

SHERMAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sherman High School

Student Information Guide

2026–2027



“One Team, One Purpose, ALL Students”

Contact Information

District Numbers

FREQUENTLY CALLED		
Sherman I.S.D.	Main Line	(903) 891-6400
Transportation	Bus Information	(903) 891-6433
Free Lunch Office	Main Line	(903) 891-6426
Athletic Department	Main Line	(903) 891-6453

Administration

SHERMAN HIGH SCHOOL — MAIN OFFICE (903) 891-6440		
Principal	Dr. Kristen Perry	kperry@shermanisd.net
Secretary	Amanda Patterson	ampatterson@shermanisd.net
Associate Principal	Cissy Blaisure	cblaisure@shermanisd.net
Secretary	Holly Elston	helston@shermanisd.net
Registrar	Jessica Mason	jmason@shermanisd.net
Registrar's Secretary	Veronica Luna	vluna@shermanisd.net

Assistant Principals & Attendance Clerks, by Pod

A-EN POD		
Asst. Principal	Rina Hamilton	rhamilton@shermanisd.net
Attendance Clerk		

ES-LL POD		
Asst. Principal	Jason Matherly	jmatherly@shermanisd.net
Attendance Clerk	Maria Camargo	mcamargo@shermanisd.net

LO-RA POD		
Asst. Principal	Kimberly Fritchman	kfritchman@shermanisd.net
Attendance Clerk	Melissa Ramos	mramos@shermanisd.net

RE-Z POD		
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Asst. Principal	Jason Kennedy	jkennedy@shermanisd.net
Attendance Clerk		

Athletics, Nurse & Counseling

ATHLETICS		
Athletic Director	Alan McDougal	amcdougal@shermanisd.net
Boys Ath. Coordinator	Efrain Ramos	eramos@shermanisd.net
Girls Ath. Coordinator	April Attebury	aattebury@shermanisd.net
Athletics Secretary	Ashley Ferdon	aferdon@shermanisd.net

NURSE		
Nurse	Stacey Potter	spotter@shermanisd.net

COUNSELING OFFICE		
A-En Pod	Crystal Powell	cpowell@shermanisd.net
Es-LI Pod	Kim Bower	kbower@shermanisd.net
Lo-Ra Pod		
Re-Z Pod	KP Perez	kpperez@shermanisd.net
Lead Counselor	Bobby Storey	rstorey@shermanisd.net

Welcome to Sherman High School

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Welcome to Sherman High School, home of the Bearcats!

*Our district is united by **One Team, One Purpose, All Students**, and we're excited to kick off another great year together.*

*High school is about so much more than classes and grades. It's about finding your strengths, trying new things, getting involved, and preparing for what's next. Along the way, we hope every Bearcat grows into a **courageous, resilient, and self-motivated** learner who is an **engaged, empathetic** leader and a confident **problem solver**.*

Sherman High School is more than a school—we're a Bearcat family. We can't wait to see what this year has in store. Have a great year, and Go Bearcats!

Let's make this our best year yet!

-Dr. Kristen Perry

FIGHT SONG

*Hail, all hail, to Sherman High Fight, fight, fight, fight,
fight Loyal to the Maroon and White, 'Til the day we die,
Through the years we'll sing your praise Ever to be true
Win or lose we'll always stand beside you Dear old
Sherman High*

ALMA MATER

*Hail to the Bearcats, Hats off to you Ever you'll find us
Loyal and true. Firm and undaunted, Always we'll be Hail
to the school we love, Here's a toast to thee.*

Assurance of Nondiscrimination

The Sherman Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, gender, national origin, religion or disability in educational programs, admissions/enrollment decisions or activities which it operates, as required by Title VI, Title IX, Title II and Section 504. Any person having inquiries concerning the Sherman Independent School District's compliance with these regulations is directed to contact: Director of Student Support Services, Jenifer Politi.

Release of Directory Information

The Sherman Independent School District, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), restricts access to protected student records as required by law. Directory information on students will be released upon request without a parent's consent, unless the parent elects in writing to restrict directory information within the first 10 days of school. The form on which parents can indicate their election is given during registration each year.

Bell Schedule

Sherman High School operates on a modified block schedule, alternating A Days and B Days.

