



EAGLES NEWS



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PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

April 17, 2026

Dear SFLS Families,

As the annual May 15 deadline to apply for K-12 needs-based variable tuition at SFLS draws near, we are thrilled to share an important update regarding the **South Dakota Partners in Education (SDPE)** scholarship program for the 2026–27 school year.

SB 84 has officially been signed into law, and this brings changes to income eligibility beginning next school year.

SDPE Updates for 2026–27

- **Income eligibility is increasing** from 150% to **200% of the Free & Reduced Lunch Income Guidelines**, which means more families may now qualify.
- Students who have been in the program for three years or are entering high school will need to **reapply this year** (all families who wish to be considered for tuition assistance funds through SFLS during the 2026-27 school year need to reapply this year).
- Reapplying students' household income may not exceed **250% of the Reduced Lunch Income Guideline**.
- **Children in Foster Care automatically qualify** and receive the same scholarship amount for three years.
- SDPE prioritizes **returning students first**, and then new applicants.

Important Deadlines

- Needs-based variable tuition applications must reach **GOOD form rating by May 15, 2026** to be considered for tuition assistance through SFLS and a SDPE scholarship award.
- Applications received after May 15 will be placed on a waiting list.
- **We strongly encourage all K-12 families who meet the new income eligibility requirements to submit an application to both SFLS and SDPE by May 15.**

QUICK LINKS

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[Association Churches](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Career Corner](#)

[Chapel](#)

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[RaiseRight \(aka SCRIP\)](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

2026-2027 Qualifying Income Scale

We honor the income level that originally qualified the student, or we use the lower-income level of a subsequent application submitted before the time to reapply.

A qualifying income cannot be more than what is listed below.

Household Size	Free Lunch Income Level	Reduced Lunch Income Level	200% Of Reduced Lunch Income Level	250% Reapplying Students Only
2	\$28,132	\$40,034	\$80,068	\$100,085
3	\$35,516	\$50,542	\$101,084	\$126,355
4	\$42,900	\$61,050	\$122,100	\$152,625
5	\$50,284	\$71,558	\$143,116	\$178,895
6	\$57,668	\$82,066	\$164,132	\$205,165
7	\$65,052	\$92,574	\$185,148	\$231,435
8	\$72,436	\$103,082	\$206,164	\$257,705
For each additional family member, add	\$7,384	\$10,508	\$21,016	\$26,270

INCOME ELIGIBILITY LIMITS
The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751, et seq.
Effective from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

How to Apply

- **Log into or create a TADS account for your family at www.mytads.com by clicking on "Financial Aid Assessment."**
- TADS will provide a complete list of required documentation before you begin your application, but please know that items like your previous year's tax return are required.
- **Please contact TADS support with any technical questions** during the application process:
612-548-3320, 800-477-8237, TADS-Support@venturedsolutions.com (M-F 7am-5pm CST).

To learn more about all tuition assistance options available at SFLS, please visit siouxfallslutheran.com/k12-tuition.

Blessings,

Monica Johnson, Finance & Business Director

Vania Asmus, 1st-12th Grade Admissions

Megan Baedke, Preschool & Kindergarten Admissions

BOOK SALE

Sioux Falls Lutheran School Annual Used Book Sale August 5-8

Money raised goes to Tuition Assistance Fund

- Donation boxes are now available at the main entrance or at the Preschool entrance at SFLS.



- Donations at SFLS will be accepted until August 1.
- Donation boxes available at Memorial Lutheran Church (5000 S. Western Avenue) on June 1.
- Donations accepted include books of all genres for all ages, CD's, DVD's, records, music, board games and puzzles.

SIGN UP & JOIN THE FUN!

Sioux Falls Lutheran School's annual golf tournament is coming up on Monday, August 3 at Bakker Crossing. This year's Mardi Gras-themed event will bring even more fun and flair to a great day on the course with our community, all while

supporting our school's activities and athletics programs. Registration is now open at

<https://siouxfallslutheran.ejoinme.org/2026SFLSGolfRegistration>—\$500 per team of four. Interested in getting your name out on the course? Hole sponsorships are available for \$750—reach out to learn more!



HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT KINDERGARTEN

As you may recall, we shared last spring that enrollment in our 4-year-old preschool program for the 2025–26 school year was lower than in previous years, and we intentionally expanded our 2-year-old program to move younger children out of our wait pool.

With fewer 4-year-olds moving up to kindergarten, we have more openings in kindergarten for the 2026–27 school year than usual—just as we anticipated.

This creates a wonderful opportunity to welcome more students from across our community as they begin their kindergarten journey at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

Do you know a family with an incoming kindergartener? We would love your help in spreading the word and inviting them to explore SFLS. Please see details on how you can get involved!

