



Cougar Pause

We build positive relationships between home and school so that all students are safe, honorable, and successful.

May 2026

South High School | Salina, Kansas

Cougar families,

As we enter the final weeks of this school year, I want to pause and celebrate the remarkable progress our students have made and the outstanding dedication of our teaching staff. Our educators have poured their hearts into their classrooms, going far beyond what's expected, modeling the very qualities we hope to instill in our students: accountability for their craft, perseverance through challenges and a genuine willingness to support every learner who walks through our doors.

To our graduating seniors - congratulations! This milestone represents far more than years of hard work, perseverance and achievement. It marks the beginning of exciting new chapters ahead. As you leave South High, we encourage you to carry forward three cornerstone values that will serve you well: perseverance in the face of obstacles, accountability for your choices and commitments and a willingness to embrace growth and new opportunities. We are incredibly proud of the young adults you have become and are confident you will carry these values, knowledge and leadership into your futures.

We look forward to honoring your accomplishments at our Commencement Ceremony:

- **Date: Sunday, May 17, 2026**
- **Time: 5:00 p.m.**
- **Location: Tony's Pizza Events Center, 800 The Midway**

To our families, thank you for being such vital partners in your child's education. Your unwavering support and willingness to collaborate with us, your accountability in reinforcing our school's values at home and your perseverance through the ups and downs of the school year make all the difference. We are honored to have the privilege of educating your children and look forward to celebrating their achievements with you.

Warm regards,

Dr. Ginger Jones, Principal





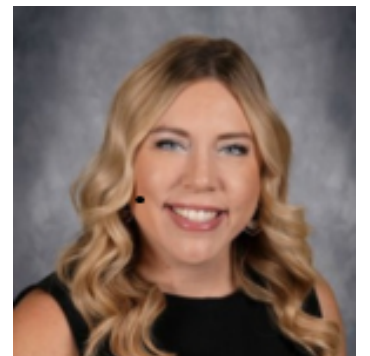
AP World History Field Trip

Due to the generosity of many, Salina South Advanced Placement World History students had the amazing opportunity to travel to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and the National World War I Museum in Kansas City. At the Nelson-Atkins, students toured ancient Egyptian tombs, European Renaissance masterpieces and East Asian temples. Sophomore Cynthia Perez said, "It was really neat to see all that we've learned in real life." After lunch at the Country Club Plaza, the class spent the afternoon at the World War I Museum. According to Lyla Kimmi, "The best part was the interactive tables at the museum where we could learn about the war." If that wasn't enough, students also had the once-in-a-lifetime chance to see "Documents that Forged a Nation," including the original draft of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Xavier Medina was grateful because "We probably won't ever see the Declaration of Independence ever again ." The class would like to thank the Salina South administration for this incredible field trip!



April Teacher of the Month

Kiley Massey is an FCS teacher at South High School. She has been teaching for 14 years, all with Salina Public Schools. Mrs. Massey was inspired to become a teacher by her fourth grade teacher, Lisa Hall. She motivated her to love learning and pursue a career where she could have a positive impact on others. Mrs. Massey's favorite part of teaching is that no two days are the same. She enjoys the new challenges and opportunities that each day brings. Mrs. Massey finds it fulfilling to support, guide, learn and work alongside her students. A fun fact about her is that she loves DIY projects. She enjoys making videos for social media of the different projects she creates around her home.





April Students of the Week



Sawyer Harris is a senior at South High School. At school, he is involved in NHS and is on the golf team. His favorite part of school is being able to connect and talk with new people. After graduation, he plans to attend Kansas State University and major in criminology. A fun fact about Sawyer is that he has been playing golf for most of his life.

Addelyn Brunsting is a senior at South High School. At school, she is involved in NHS, is a manager for basketball and football and was previously on the volleyball and soccer teams. Her favorite class is math because she likes knowing there is always a right or wrong solution to a problem. Outside of school, she spends her time working at a nursing home. After graduation, she plans to attend the University of Kansas and major in nursing. A fun fact about Addelyn is that she loves to sew.



Jaxon Myers is a senior at South High. At school, he is involved in STUCO and BSU and is on the football, basketball and track teams. His favorite part about school is being able to see his friends every day. After graduation, he plans to continue his education and attend Garden City Community College to play football. Some fun facts about Jaxon are that he has a dog named Shadow and a cat named Oscar.

