



Shawnee Mission Northwest News

December 2020

www.smnwptsa.org

A SMNW PTSA Publication

SMNW Calendar

December

- 3 Picture Re-Takes 1-6 pm
- 9 Site Council @ 3:00
- 9 PTSA Meeting 7:00 pm
- 22 Early Dismissal
- 23-1 Winter Break

January

- 4 No School
- 18 No School
- 20-22 Semester Exams
- 26 Beginning of 3rd Quarter

PTSA Update

From the PTSA President

If you haven't had a chance to join PTSA yet, you haven't missed your opportunity. Memberships for parents are \$20 each and \$15 for students and staff. [Click here to join.](#)

Thanks to everyone who attended the PTSA meeting this month via zoom. Questions or items you would like added to the agenda for the December meeting [can be submitted here.](#)

[Don't forget to like us on Facebook!](#)

Thanks for supporting PTSA!
[Courtney Roberts, SMNW PTSA President](#)

Remaining 2020 - 2021 PTSA Meetings:

- Wednesday, December 9th, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 10th, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 12th, 7:00 pm

Newsletter Deadlines Email submissions to smnwptsa@gmail.com by the 25th of the preceding month.

PICTURE DAY DECEMBER 3rd

Our last photo opportunity is Thursday! The Rolland Studios photographer will be here from 1 – 6 on December 3rd by appointment only. If you missed the first photo day, there is no charge. If it is a “retake” there will be a \$3.00 charge (bring to photo session). Follow link below to schedule:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4fa5a92fa1fd0-school>

Fall Athletes

This is your last chance to pick up hardware for letters and numerals earned in the Fall 2020 season. Submit your request to stefanieforbes@smsd.org by December 18, 2020, at the latest. In your request, you must include:

1. Athlete name
2. Sport
3. Desire to pick up hardware

An email will be sent to you with instructions on pick-up. Please be able to pick-up within 2-3 days of your request, so the office is not overwhelmed. Fall awards will no longer be available after December 2020.

School Fees:

Have you paid your school fees? You can go online to see the fees and pay:

<https://payments.efundsfor schools.com/v3/district/s/55790>

All optional fees have been removed except Yearbook. Contact the bookkeeper with questions at 913-993-7210.

2021 Mail-In Bond Election in the SMSD

Our Shawnee Mission community is looking toward the future. <https://www.smsd.org/bond-2021> about the SMSD mail-in bond election coming in January.

Residents will soon be asked to consider a bond proposal designed to provide lasting facilities improvements and strengthen student learning. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqJ5xyj2uRY&feature=youtu.be>

The Board of Education unanimously approved a resolution to place a \$264.2 million bond [https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/smsd/Board.nsf/files/BUKRDJ6D2094/\\$file/Election%20Documents%20\(USD%20512\)%20\(January%2026%202021%20Mail%20Ballot\)%20\(Option%20C\).pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/smsd/Board.nsf/files/BUKRDJ6D2094/$file/Election%20Documents%20(USD%20512)%20(January%2026%202021%20Mail%20Ballot)%20(Option%20C).pdf)

The goal is that the Shawnee Mission School District can continue to be ranked among the nation's finest school districts, employing exceptional educators who work in state-of-the-art facilities, where learners achieve their full potential.

Seniors

Graduation information can be found on SMNW website or through the student's seminar Canvas page. What we need now is to have the student fill out the google form for the diploma. This is a legal document and must reflect the birth certificate. If you want a middle name, this is the time to add it to the diploma. If your student would prefer their nickname or another name to be in the graduation program and read at graduation, there is a place on the google form to fill this out. More information:

We will not be passing out any information for cap and gowns. They can be purchased at www.balfourkc.com. The caps and gowns will be sent to the school, and we will pass these out in the spring. If you order announcements or any other items, they will be shipped directly to your home. See graduate video link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Wak5t2RtgEKoP9ARGjtEk5AQqcYGswmi/view>

If you have any questions, please contact the counselor's secretary Ms. Alvey at victoriaalvey@smsd.org



PANORAMA SURVEY

This school year (2020-2021), the Shawnee Mission School District is again utilizing the Panorama Social- Emotional Learning survey to assess students' perseverance, grit, determination, school culture, and student-teacher relationships. The Panorama Social-Emotional survey takes approximately 30 to 45 minutes to complete and will be administered once each semester. The first survey window is scheduled for November 2 through November 9, 2020. The Panorama Survey can be completed by students in the remote, hybrid, or in-building learning environment. Parents/Guardians would have opted their student(s) in or out of the survey during the 20-21 registration process. Survey data will be reviewed at the district and classroom level to determine areas of strength, as well as areas where more instruction and/or support is needed. Once survey results are returned, parents/guardians are welcome to see and discuss the results with their students' teachers, social workers, and counselors. Sample survey questions can be found here and here.