Share the Love. Earn \$500.

Refer a friend for kindergarten at Sioux Falls Lutheran School and you **BOTH** receive a tuition credit!

Families who are registered for the **2026-27 school year** and refer a friend who enrolls in kindergarten for the **2026-27 school year** will earn a **\$500 tuition credit** for both themselves and their friend!*

Know a family with an incoming kindergartener? Invite them to explore SFLS today!

- ✓ You receive \$500
- ✓ Your friend receives \$500
- ✓ It's that simple!

SIoux FALLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL
World Ready. Faith Secure.

*To qualify for the \$500 tuition credit, the new family must meet all admissions requirements, complete the entire enrollment process, pay the \$400 enrollment fee, and maintain continuous enrollment for the duration of the 2026-27 school year. Once these conditions are met, both the referring family and the new family will receive a \$500 tuition credit on April 15, 2027. This offer is only valid for new kindergarten enrollments for the 2026-27 school year.

SFLS AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP

Homework Help is a free resource for students after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays until 4PM. It is supervised by an MS/HS teacher and provides students with a quiet, studious environment to complete homework or work on group projects. Use the QR code to sign your student up! Click [HERE](#) for more information and to access the QR code.



K-8th GRADE YEARBOOK ORDERS

We're excited to continue offering K–8 yearbooks as a special way to capture this year's memories! After many years of providing them at no cost, yearbooks will now be available for purchase at \$20 each.

If your family would like to order one, please use the link below by June 1.

<https://shop.memorybook.com>

All users will have to register the first time they access the site. School Code: 064826M.

Thank you for your understanding and support—we're grateful to continue providing this keepsake for our students!

LIBRARY

As we near the end of the school year, please take a moment to check with your student(s) for any overdue or missing library books. We appreciate your support in ensuring all books are returned so all students can continue to enjoy our library collection!

SUPPORT SFLS WITH THE COMMUNITY CARD – in Partnership with First National Bank



The First National Bank in Sioux Falls is excited to offer a Community Card in partnership with Sioux Falls Lutheran School—a simple way to support SFLS through everyday purchases.

The [Community Card](#) works like a debit card, drawing directly from your checking account. When you swipe your card and select the credit option, a portion of each purchase is donated back to Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

It's an easy way to show your school spirit while supporting the mission of SFLS in your daily life. As an added benefit, FNBSF is currently offering a **\$350 incentive** when you open a new personal checking account. This limited-time promotion runs through **June 30, 2026**.

To request a card or open an account, please contact Emily Schonebaum at (605) 782-5742 to learn more.

We're hiring!

Junior High Track & Field Coach (Spring 2026)

2026-27 School Year:

Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach

Junior High Football Coach

Middle & High School Science Teacher (Physics emphasis)

Orchestra Teacher (part-time or full-time)

Learn more and apply: siouxfallslutheran.com/careers.



CHAPEL

Chapel for Wednesday, April 22, led by Pastor Nemera from Lord of Life Lutheran Church, in the Meyer Chapel & Performing Arts Center.

This year's theme is Walk by Faith, and this week's focus is *The Church's Mission by Faith: The Great Commission: Faith that Goes* based on Matthew 28: 16-20.

- 6-12: 8:05AM
- K-5: 8:50AM

Preschool chapel will be held on **Thursday, April 23**, led by Liz Peters, DCE from Memorial Lutheran Church, in the Early Childhood wing, beginning at **8:40 AM** and **9:00 AM**. The theme is *Pentecost*.

Campus Chaplain the week of April 20 is Liz Peters, DCE from Memorial Lutheran Church.

Chapel Offerings: Our 2nd Semester offering supporting the work of Missionaries Rev. Jordon and Alison Andreasen serving in Romania continues with a total of \$1,138.25 so far. Please join us in supporting these missionaries for the last 6 chapels this school year. Through these gifts, we join in God's mission of sharing the love of Jesus with people around the world.

We honor God by serving others!



BUILDING AN ARK OF FAITH FOR OUR YOUNGEST LEARNERS

Step by step, two by two, we are building an Ark of Faith — a joyful new playground for our littlest disciples. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, each gift, big or small, helps bring this vision to life. From our mighty Elephants to the diligent Ants, every member of our giving Ark is making a lasting impact. Soon, children will have a safe, faith-filled place to laugh, explore, and grow *for generations of tiny disciples*.



Through the month of May, gifts toward the Ark Project can go even further thanks to a \$5,000 matching opportunity through PTF — doubling the impact of your generosity.

You can learn more about this match in the PTF section below.

