

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

JULY 2026

Dates to Remember:

- August 8th -- Back to School Family Fun Day hosted by the Shippensburg Chamber of Commerce @ Shippensburg Fair Grounds
- August 12th -- 6th Grade and New Student Orientation
- August 18th -- SAMS Open House
- August 20st -- FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- September 7th-- No School
- September 10th -- Picture Day at SAMS
- September 18th--No School
- September 22nd--YES! Day @ SAMS
- October 12th--No School



Summer Hours:

Administration and secretaries will be present within the building Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Regular office hours will resume on August 3rd.

Address Updates

Please remember to keep Skyward updated with current phone numbers, emergency contacts, and address. If you need assistance in updating your student's information, please call the office.

Chromebooks

Students will continue to keep their Chromebooks at the school at all times. SAMS Administration feels this assists with decreasing screen time for our students. If students need to work on a digital assignment at home, Chromebooks will be available to sign out in the Media Center. Chromebooks will be available for sign out over the weekend with an administrator's approval.

New Staff to SAMS

- Please help us welcome the following staff to the SAMS Family:
- Kirsty Herb, School Counselor representing students last names L - Z
 - Ciji Holthaus, 7th Grade Social Studies on Team Grey

6th Grade and New Student

Orientation

6th grade orientation will be held August 12th at 10:00 A.M; 2:00 P.M.; OR 5:00 P.M. Pick the time that suits your family (sign ups are not necessary). During the orientation parents and students will have the opportunity to meet the middle school administration and office staff, purchase a school lock, and take a self guided tour of the building. A short presentation will be given by building administration outlining things to expect while your student is at the middle school.

SAMS Open House

Back to School Night or Open House will occur on August 18th from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. The building will be available for tours and teachers will be available for brief meet and greets. Students and parents will be able to meet their students' teachers, school counselors, administration, school staff and tour the building. Grade level visitation times are staggered and listed below to assist with parking. **If you are not able to attend the grade level time or have multiple students within the middle school and other district schools, all staff will be available the entirety of the event.**

- 8th grade will be 6:00-6:30 PM
- 7th grade will be 6:40- 7:10 PM
- 6th grade will be 7:20-8:00 PM

Medication Policy

Any student needing to take medication during the school day must have the medication dropped of at the school by an adult. Students will not be permitted to transport or bring their own medication to the nurses office. Please plan accordingly if this policy impacts your student.

Potential Updates to Handbook

- Pending board approval:
 - Only waterbottles with water will be permitted
 - Caffine pouches will not be permitted

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

JULY 2026

Student Health Record Needs:

ATTENTION PARENTS
ALL INCOMING 7TH
GRADERS ARE REQUIRED
TO HAVE A

**DENTAL
EXAM**



**FOR THE
UPCOMING
SCHOOL YEAR**



ATTENTION PARENTS
ALL INCOMING 6TH
GRADERS ARE REQUIRED
TO HAVE A

**PHYSICAL
EXAM**



**FOR THE
UPCOMING
SCHOOL YEAR**



ATTENTION PARENTS
ALL INCOMING 7TH
GRADERS ARE REQUIRED
TO HAVE

TDAP AND MCV4
(MENINGITIS VACCINE)
PRIOR TO STARTING
7TH GRADE



Attendance Links and Reminders:

**SAMS
ATTENDANCE
NOTES**

**ATTENDANCE NOTES MUST BE RECEIVED
WITHIN 3 DAYS OF ABSENCES**

**NOTES MAY BE SENT TO SCHOOL WITH STUDENT
OR EMAILED TO:**

SAMSATTENDANCE@SHIP.K12.PA.US

**PLEASE INCLUDE STUDENT'S FULL NAME,
DATE OF ABSENCES AND REASON.**



**Going on vacation?
or just a short trip**

**Planned absences require advance
notice to be excused.**

**Filling out an Educational Trip Form
and submitting to SAMS office before
your planned absence will allow those days
to be excused.**

**Each student is limited to 10 days of educational leave
per school year.**



**Scan for Education
Field Trip Form**

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY JULY 2026



Shippensburg Area Middle School

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Approximately 7:30 AM to 11:15 AM

* exact times will be provided closer to the date

For More Info

CLICK HERE

WATCH NOW



For More Info

- Empower students to own their own economic success.
- Facilitate fun & engaging career readiness activities.
- Receive both virtual training & on-site support.
- Have fun while impacting our future generations!
- Light breakfast provided
- ADULT VOLUNTEERS ONLY



CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

or SCAN the QR Code



Junior Achievement of South Central PA
717-843-8028 | www.jascpa.org
Contact us at sbaker@jascpa.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteer for our YES! program.



BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY FUN DAY



FREE EVENT
For Families & Children



Saturday,
August 8, 2026
11 AM - 2 PM

- FEATURING:
- Educational Activities & Hands-On Exhibits
 - Free School Supplies
 - Free Entertainment
 - Free Haircuts
 - Free Pizza



Shippensburg Fairgrounds
10131 Possum Hollow Road
Shippensburg, PA

Kick Off the School Year With Us!

Join us for a free family event featuring school supplies, haircuts, entertainment, pizza, and community resources for local children and youth. Discover local programs and services while enjoying a fun-filled afternoon at the fairgrounds.



V O L V O



SHIPPENSBURG POLICE FOUNDATION PRESENTS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY
AUGUST 4TH

6-8
PM

SHIPPENSBURG POLICE
DEPARTMENT PARKING LOT
60 W. BURD STREET, SHIPPENSBURG



FREE ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



FINGERPRINTING



SNACKS & REFRESHMENTS



PUBLIC SAFETY DEMONSTRATIONS



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



SHIPPENSBURG POLICE FOUNDATION

Join our partners in law enforcement as they provide educational materials, demonstrate resources, and foster relationships within the community.

Back to School Supplies

Suggested school supplies by grade:

(Additional items may be requested per team)

6th Grade:

- Pencils
- 1 inch binders (3)
- Headphones or earbuds (wired or bluetooth)
- Highlighter
- Dry erase markers
- Pocket folder
- Glue Stick

Extra considerations:

- Colored Pencils

Classroom Donations:

- Tissues
- Clorox Wipes

7th Grade:

- Pencils
- Pocket folders with prongs
- Headphones or earbuds (wired or bluetooth)
- 1 inch binders (3)
- Notebook

***Optional Casio fx-300ES Plus calculator for use at home

8th Grade:

- Pencils
- Two 2" binders

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MONTHLY

JULY 2026

PTO Meeting

PTO meetings will be held through out the school. All Middle School families are welcome to attend the meetings. Meetings will be published in the monthly newsletters as well as on the SAMS PTO Facebook page. Our PTO does great things for our students from fundraising for field trips, hosting social outings, volunteer for PBIS events and host the Book Fair. Many hands make for light work when supporting the middle school.



Lockers and Locks

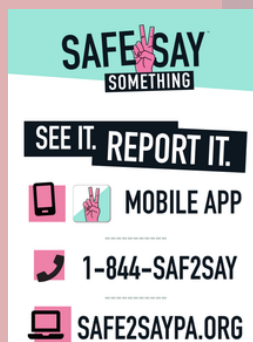
This year we will continue to issue lockers to all students at SAMS, however, locks will be optional and available for purchase from the school. If a student wishes to have a lock, it MUST be purchased from the school. Outside locks and personal locks will not be permitted. Locks will cost \$3.00 and are available for purchase at any time prior to school and during the school year. Students will still be required to keep their backpack and belongings in their locker and it is recommended to purchase a lock to ensure items stay safe.



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
Kristy Herb -- Last Names L - Z
Building Social Worker -- Tabitha Curtis



Breakfast and Lunch Prices

Lunch Prices:

- Breakfast -- Free
- Lunch -- \$3.40

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



PBIS

Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Program) allows student to be rewarded via Champ Chances for appropriate and expected behavior during the school day. Students are rewarded in classrooms, hallways, and other areas of the building for demonstrating the outlined behaviors. Through the student's rewards they can use their Champ Chances to purchase items from their classroom stores, participate in biweekly raffles, or for other opportunities throughout the school year. Students demonstrating appropriate behavior are eligible to participate in our marking period reward days.



Backpacks

We have continued to adjusted our schedule that all students will have ample time to use their locker at the beginning and end of the day. No backpacks should be used throughout the day. Students needing to carry their Fitness clothes should use a cinch backpack, a grocery bag, or small duffle bag.



Community Resources:

Aliff Counseling -- 717.477.2556
(School Based Mental Health Provider)
Crisis and Suicide Hotline --988
Cumberland/Perry Drug and Alcohol --
717.240.6300
Crisis Chambersburg Hospital -- 717.264.2555
Drew Michael Taylor Grief Support --
<https://drewmichaeltaylor.org/>