

Sunnyside Christian School Newsletter

August 22, 2025

Calendar

- Thursday, August 21 - World's Finest Chocolate Sale begins 5th-8th grades
- Friday, August 22 -
- Monday, August 25 - 5th-8th MAP Testing – Reading – 8:40-10:05 a.m.
- H.S. Volleyball Practice Begins – 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- Board Meeting – Elem. Rm. #12 – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 26 - 5th-8th MAP Testing – Math – 8:40-10:05 a.m.
- Ted Brown Instrument Rental Night - Elem. Music Rm. – 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 27 - 1st-4th MAP Testing – Reading – 8:40-10:15 a.m.
- H.S. Retreat at Camp Ghormley
- Thursday, August 28 - 1st-4th MAP Testing – Math – 8:40-10:15 a.m.
- H.S. Retreat at Camp Ghormley
- Friday, August 29 -
- September 1 - **No School** - Labor Day
- September 2 - 1st Day of 3-year-old Preschool – 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- Elem. Library Begins
- September 3 - 1st Day of 4-year-old Preschool
-Morning class – 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.
-Afternoon class – 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- September 5 - H.S. Football vs. Moses Lake Christian @ Moses Lake – 7:00 p.m.

Advance Calendar

- September 8 - Promotion Committee Meeting – Elem. Rm. #12 – 5:00 p.m.
- September 9 - H.S. Volleyball vs. Walla Walla Valley Academy @ Walla Walla
-J.V. Girls 5:00 p.m., Var. Girls 6:15 p.m.
- September 10 - HS Fall Sports Photos
- September 11 - Pre-3 & K - 12th Grade Individual Student Photos

2025-2026 School Theme – “Experiencing the Heart of Jesus”

August/September/October Theme – Experience the Love of Jesus

“May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.” Ephesians 3:19

WELCOME TO SUNNYSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

We are so glad to have each one of you as a part of our school family.

May God be with us and bless us as we work together to educate and guide our students to live a life for Christ. To God be the Glory!

New Faces and Some Changes - We want to welcome a few new faces to the SCS staff and let you know of a few staff changes for this year. **Denise Maljaars** will be teaching Kindergarten full time. **Sandy Vis** is transitioning from 3rd grade to K-4th grade reading/math support. **Michelle Elenbaas & Nicolete Green** will be co-teaching 3rd grade. **Lisa Leyendekker** will be our 5th grade teacher. **Lexi Kuiken** will teach our 7th grade homeroom and Bible, and 6th - 8th grade math. **Taylor Wutzke** is assisting at the High School with Vo-Ag courses. **Collin Laidlaw** is taking over the Junior High athletic director duties.

K-8th STUDENT DROP-OFF GUIDELINES: In order to help prevent student/traffic congestion, we are continuing the plan established for students as they arrive at school in the mornings:

- The north parking lot is for **BUS USE ONLY** from 8:00-8:30. Students who ride the bus to school will be using the front entry for admittance into the school building.
- Students who are dropped off at school by parents or others will use the east parking lot and will be entering the building through the courtyard.
- For drop off and pick up enter off of N. 9th Street and exit onto North Avenue only.

Bus Routes: Keep in mind that pick-up and drop-off times may still fluctuate in the first few weeks of school. **Please be patient with our staff and bus drivers as we navigate through these routes. If you are in the neighborhood, please stop by school and pick-up or drop-off your child(ren). If we all work together the buses will save time, miles, and fuel.**

After school student Bus/pickup changes: If you have an end of the day change in plan for your child, please email your child's teacher (firstname.lastname@sunnysidechristianschool.org) or text the teacher, if they have provided a cell number, to indicate your change. If it is a last minute change, please make sure to call the elementary office at 509-837-3044.

Our World's Finest Chocolate Sale for students in grades 5-8 is underway. We are again selling chocolate almond bars for \$2.00 each, and chocolate covered almonds, chocolate caramels, and chocolate mints for \$3.00 each. Many dollars are raised for our Student Activity Fund through this major fundraiser. **Thanks for your support!**

Preschool Openings: At this time, we have limited openings in the 8:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. 3-year-old preschool class and limited openings in the afternoon session of 4-year-old preschool. Contact the office (509-837-3044) today for more information and an application!