We invite you to climb aboard by scanning the QR code, emailing bmakepeace@sflutheranschool for more information, or visiting the early childhood entrance to see the progress firsthand!



PTF (PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP)

PTF will **not** have a May meeting.

Next Meeting: June 15 from 5:30-7:00 PM in the Reading Area.

Thanks to your generous contributions to our fall fundraiser, the PTF was able to donate \$10,000 toward the new Preschool Ark Initiative playground equipment! You can see the LION representing this gift displayed in the preschool wing vestibule.



Even more exciting — PTF will **match gifts up to \$5,000 through the month of May**, doubling the impact of your support! If you would like to contribute, please scan the QR code in the Ark of Faith section above.

EAGLE CARE

Eagle Care students continue to enjoy the warm weather and playing outside. The warmer temperatures make us thirsty, so we will begin bringing water bottles outside. Please, please help us return a water bottle by writing your child's name on it, or we can label it for you. Thank you so much!



Awareness of the Month Topic: Marijuana Use

Marijuana use among youth can affect learning, decision-making, memory, and emotional development. Click [Here](#) to learn more.

“The Worry Chain”

Psychology Tools has created a [Free Guide To Living With Worry And Anxiety Amidst Global Uncertainty | Psychology Tools](#). Worry is a natural human reaction when life feels uncertain and out of our control. For individuals with anxiety, worry can spiral into worse-case thinking scenarios and if not managed, PANIC or FEAR.

Here are some tips for managing worry while also supporting your children. Children often do not have the ability to process situations with the same level of understanding or rational thinking as teens or adults. Parents play an important role in helping children talk through what they view on social media, hear from friends, and understand by seeking factual information. Children may show worry through their behavior or express fears that something might happen to the people they love and care about.

So, what does worry feel like? It can present as physical symptoms such as headaches, stomachaches, digestive issues, muscle tension, restlessness, difficulty relaxing, or fatigue. It may also lead to irritability or changes in eating or sleep patterns. Worry can feel like a chain of thoughts and images that move into concerns about catastrophic events. A [worry chain](#) begins with a small thought that quickly grows into a much larger fear. This often happens automatically and can feel very real - especially to children.

In addition to global uncertainty, families may also be managing busy schedules, work pressures and rising costs, all of which can impact stress levels.

Click [Here](#) for some ideas on how to *slow down* the worry chain.



Barb DeVos, Contracted School Counselor, is available to support your child’s well-being. Barb is at Sioux Falls Lutheran School *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays*. bdevos@carrollinstitute.org or bdevos@sflutheranschool.com

RAISERIGHT (AKA SCRIP)

Order Dates by 10 AM	Pick-Up Dates after 11 AM
Monday, April 20	Thursday, April 23
Monday, May 4	Thursday, May 7
Monday, May 18	Thursday, May 21

PRESCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: 2026-27 School Year BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION & SCHOOL

PICTURES: *August 13*

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Map Testing Reminder

Our final round of MAP testing for the year will take place April 20-May 1 for students in grades 1-8. This is NOT a “summative” assessment of their learning, but rather an opportunity to measure the growth they’ve made throughout the school year. The results also help guide our instruction, curriculum planning, and support decisions.

Thank you for encouraging your students to give their best effort. Students perform best when they are well-rested and have a healthy breakfast to start their day.



Lockdown Drill

We will practice our lockdown procedures next week. Teachers will remind students to know what to do in case of a lockdown. We train very calmly so that we can respond calmly. Police officers will also be in the building to help us identify areas where we can improve, especially with our new addition. If you drive by and see many police cars out front, that is why they are here!

SAVE THE DATE: 2026-27 School Year BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION & SCHOOL

PICTURES: *August 17*

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Map Testing Reminder

Our final round of MAP testing for the year will take place April 20-May 1 for students in grades 1-8. This is NOT a “summative” assessment of their learning, but rather an opportunity to measure the growth they’ve made throughout the school year. The results also help guide our instruction, curriculum planning, and support decisions.

Thank you for encouraging your students to give their best effort. Students perform best when they are well-rested and have a healthy breakfast to start their day.

High School Graduation: Friday, May 15 at 6:30 PM in the Dr. Vaughn & Joann Meyer Chapel and Performing Arts Center.

SAVE THE DATE: 2026-27 School Year BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION & SCHOOL

PICTURES: *August 17*

7th Grade Art/Music Field trip to SDSU

The 7th graders enjoyed a day at SDSU in Brookings on April 9. Their first stop was the Dairy Bar, where they learned about dairy products, their production, and food safety. Their second stop was the SDSU Visual Art Museum where students toured art galleries and created small works of art. Finally, students attended a jazz concert as part of the Optimist Jazz Festival, and heard the SDSU Jazz Band perform with special professional guests. Thank you to Abbi and Matt for joining us as chaperones!



