



# The Central Connection

*WE are SC—every student, teacher, class, and program contributes to the success of Salina High School Central.*

January 2026

Central High School | Salina, Kansas

## ***Mustang Families,***

### **Welcome Back!**

We hope your winter break provided time to relax, recharge, and enjoy meaningful moments with family and friends. As we begin 2026, our attention turns to the second half of the school year and the many opportunities it brings.

Please continue to stay in communication with your student(s) and their teachers regarding classroom expectations, current grades, and attendance. In the coming weeks, students will meet with their counselors to begin planning their schedules for the next school year.

For families of seniors, please ensure that your contact information is current in Skyward so you receive all important graduation updates and announcements.

We also have several exciting events ahead:

- Winter Formal: January 17
- CHS Musical – *Into the Woods*: January 29–31
- Winter Sports: Teams are off to a strong start
- Clubs & Activities: Numerous opportunities are available for students to get involved and stay connected at Central

We look forward to a productive and positive start to the new year with our students, staff, and families.

**CHS Administration,  
Dr. Matthew Brungardt, Tiffany Lowe, Amanda Thacker, Greg Maring**

## **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences, scheduled for February 4–5, 2026. These conferences offer a valuable opportunity to discuss your student's progress, ask questions, and strengthen communication with their teachers.

We encourage all parents and guardians to attend and stay engaged in their student's academic success. Additional details, including scheduling information, will be shared as the conference dates approach.



## CHS Debate Team Achievements

The CHS Debate Team has demonstrated exceptional performance at recent competitions, earning recognition across multiple divisions.

\*At the McPherson tournament, novice debaters Yashi Vashisth and Olivia Perry placed sixth in their division. In the open division, Marcos Lira and Abdiel Ramos secured first place with an undefeated record, qualifying them for the State 2-Speaker Tournament, scheduled to be held at the University of Kansas on January 16–17.

\*The team continued its strong showing at the Salina South Cougar Invitational, where CHS captured first place in Sweepstakes. Individual award recipients included:

- Joslyn Sibley and Angel Chavez – Sixth Place, JV Division
- Yashi Vashisth and Olivia Perry – Second Place, Novice Division
- Raylin Jensen and Ben Hughes – First Place, Novice Division

Notably, both CHS novice teams placing first and second completed the tournament undefeated.

\*The debate team of Marcos Lira and Abdiel Ramos placed 4th at the West Kansas NSDA National Policy Debate tournament. They are second alternates to the National Speech and Debate Association national tournament that will be held June 14th-19th in Richmond Virginia.

## Scholars Bowl

The Mustang Scholars Bowl team took 2nd place at Abilene's junior varsity tournament. Congratulations to Jasper Mahler, Eli Riker, Annika Green, and Agneta Crepps!

## Toy-a-Thon Results Are In!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Salina Central, we donated over 1,000 toys this year! Amazing work!

Toy-a-Thon Winners:

- First Place: Stephenson – 709 points
- Second Place: Modin – 478 points
- Third Place: Pahls – 267 points

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make this year's Toy-a-Thon such a success!



## CHS Orchestra Honors

Congratulations to the CHS Orchestra students who were selected for the North Central KMEA Honor Orchestra. Their dedication, musicianship, and commitment to excellence have earned them this distinguished recognition.

Selected students include:

- Imani De La Cruz Bonane – Violin
- Maggie Scheck – Viola
- Timothy Rose – Viola
- Jadyn Kitchen – Viola
- Kevia Pennyfeather – Cello
- Zane Hoff – Bass

We are proud of these students for their outstanding achievement and for representing CHS with such talent and professionalism.

## 2026 KMEA State Choir

We are proud to congratulate all of the students who earned a spot in the 2026 KMEA State Choir!

Central had the second-most students selected in the state, setting a new school record—an incredible achievement!

State Choir Members:

- |                   |                      |                   |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Citlali Alarcon | • Jacob Ebel         | • Katie Morgan    |
| • Wyatt Angell    | • Ayden Flener       | • Ellie Riekhof   |
| • Eden Arb        | • Mitchell Haskett   | • Sarah Rosario   |
| • Madison Berndt  | • Anna Kraft         | • Mac Sheforgen   |
| • Kort Comeau     | • Marcos Lira        | • Oscar Sheforgen |
| • Sarah Day       | • Elizabeth Martinez |                   |

State Choir Alternates:

- Aerith Cox
- Addilyn Jagodzinske
- Lexi Foos
- Andrew Graber

Congratulations to all of these talented singers on their outstanding accomplishments!



