



# CUB REPORTER

**Student  
Spotlight**  
Kylie Maranville

03

Homecoming

12

Yearbook  
Ordering

18

October  
Lunch

20



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**14 February**

**Valentines Day**  
Class parties starting  
at 2:45

**15 February**

**Parent/Teacher  
Conferences**

**22 February**

**Class/Group  
Pictures**

**23-24  
February**

**District Basketball  
Playoffs**

**No School on Friday**

**24 February**

**Solo & Ensemble**

**26 February**

**Monday School  
Today**

## SPORTS

**Results and Highlights  
from Our School Teams**

**Girls Basketball:**  
vs Limon-**W** (51-36)  
vs DHP-**W** (68-15)  
vs Burlington-**L** (62-48)

**Boys Basketball:**  
vs Limon- **W** (56-41)  
vs DHP-**W** (69-41)  
vs Burlington-**W** (65-39)







## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

### KYLIE MARANVILLE

Kylie Maranville has been selected as Big Sandy High Schools student of the month. Kylie loves school and has always been good at it, her favorite subject being math. Her family and friends keep her inspired and push her to be her very best! In Kylie's free time she enjoys hanging out with her friends. Most of the time that is at basketball practice. Alongside Kylie being an amazing student in the classroom, she is involved in many extracurricular activities. Those including; volleyball, basketball, track, matchwits, FBLA, and FCA. Kylie is a great addition to Simla Schools!

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**Would you like to have fun with your child and their classmates?**

We **NEED** parents to volunteer on February 29, 2024 to run a "Minute to Win It" game at our Read Across America celebration. This will take place on Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, 2:45-3:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please email

Mrs. Tucker at [ktucker@bisandy100j.org](mailto:ktucker@bisandy100j.org). Thanks in advance!

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In an effort to ensure student safety, students are not allowed to stay after school unsupervised. If they are at school, then they must be with a parent or staff member. This includes staying after school for ballgames or basketball practice.

# TUCKER TIDBITS FOR ELEMENTARY



KATHY TUCKER ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



## Bullying Assembly by Colorado State Patrol

The month of February is best known for Valentine's Day and is celebrated by sending cards and goodies to those who are special in your life. Take the time to let those who surround you know how much you appreciate them!

### BULLYING PROGRAM

Our Colorado State Patrol came on Wednesday, January 17, and taught our elementary and junior high students about the importance of recognizing bullying behaviors, learning how to deal with it in a constructive manner, and employing conflict resolution techniques.

### WRITING MONTH

Many students participated in writing month. Students were assigned various writing activities throughout the month of January. Those who turned in their calendars on time received a snack, prize, and an extra recess. Thanks to everyone who participated!

### POSTCARDS ACROSS AMERICA

Mrs. Thieman's third grade class is participating in a postcard exchange that

involves all of our 50 amazing states in the U.S. Our third graders have written and sent a card to all 50 states and have received twelve postcards back. If you visit Mrs. Thieman's room, you can view the cards along with a map that shows where the



cards originated. Our third graders are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the remaining thirty-eight postcards!

### TRUE SPORT GAMES

Our high school True Sport Athletes, sponsored by Mrs. Montague, will be hosting our annual True Sport Games for elementary and junior high students on February 14, 2024. It is rumored that U.S. Olympic Athletes will also be in attendance. This is

sure to be a memorable event!

### VALENTINES DAY PARTIES

Valentine's Day Parties are just around the corner! All grades, prek-5th grade, will have their parties on February 14, 2024 at 3 p.m. Preschool parties will be at 10:30 am and 3:00 pm as well. Thank you to all parents for providing goodies and treats!

### ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

Our February meeting will take place on Monday, February 12th, 2024, at 3 p.m., in the library. Parents and community members, thank you for your continued support and involvement on this committee. We hope to see you there!

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 15, 2024 from 3 to 8 pm. School will be dismissed at 1:30 pm on that day. Please plan to attend and discuss your child's achievement with his/her teacher. Extensive research proves that students achieve more in school when their parents are involved in their education. So...the more involved, the more successful your child will become.



