

TigerTimes

Sherrard Jr/Sr High Newsletter

August 2026

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

August 5

Freshman Orientation - 5p
Booster Club Meeting - 6p

August 6 & 7

Teacher's Institute

August 10

First day of school

August 12

HS Sports handbook & team
meetings - 7p

August 13

JH Sports handbook & team
meetings - 6:15p

August 19

School Board meeting - 6p

August 20 & 21

Early dismissals - 1p

August 26

HS Picture day

August 27

JH Picture day

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 2026-2027 school year!

I look forward to meeting all the new students and welcoming back our returning students on August 10th.

Important Dates to Note:

Freshmen Orientation	August 5th (5:00 - 7:00 PM)
First day Student Attendance	August 10th
Athletic Parent/Handbook Meeting	August 12th (7:00 PM - Team meeting to follow)

Welcome to Sherrard:

We have a number of new faces who will be joining the Sherrard family this fall! Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members:

- Mr. Maxwell Berry (Agriculture)
- Mr. Zach Weigel (Social Studies/ Varsity Football Coach)
- Mr. Lukas Roy (Choir)
- Ms. Mickaela Jimenez (Spanish)
- Ms. Maddie Fellhauer (Science)
- Ms. Erin Steckel (District Librarian)
- Mrs. Lilly Krah (District Psychologist)
- Mrs. Desyree Weakley (Jr./Sr. High Nurse)

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



Get Involved

One of the key markers for student success is getting involved in school activities. Last year we had over 70% of students participate in a club/ activity or sport. This involvement in extracurricular activities has been shown to further broaden life skills and better prepare students for their future. See Mrs. Emendorfer or Mrs. Helm for information.

Attendance Matters

Another marker for student success is being at school and on time. We know things happen and we want to best support students. Please reach out to Assistant Principal Andrea Cooper if you have more questions or need additional support. Just a reminder that after the 7th absence during the school year, all absences need a doctor's note to be excused.

Scheduling

Students have 5 days to change their schedule once the school year begins. Please see our guidance office to explore options if that is something they are looking to do.

Thank you for being part of your student's education. We hope to build strong partnerships with you and all stakeholders. Should you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call me at 309-593-2175 or email (johnsona@sherrard.us).

Here is to a great year -

Thank you,

Alex Johnson
Sherrard High School Principal

2027 Washington DC Info Meeting

Current 8th graders interested in having the experience of a lifetime - plan to attend the Washington, D.C. trip informational meeting:

Date: Thursday, August 13

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: High School Auditorium

Please register for the meeting, so we know how many people to expect & plan for. Please register here: <https://rsvp.efex-ploreamerica.com/hmngmgt>

Contact Chris Zippe, zippec@sherrard.us, or Vanessa Schulenberg, schulenbergv@sherrard.us, with any questions.



JH Principal's Notes

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year. I am very excited to be starting this school year. We will be hosting a Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 5th. Seventh grade and new 8th grade students will start at 5:00 p.m. in gym 3. Returning students may come and set up their lockers starting around 6:00 p.m. Food will be available to purchase from the Booster Club for those interested.

There are a few things that I would like to touch on prior to the start of the school year.

1. **Attendance** - Being present is so important. If your student isn't present, your student will be missing out on daily learning opportunities. If your student is going to be absent or late for any reason, please notify the office daily by 8:00a.m.
2. **Engagement/Involvement** - This is two fold. First, while in the classroom, encourage your student to participate in discussions, labs, ask questions, join in collaborative sessions, and home-work time. Second, encourage your student to get involved in extracurricular opportunities. Being involved will help your student build relationships, find additional support and reasons to attend school.
3. **Cell phones** will be expected to be left in student lockers. Students will not have access to them except during lunch time. We are asking for your help! If you need to get a message to your student urgently, please communicate with the office via phone and/or an email to Mrs. Diehl diehlj@sherrard.us. We will get your student the message as quickly as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome some new staff members to the junior high.

- Erin Steckel - Librarian
- Desyree Weakley - JH/HS Nurse
- Lukas Roy - Choir

Sign ups are ready for fall activities in the JH office. Stop by to sign up soon! Physicals must be turned in to participate. See Mrs. Diehl in the JH office to check on physical status.

