TigerTimes

Sherrard Jr/Sr High Newsletter

April 2026

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

April 1
Booster Club Meeting - 6p

April 2
FFA Banquet

April 3
No School

April 6
No School

April 10
Signing Day for Athletics - 2:45p

April 15
Early Dismissal 1p
School Board Meeting - 6p

April 18
Prom - 7-10p

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 the 4th Quarter,
Important State Testing Information

State-mandated testing will take place in April:

- Wednesday, April 15th: Freshmen will take the **PreACT 9 Secure**, and Sophomores will take the PreACT Secure.
- Wednesday, April 22nd: Juniors will take the state-required **ACT exam**.

Note on Accommodations: For students with approved testing accommodations, the testing window may extend beyond the initial date. We will contact these students directly to confirm their modified testing schedule.

Attendance during Testing: To ensure the best environment for our Juniors, the Freshmen, Sophomores, and Seniors will **NOT** have school attendance on Wednesday, April 22nd. More details on this will follow.

2026 Graduation Ceremony

Please note these important dates for the upcoming graduation activities:

- **Seniors' Last Day**: Wednesday, May 13
- **Graduation Rehearsal**: Thursday, May 14
  - Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m.
  - A "graduation walk" will take place at the elementary buildings.
  - Rehearsal will immediately follow the walk.
- **Graduation Ceremony**: Sunday, May 17, at 12:00 p.m.

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

The ceremony will be held at Clifford King Field (on the football field). Seating for guests will be in the West bleachers. Families are welcome to bring their own chairs for seating outside of the fenced area.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved to the gymnasium.

Key Dates to Remember:

- **April 3rd & April 6th**: No School - Nonattendance Days
- **April 15th & 29th:** Early Dismissal 1:00 PM
- **April 18th:** Junior/Senior Prom - 7:00 PM @ The Camden Centre in Milan
- **May 5th:** Sherrard Achievement Award Ceremony @ 7:00 PM in Auditorium

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 309-593-2175 or email me at johnsona@sherrard.us. Thank you for your continued support as we finish up the 2025-2026 school year.

Educationally yours,
Alex Johnson
Sherrard High School Principal

JH Principal's Notes

I wanted to start out by saying THANK YOU to those of you who took the time to fill out the 5 Essentials Survey. Your input along with the input from students and staff will be analyzed to determine our strengths and weaknesses. This data will help us address concerns or issues that exist. Input from stakeholders is an essential part of change.

All junior high students will be taking the IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) the week of April 7, 2026. Eighth grade students will also be taking ISA (Illinois Science Assessment) on April 23, 2026. It's very important that students are in attendance on these days, well rested, and have eaten a good breakfast. More information will be sent out as we get closer.

Parents of 7th graders: April 23 is the field trip to Nahant Marsh. They will leave the JH approx 8:45 and return at 2:20. Please make sure they do not have an appointment scheduled that day. There is no cost for the field trip, but all students will be charged a lunch fee. Your student will be bringing home the exact information in the next 2 weeks.

Student of the Month

HIGH SCHOOL
English: Jaeci Leffel
Math: Evelyn Weakley
Science: Nathan Hall
Social Studies: Sierra Eads
Vocational: Morgan Little
Fine Arts: Chloe Corley
PE/Health: Kamryn Green
Business: John Williams
Special Forces: Lacey Gardner

JUNIOR HIGH
English: Augie Spengler
Science: Jaxon Beaulieu
PE/Health: Dominic Brown
Math: Tinsley Porter
Fine Arts: Harrison Zerull
Social Studies: Max Dawson
Service: Miles Christian
Skills Development: Max Schar
Striving for Excellence: Katelyn Slavish

Congratulations to the following students:

- Hudson King and Oliver Heist qualified for the IESA State Wrestling Tournament. Hudson finished in second place.
- Eliza Gustafson, Lainey Lowery, and Audrey Foster qualified for the IKWF State Wrestling Tournament. Eliza finished in 2nd place. Audrey finished in 4th place. Lainey finished in 8th place.
- 7th Grade Scholastic Bowl team won the Prairieland Conference Tournament. The team consisted of Max Dawson, Millie Cook, Hunter Tapp, Callen Dirksen, Clara Hergert, Liam Shirley, and Dylan Monaco. The team was coached by Mrs. Selhost and Mrs. Whelchel.

