

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAROON AND GREY MOMENTS AUGUST 2022

BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FAQ'S

When does the school year start?

The school year starts on August 25, 2022. A copy of the school calendar can be found in the [Middle School Handbook](#) or on the [District Website](#).

How do I contact my child's teachers?

Teachers can be reached via district e-mail. Teacher e-mail addresses are listed in Skyward for student and parent reference. Teacher e-mails follow the following format: firstname.lastname@ship.k12.pa.us.

What is the procedure if my child is absent?

When a student is absent a note is required to be submitted within three days of the absence. The note must include the student's first and last name, date of absence, and reason. Absentee notes may also be submitted to samsattendance@ship.k12.pa.us.

Why did I receive a letter regarding my child's absence?

Shippensburg School District policy states that students will receive absentee letters for the following reasons:

3 Day Letter - Sent after the student has three unexcused absences.

Student Attendance Improvement Plan Meeting Letter - Sent after the student has four unexcused absences. The assigned Assistant Principal will call the parent to discuss the absences and work to create a plan to improve future absences.

5 Day Letter - Sent after the student has accrued five excused or unexcused absences excluding absences with a doctor's note.

10 Day Letter - Sent after the student has accrued ten excused or unexcused absences excluding absences with a doctor's note. All student absences beyond 10 will require a doctor's note to be marked excused, otherwise the absence will be marked unexcused.

How do I find my child's schedule?

Student's schedules will be available for viewing in Skyward.

How does my child sign up to play a middle school sport?

Students in grades 7 and 8 wishing to play a middle school sport will be required to complete the [Athletic Physical paperwork](#) as well as sign the [Student Athletic Handbook](#). A \$40/year fee is also required. Sign up dates will be announced at the building.

How can I check my child's grades?

All grades are posted to Skyward and are updated on a weekly basis. Students and parents are encouraged to check Skyward frequently to monitor student success and progress.

How can my student get extra academic support?

After school tutoring is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays for students to receive additional support. Students should also seek out help from their teachers during Resource period.

What social and emotional supports are available to my child?

The middle school has two school counselors available to speak with students as needed. If a student needs additional support the [Student Assistance Team](#) is available to provide initial screening and counseling recommendations. Additionally, the school district partners with [Aliff](#) counseling to provide school based counseling. Please reach out to your students' school counselor if you would like additional information regarding either of these programs.

How do I see the discipline report for my child?

Student discipline is recorded in Skyward. Parents are able to see the referral written for their child and the consequences assigned. Potential consequences for discipline include: before school detention, lunch detention, social probation, in-school suspension, and out-of-school suspension. Questions regarding discipline should be directed to your child's Assistant Principal.

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What is the electronic device policy?

Cell phones and earbuds are not permitted for use at the middle school from the time students arrive until they are dismissed at the end of the day. Items should be kept locked in the students locker. The following discipline will take place.

- First Offense – The device will be turned off and turned into the office. The device may be picked up by students at the end of the day.
- Second Offense - The device will be turned off and turned into the office. Parent/guardian must pick up device in the office and student must serve one lunch detention.
- Third Offense – One before school detention and parent/guardian must pick up device in the office.
- Fourth Offense – Two before school detentions and parent/guardian meeting with principal or assistant principal for return of phone.
- Fifth Offense – One day of suspension and a parent/guardian meeting with principal or assistant principal for return of phone.
- Further offenses will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

What is the dress code?

- Tops must have a minimum two inch shoulder strap and cannot be transparent or revealing. Stomach and back shall be covered at all times.
- Shorts should be of modest length. and underwear shall not be visible.
- Hats, caps, sunglasses capes, and other headgear are not to be worn.
- Sleepwear including slippers are not permitted.
- Clothing with pictures, slogans, inflammatory, vulgar and flags are not to be worn.
- Chains, spiked collars, costumes, are not to be worn.
- Clothing that is harassing or intimidating to another group is not permitted.
- Additional clarification can be found on page 15 of the handbook.

Are students assigned lockers?

Every student will be assigned a locker and lock. Students are expected to keep coats, backpacks, and electronic devices locked within their locker when not in use.

Do you have a PBIS program?

SAMS follows the motto: Students "R" Pretty Cool which translates to: Safe, Responsible, Prepared, and Caring. Students earn Champ Chances when appropriate behaviors are exhibited throughout the building and school day. Each week students will have the opportunity to enter their Champ Chances into a raffle. At the end of each marking period students with 1 or less referrals will have the opportunity to participate in a fun day. Students should listen to the morning announcements for details regarding raffles and fun day activities and themes.

How is discipline issued?

