TigerTimes

Sherrard Jr/Sr High Newsletter

September 2025

Alex Johnson, High School Principal
Brady Stromquist, Jr. High Principal

September 4
Picture re-take day

September 6
Band mattress fundraiser - 10a-5p

September 10
Early out - 1p

September 11
Washington DC meeting - 6p

September 18
FASFA Meeting - 5:30p

September 24
Early dismissal - 1p
School Board Meeting - 6p

September 27
Fall Play - 7p

September 28
Fall Play - 3p

Athletics / Activities

Get up to date athletic and activities schedules on the Sherrard SNAP! website: https://schools.snap.app/SherrardHS

Principal's Note

Welcome to September! We are off to a great start this year and all of our seasonal sports and activities are in full swing. We encourage all of you to come out and support the great things our Tigers are doing! I am excited for the opportunity to be part of Sherrard High School as the Principal. I also would like to introduce Andrea Cooper, our new Assistant Principal. She has fit right in and comes with a wealth of experience. She is student first and will be a great fit for Sherrard.

September Reminders

- September 10th - Early Dismissal at 1:00
- September 24th - Early Dismissal at 1:00
- **September 24th** - School board meeting, 6:00 PM at the Unit Office

I encourage you to join us for our Parent Teacher Conferences October 8th and 9th from 2:30 - 6:30 p.m. We will be using the Student-Led method for conferences. Teachers will be reaching out in the next month to schedule a time for a conference. We encourage you to stay up-to-date with your student's grades by using the Infinite Campus learning management system. If you need help gaining access, please contact Jennifer Thurman (309-593-2175) in the guidance for details.

If your student needs extra academic support please contact our Academic Coordinator, Julie Drish at drishju@sherrard.us or if they need extra social-emotional support, please contact our Guidance Counselor, Stacey Blackwell at blackwells@sherrard.us. This is a great starting point to address the issues and to help your student find the appropriate solution.

www.sherrard.us

Sherrard Jr/Sr High School
4701 176th Avenue
Sherrard, IL 61281
High School 309.593.2175
Jr. High 309.593.2135

Stay informed!

Daily high school announcements will be posted on the Sherrard High School website. Please visit the website daily for information about all things happening at the high school. The link below will take you directly to the announcements: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sherrard+morning+announcements+TV

You may also want to connect to our District social media accounts.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sherrardschooldistrict - Facebook ID is "Sherrard School District"

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sherrardschooldistrict/ - Handle is SherrardSchoolDistrict

Twitter: https://twitter.com/home - Handle is @SherrardSchools

Please remember that vacations that are scheduled during the school year are, by state code, unexcused absences. We encourage all families to plan trips during non-school days. If there are extenuating circumstances in which you need to have your student miss for these types of events, please contact me at johnsona@sherrard.us to discuss the absence.

Thank you to all the parents and guardians that have helped us get off to a great start. We look forward to a successful 2025-2026 school year.

Alex Johnson, Principal

JH Principal's Notes

The 25-26 school year is in full swing. Thank you for the phone calls and emails that have been sent. Your communication will help and is important to our students' success.

Thank you to all of the students and parents who have helped support our homeroom and daily planner period. I feel like we are off to a great start. Students continue to fill out their planners daily. We will continue to work on tying the importance of having them as you move through the day and ultimately at home.

We are going to continue to work on finding better (and more) ways to communicate with students and you throughout the year. One method of communication that we already use to help communicate with your students is through the Junior High Office 25-26 Google Classroom page. One key part of that page is the JH Assignments Spreadsheet 2025-2026. This sheet will list assignments that students have been working on. We will continue to add work regularly to that spreadsheet, keeping it as up to date as possible. I am also sending weekly email updates on Fridays that may include important information for the following week. If you are not receiving these emails, please let the office know. They are being sent to the main contact email on file with the school.

Just a reminder that we will again be having Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conferences this fall. Conferences will be held on October 8th and October 9th. We will send more information out as that date gets closer. We encourage each and every parent to attend and see what their student presents to them about their classes.

