



SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BOISE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2, 2025



THANK YOU to everyone who has donated to Mind the Gap this year! Our **goal is to raise \$125,000**. Mind the Gap is our annual giving fund that engages our Sage community to fill the gap in funding we do not receive from local tax dollars like other public schools. As a non-profit organization, all donations are subject to tax benefits. We participated in Idaho Gives this week and raised **\$11,486.00**, thank you to the 53 donors! This is a really important time of year for us as we budget for next school year. We still have a ways to go for [Mind the Gap](#) and we'd love your help!



Our **Sage Spirit Store** will be having a SPRING SALE from May 18-24 with 10% off all items! We will email you a coupon code when the sale starts, and you can stock up on Sage gear just in time for summer!



We have two fun camps taking place here on the Sage campus this summer! Check out the links to find out more:

- [Summer Camp Invention \(K-6th grade\) July 7th-11th](#)
- [Summer Marimba Enrichment \(3rd-8th grade\) June 23rd-27th](#)



These last four weeks in the month of May are FULL of fun community-building events! For our PYP students, we have the PTO color dance next week, and field day on the last day of school. For middle school, we have the summer send-off, high school has prom, and for ALL families, the PTO sponsors a family picnic on the last day of school. Read on to find out details about these fun events!

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 1-2: PYP student-led conferences

May 5-8: Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week

May 22: Sage Chromebook Return deadline

May 26 - Memorial Day - No School

May 29: Last Day of School!

The [2025-26 Academic Calendar](#) is available!

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDY JOHNSON



Dear families and staff of Sage International Schools -

An education at a Sage school offers a strong “return on investment.” A significant part of that return is centered on ensuring that children and parents feel safe, welcomed and respected. This year, just like the last few years, parents reported to us in the engagement surveys that they and their children do feel safe, welcomed and respected. We are incredibly grateful for that feedback as our mission demands that we strive for an “inclusive IB learning community.” We are going to continue to strive to meet that demand - all should feel welcome, safe and respected at a Sage school.

We also believe that having high expectations for student growth and learning is central to the mission of public education. As K-12 (or soon to be K-12) schools that embrace the International Baccalaureate, high expectations are fundamental to our approach. We are college preparatory by design and know that this approach will leave the greatest number of students positioned to make the choices they want to make at the end of high school.

A rigorous and challenging education at a Sage school peaks in May. May is the month during which our Seniors finish their primary and secondary education with a rigorous and challenging series of IB exams that measure their abilities to reason, problem solve, write, argue and persuade using facts. As an example, I want to share with you an example of the kind of question they are prepared to answer:

This question is from a previous IB Diploma Programme History examination. The question is from Paper (Exam) One. There are three total exams for History of the Americas at the Higher Level (HL). On Paper One, students are given a couple of primary sources to consider and must rely upon their training as historians, historical knowledge, and skill as a writer to respond (in a few to several hundred words) to questions like this one:

Using the sources and your own knowledge, discuss the effectiveness of the international response to German aggression between 1933 and 1938.

Your child will be prepared to answer questions like these at the end of their Sage experience.

We are incredibly grateful for your support and for the opportunity to partner with you to educate your child(ren). All the best for the month of May!

Sincerely,

Andy Johnson
Executive Director



REGISTRAR KATIE ASHBY



As we prepare the schedule for the 2025–26 school year, it is incredibly helpful for our planning purposes to know if your student will not be returning to Sage in August. We also receive records requests from other schools for students who plan to transfer. In order to fulfill these requests, we need to hear from you if and where your student is transferring to. You will be receiving emails over the next few months asking that you let us know if your student will not return.

If your student is returning, no further action is needed—thank you for completing all necessary steps back in February.

However, if your plans have changed and your student will not be returning to Sage in the fall, please complete the [Withdrawal from Sage for the 2025–26 School Year form](#). Your electronic signature on the form authorizes us to release your child(ren)'s records to their new school upon request. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out via email to katie.ashby@sageintl.org.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR HEIDI HAGMAN



Earlier this year, the JA and Kathryn Albertson Foundation approached us with an exciting request: they wanted to create a video about our Sage Network Schools to share at their annual board meeting this spring. This is a tremendous honor, as JKAF supports some of the most impactful and innovative organizations in Idaho. Naturally, we gave an ecstatic YES!

