



# SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

**JULY 30, 2024**



We hope you are able to join us this week for the following:

- **Thursday, August 1:** Meet the Teacher for Grades K-5 from 10:00 - 1:00. Stop by during that time to meet your student's teacher, tour their classroom and drop off supplies.
- **Friday, August 2:** Registration for Grades 6-12th from 10:00 - 1:00. Stop by during that time to pick up your student's class schedule and visit their classrooms and teachers. Optional community supplies welcome, personal school supplies can be brought as needed.

While we encourage everyone to stop by, we understand that families may not be able to attend, and that's okay. We will be sure to get your students where they need to go on the first day of school!



Unlike past years, school photos will NOT be taken this week. See below for photos dates for all grades.



Class lists for K-5 are physically posted on Sage's PYP Entrance doors. Please know these are subject to change until the first day of school, as we are still solidifying enrollment. If your plans have changed for next year and your student will not be attending, please complete the form found [here](#).

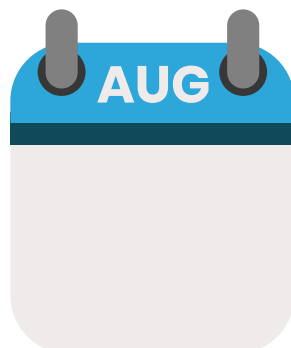


School Supply lists are posted on our [website HERE](#). These are suggested lists for students, and we really appreciate donations of community supplies for our school.



If your student may be riding the bus this year, please complete [this registration form](#).

**Check out our  
[WEBSITE](#) and  
find us on social  
media via the  
links below!**



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**August 1:** Meet the Teacher for K-5

**August 2:** Registration for 6-12

**August 5:** First Day of school!

**August 20:** Individual Photos K-5th

**August 21:** Individual Photos 6-12th

**August 22:** PYP Family Back to School Night

**August 28:** Secondary (6-12) Family Back to School Night

## FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear Families and Staff of Sage International Schools. Welcome back! As a short (re)introduction - my name is Andy Johnson. I am the Executive Director of the Sage Network. We have two campuses - one in Boise and one in Middleton. This is my fifth year with Sage and I am thrilled to be part of this community.

We have much to celebrate at each campus -

- Parents and students who tell us that our schools are places where they feel safe, welcome and respected
- Students who are growing and obtaining significant academic results
- Incredible success for Boise's Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme graduates
- Completing our campus and building the Middleton campus's high school
- Earning authorization as an MYP school at Middleton (working on DP this year!)

We are looking forward to seeing you later this week and first thing on Monday the 5th!

All the best, Andy

## DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES AND CAMPUS OPERATIONS, DANNY SOLOMON



Hello Sage families! I am excited for another wonderful year with you and your kids. I'd like to share and clarify some procedures that will hopefully ensure we are operating safely and efficiently to maximize learning and growth.

### Transportation/Drop Off and Pick Up

Transportation and bussing will look largely familiar this year, with the biggest change being that **drop off for all students will now start at 7:45**. For those of you new to Sage (welcome!) and for the rest of us who need a refresher, please review our [drop off and pick up procedures here](#). Please follow these procedures closely as they have been developed to maximize safety and efficiency. Any exceptions made to these procedures have the potential to slow traffic or endanger others.

Our bus partner Caldwell Transportation has undergone some changes over the summer which resulted in a delay for us sharing registration with you. Caldwell continues to provide us with seven buses for seven routes that cover the entirety of Boise School District boundaries. If you are interested in utilizing this service, please find more information about bussing here: <https://sageintl.org/boise/transportation/>. If you still need to register to ride the bus, you can do so by following [this link](#).

## Lunches

Sage continues to work with Life's Kitchen to provide the opportunity for families to purchase hot meals through their website. Directions for ordering food through Life's Kitchen can be found at our website here: <https://sageintl.org/boise/lunch/>

Families also may choose to send their students to school with a cold lunch. Please note that microwaves and other means of heating food or water are not available to elementary-aged students (K-5), and are limited for secondary students.