A DAYS	B DAYS	TIME
0 Period	0 Period	7:30 – 8:20
1st Period	1st Period	8:30 – 9:18
2nd Period	5th Period	9:24 – 10:54
Bearcat Time	Bearcat Time	11:00 – 11:25
3rd Period	6th Period	11:31 – 1:46
4th Period	7th Period	1:52 – 3:22
8th Period	8th Period	3:28 – 4:15

Lunch Waves — 3rd / 6th Period Block

Lunch is staggered in four waves during the 3rd (A Days) / 6th (B Days) period block, so class continues around each wave:

WAVE	LUNCH	CLASS TIME
A Lunch	11:31 – 12:01	Class 12:01 – 1:41
B Lunch	12:06 – 12:36	Class 11:31–12:06, 12:36–1:46
C Lunch	12:41 – 1:11	Class 11:31–12:41, 1:11–1:46
D Lunch	1:16 – 1:46	Class 11:31 – 1:16

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are required of every student. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more, and are much more employable after leaving high school. Sherman ISD expects all students to attend school regularly and be on time for classes in order to benefit from the instructional program and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility.

Sherman High School will follow the Student Handbook on all attendance policies, laws, and expectations. See board policies FEA (LEGAL) and FED (LEGAL) for full legal detail.

90% Minimum attendance to receive course credit or a final grade	75% Minimum attendance to qualify for a principal-approved plan to still earn credit
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Policy Details

- To receive credit or a final grade, a student must attend at least 90% of the days a class is offered, regardless of whether absences are excused or unexcused.
- Students with excessive unexcused absences must continue attending school and remain responsible for all assignments; disciplinary action, including placement in an alternative program, may apply if a student becomes disruptive or uncooperative as a result. A student who loses credit for any class must continue to attend that class.
- A student attending less than 75% of class days, or who doesn't complete a principal-approved plan, has their case reviewed by the attendance review committee, which determines whether extenuating circumstances apply and how credit can be regained. See policy FEC for detail.
- A student or parent may appeal the attendance committee's decision to the Board by following policy FNG (LOCAL).

To Clear an Absence

The parent or guardian should call their student's assistant principal before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the absence to have the absence cleared.

Documentation After an Absence

A parent must provide an explanation for any absence upon the student's arrival or return to school, via a signed note (accepted only from the student if 18+ or an emancipated minor). The campus may accept a phone call but reserves the right to require a written note. The district is not required to excuse any absence, even with a note, unless it falls under a compulsory-attendance exemption.

A student who misses 20 or more minutes of a class period will receive an unexcused absence.

Leaving Campus During School Hours

Sherman High School is a closed campus. Students must have parental and school permission before leaving except at the end of their regular school day; a phone request for dismissal should be made in the attendance office. Doctor, dental, and other appointments should be scheduled so the student is in attendance during 2nd period, the official attendance-marking period. Any student leaving during school hours must sign out in the attendance office and sign back in upon return — failure to do so results in disciplinary consequences.

Driver's License (VOE Form)

For a student age 16–18 to obtain a driver's license, written parental permission is required for the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to access attendance records. A Verification of Enrollment (VOE) form is available from your student's Assistant Principal's office; attendance must meet the 90% rule in each class for the current semester to obtain one.

School Procedures

Textbooks

Textbooks are state or district property, issued for the school year and returned at withdrawal or a schedule change. Textbooks are numbered and coded; a book check is conducted each semester. Lost textbooks must be paid for at the main office (payment arrangements through the bookkeeper in A101) before a replacement is issued, and a refund is available if the lost book is later found and presented with the receipt. Damaged books may carry a fine, up to full replacement cost. Outstanding textbook obligations must be cleared before records or additional textbooks are issued.

Classification Credits

Classification is determined at registration and does not change during the year: Sophomore 5–11.5 credits, Junior 12–17.5 credits, Senior 18+ credits.

Medications

Medications are best given at home when possible. When medication must be given at school, a Medication Administration Form is required — signed by a physician for prescriptions and for OTC medication given more than 5 days a year (Tylenol/ibuprofen under 5 days needs only a parent signature). All medications must be brought by a parent or guardian (18+) in the original, labeled container. Students may self-carry certain medications (inhalers, insulin, EpiPen) with a physician and parent-signed form on file, renewed yearly.

Nurse (Clinic)

Students who become ill must get permission from the clinic before leaving school, or the absence is unexcused. The clinic is staffed by a full-time registered nurse. A fever over 100° requires the student stay home until fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication; the same 24-hour rule applies to diarrheal illness. Keep the school updated with a current parent contact number.

Visitors

All visitors must report to the main office first and show identification; classroom visits during instructional time need prior principal and teacher approval and must not disrupt the learning environment. The highest standards of courtesy are expected — disruptive behavior will not be permitted.

