

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

APRIL 2024

Dates to Remember:



April 3rd -- Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
April 3rd -- Physicals at SAMS
April 4th -- Librarian Appreciation Day
April 5th -- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at SAMS
April 5th - 12th -- Book Fair
April 8th -- Honor Roll Social
April 8th -- Assistant Principal Appreciation Week
April 8th -- Honor Roll Social
April 10th -- Physicals at SAMS
April 15th -- 5th Exploratory Cycle Starts
April 16th -- Spring Pictures
April 17th -- 2 Hour Early Dismissal
April 19th -- Club Day
April 23rd - 25th -- ELA PSSA's
April 24th -- Administrative Professionals Day
April 24th -- PTO Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
April 25th -- Choral Concert
April 29th - 30th -- Math PSSA's
May 1st -- School Principal Day
May 1st, 2nd and 3rd -- 7th Grade Field Trip by team
May 2nd -- 8th Grade Science PSSA's
May 3rd -- Lunch Hero Day
May 6th - 10th -- Teacher Appreciation Week
May 8th -- School Nurse Day
May 8th -- 6th Grade Band Concert
May 9th -- 7 Hounds Burd Run Trip
May 9th -- 7th and 8th Grade Band Concert
May 10th -- Club Day
May 13th -- 7 Maroon Burd Run Trip
May 14th - 15th -- Algebra Keystones
May 15th -- PTO Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
May 16th -- Civil War Day
May 17th -- Speech Language/Pathologist Day
May 17th -- Band Hershey Park Trip
May 16th -- Orchestra Concert
May 20th -- Fifth Grade Orientation
May 21st -- 6th Grade Senator's Field Trip
May 21st - 23rd -- Fall Sports Sign Ups
May 22nd -- Best Day Ever (Special Olympics)
May 24th -- Club Day
May 27th -- No School
May 30th -- PBIS Celebration Day
May 31st -- Last Day of School

Many of the dates through the end of the year are listed.

Please pay special attention to the calendar as there are many happenings as we round out the last 45 days of school.

Spring Reminders

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

- All absences require a note within 3 days of the absence. If a student has 10+ days of absences a doctor's note is required.
- Clothing and dress should be school appropriate. Belly shirts and tank tops are not permitted
- Students are still expected to follow our behavior expectations and are not permitted to leave the building or classroom without permission.



PBIS End of Year Updates:

The PBIS team is sponsoring PSSA attendance prizes. Each day, we will be raffling gift cards for ice cream, Sheetz, and Starbucks each day to students who arrive on time for testing. Students who attend every day of testing on time will be eligible for the raffle of a Nike Drawstring bag, Owala bottle, and JBL speaker.

Our final celebration day will be held on May 30th with lawn games, cotton candy, firetrucks, a bounce obstacle, and more! The PBIS team is looking for volunteers who can help serve cotton candy. Please contact the middle school if you have clearances and would like to help!

SAMS PBIS passed its annual fidelity check from the IU and is looking forward to planning more activities for our students who meet Greyhound expectations!



Student Council Updates:

SAMS Student Council hosted March Gladness where teams competed against each other to raise the most money. Team Grey 6 brought in the most money with Mrs. Keen's class being the highest contributor. All of the homerooms on the winning team had a breakfast from Dunkin Donuts. SAMS will donate the \$400 proceeds raised to the SASHS Mini-Thon that is raising money for The Four Diamonds. SAMS Student Council will be hosting PSSA Spirit Weeks. Please see the next page for information.

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PSSA's:

PSSA testing is a state requirement for all students in grades 3 - 8 and will take place at SAMS on April 23rd, 24th, and 25th for ELA; April 29th and 30th for Mathematics; and Science will test on May 2nd for 8th grade students only.

We encourage all students to be present in the buildings on all of the testing days and to be on time; arriving at the building no later than 7:25 a.m. Students should be well rested and eat a fitting breakfast prior to the test. A reminder that free breakfast is available for all students via our cafeteria.

Students will be eligible for the PBIS attendance raffle each day they are on time and present during the PSSA testing dates.

The electronic device policy is outlined below for your reference. Information regarding religious opt out is also provided on your e-mail.

Keystone Exams for Algebra I for our Quadratic students will take place on May 14th and 15th. Again, these students should be well rested, eat a healthy breakfast, and be prepared to perform their best on the exams.

If you feel that the PSSA state testing violates a religious belief, you may contact Mrs. April Fitz at april.fitz@ship.k12.pa.us or 717.530.2750 ext. 5903.



Dear Parent/Guardian:

In an era of cell phones, smartphones and other electronic devices which can easily photograph and instantly share photographs, confidential and secure test materials can be easily compromised. Not only is it expensive to replace a compromised test item, the material contained in the PSSA and Keystone Exams is copyrighted property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Copying or duplicating the material from the assessment, including the taking of a photograph of secure assessment material, is a violation of the federal Copyright Act. Penalties for violations of the Copyright Act may include the cost of replacing the compromised test item(s) or fines of no less than \$750 up to \$30,000 for a single violation (17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.).