For any families needing resources to make sure their child has food, please contact the grade-level counselor:

Anne Snyder (K-1) [anne.snyder@sageintl.org](mailto:anne.snyder@sageintl.org)

Taylor Stelle (2-7) [taylor.steele@sageintl.org](mailto:taylor.steele@sageintl.org)

Brittany Meduna (8-12) [brittany.meduna@sageintl.org](mailto:brittany.meduna@sageintl.org)

We have snacks on hand for students who forget a lunch, and families are welcome to donate to the food pantry via our Amazon wishlist [here](#).

## Playground Updates

Network and Maintenance staff worked hard through the summer to improve our parking lot, playground, and campus. Work will continue through the fall, and we have fresh sod on the playground. To allow the grass to properly root, we will keep students off the grass for at least the first couple weeks of school. We will still be able to use the bark and hard surfaces surrounding the grass, as we have done in the past.

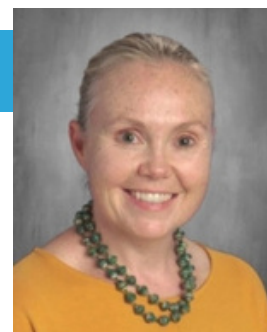
## Extreme Weather Response

It has been smokey and hot! Both these things, along with very cold weather and other outdoor conditions, can impact our operations. [Check out our guide](#) for how we respond to extreme weather.

Thank you for your attention to the million things that go into building an environment in which students can thrive. It truly takes a village to educate a child, and I couldn't be happier than to be a part of this village!

## PYP DIRECTOR, KATE HUNTER

I am thrilled to return to Sage for my 3rd year as the Elementary – or PYP– Director. This truly is the very best group of students, parents, and colleagues I have had the pleasure of working with. Prior to joining Sage, I worked in the West Ada School district in a variety of roles (ranging from IB Programme teacher to Assistant Principal to Curriculum/ Instruction Coordinator). Prior to that, I taught at Riverstone International School here in Boise, and I also taught English as a new language in Barcelona, Spain. There's no place I'd rather be than Sage!



## ***PYP continued...***

I am also so excited to see our K-5 students next week. While starting school can be intimidating – especially for new-to-Sage students and our incoming Kindergarteners – please rest assured that we have the very best team of teachers ready to welcome and orient you and your family.

Speaking of teachers – Our staff really are the heartbeat of our school and the reason so many of us love it here. We have the following educators joining our staff this year, and we are so thrilled to have them!

**Karlie Braseth (silent h): Kindergarten**

Karlie comes to us from West Ada where she has been teaching Kindergarten and 1st grade.

**Hailey Roberson: 4th Grade**

Hailey is joining us from Portland, OR where she taught 2nd and 3rd grades.

**Ashley Levin (Luh-veen): 5th Grade**

Ashley student taught with us last year, and we are welcoming her as a full-time staff member this year.

**Zoey Heimback: 5th Grade**

Zoey is joining us from the Vallivue School District, where she taught 3rd-grade last year

**Katie Roundy: K-1 Performing Arts (part-time).**

Katie comes to us from the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and the Treasure Valley Children's Theatre (among other places!)

**Annie Snyder: K-1 Counselor (part-time, new position).**

Annie has extensive outside counseling experience and is passionate about the needs of our youngest learners.

**Norma Stark: K-5 French (part-time).**

Norma is a long-time Sage parent and a welcome addition to the team

**Sophia Coe: Special Education**

Sophia spent last school year as a long-term substitute, where she gained valuable experience, particularly in academic intervention and a variety of elementary classrooms.

Looking forward to a great year together!

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH DIRECTOR ZACH PARKER**

I'm Zach Parker, the Middle School Director. This is my 21st year in education, 18th year in public charter schools, my 13th year at Sage and my 8th year as the Middle School Administrator. I'm an Idaho native and a graduate of public education. As such, I'm an advocate for free, public education particularly with the flexibility and creativity that charter schools provide.



## Middle School continued...

Of our 18 teachers in the middle school, they have on average 4.5 years of experience teaching here at Sage. To be clear, we have a strong team that has been together for quite a while. As a team, our priority is creating a community of support that fosters positive, caring relationships where we can push students to grow in academic skills and content knowledge as well as on a personal level.

The staff has taken the week to prepare to welcome back our “veteran” students, our new 6th graders rolling up from Sage’s 5th grade, and all our new to Sage students. We still have spots open in 7th and 8th grade if you have friends interested in joining Sage! They can find more information [HERE](#).