Student of the Month

HIGH SCHOOL
English: Daelynn Swanson
Math: Tessa Driessens
Science: David Browning
Social Studies: Chase Stenger
Vocational: Cooper Thomas
Fine Arts: Lizzy Westfall
PE/Health: Devin Bull
Business: Landin Eisentrager
Special Forces: Frankie Dobereiner

JUNIOR HIGH
English: Tony Morgan III
Science: Gavin Sims
PE/Health: Henry Ahrens
Math: Mason Lawson
Fine Arts: Axton Logston
Social Studies: Dylan Wardlow-Bohl
Service: Reed McDaniel
Skills Development: Jarron Davidson
Striving for Excellence: Emery Weist

Student activities are up and running. New as an official IESA sport this year is Cross Country. It is not too late to sign your student up if they missed the start of the season for any reason.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce Ms. Becky Wakeland to the junior high family as our counselor. She's new to the building, but not to the district, as she was at both Winola and Sherrard Elementary buildings last year. If you or your student need to speak with her, she's located in the junior high office.

Our number one goal is for your student to get the best education possible. Together we can make this attainable. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Brady Stromquist
JH Principal

Junior Senate Scratch Cupcake Fundraiser

The Junior Senate is excited to announce our annual Scratch Cupcake Fundraiser! From September 22 through October 10, students and families will have the opportunity to order delicious cupcakes from Scratch, known for their fun flavors and homemade taste.

All proceeds will support Prom, so every box purchased helps make a difference in our school community.

Important Dates:

- Fundraiser Runs: September 22 thru October 10
- Cupcake Delivery: Thursday, October 30

Cupcakes will be delivered fresh and ready to enjoy just in time for fall gatherings. Don't miss your chance to treat yourself (and your sweet tooth) while supporting our students! These cupcakes freeze well too!

For more information, contact a Junior Senate member or Lori Arnold, Junior Senate Sponsor.

Post Prom Cookies!

The Post Prom Parents volunteer group will be at the home varsity games selling fresh baked chocolate chip cookies to raise money for the post prom event. Stop at our table and show your support for the cause by getting a plate or two of deliciousness!

To keep this tradition going, we are looking for more parent volunteers to make cookies at home games. Contact Jen Diehl - diehlj@sherrard.us - if you would be interested in being part of this SHS game day staple!

Homecoming 2025

Hey Sherrard Tigers!

Get ready to live out your fairy tale because the theme for Homecoming 2025 has been revealed: ***Disney "Once Upon a Roar!"***

Homecoming week will take place from Monday, September 29th through Saturday, October 4th. We'll be facing off against our rivals, the Monmouth-Roseville Titans.

Here are some key dates you won't want to miss:

- **Wednesday**: Best of the Classes Competition and a Tiger Tailgate. Our Tailgate will begin promptly at 5 and end at 6. Please stay tuned for more information regarding tailgate specifics. We will introduce royalty and announce the king and queen at 6:15 p.m. Join us for a night of fun, food, and Tiger Spirit.

- **Thursday**: Homecoming Parade beginning at 6:15 p.m. in Sherrard. If you plan to participate in the parade, please complete a parade form before Tuesday, September 30th.

- Additionally, we are now accepting nominations for our Grand Marshal! This honor is for a lifetime member of the Sherrard/Winola School District or an individual who has made a lasting impact on our community. All nominations are **due by Thursday, September 11th**. Please use the nomination form to submit your choice.

- **Friday**: Homecoming football game. Please join us as we cheer on our Sherrard Tigers to VICTORY! We will celebrate our homecoming king and queen and all attendants before the game at 6:30 p.m.

- **Saturday**: Homecoming dance beginning at 7 p.m. and ending at 10 p.m. at the high school. Coronation will begin at 8 p.m. If you would like to come watch the coronation, please arrive by 7:45. All 9th-12th graders are welcome to attend the dance. Tickets will be sold for $10 during B and C lunches the week of September 29th-October 3rd. **NO** tickets will be sold at the door. Any student bringing a date from another school must have the paperwork completed and turned in to the office before purchasing tickets.

Stay tuned for more information on specific events and dress-up days throughout the week.

Tiger Closet

We have kept our Amazon Wish List up to date, but we know many are not Amazon shoppers and would still like to contribute. Here is a list of our "greatest needs." As always, we appreciate everyone's support, this labor of love wouldn't be possible without the community support we receive.