The talented team at Sizewayz Films spent many hours over several weeks on both campuses, doing interviews and capturing moments in classrooms, hallways, and on playfields. They were deeply impressed by our students—the quality of their work, the way they support one another—and by the passion and expertise of our teachers and staff.

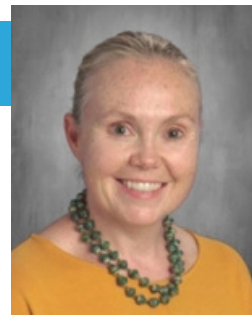
The video they created is both beautiful and inspiring, and we're excited to share it with you, our families. If you have 10 minutes to spare, I encourage you to watch it [HERE](#).

As you'll hear echoed in the video, our students are receiving a world-class IB education in a unique and caring environment, tuition-free. Their teachers know them, believe in them, and encourage them to make a difference in their world. My own family is so grateful that we've been a part of the Sage Community for 13 years now.

If the video inspires you, I invite you to:

- Share the video with a friend who might benefit from joining our community,
- Volunteer your time at school, or
- Donate to one of our giving opportunities.

Together, we make Sage an excellent learning community where our students thrive!



We are looking forward to an excellent final month of school! As we move into May, we take the opportunity to be Reflective. As defined by the IB Programme, Reflective people “thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development”. We have so many incredible experiences to reflect upon, and even more to celebrate at the close of this year.

ISAT testing

With the exception of a few make-up tests, students in grades 3-5 have completed their ISAT assessments in Math and ELA/Reading. We are very proud of the work students put in to showcase their skills across the board! As a school, we typically receive official ISAT results in early to mid-summer. 5th grade students will take the Science ISAT on Wednesday, May 7th.

MAP testing

MAP assessments will take place over the weeks of May 12 and May 19. We saw strong growth results in the Winter assessment session, and we expect to see similar outcomes this month. We are SO proud of what our students have achieved this year, and we see it all around us, every day (including in assessment results).

Classroom Spotlight – Field Trips Across K-5

We are thrilled to be in the middle of some incredible off-campus learning opportunities for students, ranging from a recent visit to the Boise Public Library (1st grade) to an upcoming day trip to the World Center for Birds of Prey (5th grade).

Our 4th graders recently took a day trip to Celebration Park in Canyon County. The signature “Stories in Stone” field trip is “place-based...and allows students to connect to where they live through exploration, observation, and hands-on experience. The program



highlights how archaeologists draw conclusions from evidence left behind”. 4th graders explored petroglyphs, ancient tools, mining history, and more.

PTO-Sponsored Rainbow Family Dance – Thursday, May 8

We hope you join us for this fun, annual family get-together. Bring your own blankets or chairs, and join us for a night of music and fun. See more details from PTO below!

K-5 Field Day – Thursday, May 29th

Our annual Field Day is always a blast! We are excited to share a few updates on the format and structure of the event. Keep your eyes out for further information via email. There will be plenty of opportunities to volunteer, and we hope to see you there!

nt tools, mining history, and more.

MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH ZACH PARKER



As we draw close to the finish line, we have a great deal to celebrate. We now have most of our MAP & ISAT testing wrapped up. Benchmarks from these standardized tests taken throughout the year show progress across the middle school. Kudos to teachers and our students for all their time and effort to improve.

In April, two Sage students received and were recognized with the "Mayor's Award to Youth" at Boise City Hall. About 20 students throughout the Treasure Valley were so honored. 9th grader Molly Steenhoven and 8th grader Evelyn Eggebraaten were chosen for a combination of service to their family, school, and larger community, demonstration of character and compassion, and for academic excellence.



While Molly was unable to attend, Evelyn was there to accept her award from both the mayor and city council. We are proud of their accomplishments and eager to see the positive impacts these young students will achieve in the future. Congratulations!

