block	NOVEMBER 12 Odd Block	NOVEMBER 13 LATE START Even Block	NOVEMBER 14 Odd Block
NOVEMBER 17 Traditional Schedule Winter Sports Begin	NOVEMBER 18 Even Block	NOVEMBER 19 Odd Block	NOVEMBER 20 LATE START Even Block	NOVEMBER 21 Odd Block
NOVEMBER 24 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	NOVEMBER 25 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	NOVEMBER 26 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	NOVEMBER 27 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	NOVEMBER 28 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK
DECEMBER 1 Traditional Schedule	DECEMBER 2 Even Block	DECEMBER 3 Odd Block	DECEMBER 4 LATE START Even Block	DECEMBER 5 Odd Block
DECEMBER 8 Traditional Schedule	DECEMBER 9 Even Block	DECEMBER 10 Odd Block	DECEMBER 11 LATE START Even Block	DECEMBER 12 Odd Block
DECEMBER 15 Odd Block	DECEMBER 16 Even Block CRAM & COCOA 6:00-8:00pm	DECEMBER 17 Odd Block FINAL EXAMS	DECEMBER 18 NO LATE START Even Block FINAL EXAMS	DECEMBER 19 Odd Block FINAL EXAMS 1:10pm dismissal
DECEMBER 22 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	DECEMBER 23 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	DECEMBER 24 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	DECEMBER 25 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	DECEMBER 26 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK

Raiders! - Nominate your Peers

Click [HERE](#) to Nominate for Student of the Week
Annabelle Hatler & Hazel Metcalf Recognized **Willow Logan**
with the KINDNESS CHAIN as our Student of the Week!



**STUDENT OF
THE WEEK**
Willow Logan

Health Office Update October 2025



Vaccinations~~ Deadline~ October 20th, 2025

There are a couple of days that students are not in school, perfect time to get these vaccinations completed. Juniors~ you **MUST** have your 2nd Meningitis ACWY Vaccine after you turn 16.



Complete this and bring it into our office, or send to soyork@smsd.org.

SMSD policy~~ students are not allowed to keep any medication with them, all medications are to be given through the health office. Make sure you have filled out the online permission. This will not include emergency medications that the student is allowed to keep with them; epi pens and inhalers. Do not give or take medication to your friends, always check in with the health office first.



Parents/Guardians– Please note~~you can call your student out any time, any day for any reason at 993-7545. Please do not send your student to the health office to be sent home, we will call you if we deem the student needs to be sent home related to sickness.

Plan ahead, we do not have space for extra clothing. Please keep in your car, locker or backpack. Because accidents will happen~ so be prepared.



**Angie York
SM South Nurse
913.993.7516**



Link to ROCKY'S RUNDOWN:

<https://view.gogipper.com/page/1924766>



STUDENT ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

- PACESETTERS-JAYDEN LATHAM

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the guy who'll decide where to go."

- RAIDER FOOTBALL -LUKE BLACK

Raiders





Follow @counselingSMS on Instagram/X
'Shawnee Mission South Counseling' on Facebook



<u>Your Last Name</u>	<u>Your Counselor</u>
A-C & ELL	Nichole Dosland
D-I	Chris Shelby
J-O	Jasmine Morgan
P-T	Jennifer Herrmann
U-Z	Traci Johnson

- **CONFERENCES-** Counselors will be available on Wednesday evening only. Friday they will be administering exams. We are also available daily from 7:40-2:40 by appointment.
- **FRESHMEN** will be taking a Pre- ACT exam on Wednesday and Thursday during Advisory. This is a 9th grade level practice ACT.
- **SOPHOMORES** who would like to self-administer a practice ACT to themselves (at home or during Seminar) can see Ms. Dosland for more information.
- **JUNIORS-** The PSAT/NMSQT exam is Friday, October 17th. Report time is 7:45am. Room locations will be emailed out on Monday. Registration for this exam has already closed.
- **SENIORS** with Career/Work experience- you **MUST** turn in your hours to Ms. Johnson ASAP. See your email for more information.
- The SMSD COLLEGE CLINIC is Oct. 22nd @ SME from 6:30-8:30.
- In need of some help? Fill out the [Family Assistance Request Form](#) or simply call 913-993-7530 to talk with a social worker.