### READ ACROSS AMERICA

National Read Across America Week is celebrated at the end of February and the beginning of March. This annual reading event motivates and encourages all children to celebrate reading.

Big Sandy Elementary will participate in this reading celebration by having various reading-related activities for the whole week beginning on Monday, February 26th and ending on Thursday, February 29th. Each day will have a different theme and honor a different book. The themes are as follows:

#### Monday: ABC Book-

Dress up as your favorite letter or favorite book character

#### Tuesday: Book Madness Day-

Dress like your favorite athlete or sport

#### Wednesday: Wacky Wednesday-

Wear your wackiest shoes

#### Thursday: All Books-

Be proud to be an American! Wear your favorite patriotic clothes!

If the elementary reaches their collective reading goal of 1000 books during the week, then the week will end with a Dr. Seuss birthday celebration complete with "Minute to Win It" games. It is sure to be a

fun learning time for all!

Parents, you can take advantage of this "Read Across America" week and read with your kids at home too! You may not realize it, but research supports the importance of parents reading aloud to their children, no matter what the age of the child. It's fun to take turns reading...get creative.





# PAJAMA PARTY!

4th Graders taking it easy at their Christmas Party on the last day of school before break.



*Pictured here is Emma Watts, James Bell, Harper Golanoski, Bo Sieck, and Sofia Whitt*



Help us help your child succeed! Please continue to work with your children at home and have them read each and every night. Research states “the amount of time reading was the best predictor of reading achievement, including a child’s growth as a reader from the second to the fifth grade” according to the Teachers College Reading and Writing Workshop’s Approach to Literacy Instruction.

So.....grab a book, cuddle up, and READ!



## STUDENT OF THE MONTH: GRANT SHULTS

Grant Shults is our February Student of the Month. Grant is always willing to help any teacher that needs it without even needing to be asked. He is always the first to volunteer in class for any task! He is also a very hard worker and never gives up even when something is hard. Grant is also very kind to other students and is a friend to all. Thank you, Grant, for being such an incredible Bearcub!

**“Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift.”**

**—Kate DiCamillo**



## COUNSELOR CORNER

### CHAD THIEMAN

#### SENIORS

If you haven’t already done so, it’s time to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)! Seniors and their parents need to register for a FSA ID. This username and password is required to electronically sign the FAFSA. Google “create FSA ID” to learn about and create a unique FSA ID.

Once you have your FSA ID, go to [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) to complete your FAFSA. Your actual 2022 income tax information is used to report your financial information and it is pulled automatically from the IRS in the application process. This process is completely free! You are in the wrong place if anything appears about a cost to complete the FAFSA.

After your FAFSA has been submitted and processed:

“you’ll receive an email with instructions on how to access an online copy of your FAFSA Submission Summary—an electronic or paper document that summarizes the information you reported on your FAFSA form. It includes your estimated eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant and federal student loans, your Student Aid Index (SAI), and



whether you’ve been selected for verification. The FAFSA Submission Summary replaces the Student Aid Report for the 2024–25 award year.” (accessed: [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov); 1/24/2024) The colleges/universities that you listed in your FAFSA application will receive your SAI and will issue you a Financial Aid award offer. That will be posted in your Financial Aid portal for each institution. Check in regularly to see if your award is posted and the next steps in order for you to accept the award offered.

When reviewing this information pay

close attention to the COA (Cost of Attendance) and then the various awards including any: grants, scholarships, work study, Perkins Loans, Direct Stafford Loans, and Direct Plus Loans (parent loans). When considering Stafford Loans remember that a subsidized loan means that the government pays the interest that accrues on that loan while you are in college. An unsubsidized loan means that you will be responsible for paying back the interest that accrues on the loan during the time that you were a college student. Stafford loan repayment begins 6 months after you are no longer a full time college student (enrolled in 12





# SECONDARY PRINCIPAL NOTES:

SAMMI SWENNES



## HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

The wrestling team is off to a great start this season! We have 7 wrestlers working hard to compete at the Regional Wrestling tournament coming up on February 9th & 10th in La Junta. Good luck Alex Baril, Cason Shults, Landon Vach, Jackson Pfost, Adam Shults, Ephraim Rasco, Jon Choate, Hayden Pfost, James Woods, Declan Brown and Conor Klecker.







### HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

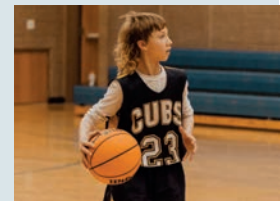
Congratulations to our High School Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys for winning the Simla Holiday Hoops Basketball Tournament that was hosted here in December.



*Landon Offut for 2!*

credits). YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ACCEPT LOANS THAT ARE OFFERED. I am glad to look at award letters with you as needed.

Students are continuing to work on scholarship applications during Personal/Workforce Readiness (Senior Seminar). Our students are provided information on hundreds of scholarship opportunities. The only sure way to not receive a scholarship is to not apply! We have set aside every Friday through April 15th as a work day for college scholarships, etc. Check in with your seniors to see if they are using that time to work on scholarship applications. Representatives from Farmers State Bank are again working with our seniors once a week for 9 weeks teaching a variety of financial literacy topics. We appreciate the time and effort given by FSB on behalf of our seniors!



*8th grader Jack Pyatt looking for a shot*

IMPORTANT! Make sure that all of your pictures have been submitted to the school for the senior graduation video and the yearbook! Caps & gowns need to be ordered ASAP if you have not done so! Specific seniors have been advised if they have not yet ordered their graduation caps and gowns. You may order online at [highschool.herffjones.com](http://highschool.herffjones.com). You are only required to order the cap, gown, & tassel basic pack listed at \$40 (this past fall). Any other items are optional. There is no option to choose color – that is decided by the senior class and approved by the school administration. The caps and gowns will be mailed directly to the school in time for graduation and, following the ceremony, the caps and gowns are yours to keep.



*Junior Treven Kocerha during the HS play Twice Upon a Time*



*Greeting Veterans at the Veterans Day Assembly*

Reminder – all 18-year old men must register for selective service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. You can register at [sss.gov](http://sss.gov).

Don't forget that each senior is given the opportunity for college visits. Seniors may miss 2 days of school for these activities without affecting their attendance for the year. Mr. Thieman has forms to be completed if a student is going on a job shadow or a college visit. I highly recommend that you step foot on campus if you are seriously considering being a student there!

Parents – please feel free to call my office (719-541-2291) any time that I can assist you in the college admission and



financial aid processes. A great deal of information about both topics is available online; just remember that it should always be free!

### JUNIORS:

All enrolled juniors will be taking the Colorado SAT digitally on Wednesday, April 17th. SAT scores are used by some colleges for admissions decisions and by numerous merit-based scholarship organizations. All juniors have a chance to complete the writing portion (essay) of the assessment. It is not necessary to complete the writing portion but it is a free option. The SAT with Essay will take approximately 1 hour longer than the SAT. If your junior would like to take the SAT with Essay, they have until mid-February to work with me on updating their registration. More information about this process will be given to each junior before the deadline. If the student does not add the essay option to their registration, then they will take the regular SAT without essay which is my recommendation.

The ACT is still offered at a variety of test sites around the area on Saturdays. The next ACT test date is April 13th with a regular registration deadline of March 8th. Go to [act.org](http://act.org) for more information.

### FRESHMAN & SOPHOMORES

All enrolled freshmen and sophomores will be taking the Colorado PSAT 9 & 10 digitally on April 17th. The

PSAT results will be used by the State for school accountability purposes and to prepare students for success on the SAT.

### 8TH GRADE PARENTS

(required parent notification):

"Simla Junior High School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on Monday, February 19, 2024. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessments because it is a common measure of achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents/guardians, policymakers, and the public. Your child (will/may) take a mathematics or reading assessment. In addition to subject-area questions, students voluntarily complete NAEP survey questions. These questions provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom. Additionally, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students will be included in the National Indian Education Study (NIES). NIES describes the condition of education for AI/AN students in the United States. More information about NAEP survey questions

is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents> under the section "What Questions Are on the Test?"