## January

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	30	31

## Calendar of Events

- 1/1 New Years Day
- 1/6 Start of Third Quarter
- 1/8 - 1/10 Kansas Thespian Festival
- 1/12 Parent Enrollment Night - 6 p.m.
- 1/17 Winter Formal - 8 p.m.
- 1/19 **No School - MLK Day**
- 1/29 - 1/31 Musical *Into the Woods* - 7 p.m.

## Thespian Honors

**Congratulations to Ms. Hilt and the thespian cast of *Catch Me If You Can!***

The CHS Thespian Troupe has been selected to perform a portion of the production on the main stage at the Kansas Thespian Festival this January. Additionally, Ms. Hilt will be inducted into the Kansas Thespian Hall of Fame, a distinguished and well-deserved honor.





## December Student of the Week



**Valeria Lopez Moncada:** Valeria is a freshman at Central High School. She is involved in French Club, FCA, choir and the gaming club. Her favorite classes are art and French. Outside of school, she spends her free time working. After high school, she plans to become a therapist. Some fun facts about Valeria are that she likes anime and she has a dog.

**Brooke Kirkendall:** Brooke is a senior at Central High School. At school, she is involved in Link Crew and vocals. Her favorite part of school is seeing friends and peers in her classes and being able to express herself. Outside of school, she spends her free time working and attending church. After graduation, she wants to take a gap year and then attend cosmetology school. Some fun facts about her are that she loves hanging out with her boyfriend, family members and her cats.



**Tra'Zhon Wise:** Tra'Zhon is a junior at Central High School. At school, he is involved in football and track. His favorite parts of school are science, math, socializing and spending time with Mrs. Mahler and Mrs. Nicolau. Outside of school, he participates in powerlifting. After high school, Tra'Zhon wants to go to college to play football, major in architecture and eventually open his own business. Some fun facts about him are that he enjoys playing video games, training for sports, spending time with family and he has one dog and one cat.



## 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

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



 [USD 305](#)

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

## Food Services



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:

 [Skyward](#)



## Upcoming Sports

- 1/2 Basketball vs Valley Center
  - Freshman Boys/Girls - 4 p.m.
  - Boys JV - 5:45 p.m.
  - Girls Varsity - 6 p.m.
  - Girls JV - 7:30 p.m.
  - Boys Varsity - 7:30 p.m.
- 1/6 Wrestling vs Emporia
  - Boys Varsity/JV - 5 p.m.
  - Girls Varsity - 5 p.m.
- 1/8 Boys Swimming vs South 1:30 p.m.
- 1/8 Basketball vs Andover Central
  - Freshman Boys/Girls - 4 p.m.
  - Boys JV - 5 p.m.
  - Girls Varsity - 5:30 p.m.
  - Boys Varsity - 7 p.m.
  - Girls JV - 7:30 p.m.
- 1/13 Basketball vs Ark City
  - Freshman Boys/Girls - 4 p.m.
  - Boys JV - 5:45 p.m.
  - Girls Varsity - 6 p.m.
  - Girls JV - 7:30 p.m.
  - Boys Varsity - 7:30 p.m.
- 1/15 Boys Swimming vs South - 1:30
- 1/16 Basketball vs Eisenhower
  - Freshman Girls - 4 p.m.
  - Boys JV - 5:30 p.m.
  - Girls Varsity - 6 p.m.
  - Girls JV - 7:30 p.m.
  - Boys Varsity - 7:30 p.m.
  - Freshman Boys - 7:30 p.m.
- 1/29 Bowling vs Eisenhower - 2 p.m.



**Athletic Schedule Subject to Change**

**Stay up to date by clicking this link**

[avctl.org](https://avctl.org)

Phone		785.309.3500
Principal		Dr. Matthew Brungardt
Assistant Principals		Tiffany Lowe, Amanda Thacker
Athletic Directors		Greg Maring
Office Manager		Laura Hince
Website		305centralhigh.com



**#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.