As you get settled in for fall, we want to remind you that the Johnson County Public Library is a resource available. While there are [too many resources](#) to list, here is a small sampling of resources available for teens:

- [eResources](#) - eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eNewspapers, streaming videos
- [BrainFuse](#) - FREE tutoring help from 2-11 PM, submit papers and get feedback within 24 hours
- [Teen resources](#) - writing and art opportunities, teen book reviews that can count towards community service hours, [elementia](#), Young Adult Literary Council
- Language Learning with [Rosetta Stone](#) or [Mango Languages](#) or resources in [World Language](#)

Need help paying your electric bill? LIEAP can help you <https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/EnergyAssistance.aspx>

If you or someone you know is feeling unsafe or having thoughts of harming themselves or others, please utilize these resources:

Call 988/911/Go to an Emergency Room
Call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255
Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a Crisis Counselor
Recursos en Español- [El Centro](#) [JoCo Salud Mental- se habla Español.](#)

Upcoming College Visits to South 2025-2026

College and University admissions representatives and Military Recruiters come to the Counseling Center at Shawnee Mission South to share about the college/university/service branch they represent. If you are interested in attending a specific college/university visit, please contact Ms. Young, Counseling Secretary, at bryoung@smsd.org to obtain a pass.

October

University of Nebraska – Lincoln	Monday, October 20	12:55
High Point University	Tuesday, October 21	1:05
Coe College	Wednesday, October 22	9:20
Saint Louis University	Wednesday, October 22	1:05
DePaul University	Thursday, October 23	1:05
Texas Tech University	Monday, October 27	10:30

November

Avila University	Friday, November 14	9:20
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SHAWNEE MISSION COLLEGE CLINIC



When:

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 22

6:30–8:30 PM

Where:

**SHAWNEE MISSION EAST
HIGH SCHOOL**

ALL high school students and parents
are welcome, *regardless of school.*

FREE EVENT



Teen Mental Health Tip Sheet



Children's Mercy
KANSAS CITY

Depression and Anxiety
in Youth (DAY) Clinic



RELATIONSHIPS

Nurturing healthy relationships has a huge impact on life satisfaction. Here are things you can do:

- Choose face-to-face connections over online ones.
- Surround yourself with those with whom you trust.
- Promote positivity in others.
- Avoid those who make you feel bad about yourself.
- Avoid those who pressure you to be someone you are not.
- Do not try to change others.
- Set clear boundaries for yourself.
- Be willing to forgive.



TECHNOLOGY USE

Technology is a part of every aspect of our lives. But some types of screen use can have a negative impact the mental health of many teenagers. Follow these tips to help control your technology instead of letting it control you.

- Take purposeful breaks from technology.
- Review privacy settings.
- Limit notifications.
- Lock or unfollow toxic accounts and pages.
- Limit screen time (especially at bedtime).
- Foster positivity in online spaces by being a good online citizen.



DIET

Eat a well-balanced diet to improve both physical and mental health. It is important to eat regular meals to avoid drops in blood sugar levels. This also maintains energy needed for body and brain functions. Gut health is closely tied to brain function and mental health. Eat plenty of fruits, vegetables and beans for gut health, brain function and mental health. Probiotics may provide support also. Sharing meals with others can improve mood and fosters connection with others.



SLEEP

Three out of four teens say they do not get enough sleep. This can negatively impact mood and anxiety symptoms. Here are simple strategies to improve sleep:

- Prioritize sleep.
- Have a consistent sleep schedule.
- Make the area you sleep in quiet, comfortable and free of distractions.
- Follow a relaxing pre-bed routine.
- Limit naps during the day.
- Limit caffeine drinks in the afternoon.
- Limit bright lights and electronic screens to help your body's natural melatonin production.
- Unplug from electronics well before bedtime if possible.



SUBSTANCE USE AND ABUSE

Our brains continue to develop at rapid rates well into our 20s. Substance abuse can negatively impact the development of the brain and may have long-lasting effects. These impacts may contribute to:

- Depression
- Irritability
- Anxiety
- Poor focus
- Sleep disruption
- And many other negative impacts.

Substance use may include alcohol, tobacco or vaping products, marijuana, synthetic drugs and inappropriate use of prescription pills.

Substance use may occur due to:

- Peer pressure.
- Self-medicating to relieve stress or pain.
- An unhealthy coping strategy.
- Experimenting.

It is often unsafe, illegal and can make depression or anxiety symptoms in the long-term.

(continued)

RAIDER R.I.S.E

One student from each grade level will be nominated by their teachers each month as the Monthly Raider RISE Award Winner. The criteria for award winners to be nominated will be:

1. No unexcused absences
2. No F's
3. No discipline referrals
4. Demonstrate our Raider Core Values:
Respect, Inclusion, Engagement, and Resilience.