NEW

SFLS Prom - April 25

Theme: Under Lantern's Light

Grand March: 7:00 PM SFLS in the Meyer Chapel

Dance: 8-10 PM

After Prom: to follow until 2:30 AM



TRACK & FIELD

Click [HERE](#) for the full Varsity schedule. Results can be found on the [Athletic.net](#) website. You can also download the [APP](#).

April 21: Gayville-Volin Tri-State Invite Track Meet [Schedule of Events](#)

April 23: [Freeman Flyer Track Meet Schedule](#)

Here are a few things to note about this track meet:

1. Concessions will include food trucks and a coffee truck.
2. Bathrooms: The school will be open through Door 4 and the main entrance. Main bathrooms and visiting locker rooms will be available, along with 4 porta-potties behind the temporary stands on the home side of the track.
3. Please bring lawn chairs, as seating is not what is normally available at the track.

**GOLF**

Click [HERE](#) for the full Golf schedule.

Summer Camp Registrations are still open. Use the QR Code to get you to the registration page. OR use [this link](#). Under Registration, click on Camps. There will be no additional fees added to your registration. Payment is due at time of registration. Questions? Ask Lisa: lasmus@sflutherschool.com or Monica: finance@sflutherschool.com

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION & SIGN UP

Join us for growth and positive interactions.

Many different camps are now open for registration!

SOUND

**VOLLEYBALL NEWS FROM MR S.**

I am pleased to share that Dr. Mark List has been named Head Girls Volleyball Coach for the 2026–27 season at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. We are thankful for Dr. List's willingness to serve in this role and to invest in the lives of our student-athletes.

At SFLS, our activities program is an extension of our mission to "proclaim Christ and nurture students in faith, knowledge, and service." Athletics provide a meaningful opportunity to develop not only skills and teamwork but also Christ-centered character. As Scripture reminds us, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as

for the Lord and not for men” (Colossians 3:23). It is our prayer that our volleyball program reflects this calling—pursuing excellence while giving glory to God.

Coach List is committed to fostering a program grounded in discipline, respect, and servant leadership, pointing athletes to Christ in both word and action. We look forward to the season ahead and to the continued growth of our students through this program.

Please join me in welcoming Coach List into this role and in keeping him and our volleyball program in your prayers.

In Christ,

James Stubkjaer
Activities Director
Sioux Falls Lutheran School

MUSIC

NEW

ALL CITY HONORS ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to Jerrick Bertelsen and Elijah Richards, who were selected to be part of the All City Honors Orchestra. Students in grades 7-9 from Sioux Falls orchestra programs were chosen, met weekly for rehearsals, and performed a concert this past Sunday at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

They also had the opportunity to play side by side with the Augustana University Orchestra during the finale concert. These fantastic string players used their God-given talents, grew as musicians, and represented SFLS well.

Thank you Jerrick and Elijah—and again, congratulations!



[APRIL Middle School Ensemble Calendar](#)

[Click or scan to take a look at the SFLS Strings Site!](#)

High School Spring Semester High School Ensemble dates:

- Wednesday, April 22 - Large Group Contest (Band and Choir)



- Tuesday, April 28 - Spring Concert (All Ensembles)
- Friday, May 15 - Graduation (Choir, Orchestra, Band)

Upcoming Elementary/Middle School Music Events:

- Thursday, April 23 - Kindergarten and 3rd Grade Spring Programs
 - Kindergarten at 12:30 PM
 - 3rd Grade at 2:00 PM
- Wednesday, April 29 - 1st Grade Music Class on the Stage (after Chat and Chapel)
- Monday, May 11 - 4th-8th Grade Spring Concerts
 - 4th/5th Grade at 6:00 PM
 - Middle School at 7:15 PM

ASSOCIATION CHURCHES

Memorial - Rev. Doug Slavens, DCE Hailey Jo Miller and DCE Liz Peters

Faith - Rev. Corey Aker & Rev. Jason Rensner

Our Redeemer - Rev. Brett Simek

Lord of Life - Rev. Billy Newell

Resurrection - Rev. Chris Ascher

Click [HERE](#) for worship times!

SUPPORTING MEMBER

ZION - Rev. Greg Lehr & Rev. Paul Winckler

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit your FACTS family portal calendar or click this [link](#) to our website for upcoming events.

Please contact schooloffice@sflutheranschool.com with any questions or concerns.



**SIoux FALLS
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