Sherman Central School District Newsletter Fall 2025

PAW PRINTS



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Superintendent's Message



As the vibrant colors of fall begin to surround us, the atmosphere inside Sherman Central School is equally full of energy and warmth. The renewed enthusiasm from our students, faculty, and staff has been remarkable. A new school year often brings fresh opportunities and new faces, and this fall is no exception! We are incredibly proud to welcome a talented group of educators and professionals to the Sherman Central family: Kati Carcaterro (Director of Pupil Services), Nick Savidge (Global Teacher), Judy Pickett (Earth Science Teacher), Theodora See (Special Education Teacher), Alexis Oehlbeck (7-12 Counselor), Destiny Fisher (Teacher's Aide), Amy Johnson (School Nurse), and Courtney Vettenburg (Long Term Substitute Teacher's Aide). Their diverse talents will be a tremendous asset, and we are thrilled to have them enriching the educational journey for all our students.

The energy we've seen this fall extends to how our students have embraced a BIG change this year: our new policy requiring cell phones to be put away during the school day. Change is often difficult, but our students have handled this transition with incredible respect and maturity. I want to commend them for their cooperation! The positive impact is already clear. Our hallways, classrooms, and cafeteria are now filled with lively student voices, face-to-face interactions, and renewed focus.

The positive change and energy at Sherman extends well beyond the classroom and into our very facilities. I am thrilled to report that our Capital Building Project is officially underway! This project represents a major investment in the future learning environment for every Sherman student, and the progress is already noticeable.

We recently broke ground on the new addition that will house our dedicated STEM room. This space will be transformative, hosting our new technology equipment, an agricultural workshop, and a state-of-the-art technology classroom. It will be the central hub for hands-on, project-based learning in science, technology, engineering, and agriculture.

In addition to the new construction, work is rapidly progressing on the existing structure. At the location of the old agriculture and technology classrooms, you can see that piping and steel preparation are now underway for our new cafeteria. It is exciting to witness the physical transformation of our building as we create a modern, high-quality learning environment for all. We look forward to sharing more updates as the construction continues throughout the school year.

The positive energy, the commitment to change, and the physical transformation taking place at Sherman Central School reflect a tremendous shared effort. It is an honor to serve as your Superintendent, and I am continually impressed by the dedication of our students, the expertise of our staff, and the unwavering support of our families and community. Thank you for your partnership, and I look to the rest of the year with great enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

Carrie Yohe
Superintendent

Principal's Message



Dear Wildcat Families,

It's hard to believe we're already well into the fall season! Our school year is off to a strong start, and I want to take a moment to celebrate some of the great things happening across our K-12 building.

This year, we are focusing on two important schoolwide goals:

1. Improving student attendance - Every day counts! Regular attendance plays a key role in student success, and we appreciate your partnership in helping ensure your child is here and ready to learn each day.
2. Strengthening explicit vocabulary instruction - Our teachers are working across all subject areas to help students expand their vocabulary, deepen their understanding of academic language, and strengthen their communication skills.

We recently held our first Activity Day for students in grades 7-12, where students had the opportunity to explore a variety of clubs and activities. It was a huge success! We loved seeing our Wildcats get excited about joining groups that match their interests and passions.

For our younger Wildcats, our quarterly Wildcat Character Awards for students in PreK-4 are underway once again. These awards celebrate students who consistently demonstrate kindness, respect, responsibility, and perseverance - traits that make our school a wonderful place to learn.

We're also excited to continue our quarterly Wildcat Awards for grades 5-12, recognizing students for their good attendance, good behavior, and good grades. These celebrations give us a chance to honor hard work and positive choices throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make this a fantastic year for every student. We are so proud of our Wildcats and look forward to the learning, growth, and accomplishments yet to come!

With Pride,

Mrs. Leslie Melquist
Principal, Sherman Central School





Welcome Back Parade

Elementary students and teachers celebrated the beginning of the school year with our annual parade. Each class chose a theme (listed below) for the parade and walked around our beautiful town showing Wildcat pride and an eagerness to learn in this exciting new academic year!

