## * CUB REPORTER

## Student Spotlight $\}$

 $\left.\begin{array}{r}2024 \\ \text { Baccalaureate }\end{array}\right]$Final Yearbook
Ordering 7
May Lunch
Calendar


Elle Leininger and Treven Kocerha dancing in the ballroom scene of the Simla Drama Departments "Beauty \& The Beast Jr on April 24th

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 May
3/4/5 Grades to Skyzone

## 9 May

IA Fair Judging/ Field Trip
10 May
Elementary Field Day
13 May
Monday School

## 14 May

Decision Day
Choir Concert

## 15 May

6th Grade Field Trip JH Incentive

## 16 May

Choir Field Trip Last Day for
Kindergarten \& Seniors State Track
22 May
8th Grade Graduation
23 May
Last Day of School!
Elementary Awards



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

TEAGUE JONES

Teague Jones is student spotlight for May. He is always helping friends and classmates in the classroom and always knows how to cheer someone up if they are feeling down. Teague is a straight A student athlete doing Baseball and cross country. Teague is also involved in many clubs such as FBLA,Esports and he is the school treasurer. Teague is a great example of what Simla is about.

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## DON’T FORGET!

Please show your appreciation for your teacher May 7-10th


## THANK YOU .

Parents for trusting us with your children and for your continued support by helping with parties, homework etc. Teachers for doing such a wonderful job with equipping students for the future
Administration for making our school such a great place to learn Mr. Thieman \& Mr. Tucker for helping set up and organize our testing Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Gentzel, Mrs. Norris, Ms. Hodgson \& Ms. Augen for helping students stay safe at recess
Custodians for keeping our school
looking great
Ms. Kiniston, Mrs. Molner, and Mrs. Billmire for the wonderful food
Bus drivers for keeping us safe on the roads School Board for supporting staff, students, and families

## TUCKER TIDBITS FOR ELEMENTARY <br> 0

## KATHY TUCKER ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



It has certainly been a year where we have all "Made it Count!" Teachers, staff, students, and parents have worked extremely hard filling gaps that had existed previously. Reflecting on this year brings a smile to my face as I remember much laughter, accomplishments, successes, andeven some tears. I am grateful and honored to work each day with such an amazing staff,incredible students, and a supportive admin, board, and community. Together, we make a great team where we make it count each and every day!

## GOODBYE TO 5TH GRADE

As the end of the year continues to approach, it's almost time to say good-bye to our incredible fifth graders. They have provided much leadership, laughter, and a legacy for others to follow. Although we will miss them sorely, we look forward to seeing their continued successes as they move on to sixth grade!


| TUCKER TIDBITS |  | CUBREPORTER | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## EASTER PARTIES

Thank you, parents, for making these parties memorable for all students!


With the end of the school year upon us, numerous activities and events will be happening which are listed below and on the school website.

## ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL

It's time again for elementary STUCO elections. In early May, a questionnaire, which will include all specifics, will be sent home with those fifth graders who are interested in running for a STUCO leadership position. After forms are received back, each applicant will need to prepare a speech. In May, speeches will be presented before the second, third, fourth, fifth graders, and staff. The leadership team will be elected by a $50 \%$ teacher vote and $50 \%$ student body vote. Winners will be notified the day after the election.
A great big "thank you" to this year's STUCO leaders. They have all done an amazing job taking care of their elementary duties.


MUFFINS WITH MOM/SON
Come join us on May 1 st , $7 \mathrm{am}-7: 55 \mathrm{am}$ for our first annual Muffins
with Moms/Sons in the cafeteria.

## CMAS 2024

Third, fourth, and fifth graders accepted the challenge and completed all of their CMAS testing. Those who worked hard and
applied test taking strategies earned points that could be applied towards an exciting trip to SkyZone. This trip will take place on May 3rd. For students who earned 110 points or more, we will leave the school at 10 am and return at $3: 55$ pm. Each student will need to bring a lunch and drink. Thank you, Bearcubs, for working so hard! We are proud of you!

