

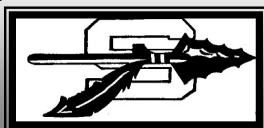
MARKSMEN

SCHOOL NEWS

May 2025

MARKSMEN PRIDE
SINCE 1965

Published for Patrons of
the Sherwood
Cass R-VIII
School District



A Message From the Superintendent



What a great year to be a Marksman! As I near the end of my first year as Superintendent at Sherwood Cass R-VIII, I want to convey what an amazing experience being a part of this district has been. With our strong academic leadership team, our dedicated teachers and exceptional support staff, this is truly a phenomenal district. When we reflect on our heritage and history, as a staff we strive to continue this legacy and drive to move forward as we prepare our students for the next chapter of their lives. Our School Board positively supports the growth and improvements district wide to make this the best district around. The progress on the Marksmen Athletic Complex (MAC) is actively moving forward. This is one

portion of the bond funds approved by the community to improve the district. Our athletic and activity programs give students the opportunity to try a variety of options to see what is best for each of them.

As we look forward and plan to the future, we are working hard to improve our instruction and offerings to students to help them get the most out of their experience in the Sherwood Cass School District. With the remaining funds from the recent bond, we are working on improvements district wide to make the school a safer, more modern educational environment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Derrick Hartley
Superintendent.

Marksmen Athletic Center Construction In Progress



Progress is moving quickly on the new Marksmen Athletic Center, currently known as the MAC. The foundation is set and in place and the building has been delivered. The goal is to have this ready for students in late summer/early fall. This structure will house wrestling, locker rooms, coaches offices, training room, washer and dryers and storage for these activities. This project has been graciously supported by the community through the issuance of Bonds.



Congratulations to the Class of 2025!



"Our mission is to prepare young men and women to become productive, responsible citizens in a global society. In partnership with parents and the community, the school seeks to develop the whole child; academically, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually."

High School Principal Highlights

Sherwood Family,



As we near the conclusion of the second semester, it's been a rewarding season of growth, reflection, and momentum. One of the highlights of this spring was our continued tradition of attending the College and Career Day with every student out of the building and exploring post-secondary options. What began as a single opportunity for students to explore their future paths has now become a key experience in our academic calendar. This tradition is helping open doors, broaden horizons, and spark meaningful conversations about life after high school. Additionally, we have expanded our internship opportunities for students to gain meaningful work ex-

perience to learn about various trades while in high school.

We also recently completed our Missouri End-of-Course Assessments. Our students approached these tests with determination and focus, and our teachers deserve tremendous credit for the preparation and encouragement they provided throughout the year. These assessments give us helpful benchmarks, but as always, the most important measures of success go beyond a single score or moment.

This year, we are proud to share that Sherwood High School is currently sitting at its highest overall attendance rate since 2016. This milestone reflects a collective commitment from our students and families, who continue to prioritize the importance of education. It also speaks volumes about the dedication of our staff, who work continu-

ously to create a meaningful and engaging learning environment. When students feel supported, challenged, and valued, they are more likely to show up and stay involved in their educational journey.

Graduation is right around the corner, and with it comes the bittersweet excitement of seeing our seniors step into the next chapter of their lives. We are incredibly proud of the young men and women they've become. Whether heading into the workforce, college, or military service, they leave Sherwood with the values, skills, and resilience needed to thrive. For the class of 2025, this moment represents the culmination of years of hard work, not just in academics, but in personal growth.

Sincerely,

Bryan Himes

State Convention with the Sherwood FFA



compete in numerous contests. The chapter's members received 6 individual Group 1 ratings, had 2 Group 1 teams, 6 Group 2 teams, and 3 Group 3 teams. During the many sessions at State Convention, the Sherwood FFA members had the opportunity to hear inspirational speeches from keynote speakers and the State Officer team while cheering on students from their chapter and other chapters. At the last session of convention, the chapter honored 8 students who received their State Degrees and started their journey home.

This year, the Sherwood FFA chapter took 39 kids to State Convention to compete, including the chapter's first LDE participant since the reopening of the chapter. Sherwood FFA started the trip to convention by riding the Amtrak from Warrensburg to Jefferson City, where the chapter went on a tour of the Wallendorf Log Cabin to learn more about the history of Missouri Agriculture. Once reaching convention, Sherwood FFA had the chance to honor four members who received a first-place Proficiency Award at Area. While competing at convention, the chapter had 11 teams

Middle School Principal's Corner

Sherwood Middle School
DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE
(Building Vision Statement)



Dear Parents and Community Members,

We are thrilled to share the outstanding progress and achievements of our middle school this year! Thanks to the hard work of our students, dedicated teachers, and supportive families, we continue to provide an enriching and successful learning environment for all.

Academic Excellence

Our students have shown tremendous growth in their academic performance. Our I-Ready diagnostic growth scores have improved significantly. Each Grade level has shown over a 50% growth in ELA and Math from our 2nd diagnostic to our 3rd. Our innovative curriculum, combined with personalized instruction, ensures that every child

is challenged and supported in their learning journey.

