

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.



Kurt Hodge teaches Chemistry at South and was nominated by his colleagues: “At South, few people wear as many hats — and wear them as well — as Mr. Hodge. By day, Mr. Hodge brings chemistry to life in the classroom, challenging students to think critically, experiment confidently, and discover the science behind the world around them. After school, he trades lab goggles and heads off to the courts as our head coach of both boys and girls tennis. His leadership, consistency, and commitment to student-athletes continue to elevate our tennis program and build champions on and off the court. Kurt Hodge truly embodies what it means to be a Raider. We are grateful for the passion and dedication he brings to our students and community every single day.”

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





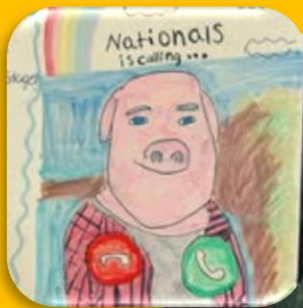
Get on the 'Gram!

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
FEBRUARY 23 Traditional Schedule	FEBRUARY 24 Even Block	FEBRUARY 25 Odd Block	FEBRUARY 26 LATE START Even Block	FEBRUARY 27 Odd Block
MARCH 2 Traditional Schedule Spring Sports Begin	MARCH 3 Even Block	MARCH 4 Odd Block	MARCH 5 LATE START Even Block	MARCH 6 Odd Block
MARCH 9 Odd Block 7:00pm PTSA Meeting	MARCH 10 Even Block	MARCH 11 Odd Block	MARCH 12 LATE START Even Block	MARCH 13 NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day
MARCH 16 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	MARCH 17 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	MARCH 18 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	MARCH 19 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	MARCH 20 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK
MARCH 23 Traditional Schedule	MARCH 24 Even Block	MARCH 25 Odd Block	MARCH 26 LATE START Even Block	MARCH 27 Odd Block
MARCH 30 Traditional Schedule	MARCH 31 Even Block	APRIL 1 Odd Block	APRIL 2 LATE START Even Block	APRIL 3 Odd Block Heritage Assembly
APRIL 6 Traditional Schedule 7:00pm PTSA Meeting	APRIL 7 Even Block	APRIL 8 Odd Block	APRIL 9 LATE START Even Block	APRIL 10 Odd Block
APRIL 13 Odd Block	APRIL 14 Even Block	APRIL 15 Odd Block	APRIL 16 LATE START Even Block	APRIL 17 NO SCHOOL Professional Learning
APRIL 20 Traditional Schedule	APRIL 21 Even Block	APRIL 22 Odd Block	APRIL 23 LATE START Even Block	APRIL 24 Odd Block
APRIL 27 Traditional Schedule	APRIL 28 Even Block	APRIL 29 Odd Block Senior Signing Assembly	APRIL 30 LATE START Even Block	MAY 1 Odd Block

Raiders! - Nominate your Peers

[Click HERE to Nominate for Student of the Week](#)

Braelyn Jalloh Recognized **Jamiyah Smith**
with the KINDNESS CHAIN as our Student of the Week!



**STUDENT OF
THE WEEK**
Jamiyah Smith

Health Office Update FEBRUARY 2026



Cold and Flu season is still here... REMEMBER TO WASH YOUR HANDS!! cover coughs, get enough sleep and eat a well balanced meal. Sick; stay home. Return when you are fever free for 24hrs without the aid of medication, and you feel better.

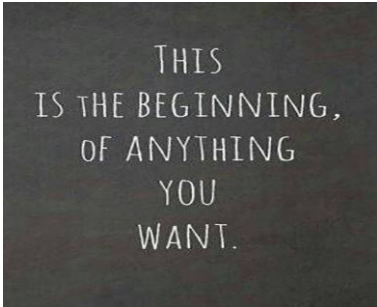
Raiders~~ clothing accidents happen all of the time! However, we do not have enough space to keep extra clothes. So PLEASE keep them with you, in your locker, backpack or car.



Parents/Guardians:

Please be aware that you may call your student out at any time, on any day, for any reason by contacting 993-7546. Students should not be sent to the health office for the purpose of being sent home. The health office will contact you directly only if we determine that your student needs to go home due to illness.

The health office is here for you! Need a snack, bandaid, forget your deoderant, something for the headache or just a smile; we got you.



