



The Cub Reporter

*The Newsletter of Big Sandy Schools
August/September 2023*

The new school year is about to begin. Students in **grades 6-12** will attend school on **August 15th** for a full day. Buses will run on August 15th for secondary students. All students, **K-12**, will attend a full day **August 17th, 2023**.

REGULAR DAYS----- TUESDAY-FRIDAY

- **Building is open from 7:47 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.**
- **Classes begin at 7:57 A.M.**
- **Students dismissed at 4 P.M.**

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Grades 6-12
Full Day August 15th

Grades K-5
Full Day August 17th

Full Day
For All Students
August 17th

School will be held on seven Mondays this year:

- November 6th
- December 18th
- February 12th
- February 19th
- February 26th
- March 4th
- May 13th

*There will be **no school** on the following Fridays:*

- November 10th
- December 22nd
- February 16th
- February 23rd
- March 1st
- March 8th
- May 17th

Vacation for 2022:

Thanksgiving: Nov. 18th – Nov. 27th

Christmas: Dec. 22nd - Jan. 8th

Spring Break: March 23rd - April 1st

LUNCH

Colorado is working on a new School Lunch plan for this school year; right now, we do not have much information to give out, but will be communicating with everyone, hopefully, soon. We do know that we will need to fill out Free and Reduced Lunch Applications for at least one more year.

The policy and application for free and reduced lunch are included in this mailing.

SCHOOL CLOSURE AND EARLY DISMISSAL INFORMATION

Periodically weather and/or other factors necessitate the closing of school. If this is necessary, an announcement will be listed on www.Flashalert.net and then we will contact all local radio and television stations. We are also using

Shout Point to call everyone within the database in regard to school closure updates.

Big Sandy Schools have a late start schedule that can be used to start school at 10:00 A.M. instead of 7:57 A.M. The decision to close or delay school will generally be made before 6:00 A.M. each school day. We will try to avoid middle of the day dismissals, but on occasion we may have to dismiss early. **We ask that you please make sure you have updated your child's emergency contact and early dismissal information (phone numbers, email, address).** Mud days may vary depending upon the weather.

CUB REPORTER

The CUB REPORTER is our schools' monthly newsletter. We will now email the first copy to each school family during the summer. It can also be accessed on the school website or picked up in the office. During the school year, we will email the newsletter to you or give it to the youngest student in your home to take home. If by chance you do not receive a copy around the beginning of each month, please talk with your child, call, or come by the school for another copy.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Margaret (Maggie) Volosin, BSN, RN
mvolosin@bigsandy100j.org

General Health:

It is important to encourage good health and hygiene habits as children grow. Now, more than ever it is important to foster these habits: adequate and consistent sleep (8-9

hours/night), breakfast before school, minimal sweets and sodas, water bottle at school, grooming and hygiene, **frequent** hand washing, and proper attire for the weather. Watch for pest infestation at all times throughout the year; lice and bedbugs appear when you least expect it.

At the end of the school year I provided information to ensure we have all the needed paperwork and information to return to in-person learning. If you received a letter and health care plan for your child in May, those need to be completed by your child's medical provider and returned to the school at the start of the school year. If you have lost or misplaced those forms you may find all of the current medical forms needed on the Big Sandy website: www.bigsandy100j.com/school-nurse If your child requires accommodation for health-related interventions, such as medication administration or special procedure, please contact school administration or nurse to coordinate the needed services. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out via email at any time.

Illness Policy:

We will follow the most current CDPHE "How Sick is Too Sick" document, as our guidance to determine if a child should be in school. Please understand the evaluation of a sick child must consider which diseases are currently circulating among students, staff, and the community. Known exposure to cases or an outbreak of a contagious disease (including but not limited to those found in the document link below), even without a confirmed diagnosis, may necessitate more stringent return to school requirements.

There are four main reasons to keep children and adults at home:

1. The child or staff is at risk of infecting others with COVID-19 or another contagious illness, either

because of symptoms or recent close contact.

2. The child or staff member does not feel well enough to take part in usual activities. For example, a child is overly tired, fussy or will not stop crying.
3. A child needs more care than teachers and staff can give while still caring for the other children.
4. The child or staff member has symptoms or an illness is on this list, and staying home is required.

For the full guidance document go to:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RcdCmU4SYXwmVhJrA3Pyk0gP0MTDCIkF/view>

Medical Resources:

If you need assistance with a medical referral or access to health care for your child, please reach out. Vision coupons are available if you need assistance to obtain eye exams and/or corrective lenses for your child.

Medication administration:

Medication administration by school staff requires the following.

- Signed authorization from medical provider and parent/guardian **AND** medication provided in the original pharmacy labeled bottle.

***Over-the-counter medications must have intact labeling, be unopened, and the dosage on the bottle must match the dosage on the medical provider's signed authorization.*

- Students in grades 6-12 may carry a metered dose inhaler for self-treatment of respiratory symptoms or an epi-pen. **IF signed authorization from medical provider and parent/guardian AND properly labeled medication is provided to the school.**

****A parent/guardian needing to administer medication to his/her own child is asked to do so in the school office.**

Immunizations:

Required and recommended vaccines

• Colorado law requires students who attend a public, private, or parochial kindergarten - 12th grade school to be vaccinated against many of the diseases vaccines can prevent, unless an exemption is filed. For more information, visit

colorado.gov/cdphe/schoolrequiredvaccines

(or

cdphe.colorado.gov/schoolrequiredvaccines

).