In order to ensure reliable test results and to avoid the cost of replacing test items, the Department of Education requires schools to set rules and take certain steps to protect test materials. Electronic devices such as but not limited to cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, E-readers, Nooks, Kindles, iPods, tablets, camera-ready devices, and any other electronic device which can be used to photograph or duplicate test materials, access the internet and/or communicate with others during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams are not permitted in any testing site. Please speak with your child and let your child know that the possession and/or use of a cell phone or other electronic device during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams will result in consequences.

You will be contacted by the school if your child is discovered using and/or having a cell phone or other unapproved electronic device during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams. Students who ignore this directive will be subject to the school's discipline policy and the Department of Education's requirement that the student's test will not be scored and the student will be required to retake the entire exam. The electronic device will be held by school staff, and the device's stored photographs and other functions will be examined with your permission. You may request to be present when the electronic device is examined. If a photograph of the PSSA or Keystone Exam is discovered or if permission to search other functions of the electronic device is refused, the device will be held by the school staff. The Pennsylvania Department of Education holds the copyright to all material contained within the PSSA and Keystone Exams, the Pennsylvania Department of Education will be contacted and further action may be taken.

If, after testing is complete and test materials have been returned, it is discovered that a student used and/or had a cell phone or other unapproved electronic device during the administration of the test, the school's discipline policy will be followed and the student's test will not be scored.

Appendices






Pennsylvania Department of Education
Handbook for Assessment Coordinators
2024

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DRC Customer Service 1-800-451-7849
pacustomerservice@datarecognitioncorp.com
pa.drcredirect.com

SAMS ELA PSSA SPIRIT WEEK






APRIL 22-26, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
National Earth Day! Wear earth tone colors. 	All a team Day! We are all on the same team as we kick off the PSSAs. Wear your favorite sports shirt! 	National Denim Day! Wear your favorite jeans or jean jacket to show you are a "genius". 	Don't Sweat the Test! Wear your Favorite Sweatshirt! 	Greyhound Proud! Be Greyhound Proud that you made it this far! Wear Greyhound gear or maroon and grey! 

The color palette of earth tone typically includes warm and muted shades of brown, green, gray, and beige. Other colors that may be included in the earth tone palette are muted shades of orange, red, and yellow.

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The DMTF presents:

Building Birdhouses

A free workshop for children aged 5-13 grieving the death of a loved one.

Build your own
Birdhouse!



All Materials
Provided

Where: Drew's Hope Grief Center
946 Ashton Drive, Shippensburg
When: Sunday, April 21 from 2-4 pm

RSVP by April 13 by sending an email to
bethanydmtof@gmail.com

drew michael taylor foundation
www.drewmichaeltaylor.org



THE GREYHOUND FOUNDATION'S

7th ANNUAL

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN IN MAY

CONTESTS / PRIZES / RAFFLES

BEAT THE HEAT! 8:00 AM SHOTGUN START TEAM OF 4 \$340

Join us on the beautiful links of Eagles Crossing Golf Club in support of the amazing students and teachers of the Shippensburg Area School District

WWW.THEGREYHOUNDFOUNDATION.ORG



The DMTF presents:

The Kintsugi Project

A workshop for youth aged 13-18 grieving the death of a loved one.



This is an experiential workshop where participants will smash and rebuild bowls symbolizing their grief story.

Where: Drew's Hope Grief Center
946 Ashton Drive, Shippensburg
When: Sunday, April 14 from 2-4 pm

RSVP by April 7 by sending an email to
bethanydmtof@gmail.com

drew michael taylor foundation
www.drewmichaeltaylor.org



SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO

SAMS BOOK FAIR

Friday, April 5th-Friday, April 12th

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

Be true to your

SHelf

LOAD THOSE e-WALLETS

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/content/fairs/how-ewallet-works.html?fairid=5571934>

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APRIL 2024

SAMS Grand Re-Opening Celebration

DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH

TIME: 3 - 5 P.M.

LOCATION: SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

SHIPPENSBURG COMMUNITY WELCOME!

- GUIDED TOURS OF THE NEW ADDITION EVERY 10 MINUTES
- RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AT 4 P.M.
- LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN THE NEW CAFETERIA
- SPRING BOOK FAIR FUN IN THE LIBRARY



SAMS Grand Re-Opening Celebration:

The SAMS Grand Re-Opening Celebration is open to ALL community members. Come and see the new building renovations, reminisce about previous class mates, teachers, and activities, and see what fun happenings are taking place currently at SAMS.

The spring book fair will also be taking place during the event. Light refreshments will be provided with the ribbon being cut at 4:00 PM.

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 extension 5901

Assistant Principal --

Stephanie Barnhart -- Last Names A - K extension 5902

April Fitz -- Last Names L - Z extension 5903

School Counselor --

Angie McKee -- Last Names A - K extension 5923

Rosemary Junkin -- Last Names L - Z extension 5922

School Social Worker --

Tabitha Curtis extension 5917

Community Resources:

Aliff Counseling -- 717.477.2556

(School Based Mental Health Provider)

Teenline -- 866.350.4357

Cumberland/Perry Drug and Alcohol -- 717.240.6300

Crisis Chambersburg Hospital -- 717.264.2555

Drew Michael Taylor Foundation --

<https://drewmichaeltaylor.org/>