**Angie York
SM South Nurse
913.993.7516**

Link to ROCKY'S RUNDOWN:

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

STUDENT ATHLETES OF THE MONTH



D'Shon Miller

Congratulations to D'Shon on being this month's Student Athlete of the Month! D'Shon is a junior on the Swim & Dive team for the Raiders. Congratulations, D'Shon- we are so proud of you for representing Shawnee Mission South and being a positive role model!



Riley Kramer

Congratulations to Riley on being this month's Student Athlete of the Month! Riley is a freshman on the varsity Basketball team. - Riley is a key component for the #1-ranked team in Class 6A. Congratulations, Riley- we are so proud of you and all your hard work and accomplishments!



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

- The state funded Junior ACT is Tuesday, February 24th. Room locations will be emailed to students and posted in the hallway the morning of the exam. Students received important information during Advisory on Thursday, 2/19. Questions? Reach out to krismeyer@smsd.org or your child's counselor.
- KC Scholars Scholarships for 9th and 11th graders is open. This is a great opportunity for 9th and 11th graders. <https://greatjobskc.org/scholarships/> The deadline to apply is Feb. 27th
- Students ready to work? SMSD Hiring Fair Field Trip is March 6th. Register [HERE](#). Registration must be from a SMSD student account.
- JUNIOR Parent and Student College Application Preview Night. March 10th @ 7pm in the SMS Cafeteria.
- The Senior Signing Ceremony is April, 29th. The informational form is open and in the Class of 2026 Canvas Page. The deadline to submit your post high school plans is April 19th.
- Summer School and Summer eSchool is open. Check your email and Canvas Class of 202# for registration information or contact SMS Student Services at 993-7530.

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
- Visit [Johnson County Mental Health Center](#) and [Johnson County Family Resources](#) for family/adolescent support.
- 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.

February

Emporia State University	Monday, February 23	10:30
Northwest Missouri State University	Monday, February 23	12:55

March

United States Air Force	Friday, March 6	9:20
Johnson County Community College	Friday, March 6	1:05
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Wednesday, March 11	1:05
Iowa State University	Thursday, March 12	1:05



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.



SHAWNEE MISSION SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



RAIDER RISE

JANUARY AWARD WINNERS

Freshman: Connor Griffin

Sophomore: Jackson Mayne

Junior: Ruby Wathen

Senior: Urva Solanki

RAIDER REPORT

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

click here to watch:

KSMS Raider Report 17: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8v2IL3_lxCo



Occupation Spotlight: High Demand – High Wage Careers



\$16.09 Entry Level Wage	0.7% Average Annual Growth	APPRENTICESHIP
\$28.47 Experienced Level Wage	771 Annual Openings	NO Work Experience

Carpenters

Also called: Cabinet Maker, Form Carpenter, Scaffold Builder

Construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood and comparable materials, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May also install cabinets, siding, drywall, and batt or roll insulation. Includes brattice builders who build doors or brattices in underground passageways.

Knowledge

Engineering & Technology

- design
- building and construction

Business

- customer service
- management

Math & Science

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

Safety & Government

- public safety and security

Skills

Basic Skills

- keeping track of how well people and/or groups are doing in order to make improvements
- listening to others, not interrupting, and asking good questions

Problem Solving

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

Abilities

Physical Strength

- use your lower back and stomach

Ideas & Logic

- notice when problems happen
- order or arrange things

Hand & Finger Use

- put together small parts with your fingers
- hold or move items with your hands

Spatial

- imagine how something will look after it is moved around or changed

Technology

You might use software like this:

Accounting

- Intuit QuickBooks
- Quicken

Project Management

- Turtle Creek Software Goldenseal
- VirtualBoss

Word Processing

- Microsoft Word
- Wilhelm Publishing Threshold



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

-  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**



SM SOUTH PTSA

Scholarship opportunity!

Open to all Class of 2026 Raiders

Check out the application -
<https://tinyurl.com/9sdc37p5>

Scholarship questions?
Text Tania 816.729.0780



PROJECT GRADUATION

MEETINGS



JAN 8

FEB 5

MARCH 5

APRIL 8

7 PM



IN THE LIBRARY

Gold Medal Practices: Supporting Students Through Planning & Practice

Tips for Students & Families



Success in high school isn't about doing everything perfectly. It's about **building habits** that help students plan ahead, practice consistently, and adjust when things don't go as planned.