Your student must be vaccinated against:

- o diphtheria, tetanus & pertussis (DTaP, DTP, Tdap)
- o polio (IPV)
- o measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- o hepatitis B (HepB)
- o varicella (chickenpox)

• Colorado follows recommendations set by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Students entering kindergarten must receive their final doses of DTaP, IPV, MMR and varicella. Students entering 6th grade must receive one dose of Tdap vaccine, even if they are under 11 years of age. You can view recommended vaccine schedules for children 0-6 years of age at cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/downloads/parent-ver-sch-0-6yrs.pdf and preteens/teens 7 - 18 years of age at

cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/teen/parent-version-schedule-7-18yrs.pdf.

• Vaccines are recommended for hepatitis A, influenza, meningococcal disease and human papillomavirus, but are not required.

Exclusion from school:

- Your student may be excluded from school if your school does not have an up-to-date vaccine record, exemption, or in-process plan for your student on file.
- If someone gets sick with a vaccine-preventable disease or there is an

outbreak at your student's school and your student has not received the vaccine for that disease, they may be excluded from school activities. That could mean lost learning time for them and lost work and wages for you. For example, if your student has not received a measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, they may be excluded from school for 21 days after someone gets sick with measles.

(<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/school-resources>)

For the full 2023-2024 parent letter from CDPHE go to:

■ [2023-24_ParentLetter_School K-12th...](#)

Immunization Exemption Process:

From 2023-2024 CDPHE parent letter:

- If your student cannot get vaccines because of medical reasons, you must submit a *Certificate of Medical Exemption* to your school, signed by a health care provider licensed to give vaccines. You only need to submit this certificate once, unless your student's information or school changes. You can get the form at <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions>
- If you choose not to have your student vaccinated according to the current recommended schedule because of personal belief or religious reasons, you must submit a *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* to your school.

Nonmedical exemptions must be submitted annually at every new school year (July 1 through June 30th of the following year). There are two ways to file a nonmedical exemption.

- File the *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* WITH a signature from an immunizing provider, OR
- File the *Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption* received upon the completion of our online education module.

Downloadable certificates and our online education module are available at cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions.

PARKING

Parking is provided in the lots east of the school. When dropping off or picking up children, please use the "roundabout-drop and go" area in the main entrance, in front of the elementary wing or in front of the gymnasium. Never leave a running car unattended. Cars can be parked only in designated parking areas. **The area immediately to the southeast of the building is designated for bus loading and unloading.** Please observe this no parking restriction for the safety of our students. The overflow parking area may be used on occasion when we host big events.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00 P.M. All board meetings are open to the public.

Superintendent/Board Notes

Steve Wilson

Welcome Back to Big Sandy Schools!

We are looking forward to the start of a great school year!

I hope everyone has had a refreshing summer and are ready to start a very profitable school year.

We would like to welcome new staff members that come to us highly

recommended. We welcome Kim Poston who will be teaching K-12 Music. We welcome Katie Sedlak who will be teaching Yearbook/Journalism. We welcome back Mike Hoops who will be our new Transportation Director and will be teaching Auto Mechanics. My number one goal continues to be to keep and hire quality people; we have a great returning staff and the above mentioned individuals are going to be quality people for our children.

We have had a good summer working on projects and doing maintenance on the buildings. We are working on some stucco, HVAC, concrete, and electric buses/infrastructure.

Thank you to Lane Hamacher, Chris Hamacher, Oscar Tatman, Rod Webb and Mike Hoops for the work they have done throughout the summer (along with many others)!

Thank you to each school board member for their service to our community and school. Our school board members are Chad Maranville, President; Greg Mitchell, Vice-President; Nancy Sotomayor, Secretary/Treasurer; Tika Ethridge, Director; and Scott Lutz, Director. In November, we will be having school board elections in which we will have three positions to be determined.

The CUB REPORTER is our school's monthly newsletter. We will mail a copy to each family at the beginning of the school year. During the school year, we will give this newsletter to the students to take home or send it to you via email. If you do not receive a copy around the

beginning of each month, please talk to your child, call to set up delivery through email, or come by the school for a copy.

Every student will be receiving a Student Handbook. Please review the information and policies printed within it.

We annually apply to the State to continue to have a 4-day school week. Part of this application is the statement that we encourage students and staff to schedule doctor and dentist appointments on Mondays so that when we are in session we have great attendance to benefit student learning. Please make it a point to try and schedule appointments and errands on the days that we do not have school...thank you!

Please fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch forms in order to qualify for free lunches. Hopefully, it is a win/win as students qualify for free lunches and also the school gets approximately \$1000 additional revenue from the state for each student that qualifies. **Please fill out these forms.** The state is also working on their new Colorado Lunch Program, but in the meantime, please fill out the lunch forms...thank you!

As we look forward to the beginning of the 2023/2024 school year, we can take this opportunity to set high goals for a prosperous and successful student learning experience.

