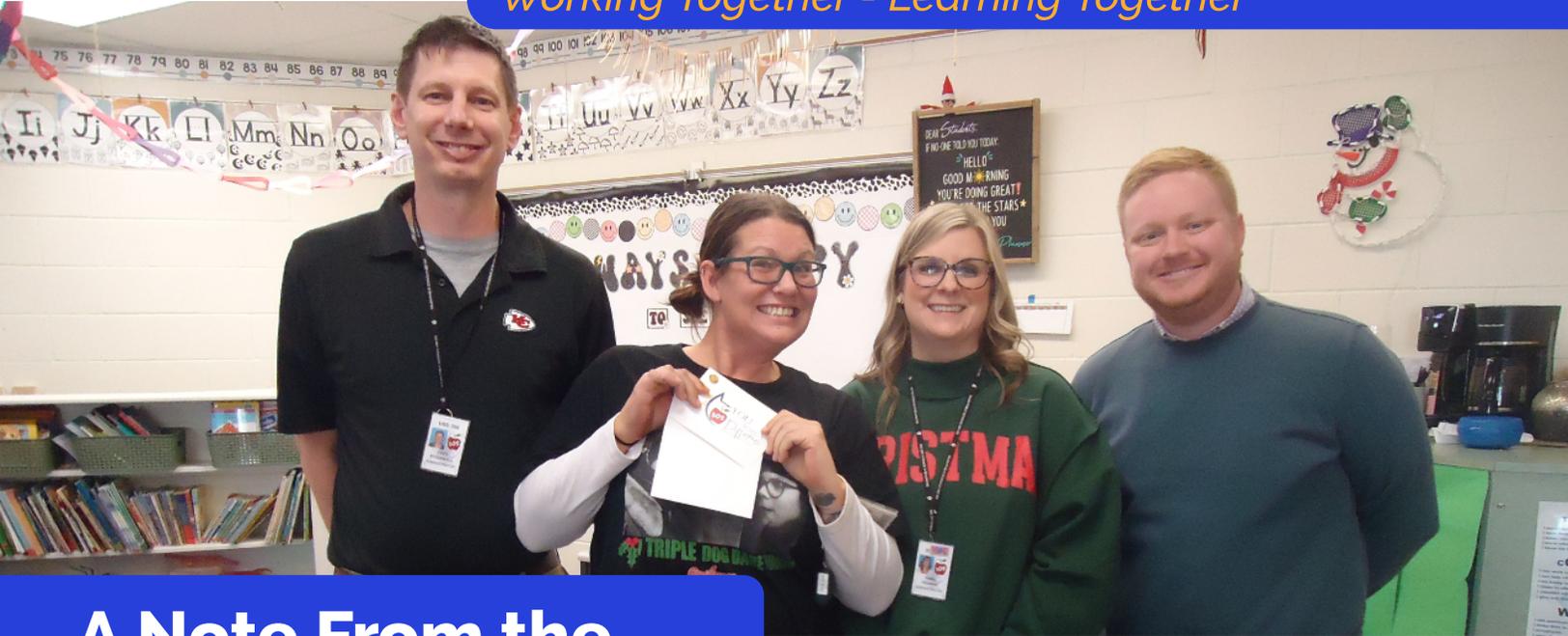




The Cottonwood Chronicle

Working Together - Learning Together



A Note From the Principal

Cottonwood is lucky to have dedicated staff members who work hard everyday to make this school a great place to learn. Congratulations to Kirsten Crosson and Megan Weaver on receiving the USD 305 "You Make a Difference" award.

I believe 2026 will continue to provide opportunities to help make Cottonwood an even more connected and supportive community for all.

Sincerely,

Cody Stockwll, Principal

Upcoming

Events

- Feb. 4** - Spring Pictures, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 5** - No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 9** - No School
- March 5** - Family University
- March 9** - PTA Meeting 8:30 a.m.
- March 12** - End of Third Quarter
- March 13** - No School
- March 16 -20** - Spring Break
- April 16** - Bingo/Nacho Night

Winter Weather Procedures

In cases of extreme winter weather, Salina USD 305 may choose to close school, implement a two-hour delayed start, or use an early dismissal schedule. The superintendent of schools makes this decision after consulting with the bus company and the director of operations to ensure student safety.

Only school closures or schedule changes authorized by the superintendent or their designee will be announced to the media. All announcements apply to one day only.

If you do not hear an announcement, families can assume that school will begin and end at the regularly scheduled time.