Ms. Kromer is wrapping up her 8th grade Design unit that seeks "to leverage our resources to positively impact our local environment." She has challenged students to take action to educate and/or create a product that supports this statement. Two students, Vivian and Charlotte Chetwood, put in over 16 hours to design and paint this 6x6 foot mural in our hallways so they can bring attention to helping our local pollinators.



Looking forward, we have two great events coming up on **Thursday, May 15th:**

- Our *New to Sage Middle School Info Night* will be at 6:00 pm. If you have a current 5th grader, please review [THIS information](#) and sign up.
- Our *Summer Send Off*, run by Sources of Strength and Student Council at 7:00, will have food, games, and music on the Sage playground.

Sources of Strength (SOS): In May, we are focusing on Mentors. Dinner table conversation: Who is someone older than you that you can always go to for advice, and why?

Art Awards: Kudos to Mrs. Trevino for continually encouraging students to enter their work into the Arbor Day Photo Contest, which brings in creative student photos from across

Middle School continued...

Boise. This year's theme was *Seasons of Change: The Dynamics of Idaho's Forests*. Delaney Lunde took 1st place in the 7th-8th grade division, and Cro Troutman scored Honorable Mention in 7th-8th grade. 11th grader Cooper Molinengo also won an Honorable Mention.



Ms. Duerr, Ms. Trevino, Smokey, Cro, and Delaney



Cro's Photo



Delaney's Photo



Cooper's Photo

HIGH SCHOOL WITH BRANDY BURKETT

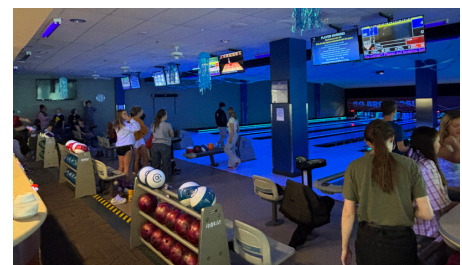
It's a busy time of year here at Sage and our students have been having a blast. Prior to break all students 9-12 participated in our **Sage Olympics**.



This is an annual event that takes place over the course of 4 days, where student teams compete against each other in an epic battle of 4-square, lighting, tug-of-war, ladder ball, dodgeball, and relay races. There is almost always controversy and this year was no different with the Blue and Orange team ending in a tie for first place. We had a plan to break the tie, but the MVP of the Blue Team took a bad fall on his mountain bike so sadly, it ended in a draw.



Earlier this month the PTO hosted our second annual bowling and game night at the Boise State Student Union. This is such a fun event and so many of our high schoolers made it! A huge thank you to Sunrise Ayers and all of the members of the PTO for making this happen.



High School continued...

Prom is this Friday, May 2nd from 8:00 - 10:30 at the Linen Building downtown. All juniors and seniors are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Our **Ultimate Frisbee team** has been on fire this season! They had a recent record of 7-1, but unfortunately have lost a few of our latest games. It has been an exciting year with Coach David Nichols at the helm and we are excited about picking it back up next season! We've had so many supportive staff showing up to cheer them on!



The IB Attribute for the month of April is Balanced! As Balanced people, we understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives- intellectual, physical, and emotional- to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live. We all know how much of a challenge it can be to create balance in our lives.



One MYP student who does this beautifully is 10th grader, Aiva Angelos. Mrs. Aguilera had the following to share about Aiva: *"Aiva is a wonderful example of a balanced student. She is attentive in class, works hard, and consistently strives for academic success; all while maintaining a healthy balance with her personal life. Aiva is kind, friendly, and fun to be around. She's actively involved in music and participates in a wide range of extracurricular activities, demonstrating strong time management and a deep commitment to her interests. Most impressively, she navigates the challenges of teenage life with calm, maturity, and grace; avoiding unnecessary drama while staying grounded and true to herself. Aiva is a smart, compassionate, and joyful presence in our community, and we are so lucky to have her at our school."*

Here at Sage we often talk about just how challenging the 11/12 IB Programmes can be. Sarah (Finn) Herbert, of our Career-related Programme has really shined this year. CP teacher Scout Sorcic said, *"This year Finn has done an amazing job of balancing work, school and an elementary teaching internship at two separate locations. She has done a great job of finding the connections between each of these things as part of her career-related study. She*

continued below...