To all of the new families within our community and to all of the returning families here, welcome to a great 2023/2024 school year at Big Sandy Schools! Our biggest goal is to maximize student learning. With great

families, good attendance and a great staff, we can achieve this goal together!

Finally, thank you for your support. The support you provide your children to value education is the most important factor in their success. Without all of you, we would not be successful. Thank you to those who attend the many activities of the school; for families that attend a lot of athletic events, the school sells Family Passes which may be a very good investment. Your support is appreciated by our students. Most importantly, help me thank our students because we have some of the brightest and most respectful students around.

Let's make 2023/2024 our best year yet!

Welcome Back to Big Sandy Schools!



JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH PRINCIPAL AND COUNSELOR NOTES

The 2023-2024 school year is almost here! It is our hope that you have had a wonderful summer and that you are ready for school to begin. We are looking forward to another awesome school year and we are excited about the school staff that will be working with our students.

We will be welcoming some new teachers to the Big Sandy Secondary Staff this year. Mrs. Kim Poston will be joining the secondary staff teaching junior high and high school choir and band. Mrs. Katie Sedlak will join the

secondary staff teaching high school journalism and 6th grade technology. We are very excited for these new teachers joining the secondary team at Big Sandy!

Parents and students, please pay close attention to the following information:

ALL STUDENTS MEET IN MR. TUCKER'S COMPUTER LAB AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

Monday, August 7th

Seniors	8:00 a.m.
Juniors	9:00 a.m.
Sophomores	10:00 a.m.
Freshman	11:00 a.m.
8th Grade	1 p.m.
7th Grade	2 p.m.
6th Grade	3 p.m.

We will be having a brief back-to-school orientation, selecting lockers, and making schedule changes as needed. Schedules can be accessed **now** through Infinite Campus - either through your student or parent accounts.

****Fall athletes** - if you are not able to attend at the above times due to practice, you may come in with the next available group time following your practice.

Tuesday, August 8th

New J.H. and H.S. students - 8am - noon. Let the new families in our community know! New H.S. students - please bring a transcript if possible.

All others unable to attend earlier - set up an appointment with Mr. Thieman between 1 - 4 p.m on August 8th. Call

719-541-2291. Your attendance at pre-registration confirms that you are planning to attend when school resumes and that your schedule is ready to go. Please make it a priority to be present Monday or Tuesday at the above times!

Industrial Arts has an additional fee. This information will be included in the course syllabi at the beginning of the year.

*We will be asking students, teachers, and parents to work together with an emphasis on our math, reading, and writing curriculum at home and at school. We encourage parents to ask questions pertaining to homework and expectations. If questions or concerns arise, **parents are encouraged to contact the teacher.** Teacher contact information will be available on each course syllabus.*

Junior/Senior high students (grades 6-12) will have their **first full day of school on Tuesday, August 15th.** The following is the schedule for the day:

7:57 – 8:40	Opening assembly
8:43 – 9:34	1. Period
9:37 – 10:28	2. Period
10:31 – 11:22	3. Period
11:22 - 11:52	JH Lunch
11:25 - 12:16	4. Period HS
11:55 -12:46	4. Period JH
12:16 - 12:46	HS Lunch
12:49 - 1:40	5. Period
1:43 - 2:34	6. Period
2:37 - 3:06	Class mtgs.
3:09 – 4:00	7. Period

We plan to be passing out planners again to students and staff. These attractive, calendar books also include our school's important handbook pages.

Students will receive these books on their first day of school. We will be requiring students to take the handbook home and for parents to review it with their child.

- *In order to have a consistent start to our school year, in regard to dress code, please review the dress code section of the day timer and help us enforce it each day by purchasing clothes this year that comply with the school dress code.*
- *One of our district goals calls for a 95% attendance rate. With that being said--please keep your child home if they are running a fever, or are potentially showing any other signs of sickness or COVID. We will have systems in place this year for absences and getting caught up on work. Please monitor your child each day for sickness.*

Sports--If your child is planning on playing any sport this year they will need to have a sports physical and athletic packet turned in before they can practice. The athletic packets are available in the office. Monday, August 7th will start high school football and volleyball practices. If you would like more information on participating in a sport at Simla please call the main office, 719-541-2291 or email Athletic Director, Sammi Swennes at swennes@bigsandy100j.org. Junior high sports practice will start officially when school starts on August 15.

Senior Parent Orientation - Parents of seniors are asked to attend an orientation on **Wednesday, August**

30th at 7:00 p.m. in Mr. Tucker's lab. Mr. Thieman will go over the details of the Senior Seminar class and will also answer questions pertaining to college preparation and the Senior Year. Parents who have experienced the senior year and college preparation are asked to share their advice as well.

Concurrent enrollment/extended study courses are offered for 11th and 12th grade students earning both high school and college credits. If you do not pass the course with at least a college D or if you drop the course after the drop date, then you will owe the school the cost of the class paid on your behalf. Your high school grade is increased by 10 % points (1 letter grade) at the end of the term so if you earn a B for the college grade then your high school transcript grade will be an A. We offer English Composition taught in-person by Mrs. Montague through CU-Denver, Miss Colopy will be offering two college level English elective classes through CU-Denver and a variety of Morgan Community College and Adams State University courses taught online. See Mr. Thieman for more details.