## SCHOOL ON MONDAY!

Due to the calendar, we
WILL HAVE school on
Monday, May 13. We will
have NO SCHOOL on
Friday, May 17.


## ELEMENTARY FIELD DAY FRIDAY, MAY 10TH, 2024 <br> box of Kleenex.

Kindergarten through 5th grade students will participate in field events at the track in the morning (8:10 a.m.-11:00 a.m.). Parents and/or family members are welcome and encouraged to come and watch their child participate in these activities. After field events are completed, parents are welcome to join their child for lunch. If you are the parent, relative, or friend of a kindergarten through 5th grade student, you can make a reservation for lunch. Reservation papers have already been sent home. The price of an adult lunch is \$4.00. After completing the form, please send it back, along with your lunch money, to your child's teacher as soon as possible. The last day to turn in your form and money will be May 5, 2023. If we have bad weather that Friday, then field day will be rescheduled to the following Monday, May 13, 2024. After lunch and recess, students will return to normal activities, including specials.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE THURSDAY, MAY 16TH

During the last two hours of the day, our elementary will be "giving back" to the community. All Cub's Den groups will be seeking opportunities to clean up or help wherever needed in Simla and surrounding communities. If you know of a job or two that we could help complete and make a difference, please call the front office, 719-541-2291 and let Mrs. Tucker know, or you can email her at ktucker@bigsandy100j.org.

## KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

 THURSDAY, MAY 16THIt's time to celebrate the accomplishments of our youngest Bearcubs while formally welcoming them into the elementary! Kindergarten graduation will be at 6 p.m., in the big gym, with a short reception following the ceremony. Be sure to bring your camera, and perhaps a

## ELEMENTARY

 AWARDS ASSEMBLY THURSDAY, MAY 23RDAll students, first through fifth grades will be recognized. Parents, friends, and relatives are invited to attend. The fifth grade will have a graduation celebration after the awards ceremony. Parents are welcome to take their child home after the ceremony or celebrations. Elementary school will be dismissed early, at noon, on this day. This will be the elementary's last day of school.

## FIELD TRIPS

At the end of the year, classes take field trips to celebrate the success of students and to learn beyond the classroom. Students are rewarded with these trips for good behavior, good grades, good work ethic etc. If a student is lacking in any of these areas, then he or she may not be allowed to attend the field trip. Teachers will inform students if they are ineligible to attend their field trip. Eligible students will be bringing home permission slips. Please sign and return with the required amount of money. Students need to make sure they are prepared and remember to bring their manners and great behavior.

## CLASS LISTS/SUMMER ACTIVITY CALENDER/ BACK TO SCHOOL

 TESTING/MEETINGSReport cards will either be sent home on the last day of school or mailed home. All information regarding next year will be included with your child's report card. Please look for this information as it will also include class lists for next year along with scheduled testing times or meetings for the following school year.

SUMMER SCHOOL dates this year will be June. Letters will be sent home to interested students. If you would like for your child to attend summer school, please send your child's letter asap as
formation will be sent home in the middle of May. If you did not receive a letter and would like your child to participate, let your child's classroom teacher know. Enrollment will be open to all students. This program provides students with the opportunity to maintain and gain skills needed to be successful in the educational environment. This is not an alternative for a student who has been identified for retention. As with any educational opportunity, excellent attendance and student effort is expected.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

## CALENDAR

This calendar will be sent home with your child's report card at the end of the school year. It will have different subjects designated for different weeks with daily activities. When students return for back-to-school testing, they will need to turn in the calendar with the parent's signature in order to be eligible for the prizes. Participating in the Simla Library Summer Program will also count towards completion on the summer calendar.
Either way, please make sure your child reads daily, either to him/herself or aloud. This is a major factor in a child's future academic success.


