TigerTimes

Sherrard Jr/Sr High Newsletter

January 2026

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

January 5
Teachers Institute - No School

January 6
Students return from winter break

January 7
Booster Club Meeting - 6p

January 15
Wrestling Senior Night

January 19
No School

January 21
School Board Meeting - 6p

Athletics / Activities

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

Principal's Note

Happy New Year!

As I write this article, I hope it finds you in good spirits from a happy and healthy holiday season.

Registration for the 2026 - 2027 school year will begin soon. Your students will be receiving course information in the next few weeks, if they have any questions please see the guidance office.

We also would like to welcome our new football coach Zach Weigel. We are excited to see what Coach Weigel will bring to the table as we continue to grow our program. Also, a special thank you to Coach McGuire as he heads to a "2nd retirement". He came in during a difficult situation and left the program in a good spot. We wish him the best.

Thank you to all the volunteers at the Mike Hutchins Holiday Classic varsity boys basketball tournament. It was a great event which saw some really good basketball games and raised thousands of dollars for the Shop with a Sheriff program led by Officer Mike Mendoza.

Lastly, thank you for everyone's participation in our Operation Santa activities. Thousands of dollars were raised and we were able to assist needy families in our school district - not only during the holiday season - but throughout the year.

January Reminders

January 12th - Dual Credit Parent Meeting - 5:30 PM in Auditorium
January 19th - No School (Martin Luther King Day)

Educationally yours,
Alex Johnson

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

JH Principal's Notes

Welcome back Tiger Nation! I hope you all had a nice winter break. We are looking forward to seeing our students back on Tuesday, January 6th.

Student schedules for the second semester will be different from the first semester. Student electives and study halls will probably be different for most students. Some students will see some of their core class schedules change. Students that failed a class for the first semester may have to make up that class during the second semester, which could take the place of their elective. If you have concerns about your student's schedule for the second semester, please contact the junior high office.

Students will have the opportunity to attend a JH Dance after school later in the second semester. There are some stipulations on who can and cannot attend the dance:

- Only Sherrard 7th and 8th grader students are allowed to attend, no guests.
- Students must be in good academic standing to attend, which means they cannot be failing any classes.
- Students that have served an out of school suspension will not be allowed to attend.
- Students that have served more than one day of in school suspension will not be allowed to attend.
- Students with more than five referrals will not be allowed to attend.

We are in the middle of cold and flu session. Please remember that if your child is not coming to school, because of illness, please make sure that you call the Junior High Office. If you take you student to the doctor for any reason, please remember to bring back the doctor's excuse. Failure to do so will result in your student being marked as an unexcused absence.

Upcoming dates:

January 5, 2026 - First day of student attendance for the second semester
January 19, 2026 - No School

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

Student of the Month

HIGH SCHOOL
English: Arles Banegas-Oliva
Math: Jenna Day
Science: Grace Messerly
Social Studies: Zack Peterson
Vocational: Morgan Little
Fine Arts: Gracelyn Hamberg
PE/Health: Makenly Cameron
Business: Joseph DeLaRosa
Special Forces: Jaren Jones

JUNIOR HIGH
English: Raul Bautista
Science: Conner Jasper
PE/Health: Jacob Ott
Math: Bryce Zentic
Fine Arts: Chael Celestino
Social Studies: Jaylee Jones
Service: Cason Pundo
Skills Development: Amelia Cook
Striving for Excellence: Drake Bull

Sophomore Senate

Sophomore Senate will be hosting the annual Sadies Dance in February, but before we get to that, we will be selling carnations! Carnations will be sold during B and C Lunches from January 26th - 30th, and they will be $3 a piece. This is a great opportunity to ask someone to the Sadies Dance, or to simply show appreciation to those that you care about! Stop by during lunch to see us!

Blood Drive

The All School Senate's Annual BJ Luxmore Blood Drive will be on Thursday, February 19th, from 8-1 in Gym 2. Be on the lookout for the link to sign up to donate!

Junior High

As we hit the mid mark of the school year, please check with your child on their school supplies. Pencils, highlighters, ear buds, pencil top erasers and glue sticks are in low supply and high demand. Being prepared and supplied helps students be successful. In cases of economic challenges for supplies, please let the office know so supplies can be provided.

7th grade field trip to Nahant Marsh is planned for April 23, 2026. As we get closer, details will follow but please try to avoid scheduling any appointments that day as the students will not be in the building the whole day.

NINTH GRADE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS for SCHOOL YEAR 26-27

- 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 H**ealth 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 back 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, 2026 will need another sports physical by April 1 of 2027, 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.
- **STUDENTS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH PHYSICAL AND IMMUNIZATIONS WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL PER SCHOOL CODE AND DISTRICT POLICY. Please provide completed physicals by the first day of school. Students not in compliance by 10/15/26 will be excluded from school until the physical requirement is met**.

Dental Requirement

All 9th grade students must have a current dental exam dated after 11/15/26 or waiver completed by May 15, 2027. Forms are available on the district web site, select Departments, Health Services, and Health Forms.

Health Requirement information and physical forms will be given to parents at the registration meeting on Jan. 13, 2026. The remaining forms will be given to the students whose parents are not in attendance at the meeting. Please contact the school nurse if you do not receive this information.

2026-2027 IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR TWELFTH GRADE

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 **11th 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.

STUDENTS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL ACCORDING TO SCHOOL CODE AND DISTRICT POLICY. Please provide verification of vaccines by the first day of school. Students not in compliance by October 15, 2026 will be excluded until requirements are met.