Online Courses are available for 11th and 12th grade students. **The up-front cost is \$200 which is due by September 1st.** If the student passes the course, the tuition will be reimbursed at the end of the semester. Online courses are not for everyone! You must be self-motivated and able to work independently. We will be using Colorado DLS as our online provider. You may look at fall course options at: www.coloradodls.org.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! We are excited to welcome you back to continue the **tradition of excellence** Big Sandy Schools has experienced in the years past. We are looking forward to getting to know each of you and helping you in any way possible. Our theme this year is **'Make it Count'**. We want our Simla Cubs to work hard everyday and make each day count to reach their goals! Feel free to call the school, if you need further information, at 719-541-2291.

Mrs. Swennes

sswennes@bigsandy100j.org

Mr. Thieman

cthieman@bigsandy100j.org



TUCKER TIDBITS FROM THE ELEMENTARY
KATHY TUCKER-ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Make it Count!!! That is our theme for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. In every way possible, we are going to "Make it Count" this year! I am excited to welcome all Bear Cubs back to another great year at Big Sandy Elementary! As always, Big Sandy Elementary strives to provide a quality education for all students while enabling them to achieve success by reaching beyond any limitations or obstacles. We are going to "Make it Count!"

It is a pleasure to welcome back our veteran staff along with a new face in our music department, Mrs. Kim Poston.

We are excited to work alongside Mrs. Poston as she joins our dynamic team! Being known for setting high expectations, Big Sandy Elem. School will continue our tradition in an effort to challenge and teach students to work hard in an effort to succeed. This will require an incredible work ethic, motivation, and perseverance on the part of each student, parent, and teacher. Teachers will work diligently to equip students with the tools needed for a lifetime of learning. In an effort to do this, extra work or homework, which may include reading daily, research projects, and/or activities, may be assigned. Students must practice skills to become proficient. Please partner with us and encourage your child to read on a daily basis, complete all homework/projects on time, study, master math facts, attend school regularly, and become better!

Important Information Concerning the Elementary... School

Hours/Transportation-Students, Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade, need to arrive at 7:47 a.m. and be in the classroom prepared to learn when the bell rings. Students are released at 4:00 p.m. Bike riders need to park their bikes upon arrival in the morning. **If you are picking your child up at the school, please use the pickup/drop-off lane located in front of the school or the elementary wing. Please do not leave a running car unattended to walk your child into the school.**

If you ride a bus, please be on time, listen to the driver, and follow all the rules. If you have any questions about

transportation, contact Mike Hoops at 719-541-2025. If a student cannot control him/herself on the bus, then he/she could lose bus riding privileges for the year. Then it will be the parent's responsibility to get their child to school.

Visitors-All visitors please report to the front office. Be prepared to present identification, such as your driver's license, to be checked by our Raptor system. If you would like to visit your child's classroom, please contact your child's teacher.

Student Handbooks-Each child will receive a Cub handbook which contains many of our school's rules and policies. **Parents and/or guardians, please review and use as a resource throughout the school year.**

All of the following information is also stated in the Cub handbook:

Communication-It is essential to maintain strong communication between the home and school. In an effort to keep parents informed, teachers will communicate through the Cub book (sent home daily), emails, notes, and/or phone calls. Parents of third through fifth graders can sign up for grade updates through Infinite Campus. In addition, a Cub Reporter will be sent home monthly to all students and families via email or hard copy. The Big Sandy School website, also offers pertinent information concerning the entire district along with staff member's contact information. In the event of an emergency, a Shout Point will be sent out to all students' parents and/or families. **Please ensure that your contact information is**

always up to date so you will receive these important messages.

Student Testing-All parents and guardians will receive a letter concerning back to school student testing along with important dates for the 2023-2024 school year. During testing, parents and/or guardians will need to fill out a number of forms, update contact information, and sign up to help with parties during the year. This would be a good time for parents to share any pertinent information, regarding their child, with their child's teacher and to learn about the teacher's expectations for the new school year.

New Student Testing- All new students to the district will be tested to determine learning ability and placement. This process will be explained when registration takes place in the front office. Your student's teacher will be notified and will call or email you to set up an appointment for your child to be tested. Additionally, if our testing indicates that a student is behind, then it may be recommended that he/she be placed in a previous grade. We want to make sure your child has the best placement to experience success in our school. The cut-off date for Big Sandy School District is August 1st. All students must be the appropriate age by this date to enroll in their desired grade. Furthermore, please make us aware of any concerns or special needs regarding your child.

Preschool-If you have a 3 or 4 year old and would like him/her to attend preschool, please contact Mrs. Toscano at 719-541-2291 for information.

Preschool meets 3 days a week, Tuesday through Thursday, with the morning session being from 8:00 a.m.-11:20 a.m., and the afternoon session from 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. PreK students will also attend on Friday. **There is no charge for this service; however, parents are responsible for transportation.** We have room for 16 students in the morning (the younger class), and 16 students in the afternoon (prekindergarten). Slots are filled on a first come, first serve basis. If slots are filled, a waiting list will be developed. Great attendance is encouraged, and if we have a student with poor attendance, then we will offer that slot to another student on the waiting list.

