



# CUB REPORTER

Student  
Spotlight

Charley Maranville

03

Homecoming

12

Yearbook  
Ordering

18

October  
Lunch

20



▲  
making a tackle in the  
homecoming football game

## SPORTS

Results and Highlights  
from Our School Teams

Volleyball:  
vs DCA-**W** (3-0)  
vs Soroco-**W** (3-0)  
vs Hoehne-**W** (3-0)  
vs CSS-**W** (3-0)

Football:  
vs McClave- **W** (55-14)  
vs SCHS-**W** (41-6)  
vs Sanford-**W** (53-0)  
vs Fowler-**W** (47-0)  
vs Hoehne **W** (53-6)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**1 October**

HS Matchwits  
@ Hanover  
5:30-8:30 pm

**13 October**

End of First  
Quarter

**23 October**

Elementary  
Parent/Teacher  
Conferences

3:00-8:00 pm

**25 October**

Picture Retakes

**31 October**

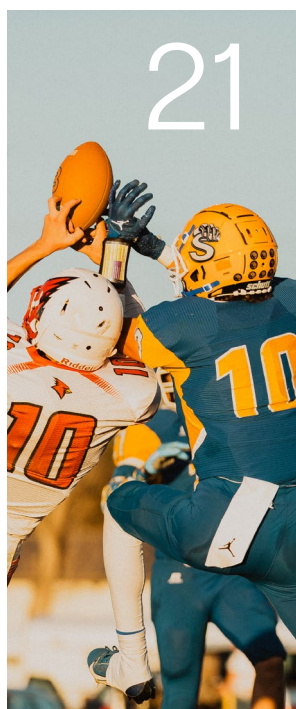
Elementary  
Halloween  
Parties

2:45-4:00 pm



▲  
Kylie Maranville & Katie  
Goetschell getting the block  
against Calhan





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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOURNALISM STAFF

### CHARLEY MARANVILLE

This is Charleys first year in journalism. She doesn't have a lot of experience with cameras, but she knows the basics. Charley is really interested in taking pictures for sports and homecoming.

Her favorite types of pictures are candid. Charley is really interested in the graphic design part of journalism and she he has loved picking out the colors and fonts for the yearbook, and can't wait to start designing pages. Charley loves to write instagram captions and is ready to start writing captions for the yearbook.

Charley is excited for this opportunity and is ready to learn more about photography!





Congratulations Simla Elementary for receiving the highest overall rating of “Accredited with Distinction” on the state’s District Performance Frameworks.

Our school scored 72.7% on Academic Achievement and 76.4% on Academic Growth which placed us on the highest plan of “Performance”.

Your hard work paid off! WE are proud of you, students and teachers!

## REMINDER

If you have not done so yet, parents please fill out the free and reduced form for this school year. Even though all students are currently getting lunch at no charge, this form helps the District with the overall student funding.

# TUCKER TIDBITS FOR ELEMENTARY



KATHY TUCKER ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



**Introducing our 2023-2024 STUCO Leaders and members:**  
**STUCO Leaders are:** Jaxon Hodgson, Zaylaa Vance, Breckyn Amendt, and Westley Hintz  
**STUCO leader alternates:** Gabriella Dai and Lyla Richie

October in the elementary means...the National Anthem at the Rockies game, Fire Prevention, Halloween parties, Trunk or Treat, STEAM family night, Book Fair, Parent/Teacher conferences, Reading month, cooler recesses, beautiful fall colors, and much laughter and learning.

The first few weeks of school have been great! Students and teachers are “back in the groove” being challenged and learning new things.

Our enrollment has remained steady, and all elementary teachers have returned for another exciting year!

Thank you, parents, for giving us the opportunity to teach your child. We value each and every one that walks through our doors, and as a staff, we work our very best to ensure that each child succeeds and reaches, or even exceeds, their potential because together we will “Make it Count!”

We are all looking forward to an extraordinary school year!



The fifth-grade class, led by Mrs. Stanko and Mrs. Townley, will be leading our Cub’s Dens this year. The first meeting was held on September 2nd, and leaders taught about “School Spirit”. Some fourth-grade students will also be assisting the fifth graders this year.

**“CHILDREN ARE GREAT IMITATORS. SO GIVE THEM SOMETHING GREAT TO IMITATE.”**

**– ANONYMOUS**



## A JOB WELL DONE!

Over 65 elementary students joined others across the state to sing the National Anthem at the Rockies game on September 16, 2023. They did an amazing job representing our school! Thank you, stu-



## READ ALOUD MONTH

Students will be bringing home an informational letter with pictures of books on the back of the sheet in late September/early October. When your child reads to you or you read to your child for twenty minutes, please have your child initial or color a book. Reading should be age appropriate: older students should read more pages. Then on Tuesday, October 24, your child will need to return the signed sheet to his/her teacher. Each participant who completes this activity will receive an extra recess, treat, and certificate. The extra recess will be on Friday, Oct. 27th. Please help your child complete this activity and read, read, read!!!!

## ELEMENTARY PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

will be held on Monday, October 23, 2023, by appointment. More information will be sent home as the date draws closer. Please communicate with your child’s teacher. According to research, when parents are involved in their children’s education, students will exhibit higher academic achievement, more school engagement, and a greater motivation to succeed. Our school’s goal is 100% contact with all elementary parents. Please help us achieve our goal!!! During parent/teacher conferences, our new music teacher, Ms. Trowbridge, will be in the cafeteria hosting an

“instrument petting zoo” for fifth graders. This will be a great opportunity for parents to meet her and ask any questions relating to music. In addition, fifth graders will be able to explore various instruments in preparation for second semester band class.