RAIDER REPORT

P R E S E N T E D B Y K S M S

click here to watch:

KSMS Raider Report 7: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8eYhDgKxnI0>



Occupation Spotlight: High Demand – High Wage Careers



\$22.15 Entry Level Wage	1.1% Average Annual Growth	NO on-the-job training
\$35.03 Experienced Level Wage	106 Annual Openings	NO Work Experience

Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technologists & Technicians

Also called: Electronics Engineering Technician, Engineering Technician, Technologist

Apply electrical and electronic theory and related knowledge, usually under the direction of engineering staff, to design, build, repair, adjust, and modify electrical components, circuitry, controls, and machinery for subsequent evaluation and use by engineering staff in making engineering design decisions.

Knowledge

Engineering & Technology

- computers and electronics
- product and service development

Business

- customer service

Math & Science

- physics, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus, or statistics

Arts & Humanities

- English language

Skills

Basic Skills

- thinking about the pros and cons of different ways to solve a problem
- reading work related information

Problem Solving

- noticing a problem and figuring out the best way to solve it

People & Technology Systems

- thinking about the pros and cons of different options and picking the best one
- figuring out how a system works and how changes in the future will affect it

Abilities

Verbal

- listen and understand what people say
- read and understand what is written

Ideas & Logic

- notice when problems happen
- use rules to solve problems

Hand & Finger Use

- put together small parts with your fingers
- keep your arm or hand steady

Visual Understanding

- quickly compare groups of letters, numbers, pictures, or other things

Technology

You might use software like this:

Analytical or Scientific

- The MathWorks MATLAB
- Wolfram Research Mathematica

Presentation

- Microsoft PowerPoint

Computer Aided Design CAD

- Autodesk Revit
- Bentley MicroStation

EVERY. DAY. COUNTS!!!



Your Attendance Matters!

District Attendance Specialist

Hello! My name is Memo Rodriguez and I am the Shawnee Mission School District Attendance Specialist for the South high school feeder area. I am here mainly to provide follow-up monitoring of students identified as needing support for chronic absenteeism, but other functions I perform are:

- I serve as a liaison between students, families, and school teams to facilitate positive student attendance.
- I cooperate with representatives from social services and law enforcement agencies in cases of mutual interests.
- I manage all associated paperwork, arrange for educational facilitators, connect families with needed community resources.
- I communicate and work effectively and cooperatively with members of the school district and community to promote student attendance.
- I work effectively with chronically absent as well as truant students and their families.
- I connect families struggling with attendance with appropriate school and community resources.

My hours at South high school are Monday through Friday 7 A.M. to 12 P.M.

Indian Woods middle school hours are Monday through Friday 12:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

If you have any questions regarding phone calls or emails received by me, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you,

Memo Rodriguez

District Attendance Specialist

Shawnee Mission South High School

Indian Woods Middle School

SMSHS: 913-993-7781

IWMS: 913-993-0699

Memorodriguez@smsd.org

Attendance Incentive

SHAWNEE MISSION SOUTH

J'S FOR DAYS

PERFECT ATTENDANCE



2 STUDENTS EACH SEMESTER PICK OUT THEIR OWN JORDANS

SMS PTSA Membership 2025-26

Scan here to join the SMS PTSA for the 25-26 school year to support programs for our students and staff. Volunteering is welcome but not required.



<https://shawneemissionsouth.givebacks.com/shop>

Your membership helps fund these programs, activities, services and **MORE:**

- PTSA Scholarships
- Refreshments for Spirit Dances
 - Raider Rally for Freshman
 - Citizenship Writing Contest
 - South Area Kid Fest
- Teacher Conference Day Meals
 - Spirit Wear
 - Senior Breakfast
 - Reflections Art Contest
- Support of SMAC Clothing Center
 - Come Look at South Night
 - Cram and Cocoa
- Teacher Appreciation Week

-  Important Events:
-  8/14 – Project Graduation Meeting (New!)
 -  8/25 – Back to School Night
 -  9/8 – PTSA General Meeting
 -  9/26 – Kidfest & Homecoming Parade
 -  9/27 – Homecoming Dance
 -  11/3 – November PTSA Meeting (Updated)
 -  1/12 – January PTSA Meeting (Updated)
 -  1/27 – Come Look at South Night
 -  2/7 – WPA Dance
 -  3/9 – March PTSA Meeting (Updated)
 -  4/6 – April PTSA Meeting
 -  5/19 – Graduation 
 -  5/22 – Last Day of School

SM SOUTH PTSA

SAVE THE DATES, RAIDERS!

