

Sunnyside Christian School Newsletter

August 17, 2026

Calendar

- Wednesday, August 19 - H.S. Football Practice Begins – 6:00-7:30 a.m.
- Monday, August 24 - H.S. Volleyball Practice Begins
- Preschool-12th Grade Open House – 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 25 - First Day of School- NOON DISMISSAL
-No morning Bus Service, Buses will run routes at noon.
- Opening K-12 Chapel – Elem. Gym– 8:45 a.m.
- Wednesday, August 26 - World's Finest Chocolate Sale begins 5th-8th grades
- H.S. Retreat at Camp Ghormley
- Thursday, August 27 - H.S. Retreat at Camp Ghormley
- Monday, August 31 - 5th-8th Grade MAP Reading Test – 8:40-10:05 a.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 1 - 5th-8th Grade MAP Math Test– 8:40-10:05 a.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 2 - 1st-4th Grade MAP Reading Test – 8:40-10:20 a.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 3 - 1st-4th Grade MAP Math Test – 8:40-10:20 a.m.
- H.S. Volleyball vs. White Swan @ White Swan
-J.V. Girls 5:00 p.m., Var. Girls 6:15 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 4 - H.S. Football vs. Waitsburg @ Waitsburg – 7:00 p.m.

Advance Calendar

- September 7 - No School- Labor Day
- September 8 - 1st Day of 3-year-old Preschool
- H.S. Volleyball vs. Walla Walla Valley Academy - Home
-J.V. Girls 5:00 p.m., Var. Girls 6:15 p.m.
- September 9 - 1st Day of 4-year-old Preschool
- September 10 - H.S. Volleyball vs. Liberty Christian @ College Pl.
-J.V. Girls 5:00 p.m., Var. Girls 6:15 p.m.
- September 11 - H.S. Football vs. Dayton @ Sunnyside HS – 7:00 p.m.
- September 17 - Pre-3 & K - 12th Grade Individual Student Photos

2026-2027 School Theme – “Living Sacrifices”

August Theme – Living Sacrifices

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12:1

WELCOME TO SUNNYSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S 2026-27 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!

OPEN HOUSE
Monday, August 24, 2026
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Preschool Parents: The preschool room will be open, and Mrs. Hughes will be available for you and your student to stop in and check out the room before school begins.

K – 8th Elementary School Parents: Join us for an informal time to see the teachers, bring supplies to the classroom if desired, and reconnect with the school family.

High School Parents: This is your opportunity to meet the high school teachers and get a feel for what your child(ren) need(s) to know before their first day back at school. Students will be able to choose locker assignments at open house.

We hope to see you all there!

Ice Cream bars are provided in the elementary school courtyard.

There will be **NO Bus Service in the morning of the first day of school. Bus Service WILL BEGIN at the noon dismissal on Tuesday, August 25.**

First Day - Tuesday, August 25th

Kindergarten-8th Grade: Please bring your children to school Tuesday morning (by 8:30 a.m.), help them find their classroom, and consider joining us for our opening chapel.

High School: The warning bell rings at 8:22 a.m. Please be in your 1st period class before 8:25 a.m., when the tardy bell rings.

Parents, Family, and Friends: join us at 8:45 a.m., in the elementary gym, on the first day of school as we begin the year with an all school (K-12) chapel. We look forward to starting the school year together in a time of fellowship and worship.

Please note- school will dismiss all grades (K-12) at noon on the 25th.

LUNCH: School dismisses at noon the first day of school, and students will not be eating lunch at school. Please provide them with a sufficient amount of healthy snacks to help them through the morning. Students will need to bring lunch for the first couple of weeks, as no hot lunch program begins yet. The school store will be open for kids who need lunches or snacks.

Welcome to New Staff - In case you missed it in the newsletter last spring, we are welcoming several new staff members. Tessa Klebaum will be teaching 5th grade; Drew Van Kemseke will be teaching 6th grade and serving as our junior high Athletic Director; Angelica Salinas will be teaching junior high math and providing academic support for 5th-8th grades, Aaron Nix will be teaching 5th-12th choir and 5th-8th band, Sadie and Whitney Beckman will be teaching K-4th music; and Melissa Rodriguez will be our School Safety Officer. Stop by to meet them at our Open House on Monday, August 24!