Needs:
- Laundry detergent
- Laundry stain remover
- Dryer sheets
- Dish soap
- Tampons
- Hair ties
- Face wash
- Face moisturizer
- Deodorant
- Hair dryers
- Toilet paper

For those that do want to use the Amazon Wish List, click here for it.

If you have any questions you can contact:
Vanessa Schulenberg at schulenbergv@sherrard.us or Erin DeKeyrel at dekeyrele@sherrard.us.

From the HS Counseling/Academic Center:

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

The parent portal on Infinite Campus is a great tool to monitor grades and assignments. If you do not have a parent portal or cannot gain access to yours, please contact Jen Thurman to get it set up. thurmanj@sherrard.us

The Counseling Department has a Google Classroom for the Class of 2026, where we will be providing important information relevant to senior year. Students have been sent a link or Google code to join.

Attention **SENIOR** parents/guardians and students:
There is a FAFSA informational meeting on **Thursday, September 18th, at 5:30 pm in the high school auditorium**. This will be a brief presentation on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A representative from ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission) will be available to help answer questions. The FAFSA is very important for any student considering continuing to a 2-year or 4-year college after graduation. Technical schools, like Midwest Technical Institute, also take the FAFSA. The application opens in October.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL INFORMATION:

Welcome back, Sherrard High School students and parents! We in the counseling department are so excited to see both familiar faces and new ones as we kick off the 2025-2026 school year. A new school year is like a fresh start—a chance to set new goals, learn new things, and make new memories. We're here to help make this year your best one yet.

What We Do
Our mission is to support every student's academic, career, and social-emotional development. Think of us as your go-to resource for everything from picking classes and planning for college to navigating friendships and managing stress. We're here to listen, offer guidance, and connect you with the resources you need to succeed.

Additional Resources:
Jenifer Frere will be working in the HS Counseling office with us on Tuesdays. She is a student case manager with the Mercer County Mental Health Action Program through the Mercer County Health Department. Her role is to enhance services with the mental health system, link students and families to additional outside resources, and explore possible solutions to resolve barriers to a healthy mind. Please contact Stacey Blackwell for additional information or for a referral for services.

SENIORS

The Meningococcal Vaccine is required for all 12th grade Students by October 15, 25. Students not incompliance on October 20 (when school resumes after fall break) will be excluded from school per State Requirements.

All students entering the **12th grade** shall show proof of having received two doses of the **meningitis vaccine** prior to entering the **12th grade**. The first dose shall have been received on or after the 1**1th birthday**, and the second dose shall have been administered on or after the **16th birthday**, and at least eight weeks after the first dose. If the first dose is administered when the child is 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required.

*****NOTE**: This must be the Meningococcal vaccine (Menactra or Menveo). The Meningitis B Vaccine otherwise known as Trumenba or Bexsero **does not** meet this requirement. Some pharmacies such as Walgreens have administered the Meningitis B vaccine instead of the Meningococcal Vaccine.

Kurt Doyle from Mercy One in Aledo will be seeing select students twice a month in the counseling office. He is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. If you are interested in seeing Kurt or learning more about his services, please contact Stacey Blackwell.

blackwells@sherrard.us
drishju@sherrard.us

FRESHMEN

Updated Physicals are required for all 9 th grade student by 10/15/25. Students not in compliance by October (when school resumes after fall break) will be excluded from school per State Requirements.

- All ninth grade students are required to have an updated school physical.
- State law requires Illinois Department of Public Health form to be used.
- Physical forms are available at the school and on the school district web site www.sherrard.us, go to **Departments** and select **Health Services, Health Forms** and **Student Physical Form**.
- Physicals must be completed and signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine, a physician's assistant, or an advanced practice nurse. **Chiropractors MAY NOT perform school or sports physicals**.
- Parents or guardians are required by state law to complete and sign the health history portion on the front of the physical form.
- **Sports physicals will not fulfill this requirement**. The ninth-grade physical may be used for a sport physical for 395 days from the date of the exam. Students who receive freshman physicals March 1, 2025 will need another sports physical by April 1 of 2026, if they desire to participate in spring sports. Please keep this in mind when scheduling your child's physical.
- A copy of your child's immunization record may be required by the health care provider. Contact the school nurse if you need a copy of your child's immunization record.