## OCTOBER ACCOUNTABILITY MEETING

The first meeting of the year was held in September. Officer elections were held, and this year’s officers are as follows: President-Charley Maranville, Vice president-Dalton Hisle, Secretary/treasurer-Morgan Swennes. Congratulations to our new officers! Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 (3:00-4:00 p.m.) in the library. If you are a parent and/or community member interested in serving on our Accountability Committee, please email Mrs. Tucker @ktucker@bigsandy100j.org. We would love to have you join our team!

## OCTOBER IS FIRE PREVENTION MONTH!

On October 26, 2023, Elvis (we have seen him), along with the Simla Volunteer Fire Department, will be presenting their annual fire safety program to our PreK-5th grade students. In preparation, please make sure that your family has a home firesafety escape plan, including a family meeting spot, in case of a fire. This is always an exciting, educational experience for our students. We appreciate our fire department and their commitment to keeping our students, families, and communities safe!





# RIDING THE WAVE TO VICTORY

2nd graders gearing up for the homecoming parade on September 9th. The 2nd grade float placed with their theme of "Fishing for a BearCubs Victory"



Pictured here is Weston Amendt, Jackson Sedlak and Vinny Bratrsovsky

## HALLOWEEN PARTIES

Halloween Parties will be on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. Preschool parties will take place on that day as well.

**Please note: Students will be allowed to wear their costumes to school on the day of their Halloween parties. This is different than what we have done in the past. With that being said, please make sure that your child's costume is conducive to learning in the classroom.**

If a part of your child's costume could be a distraction, then please direct them to wear that part at recess or at the end of the day. In addition, please do not send your child with weapons/guns, blood, guts or gore. Thank you for your help!

## "TRUNK OR TREAT" WILL BE RETURNING THIS YEAR

This will take place in the overflow parking lot in front of the school (same place as last year). If you would like to participate, please let Mrs. Tucker know by emailing her, ktucker@big sandy100j.org, or by calling the front office, 719-541-2291. Parents, family members, community members, and business owners are encouraged to participate and provide a fun experience for our students. The more, the merrier! The schedule will be as follows:

**2:10-2:25 recess**  
**2:30-2:40 parade**  
**2:40-3:10 Trunk or Treat**  
**3:10-3:55 Halloween parties**

**The annual parade for K through fifth grades will begin at 2:30 p.m. This will be held outside in front of the school in the**

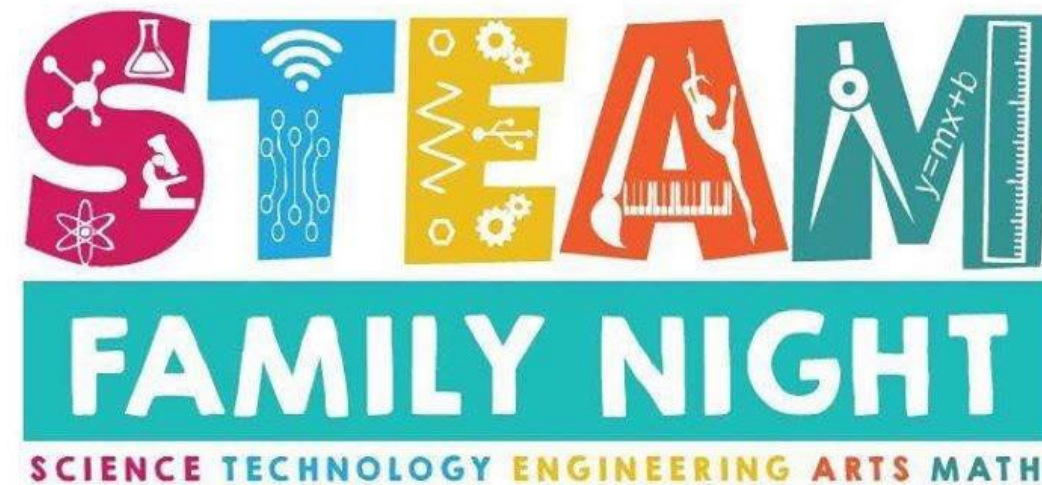
**main circular driveway, weather permitting.**

Then students will make their way down to the Trunk or Treat. All classroom parties will follow. Once again, thank you parents for supporting students and providing super parties!



**COMING ON OCTOBER 25, 2023!!**

More information to follow as the date approaches...



## STUDENT OF THE MONTH: JASON BURGREEN

Our October Student of the Month is Mr. Jason Burgreen. Jason is a first grader in Mrs. Jones' class. She describes him as a "trustworthy student that can always be counted on to be honest and responsible. He consistently gives his best effort." Thank you, Jason, for being such a great student.



Barrett and Grant hanging out before the parade





# SECONDARY PRINCIPAL NOTES:

SAMMI SWENNES



## YEAR-TO-DATE

The 2023-24 school year is off to a great start. Our students are working hard in the classroom because they are being challenged by our outstanding teaching staff. Our high school is currently at 99 students and the junior high is at 77 students—and all of our Cubs are off to a great start of the year. Our fall sports programs are underway. We invite you to come to any of our high school and junior high sports to see our student athletes in action. We had a great week for Homecoming and 'Rode the Wave to Victory' in both our volleyball and football games.

We are very excited for you to check out the gym this year—we got the Senior Student Athlete Banners up for the Class of 2024!! Come in the gym and check them out. We also offer a variety of academic clubs/teams like E-sports, Matchwits, Future Business Leaders of America and National Honor Society. Students may also participate in Student Council, TrueSport, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes in the high school and C.U.B.S. Crew in the junior high. Congratulations to the Big Sandy School District for their Accredited rating from the State of Colorado! Both the



junior high and high school achieved the highest rating of 'Performance', which is amazing. We are extremely proud of our students and teachers for this high academic achievement. We are very proud of all of the students that participate in these extra-curricular activities! They are willing to commit the time and dedication to make Simla Junior High and High School the best that it can be. I would like to per-

sonally invite you and your family to come to one of our ball games or meets to watch our students in action. **ATTENDANCE: A KEY TO YOUR STUDENTS SUCCESS** In a recent edition of The Parent Institute, the following clip was published. It stresses the importance of regular attendance at school. Research shows that children who are in school most of the time do better on state tests.