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE
2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR**





2025-2026
**CALL FOR
ENTRIES!**

I Belong!

Explore the arts and
express yourself!



Learn more and get involved!
[PTA.org/Reflections](https://pta.org/reflections)

Deadline for Entries:

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

For Details:

<https://smsouth.smsd.org/families/ptsa>



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP WEEK

Next week is Digital Citizenship Week, a time to spotlight how we use and interact with technology responsibly, safely, and with respect.

What is Digital Citizenship?

"Digital citizenship is about using technology responsibly. It includes safe online behavior, respecting others, protecting privacy, and understanding the impact of your digital footprint."

Discussing Digital Citizenship at Home

Talk About Tech Habits
Discuss what healthy vs. unhealthy screen time looks like. Set one tech-free time this week like during dinner or before bed.

Evaluate AI Use
Try an AI tool and compare its answer to a reliable source. Talk about when AI helps learning and when it might replace your own thinking.

Create Something Meaningful with Tech
Use technology to make, not just scroll. Design a playlist, digital poster, or short video about something you care about or about something you are learning at school.

Why does this matter?

Students at this stage are navigating social media, identity, online reputation, and more public digital presence.

Mental health and well-being are closely tied to how we interact online.

Understanding AI, algorithms, bias, and misinformation is becoming essential.

Colleges, employers, and future communities will consider digital footprints.



Average amount of screen time for approximately half of all teens.

(Zablotsky, et al., 2025).



shawnee mission south high school

SENIOR TRIBUTES ARE ON SALE!

[Visit this link](#) to access the extended SMS Senior Tributes Information PDF.

Please direct questions to yearbook adviser Tucker Love, tuckerlove152@smsd.org

Why buy a senior tribute?

- Senior tributes are a great way to commemorate your student's school journey.
- Reserve anywhere from 1/6 of a page to a full spread for your student's tribute.
- Your tribute purchase helps support the student journalists working to document the history of Shawnee Mission South.

How to buy a senior tribute:

- Visit yearbookforever.com
- Search for Shawnee Mission South to access our school store
- Select the senior ad option to start the detailed order process
- Add to your cart and submit payment to complete your purchase

When to buy a senior tribute:

- Senior tributes go on sale Friday, August 1.
- Early bird pricing is available until Sunday, October 19.
- Senior tribute prices increase Monday, October 20.
- Final day to purchase a senior tribute is Wednesday, December 10.



**ORGANIC HAIR REMOVAL
TO RAISE MONEY**

**RAIDERS FANS DESERVE SMOOTH,
HEALTHY SKIN!**

**SUGARINGLA OVERLAND PARK
X
SMS RAIDERS GRIDIRON CLUB**

SEPT 2ND - OCT 31ST

**20% OF PROCEEDS DONATED
WHEN YOU MENTION "SMS
RAIDERS" AT CHECKOUT**



**IT'S A WIN-WIN!
RECEIVE 20% OFF YOUR SECOND
APPOINTMENT WHEN SCHEDULED
AT CHECKOUT.**

**SEE OUR SERVICES [HERE](#) AND
BOOK NOW!**



SMS PTSA'S PICKLEBALL

Tournament Fundraiser

NOV 16TH



4:00 - 7:00pm



Chicken N Pickle
5901 W 135th St., OP, KS

- 2 Player Teams
- Advanced and Rec Bracket
- Raffle Prizes and Sponsorship Opportunities Available
- Open to SMS Parents, Students, Staff, Alumni
- Use the QR Code to Register

**\$100 PER
TEAM**

All Proceeds Go Towards Teacher Grants and Stipends and PTSA Scholarships

ALL Families, ONE Community: Family Fall Cultural Connection Event



Wednesday, October 29, 2025

6:00-7:30 pm

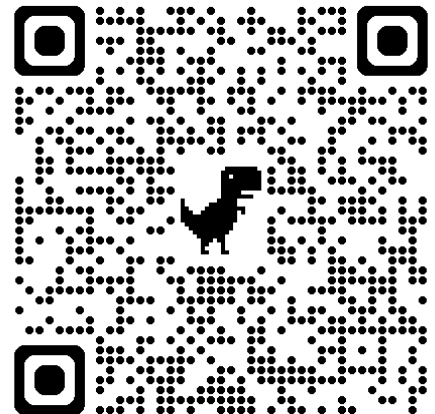
Shawnee Mission West High School.