MAY STUDENT
OF THE MONTH: TRISTAN RASCO
Tristan Rasco is one of our May Students of the month. Tristan is new to our school this year and is in Mrs. Thieman's third grade class. He is a hard worker, and has a positive attitude from the time that he enters the classroom until he goes home. Since joining our class in October, he has overcome many challenges. Even when things are hard, Tristan always has encouraging words for his classmates and maintains his positive outlook. Way to go, Tristan!


MAY STUDENT OF THE MONTH: NEVAEH BELL
Neveah Bell is a sec-ond-grade student in Mrs. Cox's class. She has worked very hard this year, gets along with everyone, and is very friendly. In addition, she is always willing to help out with anything. Mrs. Cox states that she is very proud of Nevaeh for the growth that she has shown this year. Thank you, Neveah!


## MAY STUDENT OF THE MONTH: ZAYLA VANCE

Zayla Vance is a fifth grader at our school. She is a hard worker, kind to others, helpful, and a good leader to her peers and younger students. Zayla is also a Student Council leader and does an amazing job with her responsibilities there as well. Thank you, Zayla for being such a great Bearcub!

# SECONDARY PRINCIPAL NOTES: 

## SAMMI SWENNES

## STUDENT HONORS

Congratulations to both our track and baseball teams for great spring seasons so far. Both teams will be competing in May to qualify for the post season.


This year's high school spring drama production was incredible! The high school drama class did an amazing job on Beauty and the Beast Jr.


Congratulations to all the students who attended State FBLA. Congratulations to Carson for placing in the top 4 of his event and qualifying for the National FBLA competition in Orlando, Florida this summer.


## SPRING CHOIR/BAND CONCERT

The Secondary Choir Concert will be on May 14th at 6:00 p.m.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

Big Sandy students are required to meet high, academic standards. Sometimes we have to go beyond the regular school year to catch up with expectations. For a high school student looking to regain credits or a junior high student needing to pass a course to advance to the next grade, he/ she can take an on-line class through Colorado Digital Learning Solutions. The summer school session runs June 7th through July 30th, and after completion this would be for a semester credit. The cost of these courses are $\$ 100$. You can register for courses at: www.coloradodls.org . At this time we do not offer summer school for junior high or high school students at the school. There are other options available for summer school, but would first need to be approved by Mr. Thieman or Mrs. Swennes
before credit would be accepted from another source.

## PROM

This year's prom, 'Golden Era', was another amazing experience for our high school students. Congratulations to the Prom Royalty court of Charley Maranville, Amara Mazerall, Zaida Harms \& Dalton Hisle, Brent Bowker \& Jack Zimmerman. Congratulations to the 2023 King and Queen Jack Zimmerman and Amara Mazerall.


## 8TH GRADE GRADUATION

The 8th grade promotion will be on Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the main gym. The 8th grade students will not have to attend school on May 23rd, their last day will be on May 22nd.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

The commencement ceremony for the Graduating Class of 2024 will be on May 25th at 10:00 a.m. The senior's last day of school is May 16th.

## DRESS CODE REMINDER

Warmer weather means shedding the coats and jeans and adorning clothing more suitable to summer-like conditions. Please be mindful of the dress code found in your Student Handbook. Some things noted in the dress code that could be potential temptations include midriff shirts or other tight or low-cut clothing, sunglasses, shorts shorter than fingertip length, pajama bottoms, and tank tops or other similar clothing with straps narrower than 1.5 inches in width. Thank you for your attention in monitoring these items in the past. We have had a successful year, primarily because everyone has been so compliant with the dress code.

## 2024-2025 CLASS REGISTRATION

We will begin registration for next school year. For those students returning to Big Sandy Schools, a draft of the 2024-25 Master Schedule and a form to enter first and second class choices will be sent home. Students are to have parent's signature when returning the form to Mr. Thieman. In coordination with this event, we will hold a freshman orientation for 8th grade students. In this orientation, we will outline high school graduation requirements, encourage students to become actively involved in extracurricular activities, promote leadership opportunities, and stress the importance of good study habits and positive choices. If you have questions pertaining to pre-registration and/or freshman orientation, please contact Mr. Thieman or Mrs. Swennes.