Attendance-Great attendance provides many educational learning opportunities and ensures success. Please make sure your child is in school unless he/she is ill. If this occurs, please call the school before 9:00 a.m. to let us know your child is going to be absent. Periodically, letters will be sent home to communicate accumulating student absences to parents.

Concerning absences, students have one day for each day absent to make up his or her work. In order to help students make up work in a timely fashion, teachers will have them work during recess or specials, such as P.E., to get caught up and to ensure that missed concepts are taught.

If a student develops a pattern and misses an excessive number of days (see attendance policy), then a meeting may be held with the parents, principal, and teacher to develop a plan which

could include retention, tutoring sessions, and/or Monday school to make up work. If attendance does not improve after the plan is in place, then Social Services will be contacted and/or the parents will be required to appear before the School Board. Furthermore, if a student has a number of tardies, then missed time will be made up at recess, tutoring, or after school. Great attendance is a habit that all students need to develop in order to become successful, productive members of society.

Consequently, if your child is sick, please keep him or her at home. If a child is running a fever in the morning or the night before, they should not be sent to school.

Specials-Elementary students will attend physical education, music, art, technology, and library classes each week. Fourth and fifth grade students will have technology incorporated into their class time. In P.E., students will need to bring an extra pair of shoes to keep at school that will not scuff the floors. **Specials' classes are considered a privilege for students. If misbehavior is a problem, then a student can lose the privilege of attending.**

Recess-There are 3 recesses each day for K-3 students while 4th/5th graders will have 2 daily recesses. The majority of the time, it will be outside, so students need to dress for the weather. Please send your child to school with appropriate attire to keep warm. It would be a good idea for students to have a cap and gloves to keep in their

backpack or locker. In order to ensure safety, it is imperative that students follow the rules and listen to the staff on duty. If a student chooses otherwise, consequences will be required. Attending recess is a privilege.

Snacks-Snacks are allowed during all recesses. Students are encouraged to bring their own healthy snacks.

Lost and Found-A lost and found can is located in the elementary hallway. If your child is missing something, this will be the best place to look. In order to avoid misplaced items, please label everything that your child brings to school including coats, hats, shoes, etc.

Toys-Toys are not allowed at school to be played with at recess or at any other time. The only exception to this rule is if the teacher has approved it for show and tell or some other classroom activity. If toys are brought to school, they will be taken, and parents will need to come pick them up.

Cell Phones-If your child has a cell phone, please make sure your child's teacher is aware. Cell phones and/or electronic messaging devices are not allowed in the classrooms. Students can keep them in their lockers or in a designated area in the classroom, and they are not to be used while at school. If a cell phone is a disruption, then it will be taken away for the day and sent home. The second time will result in the phone not being allowed at school. Please note that the school is not responsible for lost or damaged electronic devices, and class time will

not be spent looking for lost cell phones.

Dress Code-Please make sure your child dresses appropriately, following the dress code. If you have a question about clothing, then I would recommend your child not wear it to school. Guidelines to follow are included in the Cub handbook.

Discipline-Big Sandy School provides a safe, nurturing environment with high behavioral expectations. Disrespect will not be tolerated, and consequences will be administered. If a child cannot behave, then a plan will be developed to improve behavior. One child will not be allowed to disrupt the educational process for the rest of a class. Loss of recess time, extra cleaning duties, writing sentences or completing a "Think sheet"/letter, and time out of the regular classroom with Mrs. Tucker are some of the methods used for consequences. The majority of discipline issues are handled in the classroom with little disruption. Each classroom teacher has a discipline model, and students are fully aware of what is expected. If both parents and the school have high behavioral and academic expectations, then there will be few discipline problems.

District Accountability Meeting- The purpose of this committee is as follows: to monitor academic progress, attendance, and graduation rate, to participate in the accreditation process as needed, to serve as the Vocational Advisory, Title I, Preschool, Performance Evaluation, Drug Advisory, Safety, Nutritional/Wellness, and

Facilities Committees, to review the Safe Schools Plan, and to provide information to the community and receive feedback in an effort to make our school better. The first meeting of the 2023-2024 school year will be in September in the library. If you have a student attending Big Sandy Schools and would like to contribute on the District Accountability Committee, please contact the front office or Mrs. Tucker.

Activity Months-Please have your child turn in their summer activity calendar or note as soon as he or she returns in August. Reading Month will be in October, Math Month in November, and Writing Month in January. Calendars with directions will be sent home before each month. I encourage all parents and students to participate.

Health/Medication Reminder-In order to administer medication, the school must have written authorization from the doctor. The medicine must be in a pharmacy bottle labeled with the student's name and medication instructions. The school cannot give aspirin or Tylenol to a student even with permission from a parent unless the parent provides the school with the medicine and fills out the correct form. This form is available in the office.

PARENTS-You must come to the office to administer medication, even aspirin, to your child. If your child contracts head lice or any other contagious situation, do not hesitate to contact the school. We need to notify other parents of a situation that

threatens their child. Names are not used, and no one is at fault. However, we need to correct the situation as soon as possible and proceed with the education of all the children. Do not hesitate to contact myself or the nurse if a health concern arises.