Just like the Olympic athletes train long before competition, students grow most during the planning and practice stages of learning.



Planning

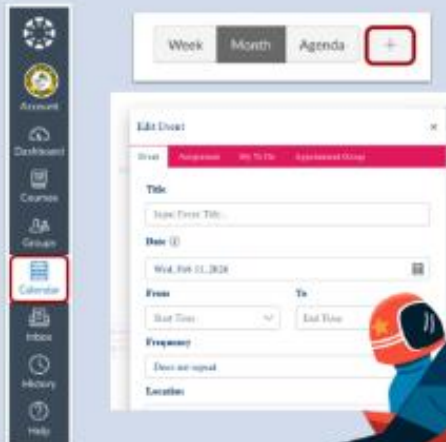
Planning helps reduce stress and surprises. The most effective place for students to plan is the **Canvas Calendar**, which shows:

- Upcoming assignments and assessments
- Long-term projects and deadlines
- Changes or updates from teachers

Family Coaching Moves:

Instead of asking "Do you have homework?", try "What's coming up on your Canvas Calendar this week?"

Encourage them to add **all their to-dos and events in the Canvas Calendar** if they don't have a system set up.



Practice

Practice is where learning actually happens. This includes drafts, homework, quizzes, and feedback.

Practice works best when it happens over time. Short, consistent efforts lead to deeper learning than last-minute cramming.

Students, set a timer for 10 minutes every day to review for classes.

- Flashcards with vocabulary
- Complete practice problems
- Check Canvas resources posted by your teachers: EdPuzzle reviews, Kahoot, Wayground, etc.
- Teach someone else about a concept you learned.

Family Coaching Moves:

Encourage students to revisit skills, review feedback on assignments, and make small adjustments as they go.



SM South Student Council

SHAWNEE MISSION SOUTH
STUDENT COUNCIL

BINGO NIGHT

One Night. Tons of Fun. Endless Bingos!



Wednesday,
25 February 2026



Time,
6:30 - 8:00 PM

5800 W 107th Street

GAME - PRIZE - PARTY

FEEDER SCHOOLS ARE INVITED!



CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS!

Informational Meeting 2/23/26

6:00 pm • SMS Cafeteria



RSVP HERE:



**Informational Meeting 2.23.26
6:00pm South Cafeteria**

WHY JOIN US?

- **Make new friends!**
- **Motivating environment!**
- **Front row at EVERY game!**
- **Represent SMS!**



HELP THE CLASS OF 2026 CELEBRATE! Donate to Project Graduation Today!

Each year Shawnee Mission South hosts Project Graduation for the Senior class the night of Graduation. Project Graduation is supported by the National Highway Traffic Association and endorsed by the SMS PTSA and the Shawnee Mission School District administration. This year marks the 34th anniversary of the event. Project Graduation will take place at **Main Event** and will include games, food, raffle drawings, and other activities. It is a safe way for our graduates to celebrate and make positive and lasting memories. All graduating seniors are invited to attend this fun, safe, and substance free event.

Project Graduation relies on financial support from the entire school. Every dollar raised will significantly reduce the cost per student to attend Project Graduation, making it feasible for every graduate to attend.

Project Graduation is a safe and fun party for our Seniors after graduation at Main Event. We rely on donations from the entire school to make it affordable for all Seniors!