Board Meeting Highlights - At the board meeting earlier this month, the school board decided to publish a summary of what was discussed. Dean shared through devotions a summary of the school theme taken from Romans 12. Financial reports were given. We are slightly below our projected enrollment at this point, but not all families have completed enrollment or withdrawn students. We are grateful for the parents who completed the survey that was sent out. The board reviewed the survey results and feedback given. We have chosen four areas of focus for this year which include communication, maintaining a family atmosphere where all feel welcomed and accepted, maintaining excellence in all we do, academically, extracurricularly, socially, and spiritually, and supporting staff. We also reviewed the purpose and vision of the school board. Committee reports were also reviewed and discussed. We appreciate your prayers as we begin a new year!

"Ted Brown Instrument Rental Night" is Wednesday, 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. Rental night is primarily for 5th grade students who are starting band this year, however it is open to any student wanting to rent their instrument this year. Attached is a flyer with a QR to set up your rental ahead of time and Ted Brown will have the instrument ready for you on rental night. If you have further questions email Mr. Nix at aaron.nix@sunnysidechristianschool.org or call the elementary school office at 509-837-3044.

Bus Routes: for this school year are being arranged. **If you have changes from the information you submitted in the online enrollment information, please contact the elementary school ASAP.** Keep in mind that pick-up and drop-off times may still fluctuate the first few weeks of school. **Bus drivers will be contacting families by August 23 with those times.** If you have not heard anything, please contact Jeremy Thomas (509 830-4421). 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.

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.

Pre-School Classes begin on September 8th

- Our three-year-old classes will begin on Tuesday, September 8
 - First Class = 8:30-10:30 a.m.
 - Second Class = 10:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m.
- Our four-year-old classes will begin on Wednesday, September 9
 - AM Class = 8:30-11:00 a.m.
 - PM Class = 12:30-3:00 p.m.

World's Finest Chocolate Sale - The World's Finest Chocolate Sale fundraiser will begin for 5th-8th grade students on Wednesday, August 26. Information will be explained to students on Tuesday, August 25. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Clark at dana.clark@sunnysidechristianschool.org or (509) 837-3044. More information will be coming soon but wanted to give you a heads up.

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. beginning Wednesday, August 26.

Sports physicals are required for all junior high and senior high students (grades 7-12) participating in interscholastic activities. You must have your physical form turned in before you can participate in practices. Jr. High students- turn your completed physical forms into the office. High School students- turn your completed physical forms in to 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.**

STUDENT PICTURES: Individual student pictures will be taken for all students on Thursday, September 17, 3 year old Preschool and Kindergarten thru 12th grade. Student retakes and photos for 4 year old preschoolers will be taken on Friday, October 16.

High School Class Schedules All *registered* high school students should have received their class schedules and other beginning of the year information via U.S. mail last week. Please bring your class schedule with you on the first day of school.

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 happenings 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.

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.**

Dress Code Reminder For All Students and Parents: As you do your back-to-school shopping please keep the following dress code information in mind.

ELEMENTARY CAMPUS DRESS CODE

Guidelines for appropriate dress are difficult to establish because of varied interpretations. Generally, the responsibility for dress rests with the parents; however, the school also has a responsibility to make sure that its students follow an established code designed to conform to the attitudes and feelings of the total constituency. School dress should be appropriate for the occasion and should reflect our Christian witness.