Here's how you can improve your child's school attendance –

1. Talk with your child about the importance of attending school regularly.
2. Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.
3. Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious food and getting enough sleep and exercise.
4. Don't accept excuses for why your child "must" miss or be late to school.

From the Principal's Desk

5. Discuss with your child what happened at school each day.
6. Support school rules and consequences for skipping class and being tardy.
7. Show your child why education is important and give specific examples of how education helps people succeed.

Thus far, we have done a wonderful job of being present and ready to learn. Our secondary school reported a 94% attendance rate this past year. This year we want to try to do even better. Thank you, our students and parents, for the commitment to Big Sandy Schools and our drive for excellence. With all that being said, we do want your child to stay home if they are sick. As much as we want students in school, we want them in school healthy even more. Please call the office if your child isn't feeling well, and if you do go to the doctor, please bring a doctor's note back to the office when your child returns to school. Let's all work together to stay healthy and stay in person this year!

**We invite you to come to any of our high school and junior high sports to see our student athletes in action!**

## 1/2 DAY POLICY

Secondary students participating in extra-curricular activities (sports and clubs) must be in attendance a ½ day in order to practice or play in an event for that same day. The definition of a ½ day is 4 hours of attendance in a school day. If a bus is leaving after 12:00 p.m. the student must be in attendance for 4 hours of that school day. If the bus is leaving earlier than 12:00 p.m. the student must be in attendance for all hours in that school day.

## WE ARE SIMLA FACEBOOK PAGE

Be sure to follow the 'We are Simla' Facebook page for updates on athletic and activities events and times. Mrs. Swennes works each week to post a weekly calendar of secondary student activities and athletic events with the game times and game order. School closures and delays will also be posted on the We are Simla page.

## EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS AT GAMES

If your child attends a ball game, please make sure that he/she is supervised and watches the game. If staff needs to correct a student, then the student will receive consequences such as a lunch or after school detention and the student will need to sit with

# COUNSELOR CORNER

CHAD THIEMAN

Happy Fall everyone! The Counseling Office operates with an open-door policy. If I can assist any student or parent, my door is open to you – stop in anytime! Parents - please call in advance (719.541.2291) so that I can be sure to be available. You may also email questions to me at: [cthieman@bigsandy100j.org](mailto:cthieman@bigsandy100j.org). We also have a student advocate, Alicia Lee, who meets with students as needed for mental health check-ins and support.

## SENIORS

Our seniors are currently researching degree programs and college/vocational & technical school/apprenticeship options. We have been making use of online resources including a state-sponsored website known as My Colorado Journey. This site provides guidance in career planning, college planning, and financial aid. Currently the seniors are working through the College Application Month materials in preparation for the FREE college/university application day which will actually be over 3 days: October 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>. I recommend that parents check out this website to use as a resource as well. The web address is: [www.mycoloradojourney.com](http://www.mycoloradojourney.com).

Seniors need to remember to sign up in the scholarship book to receive the applications that arrive in my office. We continually update our scholarship list and are always looking for new information to add. If you find out about a scholarship opportunity that is not included on our list, please let me know. We also have a link to our scholarship spreadsheet on the school



Senior, Conner Clucker, on the winning homecoming float



6th grade homecoming float



Kids hanging out and watching the parade



website: [www.bigandy100j.com](http://www.bigandy100j.com) . Another useful online resource to search for scholarships is found at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) . There are several scholarship applications that are open right now and seniors should be working on those applications. It is important to not wait until the last minute to complete applications! I regularly remind our seniors that they will not have enough time during senior seminar class to complete all of their applications – they must use additional time away from school to accomplish all that needs to be done!

Our seniors will be attending a college fair in Limon on Wednesday, October 11th .Senior seminar participation policy: Virtually all of the content of the senior seminar course is given in class through direct student/teacher contact. Because it is so important to be in class for this instruction, we have a clear participation policy. If a student is present and participating, they receive 5 daily points. If a student is not present or is not participating, they do not receive the points for that day. The only non-participation excuses accepted are:

1. college visits/job shadows;
2. other school related events such as early dismissal for athletics
3. a doctor's written release from attendance/participation.

If a student does not earn their participation points for the day, they will have the opportunity to complete an extra credit assignment at the end of the quarter to earn additional points. This policy is necessary to help ensure that our sen-

iors are present and participating in class on a regular basis.

### JUNIORS & SOPHMORES

We will be giving the digital PSAT/NMSQT assessment the week of October 17th . This optional test for 10 th & 11 th graders is a practice for the SAT and is the qualifier for juniors to be in the National Merit Scholarship program. Entry into the scholarship competition is determined solely by the PSAT/NMSQT score. This is the first time that our students will take this assessment digitally. See Mr. Thieman for more details and to sign up for the test if you would like to take it.

The next ACT test date is Saturday, October 28 th . The regular registration deadline has passed but it is possible to submit a late registration. The next test date for which the regular registration is open is December 9 th and the regular registration deadline is through November 3 rd . The cost is \$68. Go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) to register for the ACT. All enrolled juniors will take the SAT here at the school during the month of April 2024.

### ALL HS GRADES

To meet the Higher Education Admissions Requirements (HEAR) for Colorado's public colleges and universities, graduating students should have completed:

- 4 years of English;
- 4 years of Math (Alg. 1 and higher);
- 3 years each of Science and Social Studies;
- 1 year of Foreign Language (Simla offers Spanish)
- 2 additional years of academic electives. (\*\*Foreign Language is not required for graduation at Simla and only 3 years of high school math are required.)