We encourage you to visit the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) website to learn more about how Social Emotional Learning benefits your child and their environment. All data is maintained by SMSD and will remain confidential. Please visit this site for more information about the Panorama SEL survey.

*Thank you so much!
Our staff really enjoyed
all the wonderful pies that our
PTSA parents and patrons donated
at Thanksgiving! We so appreciate
your kindness, support and
generosity. - NW Admin and Staff*

StuCo

Student Council was hard at work Quarter 1 and we're gearing up for more fun Quarter 2. We successfully ran Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Representative Elections – congrats to our newly elected reps! Our first virtual homecoming dance event went well! Our first Orange Army t-shirt order is being submitted soon so if you missed the first order, stay tuned for another opportunity to order a shirt. StuCo exec are meeting virtually with other area Shawnee Mission StuCo execs to work on district initiatives like the canned food virtual drive – donate at www.jccb.org! Our virtual Adopt a Tot event for preschoolers at Growing Futures is also available – adopt a family at <https://www.growingfutureseec.org/>. We are planning our first ever virtual talent show so stay tuned for more info! Reach out to Sponsor Sarah Dent at sarahdent@smsd.org with questions! Our exec board is also available to help answer questions: Callan Taylor, Garrett Goetz, Ella Kuffour, Brady King, Cullan Bower, and Erin Albers.

NHS



National Honor Society is pleased to announce that we issued invitations to all eligible junior and senior candidates. We had well over 100 candidates apply to become members. Membership will be announced later in December and we'll hold a virtual induction ceremony in January. Contact Sponsors Katelyn Rollins (katelynrollins@smsd.org) and Sarah Dent (sarahdent@smsd.org) with questions! Our exec board is also available to help: AJ Makkyla, Olivia Waren, Callan Taylor, Cora Manica, Jacob Johnson, and Kelly VandenBos.

CCC

Our CCC community service group is hard at work planning safe service opportunities for our community. We held a mask, earbud, and pants drive this fall for these popular items for students to use (we're still collecting if you have donations!) If you are interested in adopting a NW family for the holidays or supplying food for our food pantry at SMNW, reach out to Melissa Osborn and ask about our SMNW Love Fund. Please reach out to Sponsor Sarah Dent at sarahdent@smsd.org if you have service project needs. Our exec board is also available to help: Landyn Luttrell, Samantha Mudgett, Sarah Milks, Olivia Waren, Lili Bowen, Catilynn Fowler, Brady King, and Callan Taylor.

SADD

SADD is an organization at SMNW whose goal is to promote positive decision making in our students. We would like to remind students to be participating in classes, be active and get outside between classes, eat a healthy breakfast/lunch/snacks throughout the day, and reach out to classmates and teachers to stay connected during our remote learning phase! Reach out to Sarah Dent at sarahdent@smsd.org if you'd like to get involved with our organization! Our exec board is also available to help answer questions: Manvir Kaur, Jacob Mars, Wesley Simms, and Albert Hoelting.

Educator's Rising

If you are a student who is interested in going into the teaching profession, Educator's Rising is a club at SMNW for future teachers! Join the students enrolled in Teachers Education 1 & 2 as we learn about what the teaching profession is like, scholarship opportunities, and college programs. Contact Sponsor Sarah Dent at sarahdent@smsd.org with questions. We're getting ready to elect an exec board so get involved today!

NORTHWEST ATHLETICS UPDATE

<https://smnwcougars.com/>



KSHSAA SITES WINTER SPORTS MITIGATIONS

Winter sports have begun, we continue to strive to maintain excellence both on and off the playing field. Being an EVERYDAY CHAMPION is a program pillar not only for the playing field but in the classroom and throughout the community.

We remain proud of all entities that have come together – student-athletes, coaches, educators, support personnel, parents and the community – to allow the success that SMNW continues to endure. While all athletics continue to strive safe practices, it is imperative that the parents and communities help to reinforce these at all athletic contests. **At this time per KSHSAA Board of Director recommendations spectators will NOT Be allowed to attend athletic contests from December 1, 2020-January 28, 2021**, at which time spectator attendance will be reviewed.