Special Education-If you have questions concerning Special Education, feel free to contact Mrs. Lally. Services are designed to help students learn if they are having trouble in the regular classroom. If a child is struggling, we will contact the parent and ask for permission to test his/her child. A child study will also be completed, and a meeting will be set up with the parents to review data and determine what is best for the child. Parents are a major part of these programs and will receive timely updates about student progress.

Homecoming is September 8-9, 2023. Please remember that elementary parents build the class float collaboratively, and each grade level will create one. The head room parent will be contacting the rest of the parents as soon as possible. Teachers are not required to participate in float building or to ride on a float.

And so another year begins... I look forward to a memorable year and am excited about the new opportunities for learning and achieving great things. Time on task, responsibility, intrinsic motivation, and academic learning are priorities and expectations for all students. On behalf of the Big Sandy Elementary staff, I want to again welcome you and thank you for being a

part of such a great school community. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to nurture and educate your child!

"High achievement always takes place in the framework of high expectation."
Charles Ketterin

TRANSPORTATION

MIKE HOOPS

Your students' pickup and drop-off times may change from what they have been in the past. We may be changing our bus routes from what they have been. The approximate times may not be finalized until the week that school starts, but your bus driver will be contacting you before school starts to let you know those times.

It is always best if you call the bus driver the night before, and let them know your student is not riding, but if that is not possible, please call the transportation director at 719-541-2025. Thank you.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

ALISA EASLER

I am excited to begin a new year with your children at Big Sandy School! If your child is going to be late or absent, **please call the school by 9:00 A.M.** If this is not possible, please send a note when the child returns. Also, if you would like to request homework for your child **please notify me before 9:00 A.M.** If you need a message delivered to your student please try to do it before 2:30pm. Please try to make after school arrangements before your child comes to school in the morning.

If your child needs to take any medication during school hours, you will

need to pick up a new authorization form, have your doctor fill out his portion; you fill out your portion and return the form to the school. This is required before any medication can be distributed.

If you have any changes in your address, phone number and/or emergency contact information etc., please email me at aeasler@bigsandy100j.org. If you have any questions please call Mrs. Easler at 719-541-2291.

Last, please be sure to check out our website www.bigsandy100j.com for up to date calendars and other school information.

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR YOU CAN VIEW THE SCHOOL CALENDAR, LUNCH MENU AND OTHER SCHOOL RELATED TOPICS AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.bigsandy100j.com

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Big Sandy School District 100J is an equal opportunity educational institution and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origins, sex, sexual orientation, religion, ancestry, creed, age, need for special education services or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Section 504 and ADA may be referred to Steve Wilson, Superintendent, 18091 CR 125, Simla, CO 80835, (719) 541-2292 or to the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Region VIII, Federal Office Building, 1244 North Speer Blvd., Suite 310, Denver, Colorado 80204, (303) 844-2291.

Big Sandy Job Opportunities

Big Sandy School in Simla has the following openings: Substitute Cook; Substitute Teachers; Substitute Bus Drivers and Activity Trips Drivers. (Some routes operate a small vehicle and do not require a CDL); Please email Danni Hankins at dhankins@bigsandy100j.org, or call 719-541-2292 for more information. Positions are open until filled.

Principles

Check all that
apply. Read
How to Apply
for Free and
Reduced-
Price School
Meals for
more
information.

STEP 2 If any household members (including you) currently receive assistance from any of the following programs: SNAP, TANF or FDBPR, list the case number below.

[illegible]

TANF Case Number

STEP 3 Report income for ALL household members (skip this step if you provided a case number in STEP 2)

A. Student Income

Please include the **TOTAL** income, if any, received by all students listed above.

B. All Other Household Members (including yourself)

In the spaces below list all other household members not listed in Step 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each household member listed, if they do receive income, report **TOTAL GROSS INCOME (BEFORE TAXES AND OTHER DEDUCTIONS)** for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying that there is no income to report.

How Often?

Names of All OTHER Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work				Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony				Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income						
	Weekly	Bt-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Annually	Weekly	Bt-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Annually	Weekly	Bt-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Annually
	\$					\$					\$				
	\$					\$					\$				
	\$					\$					\$				
	\$					\$					\$				

Total Household Members
(Students' and Adults from Steps 1 and 3)

Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) or mark "no SSN" of adult signing this form only if Step 3B has been completed.

☐ Check box if no SSN

STEP 4 Contact information and address signature. Add Street and contact information to: Big Sandy, PO Box 68, Simla, CO 80835

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose med. benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Mailing Address or PO Box		Apt. # or Lot #	City	State	Zip Code	Email Address
				CO		

STEP 5 Release of Information

The information provided on this application will be used in conjunction with state educational programs and may be shared with Medicaid or State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) offices. Please check the box to opt out:

To save you time and effort, the information you gave on this form may be shared with other programs for which your children may qualify. For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information.

Completing this section of the form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals. **Your information WILL NOT be shared unless you check one of the boxes below:**

Please share my information with the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Accelerate College Opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> List Specific Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Placement (AP)	<input type="checkbox"/> List Specific Program

See back of application

OPTIONAL: Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity (check one): ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

You may also qualify for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program! See more information below.

