

MARKSMEN

SCHOOL NEWS

October 2021

MARKSMEN PRIDE
SINCE 1965

Published for Patrons of
the Sherwood
Cass R-VIII
School District



A Note From the Superintendent

Greetings, Sherwood -



I would like to start with big thank yous to our community, students, parents, teachers, and staff as we've gotten this school year off to a start. As many of you know we had a very high number of COVID-19 cases and quarantined students to start the school year. I appreciate everyone's patience during that time as we regrouped and got things back in order. Since those first few weeks we have generally stayed below 5% of our student population in quarantine or isolation. The ability to keep students coming to school in fully masked environments has helped dramatically with this. While masking is not fun or popular, it is allowing us to educate our students and keep moving forward with learning. The teachers are excited to have students in the class-

“While masking is not fun or popular, it is allowing us to educate our students and keep moving forward with learning.”

room, and it is fun for the administrators and I to walk down the hallways and see learning in action in the classrooms. Over the last year we've added a lot of Project Lead the Way opportunities and supplies for STEM learning (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Students are moving forward with their projects, field trips to businesses and learning opportunities are returning, and we have fresh data to see where our students strengths and weaknesses are.

Furthermore, we would like to thank the community again for the support of the One-Day Bond Issue that was passed at 76% in April. The two new buses are here and in use, the athletic field lights are installed (and the track paid off), the elementary sound system is in use daily, the foundation repairs are done, and a number of other upgrades have been completed. We have 4 doors awaiting replacement

and the new stage curtain will be installed the week this is being written. Once these two projects are completed and our outdoor classroom picnic tables and benches arrive we will have all of our projects completed. Thank you to our community for helping us have the resources and facilities to provide a safe and strong education for our students.

Finally, I would encourage our patrons to keep an eye out for the Sherwood Messenger that will be coming to public locations around the community. We will be working with community resources and private businesses to have a front and back newsletter 1-2 times per month available for patrons to see what is happening in the district. As always, you can keep up with new items daily on our Facebook Page. Again, thank you to everyone for your support of our school district, and we are looking forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,
Steve Ritter

“Our mission is to prepare young men and women to become productive, responsible citizens in a global society. In partnership with parents and the community, the school seeks to develop the whole child; academically, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.”

A Note From the Elementary Principal

Hello Marksmen Families!



We have started our year with a few bumps, but we are evening out now. Our students are building positive relationships and just starting to get into our programs. We are a Title School and we sent out a brochure explaining what that means. PTO is getting the year started with a fundraiser, if we raise \$500 some of our teachers will eat a pie with no hands. LOL!! Our PTO does some great things for our students and teachers please try to get involved, they are starting to host Virtual PTO

Meetings. Look at the Sherwood Elementary PTO Facebook page to see their activities calendar. Also, on Facebook check out Mr. Rogers Sherwood Neighborhood page, we try to share pictures and things we have going on around the building. Also just a reminder we ask that if your student is a car rider that you should not pull up in the pick up line in front of the school until 3:00. This will help with people picking up sick students or making deliveries. We will be sharing more things as the year progresses.

Thank you,
Phil Rogers
Sherwood Elementary

A Note From the Middle School Principal

Greetings Sherwood Community,



We got off to a bit of a slow start in the middle school with over half of our students quarantined or isolated at one point, but we're picking up speed fast. It really feels good to have that challenge behind us and the halls full of kids and energy. Our 6th and 8th grade classes have fall field trips scheduled. The 6th grade is preparing for Blue Springs School of Economics and the 8th grade is excited about the opportunity to visit Union Station to tour the Auschwitz Exhibit. The 7th grade trip is being planned for the spring. After school activities such as volleyball, cross country, and football are winding down as the basketball, wrestling and theater seasons are gearing up.

We've made a few changes this year that I'd love to share with you. There is no longer a need for a computer lab with all students having a Chromebook assigned to them. We've used that space to create a special education "suite" with

two adjoining rooms. Another enhancement to our academic program is the addition of iReady Diagnostic Assessments and interventions. Using this program will allow us to provide more targeted instruction in the areas of math and reading for all of our MS and HS students. On the athletic side, we've added a new course called Strength and Conditioning during 1st semester for student-athletes. This course is designed to better prepare our students for HS body conditioning in the future and to help them in their current sports as well.