- A. School clothing should be neat, clean and in good taste. This prohibits styles that are too short, tight, or baggy. *Tops should be long enough to avoid a midriff and should cover the entire shoulder. This means tank tops and sleeveless shirts are not allowed!* Clothes should not have questionable slogans and/or sayings. Chains that hang from pockets, etc. are not acceptable accessories.
 - B. **Students in grades 5-8 are not allowed to wear leggings as their primary outerwear.**
 - C. Caps with non-objectionable sayings may be worn during recess, but not during class time.
 - D. Students in grades K-8 may wear shorts to school during the first and last quarter of each year. If you question the weather, send appropriate clothes along to school, as students will not be allowed to call home for a change.
 - E. Questions concerning the dress code are to be addressed to the school's administrator. If the attire is determined to be a distraction, the student will be asked to make arrangements to obtain more suitable clothing before they complete the rest of the school day. Time missed from classes will be made up after school.
- Jeans/pants/shorts with rips or holes above the top of the knee may not be worn.**

HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS DRESS CODE

Sunnyside Christian High School is a Christ-centered educational institution that promotes the nurturing and growth of young men and women to serve the Lord. For this to occur in the best possible manner, the students must dress modestly and appropriately to honor God above all and, secondly, to honor both the setting and importance of education. What we wear communicates what we think of ourselves, but even more so, what we think of the world around us.

Therefore, listed below are the dress code requirements for Sunnyside Christian High School and the repercussions if the requirements are not followed. Read carefully and dress appropriately. Thank you!

Tops

- A. Bare midriffs-when standing, tops must be long enough to cover to the bottom of the belt loops (if no loops, two inches below the top of pants). If a top is technically long enough but will not remain in the appropriate position, then the top is inappropriate.
- B. Sleeveless tops are not allowed. Sleeves must cover over the edge of the shoulder. Off-the-shoulder tops are not allowed if any of the items mentioned in Letter D are visible.
- C. No revealed cleavage shall be visible at any time; **this means no (absolutely none) visible separation even when bending or leaning.**
- D. Absolutely no undergarment(s) that is not considered a top is to be exposed (**this includes through transparent material**); this includes camisoles, lacey undergarments, swimsuit strings, bras, and sports bras, etc.
- E. If you have an inappropriate top on underneath an appropriate top, the appropriate top stays on all day and totally covers the inappropriate top (example-sweatshirt over top)! No exceptions!
- F. Inappropriate/objectionable (principal's discretion) slogans, statements, sayings, and advertising are not permitted. This includes music group recognition and/or affiliations who do not promote the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Skirts/Shorts/Skorts/Pants

All skirts, shorts, and skorts (regardless if leggings and /or tights, etc., are worn underneath) shall extend at least to the length of the wearer's fingertips with arms naturally extended and without shoulders lifted up or drawn back. Leggings and/or tights may not be worn only by themselves. If shorts, skirts, or skorts have a slit, the top of the slit shall not go above mid-thigh (standing and sitting).

-Absolutely no underwear (including boxer shorts) visible (standing and sitting).

-Absolutely no pajama pants/boxer shorts or loungewear will be allowed to be worn as primary outerwear.

-Jeans/pants/shorts with rips or holes above the top of the knee may not be worn.

Stay Connected with SCS Sunnyside Christian School offers many convenient ways for families to stay informed about school events, important information, and documents. Please take advantage of these resources — many of your questions can be answered through the information shared in our newsletter and other communication platforms.

School Newsletter Our school newsletter is an important source of information and is shared regularly with SCS families. The newsletter is uploaded to the school website www.sunnysidechristianschool.org and your **FACTS Family Portal** under **Resource Documents**, along with school supply lists, sports schedules, and other important documents. Be sure to read the newsletter each time it is published!

Social Media Follow us on social media for updates, reminders, announcements, and school happenings:

- **Facebook:** Sunnyside Christian School
- **Instagram:** Sunnyside Christian School

SCS App Our school app provides a convenient, one-stop place to access important school information. The app gives parents, students, faculty, and our community quick access to news, announcements, events, schedules, and more.

The SCS App includes:

- Newsletters
- Calendar events
- Important FACTS Family Portal links
- Lunch ordering
- Grades
- Classroom information
- Service hours
- Athletics
- Directory
- Enrollment
- Giving
- Social media links
- Fundraisers (Appeals)
- And more!

Download the app to keep all of your SCS information in one convenient place and stay up to date on the most important news, announcements, and events.

High School Daily Announcements Sunnyside Christian High School posts its daily announcements on the school website. To find them, visit www.sunnysidechristianschool.org and select **Quick Links > SCHS Daily Announcements**.

We encourage all SCS families to use these resources regularly, so you never miss important information!