We are pleased to announce that the JH Drama program is back this spring. Auditions were at the end of March. Junior high students are working with Mr. Williams, Mrs. Diehl, and select high school student directors to introduce many to stage performance and/or crew work. The group will put on a series of 1 Act scenes for 2 evenings in the auditorium in early May. Please watch for details from your student if they signed up.

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

Prom 2026

Prom will be held Saturday, April 18th, at The Camden Centre in Milan from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Coronation will be held at 9:00 p.m. The theme this year is The Great Gatsby.

Ticket prices are:
Guests - $25
Seniors - $15
Juniors - $20
Sophomores - $25
Fresmen - $30

Tickets will be sold April 7-10 during lunch hours. No tickets will be sold at the door. Outside dates must fill out a guest form that can be found in the HS Office and must be turned in **BEFORE** tickets can be purchased.

Mud Volleyball

All School Senate will host the annual mud volleyball tournament on the last day of school, Wednesday, May 20th. Cost is $15 per student. With registration, they will receive a t-shirt and a guarantee of 1 game. Students can expect packets for team sign-ups to be available the week of April 6th - April 10th. More information will be available in the May newsletter.

Post Prom

Attention Junior and Senior Class families:

The SHS Post Prom committee is looking for Junior & Senior class families that are able to donate pre-packaged bakery items, sweets, snacks, or other favorite fun treats for game prizes at Post Prom. Please have items dropped off to Mrs. Diehl at the JH office anytime the week of April 13 - 17.

Post Prom will be held on Saturday, April 18 at Backyard Bowl, located at 2020 1st St. W. in Milan, following the completion of Prom until 1:30am. Juniors and Seniors from Sherrard that did not attend the dance are still welcome to attend post prom at 10pm. Tickets are $5. There will be pizza, Hy-Vee deli wraps, wings, fountain soda, bowling, mini golf, arcade, and more. Prizes will be drawn by all Sherrard seniors and juniors in attendance at the end of the event.

**Students will not be allowed to leave Post Prom early unless a written note from a parent is submitted to the HS office by the end of the school day on Friday, April 17.

From the HS Counseling/Academic Center:

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

AP Exams

Students enrolled in AP classes will be taking the **AP Exams in May**. More information will be available to AP students in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please contact your student's AP teacher or Mrs. Drish (drishju@sherrard.us).

Senior Parents:

FAFSA:

Reminder that the FAFSA is required by the State of Illinois this year. If you do not want to complete the FAFSA, you can complete a non-participation form. 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)

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 for all graduating seniors will be finalized and available towards the end of June. In April, students will be asked to complete a Google Form indicating the destination(s) for their official transcripts.

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

Social/Emotional Information

Highlighting Hope: Mental Health Awareness Month at Sherrard JR/ SR High School

April is National Mental Health Awareness Month, and at Sherrard JR/ SR High School, we're committed to fostering a supportive environment where students prioritize their well-being. This month, we'll shine a spotlight on mental health resources and encourage open conversations about emotional health.

Why Talk About Mental Health?

Mental health is just as important as physical health. It impacts our emotions, thinking, and behavior, and can influence how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.

Supporting Your Teen's Mental Health:

- Open Communication: Create a safe space for your child to talk openly about their feelings. Be an active listener and avoid judgment.
- Normalize Help-Seeking: Let your teen know that seeking professional help for mental health challenges is a sign of strength, not weakness.
- Be Aware of Warning Signs: Changes in mood, sleep patterns, appetite, or social behavior can be signs of a mental health issue. If you notice these changes, talk to your child and encourage them to seek help.

Resources Available:

- **Student Support Services:** Our dedicated support staff are available to provide individual or group support for students facing anxiety, depression, stress, or other challenges. Encourage your child to reach out if they need someone to talk to.
- **Mental Health Resources:** Please reach out to a member of the student support service team for resources available in our area.
- **Nationwide Resources:** Encourage your child to explore the websites of organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) or the Jed Foundation, which offer resources and support specifically for teens.

Let's Work Together:

Mental Health Awareness Month is a great opportunity to start open conversations about mental health. Together, we can create a supportive environment where students feel empowered to prioritize their well-being.

(blackwells@sherrard.us)
(drishju@sherrard.us)

Dental Exam Requirements 9th Grade

Illinois law (Child Health Examination Code, 77 Ill. Adm. Code 665) **states that all children in ninth grade must show proof of having a current dental exam completed by a dentist within the last 18 months. Exams must be dated after Nov. 15 of 2022. The deadline for completion is May 15, 2024.**

The Department of Public Health does allow for a waiver for those who show an undue financial burden or who do not have access to dental facilities. The waiver form must be completed and provided to the student's school.