There will be a Junior High ALL SPORT Meeting with the Athletic Director on Thursday, August 13 at 6:15 p.m. in Gym 3. This is mandatory for all JH students and 1 parent that will be involved in any extracurriculars during the school year. Be sure to attend if your student might get involved later in the year. Following the ALL SPORT Meeting, Cross Country and Football will have team meetings with their coaches.

Post Prom Fundraiser

Fresh baked cookies are almost here!

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

To keep this tradition going, we are looking for more high school 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!



Cross Country: JH practices will be after school starting August 12th until 5pm.

Football Cheer: tryouts will be held after school until 5pm and dates are TBD.

Football: practice starts Monday, August 17th after school and until 5pm.

Girls Basketball: practice/tryouts start Sept. 14th after school until 5pm. Open gym times/dates are TBD.

Student Council: meeting times will be before school and will start soon with Ms. Bush in Room J8.

FCA: meeting times will be before school with Mrs. Hollins once a week and will start soon.

Leadership: meetings will be held before school in Gym 3 once or twice a month with Mr. Johnston and Mrs. Ruggles and may start soon.

More activities will happen throughout the school year with sign ups in the JH office. Be sure to watch for messages on STV and the message boards in the JH!

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

Parking Pass Requirement

Attention Student Drivers:

Parking passes are required to park in the student parking lot. Please submit a parking pass form (found in the HS office), a copy of your insurance card and a \$20.00 fee to the high school office. Parking passes will be issued after the first week of school.

Sports Physicals for 2026-27

High School Fall sports will begin August 10th, except football will begin on Wednesday, August 5th. All students participating in any sport must have a current physical on file before they are allowed to tryout and/or practice. Sports physicals cannot be used for the ninth grade physical. However, ninth grade physicals may be used for sports physical. Physicals are active for one calendar year plus 30 days from the date of the physical and may only be signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine, a physician's assistant or an advanced practice nurse (NOT a chiropractor). If the physical expires during the middle of a sport season, they will not be allowed to practice or play until a new physical is received. The IHSA sports physical form can be picked up in the office or the high school website. Please contact the athletic office or school nurse if you have any questions.

High School Parent-Student Athletic Meeting

Attention Parents/Guardians of High School Student-Athletes! Join us for a crucial meeting on Wednesday, August 12th at 7 p.m. in the high school gym. We will discuss essential details about your student's athletic participation for the upcoming year. All parents/guardians and student-athletes are strongly encouraged to attend. Fall sports meetings will follow immediately after.

Junior High Parent/Guardian & student-athlete meeting is August 13th at 6:15 p.m. in Gym 3.

Jostens Info for Seniors

Attention Seniors and Sophomores!

The Jostens rep will be in the auditorium on Thursday, August 20th.

Seniors, please meet at 7:45 for a graduation meeting. You will be ordering your cap and gown.

Sophomores, please meet at 8:30 for a class ring meeting.

Orders are due Thursday, August 27th. The rep will be back, and in the commons during B and C lunches, collecting your orders.



9th 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 **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 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 12th 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 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.

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.



From the HS Counseling/Academic Center:

Welcome Back, Tigers!

As we begin a new school year, we encourage students to stay connected and informed. Regular checking of school email is essential for receiving important announcements and updates. We also recommend students familiarize themselves with Infinite Campus, where they can access grades, assignments, and schedules. By utilizing these digital tools, students can proactively manage their academic progress.

High school students have a five-day window to make schedule changes at the beginning of the school year. Please visit the Counseling Office to request any necessary adjustments during this period. Kindly note that we cannot accommodate requests for specific sections or teachers.

Social/Emotional Information:

We're excited to kick off another school year at Sherrard High School! As you embark on this new chapter, remember that your mental health and well-being are just as important as your academic success.

Your Counseling Office is Here for You

Our team is committed to supporting your social and emotional needs. Whether you're facing academic challenges, relationship issues, or simply need someone to talk to, we're here to listen and provide guidance.

Focus on Your Well-being

Here are some tips for a successful and fulfilling school year:

- **Prioritize Self-Care:** Make time for activities you enjoy, whether it's spending time with friends, exercising, or pursuing hobbies.
- **Build Strong Relationships:** Connect with your classmates and teachers. A supportive network can make a big difference.
- **Manage Stress:** Learn healthy coping mechanisms like deep breathing, meditation, or time management techniques.
- **Seek Help When Needed:** Don't hesitate to reach out to a counselor, teacher, or trusted adult if you're struggling.

Remember, you're not alone. We're here to support you every step of the way!



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