The assessment takes about 120 minutes for most students, which includes transition time, directions, and completion of survey questions. The information collected is used for statistical purposes only. Your child's grades will not be affected. Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question. While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by Sunday, February 18, 2024. There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. Contact Chad Thieman at 719-541-2291 or at [cthieman@big-sandy100j.org](mailto:cthieman@big-sandy100j.org) if you have any questions."

### ALL STUDENTS

My counseling office is available any time for students to talk about any issue. Student/counselor conversations are kept confidential unless something is shared that may involve harm to the student or to another person. Encourage your student to stop by the counseling office if they would like to talk!

Our student advocate, Alicia Lee, is meeting with individual students for support and encouragement and leading both a JH and a HS girl's group. The purpose of these groups is to give girls a chance to talk with and listen to their peers as they experience like challenges. Alicia is graduating this May with her counseling degree from Calvary University. If you would like more information about these opportunities and to give permission for your student to participate, then please call me at 719-541-2291 or email me at [cthieman@big-sandy100j.org](mailto:cthieman@big-sandy100j.org).

I am also able to recommend private counseling resources from Limon, Elizabeth, and Colorado Springs. Please contact me if I can help!





### JH BASKETBALL

Congratulations to both the boys and girls junior high basketball teams for winning the Black Forest League Championships this season!!

### HS MATCHWITS

Great job to the high school matchwits team that competed at the Regional Knowledge Bowl on January 27—results will be in the next Cub Reporter.

### FBLA

Good luck to all of our FBLA students that will be participating at the District FBLA meet on January 30th! Results from their competition will be posted next month.

JH Community  
Service



### JH DRAMA

The JH Drama performance was fantastic!! Congratulations to all the actors and actresses that performed—and a great job to all the behind-the-scenes stage hands.

### ATTENDANCE REMINDER

It is the belief of the Big Sandy School District that students who attend school regularly learn more and are more successful. Doing the assignment for the day, can never completely make-up for the learning that is missed during an absence from school. As a parent, you can help Big Sandy and

your student by assuring their regular attendance each day. If it is necessary for your child to be absent, please contact the office at 541-2291. Absences that are not reported are automatically considered unexcused and can carry both attendance and academic consequences. As we begin a new semester, review the teacher expectations with your child and revisit your student handbook for clarification of the attendance policy. Here are three ideas to help your son/daughter make the most of his/her educational experience:

1. **Limit late-night work hours to the weekend;**
2. **Make sure your student has a loud alarm clock; and**
3. **Stress why he/she needs to get to school on time. An employer will not let him/her show up whenever he/she feels like it.**

Students are allowed 8 excused absences (only 2 unexcused absences) per semester, and many students have exceeded that number from the first semester. 16 excused absences are allowed for the entire school year. When your student goes over the 8 absences for the semester or 16 absences for the year a Monday school or multiple Monday schools

may be a consequence that is enforced. After 16 absences in the school year, the student and parents may be required to appear before the Big Sandy Board of Education. If your child has more than 16 absences (excused and/or unexcused) you may be invited to the April board meeting. The School Board reserves the right to allow academic sanctions, loss of credit, or other suitable measures for violations of the district's attendance policy.

We encourage students to be in school, but with all the craziness again this year we also encourage students to stay home this year when they are not feeling well. Parents you have done an outstanding job this year keeping your kids home when they have been sick or having any sickness symptoms, and we appreciate that! I believe that is one of the reasons that we have been able to stay in school with in person learning again this year. Please contact your child's teachers for missing work, how to make participation points and any questions that may arise from your child's absence.

### NHS GUIDELINES

Students having a 3.5 GPA after the second 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. Applications will be given to students, and we will begin the student interview process in the near future.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent teacher conferences will be held on February 15th from 3 – 8 p.m. Secondary Conferences will all be open conferences on a first come first serve basis. We will dismiss school early that day at 1:30 p.m. You are also welcome to call teachers to conference if you are unable to attend.