Dental forms and waivers are also available at all district buildings as well as on the district web site www.sherrard.us. Click on **Departments**, then **Health Services, Health Forms, and Dental Exam or Dental Waiver**.

Contact the school nurse at 593-2175 for more information. Completed forms may be faxed to 309-593-2775.

Medication Administration for the 2026-2027 School Year

If your child will need to take any medication at school—whether prescription or over-the-counter—a doctor's order with signed parent/guardian permission must be submitted at the start of the 2026-2027 school year. Medications cannot be administered at school without the completed form.

Medication forms are available on the District website at www.sherrard.us. Navigate to **Departments > Health Services > Health Forms** to find the appropriate form for your child's needs, including:

- Medication order form (daily and as needed medications)
- Inhalers
- Allergy management
- Bee Stings
- Seizure
- Diabetic Management Plan

Students are permitted to carry and self-administer inhalers if the required documentation is on file.

Printed forms are also available at all schools throughout the district. Please be sure to select and complete the correct form for your child's medication needs.

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**.

Health Requirement information and physical forms were given to parents at the registration meeting on January 13, 2026. The remaining forms were given to the students whose parents were not in attendance at the meeting. Please contact the school nurse if you did 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 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.

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 Meningococcal 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.

APRIL 2026

Sherrard School District K-6
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.		1 Cereal Bowl Snack Cookie ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	2 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	3 No School
6 No School	7 Mini Cinnis ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	8 Fruit Frudel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	9 Mini Bagel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	10 Whole Grain Poptart ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
13 Glazed Breakfast Bun ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	14 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	15 Egg & Cheese Omelet Goldfish Crackers ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	16 Mini Pancakes/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	17 Breakfast Burrito ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
20 Fruit Frudel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	21 Mini Bagel ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	22 Mini Waffles/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	23 Mini Breakfast Loaf ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	24 Sausage Pancake Bites ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice
27 Muffin ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	28 Cereal Bowl Snack Cookie ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	29 Mini Pancakes/Syrup ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	30 Cinnamon Crunch Bar ½ Cup Fruit ½ Cup 100% Juice Milk Choice	

APRIL 2026

Sherrard Jr-Sr High School Lunch 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.		1 Smash Cheeseburger Curly Fries Baked Beans Strawberry Cup Milk Choice	2 Chicken Hoops Crinkle Fries Broccoli Pineapple Milk Choice	3 No School
6 No School	7 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Carrots Applesauce Milk Choice	8 Crispito Crosscut Fries Refried Beans Peaches Milk Choice	9 French Toast/Syrup Sausage Patty Hash Browns Celery/PB – Apple Slices Milk Choice	10 Tator Tot Nachos Salad Applesauce Cookie Milk Choice
13 Cheeseburger Curly Fries Baked Beans Applesauce Milk Choice	14 Tostada Bake Tater Tots Romaine & Tomatoes Fruit Slushy Milk Choice	15 Chicken Tenders Thundercrunch Fries Pears Sunchips Milk Choice	16 Biscuits & Gravy Hash Browns Cheese Stick Celery/PB – Sliced Apples Milk Choice	17 Pizza Crunchers Crinkle Fries Carrots Pineapple Milk Choice
20 Cheese Dippers Fries Broccoli Mixed Fruit Milk Choice	21 Beef Tacos – Corn Shells Romaine Lettuce Refried Beans Strawberry Cup Milk Choice	22 Popcorn Chicken Curly Fries Carrots Applesauce Scooby Grahams Milk Choice	23 Sausage Egg Croissant Hash Browns Celery/PB Sliced Apples Milk Choice	24 Cheese Stuffed Crust Pizza Crinkle Fries Carrots Pineapple Milk Choice
27 Cheese Ripper Tater Tots Carrots Peaches Milk Choice	28 Walking Taco (Chips, Meat & Cheese) Romaine Lettuce Fiesta Beans - Applesauce Milk Choice	29 Breaded Chicken/Bun Crinkle Fries Broccoli Pineapple Milk Choice	30 Chicken Fries Mini Seasoned Potatoes Celery/PB Sliced Apples - Cookie Milk Choice	