PreK- High Fives from the Class of 2039
Kindergarten- Hooray for Kindergarten
First Grade- Up, Up, and Away
Second Grade- We Are Going to Shine in 2nd Grade
Third Grade- Superheroes
Fourth Grade- Better Ingredients, Better Academics
Fifth Grade- All Hands on Deck
Sixth Grade- Wild and Wacky 6th Graders
Ms. Nobbs' Class- It's Gonna Be Groovy





















Welcome New Wildcats



Kati Carcaterro
Director of Pupil Services



Destiny Fisher
Teacher's Aide



Jameson Irwin
Teacher's Aide



Amy Johnson
School Nurse



Alexis Oehlbeck
School Counselor



Judy Pickett
Science Teacher



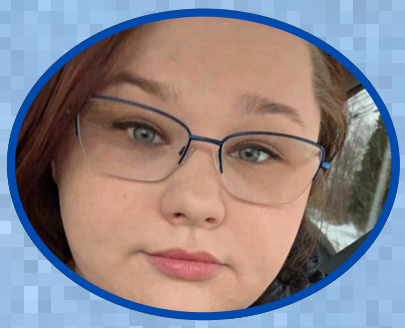
Heather Ramsey
Food Service Worker



Nicholas Savidge
Social Studies Teacher



Theodora See
Special Education Teacher



Emily Simko
Food Service Worker



Meredith Tallman
Teacher's Aide



Courtney Vettenburg
Long Term Substitute
Teacher's Aide

CSP POTENTIAL MERGER STUDY INFORMATION UPDATE

We are dedicated to keeping our Sherman community informed throughout this entire potential merger study process. Below is a timeline that maps out our course of action. You can continue to follow the process on our website at www.shermancsd.org.

CSP Merger Study Tentative Timeline

Superintendents/Board Presidents Review Draft RFP & Timeline	September 3, 2025
Request for Proposals for Reorganization Feasibility Study Issued	September 15, 2025
Deadline for Proposals to be returned	October 17, 2025
Review RFPs	October 29, 2025
Joint Board Meeting – Presentation by finalist consultants	November 13, 2025 @ 6pm Hewes Center-BOCES
BOCES to approve bid at BOCES Board Meeting	December 10, 2025
Firms notified	Mid-December, 2025
Feasibility study contract start date	January 1, 2026
Feasibility study work ends (tentative)	May 15, 2026
Final draft of study presented to the Boards in Joint meeting	by mid-June 2026
Boards (at individual meetings) resolve to continue process	July 2026
Public Meetings and info-sessions	July-October 2026
Straw vote or petition in each district to gauge public support	October 2026
Additional Public Meetings and info-sessions	Oct-Nov, 2026
Statutory vote to reorganize	December 2026
Earliest date a new district can begin operating	July 1, 2027 - TBD SED

rev. Oct 2, 2025

Spirit Week and Pep Rally



Homecoming Highlight





Homecoming King and Queen: Troy Chambers and Allison Rhebergen
Homecoming Prince and Princess: Talon Persons and Tayler Pinzok



























Music News

Congratulations to **Kihomi Lilley** for being selected to sing in the *NYSSMA Area All-State Sr. High Treble Chorus* on November 22 at SUNY Fredonia. Congratulations also to **Chazz Bisbee, Parker Liffner,** and **Clarence Meredith** for being selected to sing with the *NYSSMA Area All-State Jr. High Mixed Choir* at Pioneer High School on November 8.



Kihomi Lilley
11th Grade



Chazz Bisbee
7th Grade



Parker Liffner
8th Grade



Clarence Meredith
7th Grade



November 14
November 15

6:30 pm
John Butler
Auditorium

$5.00
General
Admission

Starring:

Aiden Walker as Troy Bolton
Kihomi Lilley as Gabriella Montez
Quinn Liffner as Sharpey Evans
Georges Meredith as Ryan Evans
Jasper Eschenbach as Chad Danforth
Shelby Melnick as Taylor Mckessie
Arcana Osterhoudt as Ms. Darbus

Disney's *High School Musical*
Is presented through special arrangement with
Music Theatre International (MTI).

Book by
David Simpatico

Music Arranged, Adapted, and Produced by
Bryan Louiselle

Library News

Beware! Spooky stories await all who enter! It's spooky season in the library, and as the weather turns chilly outside, there are plenty of stories to give us chills inside! Among other Halloween favorites, we read "The Wolf Cat," a story about a small cat who teaches his bullies a lesson by frightening them with a shadow that makes the small cat look like a high wolf. Then, we practiced making shadow puppets in the swamp. Bentley's wolf was pretty convincing!











Class News- Spanish

Students in Spanish 3 and 4 recently completed an exciting cultural project focused on traditional foods from Hispanic countries. Each student researched three dishes from a Spanish-speaking nation, exploring its origins, ingredients, and cultural significance. After presenting their findings to the class (in Spanish of course), they had the chance to share samples of one of their chosen dishes with their classmates. From Venezuelan Golfeados (like cinnamon rolls) to Salvadorian Pupusas and Puerto Rican flan, the classroom was filled with authentic flavors and aromas. The project not only strengthened students' language skills but also deepened their appreciation for the diversity of Hispanic cultures. It was a delicious learning experience that brought language and culture to life!







