

Good Afternoon,

I hope everyone had a great weekend. This week is a full week for all students. We look forward to a strong and successful second semester.

Enjoy your Sunday,

Dr. Holder

Learning Schedule for the Week:

Monday: Blue Block Day

Tuesday: Silver Block Day

Wednesday: Blue Block Day-Late Start-Classes begin at 8:20

Thursday: Silver Block Day

Friday: Blue Block Day

Seminar ACT Prep Sessions:

Starting this week we will have ACT prep sessions on Tuesday and Friday during Seminar. Please see attached schedule for these sessions.

Graduation 2023:

We wanted to share with our seniors, and their parents, that our 2023 graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

We are holding graduation at this time due to our girls' swim team, which is now swimming in the 6A classification, will compete in the morning on May 20, in Topeka. We want to ensure that our swimmers, and their parents, have enough time to travel home and prepare for the ceremony.

We will hold our Senior breakfast, senior awards, and graduation practice on Friday, May 19, starting at 8:30 am. This event should be finished around 11:30 am. Parents are welcome to attend the senior awards portion. ** All seniors are required to attend the events on May 19.

Counseling:

2nd Semester Schedule Change Requests

Students may request a 2nd semester schedule change January 9th-11th. Access to the Schedule Change Request Form and the list of open classes will be available in the Counseling Office or on the Counseling website. Students must submit their completed form BEFORE school each day, and their request will be processed by 2:00 PM each day when everything is updated. Wednesday morning (BEFORE SCHOOL) will be the final opportunity for students to request a change.

CTEC Open House

The Cedar Trails Exploration Center (CTEC) will host an open house for students and parents on Tuesday, January 10th, at 6:00 PM. This is a great opportunity for students and parents to learn more about the different programs offered. This event is open to all students but the programs are available for juniors and seniors.

2023-24 Course Selection

All Course Selection information is now available on the Counseling website, <https://www.usd232.org/Page/8676>, including a Voice Over PowerPoint for students and parents and links to applications and AP/Honors class information. Please take a look at the posted information along with these important dates.

- **1/9** - Students can begin submitting their Course Selection Forms by accessing their grade-level link on the Counseling website.
- **1/17-1/20** - The counselors will be available during Seminar for drop-in questions about Course Selection. We will be located in the Media Center.
- **2/8** - Deadline for students to submit their Course Selection Forms and any applications for courses using the links located on the Counseling website.

Two-Night ACT Class in Overland Park

Please click on the link below for more information about an evening ACT Prep Class offered in Overland Park.

<http://actprep.info/millvalley>

XELLO and Parent Access:

Hello USD #232 Families!

We are thrilled to share a new way to connect with your student's learning at home! In 2016, the Kansas State Board of Education challenged schools to develop a process that engages students in the creation of an Individual Plan of Study, or IPS. While we are proud to involve even our youngest learners in career and future thinking, the IPS process officially starts for students in middle school and continues throughout high school.

Individual Plans of Study help students examine how their interests and strengths can transform into education, training, and careers after high school. We know that the journey to discover how our individual skills and interests can transform into a career is filled with both short and long-term goals that evolve throughout our life. To help students explore all possibilities, De Soto has developed classroom instruction and hands-on experiences to support the IPS process.

One way we support this is through a future-readiness website called Xello. For the several years, middle and high school students have explored lessons, inventories, and other programming within Xello but now we can share this student learning with you at home! Family Portal will allow you to not only view your student's work but also research future career options, scholarships, training, and school opportunities after high school.

Invitations for Xello Family Portal will be sent to parents and guardians listed in the Skyward Family Access. Those email invitations will come from noreply@xello.world and will prompt you to create a password. All students in grades 6-12 who are already connected to you as a parent/guardian will be connected to your account. Additional information for Family Portal can be found in both English and Spanish on the [Parent/Guardian support section](#). Please contact your student's school counselor with any questions.