### END OF THE DAY PHONE CALLS

Please try to call before 3:30 p.m. if you are trying to get a message to your child by the end of the day. This is especially important for junior high students. Junior high has PE last hour of the day, and if we receive a call right before 4:00 p.m., the office sometimes



is unable to relay that message in the transition after PE class. The earlier the phone call, the more time we have to relay the message.

# 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!**



## COLORADO SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

January was Colorado School Board Recognition Month; thank you board members for your work for all of us. Chad Maranville, Greg Mitchell, Judy Book, Hank Smith and Curtis Stanko. Thank you board members for volunteering for an important, time consuming job that highly benefits our community!

# SUPERINTENDENT BOARD NOTES

STEVE WILSON



## ELECTRIC BUSES

We received our third electric school bus last month; we are continuing to work on the infrastructure. We have been waiting on bus radios before we put them on routes.

## JH BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the Junior High boys' and girls' basketball teams as they both had great years winning the Black Forest League and League Tournaments. We look forward to the Junior High wrestling and matchwits seasons starting soon.



## Welcome back to school, 2024!

### SCHOOL AUDIT

Overall, we had a good first semester with student learning and extracurricular activities. Our four-year Colorado Department of Education Audit was finalized last month and it turned out very favorable! Our annual audit was finalized last month and

was overall favorable; we have a couple of things we are working on. Our annual audit showed that our overall fund balances are very healthy. Thank you to Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Hankins for all of their extra work in keeping our record keeping straight, especially, with the many COVID related grants. Outside of COVID, we are receiving around \$1.8 million in grants this school year.



### BUDGET

The Governor has made revisions to his Preliminary Budget that was introduced in November. He proposes to "pay off" the Budget Stability Factor so that additional money will not be taken away; public schools have had over \$10 billion taken away in the past 23 years. The legislative session will take the current Governor's Budget as a starting point and then will be working on

it throughout the legislative session, which started in January and runs until May.

Last month we approved the school's final budget for this current 2023-2024 school year. We also passed the current mill levy which is lower than last year. After amending our bond agreement two years ago and being able to cut the interest rate in half, we continue to have lower payments for the

final eight years of our "mortgage." (Hard to believe we have already paid off 12 years towards our "new" school building...this is our 11th year being in it)

It is great to be a Simla Cub!

Happy Valentine's Day!



# DO THE THINGS THAT MATTER THE MOST



"To make state in  
triple jump"



"To get a low taper  
fade"



"To go outdoors  
more"



"To not drop out of  
college"



"To strive to be  
great"





# New Year New Me



*Pictures and Design by  
Charley Maranhville*

## Simla High School New Years Resolutions



**Skye Feliciano-**  
"Improve my  
writing"



**Brent  
Bowker-**  
"Read the Bible  
more"



**Mrs. Swennes-**  
"Travel more and  
spend more time  
with family"



**Morgan Swennes-**  
"Read more"



**Elyse Borden-**  
"Exercise more"





*Meadow Nusbaum with  
the Simla Dance Team  
performing their routine  
before State*





# HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRODUCTION

**Join the High School Drama and Drama Tech classes:**

**When: Wednesday, April 24th @ 7pm**

**Where: in the auxiliary gym**

**For: "Beauty & the Beast"**

Music by ALAN MENKEN, Lyrics By HOWARD ASHMAN AND TIM RICE, Book by LINDA WOOLVERTON  
Originally Directed by Rob Roth and Originally produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

Join us Wednesday, April 24th at 7p.m., for the MTI, Broadway production of Beauty and the Beast Jr. Once upon a time in a far-away land, an Enchantress turns a cruel, unfeeling Prince into a hideous Beast. To break the spell, the Beast must learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal falls from an enchanted rose. Ten years later, in a small provincial town far below the castle, a beautiful and intelligent young woman, Belle, yearns for adventure. Belle meets many new friends along the way such as Lumiere, Cogsworth, Mrs. Potts and Chip.