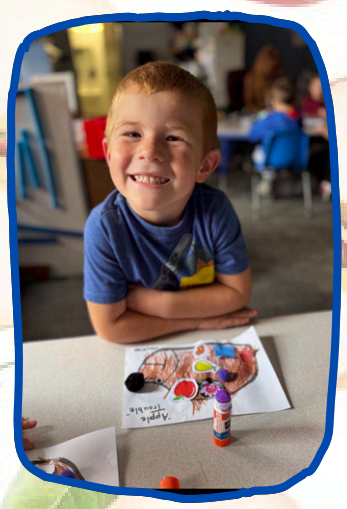






Class News- Prekindergarten

The PreK classes have been busy exploring all things apples this October! Our apple-themed activities have been both fun and educational. We enjoyed reading "Apple Trouble" and creating a craft to go along with the story. Students also worked on several other apple-related projects and learned about colors, counting, and the fall season along the way. It's been a sweet month of learning in PreK!









Class News- Kindergarten

Kindergarten is a time of discovery, and this fall has been full of exciting learning. From mastering the alphabet to exploring autumn themes, kindergarteners are off to a great start!

In reading, students are learning to recognize letters and connect them to their sounds. Through songs, stories, and hands-on activities, they are building the foundation for literacy. Letter games and practice with writing help reinforce these important skills in a fun and engaging way.

Math time is all about numbers to 10! Students are counting objects, and learning to recognize and write numbers. With the help of counting songs, number games and manipulatives, our learners are building a strong number sense.

In Social Studies, the students are discovering what it means to be a good citizen. They're learning about kindness, sharing and how to work and play together respectfully. Classroom routines and discussions help them understand their role in a community.

It's been a busy start, and we're looking forward to the rest of the year!







Class News- First Grade

The first grade classes participated in the welcome back parade in September. During the month of October, we have been busy completing our *disguise a pumpkin* writing and craft, 10 facts in math, and reading short vowel words. We also participated in fire safety activities presented by the Stanley Hose team and upper classes. They learned about stop, drop, and roll, how to exit a building safely, and identifying a meeting place in the event of an emergency.





Class News- Second Grade

Our second graders have spent the past month learning what it means to be super citizens in our classroom, school, and community! We've been working hard on adding double-digit numbers up to 100 and discovering which strategies work best for each learner. In writing, we've explored informative, narratives, and opinion pieces — and through our stories, we've learned so much about one another. Our young authors even got to "publish" their beautiful work in the primary hall of Sherman! It's been an exciting month of growth, teamwork, and creativity. We can't wait to see all the amazing things this year will bring!











Class News- Third Grade

Both third grade classes had an exciting start to the year as they explored the country of Mexico, the first unit in their *Communities Around the World* Social Studies curriculum. Students learned about Mexico's geography, culture, traditions, and daily life through engaging lessons, stories, and hands-on activities.
To wrap up the unit, the classes came together for a lively Fiesta celebration! Students showcased their creativity by making colorful sombreros, maracas, and piñatas. The highlight of the afternoon was a special cooking demonstration by Mrs. Solinger, who shared how to make authentic homemade guacamole and salsa. Students eagerly sampled the delicious dips with nacho chips and cheese, discovering new flavors along the way.

The Fiesta was a wonderful way to celebrate learning, culture, and community. Everyone left with smiles, full bellies, and a deeper appreciation for the country of Mexico!









Class News- Fourth Grade

We've had a great start to the school year, taking time to get to know one another and build a strong, supportive classroom community. In ELA, we've been exploring themes and inferring through various texts, learning how to dig deeper into what the author is really saying. We've also been working on expanding our vocabulary and using new words in our reading and writing. Math and science will be focusing more on vocabulary development and the quest for deeper understanding. During math our major goal is to build number sense. While in science class our goal is always to enhance our inquiry skills.





In Social Studies, we've begun learning about New York State and how to read and use different types of maps. Students are discovering where they live in relation to other places in the state and identifying key landforms and regions. Fun fact: New York was the first state to require license plates on cars—in 1901, drivers even had to make their own plates with just their initials!

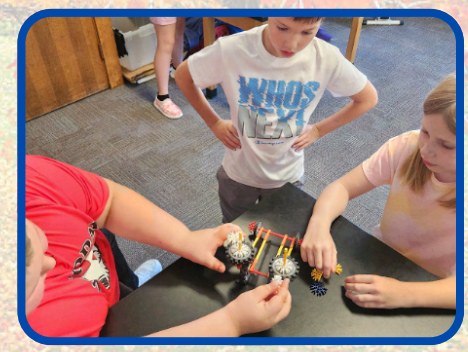
Class News- Fifth Grade

The fifth graders are hitting their stride this year. We kicked off the year with the Welcome Back Parade. We have been quite lucky to have had beautiful fall weather to go outside during our recess time and build our social skills.