Pre-School Classes begin on September 2nd.

- Our three-year-old classes will begin on Tuesday, September 2, from 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- Our four-year-old classes will begin on Wednesday, September 3, from 8:30-11:00 a.m. and 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Elementary School Store: There are several lunch items and snacks available for purchase at the school store, including but not limited to burritos, pizza pockets, and corn dogs. The school store takes cash only. A price list will be sent home with students on Friday. The school store is now open!

"Ted Brown Instrument Rental Night" is Tuesday, August 26th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the SCS Elementary Music Building. Families that already have a home instrument and supplies do not need to attend. Ms. Spear notified parents and students through google classroom of the event. Please refer to the notification for more information.

Bell Times

Kindergarten through 8th Grades, please note the following bell times. The first bell rings at 8:30 a.m.; the tardy bell rings at 8:33 a.m. Please plan your morning accordingly. If your children do not ride the bus, please drop them off between 8:15-8:25 a.m. Please have your students here early enough so they have time to get organized and in their classrooms BEFORE the tardy bell. Dismissal time is 3:06 p.m.

High School - 9th-12th Grades, please note the following bell times. The first bell rings at 8:22 a.m.; the tardy bell rings at 8:25 a.m.! You are required to sign in/out in the office anytime you arrive late or leave during the school day. If you arrive after school has started for Periods One (1) and Six (6), you will need an admittance slip from Mrs. Driesen to be admitted to class. If you need to leave in the middle of class, visit Mrs. Driesen BEFOREHAND with your note and get an excuse slip to leave. Dismissal time is 3:15 p.m.

STUDENT PICTURES: Individual student pictures will be taken for all students on Thursday, September 11th, 3 year old Preschool and Kindergarten thru 12th grade. Student retakes and photos for 4 year old preschoolers will be taken on October 17th.

Newsletters: A weekly school newsletter goes home with the youngest student in each family on Thursdays. We also send an e-mail version of this newsletter to families who requested correspondence in enrollment. If you have a family member/friend who would like to stay informed of current school events and information, we would be happy to add them to our e-mail list. Simply call the elementary office and provide us with their e-mail address.

Please submit school activity information to be included in the newsletter no later than Wednesday morning prior to the Thursday publication. Call 509-837-3044 or email the information to sheryl.duim@sunnysidechristianschool.org.

Sports physicals are required for all 6th graders, junior high, and senior high students (grades 6-12) participating in interscholastic activities. You must have your physical form turned in before you can participate in practice. Jr. High students- turn your completed physical forms into the office. High School students- turn your completed physical forms into your coach or the high school office. **Please take care of getting a physical now. NOTE- WIAA rules make sports physicals good for TWO YEARS.**

7th Grade Immunizations: If your 7th grader or 8th grader has not had a tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis immunization in over 5 years, they must have a Tdap Booster. If you took advantage of the opportunity to take care of this during the summer, please inform the elementary office of these updates.

School Directory - We will be printing and publishing our school directory soon. Parents, please check the information in the FACTS parent portal for accuracy of information. You can access/change information in the Family Portal via online and by logging into the Parent Portal through the App. If you **do not** wish for some or all of your contact information to be available to school families, please contact the elementary office. The directory will be available via the parent portal and in published form.

Janitor Needed for Elementary School Gym: If you are interested, stop by the elementary school office for an application.

Have you turned in your 2023-2024 Service Hours? If not, please do so by Friday, August 29th. Lost your form? Stop at the elementary office for a new one.

IMPORTANT BEGINNING of the YEAR PAPERS

The following forms will be sent home with your youngest child next week: Milk Order Form, Federal Grant Form, Chrome Book Agreement, school insurance form, etc. Please take the time to complete the forms and return them to school ASAP. If you need additional forms or information, please call the school office at 837-3044.

