

# SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

AUGUST 2025

### Dates to Remember:



August 9th -- Back to School Family Fun Day hosted by the Shippensburg Chamber of Commerce @

Shippensburg Fair Grounds

August 14th -- 6th Grade and New Student Orientation

August 19th -- SAMS Open House

August 21st -- FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

August 25th --IXL Fall Diagnostic Window Opens

August 29th -- No School

September 1st-- No School

September 10th--Club Day

September 17th -- 2 Hour Early Dismissal

September 19th -- Picture Day at SAMS

September 24th -- Club Day

September 29th --School PTO Appreciation

October --School Principal Month

October 2nd --School Custodial Appreciation

October 5th--World Teachers Day

October 8th--Club Day

October 13th--No School

October 15th--2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Exploratory Start

October 20th-24th--School Bus Safety Week

October 22nd--2 Hour Early Dismissal

October 24th--YES! Day

October 27th--End of 1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period

October 29th--Picture Retakes

### Changes for the Upcoming School Year:

As with everything in life changes are inevitable. Below are key changes for this coming school year.

- Grading scale has been adjusted to be compatible with the high school to a 10 point scale. An A will be 90-100%; B 80-89%; C 70-79%; D 60-69% Failing 59% and below.
- The minimum grade a student can earn in Marking Periods 1 - 3 is a 50%.
- Chromebooks will stay at school full time. Loaner Chromebooks will available to be checked out from the Media Center.
- A new Exploratory has been added to the rotation: Design and Discovery. This exploratory will replace Health in the five exploratory cycle rotation.
- Health will join Fitness rotation. Students will have health for  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the school year and Fitness for  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the school year every other day.
- STEAM has been replaced with a new exploratory CreaTech.
- Backpacks will not be carried throughout the school day. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be returning to their homerooms daily at the end of the day to gather their belongings prior to dismissal.
- Student drop off arrival and dismissal procedures will be changed this year due to the new traffic pattern. Additional information will be forthcoming prior to school starting.

### 6th Grade and New Student Orientation Details:

Welcome class of 2032 to the Shippensburg Middle School! We are excited to meet each of you and be a part of your education journey. Orientation will take place on August 14th at 10:00 a.m.; 2:00 p.m. OR 5:00 p.m. Please choose the time that works best for your family. **No sign up is necessary.** During this time you will receive an overview of the middle school, receive your team information, meet building administration and office staff, and complete a self guided tour of the building. Orientation will take approximately 45 minutes. Locks will be available for purchase during this time. Locks will be \$3.00 each. All Chromebooks will be distributed the first week of school.

### Open House:

Open house will be held August 19th from 6 - 8 p.m. Parents and students should plan to come during the allotted time slots. If you cannot attend during your student(s) grade assigned time, you may come at a time of convenience between 6 - 8 p.m.

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. -- 8th graders and their families

6:40 - 7:10 p.m. -- 7th graders and their families

7:20 - 8:00 p.m. -- 6th graders and their families

We look forward to seeing all of the SAMS families. Teachers will be available for brief meet and greets during the 6-8 p.m. timeframe.

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### Parent Drop Off:

Parent drop off for students in the morning will begin at 7:00 a.m. at the front entrance of the building. Students will enter the building and be directed to the cafeteria where breakfast can be obtained if desired.

### Lunch Prices:

Lunch Prices:

- Breakfast -- Free for All Students
- Lunch -- \$3.30

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.  
-Mahatma Gandhi

The State Government has renewed funding for the free breakfast for all students program. Students will be need to have monies available on their account to purchase lunch. You may add money to your student's account using the following link: <https://shipk12.revtrak.net/>.

The link for online free/reduced meal application is available on the district website or web address: [www.schoolcafe.com](http://www.schoolcafe.com)

### Website:

The middle school has an active website as part of parent and community communication. The website includes a building calendar, team and department pages, and additional helpful links. Visit the website frequently to stay up to date on middle school happenings. [www.shipk12.org/middleschool](http://www.shipk12.org/middleschool)

### Locks and Lockers

All students will be assigned a locker for use throughout the school year. Backpacks, coats, cell phones will all be stored within the locker throughout the day. Locks are available for purchase for \$3.00 at the school office.

### Regular Bell Schedule:

Please see the updated bell schedule for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

#### BELL SCHEDULE 2025 - 2026

Period	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Homeroom	Homeroom 7:25 - 7:35	Homeroom 7:25 - 7:35	Homeroom 7:25 - 7:35
Period 1	Exploratory 7:37 - 8:22	Core 1 7:37 - 8:36	Core 1 7:37 - 8:36
Period 2	Exploratory 8:24 - 9:09	Core 2 8:38 - 9:37	Core 2 8:38 - 9:37
Period 3	Core 1 9:11 - 10:09	Exploratory 9:39 - 10:24	Core 3 9:39 - 10:38
Period 4	Core 2 10:11 - 11:09	Exploratory 10:26 - 11:11	Core 4 10:40 - 11:39
Period 5	Resource 11:10 - 11:50	Lunch 11:13 - 11:43	Resource 11:41 - 12:24
Period 6	Lunch 11:52 - 12:22	Resource 11:45 - 12:27	Lunch 12:26 - 12:56
Period 7	Core 3 12:24 - 1:27	Core 3 12:29 - 1:28	Exploratory 12:58 - 1:43
Period 8	Core 4 1:29 - 2:30	Core 4 1:30 - 2:30	Exploratory 1:45 - 2:30
Dismissal	2:30 1st Bus Group	2:34 2nd Bus Group/Walkers	

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### 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**

### PTO:

The PTO has made great strides for the Middle School. We are thankful for the parents of our students that want to support our building through this manner. Monthly meetings will occur throughout the school year. Please check the calendar of events for dates and times. The PTO has been able to fundraise for various field trips and events for our students. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Bus Behavior:

As school begins a flood of yellow busses will once again be taking to the streets. A reminder to students that behavior on the bus should replicate behavior in the classroom. Students should be seated, quiet, and respectful throughout the bus ride. Electronics may be used on the bus, however music should not be played without earbuds.

### Electronics:

Cellphones and earbuds are not permitted for use in the middle school. Headphones may be used for class activities at the teacher's discretion. Devices will be taken and discipline will be issued if students are found to be utilizing devices during the school day.

### Transportation:

Bus information for the 2025 - 2026 school year is posted in Skyward. Please review to ensure information is accurate prior to the start of the school. All questions and concerns should be made to the Transportation Department.

### 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



### First Day of School:

The first day of school is just around the corner and we want to ensure you know what to expect. All students will enter the building through the bus ramp or the parent drop off area. Upon arrival, students will have the opportunity to get breakfast if they choose and then students will report to their assigned homeroom. The day will consist of getting to know you activities, locker assignments, building tours, PBIS lessons, class meetings with administration, and of course lunch. The time will be spent with your homeroom/team teachers. This day is structured to welcome students back and allow students to be acclimated to the new school year. We will resume our traditional bell schedule on Friday, August 22nd.

### 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