Identification Cards

The first ID card is issued free at the start of the year. Students must wear it on campus during school hours and at school events outside the school day. A lost or stolen ID must be replaced immediately at the student's Assistant Principal's office, before or after school, for a \$5.00 fee. Students must return their ID upon withdrawal from Sherman High School, unless withdrawing due to graduation.

YOU MUST BE IN POSSESSION OF YOUR STUDENT ID AT ALL DISTRICT ACTIVITIES.

Parking Lot

Sherman High School students must have an authorized parking pass to park on campus and an authorized Assistant Principal's pass to access vehicles during the school day. Parking in unauthorized spaces, reckless driving, or parking without a tag may result in a ticket, a parking boot, or the vehicle being towed.



Behavioral Consequences

Please refer to the Sherman ISD Student Code of Conduct for the full, authoritative list of behavioral consequences. The six levels below show how consequences typically escalate — lighter interventions first, more serious ones as needed. The ■ meter next to each level fills in further as severity increases.

1	Detention ■■■■■ Assigned by an administrator for any reason deemed necessary. Held in the ISS classroom, 7:40–8:20 a.m. and 4:20–5:00 p.m. Devices are surrendered for the duration — a parent is called if removal becomes necessary.
2	Saturday School ■■■■■ 9:00 a.m.–noon on designated Saturdays. Assignment is communicated by the preceding Thursday; students/parents may choose to serve on shorter notice. Failure to attend or participate results in additional consequences.
3	In-School Suspension (ISS) ■■■■■ An alternative to off-campus suspension. Held 8:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m. for all students, with no early dismissal or late arrival. Devices are surrendered on arrival, and no school activities are permitted during the assignment.
4	Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) ■■■■■ 1–3 days depending on the incident and any investigation needed. Students remain responsible for missed work; parents are notified of findings under FERPA.
5	DAEP Placement ■■■■■ A structured program at 2701 North Loy Lake Road focused on modifying behavior and supporting academic success. Students may not participate in any home-campus or district activities during the assignment.
6	Expulsion ■■■■■ Reserved for the most serious offenses — crimes against a person, possession of items prohibited by law, or state drug/alcohol felonies. See the Code of Conduct for full detail.

A NOTE ON SERVING CONSEQUENCES: failure to serve an assigned consequence results in additional consequences. If a student can't serve on the assigned day, parents must notify the appropriate assistant principal's office — a parent's permission to miss a consequence does not prevent further consequences.

Behaviors That Result in Consequences

Every entry below is drawn from Sherman High School's discipline plan. The ● dots under each behavior are an at-a-glance guide to typical severity, based on the most serious consequence listed — always refer to the Sherman ISD Student Code of Conduct and administrator judgment for the final determination in any specific case.

●○○ Lower severity (typical)

●●○ Moderate severity (typical)

●●● Higher severity (typical)

BEHAVIOR	CONSEQUENCE
1. Abusive/Inappropriate Language or Gestures ●●○ Moderate	Consequences per the Sherman ISD Student Code of Conduct; may include disciplinary and, for extracurricular students, additional action.
2. Academic Dishonesty ●●○ Moderate	Includes cheating (e.g., giving or receiving answers, using unauthorized notes or devices during an assessment, or copying another student's work) and plagiarism (presenting another's work, ideas, or content as one's own without citation). Unauthorized use of generative AI tools to produce, complete, or substantially alter an assignment is also academic dishonesty; AI use is permitted only when a teacher explicitly authorizes and discloses it. See Board Policy EIA and the district Grading Guidelines. May result in grade penalties, possible loss of credit, Lunch Detention to possible ISS, and possible program drop such as NHS.
3. Alcohol ●●● Higher	In possession, under the influence, coercion, or selling of, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Extracurricular students may face additional disciplinary action.
4. Assault ●●● Higher	Physical altercation causing or intended to cause bodily injury to another person. Parent and police called. 1st offense: up to 3 days suspension and assignment to DAEP. 2nd offense: same as 1st, with additional time at DAEP.
5. Bullying/Cyberbullying ●●● Higher	Possible actions include parent contact, formal investigation, stay-away agreement, schedule change, ISS, discretionary DAEP placement, or discretionary expulsion.
6. Bus Issues ●○○ Lower	Use the SISD bus referral form/procedures.
7. Cell Phones/Smart/Electronic Devices ●●○ Moderate	No personal devices allowed. Exceptions apply for documented medical need, an IEP or Section 504 plan, or another legal or safety-related purpose approved by the district. Teachers and administrators can confiscate a device used in violation of this policy. At any time, administrators may deny cell phone/device usage or possession during the school day. Phones must be picked up in person by a parent within 90 days of notification, or they may be disposed of. 1st offense: confiscated and turned in to administrator, parent contacted, student may pick up the device at day's end. 2nd offense: confiscated, parent contacted, parent/guardian must pick up the device at day's end. 3rd offense: confiscated, parent contacted, additional consequences (e.g., detention or ISS) may be issued, parent/guardian must pick up the device.
8. Disruption of ISS ●●○ Moderate	Cause for immediate removal from ISS and further disciplinary action.
9. Dress Code ●○○ Lower	Students are not allowed in the classroom out of dress code. Repeated violations may result in additional consequences, at the discretion of the administrator.