They have all met and taken a shine to Amber! Stanley Hose Company and the Findley Lake Fire Department stopped by to help us learn to be safe concerning fire prevention. We have also started working on critical thinking as we attack our Science curriculum. Now let's dig deep into Math and ELA!!!!







Class News- Sixth Grade

We have kicked off an exciting new school year here in the 6th grade. This year promises to be filled with fascinating topics, interesting lessons, and lots of fun learning opportunities.



In Social Studies, we have begun a journey back in time to explore one of the world's earliest civilizations: Ancient Mesopotamia. We will learn about its remarkable achievements, from the invention of writing to the development of city-states. Through projects, discussions, and activities, students will gain a deeper understanding of how this ancient culture laid the groundwork for modern societies.

In ELA, we have started the year by reviewing essential reading skills to ensure everyone is ready to tackle our first unit of study. We have begun a journey into the world of Greek myths! Throughout this unit, students will analyze characters, themes, and plot development, all while enjoying the magic of storytelling.



In Math, we have begun our year reviewing the Math concepts that they learned last year. Some of the topics being reviewed are multiplication and division of multi-digit numbers, greatest common factors, and least common multiples. In addition, no pun intended, we have also been reviewing fractions.

In Science, we competed in our fall egg drop competition. The kids learned about the forces that act on objects. They constructed "vehicles" to try to safely deliver their eggs to the ground after being dropped off the gym roof. The students are currently working on their unit on Wave and Electromagnetic Radiation. The culmination of this unit will be the kids completing the NYS Science Investigation on Energy, titled "Cool It!".

45th Annual Honors Dinner

For 45 years, Sherman Central Schools has honored our 8th-12th grade students who achieved academic excellence in the previous school year by remaining on the Honor or Merit Roll for all four quarters with a dinner in their honor. This year we are proud to congratulate the following students:

Class of 2026 Honor Roll
Elias Armes, Albert Burkett, Jacob Ferranto, Mary Fuller, Kamryn Heinert, Miranda Reed, Allison Rhebergen, Larsen Swan, Brookelynn Wright

Class of 2026 Merit Roll
Camron Bascom, Troy Chambers, Delilah Heverley, Scott James, Riley Johnson, Mason Moore, Jordan Spitale, Delilah Stoddard

Class of 2027 Honor Roll
Isabella Barton, Iona Burkholder, Caleb Cook, Gracen Eddy, Jasper Eschenbach, Adrienne Eshelman, Carlie Gable, Evan Gratto, Gabe Kopta, Kihomi Lilley, Abigail Mellors, Elias Mendoza, Bria Palmatier, Talon Persons

Class of 2027 Merit Roll
Madison Emory, Kaden Hallowell, Kyle Maynard, Tayler Pinzok

Class of 2028 Honor Roll
Payson Altsman, Elliye-Mae Ball, Jayne Chambers, Emmersen-Faye Crawford, Lucas Gibbons, Kasen Gorée, Kimber Hetrick, Riley Rhebergen, Parker Kenyon, Quinn Liffner, Shelby Melnick, Georges Meredith, Baya Oehlbeck, Elle Ross, Ely Smith

Class of 2028 Merit Roll
Jonathan Coblentz, James Douglas, Ella Paddleford

Class of 2029 Honor Roll
Peyton Biesik, Brody Bojarski, Paxton Britton, Bryce Cook, Hunter Courtney, Amelia DeLellis, Ava-Kay Irwin, Aujhalon Kopta, Nolan Kranz, Kendall Martin

Class of 2029 Merit Roll
Sandily Fraley, Lance Griswold, John Higby, Adyson Newlands

Class of 2030 Honor Roll
Nelly Baker, Eli Barrett, Ariya Booker, Kayliann Fisher, Blake Henning, Parker Liffner, Emma Oehlbeck, Dylan Schmitz, Flynn Schmitz, Ethan Taylor, Emma Williams

Class of 2030 Merit Roll
Paige Altsman, Audrey Johnson, Xander Murray, Xander Schmitz







Cybersecurity Tips

October was *Cybersecurity Awareness Month.*
Here are some tips to help keep us all safe while we work online.

THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Don't fall for phishing scams. Recognize and report suspicious emails.

UPDATE YOUR SOFTWARE

Act promptly to update software- even better, enable automatic updates.