Keep these college admission requirements in mind when choosing the types of courses to take each year.

FYI – students who take Algebra I during their 8th grade year are still required to complete 3 more high school level math classes between their 9 th and 12 th grade years. Our expectation is that each high school student has successfully complete Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 as a regular course of mathematics study.

Each Tuesday morning the eligibility report is posted for all junior high and high school students. If a student has a course grade of a 60% - 65%, then their name appears on the Near-to-Fail list. If a student has less than a 60%, then their name appears on the Failing list. Students must be on the Near to Fail list once in a specific class before being declared ineligible no matter what their grade is – so every student has a 1-week grace period to raise their % to a passing level again before they can be declared ineligible. Letters are sent home to alert parents that their student is on one of these lists. Login to your parent portal on Infinite Campus to check current grades if you receive a letter. Any athlete who is on the Failing list in one class will not be eligible to play in any of that week's athletic contests. Their eligibility is regained once the next list is published on the following Tuesday if they have a 60% or higher in that specific class. Please feel free to call myself or Mrs. Swennes directly if you have questions about this process.

Our Internet-based student information program, Infinite Campus, offers parents and students a portal to check current grades, attendance information, etc. Call (541-2291) or email ([ttucker@bigandy100j.org](mailto:ttucker@bigandy100j.org) ) Mr. Tucker for information on how to get a login to access the system. There is a link for the portal on our school website: [www.bigandy100j.com](http://www.bigandy100j.com).

Students and parents: stop by my office and say, "hello" anytime! Enjoy the fall – the best weather of the year (in my opinion)!



Juniors hanging out on the class float.

Meadow Nuesbaum sinking an ace



the parent or with the adult who brought him/her to the game. Students who are not playing in the athletic event that night, should not be in any of the locker rooms for ANY reason. If students are in the locker rooms, they will be asked to sit with their parents. Also, students and adults should not use the north doors off of the locker rooms to enter the gyms. Please come in the main doors through the gate. If inappropriate behavior continues then the student will need to stay home and not attend extracurricular activities until the administration decides that he or she is ready to follow the rules. Thank you for your cooperation. We have these rules so the patrons can watch the games and to try and ensure student safety.

### EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS AND FANS AT GAMES

Our expectation for all parents and fans at games is to have appropriate behavior at all times. The use of inappropriate language, heckling of the opposing teams' players and coaches, heckling of our own players and coaches, and inappropriate behavior and language towards an official are inexcusable. If behavior from any of our parents or fans is inappropriate in any



way you may be asked to leave the game by a school administrator. School administration will then determine if you will be allowed to attend future extracurricular events. Our goal is not to remove parents or fans from games, but instead hold our parents and fans to the same high sportsmanship standards that we hold our students too.

### SCHOOL STORE

The Freshmen Class is sponsoring the School Store this year. The store is currently open from 7:45– 7:55 a.m. and then again during break from 9:58 – 10:03 a.m. Students can buy snacks to eat throughout the school day.

### HONOR ROLL DRAWING

This year the Honor Roll will be divided into three levels, determined by the GPA a student acquires in a nine-week period: Blue - 3.00 - 3.49 GPA Gold - 3.50 - 3.99 GPA Superintendent's - 4.00 GPA At the end of each nine-week period, teachers will post their grades and student GPAs will be determined. Names will be posted outside of the principals office and sent the Ranchland News for publication. In addition to the publicity, students on the Honor Roll will receive a tangible prize each

time they attain this feat.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

The Fall Parent/Teacher conferences were held on September 18 th . If you were unable to attend on this date, and you would like to visit with your child's teachers, feel free to call the school office and set up a time to visit with your child's teacher, during their planning time.

### END OF 1ST QUARTER

It is hard to believe that we will complete the first quarter of school this month! The quarter ends on October 13 th . Report cards will be sent home the following week.

### NHS GUIDELINES

Students having a 3.5 GPA after the first semester of their sophomore year are considered for membership by a faculty committee. The committee also looks at a student's character, leadership abilities, and community service. Mrs. Bauer is sponsoring NHS this year. If you have any questions, feel free to contact her.

### CHOIR CONCERT

Great job to our Junior High and High School Music students –they had their first concert on September 27 and did a fantastic job!!



