



# SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## AUGUST 19, 2022

### WELCOME BACK!



**School Photos:** If your student had their school photo taken on August 4/5th, prints and/or forms to order prints will be sent home next week!



**Traffic:** Thank you to everyone for your continued patience during drop-off and pick-up, your extra vigilance is critical in keeping our kids SAFE! You can see more details below and view the traffic flow instructions [here](#).



**Attendance:** Please email the school at [attendance@sageintl.org](mailto:attendance@sageintl.org) by 9:00 AM to let us know if your student will be absent that day with their name, grade, and reason for their absence. Failure to do so will trigger an automated phone call to let you know that your student was marked absent. Please keep your student(s) home if they are experiencing symptoms of illness.



**Bus:** You must register your student for the bus before they are allowed to ride, please do so by clicking [here](#). You will need to have your student's ID number handy and can find that by logging into [Skyward here](#).



**Lunch:** To sign up for the Life's Kitchen lunch program or find more information, click [here](#). And PLEASE...send your student with a water bottle!



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**August 22-** PTO Meeting - [Info here](#)

**August 25** - Family Back-to-school night for K-8

**September 5** - Labor Day, No School

**September 15** - Back to School/College Night for 9th-12th

**September 26-30** - Fall Break, No School!

### STAY IN TOUCH

Other than this newsletter, our website is the best resource for general info about Sage. You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



### OUR MISSION

“ Sage International School engages students within an inclusive IB learning community, challenging all members to take risks and contribute locally and globally through open-minded inquiry. ”

## A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON:



Dear Families and Staff of Sage and Forge International Schools,

Welcome back to school! I enjoyed our first week at both schools immensely. It was a joy to see your smiles, hear about your summer adventures and answer questions about the school year ahead.

We have important goals for our schools this year and I want to share those with you. These goals are intended to be catalysts for action that result in continuous improvements over a long period of time. We think these goals will help achieve our mission, improve outcomes, reinforce systems of support and place a clear focus on relationships and a sense of belonging.

Each year, our schools will develop finer-grained goals that support the attainment of these Network goals at Sage and Forge. **Here are our Network's goals:**

- We will ensure that every student is literate as a reader, writer and mathematician so that they can fully engage with the International Baccalaureate and their world.*
- We will use measurable and observable data to drive improvements that deliver the best possible academic and social-emotional outcomes for our students.*
- We will ensure that our school's stakeholders feel/know that they are engaged by and feel a sense of belonging to our schools.*
- We will ensure that our communities have the broadest possible access to and participation in our IB programs.*

I also want to express our dedication to the safety of your children and our staff on campus. Our caring and supportive staff, our systems of support for our students, and the safe pick up and drop off of our students each day are all part of that safety plan. Unfortunately, we also have to consider the safety of everyone on campus in a continuing era of gun violence directed at schools. We take this seriously. Our doors are locked. We do have people at the front doors. We do have and we continue to evaluate our physical security and our procedures in the event of such violence.

We will continue to communicate with you as we evaluate, update, and practice measures to keep everyone on campus as safe as we can. The safety of our campuses and community is a collective responsibility and every member of our community has an important role to play in keeping each other safe.

On the theme of community and our collective responsibility to each other, we are committed to engaging with our parents, students and community to strengthen our relationships. I look forward to seeing you at Back to School Night, College Night (at Sage), and Parent-Teacher Conferences soon. Please reach out to your school leaders and express your interest in volunteering to help in the lunchrooms, classrooms and playgrounds, or fill out the [form here](#).

All the best,  
Andy

# A NOTE FROM DANNY SOLOMON, DEAN OF STUDENTS



## Parent Pick-up and Drop-off

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation! We appreciate everyone's willingness to work together to ensure our system runs as efficiently as possible, while also respecting that our traffic causes delays for those visiting businesses around us. Please check out the tips below to see how you can help! Keep in mind that vehicles **are never allowed** to enter the parking lot that belongs to our neighbors West of the school off Mallard (marked "No Sage Traffic" [on map](#), to the left of Everest). The businesses there have notified us that **they plan to trespass** any Sage families who enter their property in their vehicles. You've been warned and we can't control their decision to do so. Please do not block entry into this parking lot, their customers need to be able to access it.