You will enjoy the singing and dancing of many talented students as they portray these beloved characters, and even some not so loved, Gaston, Lefou and Monsieur D'Arque.



## JUNIOR HIGH DRAMA

Watch for future news from the Junior High Drama class. They have chosen the play, Murder on the 518 by Michelle Giles, produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service. The date is TBD, but we know you won't want to miss this mystery and find out who dunit!

# *Rivals Rally for a Cure*

## *Simla v Calhan*

Cancer Fundraiser

Saturday, February 10, 2024

@ Calhan High School

800 Bulldog Drive, Calhan

Games Begin at 2:00 pm

### **Raffle Baskets & Restaurant Gift Cards**

*Gift Cards & Merchandise from Local Businesses*

### **SILENT AUCTION FOR BASKETBALLS SIGNED BY SIMLA TEAMS**

*“Chuck-a-Duck” @ Half Time of Boys Varsity Game*

*Sponsored by Farmers State Bank ~ Win a Top Golf Gift Certificate*

**\* All money raised by Calhan v Cancer Fundraiser will be donated to the American Cancer Society. \***

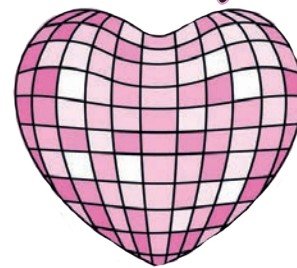
*We hope to see you there to cheer our Simla Bear Cubs on to victory  
and to raise money for a great cause!*





# TEACHER OF \_\_\_\_\_ THE \_\_\_\_\_ MONTH \_\_\_\_\_

*February*



**MARY BAUER**

*Mrs. Bauer teaches Spanish and Drama to Junior High and High School students at Big Sandy High Schools. During the school year she is super busy, so she looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren on the weekends. During the summer Mrs. Bauer loves to hike, run, garden, and spend all the time she can with her family. She loves to teach and see her students learn and improve, but her favorite part of her job is witnessing the amazing talents of individual students. Whether that is on the stage, art room, classroom, or on the court! Mrs. Bauer loves to celebrate all the talent in this school. Mrs. Bauer has two loving parents that always inspired her! They raised Mrs. Bauer to be an amazing human among her six other siblings, who have raised twenty children who are brave, hardworking, and very inspirational.*



## WHOS MOST LIKELY TO!!!

Junior High  
Edition

**Lilliana Gallegos was voted  
for most likley to make you  
laugh**

**Saydee Hoops was voted  
to most likely dance in a  
beyonce music video**



*Pictures and Design by  
Crystal Ortiz*



**Mrs. Tipton was voted for  
most likley to get mistaken  
for a student**





Isaac Spencer was voted as the most likely to be the star of his own reality TV show!!

Palin Nickell and Trent Lacey were voted as most likely to get a little too competitive in PE



*Pictures and Design by  
Aevry Boyd*



Onica Frost was voted most likely to survive the Hunger Games!!

## JH HIGHLIGHT







LUNCH

# FEBRUARY 2024

Big Sandy 100 J

This institution is an Equal Opportunity provider. Menu subject to Change.

Monday



5

Chicken Nuggets  
Mac and cheese  
Green Beans, Salad bar  
Fruit, Bread slice  
Milk

12

Pig in a Blanket  
Green Beans, pudding  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

19

Pizza  
Lettuce, Salad bar  
Fruit, Cookie  
Milk

26

Tuesday



6

Hamburger/ Hot Dog  
French Fries, Lettuce  
Tomato, Cheese  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

13

Super Nachos  
Lettuce, Salad bar  
Fruit, Brownie  
Milk

Tater Tot Casserole  
Corn, Salad Bar  
Dinner roll, Fruit  
Milk

20

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

27

Wednesday



7

Chicken Alfredo  
Broccoli, Dinner roll  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

14

Spaghetti  
Bread sticks, Lettuce  
Salad bar, Fruit  
JELLO, Milk

Chicken patty  
Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy  
Green Beans, Bread slice  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

21

Chicken and Noodles  
Whipped Potatoes  
Broccoli, Salad bar  
Dinner roll, Fruit  
Milk