Students that fail to meet the building expectations may be issued discipline as a result. The following consequences are used at the middle school:

Lunch Detention: Students eat lunch in a supervised classroom removed from the cafeteria and peer groups.

Morning Detention: Students are assigned morning detention to complete at their availability over a given period of time. Morning detention is held Tuesdays and Thursday from 6:15 - 7:15 a.m. Students should enter at the parent drop off entrance.

In School Suspension: Students are assigned in school suspension to be completed in the office area. Classwork is provided to students to complete during the time served.

Out of School Suspension: Students are assigned out of school suspension to be completed at home.

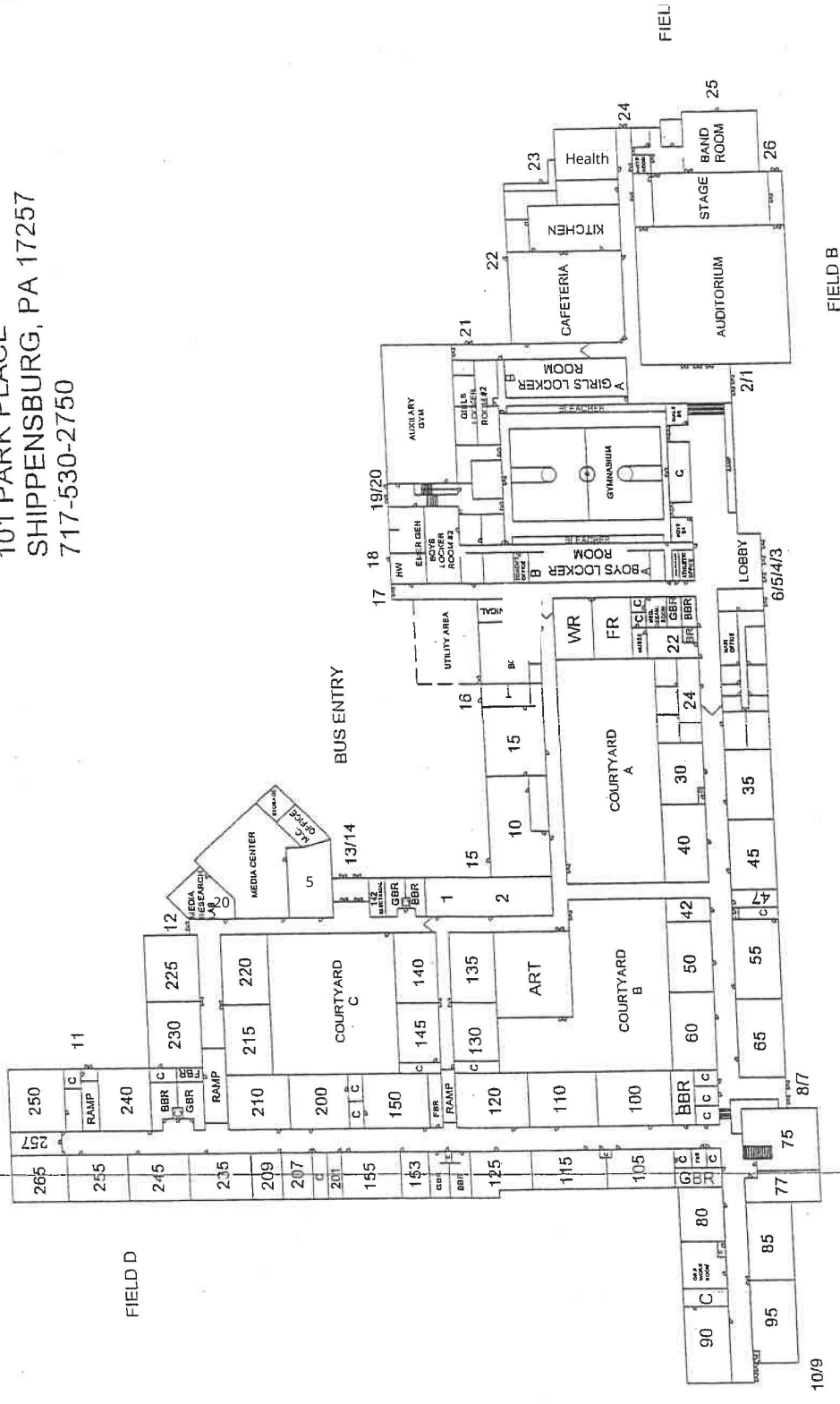
Social Probation: Students who fail to complete detention or have accumulated 4 or more hours of detention will be placed on social probation. Students placed on social probation will not be allowed to participate or attend athletics events or extra curricular activities.

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BUILDING MAP

SHIPPENSBURG AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL
 101 PARK PLACE
 SHIPPENSBURG, PA 17257
 717-530-2750



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