## ACADEMIC AWARDS

This year's academic awards will be held in the Big Gym on May 23rd from 2:00-4:00 p.m. All students will be
dismissed to the gym at that time. Parents are welcome to attend. Students will be recognized with various awards from teachers and we will also be holding our BIG honor roll and attendance prize drawings. Students who were on the Honor Roll for the first 3 quarters of school will be entered into the drawing. Students will be entered into the attendance drawing for missing 4 or less days for the school year. We will also be holding some other prize drawings during the ceremony. Students must be present to win.

## 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Be sure to look for your Cub Reporter this summer that will have information about the new school year. Such things as bus drop off, parent drop off, student parking, and all other school information will be found in this Cub Reporter.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Teacher/Staff Appreciation week is May 7 - May 10. This is a great time to show your child's teacher (s) how much you appreciate the hard work they put in each and every day teaching your child. A kind word or note is always appreciated! This year our Teacher Appreciation theme is a Survivor Theme.

## INDUSTRIAL ARTS FAIR

The Industrial Arts Fair will be held in Limon on May 8th and May 9th. You will be receiving more information from Mr . Schmidt about the fair.

## ATHLETIC AWARDS CEREMONY

We will be having this year Athletic Awards for all high school athletes on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Big Gym. We will not be having a potluck this year, so just bring yourself and enjoy an evening of celebrating your child's athletic achievements.

## DECISION DAY

This year we will be holding a special ceremony for our seniors called 'Decision Day'. This is to honor students who have made a commitment to continue their learning journeys by attending a 2 or 4 year college, a vocational or trade school, a certified apprenticeship/internship, or the military. We are proud of all of our seniors and their choices, but we want to take time to honor those that are continuing their educations. We
invite to you join us to celebrate these seniors on Tuesday, May 14 at 2 p.m. You are invited to wear special gear from you trade or alma mater, or maybe you have a special senior you want to support and wear the gear from their future school, trade or military branch.

We will be having school on Monday, May 13th. There will be no school on Friday, May 17th.


## 2024 BIG SANDY SCHOOLS BACCALAUREATE

This year's traditional Baccalaureate Service will be held on FRIDAY, MAY 24TH AT 7 P.M. A Baccalaureate is a religious service held for a graduating class and includes singing, a graduation message, and prayer for the graduates and their families.

The service begins at 7 p.m. at the Matheson Community Bible Church and will be followed by a cake reception. The Baccalaureate is open to all who would like to attend. In order to plan for the reception, Mr. Thieman will be checking with each senior as to whether or not they will be attending and approximately how many guests will accompany them. Invitations will also be mailed to each senior's family. For more information, call Chad Thieman at (719) 659-4079.

## COUNSELOR CORNER

CHAD THIEMAN


## SENIORS

Graduation is almost here! Our seniors are ready and excited to see what their futures hold! There are still some scholarship applications due in May so make sure to check on due dates. The Glen and Jennie Kimble Memorial Scholarship and the T.R. "Shorty" Hamacher Memorial Scholarship interviews will take place in May. Scholarship recipients will be announced during the graduation ceremony on May 25th.

Each senior will be receiving an envelope of documents that include: cumulative file data, official transcripts, and immunization records. It is important to keep a copy of the transcript and immunization records as they will be needed as time goes on. I will also keep a copy of this information permanently on file at the school. Please note that we do not keep copies of diplomas in the permanent file; only a transcript, which is the official documentation of your graduation from Simla High School.

At the end of the semester, I will send an official high school transcript for each of our seniors attending college next year. I will also upload transcripts to the NCAA eligibility center for athletes. No action from our students is needed for the official high school transcript.