28

Thursday

English muffin w/sausage  
Egg, and cheese  
Hash brown patty  
Salad bar, carrots, Fruit  
Milk

1

Beef and Bean Burrito  
Green Chili w/Pork  
Lettuce, Cheese  
Cowboy Bread, Salad bar  
Apple sauce, Milk

8

Sloppy Joe  
Chips, Baked beans  
Salad bar, fruit  
Milk

15

Ham/ Turkey sandwich  
Lettuce, Cheese  
Chips, Carrots, Celery  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

22

Hot Dogs  
Chips, Baked Beans  
Salad Bar, Fruit  
Milk

29

Friday

Chicken Patty sandwich  
Chips, Carrots  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

2

Cub Sub  
Lettuce, cheese, Tomato  
Chips, cookie  
Salad bar, Fruit  
Milk

9

No School

16

No School

23



POSING FOR A  
PICTURE BEFORE  
THE GAME



Photo Credit: Nathan Thieman





# VALENTINES MINI SESSIONS

The 5th Hour Journalism Class is offering Valentines Mini Sessions on February 7th. Come have your kiddo take a fun picture, (or for you HS kids), take a picture with your friends! You will receive 1 digital image for \$5 per photo and it will be emailed to you.

Pictures will be taken during Elementary, JH and HS lunch. All proceeds will go towards new photo gear for the Journalism class! Fill out that order form and come on out and have some fun!

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Picture combos/ Names of kids:* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Amount Enclosed:* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## FBLA UPDATE

TIM TUCKER

*The January District FBLA Conference took place Tuesday, January 30th. Big Sandy school took 29 students and the results are as follows:*

*Accounting II Conor Klecker 4th place*

*Ag Business: Carson Smith 1st/Skyla Harr 4th*

*Business Communication: Victor Stonehouse 1st/Kylie Maranville 4th*

*Computer Problem Solving: Teague Jones 4th*

*Insurance: Tatum Kocerha 4th*

*Intro to FBLA: Adam Shults 5th*

*Parliamentary Procedure: Nathaniel Cauthon, Eli Stodola, Austin Hinds, Braedon Welch 1st*

*Securities and Finance: Austin Hinds 4th*

*Supply Chain: Morgan Swennes 4th*

*Broadcast Journalism: Treven Kocerha, Teague Jones, Tatum Kocerha 2nd*

*Network Design: Dillon Easler, Adam Shults, Jack Zimmerman 2nd*

*Public Speaking: Ryleigh Tunink 4th*

*Website Design: Kylie Maranville, Myka Smith 1st*

*Social Media Strategies: Charley Maranville, Morgan Swennes 1st*







**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment



Advancing Colorado's health and protecting the places we live, learn, work and play

**Dear parents/guardians of students attending Colorado kindergarten - 12<sup>th</sup> grade schools for the 2024-25 school year:**

We know there's nothing more important than making sure your children stay healthy and learning all year long. Getting vaccinated is an important part of keeping kids in school, as it prevents them from catching and spreading diseases that can make them sick. This letter includes important information about Colorado's school vaccine requirements, as well as other resources.

**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 a Certificate of Exemption is filed. For more information, visit [cdphe.colorado.gov/schoolrequiredvaccines](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/schoolrequiredvaccines).

To attend school, your child must be vaccinated against:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP, Tdap)
- Hepatitis B (HepB)
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
- Polio (IPV)
- Varicella (chickenpox)

Colorado follows recommendations set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#). This committee is a group of medical and public health experts who study vaccines and recommend them for the public. **Before starting kindergarten**, students must receive their final doses of DTaP, IPV, MMR, and varicella. **Before starting sixth grade**, students must receive one dose of Tdap vaccine, even if the student is age 10. View recommended vaccine schedules at: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child-easyread.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child-easyread.html) (birth through 6 years) or [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/adolescent-easyread.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/adolescent-easyread.html) (7 to 18 years).