NEED HELP BUYING GROCERIES?

- Receive one-on-one assistance with applying for food stamps
- Referrals to food pantries and free meals
- Get information on child and senior nutrition programs

Food Resource Hotline

CALL US TODAY!

STATEWIDE TOLL-FREE **855-855-4626**

ASISTO GRATUITO **720-382-2920**

¿NO LE ALCANZA EL DINERO PARA COMPRAR COMIDA?

- Reciba ayuda personalizada para solicitar las estampillas de comida
- Derivaciones a bancos de comida y comidas gratis
- Obtenga información sobre programas de nutrición para niños y ancianos

Línea Directa de Recursos de Comidas

LLAMAMENOS HOY!

LÍNEA ESTATAL **855-855-4626**

ASISTO GRATUITO **720-382-2920**

HUNGER FREE COLORADO

HungerFreeColorado.org

COLORADO PEAK is an online service for Coloradans to screen and apply for medical, food and cash assistance programs. Visit coloradopeak.force.com to learn more.

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not submit all needed information, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. The social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DISTRICT USE ONLY. DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52; Bi-Weekly x 26; 2 Times per Month x 24; Monthly x 12

Application Type:

☐ Total Household Income: \$ _____ Household Size: _____
Household Income Frequency - ☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ 2x/Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually

Application Status:

Approved - ☐ Free ☐ Reduced

Denied - ☐ Over Income Guidelines ☐ Incomplete/Missing: _____

☐ Categorical Eligibility - ☐ SNAP ☐ FDPIR ☐ TANF ☐ Foster ☐ Homeless/Migrant/Runaway/Head Start

Notes: _____

Determining Official Signature: _____

Approval/Denial Date: _____

Notification Sent: _____

Big Sandy School Supply Lists

2023-2024

Names: "First and Last", should be on all items brought to school, including hats, jackets, gloves, boots, backpacks, and supplies (label with name please).

Kindergarten: Ms. Holly Koehn & Ms. Zimmerman

3 Pack of 12 Count Crayola Crayons
6 Elmer's Glue Sticks
1 Pack of 12 Pencils
2 Pink Erasers
1 Pack of Crayola Colored Pencils
2 Folders-Plastic
1 Supply Box
1 Bottle of Elmer's Glue
3 Boxes of Kleenex
Backpack

1 Container of Disinfectant Wipes
P.E. Shoes (VELCRO only)
Snack-Monthly charge of \$5/month or \$45/year
Water Bottle
Headphones (No Earbuds)
Only send your child in tie shoes IF they can tie their own shoes please.

First Grade: Mrs. Maranda Jones & Mrs. Baker

1 Supply Box
2 Dozen #2 Pencils (sharpened)
1 Pack of Colored Pencils
1 24-Pack of Crayons
1 Pack of Washable Markers
1 Pack of Dry Erase Markers
1 Pair Scissors
2 Large Erasers
1 Bottle of Elmer's Glue
6 Glue Sticks
4 Plastic Pocket Folders (red, yellow, green & blue)

2 Packages of Notebook Paper
1 Pair of Headphones (for plugging into the computer & ipads) – we use them daily.
1 Backpack/Book Bag
1 Watercolor Paint Set
1 3-Ring Binder
1 Box of Tissue
P.E. Shoes
Only send tie shoes IF they can tie their own shoes please.

Second Grade Mrs. Carissa Cox & Mrs. Keri Smith

(No Trapper keepers or 3-ring binders please)

4 PLASTIC folders with pockets and brads (red, yellow, green and blue)
3 Metal spiral notebooks-wide ruled, 100-120 pgs.
2 Large erasers
2 Dozen #2 pencils (sharpened)
1 Pair scissors (Fiskars work well)
2 Glue sticks
1 Box 16/ 24 count crayons or washable markers
1 Pack highlighters (yellow, green, pink and blue)
Colored Pencils – 12 count
Water Bottle

1 Pair headphones (for plugging into the computer & ipads) – we use them daily.
Supply box (not bigger than 9" x 6" x 3")
1 Book bag or backpack to carry books and papers home
2 Boxes Kleenex
P.E. shoes (names on them please)
**Only send tie shoes IF they can tie their own shoes please. **

Third Grade: Mrs. Tracy Thieman

(No Trapper keepers /3-ring binders please)

2 Folders (1 Red, 1 Any Color)
1 Large box of tissue
2 Dozen #2 wooden pencils
6 Glue sticks
2 Highlighters

4 Pack of dry erase markers
2" Binder
1 Pack of Dividers
2 Composition notebooks (wide ruled)
Colored pencils

Big Sandy School Supply Lists 2023-2024

1 Pair of earbuds or earphones (No Wireless)
Supply box
PE shoes
Backpack

Scissors
1 Binder (1/2 inch) (no Trapper Keepers)
Water Bottle

Third Grade: Mrs. Cera Creel

1 Pair of Headphones (over the ear)
1 Supply Box
1 Water Bottle to be left at school
2 Packs Loose-leaf paper*
3 Composition Notebooks
2 Boxes of Kleenex*
4 Dry Erase Markers*
2 24 Packs of Pencils*