10. Disruption of School ●●○ Moderate	Includes disruption of the learning environment.
11. Door Propping / Security Breach ●●○ Moderate	A student will not compromise building security — propping, opening, or entering a door and allowing others to enter without going through proper security.
12. Drugs ●●● Higher	Use, influence, possession, sale, or delivery of a controlled substance or dangerous drug (including look-alike substances) on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Also applies if a student uses drugs before coming to a school event. Parents and police contacted. Extracurricular students may face additional disciplinary action.
13. End-of-Year Behavior ●●● Higher	During the last month of school, any misbehavior or offense under the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including removal from end-of-year activities. Exams may be required at a different time than regularly scheduled; consequences may carry into the following semester.
14. Failure to Report to Office ●○○ Lower	Also considered insubordination.
15. Failure to Serve School Assigned Consequences ●●○ Moderate	Failure to serve may result in further consequences.
16. Fighting ●●● Higher	Parent and police called. 1st offense: 3 days of OSS and 2 days of ISS with possible assignment to DAEP.. 2nd offense: 3 days of OSS and DAEP.
17. Forged/Falsified/Misuse/Unauthorized Possession of Faculty/Staff Signature or Document/ID/Privilege Card/Elevator Pass/Info ●●○ Moderate	E.g., hall pass, doctor's note, tests.
18. Hats/Head Covering ●○○ Lower	Hats and head coverings worn in the building are prohibited. See Dress Code in the Student Code of Conduct.
19. Horseplay / Play Fighting / Slap-Boxing ●○○ Lower	Up to 3 days of OSS and 2 days of ISS.
20. Identification Badges (per semester) ●○○ Lower	ID badges must be visible at all times, including while using school transportation; failure to wear results in being sent to the nearest AP office. A lost badge is reissued for a \$5.00 fee to MySchoolBucks. Repetitive infractions may add consequences. Altering ID information is treated as forging a school document.
21. Insubordination ●●○ Moderate	Defiance of authority, refusal to obey direction, or deliberate disrespect toward staff or the school, as determined by the Assistant Principal.
22. Inappropriate Items ●○○ Lower	Possession of items with no instructional purpose (e.g., laser pointers, lighters, matches, pocket knives, printed material, water balloons/guns) results in confiscation, returned only to a parent. Minimum 1-day detention.
23. Leaving Campus Without Permission / Failure to Follow Sign-Out Procedures ●●○ Moderate	Sherman High is a closed campus. Students may also be subject to attendance laws.
24. Parking Lot Violation ●○○ Lower	Includes parking in unauthorized spaces, reckless driving, or parking without a tag — may result in a ticket, parking boot, or the vehicle being towed. An authorized Assistant Principal's pass is required to access vehicles during the school day.
25. Possession of Pornographic Material ●●● Higher	Call Police and Parent, 3 days OSS/ ISS with possible assignment to DAEP.
26. Sexting ●●● Higher	Minimum ISS, possible assignment to DAEP. Police called as needed.

