

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

APRIL 2026

Dates to Remember:



April 1st--Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
April 1st-- Club Day
April 2nd-- 2 Hour Early Dismissal
April 3rd-April 6th --Spring Break - Schools Closed
April 4th--School Librarian Appreciation Day
April 6th-April 10th--Assistant Principal Appreciation Week
April 7th--Teens and Technology Presentation 6th Grade
April 7th & April 8th--School Physicals
April 9th--Teens and Technology Presentation 7th Grade
April 12th-April 17th--Spring Book Fair
April 13th--5th Exploratory Cycle Begins
April 14th--Teens and Technology Presentation 7th Grade
April 15th--Club Day
April 15th --PTO Meeting @ 7:00 PM
April 16th--Teens and Technology Presentation 8th Grade
April 17th--Spring Fling
April 20th-April 24th--School Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 21st-23rd--ELA PSSA Testing
April 22nd--Administrative Professionals Appreciation Day
April 24th--Teens and Technology Presentation 8th Grade
April 27th-April 28th--Math PSSA Testing
April 28th--School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
April 29th-April 30th--Science PSSA Testing
April 30th--Choral Concert
May 1st--School Lunch Worker Appreciation Day
May 1st-- School Principal Appreciation Day
May 4th-May 9th--Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4th--Spring IXL Diagnostic Window Opens
May 6th--School Nurse Appreciation Day
May 6th--Orchestra Concert
May 7th--7th and 8th Grade Band Concert
May 12th&May 13th-- Algebra I Keystone Testing
May 12th--7 Hounds Conococheague Institute Field Trip
May 12th--Orchestra Concert
May 13th--7 Hounds Burd Run
May 13th--7 Maroon Conococheague Institute Field Trip
May 13th--6th Grade Band Concert
May 14th--7 Maroon Burd Run
May 14th--Civil War Day
May 15th--7 Grey Conococheague Institute Field Trip
May 18th--Speech Pathologist Appreciation Day
May 18th--5th Grade Orientation
May 19th--8th Grade Fall Sport Sign Ups
May 20th--7th Grade Fall Sport Sign Ups
May 21st--8th Grade Celebration at Memorial Park
May 21st--6th Grade Fall Sport Sign Ups

Building Website:

The middle school webpage is a great place to find information regarding your student's teachers and contact information, cycle days, building events, and homework materials. Visit www.shipk12.org/middleschool to see more information about our building.

PSSA's:

PSSA's are quickly approaching and will take place in from April 21st - April 30th. During this time it is important that students attend school on time and are well rested. This year our PSSAs will take place online. Students will need a charged chrome book daily that is in working condition. As a reminder PERSONAL electronic devices are not allowed in the testing room; this includes phones, smart watches, and personal calculators. The school will issue PSSA approved calculators for the testing period. Additional information will be distributed via the newsletter and the district's messaging system closer to the time.

Spring Reminders

Spring has sprung in Shippensburg as we make the final 45 days push to the end of the school year here are a few reminders for students and parents:

- All absences required a note within 3 days of the absence. Students who have accrued more than 10 total days absent must have a doctor's note for the absence to be considered approved.
- Students who arrive late to school receive lunch detention after their 5th tardy. Anyone arriving after 7:25AM is considered tardy.
- The dress code will continue to be enforced as we move into spring. Clothing and dress should be school appropriate. Belly shirts and tank tops are not permitted. Shorts should be long enough to provide coverage.
- Behavior expectations will continue to be enforced throughout the end of the year. Students should maintain our PBIS expectations of being Safe, Respectful, Prepared, and Caring.

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BONJOUR



MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION EVENT

مرحبًا

This year we will be highlighting our students from France, Syria, Haiti, and the Philippines!

bonjour!

April 7th - 10th

Stop by the display table during lunch.

Learn about the culture, learn a new phrase, and try new food!



Kumusta



SASHS Free Nursery School Lab Program



Do you have a child that is 2, 3, 4 or 5 years old that would be interested in participating in a student run nursery school program at Shippensburg High School? The children must be potty trained and have their own transportation. It runs 4 weeks at a time. Typically we meet four days a week Tuesday – Friday. Our final session this year will begin in May.

If interested, detailed information and registration forms can be emailed to you. Please contact Megan.Parker@ship.k12.pa.us for forms. Any questions can be directed to Megan Parker at Shippensburg High School. 717-530-2730 or use the email above.