We are looking forward to a great start. See you at registration!!!!

## HIGH SCHOOL WITH DIRECTOR BRANDY BURKETT

Greetings Sage Community,

I am truly looking forward to beginning another wonderful year as High School Director. This will be my 8th year at Sage and my 4th year as Director. The majority of my staff have been with us for several years. This school year we are excited to welcome three new faculty to the high school!



Allow me to introduce Scout Sorcic, our new Career-related Programme Instructor and Coordinator. Scout comes to us having taught at the Alzar School in Cascade, Idaho. She has traveled and taught abroad through their program and has extensive experience as a wilderness instructor and river guide. In her new position, Scout will work with 11/12th grade students to identify career interests through career related studies. She will lead them through the IB CP Personal and Professional Skills curriculum, as well as through an extensive service learning experience. If you are the parent of the CP student, please reach out to Scout and introduce yourself.

Colin Falconer is joining the 9/10 team as our new Design and Computer Science teacher. Colin has extensive experience working for a tech startup in the educational space but he has always looked for an opportunity to be full-time in the classroom. We are so excited to welcome him to our team!

Lastly, many of you will be familiar with our veteran French teacher, Danyelle Davis. Danyelle has been here at Sage since we opened our doors 15 years ago! She has spent all of her time teaching our PYP students but this year she has welcomed a brand new challenge and has come up to teach in the high school. Danyelle will teach level 1 and level French to 9/10 students. If you see her in the hall, please say bonjour!

## INTRODUCING MATT PETERSON, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST



Hello students, parents, and guardians. My name is Matt Peterson and I am Sage's new School Psychologist. I am both eager and excited about the opportunity to work alongside the GREAT staff and students here at Sage, as they have already made me feel so welcomed. My wife, two 2-year-old twin daughters, and myself love living in the Treasure Valley, since we moved here from Eastern Oregon in 2012. I have heard so many great things about Sage and I am very eager to work with our students and families as the school year approaches. Please do not hesitate to reach out at any time for questions, concerns, or clarification as we get rolling here in the coming weeks and months. I will be learning right beside you and will be very eager to dive head-first into supporting our students.

Respectfully,

Matt Peterson

## FROM YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Sage Families!

Thank you for such wonderful and welcoming first year at Sage. I wanted to make sure that heading into this school year your students and families are set up for success. One of those aspects is making sure you all have access to resources for your students. What does that mean? Well if your family struggles financially and may need assistance in getting basic needs met such as school supplies, clothing, food, etc. I have included a form with some questions about your families needs and various resources that may be available throughout the school year. This is absolutely an optional form but wanted to provide the opportunity to families who want it.

Please [click here](#) for the resource form.

Thank you,  
Your School Counselor Team

# OUTDOOR EXPEDITIONS

Sage Expeditions already has fun adventures planned for our Boise campus this fall, please [click here](#) to find out more and mark your calendar for registration dates. They fill up fast!



## SAGE BOISE EXPEDITIONS SEMESTER 1 SCHEDULE



### Fall Break Rock Camp @ City of Rocks

3 days, 2 nights rock climbing & camping at the City of Rocks  
Open to middle/high school students  
September 20-22, 2024  
Registration opens 9/3

### After School Climbing Camp

4 Thursdays after school, rock climbing clinic at the Black Cliffs  
October 3, 10, 17, and 24th 2024  
Registration opens 9/9

### Camping @ Bruneau Sand Dunes

2 day, 1 night trip. Hunt for Fossils, sled down sand dunes, and enjoy an astronomy lesson at the observatory  
Open to middle/high school students  
October 11-12, 2024  
Registration opens 9/9