Sherwood Middle School students and staff are resilient. Thank you to the kids, teachers, and support staff that just keep finding ways to overcome challenges. Also, a huge thank you to the parents and community members for your words of encouragement. It takes all of us working together to provide a top quality education community.

Thank You,
Brenda J. Koch
SMS Principal

Personnel Directory

School Board Members

Mr. Daniel Turner,
President
Mr. Ben Jones,
Vice-president
Mr. Robert Schumacher,
Treasurer
Mr. Gary Jones
Mr. Don Wheeler
Mr. Charles Kagarice
Mrs. Jennifer Horvatic

School Board Secretary

Mrs. Glenda Marconett

Superintendent

Dr. Steve Ritter

Director of Special Services

Ms. Nancy Engle

High School Principal

Mr. Bryan Himes

High School Counselor

Mrs. Tara Carter

Middle School Principal

Mrs. Brenda Koch

Middle School Counselor

Mrs. Megan Lewis

Elementary Principal

Mr. Phil Rogers

Elementary Counselor

Mrs. Carolyn Johnston

Activities Director

Mr. Richie Frazier

Director of Technology

Mr. Stan Taber

Parents as Teachers

Mrs. Michelle Vogt

A Note From the Director of Special Services



Greetings,

It is the beginning of another year. I think they are coming faster each year. We have some new faces this year along with a new classroom that is focusing on behaviors and social skills, in the Elementary. Mrs. Amanda Yeaman is a special education teacher in Elementary, this is her 5th year in education. Mrs. Suzanne Best is our Speech Language Assistant and has

been working with kids everyday, this is her first year. We have new paraprofessionals, Kim Lee, Roxy Boyd, Heather Hill, Amber Marconett and Terri Vandervort. A great addition to our staff.

It was a rocky start to the school year, but since we are all able to be in the classroom again the learning is

moving at a fast pace. We are continuing to have virtual meetings, these seem to work well for all involved-one bright spot from the pandemic.

Thank you for taking time to read our newsletter. Here is to a wonderful 2021-2022 school year.

Nancy Engle
Director of Student Services
Title IX Compliance Officer

“We have some new faces this year along with a new classroom that is focusing on behaviors and social skills”

Public Notice

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or lan-

guage impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file com-

plaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA).

This plan may be reviewed

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Public Notice

**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)
COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs¹ that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)².

| Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs Table of Contents | |
|---|--|
| General Information 1. What is a complaint under ESSA? 2. Who may file a complaint? 3. How can a complaint be filed? | |
| Complaints filed with LEA 4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated? 5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)? | Complaints filed with the Department 6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department? 7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated? 8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently? |
| Appeals 9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated? 10. What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)? | |

1. What is a complaint?

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

2. Who may file a complaint?

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

3. How can a complaint be filed?

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and
2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

¹ Programs include Title I, A, B, C, D, Title II, Title III, Title IV.A, Title V Revised 4/17 ²In compliance with ESSA Title VIII- Part C. Sec. 8304(a)(3)(C)

Local education agencies are required to disseminate, free of charge, this information regarding ESSA complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.

7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur in the investigation:

- 1. Record.** A written record of the investigation will be kept.
- 2. Notification of LEA.** The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
- 3. Resolution at LEA.** The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
- 4. Report by LEA.** Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
- 5. Verification.** Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
- 6. Appeal.** The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

What is Title I?

Sherwood Elementary School has a school wide Title I program, meaning all students may benefit from the Title I services. Title I is a federal program that provides supplemental instruction for students based upon academic needs. The goal is to increase performance in academic achievements in the areas of reading and/or math. The students who qualify are not learning disabled. They just need extra help with reading and/or math.

A variety of factors are used to determine student eligibility including, but not limited to MAP scores, STAR 360 assessments, Pathways to Reading assessments, classroom-based assessments and performance, and teacher recommendations.

Please contact Shanda Dooley or Stephanie Thomas at 660-499-2202 ext. 157 if you have any questions or would like more information.

Leadership Team Reads to Kindergarten



5th Grade students take time to read and mentor Kindergarten students.