Kristen Kinion is a senior at South High. At school, she is involved in band, newspaper, and Book Club. Her favorite part of school is English class. She loves getting to write, read and analyze books. Outside of school, she enjoys working a part-time job and participates in The Salina Municipal Band and Salina Youth Symphony. After graduation, she plans to attend Wichita State University and major in anthropology with a minor in French. Some fun facts about Kristen are that she plays the bassoon, flute, and saxophone, and has also received the Seal of Biliteracy in French.





Food Service Accounts

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.



i Skyward Family Access

Summer Food Program

June 1 – June 30, Monday – Friday
(Closed June 19)

- Free to all children
- No signup, eligibility or paperwork required
- All meals eaten on site
- Adult meal cost:
 - Breakfast \$3.50
 - Lunch \$5.75
- Free activities and book giveaways

Visit the district website for more information:

i Summer Food Program

306 SALINA Public Schools

Summer Food Program

June 1 - June 30

		MULTIPLE LOCATIONS	
		FUN ACTIVITIES	
		BOOK GIVEAWAYS	
		KIDS EAT FREE	





Theatre Thoughts

Our performers have been busy on and off the stage this past month! From powerful social advocacy to side-splitting comedy, here is what's happening in the SHS Theatre Department.

Powerful Messages on Stage

The Theatre Arts program recently hosted a special staged reading for 65 visiting grade 7 girls during their Healthy Lifestyle field trip to Trinity United Methodist Church. The actors performed "Don't U Luv Me" by Linda Daugherty, a poignant look at teen relationships. Join us for the full production on May 6 and 8, at 7 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre (Room 603).

Upcoming: A Night of Laughter

Mark your calendars! The Elements of Acting class is proud to present "Oops," a fractured fairytale adaptation. This "play within a play" promises to be a hysterical night of comedy.

When: May 7 at 7 p.m.

Curtain Call: Pink Panther Strikes Again

A huge round of applause to the Drama Club for their successful run of *Pink Panther Strikes Again!* The cast and crew received a fantastic response from our audience and fans.

Senior shout out: We want to send a special thank you to our Panther Cast seniors. As you prepare to leave the SHS stage, thank you for sharing your performing arts gifts with us over the years. You've made every season special!

Support the Arts! We hope to see you in the audience for our upcoming shows in May!

-Shilind Wheaton, Theatrical Arts Director





May

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
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Calendar of Events

- 5/4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/4 Senior Honors Night
- 5/7 Senior meeting during ELO
- 5/7 Band Concert
- 5/12 Orchestra Concert
- 5/14 Senior breakfast/last day
- 5/14 New Dawn Concert
- 5/15 Commencement practice
- 5/17 Commencement
- 5/21 Last day of school
- 5/26-28 Senior Chromebook pick up
- 6/1-30 Summer School



2026 Prom Queen Jennifer Nguyen and Prom King Allen Johnson

2026 Prom Court pictured left to right:

Back row: Sawyer Harris, Joseph Johnson, Chase Freeman, Allen Johnson, Damon McDonald

Front row: Alina Arceo, Brylee Moss, Addelyn Brunsting, Jennifer Nguyen, Mia Dara





Counseling Corner

Senior Honors Night - will be held on Monday, May 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium. Students and parents will receive an invitation to attend based on the information they submitted on their scholarship worksheet they received in English class. We will serve light appetizers in the Commons starting at 6:00 p.m., followed by our program at 6:25 p.m. If a student is unable to attend, they may pick up their awards after May 4 in the Student Center.

Parents - the last day to make changes to your student's course selections for next year is May 21. Course requests for 2026-27 can be found in Skyward. Please talk with your student about their requested classes for future plans. You may contact your student's grade level counselor to make any needed changes.

Parents - please be sure to check your student's progress and grades in Skyward as we prepare for final semester grades. If you have concerns about a grade, please contact your student's teacher. You can find their contact information via the gradebook tab in Skyward by clicking on the teacher's name. If you are having trouble accessing Skyward, you may contact the Student Center at 785-309-3715 for assistance.

College & Career Signing Day - will be held on Friday, May 8. We invite all of our seniors to participate by wearing a shirt or uniform representing the path they will take following graduation. Feel free to stop by the Student Center and take your picture with the Senior Wall! We look forward to celebrating all of our seniors in the upcoming weeks!

Grade 8 Transition Visit Day - on Monday, May 18, all South Middle School eighth grade students will be visiting South High to experience what freshman year will look like while we still have students in the building. They will be given a tour and have a question-and-answer session with an SHS student panel.

Phone		785.309.3700
Principal		Dr. Ginger Jones
Assistant Principals		Krista DeVoe, Timothy Quinn
Athletic Director		Ryan Stuart
Secretary		Julie Work
Website		305southhigh.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.