Other KSHSAA Recommendations Summarized:

- KSHSAA has approved the amended Winter Moratorium to be from December 23, 2020-January 3, 2021
- KSHSAA has approved re-starting competitions after Winter Moratorium to be January 8, 2021
- KSHSAA has approved the following with regard to athletic competitions:
 - Basketball 20 games
 - Swim and Dive, Wrestling and Bowling to remain as status quo for competition

CHEERLEADERS ARE FINALISTS AT 6A GAMEDAY SHOWCASE

Cheerleaders SMNW Cheerleaders continued their success at the KSHSAA State Game Day Competition when they finished 5th at the 2020 competition. The Cougars who have been finalists for the past three years, competed virtually in adverse conditions; trying to maintain enthusiasm and energy while performing in front of empty stands due to the current COVID situation. The Cougars again showed high quality execution, and as a result the SMNW Competition Squad placed first amongst all Sunflower League competitors in route to their 5th place finish. We salute the squad's efforts and accomplishment, which is direct reflection of Coach Chambers and her coaching staff. Great job ladies.

ATHLETIC SIGNING RECOGNITIONS ARE PLANNED FOR FUTURE

Shawnee Mission Northwest has a rich tradition of student-athletes continuing on with post-secondary education while earning athletic scholarships. The athletic department at SMNW is proud to recognize these students for their achievements. If you are a student-athlete who has, or will, sign an athletic scholarship we would like to recognize you. The early signing ceremony in November will be postponed in hopes that we will have a face-to-face opportunity later in the school year. Currently the SMNW Athletic Department is planning to hold two ceremonies with the tentative dates being February 10, 2021 and April 14, 2021. As time progresses more information will become public. If you would like to participate in one of the ceremonies you are encouraged to contact Mr. Giacalone and give him your information. He can be reached direct office line at 913-993-7280 or by email at angelogiacalone@smsd.org.

FOOD SERVICE....Did you know.....

Did you know some ways to keep you and your family healthy during the holiday season?

Please follow these 4 basic food safety steps to reduce the risk of foodborne illness: Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill.

Clean: Wash Hands and Surfaces Often

- Hand washing is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of foodborne illness. Remember to wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds before and after handling food.
- Wash all counters, cutting boards, dishes, and utensils with hot soapy water.
- Keep books, backpacks, or shopping bags off the kitchen table or counters where food is prepared or served.

Separate: Don't Cross Contaminate

- Prevent cross-contamination by keeping raw meat, poultry, seafood and eggs separate from all other foods in your grocery shopping cart/bags, in your refrigerator, and while preparing items.
- Designate one cutting board for fresh produce and another for raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs.
- Replace empty platters instead of adding fresh food to a dish that already had food on it.
- Never place cooked food on a plate that previously held raw meat, poultry, seafood, or eggs.

Cook: Cook to Proper Temperatures

- Use a food thermometer to ensure your foods have been cooked to the proper minimum internal temperature.
- Keep food at 140° F or above after cooking.
- Microwave food thoroughly to 165° F.

Chill: Refrigerate Promptly

- Refrigerate perishable foods within 2 hours. Remember to store leftovers within 2 hours as well.
- Cooling food rapidly helps prevent bacterial growth. Large amounts of food should be divided into shallow containers before refrigerating.
- Never defrost food at room temperature. Food must be kept at a safe temperature during thawing.
- Know when to throw food out. When in doubt, throw it out.

The school breakfast menus, lunch menus, Teen Food & Fitness and other nutrition information are available on the district's website at

<https://www.smsd.org/about/departments/food-service>.

Let's keep the students active, eating healthy and learning about nutrition in Shawnee Mission Schools!



Funding Request Form

Please return the completed form to the SMNW Secret Samaritan Society Liaison, Melissa Osborn, who will submit all requests to the Secret Samaritan Society. For questions or more information, please contact Melissa at melissaosborn@smsd.org. **Student Identity will be kept confidential.**

STUDENT'S NAME SHOULD ONLY BE BELOW DOTTED LINE.

Request prepared by: Student/Parent SMNW Counselor/Teacher/Administrator/Coach

SMNW Contact: _____
Name Email Address

Describe the need with some detail: _____

Date funding is needed by: _____

\$ _____ Student/family contribution (some amount expected)

\$ _____ Any additional funding (School support, Booster club, etc.)

\$ _____ Amount requested from Secret Samaritan Society

\$ _____ Total cost for item/activity

Entity requiring payment (*Pay to the order of): _____

***Funding will not be made to individuals. Must be SMNW or school related organization.**

Deliver payment to: _____
Name Email Address

FOR SMNW STAFF ONLY

Date Received: _____

Comments: _____

Melissa Osborn will detach below dotted line and keep on file at SMNW.

Student: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

FOR SMNW STAFF ONLY

Grant Received Amount Awarded: _____

Grant Declined Reason: _____