Seniors who have taken college
credit courses in high school must themselves request their official college transcripts directly from the college where they took the course. We do not receive college transcripts and I am not able to request them. It is the student's responsibility to contact the college and request that an official transcript be sent to their new college. There may be a fee charged with this process. I recommend that the student start by searching how to request a transcript on the sending school's website.

## JUNIORS

Our juniors took the digital SAT on April 17th. Results will be sent via their Student College Board Account in May. All juniors wishing to improve their scores should plan on taking it again in the fall at a National Test Site. Visit www.sat.org for more information on test dates and sites.

Some students may benefit from taking the ACT instead of the SAT. Visit www. actstudent.org for more information on test dates and sites.

Juniors should look for opportunities to be involved in the community over the summer. Colleges and scholarship committees are looking for students who are able to document community service experience. We have opportunities in Simla at the Thrift Store, at CrossRoads, at the library, through Youth Baseball, etc. Where can you volunteer this summer?

Summer break is a great time to start organizing your portfolios in preparation for completing scholarship applications. Samples of award certificates, honors received, and community service records/logs will be useful as you enter your senior year.

## SOPHMORES

Our sophomores took the digital PSAT 10 on April 17th. Students will receive their results via their Student College Board Accounts in May. This was also a great practice opportunity for them if they are interested in qualifying for the National Merit Scholarship contest next fall. That scholarship uses the results of their fall 11th grade PSAT (optional) assessment as its qualifier so they will already be familiar with the test if they choose to take it.

## FRESHMEN

Our freshmen took the digital PSAT 9 on April 17th. Students will receive their results via their Student College Board Accounts in May. Taking the PSAT this year gives them good practice for the PSAT 10 and then the SAT when they are juniors.

## ALL SECONDARY STUDENTS

Pre-registration for next year's courses will begin in early May for each 5 th -11 th grader. I will speak to each grade and hand out scheduling forms. Parent approval is required on all schedules.

The School Board's approved graduation requirements are:
(1 unit = 1 full year/2 semesters)
4 units English
3 units Math (Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2 are our minimum expected high school math courses)
3 units Science
3 units Social Studies (U.S. History, World History, and Civics are required)
1 unit Computers
1 unit Physical Education
1 unit Personal \& Workforce Readiness (Senior Seminar)
11 units Electives (any courses completed in addition to the above list; extra courses from above also count as electives)

## 27 total credits required for graduation

Foreign language is not required for graduation but it may be important for college admission.

Algebra 1 taken in the 8th grade does not count toward High School graduation credit. Students who completed that course in Junior High will need to take 3 additional units of High School Math.

Each student is also required to demonstrate adequate preparation in both English and Math. This may be demonstrated in a variety of ways including standardized test scores or passing our capstone senior seminar project. Meeting this requirement must be reported to the state and I will take care of making sure each of our seniors have the opportunity to meet this standard.

Extended-study college courses are being offered by Mrs. Montague (English Composition), Miss Collopy (Literature), and Mrs. Paintin (History) at the school. Opportunities for online college courses such as College Algebra are also provided through the Community College system and through CLDS online. Juniors and seniors may take as many of these courses as they choose as long as they fit into their ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan). Minimum SAT scores may be required to enroll but if your scores are not high enough then you may also attempt the Accuplacer assessment to qualify. If you earn less than a College D, do not complete the course, or do not drop the course by the drop date, then you are responsible to reimburse the school for any tuition or fees paid on your behalf.