Public Notice

PUBLIC RELEASE FOR LEAs OPERATING THE SEAMLESS SUMMER OPTION

July 26, 2021

Sherwood Cass R-8 School District is offering free meals to all children ages 18 and under, under COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #85 Nationwide Waiver to Allow the Seamless Summer Option through School Year 2021-2022. Households are still encouraged to complete and submit an application for free and reduced price meals to the district for processing. Free and reduced data is used to help maintain meal count system requirements, report to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for funding formulas, and establish eligibility for other benefits, particularly Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) and Emergency Broadband Benefit. Sherwood Cass R-8 School District announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children offered meals in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

| Household Size | Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals | | | Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals | | |
|-------------------|--|---------|--------|---|---------|--------|
| | Annually | Monthly | Weekly | Annually | Monthly | Weekly |
| 1 | \$16,744 | \$1,396 | \$322 | \$23,828 | \$1,986 | \$459 |
| 2 | 22,646 | 1,888 | 436 | 32,227 | 2,686 | 620 |
| 3 | 28,548 | 2,379 | 549 | 40,626 | 3,386 | 782 |
| 4 | 34,450 | 2,871 | 663 | 49,025 | 4,086 | 943 |
| 5 | 40,352 | 3,363 | 776 | 57,424 | 4,786 | 1,105 |
| 6 | 46,254 | 3,855 | 890 | 65,823 | 5,486 | 1,266 |
| 7 | 52,156 | 4,347 | 1,003 | 74,222 | 6,186 | 1,428 |
| 8 | 58,058 | 4,839 | 1,117 | 82,621 | 6,886 | 1,589 |
| Each add'l member | + 5902 | + 492 | + 114 | + 8,399 | + 700 | + 162 |

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the school office. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/TANF case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and last four digits of social security number or indication of no social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Households will be notified of their children's eligibility status for free or reduced price meals. If any children were not listed on the eligibility notice for families receiving SNAP, TANF or FDPIR, the household should contact the school to have free meal benefits extended to those children.

If any child(ren) was not listed on the eligibility notice, the household should contact the LEA or school to have free meal benefits extended to that child(ren).

Under the provisions of the policy, the determining official will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official, they may wish to discuss the decision with the hearing official on an informal basis or he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to the Superintendent.

(Continued from page 6)

Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

USDA Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



A Note from the High School Principal



We are not even a quarter into the school year and we have so much going on already. Our teachers and students have hit the ground running and we are working towards continually moving the bar forward. One of the best ways to know how to move students forward is by identifying where they are at. Our high school is using a progress monitoring system called iReady to assess students in Math and English. This will help teachers know each student's strengths and areas for improvement which will better help the teacher meet the student's individual needs. The students will be taking these assess-

ments three times each year, so be on the lookout for your child's results.

Since Covid has become part of the national landscape, it has been a challenge to get hands-on college and career opportunities for our students. This year, we have been able to schedule multiple events in the first semester to help give our students some insight into potential post-secondary options. We are sending all Juniors and Seniors to the Clinton College and Career Fair on October 12th and the College Prep English course will be visiting Northwest Missouri State University on November 10th. In addition, Juniors and Seniors will have an opportunity to attend the

largest post-secondary event in the state at the Build My Future event in Jefferson City on October 20th. This event showcases various industries and gives students the ability to get hands-on experience operating tools and machinery as well as talk to professionals in the field.

We look forward to another great year working together to help your student succeed. Please make sure you are able to access your student's Google Classroom as well as Infinite Campus. If there is anything we can do to help your student be more successful, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Bryan Himes

SMS 7th Grade Art

Ms. Jen Barth's 7th grade Art class has been working on some projects preparing for the season change. The students learned how to blend with oil pastels to achieve these great looking pumpkins just in time for fall!!!



Seventh grade students (from left to right) Hannah Gilbert, Rauri Boles, and Sonnet Breiner with their pumpkin art.

They learned how to overlap to show distance and color mixing to show form. The students displayed their pumpkins down the middle school hall. They all did a great job!!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 20, 2021
School Board Meeting

October 23-24, 2021
Fall Play

Monday, October 25, 2021
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, November 4, 2021
Picture Retakes

Wednesday, November 17, 2021
School Board Meeting

November 24-26, 2021
Thanksgiving Break

Nutritious School Meals at No Charge!

Free meals are available to **ALL** children 18 and under.

Pick up at: Sherwood Cass R-8 School District
33300 S Sherwood Drive, Creighton

When: Tuesdays 9:15-9:30am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Sherwood Cass R-VIII
School District
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