27. Sexual Contact ●●● Higher	Up to 3 days suspension and/or additional consequences; possible DAEP. Police called as needed.
28. Sexual Harassment ●●● Higher	Verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct constituting sexual or gender-based harassment or abuse, directed toward another student, employee, board member, or volunteer. Consequences range from parent contact up to assignment to an alternative education program, depending on the nature of the conduct.
29. Skateboards/Shoes With Wheels ●○○ Lower	Shoes with wheels result in dress code consequences; skateboards are confiscated.
30. Substitute Misbehavior ●○○ Lower	Students who act inappropriately toward a substitute teacher are subject to consequences.
31. Tardies (per semester, per class) ●○○ Lower	Consequences per the Code of Conduct; may include referral to Truancy Court.
32. Theft/Robbery/Burglary ●●● Higher	Under \$50: consequences as appropriate per the Code of Conduct. Over \$50: DAEP and police involvement. Over \$500 (felony): assignment to DAEP and police involvement.
33. Threats ●●● Higher	Student-to-student: minimum 2 days ISS. Student-to-staff: ISS or DAEP. Terroristic: mandatory DAEP up to expulsion. The district's Safe and Supportive School Team (SSST) may conduct a threat assessment and temporarily remove a student from the educational setting while it's completed.
34. Truancy ●●○ Moderate	Compulsory attendance laws apply. 10 unexcused absences in any one class may result in loss of credit; students are referred to the Truancy Tribunal.
35. Tobacco/Nicotine Products (Not Including Vapes) ●●● Higher	Use or possession on campus, grounds within 300 feet, or at a school activity: 3 days ISS/OSS, possible 10-day DAEP placement. Police may be notified.
36. Vapes/Vaping ●●● Higher	Use or possession of e-cigarettes, vapes, THC vape devices, or any related component or accessory, on campus, grounds within 300 feet, or at a school activity: discipline is DAEP placement. Police may be notified; vapes containing controlled substances are addressed under the Drugs policy.
37. Violation of Stay-Away Agreement ●●○ Moderate	Students who violate a Stay-Away Agreement will be assigned consequences.
38. Unacceptable Use of Technology ●●○ Moderate	Unauthorized use or visiting inappropriate sites. Includes using AI platforms or automated content-generation tools in violation of academic integrity rules, and creating, possessing, or distributing altered, manipulated, or synthetic (AI-generated) content involving students or staff. Possible suspension of electronic device access and suspensions may occur.
39. Vandalism ●●○ Moderate	Restitution or repair as appropriate; police may be called.
40. Weapons (real or fake) ●●● Higher	Refer to the SISD Student Code of Conduct.

Dress and Grooming Code

A student out of dress code is not allowed in class and should report to the front office for support; parents are contacted if a change of clothes can't be located or provided. Full illustrated standards: shermanisd.net/dresscode.

The Dress and Grooming Code teaches grooming and hygiene, instills discipline, prevents disruption, avoids safety hazards, and teaches respect for authority and the work environment. The principal may prohibit any clothing or grooming reasonably expected to cause distraction, interfere with school operations, or create a safety hazard — even if not explicitly listed below. Students and parents may otherwise determine personal dress and grooming standards within this Code.

Coverage

- ✓ ID worn at all times on campus or district transportation.
- ✓ Torso and legs fully covered in the undergarment area; shirts buttoned/snapped to 3" below the collarbone.
- ✓ 6th–12th grade: no tank tops, strapless dresses, or spaghetti straps — regardless of strap width.
- ✓ Shorts, skirts, and dresses OK if they don't expose undergarments or private areas.
- ✓ Pants, shorts, and skirts worn at waist level — no sagging.
- ✓ Ripped jeans/shorts/leggings OK only if undergarments stay covered at all times, including while bending or reaching.
- ✓ Torn or ragged tops need an undershirt or similar covering.
- ✓ Tights, leggings, and bike shorts must be paired with a top, skirt, or shorts that cover the buttocks.
- ✓ No underwear or sleepwear worn as outerwear.

Headwear, Hair & Face

- ✓ No hats, caps, sweatbands, bandannas, sunglasses, or hoods worn inside the building.
- ✓ Exception: head coverings approved by the principal for students undergoing chemotherapy or similar hair-loss treatment.
- ✓ Hair color/design must not distract from learning; non-natural color is fine as an accent. Shaved designs must be school-appropriate.
- ✓ No disruptive or distracting hair styles, including Mohawks.
- ✓ Eyes visible at all times, unless approved by the principal for a medical reason.
- ✓ No tongue, lip, eyebrow, or facial rings/gauges/spacers — one small nose stud is allowed.
- ✓ Distracting or excessive makeup is not permitted.

Footwear & Jewelry

- ✓ Footwear required at all times — no shower shoes, house shoes, slippers, or wheeled/light-up shoes.
- ✓ Medical shoes allowed with physician authorization.
- ✓ Jewelry that distracts from instruction is not acceptable.
- ✓ No metal chains, costume accessories, metal hair picks, or blankets.

Content & Approval

- ✓ No clothing depicting or advertising alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, or lewd/obscene content.
- ✓ Nothing reflecting gang affiliation, intentional or not — SISD Police maintain a reference list.
- ✓ Class, club, or school-sponsored group t-shirts need final principal approval.
- ✓ Higher standards may apply for extracurricular activities, at the sponsor/coach's discretion.

Students are expected to be in dress code compliance at any school-related event or activity; school officials may ask a student to leave if inappropriately dressed.