# RIDE *the wave* to VICTORY

a glance at homecoming week

by: Charley Maranville, Morgan Swennes & Myka Smith

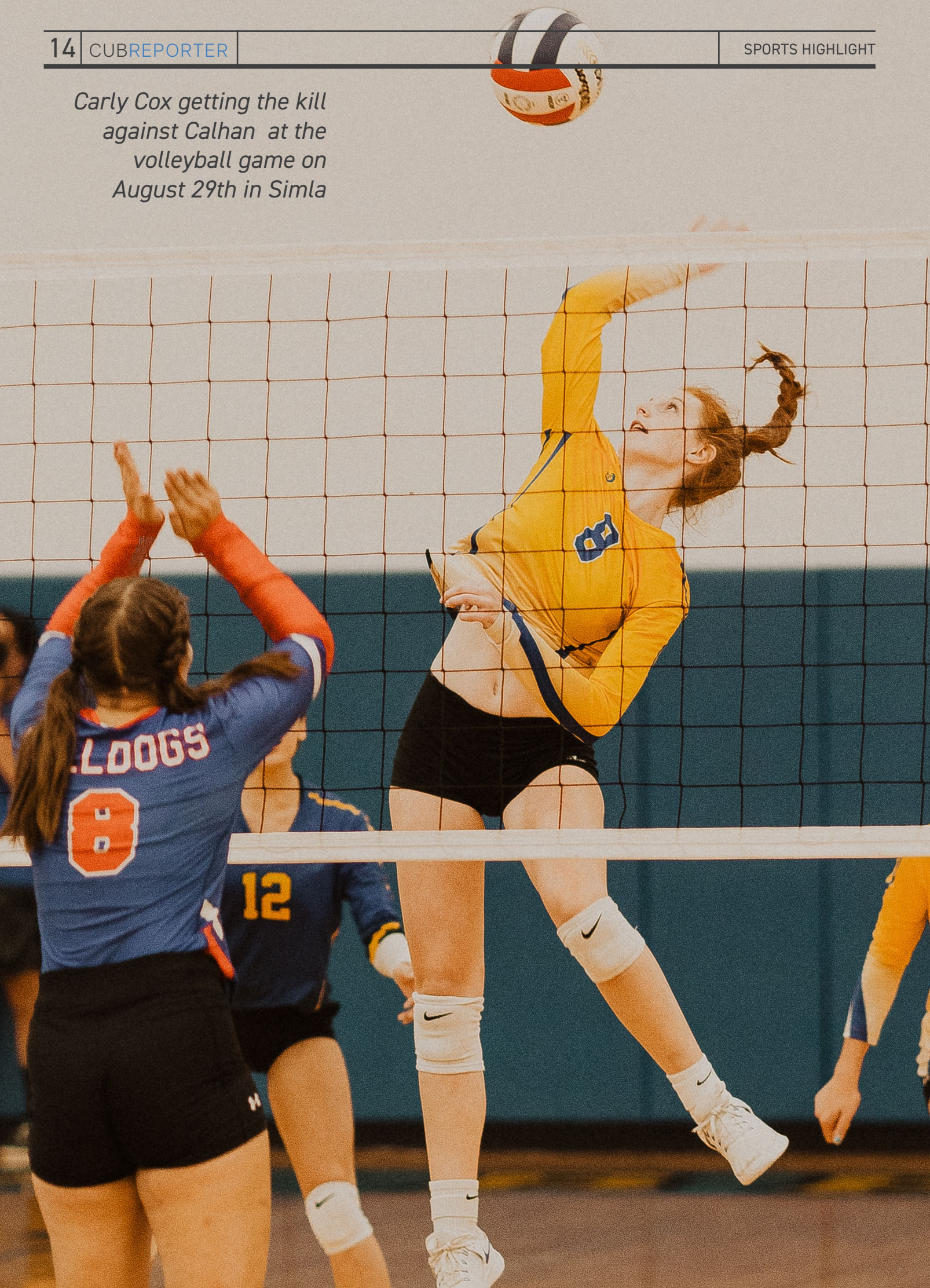


2023 SIMULA homecoming





Carly Cox getting the kill  
against Calhan at the  
volleyball game on  
August 29th in Simla



Big Sandy families that don't have a primary care provider (or don't want to drive to CO Springs or Castle Rock to see a provider), Elbert County has a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner available to see kids at their clinic. They accept new Medicaid clients and many major insurance plans. They don't want lack of ability to pay be a barrier to receiving care, so if folks are uninsured or under-insured, that's not a problem. They also have a Family Nurse Practitioner available to see adults. Folks can call (303) 621-3144 to schedule an appointment.

### SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

School board election ballots will be sent in October. We have 3 openings for the school board with 5 people running (Hank Smith, Curtis Stanko, Judy Book, Tika Ethridge and Stephanie Madden).

### AUDITS

This year, we have fewer audits to work on compared to last year in which we had several audits; some audits happen once every few years. We did have our annual financial audit the week of September 26. We will have more to report soon.

### SCHOOL WEBSITE

Bigsandy100j.com is our school's website. This website is a great tool for school updates and communication with our community. Tamrah Docterman does a great job being the webmaster and continues to refine and update it.

# SUPERINTENDENT BOARD NOTES

STEVE WILSON



We are close to finishing up our first 9-weeks of school. We have had a great start with student learning and extra-curricular activities. So far, we have had minimal disruptions and have had many positives things going on.

### EDUCATION RATING OF ACCREDITED

Our school district received the Colorado Department of Education Rating of Accredited. We were in the

top part of the second highest of the five rating categories that CDE gives out. With continued consistent quality teaching and learning each day and week throughout the year, we expect a good year of education.

### ELECTRIC BUSES

We should be receiving our three electric school buses this month. Infrastructure for Level 2 chargers has been

### Our school district received the Colorado Department of Education Rating of Accredited!!

finished and we are working on infrastructure for Level 3 chargers. If we can be successful on one more \$20k partnership, we will have the entire \$1.6m project completely paid for through grants and outside of school financial sources.



### SCHEDULING

Please continue to make it a point to schedule appointments and errands on the days that we do not have school (Mondays) if possible; with only 147 scheduled school days during the year, every day of instruction is important for student learning.

### SAFETY

For everyone's safety, please

reinforce and discuss bike riders' safety procedures as well as safety procedures with those children that walk to and from school. There are 3 "drop and go" pick up and drop off areas; the high school "drop and go" is underutilized and if used, might give some relief to the other 2 areas.

### THANK YOU!

Big Sandy School would like



# HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRODUCTION

Join the High School Drama and Drama Tech classes:

When: Wednesday, November 15th at 7p.m.

Where: in the auxiliary gym

For: “Twice Upon A Time” by Tracy Wells

(produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, CO.)

