# TigerTimes

Sherrard Jr/Sr High Newsletter

**February 2026**

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

**February 4**
Early Dismissal - 1p
Booster Club Meeting - 6p

**February 14**
Sadies Dance - 7:30-9:30p

**February 16**
No School - President's Day

**February 18**
School Board Meeting - 6p

**February 25**
Early Dismissal - 1p

**February 27 & 28**
Musical - 7p

**March 3**
Musical - 3p

## Athletics / Activities

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

## Principal's Note

I hope everyone is staying warm during this prolonged cold stretch. Spring is just a few weeks away!

Registration for the 2026 - 2027 school year is underway. Your students have received course information and are signing up for classes if they have not done so yet. Parent/guardian signatures are required prior to final enrollment in courses. I encourage you to review our Registration Guide and sample schedules at https://shs.sherrard.us/departments/academiccounseling-center/registration.

Congratulations to Lori Arnold for receiving the Sherrard School District Tiger Talent Award at January board meeting. Lori has been an excellent educator for the past 35 years. This is Lori's last year at SHS as she heads towards retirement.

Academic success is correlated with healthy habits. As a parent or guardian, you can help your student's success by encouraging your student to develop strong sleep habits, minimize screen time and limit the consumption of energy drinks. These are three areas as a school we try to best educate our students to be informed decision makers. If you have any questions, please let us know.

**February Reminders**

February 4th - 1:00 - Early Dismissal
February 16th - No School - President's Day
February 25th - 1:00 - Early Dismissal

Thank you for your continued partnership. Please join us at conference time or contact me at 309-593- 2175 or at johnsona@sherrard.us with questions, concerns, or comments.

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

We are about a month into our second semester. By now, students should be getting into a pretty good groove within their classrooms. If you have any questions or concerns about your student's academic performance, please reach out to their teacher and do not hesitate to address any concerns that you may have. We are committed to supporting the academic, social, and emotional development of all our students. If you have concerns on how to support your student, please call.

Eighth grade students should have all completed their course requests for their Freshman year over the last week of January. If you have any questions, please contact the HS Counselor, Stacey Blackwell. blackwells@sherrard.us

We are in the middle of the cold and flu season. Reminder that if your child is not coming to school because of illness, be sure that you call the Junior High Office by 8am. Failure to do so could result in your student being marked as an unexcused absence. If you take your student to the doctor for any reason, please remember to bring back the doctor's excuse.

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-grade students are allowed to attend; no guests.
- Students must be in good academic standing to attend, which means they cannot have a failing grade in any class.
- Students who have served an out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to attend.
- Students who 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.

The student council will be sponsoring a dress up week the week of February 9th. The dress up days will be posted and sent out to students.

Upcoming dates:
February 4 - 1:00 p.m. dismissal
February 16 - No School,
February 25 - 1:00 p.m. dismissal

Our number one goal is for your student to get the best education possible. Together we can make this attainable. 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:** Zack Peterson
**Math:** Brycen Mital
**Science:** Addi Lawson
**Social Studies:** Elanore Riley
**Vocational:** Sergio Avila
**Fine Arts:** Abigail Fardi-Turkmani
**PE/Health:** Deacon Daves
**Business:** Hunter Bodeen
**Special Forces:** Aliza Dominique

**JUNIOR HIGH**
**English:** John Churchill
**Science:** Jordan Dolen
**PE/Health:** Kenzie Gross
**Math:** Heavena Lannoo
**Fine Arts:** Eliza Gustafson
**Social Studies:** Anemone Schorg
**Service:** Raylyn Harper-Layman
**Skills Development:**
**Striving for Excellence:**
Knox Driessens

# Post Prom Bingo

The Post Prom Committee is excited to announce that Post Prom Bingo will be held on Friday, March 6th at the high school. Doors open at 5:30 with BINGO at 6pm. This is our main fundraiser for Post Prom and we need your help and support! Please plan to attend. There will be cash prizes for the winners in each round of BINGO, raffle items, and concessions. We are taking table reservations through March 3rd for $60 which will include BINGO cards and seating together for 6. If you'd like to book a spot early, contact Jen Diehl at diehlj@sherrard.us. Checks can be made payable to **Royal Neighbors Chapter 20115**.

The committee is looking for BINGO night donations, including raffle items and cash donations to sponsor the BINGO prizes. If you would like to donate or be a "cash prize sponsor" for a round of BINGO, please contact Jen Diehl, diehlj@sherrard.us.

*BINGO night monetary donations can be made payable to **Royal Neighbors Chapter 20115**.