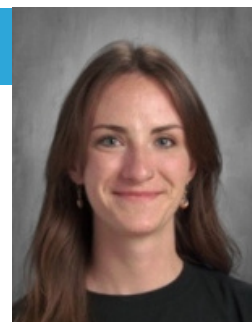
is able to honor her independence away from school and also be an incredible member of the larger K-12 IB communities, thanks to her work in the elementary school." Finn, thank you so much for your hard work, and for your service to your PYP students here at Sage. We are so proud of you and can't wait to see you in action as a teacher in the future!



Lastly, I want to recognize Daniel Calderon, our talented IB Film and Media teacher (shout out for the recent wonderful DP Film Showcase), for showing us all what it means to live a balanced life. Whether he's guiding students through the creative process of filmmaking, designing and leading Sage Survivor or Sage Saboteur, showing up as a positive and thoughtful colleague, or supporting his own family as a dedicated father, Daniel consistently models the balance we value so much in our community. He is always the most current on pop-culture and Sage culture, and we make it a point most days to share a highlight or a laugh about the newest thing. Thank you, Calderon, for all you do for us, and for the students. We love you!

EXPEDITIONS WITH MEGAN FUROIS

Our Spring Break Expeditions trip to Southern Utah was an incredible 7 days of hiking, camping, and exploring! It brought together students and staff from both Boise and Middleton schools into one awesome group!



We also took a trip with 4th graders to Celebration Park, and look forward next month to exploring Foothills Learning Center with our 3rd graders, and the World Center for Birds of Prey with our 5th graders! May will also bring our After School Climbing Clinic, and a fantastic Salmon River Adventure. You can find all our adventures on our [website](#).

ESAGE

ESage has been having fun after school and on full day Fridays! Recent field trips have included The Boise Watershed, Fourteen adventurous 3rd-5th grade ESagers also went on an overnight trip to Osprey Point Yurts in Cascade, where we met up with Sage Middleton MS Expeditions students for a nature scavenger hunt! We're also looking forward to a fun and busy Spring Break, with trips to Zoo Boise, Planet Kid, to see Minecraft in the theater, and watch a BSU beach volleyball game!

Summer and School Year ESage Registration is now open, with limited space available in some groups. Please check out our [website](#) to enroll or email esage@sageintl.org with any questions.

Hello Sage families! We have a very exciting month ahead of us! Thank you to those who donated to meals for teacher conferences on the 1st and 2nd of May. **Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week!** We will need all of the support from our parents that we can get. You can help us in a few ways, you can read all about what we have planned for the week [HERE](#). You can donate your time helping us, or donate money to what we purchase for our teachers.

Links to [Volunteer and Donate](#).

That same week, we will be hosting our **Sage K-5 Color Dance!** Come join us for a night of music, concessions, and fun on May 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Wear the color of your student's grade (K=Red, 1st=orange, 2nd=yellow, 3rd=green, 4th=blue, 5th=purple) and dance the night away! There is no cost to attend. Pizza and snacks can be purchased at the dance with cash only. All children must have a parent or guardian attend with them.

The following weekend, we will be returning to the Elk Flats Campground for an overnight adventure. Please join us the weekend of May 16th through the 18th for hiking, campfire stories, and s'mores! You can register for a tent or RV space and for 1 or 2 nights. Space is limited! [Sign up for the Sage Family Campout here](#).

On the last day of school, we will be getting together at **Kristin Armstrong Park for a Sage End of School Picnic from 4-6 pm!** Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and pack a picnic to eat. We will provide desserts.

We will be hosting **playdates at Kristin Armstrong Park** for new Sage K-1 families on June 19th, July 10th, and July 17th at 2:00 pm. If you are interested in helping to welcome these families, please reach out to information@sagepto.org.

Heading into the summer, we are also looking for a couple of new board members! Please contact our President, Brittany, at president@sagepto.org if you are interested. There is also the option of being event chairs, which is less of a time commitment but helps out the Board a great deal.

You can find all PTO information on [our website](#).
Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).
[Click here](#) to support your Sage PTO with a donation!
Email us at information@sagepot.org!

