

THE SAGE

Cokeville High School

September 2025

Changes Around the School

As the new school year begins, many exciting changes have taken place across the school. From a remodeled weight room to a new lunch spot, the school got a major upgrade over the summer. The weight room received a complete overhaul, with one wall torn down to open up the space. The renovation also included removing the old 8th-grade science counters, replacing the mirrors, and installing a new water fountain. While it still gets warm, the new layout makes it feel less cramped and a bit cooler for workouts. The new layout also provides extra floor space, making it easier for students to do exercises that don't require equipment. Another very exciting change was the dress code was improved to the students benefit. Although our dress code may be hard to follow at times, please remember to follow it so we can dress for success. Please avoid wearing overly tight, loose, or revealing clothing, as well as items with inappropriate images and messages for school. Leave hats, hoods, heavy coats, and extreme hairstyles at home. Remember that shorts are allowed during the first and last four weeks of school. Another thing that has been changed not only school wide but state wide is the no cell phones in the classrooms. Please remember to place your phone in the provided holder in classrooms, or leave them at home or in your locker. If you are caught with your phone in class you can go through a series of punishments, so I highly suggest following these rules. One of the more interesting changes over the summer is the new game room that is open to the students during lunch time. You have the options of playing pool, air hockey, foosball, or one of the many card games. There is also the option of putting together a puzzle, playing with legos or fidgets, or doing a diamond art, or even playing with the table top sensory sand box. As we enjoy all these new things, let's remember to keep them nice and follow the rules. Enjoy the rest of your year. Go Panthers!

- Briquelle Peck

Staff Spotlight

The Staff Spotlight for the month of September is ...Mrs. Thornock. Mrs. Thornock went to college at Utah State University. If teaching art wasn't an option for Mrs. Thornock she would be coaching soccer because she played soccer for all her life. If she had 1 trillion dollars her first big purchase would be a house because she would like her own house. Her favorite holiday is Halloween because she likes everything spooky. Mrs. Thornock's favorite meal is Chicken Alfredo. If she could have one superpower it would be teleportation so she could visit the world at no cost and get places way faster. Mrs. Thornock went to Sedona Arizona over the summer. Some of Mrs. Thornock's hobbies are: sports, listening to true crime podcasts, and crocheting. The most rebellious thing Mrs. Thornock has ever done is sneaking out of her parent's house to meet a boy. Mrs. Thornock's favorite thing about teaching is seeing how creative her students can be.

-Nathan Keller



Cheerleaders

The ladies have started up a new cheer season. While the cheerleaders have been working really hard at everything and teaching the new girls all the new basics, the girls have been preparing for their first home game which is Friday, September 5th. They've been continuing to work on stunting, cheers, and half time performances. The girls are also preparing for homecoming; which is coming up. It is in the first week of October. They have been planning themes, dress up days, and decorating ideas. The cheer team is in charge of painting our pride around town! This year we have a much smaller group of girls than last year. The girls we have on the team this year are: Briquelle Peck, Airica Brook, Kenzi Payne, Paisley Wood, Hayden Stoore, and McCall Murdock. With a total of 8 girls!!! And Hayden Stoore is our team captain!! Airica Brook and Kenzi Payne are our co-captains! Our proud coaches are Stacey Clark and Michael Schwardting. We are looking forward to an awesome year, from our awesome cheerleaders!!

-Airica Brook





Student Spotlight

Paisley student spotlight. Something to know about the newest addition to the sophomore class Paisley wood. Her favorite foods include: Sushi, chicken alfredo, salad with italian dressing, and a good ol chicken salad sandwich. Her favorite thing to do in her free time is hiking, practice driving, listening to music, hanging out with friends, and going on rides in the mountains. She last moved from Rawlins, Wyoming, to Cokeville, Wyoming. Her birthday is December 15 of 09. Her favorite candy bar is a butterfinger. She goes to church. Paisley enjoys fishing and hunting. Her favorite classes are building traits and welding, and she is also on the cheerleading team. I asked what she would buy if she won a million dollars tomorrow. She said she would “buy a private jet and fly to Hawaii”. She would then go on a lot of hikes and go into retirement for the rest of her life. Paisley has two pet cats, their names are Prince and Stormy. Her dream pet is a blue heeler. If she got stranded on an island her three things she would pick to have is satellite phone, a pot, and flint and steel. If the end of the world happened and Paisley could only save 3 people, she said “they would be Caleb Lawrence, Airica, and Paisely’s grandma”. Her favorite color is lilac purple.