Suggested Donations

Freshman families \$20

Sophomore families \$30

Junior Families \$40

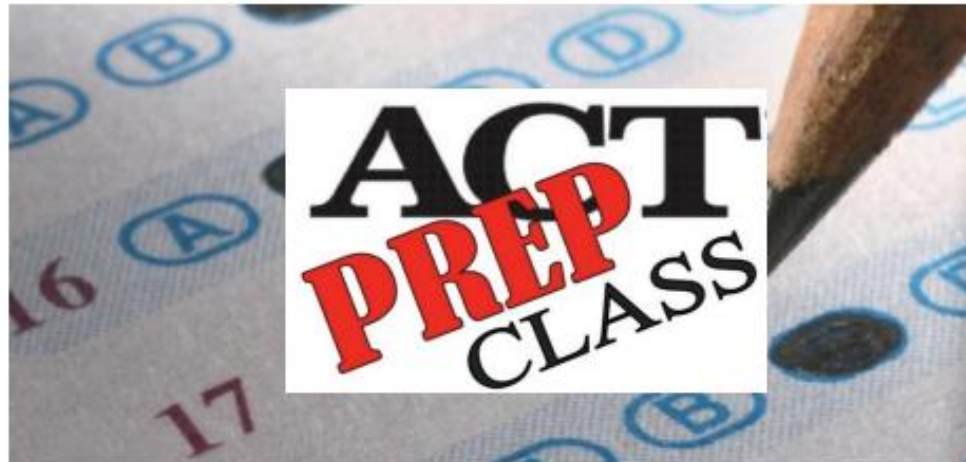
Senior Families \$50

Donate by PayPal to our Project Graduation PTSA account. Just click on the link below to submit your payment: <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/TZ4CVQM4795A4>

Write a check to SMS Project Graduation, in the memo area please list your student(s) grade(s) and **mail it to:**

Shawnee Mission South High School
c/o SMS Project Graduation
5800 W 107th Street
Overland, Park, KS 66207

Thank you so much for your support of Project Graduation and the Senior Class of 2026! Please reach out if you have any questions: Sara Gardner (ksgardnerfamily@gmail.com) or Brandy Moody (brandymoody1980@gmail.com)



Olathe West High School

The camp dates are:

Sunday, March 29 (1 - 5pm)

Tuesday, March 31 (6 - 9:30pm)

Wednesday, April 1 (6 - 9:30pm)

Sunday, April 5 (1 - 5pm)

- All three sections of the exam are covered each day.
- Cost is \$175. This includes: test prep instruction, four full practice exams, and exam review.
- Space is limited!

Why should I come to the Prep Class?

- To get ready for the ACT exam
- To know the "in's and out's" of the ACT exam
- When was the last time you prepped for the ACT exam?
- The prep class uses recent ACT exams that have been released by ACT
- Financial assistance is available for those in need.
- The prep class is taught by Olathe AP Teachers who have a deep knowledge of the ACT as well as the "in's and out's" of the ACT exam.

Register at



SCAN ME

<https://bit.ly/49JP22X>

South Orchestra Patron Drive



<https://tinyurl.com/fundSMSorchestra2026>

SMSD STUDENT HIRING FAIR

Interview

Meet Professionals

Get Hired

**Students Ready to Work:
Real Jobs. Real People. Real Opportunities.**

Hiring Fair for 10th-12th Grade
More information and Details on the link below
[SMSD Hiring Fair!](#)

When: Friday, March 6th
Time: Choose from 2 Time Slots
- Details on [Google Form](#)
Where: The Center for Academic
Achievement
Don't forget your Resumee!!

Questions?
Ask you RWL Counselor



SM South Athletics & Activities Calendar February 23-28, 2026

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

Monday, February 23, 2026 – Traditional – 7 Period Day

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 – Blocks 2 – Seminar - 4 – 6

TBD	Basketball: Girls JV Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South
9:00am	Bowling: Varsity Regionals	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe Lanes East
4:00pm	Basketball: Boys Freshman A Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
4:00pm	Basketball: Boys Sophomore Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
5:30pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
5:30pm	Basketball: Boys Freshman B Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
5:30pm	Basketball: Boys JV Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
7:00pm	Basketball: Girls C Team Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School
7:00pm	Basketball: Boys Varsity Game	vs. Olathe South @ Olathe South High School

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 – BLOCKS 1-3-5-7

6:30pm	Student Council Bingo Night	Cafeteria
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Thursday, February 26, 2026 -LATE START – Blocks 2 – Advisory- 4 – 6

	KMEA State Music Conference	Century II - Wichita
6:00pm	Basketball: Boys Freshman A Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
6:00pm	Basketball: Boys Sophomore Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
7:30pm	Basketball: Boys Freshman B Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School

Friday, February 27, 2026 – BLOCKS 1-3-5-7

	KMEA State Music Conference	Century II - Wichita
TBD	Wrestling: Varsity State	Advent Health Sports Park
3:45pm	Basketball: Girls JV Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
5:30pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
5:30pm	Basketball: Boys IV Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
7:00pm	Basketball: Girls C Team Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School
7:00pm	Basketball: Boys Varsity Game	vs. SM East @ Shawnee Mission South High School

Saturday, February 28, 2026

	KMEA State Music Conference	Century II - Wichita
TBD	Wrestling: Varsity State	Advent Health Sports Park