 [More info](#)

Food Service Account

Please review your student's food service account balance regularly to keep your account current and prevent overdue payments. To view your current balance, log into Skyward Family Access and click the Food Service Tile.

You may pay in person at your school, district office, or online in Skyward:
<https://skystu.usd305.com/StudentSTS>



Author Visit

Grade 4 and Grade 5 enjoyed an unforgettable digital author visit with the amazing Angela Cervantes! In preparation for this special event, Grade 4 dove into the *Letty Out Loud* audio book, while Grade 5 got wrapped up in the spooky fun of *Cursed Moon*. During the visit, students were thrilled to hear Cervantes share behind-the-scenes stories, writing inspiration, and personal experiences. Even better—they got to jump in with their own questions and have a real conversation with a bestselling author! It was an inspiring experience that brought reading and storytelling to life.





Keep Your Child Healthy and in School

Daily attendance is essential to help your child stay on track and engaged in learning. Please send your child to school each day they are feeling well enough to participate in classroom activities. Many mild symptoms do not require students to stay home. Children can still attend school if they have:

- A mild cold (such as a runny nose or cough)
- Watery eyes without fever, eye pain, or redness of the eyelids
- A mild stomachache
- A mild rash with no other symptoms
- Have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication



USD305
Website

Unsure if your child should stay home? Additional illness guidelines are available on our website at www.usd305.com.

As a reminder, please call your school office to notify them anytime your child will be absent. Greatness grows when you're here!



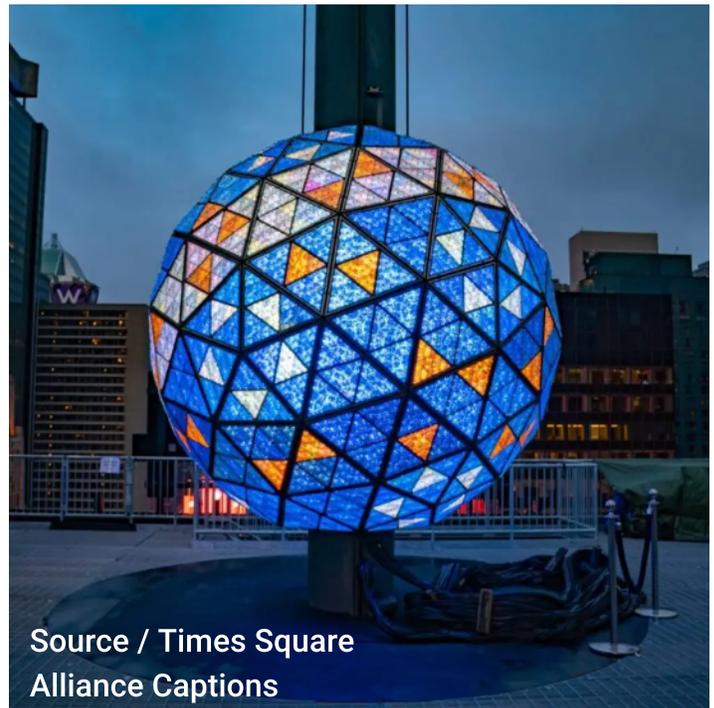


New Year's Eve Facts

- About 4,000 years ago, Julius Caesar declared January 1 be the national New Year holiday in honor of the Roman god Janus.
 - Janus had two faces, one looking back (to the end of one year) and the other looking forward (to the start of a new year).
- "Auld Lang Syne" traditionally sang at the end of New Year's Eve translated to "Time Gone By."
- Noise makers such as: banging pots and pans, blow horns, and fireworks became a tradition in order to ward off evil spirits and bring good luck for the upcoming year.
- It's estimated that about 1 million people head to Times Square in New York to celebrate New Year's Eve.
- The first Times Square New Year's Eve ball drop was in 1907 as an alternative to fireworks.
 - The original ball weighed approximately 700 pounds and featured only 100 light bulbs.
 - Today, the ball weighs 11,875 pounds and is covered in more than 2,500 crystals and 32,000 LED lights.
- At least 2,000 pounds of confetti is dropped at midnight in Times Square.



The initial 1907 ball, made of iron and wood with light bulbs, was replaced in 1920 for a new design, and the ball has been upgraded many times since.



The current large, crystal-covered version with LED lights was introduced for New Year's 2009 and has remained a year-round fixture. An even newer design has been unveiled for the upcoming 2026 celebration.

January 2026

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	28	30	31

1-2- No School/Winter Recess

6- Start of Third Quarter

5- No School/Inservice

19- No School

Contact Us

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 Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4600



#CWCommunity #CWMindset

#305GrowsGreatness



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.