HOT LUNCHES: Each year the SCHS Junior Class offers hot lunches for students to purchase on specified days. The profit then benefits their class trip to Washington D.C. This year they will once again offer pepperoni pizza on Tuesdays and cheese pizza on Fridays for grades K-8th grades. The high school students may also purchase pepperoni pizza on Tuesdays and Fridays. On Wednesday's hot dog, nachos, or chicken nuggets are available for purchase for K-8th grades only. Each item will sell for \$2.00 apiece. Also available, for high school students only, is Senior Hot Lunch. This fundraiser supports the Senior Class Trip and is available for purchase on Thursdays for \$5.00 per plate. See the high school announcements for the meal provided that week. **Hot Lunches will begin Tuesday, September 2.**

With Hot Lunches starting up we will continue implementing the order/payment system through your FACTS parent portal. You, the parents, can prepay through the financial tab. Cash at the time of ordering will still be accepted, but we would like to try and move away from cash payments for hot lunch. Hot lunch orders can be placed directly through the lunch tab in your parent portal or the lunch icon through the school app. With your permission, your child may place their order at school with their teacher and the teacher can enter the order online. Parents of high schoolers can place orders online too. High School students who have online orders will need to follow instructions that are listed in the daily announcements.

ELEMENTARY PARENTS: We ask that you please review the following school policies. These policies are enforced for the safety of our students and to reduce the number of interruptions in the classrooms.

1. Please keep the front parking area open before and after school for the bus fleet.
2. **Please do not drop students off at the elementary campus before 8:00 a.m.** Teachers are in meetings or are getting ready for the school day until that time.
3. Please use the front main entrance during the school day, 8:33 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
4. If you drop off your student after the tardy bell (8:33 a.m.) or pick students up during the school day **STOP AT THE OFFICE TO SIGN THEM IN/OUT. PLEASE DO NOT GO DIRECTLY TO THE CLASSROOM.** It is less disruptive for the classes to have students brought to the classroom or called out by the office.
5. **If your child's plans after school are different than usual, PLEASE SEND A NOTE WITH YOUR CHILD(REN)!** Students will be put on their regular bus unless we have a note giving different instructions. It is NOT enough for a student to say, "I think Mom is coming."
6. After school plans should be made before students leave home in the morning. Don't call with new plans/instructions unless absolutely necessary. Not only is it disruptive to the classroom to give messages, but also it is often difficult to connect with students at the end of the day. We understand when emergencies arise, but please do not make it a habit.
7. Students will not be allowed to call home to make a change in after school plans unless absolutely necessary. If they want to stay to watch a sports activity or make plans to go home with someone else, those plans need to be made before they get to school.
8. **If you pick up your children after school, please take all of them. Do not send some on the bus if you are here anyway. This saves the bus route time, miles, and fuel.**

AAU Basketball Starts Soon! Parents of 1st- 8th grade boys and 2nd – 8th girls, we are excited to announce that AAU basketball will be starting up again soon. Practices will commence the week of October 6th and Saturday games (six in total for Fall session) will start on October 18th. If your child already plays a Fall sport that conflicts with the AAU schedule, they can play in the Winter session which starts in January. If this is the case, please email Erika and let her know.

We need to register players, teams and coaches soon which means we need to hear from you no later than **Friday, September 12.** If your child is interested in playing and if you're interested in coaching, please access the "General Information" and "Registration" tabs in the Google doc https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DZqJ7CW--yRcTK-JHg7WNT8AtBG9h5SFVpfd_u6VkQA/edit?usp=sharing (accessing this link via the newsletter email or SCS app will be easiest and the link will be a hyperlink). You **DO NOT** have to purchase an AAU card until the teams have been determined. For any questions, call/text Erika at 509-840-1955 or email aau.sunnysidechristian@gmail.com. Once we have a list of all interested players and coaches, we'll make some determinations on which teams we can form and proceed with the registration process.

Cost is \$22 for an AAU card, \$30 player registration fee and \$35/jersey, \$15/shorts.