Fall Play

The fall play this year will be The Odyssey Experience by Christopher Parks. The audience becomes a part of the show in this epic adventure based on the Greek poem. Come on a wild adventure with the famed warrior Odysseus, king of Ithaca, in this completely interactive production! Adapted from the Greek poet Homer's The Odyssey, this innovative experience welcomes you to be a part of the play as you are transported back to the time of the Trojan War. This participatory style of theatrical storytelling, experiential theater, will take you on a journey unlike any you've ever traveled before. Don't miss it! Saturday, September 27th at 7pm and Sunday, September 28th at 3pm. Tickets sold at the door, $7 adults and $5 students.

8th Grade Washington DC Trip Info Meeting

Current 8th graders interested in having the experience of a lifetime - mark your calendars for the informational meeting:

Date: Thursday, September 11

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: High School Auditorium

Take a sneak peek at the trip website to see the incredible experiences that await: Sherrard 2026 DC Trip.

This isn't just any trip – it's a chance for your student to create memories that will last a lifetime, build confidence, and see the world through new eyes. More details about the Washington, D.C. trip in June of 2026 will be discussed and one parent/guardian must attend the meeting.

P.S. If your student is already signed up, you do NOT need to attend this meeting.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sherrard Jr-Sr High Lunch Menu

Menu Subject to Change
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 No School	2 Meatball Sub Tater Tots Carrots Strawberry Cup Milk Choice	3 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Broccoli Apple Slices Milk Choice	4 Crispitos Fiesta Beans Celery Peaches Milk Choice	5 Breakfast Pizza Hash Browns Pineapple Cherry Slushy Milk Choice
8 Cheese Dippers Marinara Green Beans – Carrots Mixed Fruit Milk Choice	9 Toasted Cheese Ravioli Cheese Stick Corn – Broccoli Applesauce Milk Choice	10 Chicken Tenders Baked Beans Celery Pears - Sunchips Milk Choice	11 BBQ Rite/Bun Crinkle Fries Carrots Apple Slices Milk Choice	12 Cheese Pizza Tater Tots Salad/Tomatoes Pineapple Milk Choice
15 Italian Pull-A-Part Marinara Garlic Peas – Broccoli Applesauce Milk Choice	16 Walking Taco Salad/Tomatoes Refried Beans Peaches Milk Choice	17 Chicken Sticks Corn – Carrots Apple Slices Tiger Grahams Milk Choice	18 Mini Corn Dogs Fries Celery Mixed Fruit Milk Choice	19 Pizza Crunchers Tater Tots Broccoli Pears Milk Choice
22 Hamburger/Bun Curly Fries Celery Applesauce Milk Choice	23 Taco Quesadilla Salad/Tomatoes Refried Beans Peaches Milk Choice	24 Breaded or Grilled Chicken/Bun Tater Tots Carrots - Apple Milk Choice	25 Baked Pasta Breadstick Garlic Peas – Broccoli Mixed Fruit Milk Choice	26 Pepperoni St. Crust Pizza Corn Carrots Pineapple Milk Choice
29 Tenderloin/Bun Baked Beans Carrots Applesauce Milk Choice	30 Ribette/Bun Tater Tots Broccoli Apple Slices Milk Choice	**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT** Early Dismissal Days: September 10th & 24th		**Applications for free/reduced meals are available at each attendance center or on the district website.**

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sherrard School District PreK-12
Breakfast Menu

Menu Subject to Change
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 No School	2 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	3 Mini Pancakes/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	4 Cinnamon Crunch Bar ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	5 WG Poptart ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
8 Mini Cinnis ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	9 Cereal Bowl Snack Cookie ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	10 Mini Bagel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	11 WG Poptart ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	12 Fruit Frudel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
15 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	16 French Toast Sticks Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	17 Egg & Cheese Omelet Goldfish Crackers ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	18 Mini Pancakes Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	19 Breakfast Burrito ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
22 Mini Banana Loaf ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	23 Cinnamon Super Stix ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	24 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	25 Mini Cinnis ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	26 Cereal Bar Cheese Stick ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
29 Fruit Frudel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	30 Mini Bagel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT** Early Dismissal Days: September 10th & 24th		**Applications for free/reduced meals are available at each attendance center or on the district website.**