-Kacen Milstead

Movie Review

Faithful Adaption and Evolving Tone:

- The Alms took on the difficult task of adapting J.K. Rowling’s lengthy and detailed novels for the screen. Despite some necessary omissions and changes the series largely captured the spirit of the books from the whimsical adventures of the early films to the dark and serious tone of the later installments
- As Harry, Ron,and Hermoine grew up the movies matured alongside them; The series expertly mirrored the characters' coming of age journey by exploring increasingly complex themes of friendship, loss, bravery, and the fight against evil.

Outstanding Casting and Performances:

- The casting of Danial Radcliffe, Emma Watson, and Rupert Grint as the central trio is widely praised as a masterful decision. The film makers found three young actors who grew into their roles, allowing audiences to connect with them on and off screen.
- The series is bolstered by a “who’s, who” of distinguishing British and Irish actors in supporting roles from the perfectly cast Alan Rickman as Snape to Maggie Smith as professor McGonagall and Robbie Coltrane as Hagrid the incredible talent and dedication of this cast elevate the material beyond a simple children's story.

Artistic and Technical Brilliance:

- Over the course of the eight films the franchise brought in different directors who brought their unique creative vision to the story. This allowed the films to evolve visually and stylistically while still maintaining a cohesive narrative.
- The film series production design is a standout feature, bringing the magical world to life with stunning detail from the whimsical corridors of Hogwarts to the bustling diagon alley the sets and visual effects are sensationally imaginative yet believable.
- John Williams iconic score for the first three films and later contributions from other composers are widely celebrated the music captures the magic and wonder of the wizarding world and is instantly recognizable to fans

Thematic Depth:

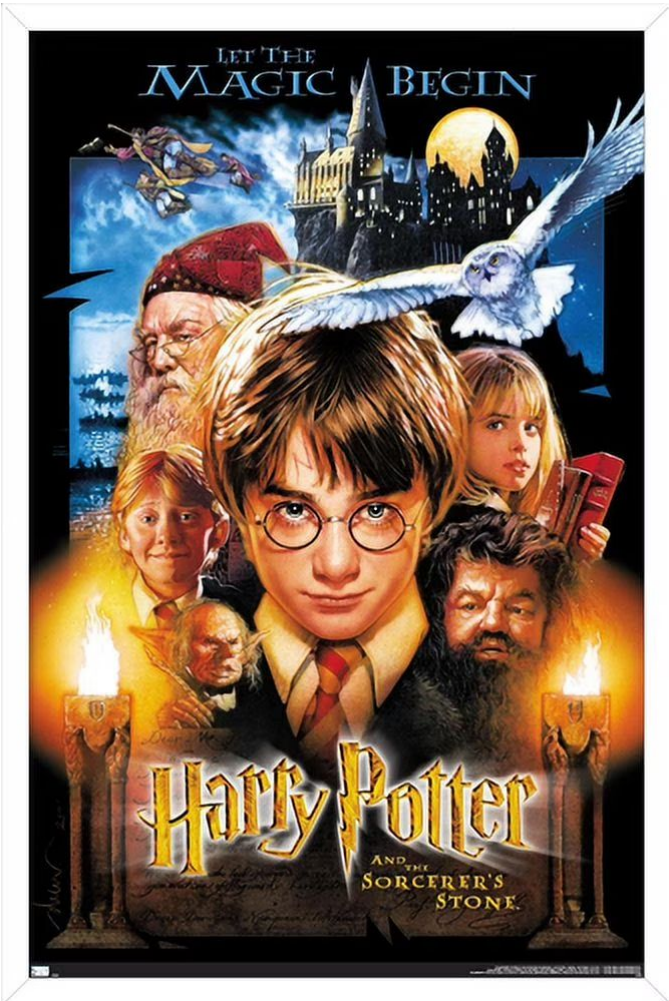
- Beyond the magic and adventure the *Harry Potter* movies resonate with audiences because of their emotional honesty and sincerity.
- The films explore universal themes such as the importance of family and friendship, the nature of sacrifice and the enduring power of love in the face of suffering.
- The series ability to show characters experiencing realistic emotions like grief, fear, and teenage angst helps ground the fantasy and make the characters relatable to both adults and children