## Jostens

The Jostens representative will be here February 10th during B and C lunch. He will be passing out cap and gowns. Please bring payment in full. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-JOSTENS.

## Musical - Once Upon A Mattress

Many moons ago in a far-off place, Queen Aggravain decreed no couples could marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, found a bride. Princesses came from far and wide to win the hand of the prince, but none could pass the impossible tests given to them by the Queen. That is, until the “shy” swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, showed up. Would she be able to pass the Sensitivity Test, marry her prince and help Lady Larken and Sir Harry to the altar? Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the classic tale The Princess and the Pea provides some side-splitting shenanigans. For after all, a princess is a delicate thing.

**February 27 & 28, 7pm and March 1, 3pm**
**Adults $8, Students $6**

## Mr. SHS Talent Show

Get ready for an evening of entertainment, laughter, and school spirit at the **annual Mr. SHS Talent Show!** This student-favorite event is **open to junior and senior boys** and promises a night packed with talent and fun.

- **Friday, March 13**
- **Doors Open:** 6:00 PM
- **Performance Begins:** 7:00 PM

During intermission, Officer Mendoza and his crew will be offering **light refreshments**, and guests can enjoy a **Meal Deal available before the performance**, which includes:

~ Pork chop sandwich
~ Chips
~ Drink

**$$** Meal Deal available while supplies last.

To help with planning, please be on the lookout for a **Google Form** that will be shared on the **district website and social media**. This form will be used to collect a **head count for meal deals**.

Come out and support our students for a night of talent, confidence, and community spirit—you won’t want to miss it!

## 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.

## Sophomore Senate

Sophomore Senate will be hosting the annual Sadie Hawkins dance on February 14th (Valentine's Day)! The dance will be held in Gym 2 and will go from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold for $10 each during B and C lunches from February 9th - 13th ONLY. Tickets will **NOT** be sold at the door the night of the dance. Please get a guest form from the office if you will be taking someone who is not a SHS student. These must be turned in by **Wednesday, February 11th**. Concessions will be open! Come out this Valentine's Day to have a blast during our night of music, friends, and fun!

## 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 were 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.**

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# DENTAL CLINIC & DENTAL EXAMS

The State of Illinois requires dental exams for all **9th grade students**. Students currently in **9th grade** are required to have a completed dental exam dated after **November 15, 2024** or a waiver on file by **May 15, 2026**. Forms and Waivers are available on the district website https://www.sherrard.us/departments/health-services/health-forms

Mercer County Health Department will provide a dental clinic for students at the Jr./Sr. High School on Friday, **April 17, 2026**, during the school day. Only students with completed parental permission forms will be seen. Call the school nurse at 593-2175 for permission forms or questions. Forms are available at all schools and also on the District Web Site https://www.sherrard.us/departments/health-services/2025-2026-toothmobile-visits Students in all grades 7-12 may participate in the clinic. Dental clinics for students in pre-k-6th grade are also listed on this web page.

Note: This exam will also meet the requirement for current 8th graders for the dental exam requirement in May 2027 as well.

Dental insurance and the medical card are accepted. Parents/guardians are responsible for any fees not covered by insurance or the medical card.

Students without insurance or a medical card, may also use this service for an exam, cleaning, fluoride or sealants. The cost for the various services are listed below.

Exam $29
Cleaning $43.05
Fluoride $27.30
Sealants $37.80 x each tooth, (could do up to 4 teeth)

An exam is all that is required to meet the Illinois dental exam requirement.

Checks can be made out to Mercer County Health Department. Cash is also accepted. Forms and Payment need to be turned into the school by 3/11/26.

# 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 11/15/25 or waiver completed by May 15, 2027. Forms are available on the district web site, select **Departments**, **Health Services**, and **Health Forms**.

## Social/Emotional Information

February is a great time to focus on self-love. Start small by incorporating a few simple self-care practices into your daily routine. You'll be surprised at the difference it can make!

- **Practice mindfulness:** Engage in deep breathing exercises or meditation.
- **Prioritize sleep:** Aim for 7-9 hours of quality sleep each night.
- **Connect with loved ones:** Spend time with friends and family.
- **Engage in physical activity:** Find activities you enjoy, such as sports, dancing, or walking.
- **Set realistic goals:** Break down large goals into smaller, manageable steps.

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

# *From the HS Counseling/Academic Center:*

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

**Assessment Information:**
Freshmen and sophomores will take the ***PreACT 9 Secure*** on ***Wednesday, April 15th.***
Juniors will take the state-required ***ACT*** exam on ***Wednesday, April 22nd***. All students have access to free practice questions and full exams through the TestNav app on their Chromebooks.