CDC also recommends vaccines for COVID-19, hepatitis A (HepA), human papillomavirus (HPV), influenza (flu), and meningococcal disease (MenACWY and MenB) for the K-12 population, but these are not required for school entry in Colorado.

This recommended schedule is safe and effective. It's based on how your child's immune system responds to vaccines at various ages, and how likely your child is to be exposed to a particular disease.

**Exclusion from school**

Your child may be excluded if their school does not have an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization, Certificate of Exemption, or an in-process plan on file for your child.

If someone is sick or there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease at your child's school, and your child 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 child has not received a MMR vaccine, they may need to stay home from school for 21 days after someone gets sick with measles.

**Have questions?**

Talk with a health care provider or your local public health agency to ask questions and find out which vaccines your child needs. Find a vaccine provider at [cdphe.colorado.gov/get-vaccinated](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/get-vaccinated). Read about the safety and importance of vaccines at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/FAQs.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/FAQs.html), [childvaccineco.org](https://childvaccineco.org), [ImmunizeForGood.com](https://ImmunizeForGood.com), and [cdphe.colorado.gov/immunization-education](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/immunization-education).

Staying up to date on routine immunizations is important for adults as well as children. It's never too late for families to get back on track! Learn more at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/index.html).

**Paying for vaccinations**

If you need help finding free or low-cost vaccines, go to [COVax4Kids.org](https://COVax4Kids.org), contact your local public health agency ([cdphe.colorado.gov/find-your-local-public-health-agency](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/find-your-local-public-health-agency)), or dial **2-1-1** for information on Health First Colorado (Medicaid) and vaccine clinics in your area.

**Vaccination records**

Share your child's updated Certificate of Immunization with their school every time they receive a vaccine.

Need to find your student's vaccine record? It may be available from the [Colorado Immunization Information System \(CIIS\)](https://coloradoimmunizationinformation.org/). Visit [COVaxRecords.org](https://COVaxRecords.org) for more information, including directions on how to view and print your student's vaccine record.

**Exemptions**

If your student cannot get vaccines for medical reasons, you must submit a Certificate of Medical Exemption to your school, signed by an advanced practice nurse (APN), physician (MD, DO), or physician assistant (PA) licensed to practice in any state or territory in the United States. You only need to submit this certificate once, unless your student's school or information changes. Get the form at [cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions).

If you choose not to have your student vaccinated according to Colorado's school vaccine requirements for nonmedical reasons, you must submit a Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption to your school. Nonmedical exemptions must be submitted on an annual basis. There are two ways to obtain a nonmedical exemption.

1. Submit the Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption *signed by* an advanced practice nurse (APN), pharmacist, physician (MD, DO), physician assistant (PA), or registered nurse (RN), licensed in Colorado, or
2. Submit the Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption you will be able to access upon completion of the state's Online Immunization Education Module.

Find certificates and the Online Immunization Education Module at [cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions).

**How's your school doing on vaccinations?**

Annually, schools must report immunization and exemption numbers (but not student names or birthdates) to the state health department. Schools do not control their specific immunization and exemption rates or establish the Vaccinated Children Standard described in [§25-4-911, CRS](#).

Your child's school's immunization rates from the 2022-23 school year. Find previous years' data at <a href="https://COVaxRates.org">COVaxRates.org</a> .		
School name	2022-23 MMR immunization rate (required)	2022-23 MMR exemption rate (required)
Big Sandy School District	90.8%	4.8%
Schools may choose to include rates for other school-required vaccines		
Vaccinated Children Standard 95% immunization rate for all school-required vaccines	2022-23 DTaP immunization rate	2022-23 DTaP exemption rate
	93%	3.8%
	2022-23 Tdap immunization rate (for grades 6-12)	2022-23 Tdap exemption rate (for grades 6-12)
	87.7%	3.4%
	2022-23 HepB immunization rate	2022-23 HepB exemption rate
	92%	4.5%
	2022-23 Polio immunization rate	2022-23 Polio exemption rate
	91.1%	4.1%
	2022-23 varicella immunization rate	2022-23 varicella exemption rate
	88.9%	5.7%