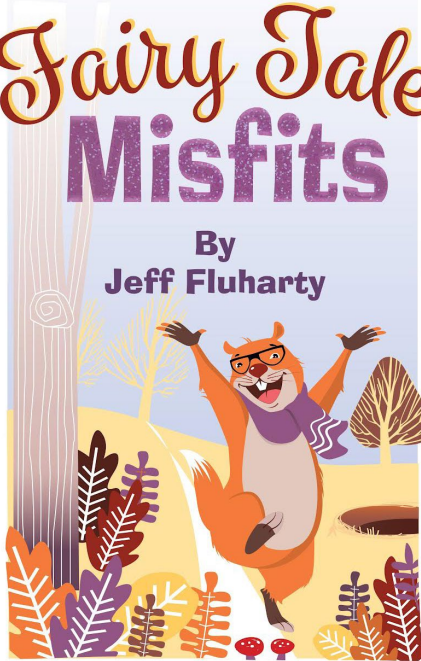
Set on Christmas Eve in Grandma’s family room, “Twice Upon A Time” is a fun mix of fractured fairy tales! Grandma has always been an adventurer– preferring pirates and astronauts to princesses and fairies... so it

is no wonder that when her grandkids ask for fairy tale bedtime stories, Grandma puts her own silly twists on them! “Twice Upon a time...” Grandma begins each goofy retelling of a once-familiar classic. Cindy-Rella is now an insufferable neat freak not inclined to leave her chores to attend the prince’s barbecue, even if there will be a bouncy castle there. Grandma seems to have forgotten about the Big Bad Wolf, so her stories pull Big Bad Bear away from his porridge to threaten both the Three Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Pants. Even Goldilocks is confused why she has cameo appearances in both these stories! Despite the children’s occasional protests at Grandma’s absurd revisions, they beg



for more. She forges on to tell the tales of Snow White and the Four Dwarves (because four is plenty, thank you!), and Grumplegrapeskin and all the rest of the wacky characters in this charming and enchanting play packed with five tales that will really crack you up!

# JUNIOR HIGH DRAMA



Join the JH Drama Tuesday December 5th 6:30p.m. Big Sandy Schools in the small gym

for the production of “Fairy Tale Misfits” by Jeff Fluharty, (produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado.)

When a mysterious talking groundhog steals young Ellie’s homework, she takes off down a hole after it and finds herself in a place where nothing is as it seems – the Land of Rejected Fairy Tale

Characters. Here, Ellie meets a crazy assortment of misfits who were cut from the fairy tales we all know and love. There’s her shadow-fearing sidekick, Groundhog; Mac, the eighth and world’s largest dwarf; Jacqueline, the great Giant Slayer armed with a magic polka-playing accordion; and more – Indecisive Goldilocks, Sleepless Beauty, Little Red Robin Hood, Fairy Godfather, and even Big Bad Platypus. Groundhog and the rest of the misfits make a deal to help Ellie find her way back home if, in return, she writes them into stories that can be shared with others. But

Queen White-Out and her eraser minions, Pink Pearl and Big Mistake, have other plans. Will the misfits be erased forever, or will they find their own happily ever after? Bursting with quirky humor and featuring a large cast of whimsical and endearing characters, Fairy Tale Misfits fits the bill for a large cast of young actors looking to deliver big laughs.

## SUPERINTENDENT NOTES CONTINUED.....

to thank the Simla Fire Department, Simla Police Department, Colorado State Patrol, Town of Simla, Simla Cubs Booster Club, Ranchland News, Student Council, Simla Cheer Team, Alumni, Big Sandy Alumni Association, Parents, Staff and Community for a great Homecoming Week!

## SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

Finally, we try and make the decision on school closures by 6:00 a.m. Our first contact is with [www.flashalert.net](http://www.flashalert.net). FlashAlert then contacts all media outlets in Colorado Springs, Denver, and Pueblo. These media outlets then post school closures on their websites, radio stations, and television stations. We also use ShoutPoint. ShoutPoint is an automatic calling system and e-mailing system that will call/e-mail each family to give out this type of information; please let Alisa Easler, in the main office, know if you need to update a phone number, e-mail address, or address.

We hope you and your children have a great school year!

# WELCOME TO 1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Brought to you by Pines & Plains Libraries and paid for by the Growing Readers Together Grant. Enjoy books together now, and reap the benefits as your child gains skills that will prepare him or her for learning to read independently. Every child enrolled in the program receives a notebook where parents can log the book that their child reads, a free book to get started, and list of great books to read before kindergarten. The books list provided are just suggestions. You can even read their favorite book over and over and it counts each time toward their 1,000 book goal. It is important to read what you and your child enjoy together.

How-to Guide:

- When you have read 100 books with your child, bring the notebook back in (and your child too!) and we’ll give them a sticker. Repeat for each set of 100 books you read together.
- When you complete 500 titles, you get a cool bookmark.
- When your child reaches 1,000 books, he/she will receive a cute teddy bear to keep. They will also get a certificate and be photographed to appear on the 1,000 books wall of fame.
- You can do this for every child in your family, from infant up to kindergarten.

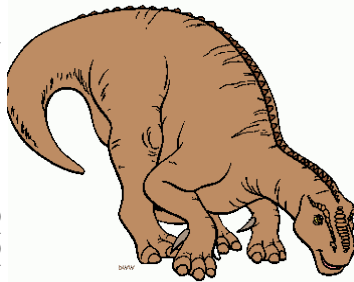


HAPPY OCTOBER!

WATCH FOR DINOVEMBER

Tell all your friends about this program so they can sign up their children too!

Even if your child is in pre-school you can participate, you may need to read six books or more a day to finish by the first day of school. But the skills learned are so important; you won’t want to miss out. You may surprise yourselves with how quickly you can achieve this goal! Swing by the Simla library today to sign up and begin your 1,000 book journey.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Simla Library will be having Trunk or Treat in the parking lot on October 31, 2023 at 5:00pm.

Everyone is welcome to participate and attend.

Show us your creativity and spooky sense of fun!

Kamber Watts, Pines & Plains Libraries Activities Service Guide.



# 2024 YEARBOOK ORDERING IS LIVE!



Hey there, high schoolers! Time to put down your emoji-laden smartphones and listen up because we've got a yearbook situation on our hands. You see, ordering a yearbook ASAP is like securing a ticket to a nostalgia rollercoaster, and trust me, you won't want to miss that ride. Sure, you might think you'll remember every awkward cafeteria encounter and epic football game moment, but alas, memory tends to fade faster than last season's fashion trends.