A Strong Focus on Character and Leadership

Beyond academics, we prioritize developing responsible, respectful, and confident young leaders. Through our character education programs, student leadership opportunities, our students are learning the importance of kindness, integrity, and perseverance.

Exciting Extracurricular Activities

From award-winning sports teams to thriving arts and music programs, our extracurricular offerings continue to expand. Our participation attendance has shown a growth in student numbers by 10% over last year.

A Safe and Supportive Environment

The well-being of our students re-

mains our top priority. Our school has implemented enhanced safety measures and mental health resources to ensure a nurturing and secure atmosphere where every student feels valued and heard.

Looking Ahead

As we celebrate our successes, we are also committed to continuous improvement in our students' growth in knowledge and character traits. We invite parents to stay engaged, attend school events, and collaborate with us in making our middle school an even better place for our students.

Thank you for your unwavering support. Together, we are building a brighter future for our children!

Best regards,
Mr. Stevens- Sherwood Middle
School Principal

Elementary Principal Update

Greetings from Mr. Burasco,



This spring has been full of exciting activities for our students. Our 5th graders had their DARE graduation. It was a wonderful night with plenty of laughs and smiles! We held our spring family fun night that filled our gym with families, games, and plenty of fun! It has been an amazing year at Sherwood Elementary and we are so proud of all of our students and the hard work our educators put into their learning. We also want to thank our community and families that helped support

our students this year! Coming up, students from third to fifth grade will participate in our state standardized testing and celebrate at the end of the year with bounce houses and games! Our kindergarten students are also going to have a graduation this year! We are going to miss this fifth grade class as they transition to middle school, but we are very excited to welcome in our new kindergarten students!

Have an amazing summer
Marksmen!

Sincerely,
Mr. Burasco

Contact Information

Should anyone in the Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District require information regarding any of these topics or programs, please contact Megan Taylor, Director of Student Services at 660-499-2239 ext 5000 or megan.taylor@sherwoodk12.net

- District Compliance Officer
- Title IX District Compliance Officer
- Homeless Student Program
- Migrant Learner Program
- Limited English Proficiency Students
- District Bullying Coordinator
- Foster Liaison

A Note From the Director of Student Services

Hello,



It is hard to believe that we are wrapping up this school year already. Time has flown by, but I have been extremely grateful for the time here with Sherwood Cass.

I wanted to share some ideas to help your kids during the summertime. One helpful tip would be to maintain a schedule. Maintaining a schedule helps provide consistency

and predictability. This helps reduce stress and anxiety.

A second tip would be to encourage reading. Create a designated time for reading. You could join the summer reading program and take trips to the library for reading time or check out books. This helps keep the mind sharp and reduces summer learning loss.

Lastly, learn a new skill. Learning a new skill helps enhance creativity and build independence. Your child will also work on problem-solving skills as

they learn to navigate this challenging endeavor. The new skill could be things like painting, musical instruments, or a foreign language.

I appreciate the continued support from the district to ensure success for all students here at Sherwood Cass.

Sincerely,

Megan Taylor
Director of Student Services

SPRING FAMILY NIGHT

IN MARCH WE HELD OUR SPRING TITLE NIGHT. STUDENTS HAD A GREAT NIGHT! WE HELD AN ART WALK, OUR BOOK FAIR, AND TITLE MEETINGS AS WELL. IT WAS A WONDERFUL NIGHT AND WE LOVED SEEING THE GYM FILLED WITH STUDENTS AND OUR COMMUNITY!



Summer Food Program Feeds Kids For Free

With summer right around the corner, it's time to think about keeping children healthy while school is out. Sherwood Cass R-8 School District provides free meals to children during the summer.

This summer, meals will be served at Sherwood during summer school. Summer School is scheduled for June 2-20, Monday-Friday. Breakfast will be served 7:20am-8:00am and lunch 11:00am-12:30pm. There are no income requirements or registration. Any child under age 18 may come to eat. For more information, contact Ashley Kelso at 660-499-2239 ext 4005.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations like Sherwood School District to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Driver's Ed to be Offered This Summer

Driver's education will be offered again this summer for Sherwood and non-Sherwood students. This course will have two parts, including a virtual instruction piece as well as a driving requirement. The virtual instruction will run from June 2nd through June 13th. After the instructional portion is complete, the instructor will set up times for students to practice their driving skills. Driver's Education is a FREE course, but space is limited to 30 students. This course is eligible for 0.5 credits for Pass/Fail. Please contact the high school office if you have any questions.



