

SHERMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FALL - 2008

Matthew Olson - Principal

Linda Skrzynski - Assistant Principal

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**WELCOME BACK!
SCHOOL STARTS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd!**

WELCOME BACK!!!

On behalf of the Sherman Middle School Staff, allow me to be the first to welcome you to our school for the start of the 2008-2009 school year! As your new principal, I am very excited to be a part of such an amazing team of professional educators. Rest assured that we will be working hard throughout the year to ensure that the children of the Holly Area Schools receive the top quality educational experience that they deserve. I look forward to meeting you all as the year progresses. My door is always open, and I welcome the opportunity to get to know my students and their families. Best wishes for a successful school year!

Mr. Olson, Principal

SCHEDULE PICK UP – AUGUST 25 & 26 (8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)

PLEASE BRING:

THE COMPLETED EMERGENCY CARD (ENCLOSED). NO LOCKER CAN BE ISSUED WITHOUT THIS INFORMATION:

Completed by parent

Two emergency contacts (other than parents) with contact information

ANY FINES OR FEES FROM 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR. NO SCHEDULE CAN BE ISSUED WITHOUT PAYMENT.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PARENTS DURING SCHEDULE PICK UP:

Student Schedules

Locker assignments (with completed emergency card)

Free and reduced lunch forms

Athletic participation information and forms

School supply lists (by team)

Medication Authorization Forms – A Board requirement for medication administered during the school day

Pictures/ID/Debit cards – ALL students will be required to have a picture (no charge for those who choose not to purchase a packet); these will be used for yearbook and student files. Debit cards are used for ID's and are needed daily to access computers and pay for lunches.

Sherman Parent Connection (SPC) information and opportunity to become a core team member or volunteer to help during the school year!

STUDENT SCHEDULES/PICTURE RETAKES

Because we are only distributing student schedules and taking student pictures for debit cards, ID's and yearbooks on August 25th and 26th during the times designated, any students that are unable to be here on those dates will need to report to the IMC on the first day of school to pick up their schedules. Information will be distributed sometime in September regarding picture and debit card re-takes.

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL HOURS

Our school day begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 2:10 p.m. Once again we will offer breakfast in our cafeteria beginning at 7:00 a.m. until 7:25 a.m. Parents are asked not to drop students off at school before 7:00 a.m. when we will provide supervision in the cafeteria; students who arrive before 7:15 a.m. will be asked to report to the cafeteria; lockers will not be available to students until the 7:15 a.m. bell rings.

LUNCH NEWS

We provide two identical lunch lines with ala Carte and meal selections. To expedite the time it takes to move through the lunch line and allow time for students to enjoy lunch without rushing, we encourage all students to keep their debit cards in their lockers. If your family qualifies for free or reduced lunch prices, please be sure to complete the required application and submit it as soon as possible. Remember, this information is confidential; students who use their debit cards simply scan the card to receive a full lunch.

MEDICATION

As per our Board of Education policy, medication cannot be administered at school without an authorization form on file. The student's doctor and the parent/guardian must sign this form before medication can be administered. Please submit completed authorization forms to the front office if your child will need medication; in addition parents must bring to the office the original container, labeled with student's name, name of medication, current date of medicine, dosage and time of dosage. Except for unusual circumstances approved by the building Principal, medication will only be dispensed during school lunch hours. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the office.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The State of Michigan requires that your student's immunization records be up to date and on file with the school. To avoid any exclusion from school this year, please be sure that you have accurate records on file. If your child is in need of any of these vaccinations, the Oakland County Health Dept. (1200 N. Telegraph, Bldg. 36C, Pontiac) provides them at no charge Mondays 12-8 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Parent ID and the child's prior immunization records are necessary. Call 248-858-1301 for more information.

INFORMATION FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Middle school students are invited to participate in football, cheerleading, basketball, cross-country and track. The \$35 annual participation fee covers any and all sports. Interested students will need to have an official MHSAA physical form (available at schedule pick up) completed and returned along with the fee to the front office by September 4th. Students will not be eligible to tryout or practice until these items are submitted.

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING

Please note in your student's handbook that our dress code has been revised for clarity. As back-to-school shopping is taking place, please review the expectations prior to making your purchases. It is our intent to maintain an environment focused on learning. The following items are a few of the items not acceptable for school attire (see the handbook for a complete list): pajama-like pants, sleeveless shirts, shirts that bare the midriff or cleavage or display inappropriate messages, clothing that reveals undergarments (whether or not they are covered by long shirts) or torn/ripped jeans (whether or not they have undergarments exposed through the holes). In addition, shoes with wheels, spiked chains, wallet chains and handcuffs are prohibited. Please remember that shirts/shorts (including the slits on these garments) should not be shorter than pinky finger length when the arm is hung straight at the side.

We are also encouraging parents to hold off on purchasing school supplies until after your child has picked up their school schedule. For your convenience, our teams have determined the supplies their students will need for this school year and have created a shopping list for parents. These lists will be provided to you at schedule pick up.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

During the course of the school year our students are sometimes recognized in the newspaper or other media formats for things such as their accomplishments, special projects, upcoming events, or other newsworthy happenings. These opportunities serve to promote and enhance our students, school and our community. If you do not wish for your child to appear in public relations material of this nature, a request must be completed each year that will prohibit these students from being included in any of these promotional materials.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL

Sherman Middle School offers a wide array of methods for parents to communicate with the school. Our Edline offers 24/7 email contact and access to student academic progress, parents are considered vital members of our teams, parents can leave messages for teachers by phone and parents can call the office to schedule appointments with teachers, counselors and administration. In addition, our Sherman Parent Connection (SPC) offers parents an opportunity to serve in a leadership role by attending monthly meetings or volunteer. Please take advantage of these opportunities to stay informed about your student's educational program.