USE STRONG PASSWORDS

Use passwords that are long, unique, and randomly generated.
Use password managers to store them.

ENABLE MFA

Enable MFA (multi-factor authorization) for logins. This significantly reduces the risk of being hacked.

Fire Prevention Program

The Stanley Hose Company with an assist from Findley Lake FD hosted its annual Fire Prevention Program for the primary students at Sherman Central School. The children rotated through six educational stations where SCS high school students taught key lessons on fire safety. Many of these high school students once participated in this same program as elementary students and now they've come full circle, passing along what they learned to a new generation. Their efforts were supported by members of the Stanley Hose Company, who helped guide discussions and demonstrations. Topics covered included:

- How and when to call 911
- When and how to Stop, Drop, and Roll
- Don't be afraid of firefighters
- The importance of smoke detectors
- Ways to prevent fires in the home







Football News

The **CSP Varsity Football Team** boasts a 4-4 record at this time. Their determination and competitive spirit have been impressive all season long. This season, CSP proudly recognizes our two football seniors, Troy Chambers and Mason Moore, for their leadership and dedication to the Wolfpack program.



The **JV Football Team** has also had a strong season, holding a current record of 4-2. Their consistent effort and teamwork have been key to their success.



The **CSP Modified Football Team** has faced a tough schedule this season and shown great improvement under first-year leadership. The players have worked hard and continue to build their skills and confidence each week.



Cross Country News (current as of 10/14)

Varsity Girls:
The CSP Wolfpack Varsity Girls are currently 13-3 with the CCAA League Meet and Sectionals still to come. The team has competed in four invitationals this season, placing 9th out of 18 at the Titusville Invitational, 6th out of 31 at the McQuaid Invitational, and putting in strong performances at both Dash in the Dark and the Bulldog Invitational. At McQuaid, Savannah Whitney (13th) and Grace Cooke (18th) finished in the top 50 out of over 322 runners. Other standout runners include Riley Johnson, Bria Palmatier, Brooke Warner, Caitlyn Kriner, and Adrienne Eshelman.

Varsity Boys:
The CSP Varsity Boys currently hold a 14-2 record, also heading into the CCAA League Meet and Sectionals. They placed 8th out of 22 at the Titusville Invitational, 7th out of 46 at McQuaid, 3rd out of 13 at the Bulldog Invitational, and had a solid showing at Dash in the Dark. At McQuaid, Christopher Phelps (17th) and Finn Fadale (31st) earned top-50 finishes out of more than 405 runners. Other top performers this season include Flynn Fadale, Ely Smith, Zachary Odell, and Brody Ellis.

Modified Teams:
Both the CSP Boys and Girls Modified Teams have shown significant improvement throughout the season. While modified league meets are unscored, the teams have competed in three invitationals with the CCAA Meet still ahead. The Modified Boys placed 9th out of 14 at Titusville Invitational, 6th out of 29 at McQuaid Invitational, and 7th out of 15 at Bulldog Invitational. Top-50 finishers at McQuaid included Gabe Reynolds (10th), Ethan Taylor (14th), and Patrick Warner (43rd) out of 339+ runners. The Modified Girls team has not fielded a complete squad for scoring but has produced strong individual performances, led by Emma Williams.

Looking Ahead:
If your son or daughter is interested in Track and Field for Spring 2026, please have them speak to Mr. Morano in Room 307 or email him at dmorano@shermancsd.org. This will be our second year offering a modified program for students in grades 7–9. We're also looking to grow our teams for the Fall 2026 Cross Country season, especially in adding more Modified and Varsity Girls. Please reach out for more information if interested.



Volleyball News

The **Modified Girls Volleyball Team** has had a great season under first-year coach Wendy Rodgers. The players have learned a lot, worked hard, and are already looking forward to next year.



The JV Girls Volleyball Team, coached by Kristin Irwin, finished their season with an impressive 13-2 record. The team continued to improve throughout the season and earned an invitation to the end-of-season championship tournament.



The **Varsity Girls Volleyball Team,** a young and determined group led by Jason Yohe, displayed steady improvement and determination all season long. They continue to battle on the court and will begin playoffs at the end of October.



Sherman Central School
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Sherman, NY 14781

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Board of Education
Teresa Guzman, President
Brooke Long, Vice President
Emily Reynolds
Joe DeLellis
Kathy Sweatman

Sherman Students Shine at Peek 'n Peak Fall Fest

Sherman students submitted their painted and sculpted pumpkins to the Peek 'n Peak Fall Fest! Their creativity and talent were on full display with each unique design. Check out some of the amazing pumpkins our students created!