Minor Criticisms:

- Like most adaptations the movies do have some flaws the length of the later books meant that many subplots and details had to be cut leaving non-readers in the dark about certain elements
- Some fans have also pointed to minor changes in the characterization or inconsistencies in the magical world as reasons to prefer the books
- However these are minor gripes to an otherwise amazing series

Conclusion:

- The *Harry Potter* movies are a rare success story in blockbuster film making. They are well made entertaining and emotionally sincere series that have earned its positive reputation. It is a cinematic experience that many grew up with and will continue to be cherished by new generations of fans.





First week of school

During our first week of school, our student body had a lot of fun activities to kick off this school year. On Monday we had a few games, there was a tug-of-war in which the juniors ultimately crushed everyone. Even the Teachers! Then they had an egg spoon race, but with water balloons. Everybody did fairly well, but some of the boys ended up turning the last few water balloons into a water balloon fight. A few students got caught in the crossfire! The final game we played on Monday was a mega game of rock paper scissors tag. To no one's surprise, the juniors won once again. Though there were a few close games, no one could beat the speed of those junior boys. On Tuesday, our student body had each individual class, including the middle schoolers, design a poster that we could then show at that parade for the elementary students. There were many great designs, the 7th and 8th graders really went all out for the posters, making sure there was no empty space. The seniors decided to go for a smurfs design which really did look good. The juniors theme was "Magical Juniors". The Sophomore class decided to go for "We are wheelie cool". The Freshman's theme was "Beach Party". 8th grade's theme was "Let's ride the new year". And last but not least, the 7th graders whose theme was the "Sports Class". There were many great themes and posters, and I'm sure the elementary students had a blast watching the parade! On Wednesday, the school had an assembly. We played family feud, with two teams. One student from each grade and one staff member were on each team. Everybody had a lot of fun, as the answers were pretty hilarious. On Thursday, the high school students took their posters that they made on Tuesday, to the elementary school for a parade. Each class dressed up to match their posters. So some seniors were dressed as smurfs, the sophomores were riding and pushing wheelchairs. Everybody, including the elementary students, had a blast. This week was a great way to kick off the 25-26 school year.

—Joshua Keller

Volley Tourney

The gyms at Cokeville High School were buzzing with energy this past weekend as eleven volleyball teams gathered for a highly competitive tournament. The participating teams included Mountain View, Lyman, Rich, Grace, Jackson, Preston, West Side, Kemmerer, Little Snake, Bear Lake, and, of course, Cokeville.

Matches were played throughout the weekend across multiple courts, with each team competing in games ranging from three to five sets. Cokeville kicked off the tournament with the first match against Lyman, but unfortunately fell in three straight sets. In their next match, Cokeville bounced back with a 3–1 win over Jackson, followed by another 3–1 victory over West Side. However, the team struggled in their matchup against Preston, losing 0–3, and later fell to Lyman again, managing to take one set but ultimately losing 1–3.

Despite the ups and downs, Coach V saw the tournament as a valuable experience for the team. "The Cokeville tournament was a great opportunity for our team to play different levels of volleyball, and we got a chance to see our players in a lot of different scenarios," she said.

Cokeville may have missed out on the championship, but Preston and Bear Lake gave the fans a game to remember. After three quick sets, Bear Lake walked away with the dub and a few facials. One of which definitely left its mark on the ball.

By: Paislee Tims and Presli Pope

