



# The Cottonwood Chronicle

*Working Together - Learning Together*

## Principal's Message

The students of Cottonwood will be taking many assessments throughout the month of April and early May. Students in grades 3-5 began Kansas State Assessments on March 28 and end on April 13. The testing this year will include two sessions of Math and two sessions of Reading. Fifth grade will also take a Science assessment. Other assessments include MAP for grades 1 & 2, the BAS reading test for all grades, and ACT Aspire for grades 3-5. The teachers have worked very hard preparing the students for these assessments. The students have also worked very hard in preparation for the tests. As parents, you can help by ensuring that your children are in attendance.



Research indicates that children who eat breakfast and attend school well-rested are more alert and able to concentrate on the task at hand. Making sure the students are getting adequate sleep and keeping a routine will truly benefit them during the testing weeks. The students will take occasional breaks during testing. If you would like to provide snacks for these breaks, please talk to your child's teacher.

Public schools are being required to become more accountable for student improvement. Test scores are the basis for this improvement. Please stress to your child the importance of putting forth their best effort on these tests.

Thank you, Mr. Griffitts

## Cottonwood Site Council

Cottonwood is looking for parents, guardians or community members to join our School Site Council. Site Councils are responsible for providing advice and counsel for evaluating state, school district and school performance goals and objectives. The Council may also recommend methods to use at the school to meet these goals and objectives. Site Council provides advice and counsel to our school about budget priorities and other school initiatives. This group of administrators, teachers, parents and community representatives meet once a month, usually over the noon hour. If you would like to serve as a member, please contact Mr. Griffiths by phone or email and help plan the future of Cottonwood Elementary.

## Upcoming Events

Playday/Picnic	May 12
Pre-K Graduation	May 15
5th Grade Honor Night	May 16
Last Day of School	May 18
Summer School Starts	May 30
Summer School Ends	June 30
23-24 Enrollment Opens	July 11
Walk-In Enrollment	July 25



COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY PRESENTS

## FAMILY UNIVERSITY

Plan to join us at Cottonwood on the 1st Thursday of every month!

**Join Us for D.E.A.R Time  
- Drop Everything And  
Read!**

**Thursday,  
April 6, 2023**  
In your child's classroom!

Parents and guardians are invited to join their student in the classroom at 8:30 a.m. for D.E.A.R. time (drop everything and read) followed by a short presentation from Salina Arts & Humanities. Information will be provided about how to get enrolled in summer activities and fun things to do at the Smoky Hill River festival in June.

The vision of Family University is to empower parents to raise children who are successful in school and in life by becoming full partners with Cottonwood Elementary School in their child's education. Family University will provide parents and caregivers training and access to skills through collaboration with community and school resources.



# KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

Calling all incoming kindergartners! Will your child be five years old by August 31, 2023? Get ready for kindergarten by registering now on the district website. After registering, the school will reach out with more information and to invite you to attend the Kindergarten Roundup!

*Join us for our event on  
Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.*



## IT'S SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR TIME!

*April 3rd to April 7 - Cottonwood Library*

### UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

Does the office have your current home address, phone number & email address? Please notify us before May 19, 2023 if any of this information has changed so that you can receive the paperwork this summer that you will need to re-enroll your student online next year.

# April 2023

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

3rd thru 7th - Book Fair/Library

6th - Family University

10th - No School/PTA Meeting



13th - Orchestra & Band Concert

27th - Kindergarten Roundup

## Contact Us

Kyle Griffitts - Principal  
Cody Stockwell - Lead Teacher  
Debra Shirack - Secretary  
Main Office/Attendance: 785-309-4600



**#CWCommunity** **#CWMindset**  
**#305GrowsGreatness**



@WeAreCottonwood



School Website



District Website

Unified School District #305 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Any person having inquiries concerning Unified School District #305 compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, ADA, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Unified School District #305 Executive Director of Human Resources, P.O. Box 797, Salina, Kansas 67402, 785-309-4726.