> ***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 Meningcoccal Vaccine.

Notices regarding the need for the vaccine will given to the students during their registration meeting in January. Please contact the school nurse if you do not receive this information from your student.

DENTAL CLINIC & DENTAL EXAMS

The State of Illinois requires dental examinations for all students in Kindergarten, 2nd grade, 6th grade, and 9th grade. Each student in these grades must submit a dental exam dated after **November 15, 2024**, or have a waiver on file by **May 15, 2026**.

The Mercer County Health Department plans to bring its mobile dental clinic to the school district this spring. Only students with completed parental permission forms will be seen. If you have questions or would like your child to participate, please contact the school nurse at **593-2175**. Students in all grades are welcome to participate.

Dental forms and waivers are available on the district website at www.sherrard.us. Select **Departments → Health Services → Health Forms**.

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:

Registration is right around the corner! Here is the registration timeline:

To Be Seniors:
Class meeting: January 15th
Registration: January 20th - 22nd

To Be Juniors:
Class meeting: January 15th
Registration: January 26th - 28th

To Be Sophomores:
Class meeting: January 29th
Registration: February 2nd - 4th

To Be Freshmen:
Class meeting: January 29th
Registration: February 9th - 11th

Mark your calendar for the following dates in January…
- Dual credit meeting for incoming juniors and seniors will be on January 12th at 5:30 pm in the high school auditorium.
- Orientation night for incoming freshmen will be on January 13th at 5:30 pm in the high school auditorium.
- Sophomore tour of the Area Career Center will be on January 14th at 8 am.

Senior Parents:
Reminder that the FAFSA is required by the State of Illinois this year. If you do not want to complete the FAFSA, we will be sending out and collecting a non-participation form in the spring. If your student plans on attending college or a trade school, FAFSA is the form you need to complete in order to access federal grants, loans, and work-study funds.
FAFSA Website: https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa
Don't forget you will need an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA. Here is the website to create your FSA ID: https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch
If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Drish (drishju@sherrard.us)

Senior Scholarships:
Available scholarships are posted on the High School website - click HERE to access that page. Students also have access in the Senior Google Classroom.

Social/Emotional Information

As winter weather approaches, we want to ensure our students are prepared for the cold. We see many students walking through the doors without coats or inadequate footwear. If you need assistance providing winter clothing for your student, please reach out to our Operation Tiger program. operationtiger@sherrard.us

Please look for upcoming information regarding Operation Tiger in a future newsletter.

We will continue to counsel students both socially/emotionally and academically. Students and parents can reach out via email if they have any questions or concerns. Meetings can be held in person, or via Zoom, Google Meet, etc.

Mrs. Blackwell (blackwells@sherrard.us)
Mrs. Drish (drishju@sherrard.us)

JANUARY 2026

Sherrard School District K-12 Breakfast Menu

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Applications for free/reduced meals are available at each attendance center or on the district website.		**FUN FACT!** **January is** **National Thank You Month**	**Happy New Year!** 1	No School 2
No School 5	Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 6	Cereal Bowl Snack Cookie ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 7	Mini Pancakes/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 8	Filled Crescent ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 9
Mini Cinnis ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 12	Cereal Bowl Snack Cookie ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 13	Mini Bagel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 14	WG Poptart ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 15	Fruit Frudel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 16
No School 19	French Toast Sticks/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 20	Egg & Cheese Omelet Goldfish Crackers ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 21	Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 22	Breakfast Burrito ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 23
Mini Breakfast Loaf ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 26	Cinnamon Super Stix ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 27	Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 28	Mini Cinnis ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 29	Cereal Bar ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice 30

JANUARY 2026

Sherrard Jr-Sr High
Lunch Menu

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Applications for free/reduced meals are available at each attendance center or on the district website.		**FUN FACT!** **January is** **National Thank You Month**	**Happy New Year!** 1	No School 2
No School 5	Mini Corn Dogs 6 Green Beans Carrots Applesauce Milk Choice	Ribette/Bun 7 Tater Tots Baked Beans Peaches Milk Choice	Lasagna Rollup 8 Bread Stick Green Beans – Celery Cheese Stick - Pears Milk Choice	Cheese French Bread 9 Marinara Sauce Carrots - Peas Sliced Apples Milk Choice
Breaded or Grilled 12 Chicken/Bun Fries – Broccoli Pears Milk Choice	Carnitas – Corn Shells 13 Refried Beans Carrots Applesauce Milk Choice	Cheese Bites 14 Marinara Sauce Corn – Celery Fruit Cup Milk Choice	Tortellini w/Alfredo 15 Cheese Stick Peas – Broccoli Peaches Milk Choice	Fiestada Pizza 16 Tater Tots Carrots Pineapple Milk Choice
No School 19	Crispitos 20 Refried Beans Carrots Applesauce Milk Choice	Chicken Nuggets 21 Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Broccoli Peaches - Cookie Milk Choice	Bacon Cheese Burger/Bun 22 Tater Tots Celery Apple Slices Milk Choice	Breakfast Pizza 23 Hash Browns Carrots Pineapple Milk Choice
Cheese Dippers 26 Marinara Sauce Green Beans – Broccoli Pears Milk Choice	Toasted Ravioli 27 Marinara Sauce Celery – Corn Applesauce – Cheese Stick Milk Choice	Popcorn Chicken 28 Carrots – Peas Mixed Fruit Chocolate Scooby Snack Milk Choice	Walking Taco 29 Chips – Cheese - Salad Refried Beans Peaches Milk Choice	Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza 30 Fries Broccoli Baked Apples Milk Choice