Join our cultural event to foster belonging across the Shawnee Mission School District. Meet families from all backgrounds, connect with others, and learn about community resources and SMSD programs designed to help you feel supported and have a great year.

We will have:

- Snacks and treats!
- FREE books and school supplies!
- Learning opportunities for families
- Activities for kids!

FREE EVENT open to ALL SMSD Families!



Spanish, Arabic, and Dari interpreters will be available. If you would like to attend this event but speak another language besides those listed, please note in the registration form to request an interpreter. ***Click [this link](#) to register to attend!***

SMS HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Kids will walk away with one handmade and wrapped present to give during the holiday season

**WHEN: NOVEMBER 22ND
9AM-NOON**

WHERE: SMS ART ROOMS

COST: \$60

**SIGN UP:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YC39XEPT](https://tinyurl.com/YC39XEPT)**



EMAIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS
CORTNEYDOUGHERTY@SMSD.ORG
ABBEYTHOMAS@SMSD.ORG

PAY VIA VENMO: CORTNEY-DOUGHERTY



Need a night off? Let the South Pace Dance Team take care of the kids while you enjoy a well-deserved evening out! Join us for our Parents' Night Out fundraiser — a fun-filled night of dancing, snacks, games, and a movie for the kids, all while supporting our amazing dance team. It's a win-win for everyone!

- **Date & Time:** Friday, November 14th | 6:00 - 9:00 pm
- **Location:** Shawnee Mission South - Aux Gym
- **Ages:** 5 - 12 (Boys and Girls welcomed!)
- **Cost:** \$40/child

Sign Up Here: <https://forms.gle/Bp99X2VmqMpFeASX6>

PARENTS
NIGHT OUT

FRIDAY, NOV 14

6:00 - 9:00 PM

Drop Off
@ Shawnee Mission
South Aux Gym

\$40/Child
Ages 5-12

ENJOY A QUIET NIGHT OUT WHILE YOUR KIDS ENJOY AN EVENING WITH THE SOUTH PACE DANCE TEAM. DANCE! PLAY! CRAFTS! SNACKS! GAMES! MOVIE!

Support the Dance Team! Link In Bio to Sign Up!



CLASS OF 2026

ROSEHILL SENIORS

yearbook photo

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29, 2025

5:00pm

MEET ON THE PLAYGROUND

**BRING \$10 TO COVER THE COST OF THE
YEARBOOK AD**

**QUESTIONS EMAIL -
RACHELCLEMENT412[AT]GMAIL.COM**



SM South Athletics & Activities Calendar October 20-25, 2025

Access all SM South athletics and activity event calendar with real-time updates at www.sunflowerleague.org

Monday, October 20, 2025 – Traditional 7 Period Schedule

TBD	Golf: Girls Varsity State	@ Hesston Golf Course
4:15pm	Football: JV Game	vs. SMNW @ SMNW High School
6:00pm	Volleyball: Girls Varsity Dig Pink Night	@ Shawnee Mission South High School
6:15pm	Soccer: Boys C Team Game	vs. Free State @ Shawnee Mission South Stadium

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 – Blocks 2 – Seminar - 4 – 6

5:00pm	Soccer: Boys JV Game	vs. Mill Valley @ Shawnee Mission South Stadium
7:00pm	Soccer: Boys Varsity Game	vs. Mill Valley @ Shawnee Mission South Stadium

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 – BLOCKS 1-3-5-7

3:00pm	Unified Bowling: Varsity Tournament	@ Park Lanes
5:00pm	Soccer: Boys C Team Match	vs. Free State @ Lawrence Free State High School
6:00pm	Football: Freshman Game	vs. Olathe South @ Shawnee Mission South Stadium

Thursday, October 23, 2025 – LATE START - Blocks 2 –Advisory - 4 - 6

5:00pm	Soccer: Boys JV Game	vs. Free State @ Shawnee Mission South High School
7:00pm	Football: Varsity Game	vs. Olathe-South @ ODAC
7:00pm	Soccer: Boys Varsity Game	vs. Free State @ Shawnee Mission South Stadium

Friday, October 24, 2025 – BLOCKS 1-3-5-7

Saturday, October 25, 2025

TBD	Volleyball: Girls Varsity Sub-State	@ TBA
9:00am	Cross Country: Varsity Regional	@ JCCC