Health Updates

A few reminders for the upcoming school year:

All 7th grade students must have the following vaccines by the first day of school or risk exclusion:

- Tdap-(tetanus,diphtheria, and acellar pertussis)
- MCV (meningococcal conjugate) by the first day of school or risk exclusion.

Please be sure to contact the school nurse if you have any questions.

All students entering 7th grade need to have a school dental exam turned in. If you do not have a dentist and want to have your child receive the free exam provided by the school dentist, please let the school nurse know. Permission forms for this service will be sent home with all 6th grade students this school year.

All students entering 6th grade need to turn in a physical exam. If you do not have a doctor and you wish to have your child receive the free exam provided by the school doctor, please let the school nurse know. Permission forms for this service will be sent home this school year with all 5th grade students.



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SAMS ELA PSSA SPIRIT WEEK

APRIL 20-24, 2026

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <p>National Look-alike day!</p> <p>Dress with your friends together to show we are ready to take the tests together!</p>  | <p>All a team Day!</p> <p>We are all on the same team as we kick off the PSSAs. Wear your favorite sports shirt!</p>  | <p>National Jelly bean day!</p> <p>Wear different colors to show that we are going to do our jelly-best on the test</p>  | <p>Don't Sweat the Test!</p> <p>Wear your Favorite Sweatshirt!</p>  | <p>National Administrator Day</p> <p>Dress up like your favorite administrator to show your thanks for their support on this test</p>  |

SAMS PTO Spring Scholastic Book Fair is Coming!

April 13th-17th



Make shopping easy and cash-free!



Set up an eWallet for your student—the simplest way to pay!

SAMS MATH AND SCIENCE PSSA SPIRIT WEEK

APRIL 27-30 AND MAY 1, 2026

| Monday | Thursday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Silly Sock Day!</p> <p>Knock the socks off the math test! Wear silly socks!</p>  | <p>SAMS Students are Bright!</p> <p>Wear bright colors!</p>  | <p>National Denim Day!</p> <p>Wear your favorite jeans or jean jacket to show you are a "genius".</p>  | <p>International Jazz Day</p> <p>Wear your favorite band shirts or if in jazz band, wear what you should wear to a concert!</p>  | <p>National Space Day!</p> <p>Way to knock the PSSAs out of this world! Wear anything space themed.</p>  |

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PBIS Criteria:

Our Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program rewards students for meeting expected behavior expectations. The program works to reward students through our paper currency, Champ Chances. Students can use the Champ Chances to purchase items in their classroom stores, participate in grade level raffles, go outside during lunch and enter raffles during marking period activities.

Marking period events also take place for all eligible students in our building. Students who have accrued two or more discipline referrals during the marking period would not be eligible to participate within the marking period event. Additionally, students who have been assigned ISS or OSS during the marking period would also be considered ineligible for the marking period event. There will be opportunities for restorative practices for students to earn their way back into the marking period events at the principal/assistant principal discretion.

Social Media:

Middle School Administration does their best to keep families, students, and the community apprised of the fun and exciting activities taking place within the building and classrooms. Please consider following the middle school on social media to stay apprised of happenings.



Shbg Middle School



@shbgmiddleschool

Community Resources:

Aliff Counseling -- 717.477.2556
(School Based Mental Health Provider)
Cumberland/Perry Drug and Alcohol --
717.240.6300
Crisis Chambersburg -- 717.264.2555



PTO:

The SAMS PTO is a mighty group of parents that work diligently to raise money for our students and provide opportunities inside and outside of the school building. The PTO team has raised enough funds this school year to provide field trips and extended learning opportunities for all grade levels.

The PTO has plans for a Spring Fling event for students as well as a Spring Book Fair in the coming months. Stay tuned for details. If you want to join this mighty team, meetings take place on the third Wednesday of each month in the SAMS Cafeteria.

Safe 2 Say Something:

Safe 2 Say is an anonymous tip app and website that any user can report warning signs, threats to themselves or others, self harm, and other concerns before it is too late. Tips are assessed and process through the crisis center and acted upon as necessary by local agencies and school personnel.



Building Contact Information:

Main Office -- 717.530.2750
Office Hours -- 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
SAMS Attendance E-Mail --
samsattendance@ship.k12.pa.us

Principal -- Jeremy Barnes
Assistant Principal --
Stephanie Barnhart -- Last Names A - K
April Fitz -- Last Names L - Z
School Counselor --
Angie McKee -- Last Names A - K
Rosemary Junkin -- Last Names L - Z
School Social Worker --
Tabitha Curtis