So, here's the deal: get your paws on that yearbook before you're haunted by the ghost of teenage hairstyles past. And don't even

think about relying on Instagram to capture all those precious memories. The yearbook is the real OG when it comes to preserving the moments that'll make you smile, cringe, and wonder what on earth possessed you to wear that outfit on picture day. So, fellow teens, don't procrastinate, lest you be doomed to a future filled with hazy recollections and regret-filled sighs. Order that yearbook pronto, and let the memories live on in gloriously printed, ink-on-paper perfection! #MEMORIESMATTER

2024  
YEARBOOK



The Big Sandy yearbook captures today's memories to enjoy for a lifetime.  
Don't miss out — reserve your copy today!

## WAYS TO ORDER:



ONLINE  
JOSTENYEARBOOKS.COM



SCAN



CALL  
1.877.767.5217  
8AM-5PM CST  
MONDAY-FRIDAY

**ORDER ONLINE OR PICK UP AN  
ORDER FORM FROM THE  
JOURNALISM STAFF TODAY!**

# MAKE READING COUNT!!

THE 2023  
FALL SCHOLASTIC  
BOOK FAIR  
IS ON ITS WAY!



## Where: Our school library

Book Fair flyers will be sent out ahead of the book fair.

**Time: More information to follow – we're working on the details!**

Come check out the amazing selection of books available to your young readers and help make this year's book fair a success!

Our book fair profits are used to develop classroom libraries and to

emphasize the importance of reading and literacy in our school and community.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact:  
Mrs. Jeni Montague at school  
(541-2291, ext. 3301).

## JH HIGHLIGHT







LUNCH

OCTOBER 2023

Big Sandy 100j

This Institution is an equal  
Opportunity provider.  
Menu subject to change

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

2

Tacos w/ Rice  
Lettuce/ Cheese  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

3

Mac and Cheese w/Ham  
Green beans, dinner roll  
Salad Bar, fruit  
Milk

5

French toast sticks w/syrup  
Sausage link, egg patty  
Apple salad, Salad bar  
Carrots, Milk

6

Hamburger  
French Fries  
Lettuce/ tomato  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

9

Bean and beef Burrito  
Green chili w/Pork  
Lettuce, Cheese  
Cowboy Bread, fruit  
Salad bar, Milk

10

Spaghetti w/meat sauce  
Lettuce, Salad bar  
Bread sticks, Fruit  
Milk

11

Chicken Patty  
Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy  
Corn, Dinner roll  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

12

Sloppy Joe  
Tater tots  
Lettuce, Salad Bar  
Fruit, Milk

13

16

Grilled Cheese sandwich  
Chicken/ Tomato soup  
Carrots, Celery  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

17

Chicken Alfredo  
Broccoli, Salad Bar  
Fruit, Dinner Roll  
Milk

18

Super Nachos  
Lettuce, Salad bar  
Fruit, Brownie  
Milk

19

Corn Dogs  
Chips, Baked Beans  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

20

23

Pizza  
Lettuce, Salad Bar  
Fruit, Pudding  
Milk

24

Orange Chicken  
Rice, Noodles  
Mixed Vegetables  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

25

Roast Beef and cheddar  
sandwich, Hash brown  
Carrots, Salad bar  
Fruit, Milk

26

Pulled Pork sandwich  
Chips, Lettuce  
Salad Bar, Fruit, Cookie  
Milk

27

30

Mummy in a Blanket  
Jack-O-Lantern fingers  
Baked Bugs, Chips  
Dirt and worms  
Milk

31

TREVEN KOCERHA  
FIGHTING FOR THE  
BALL AGAINST  
MCCLAVE  
DEFENSE







# Communicable Disease

## How sick is too sick?

Public guidance document

Available languages: [Español](#)

This document outlines guidance for routine decisions about when children and staff should stay home from school or child care. There may be situations where public health determines more stringent return-to-school requirements.

### There are four main reasons for children and adults to stay home:

1. The child or staff member could infect others with a contagious illness, either because of symptoms, a diagnosis, or recent exposure to a contagious illness.
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 on this list, and staying home is required.

### When to seek emergency medical attention

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone

These are not all possible indications of a medical emergency. Call 9-1-1 or your health care provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Revised September 2023

4300 Cherry Creek Drive S., Denver, CO 80246-1530 P 303-692-2000 [www.colorado.gov/cdphe](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe)  
Jared Polis, Governor | Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH, Executive Director



The contents of this document are not to be altered without the express permission of the Department.