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**Senior Parents**:

FAFSA:
Reminder that the FAFSA or completing the non-participation form is required by the State of Illinois. 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 only way 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)

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.

Transcripts:
Final transcripts will be available for all Seniors towards the end of June. We will be asking students where they need their final transcripts sent at the end of May.

Senioritis is kicking in! Be sure to encourage and support your senior and remind them it's not over yet!

# FEBRUARY 2026

## Sherrard School District K-12 Breakfast Menu

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

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **FUN FACT!**<br>**February 14-20**<br>**Is Random Acts of Kindness Week** | | **DID YOU KNOW?**<br>**February is National Cherry Month** | **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**<br>Early Dismissal Days<br>February 4th & 25th |
| 2<br>Fruit Frudel<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 3<br>Mini Bagel<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 4<br>Mini Waffles/Syrup<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 5<br>Mini Breakfast Loaf<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 6<br>Sausage Pancake Bites<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice |
| 9<br>Muffin<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 10<br>Cereal Bowl<br>Snack Cookie<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 11<br>Mini Pancakes/Syrup<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 12<br>Cinnamon Crunch Bar<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 13<br>Whole Grain Poptart<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice |
| 16<br>No School | 17<br>Mini Cinnis<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 18<br>Mini Bagel<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 19<br>Cereal Bowl<br>Snack Cookie<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 20<br>Fruit Frudel<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice |
| 23<br>Muffin<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 24<br>French Toast Sticks/Syrup<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 25<br>Egg & Cheese Omelet<br>Goldfish Crackers<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 26<br>Mini Pancakes/Syrup<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice | 27<br>Breakfast Bun<br>½ Cup Fruit<br>½ Cup 100% Juice<br>Milk Choice |

# FEBRUARY 2026

Sherrard Jr-Sr High
Lunch Menu

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

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **FUN FACT!**<br>**February 14-20**<br>**Is Random Acts of Kindness Week** | | **DID YOU KNOW?**<br>**February is National Cherry Month** | **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**<br>Early Dismissal Days<br>February 4th & 25th |
| 2<br>Chicken Tenders<br>Celery<br>Corn<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk Choice | 3<br>Mexican Lasagna<br>Fiesta Beans<br>Salad<br>Peaches<br>Milk Choice | 4<br>Tenderloin/Bun<br>Fries<br>Broccoli<br>Pears<br>Milk Choice | 5<br>Tater Tot Casserole<br>Carrots<br>Applesauce<br>Heartzels<br>Milk Choice | 6<br>Sausage Pizza<br>Peas<br>Celery<br>Pineapple<br>Milk Choice |
| 9<br>Toasted Ravioli<br>Cheese Stick<br>Green Beans – Broccoli<br>Peaches<br>Milk Choice | 10<br>Cheese Dippers<br>Corn<br>Carrots<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk Choice | 11<br>Ribette/Bun<br>Fries<br>Salad<br>Slushy<br>Milk Choice | 12<br>Cheeseburger Macaroni<br>Tater Tots<br>Carrots<br>Applesauce<br>Milk Choice | 13<br>Stuffed Crust Pepperoni<br>Broccoli<br>Celery<br>Baked Apples - Cookie<br>Milk Choice |
| 16<br>No School | 17<br>Brunch Burger/Bun<br>Hash Browns<br>Apple Slices<br>Milk Choice | 18<br>Toasted Cheese Sandwich<br>Tomato Basil Soup<br>Corn – Carrots<br>Applesauce – Goldfish Crackers<br>Milk Choice | 19<br>Chicken Fried Steak<br>Mashed Potatoes/Gravy<br>Green Beans<br>Dinner Roll<br>Peaches<br>Milk Choice | 20<br>Cheese French Bread<br>Marinara Sauce<br>Fries<br>Broccoli – Mixed Fruit<br>Milk Choice |
| 23<br>Lasagna RollUp<br>Breadstick<br>Peas – Celery<br>Pineapple<br>Milk Choice | 24<br>Walking Taco<br>Salad<br>Refried Beans<br>Mixed Fruit<br>Milk Choice | 25<br>Corn Dog<br>Fries<br>Carrots<br>Applesauce<br>Milk Choice | 26<br>Cheeseburger/Bun<br>Tater Tots<br>Broccoli<br>Peaches<br>Milk Choice | 27<br>Cheese Pizza<br>Carrots<br>Green Beans<br>Pears<br>Milk Choice |