Only juniors and seniors may take an online course. Courses cost $\$ 200$ per semester. Mr. Thieman has a hand out from Colorado Digital Learning Solutions for fall 2024 offerings. Online courses require commitment and the ability to complete assignments independently. Not every student is a good match for online courses so Mr. Thieman and Mrs. Swennes will need to approve all requests for online enrollment. The following criteria are being followed for the 20242025 school year:

1. If you have previously failed an online course then you will not be able to enroll in another one.
2. If we offer the course in our regular schedule and there is not a schedule conflict, then you will not be able to enroll in that course online.
3. You may online take 2 online non-college credit courses per semester.
Specific decisions to allow a student to take on online course will be made on a case by case basis. If you take an online course and fail it or choose not to complete it, then you will reimburse the school the cost of that course's tuition. You will not receive your diploma if you have not met your obligation of reimbursing the school for failed online courses.

As always, if I can assist you and your student in any way, please call me at 541-2291.





## SUPERINTENDENT \& BOARD NOTES <br> STEVE WILSON



## FBLA

Congratulations to the many Future Business Leaders of America students and sponsors for a good year and to those that represented us well at the state competition! Thank you Tim Tucker and Holly Sielaff for sponsoring these young ladies and gentlemen. Congratulations Carson Smith for qualifying to go to the national competition in Orlando this summer!

## JOB OPENINGS

We currently have openings for the 2024-2025 school year: Elementary Teacher, Bus Drivers, and Substitute Teachers. We try and keep our school website up-todate with any changes.

## MATCHWITS

Congratulations to our Matchwits Teams for successful seasons.

DRAMA
Congratulations to our Musi-
cians and to the Drama De- SPORTS
partment for your outstanding productions!

## INDUSTRIAL ARTS

In the Industrial Arts Shop, we have many impressive projects being built and the students are using new equipment that was provided through some big grants. Thank you Dave Schmidt and Patrick Bollar for the great instruction provided to our students!
t will be exciting to watch our Track \& Field, and Baseball Teams compete this month in the postseason competitions.

## ART

Thank you to the Art Students, Doug Cox and the Elementary Students and Staff for all of the wonderful art that has been displayed throughout the school this year. It really makes our days brighter and helps the school building

look great!

## CONCESSIONS

Thank you Junior Class and Senior Class and especially the sponsors (Kathy Tucker Tim Tucker, Whitney Zimmerman, Teffanie Rector, Mary Bauer, and Mike Hoops) for your hard work in concessions and towards making prom and the senior trip positive memories for our many students!

## BUDGET

Our budget for this fiscal year continues to be in good shape. Our total enrollment last week had 330 students, the same number of students we had during the October Count. The legislative session is coming to an end and the funding for rural schools during the next school year is looking to be positive as we begin to work on next school year's budget

## POLICIES

We have been staying caught up on all of our school board policies the past couple of months and look to see what new laws the state legislators will send our way.


## ELECTRIC BUSES

We had a ribbon cutting ceremony for our three new electric buses including the infrastructure for recharging them last week. Some of the people that were in attendance included representatives from CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health \& Environment), EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), McCandless Truck and Bus Center, InCharge Energy, Moms Clean Air Force, Mountain View Electric and Tri-State Generation \& Transmission Association. We would like to thank these entities for their donations to our school so that we could receive three electric buses and the infrastructure free to our school!

## THANK YOUS

We are working toward finishing the school year strong and wish for each of you a great summer!

Thank you to all of our teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, coaches, sponsors, and staff members that work at Big Sandy School District! Thank you lan Harms for coaching our athletes for the past 12+ years.

To the Class of 2024, congratulations, we enjoyed getting to share our years with you and we wish you well in the future!

Go Cubs!


## 2024 YEARBOOK ORDERING IS WRAPPING UP! DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS MAY 10TH!

All ordering for this years 2024 yearbook will be completed by May 10th. If you have not ordered yet you only have a few more days to do so before online and paper orders are closed. Make sure you order ASAP in order to guarantee you get a copy of the 2024 yearbook. The Yearbook Staff has been working hard to make this the best yearbook ever
 so dont miss out!

Charley Maranville as
"Maurice" in the Drama Departments "Beauty \& The Beast Jr"



## JH HIGHLIGHT


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