### Drop-Off:

- Please let buses through. They will park at the elementary entrance of the school and you will be able to pass around them while they are parked.
- Have your student(s) ready to exit the vehicle on the passenger side by the time you enter the parking lot. They should never exit from the left side of the vehicle, it is not safe.
- ALWAYS remain in your vehicle. Staff will help K-1 students exit safely.
- Never let your student out of the vehicle while on Parkcenter or Mallard. For their own safety PLEASE be parked in a parking lot before they exit the vehicle. For older students, you may momentarily park in a nearby parking lot (other than the one described above) and let your student walk the rest of the way as long as they obey all traffic lights and use crosswalks.
- For vehicles with students in multiple grade levels, drop off all students at the correct drop-off location of the youngest student.

### Pick-Up:

- Bikers and pedestrians should avoid using the crosswalk near the exit of the parking lot ([see map](#)), as this stops all exiting traffic. Instead, enter and exit campus from Tyrell past the playfield, ([red route on map](#)) where the K-1 traffic enters.
- Remain in your vehicle at all times. Staff will help your student(s) find you.
- For K-5, please **have your student's name, teacher, and grade level displayed on the passenger side** of your vehicle. This helps staff connect students to their families quickly.
- For vehicles with students in multiple grade levels, pick up all students at the location where the youngest student is dropped off. [See map](#).
- Families picking up students in 6-12th need to **wait until 3:40 to arrive**. If you also have students in K-5, do not arrive until 3:40. Younger students' teachers will wait with them until you arrive.

### Busing

Sage prides itself in being able to offer busing for our students and recognizes the limitations we face in serving a large enrollment area that covers the entire Boise School District. Bus routes and bus stops have been set for the 2022-2023 school year and are not subject to change except to alleviate overcrowding or other safety needs, as identified by Caldwell Transportation. Parents may register students to ride the bus and select which existing routes and stops are most convenient for their student(s). When taking advantage of our bus service, it is important that you consider if the existing routes and stops work for your family. Bus routes and stops can be found at [this link here](#).

If you still wish to register a student for a bus, you can [do so here](#). Once you have completed this form, you will not receive additional directions and your student can begin riding the bus. For students in K-5, please make sure your student knows which route is theirs and which stop to get off at. Please also email their teacher and share this same information so they can help students get to the busing area instead of the parent pickup area at the conclusion of the school day.

Thank you! Danny Solomon, [danny.solomon@sageintl.org](mailto:danny.solomon@sageintl.org)

Hello Sage Families,

It is so great to have everyone back! I hope you all had wonderful summers and were able to spend quality time together. It's been fun hearing about the top moments of summer and seeing the amazing growth that your kiddos have made. It's been a wonderful first two weeks.

I have been busy starting to do my 'Minute Meetings' with all of our students. It's a great way for me to make an initial connection with every student K-7 at Sage, and for me to do a quick check-in on school, family, and friendships. That being said, I definitely need your help to identify which kids might need a little extra love and/or support this year. You know your kids better than anyone, so please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns about your kiddo at any point in the year. I am here to help.

I am looking forward to another fantastic year.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Rivers  
K-7th Counselor  
ashley.rivers@sageintl.org



Welcome back!

August has been filled with our secondary students figuring out their schedules and readjusting to school life. With the return to school, mental health concerns have skyrocketed.

Finding the school/life/work balance is crucial for high school success. If your student is struggling, please reach out so that we can set up a plan to help them be successful at Sage!

We are beginning to plan college representative visits to Sage! Colleges will be visiting during advisory/wheelhouse time and also for our several colleges will be visiting during the High School Back to School night on September 15th. Students - be on the lookout for scholarship opportunities and college planning emails. I will be updating the College & Career Readiness page on the Sage website with college and scholarship information.

Sincerely,  
Brittany Meduna  
8-12 Counselor  
brittany.meduna@sageintl.org



## Back to School Family Night

**Thursday, August 25th starting at 5:15 pm**

We invite families of students in grades Kindergarten through 8th to join us for a FUN family night full of information and community at Sage! Food trucks will be available for you to purchase from starting at 5:15, with open house starting at 6:00. Come grab a bite before taking part in open house-style sessions based on your student(s) grade level.

**Starting at 6:00**

- Meet your students' program directors, teachers, and tour (or revisit!) their classrooms
- K-5 parents can learn about Reading and Math intervention and Title 1 Targeted Assistance
- 6-10 parents can learn about Managebac, assessments, and life in the MYP





## LIFE IN THE PYP

We had another great week in the PYP! Our students are really getting the hang of new routines and settling into a rhythm with their teachers.

### Schoolwide Programming

When you get a chance, ask your child about the Grumpmeter they made in Visual Arts late last week. The Grumpmeter is a tool we are introducing across grades K-5 to help us name and navigate our feelings and needs with some common language and visual support.