Guidance for symptoms not due to a specific disease	Child or staff must stay home?
<b>Severe or new cough</b>	<p><b>Yes</b> - Severe cough is often present in people with infectious respiratory illness. A person with severe, uncontrolled coughing, wheezing, or rapid or difficulty breathing (if new or worsening from baseline) should not attend school or child care and should talk to a health care provider.</p> <p>If all symptoms are consistent with the usual symptoms of a known chronic condition and the person is otherwise well enough to return to school, no further evaluation is necessary.</p> <p>Students and staff may return to school following discussion with a health care provider, even if the cough is not fully resolved.</p>
<b>Diarrhea</b> Frequent, loose, or watery stools (poop) compared to normal ones that are not caused by food or medicine	<p><b>Yes</b> - Unless the diarrhea is related to an existing chronic condition, is explained by a diagnosed condition not requiring the person to stay home, or is consistent with the person's baseline.</p> <p>The child or staff member may return to school or child care 24 hours after their last episode of diarrhea unless the diarrhea is caused by an illness that requires them to stay home longer. If the diarrhea is explained by a specific illness, then the child or staff can return to school or child care following exclusion guidelines for that illness.</p>
<b>Fever</b> Fever is a temperature of 100.4°F or greater. Babies who are 3 months or younger need to see a health care provider right away for a fever of 100°F or higher. Call your health care provider for any fever in an infant aged 6 months or younger.	<p><b>Yes</b> - The child or staff member may return to school or child care if the fever has been resolved for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications unless the fever is caused by an illness that requires them to stay home longer.</p> <p>If the fever is consistent with the usual symptoms of a known chronic condition and the person is otherwise well enough to return to school, no further evaluation is necessary.</p> <p>A temporary, elevated temperature due to overexertion or overdress, without other symptoms of illness, should not be considered a fever.</p> <p>For more information about fever, read <a href="#">Children's Hospital Colorado's recommendations on fever care for children</a>.</p>
<b>Flu-like symptoms</b> Fever with sore throat or cough  Other flu symptoms can include runny nose, congestion, fatigue, body aches, vomiting and diarrhea.	<p><b>Yes</b> - Children and staff may return to school or child care as long as they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms are improving, unless the symptoms are caused by an illness that requires them to stay home longer. If the symptoms can be explained by a specific illness, then follow the exclusion guidelines for that illness.</p> <p>In consultation with a health care provider, additional evaluation for flu-like illnesses, sore throat, and upper respiratory symptoms may be appropriate, including evaluation for strep throat.</p>

Page 2

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Guidance for symptoms not due to a specific disease	Child or staff must stay home?
<b>Vomiting</b>	<p><b>Yes</b> - Unless the vomiting is related to an existing chronic condition or is explained by a diagnosed condition not requiring the person to stay home. If the vomiting is unexplained and inconsistent with the person's baseline state of health, the child or staff member may return 24 hours after their last episode of vomiting. If the vomiting can be explained by a specific illness, then follow the exclusion guidelines for that illness.</p> <p><b>If a child with a recent head injury vomits, seek medical attention.</b></p>

Guidance for specific diagnosed illnesses	Child or staff must stay home?
<b>Chicken Pox</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Exclude until the blisters have dried and crusted (usually 6 days), or in immunized people without crusting, until no new lesions within 24-hour period.
<b>Conjunctivitis</b> (pink eye) Pink color of eye and thick yellow/green discharge	<b>No</b> - Children and adults do not need to stay home unless they have a fever or are not able to participate in usual activities. Practice good hand hygiene.
<b>COVID-19</b> (clinical diagnosis, <a href="#">symptoms</a> after known exposure without testing, or a positive diagnostic test)	<p><b>Yes</b> - Children and staff who have suspected COVID-19 (have symptoms following a known exposure) or who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 must be excluded and follow CDC's <a href="#">isolation guidance</a>.</p> <p>If a COVID-19 test is negative and the symptoms are explained by a specific illness other than COVID-19, then the child or staff can return to school or child care following exclusion guidelines for that illness.</p> <p>If the COVID-19 test is negative and the illness is <b>not</b> explained by a new illness or a known chronic condition, the person may return to school as long as all symptoms are improving and fever, diarrhea, and vomiting have been fully resolved for 24 hours.</p>
<b>Fifth's Disease</b> (parvovirus)	<b>No</b> - The illness is no longer contagious once the rash appears.
<b>Hand Foot and Mouth Disease</b> (Coxsackie virus)	<b>No</b> - Exclusion is not necessary unless the child or adult meets other exclusion criteria, is drooling uncontrollably, and has mouth sores or is not able to take part in usual activities.
<b>Head Lice or Scabies</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children and staff may stay at school or child care until the end of the day, but cannot return until after they have had the first treatment.
<b>Hepatitis A, Salmonella, Shigella, or Shiga Toxin-Producing E. coli</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children and staff may return to school or child care when cleared by the health department.
<b>Herpes</b>	<b>No</b> - Exclusion is not necessary unless there are open sores that cannot be covered or there is uncontrollable drooling.
<b>Impetigo</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children and adults need to stay home until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has started.
<b>Influenza</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children and staff should stay home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have been improving for 24 hours.





Guidance for specific diagnosed illnesses	Child or staff must stay home?
<b>Norovirus</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Exclude children and staff for at least 48 hours after their last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhea. <b>During an outbreak, exclusion may be increased to 72 hours after the last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhea.</b>
<b>Ringworm</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children may stay at school or child care until the end of the day, but cannot return until after they have had the first treatment. Keep the area covered for the first three days if participating in activities with person to person contact.
<b>Roseola</b>	<b>No</b> - Exclusion is not necessary unless there is a fever or behavior changes.
<b>Croup, RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Children and staff should remain out of school or child care until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have been improving for 24 hours. <b>During an outbreak or when case rates are high, exclusion times may be increased to protect hospital capacity.</b>
<b>Strep Throat</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Exclude for 12 hours after starting antibiotics.
<b>Other vaccine-preventable diseases</b> Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German Measles), Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	<b>Yes</b> - Children and staff can return to school once they are no longer contagious (see <a href="#">Infectious Disease Guidelines</a> ). Public health consultation may be necessary.
<b>Yeast infections</b> Thrush or Candida diaper rash	<b>No</b> - Follow good hand washing and hygiene practices.
<b>Other</b> Symptoms or illnesses not listed	Contact the child care center director or school health staff to see if the child or staff member needs to stay home (see <a href="#">Infectious Disease Guidelines</a> ). Public health consultation may be necessary.

This document was developed in collaboration with pediatricians, medical epidemiologists and public health professionals.

The information presented is intended for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of your personal doctor's advice and is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease. The information should not be used in place of a visit, call or consultation or advice of your doctor or other health care provider.

#### References

American Academy of Pediatrics. *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools: A Quick Reference Guide*. Aronson SS, Shope TR, eds. 5th ed. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2020.20.  
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