2025 Summer School Bus Schedule

	Pick-Up	Drop-Off
Garden City		
7-stop	7:17 a.m.	3:36 p.m.
Intersection of Lake Road & 4th Street	7:17 a.m.	3:43 p.m.
Intersection of Lake Road & Old 7 Hwy	7:19 a.m.	3:41 p.m.
Intersection of 1 st Street & Pioneer	7:21 a.m.	3:36 p.m.
Intersection of 4th & Main (First Christian Church)	7:22 a.m.	3:39 p.m.
United Methodist Church	7:26 a.m.	3:38 p.m.
Garden City Community Center	7:27 a.m.	3:41 p.m.
Creighton		
Sherwood Community Bank	7:33 a.m.	3:29 p.m.
Creighton Car Wash	7:35 a.m.	3:27 p.m.
Urich		
Car Wash	7:23 a.m.	3:34 p.m.
Intersection of 5th & Main	7:26 a.m.	3:36 p.m.
Blairstown		
Body Shop in Blairstown	7:09 a.m.	3:45 p.m.

Garden City

7-stop

Intersection of Lake Road & 4th Street

Intersection of Lake Road & Old 7 Hwy

Intersection of 1st Street & Pioneer

Intersection of 4th & Main (First Christian Church)

United Methodist Church

Garden City Community Center

Creighton

Sherwood Community Bank

Creighton Car Wash

Urich

Car Wash

Intersection of 5th & Main

Blairstown

Body Shop in Blairstown

Title IA Parents' Right to Know

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Our district is required to inform you of information that you, according to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-95), have the right to know.

Upon your request, our district is required to provide to you in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether your student's teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether your student's teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Whether your student's teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition to the information that parents may request, a building receiving Title I.A funds must provide to each individual parent:

- Information on the level of achievement and academic growth of your student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments required under Title I.A.
- Timely notice that your student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who has not met applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

Should you have any questions please reach out to the building principal at 660-499-2239.

Sincerely,

Dr. Derrick Hartley
Superintendent of Schools

Public Notice

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs¹ that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)².

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs Table of Contents	
General Information 1. What is a complaint under ESSA? 2. Who may file a complaint? 3. How can a complaint be filed?	
Complaints filed with LEA 4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated? 5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?	Complaints filed with the Department 6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department? 7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated? 8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?
Appeals 9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated? 10. What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?	

1. What is a complaint?

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

2. Who may file a complaint?

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

3. How can a complaint be filed?

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and
2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

¹ Programs include Title I, A, B, C, D, Title II, Title III, Title IV.A, Title V Revised 4/17 ²In compliance with ESSA Title VIII- Part C. Sec. 8304(a)(3)(C)

Local education agencies are required to disseminate, free of charge, this information regarding ESSA complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.

7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur in the investigation:

- 1. Record.** A written record of the investigation will be kept.
- 2. Notification of LEA.** The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
- 3. Resolution at LEA.** The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
- 4. Report by LEA.** Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
- 5. Verification.** Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
- 6. Appeal.** The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

Music Department Attends State Music Contest



On May 1st, the State Solo and Small Ensemble event for band and choir students took place in Columbia. To qualify for this prestigious performance, students dedicated countless hours to prepare their songs for evaluation at the district level. Those who received high ratings from the judges earned the opportunity to showcase their talents at the state competition.



Sherwood proudly had 10 different events qualify for state, showcasing a diverse array of performances. This included 2 instrumental ensembles, 3 vocal ensembles, 4 instrumental solos, and 1 vocal solo. A total of 20 students represented Sherwood and ultimately brought home an impressive collection of awards: 9 bronze medals, 17 silver medals, and 2 gold medals.

Congratulations to all the students for their hard work and dedication, and for representing the Sherwood Music Department with such excellence!

Students Participate in College and Career Day

On Wednesday, April 16th, all students at Sherwood High School took part in an off-campus College and Career Day, an annual event designed to provide meaningful exposure to a wide range of post-secondary opportunities. The initiative reflects the district's commitment to preparing students for life after graduation by offering them a glimpse into multiple career and educational pathways.

The goal of College and Career Day is for every Sherwood student to experience firsthand the options available to them beyond high

school. By the time they graduate, students will have visited a two-year college, a four-year university, a technical or trade school, and explored direct-to-workforce careers. This year's destinations offered a diverse mix of experiences, including a visit to State Fair Community College's Sedalia campus, a tour of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, an industry tour of TC Transcontinental Packaging and PLZ Corp (formerly Champion Brands), and participation in the Build My Future construction showcase.



At Sherwood High School, we believe that authentic, real-world experiences have a far greater impact than classroom conversations alone. One of the greatest barriers for many students is simply a lack of exposure. This event helps break down that barrier by showing them what's possible.

The Sherwood R-VIII School District is deeply appreciative of the many businesses, colleges, and organizations that opened their doors and shared their time and resources to support our students. Their partnership plays a vital role in helping students envision a future filled with opportunity, purpose, and possibility.



**Sherwood Cass R-VIII
School District**
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Non-Profit Org.
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64739
Permit No. 3

School Board President
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Superintendent
Dr. Derrick Hartley

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