1 Box of Pencil Top Erasers*
1 10 Pack of Markers*
1 24 Pack of Colored Pencils
1 2 Pack of Highlighters*
5 Pocket Folders
1 4 Pack of Red Pens
1 ½ Inch Binder

*Indicates items that will be shared with the class

Fourth Grade-Mrs. Ashmore & Mrs. Townley

1 Folder w/Pockets (any color or design)
4 Plastic Folders w/pockets (red, yellow, blue & green)
4 College Ruled Spiral Notebooks
1 Box Colored Pencils
2 Dozen #2 Wooden Pencils
12 Glue Sticks
1 Pack of Highlighters (green, yellow, pink & blue)
1 Big Eraser
1 Pair of Scissors

1 Pencil Box
4 Dry Erase Markers
1 Pair of Headphones
1 1" Binder
2 Composition Books
PE Shoes
Backpack
Water Bottle
1 Box Kleenex

Fifth Grade-Mrs. Stanko

1-Folder with Pockets (any design or color)
4 Plastic Folders with Pockets (red, yellow, blue and green)
4 College Ruled Spiral Notebooks
1 Box of Colored Pencils
12 Glue Sticks
1 Dozen #2 Wooden Pencils
2 Boxes of Kleenex
2 Composition Notebooks

Pack of Highlighters (green, yellow, pink, blue)
1 Big Eraser
1 Pair of Scissors
1 Pencil Box
4 Dry Erase Markers
1 Pair of Headphones
Water Bottle
PE Shoes
Backpack

Most supplies will be kept by the teachers and used as needed throughout the year. Please do not send special pencils, pens or markers that cannot be shared. Folders, supply bags and notebooks will be kept by each individual student. No Trapper Keepers please!

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD'S
TENNIS SHOES ARE NON –
MARKING/SCUFFING P.E. SHOES**

***Please keep in mind that students will
run out of supplies during the year and
will need to replenish them.***

JH/HS Supply List 2023-2024

6th grade

1-1/2" Binder
1 Plastic Pocket Folders
2 College Ruled Spiral Notebooks
1 Pencil Bag
Pencils
2 Pink Erasers
Black Pens
Red Pens
4 Rolls of Scotch Tape
Scissors
1 Pack Colored Pencils
Liquid Whiteout
4 Highlighters (each a different color)
8 Dry Erase Markers
1 Pack of 3x5 Notecards
1 Set of Multiplication Flash Cards
1 Set of Division Flash Cards
Ear buds/headphones
PE/Gym Non-Marking Shoes
**1 Ream of College Ruled Loose Leaf
**2 Boxes of Tissues

Note: **Items will be share with the class. All other supplies that your student brings are for their own personal use and will not be shared with the class.

JH English & Writing (7th & 8th grade)

1 Composition notebook (college ruled)
2 Folders
1 Bottle of Glue
1 Pair of Scissors
1-12 Pack of Colored Pencils
1 Pack of College Ruled Paper
3-Ring Binder (1 1/2-2 inch-for English CLASS ONLY)
1 Pack of Mini Sticky Notes (for this class only)

7th & 8th Social Studies

Pens/Pencils/Erasers
Colored Pencils
1-Subject College Ruled Spiral-
Notebook (70 Pages) (For this class only!)
1 Folder (For this class only)
2 Highlighters

1 Glue Stick
Earbuds/Headphones

JH Science (7th & 8th grade)

3 ring binder (1 1/2 to 2 inch specifically for THIS class)
5 Divider tabs (notes, homework, handouts, labs, tests & quizzes) for THIS class
College ruled loose-leaf notebook paper (several packs)
Pens/Pencils/Erasers/Scissors
Scientific calculator (optional)
Note cards (optional)
2 Highlighters
1 Pack Different Colored Pens
1 Pack Colored Pencils

JH Art Supplies

1 – Small container supply box (will hold pencils, erasers, scissors, etc.)
1 Sketch Book

Math (7th & 8th pre-algebra, algebra)

3-ring binder (That can be shared with Science)
5 divider/folder tabs for binder
College ruled loose-leaf notebook paper
Pencils
Spiral notebook – 5 subject (optional for notes)
Scientific Calculator (TI30 or larger)
1 Package of different colored pens
Graph Paper
Pencils
Red Pens

Each student needs a set of headphones or ear buds.

*****Please note-you do not have to buy multiple items for each class (example colored pens) unless it is specified for that class only.***

JH/HS Supply List 2023-2024

HS Science

3 ring binder (1 ½ to 2 inch specifically for THIS class)
5 Divider tabs (notes, homework, handouts, labs, tests & quizzes) for THIS class
College ruled loose-leaf notebook paper (several packs)
Pens/Pencils/Erasers/Scissors
Scientific calculator (optional)
Note cards (optional)
2 Highlighters
1 Pack Different Colored Pens
1 Pack Colored Pencils

HS Algebra II

3 Ring Binder or 5 Subject Notebook
College-ruled Loose Leaf Paper
Pencils
Colored Pencils
Scientific Calculator TI30 or Larger
Graph Paper
Book Cover or Paper Bag