### Volunteers

We are actively seeking volunteers to support our amazing staff and students here at Sage. We have missed having you in the building and look forward to welcoming you! If you haven't already, please indicate your interest on [this volunteer form](#). We will be coordinating these efforts with our amazing **PYP PTO**. **Check out their [latest newsletter here](#).**

Thank you,  
Kate Hunter, PYP Director  
[kate.hunter@sageintl.org](mailto:kate.hunter@sageintl.org)

## HIGH SCHOOL



Hey Sagers!

It has been wonderful to have students back on campus again and to connect with so many parents. The first two weeks have been a whirlwind and I am excited we are settling into our new routines. There is so much coming up over the next couple of weeks and I wanted to get it all outlined for you here:

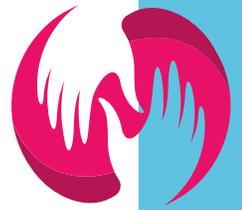
**8/25: ANNUAL SENIOR CAMP TRIP!** Our CP/DP staff is excited to head out on our overnight adventure to Garden Valley. Communications regarding the details of this trip have been sent to senior families.

**9/6-9/8: SAGEFORT!** Our entire high school (students and teachers) participate in this wild and crazy week that is filled with all types of learning activities and workshops. We cancel classes and dedicate this 3 day week to building culture and community in our school. Sagefort is one of those things that makes Sage such a great place to be. We are working to get all of the logistics planned and we will communicate to all families very soon.

**9/15: Back to School Night/ College Night EVENT:** Brittany Meduna (HS counselor) has been hard at work scheduling colleges and universities to be here in the Summit building for our first event welcoming all high school students and families. Families will have an opportunity to attend this open house, talk with teachers, and visit with representatives from 15 schools!

Thank you,  
Brandy Burkett, High School Director  
[brandy.burkett@sageintl.org](mailto:brandy.burkett@sageintl.org)

## HOW TO HELP OUR SAGE COMMUNITY



**Community Supplies:** If you are looking to donate, you can find needed items on our [Amazon Wishlist](#) and they will be shipped directly to the school! Thank you to all who have contributed items, they can also be dropped off at either front desk.



**Food Pantry:** We do our best to provide snacks and lunch to students experiencing food insecurity, and you can donate to our Food Pantry through our [Amazon Wishlist](#) or by dropping off items at either front desk.



**Mind the Gap** is Sage International's annual fundraising campaign where we invite our Sage Community to support the excellent education we provide. As a School of Choice, Sage does not receive ANY funding from local tax dollars. As you may know, the state of Idaho is ranked LAST in the nation for per-pupil spending. Our students deserve better! To help "bridge the gap" between the funding we receive and what it actually costs to operate our K-12 IB School, we need YOUR help to raise \$100,000 for this school year, which is about \$100 per student. For less than the cost of one pizza per month, you can mind the gap and help us provide an outstanding education for one child! Please consider supporting your school with what feels comfortable for your family. We appreciate all contributions, small or big! Donations are entitled to generous tax benefits and you may receive a tax credit of up to 50%. Also, check with your employer...many area organizations such as Micron match gifts which DOUBLE your donation! [Learn more HERE.](#)

## ENRICHMENT AT SAGE

Students participating in Sage enrichment programs have an opportunity to enhance and extend their education while having FUN! The following activities are currently available to students:

- **Soccer Shots** - All students in grades K-2. August 29 - November 14, Mondays after school. An engaging children's soccer program with a focus on character development. [Learn more here.](#)
- **Sole Kids** - All students in grades K-6. September 13 - November 3, after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. SoleKIDs runners will train twice a week for approximately 1.5 hours to complete the Sole KIDs 5K. [Learn more here.](#)
- **Girls on the Run** - Girls in grades 3 -5. September 12 - November 12, after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. Trained and caring coaches lead participants through interactive lessons and running activities, culminating in a fun 5k at the end of the season! [Learn more here.](#)
- **Cross Country** - All students in 6-8th grades. August 15th-October 13th after school on Monday-Thursdays. Middle school cross country encourages a love for running, and students practice together to compete in meets against other schools around the Treasure Valley. [Learn more here.](#)
- **Mountain Biking team** - race season is underway! You can learn more about them and view their race schedule [here.](#)
- **Community Opportunities** - You can find other activities offered for all ages in our [community here!](#) If you would like to add something, please email [info@sageintl.org](mailto:info@sageintl.org).