### Silver City Spooky Scavenger Hunt

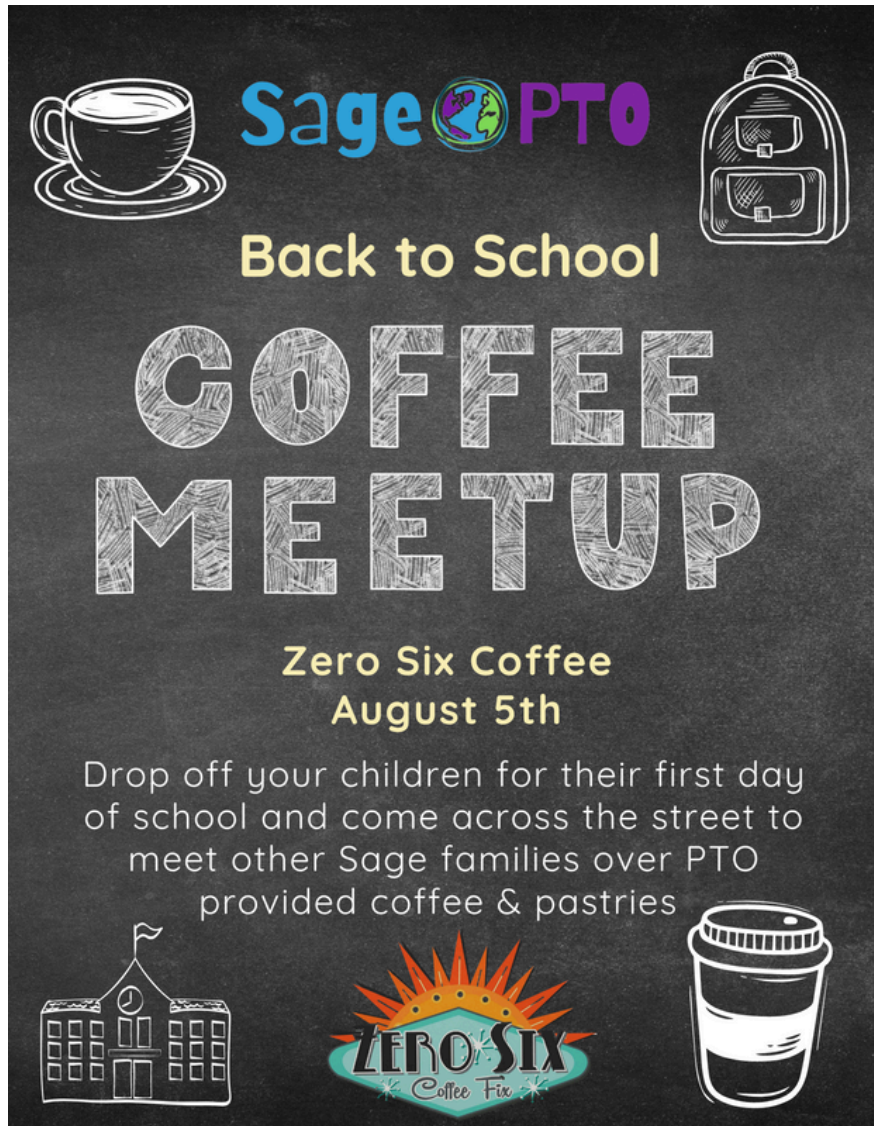
Day trip. Hiking, Exploration and Halloween Fun!  
Open to 5th and 6th graders  
October 25, 2024  
Registration opens 9/20



## JOIN US!

Keep an eye on your emails and our website for registration information on our trips this Fall semester or email [megan.furois@sageinitl.org](mailto:megan.furois@sageinitl.org) for more information. We look forward to adventuring with you.





The poster features a dark background with white line-art illustrations of a coffee cup, a backpack, a school building, and a coffee cup. The text is in various colors and fonts, including a large, textured 'COFFEE MEETUP'.

**Sage PTO**

**Back to School**

**COFFEE MEETUP**

**Zero Six Coffee**  
**August 5th**

Drop off your children for their first day of school and come across the street to meet other Sage families over PTO provided coffee & pastries

**ZERO SIX**  
Coffee Fix

Our wonderful PTO is hosting a coffee meetup on the first day of school! This great group of parents is instrumental in bringing our Sage community together and would love to meet you! You can find out more about the Sage PTO [HERE](#).

### Upcoming Events:

8/20:

PTO Meeting @5:30pm

9/17:

PTO Meeting at 5:30pm

9/23-9/26:

Kiss the Pig Fundraiser

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**[Middle School Cross Country](#)** Registration is open! Practices begin Monday, August 19th here at Sage after school. Cross Country at Sage is all about getting students to enjoy the sport of running and is coached by 3 wonderful teachers: Mr. Mercer, Ms. Baker, and Mr. Freers. [Click here](#) to find out more information!

