

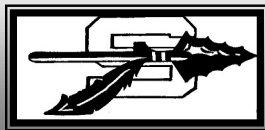
MARKSMEN

SCHOOL NEWS

December 2022

MARKSMEN PRIDE
SINCE 1965

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



A Note From the Superintendent



What an incredible school year we are having! Our students have been having a lot of success over the course of the semester. We are seeing a lot of growth in our reading and math scores using STAR 360 in the elementary and iReady in the secondary schools. We are seeing growth in our state testing scores from the spring of 2021 to the spring of 2022. We are having individuals and teams obtaining great success in our clubs and athletics led by our 2nd place finish at the State Championship for softball. Our faculty and staff are doing a great job of engaging our students and making sure that learning is happening in the classrooms. This has been an all-around great start to the school year. We appreciate the support of so many of our parents, community members, and businesses that help to make our success happen. Your support makes the difference for so many students. I especially want to say thank you to our local and regional businesses that are mentoring our students for career exploration and development - especially those that are providing real-world and hands-on experiences for our kids. Learning does not just happen in the classroom. Learning happens at the hospital for our clinical students. Learning happens in the field with Evergy for our students who are experiencing a pre-apprenticeship. Learning happens

on our field trips to businesses, colleges, and universities to present options to our students for life after school. We appreciate all the opportunities that our students receive!

In addition, we appreciate the continued support of our community. Over the past several years we've take steps to keep the district budget balanced and financially sound. Many remember years ago when the FACS and Gifted programs went away. We don't want to see anything like that happen again for our students who benefit from the education we provide. In fact, we are constantly seeking new opportunities and programs such as the Project Lead the Way programs that are available at all buildings. These programs focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. We have robotics, engineering, and biomedical courses for our students. These are the types of things we would like to see endure, and we want to make sure we have high quality teachers to provide the instruction. The Board of Education is asking the community to approve a \$0.12 increase to the operating tax levy while pledging to lower the debt service levy by the same amount. This will place money in our fund where we can use it annually to address employee pay and combat increasing supply costs. This year's total tax levy was \$4.86. Our pledge is that in the fall of 2023 you will see the tax rate

still remain the same at \$4.86 when this is done. In addition, the Board of Education is asking for our community to support a \$4,000,000 bond issue that will be an extension of continuing to pay the same overall tax rate rather than increase taxes to make it happen. Our goal is to use part of this funding to secure a FEMA grant to build a shelter on the grounds. The shelter would double as an athletic field house for our student-athletes. This would rely heavily on the funding becoming available from the federal government; however, we would need to have funds on-hand for the project to be initiated. This bond issue would allow for that to happen. The additional funds would be used to address long-term maintenance and equipment purchases. We will have needs for HVAC, buses, walk-in freezer/fridge, flooring, restroom remodeling, and other repairs in the coming years. We can plan these projects for the long-term. We also can pay off early some of our lease purchases from energy efficiency projects. These are exciting times for our district, and we look forward to building a future that continues to provide our students with a quality education in a quality environment. We look forward to sharing more information with you in the coming months!

Sincerely,

Steve Ritter

A Note From the Middle School Principal

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE (Building Vision Statement)



Hello, My name is Mr. Stevens. This is my first year as Sherwood Middle School Principal. I am very excited to be serving the students, staff and stake-

holders of this community. Sherwood Middle School is off to a great start this year. Our enrollment is up, we have 165 students at this time in our Building.

Academically, I am proud of the student body and the ownership they are taking when it comes to their grades. I am proud of our teachers and staff for the time and effort they put into continuing the success of our students. The parents that I have had the opportunity to collaborate with have been a huge asset in the continued success of our students.

The Student Council members have done a fantastic job running the student of the month assemblies. The athletic programs have been very competitive this year

which brings excitement to the student body. The service project this year of collecting non-perishable items has been a huge success, we have collected and will distribute over 1700 items to families in need. We are starting a CHEF program in the month of November. The CHEF program will be the character trait winners of each month, and those students will get to pick one friend and the students get to prepare their lunch. Once the students get the food that they picked to eat prepared, the wonderful kitchen staff will cook the food and the students will be able to enjoy a lunch that they prepared.

Again, I am very grateful to be leading the Middle school and I am excited to see our students dream, believe, and achieve their goals and become successful. The year is moving fast and we have some great things happening. I look forward to seeing/meeting everyone. If there is anything I can do to help please reach out at 660-499-2239.

Sincerely,
AJ Stevens

What is Title I?

Sherwood Elementary School has a school wide Title I program, meaning all students may benefit from the Title I services. Title I is a federal program that provides supplemental instruction for students based upon academic needs. The goal is to increase performance in academic achievements in the areas of reading and/or math. The students who qualify are not learning disabled. They just need extra help with reading or math.

A variety of factors are used to determine student eligibility including, but not limited to MAP scores, STAR 360 assessments, Pathways to Reading assessments, classroom-based assessments and performance, and teacher recommendations.

Please contact Shanda Dooley or Stephanie Thomas at 660-499-2202 ext. 157 if you have any questions or would like more information.

Personnel Directory

School Board Members

Mr. Ben Jones,
President
Mr. Don Wheeler,
Vice-president
Mr. Robert Schumacher,
Treasurer
Mr. Gary Jones
Mr. Charles Kagarice
Mrs. Jennifer Horvatic
Mrs. Crystal Mainard

School Board Secretary

Mrs. Glenda Marconett

Superintendent

Dr. Steve Ritter

Director of Special Services

Ms. Nancy Engle

High School Principal

Mr. Bryan Himes

High School Counselor

Mrs. Nicole Walker

Middle School Principal

Mr. AJ Stevens

Middle School Counselor

Mrs. Megan Lewis

Elementary Principal

Mr. Phil Rogers

Elementary Counselor

Mrs. Carolyn Johnston

Activities Director

Mr. Jim Gurney

Director of Technology

Mr. Stan Taber

Parents as Teachers

Mrs. Rachel Kurzweil

A Note From the Director of Special Services

Hello Winter!



It is hard to believe we are this far into the school year. It has been a fast beginning.

I want to give some ideas for things to do with your students. Play games-the old fashioned Candyland, Hi-Ho Cheerio or Go Fish. It is amazing how many kids do not know how to interact with others or take turns. This is a wonderful way for

the family to have fun together and not be a huge cost.

Another form of interaction is to ask "wh" questions. These are who, where, when and why. You can ask these questions in the car, after they have read a book or watched a show together. It helps with comprehension and the kids do not know they are learning.

Have a great end to 2022 and a fabulous 2023!

Sincerely,
Nancy Engle

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 21, 2022
Early Release

December 22-January 2, 2023
Winter Break

Tuesday, January 3, 2023
Second Semester Begins

Wednesday, January 18
School Board Meeting

Friday, February 3, 2023
Courtmat

Public Notice

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or lan-

guage impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file com-

plaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA).

This plan may be reviewed

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

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.

A Note From the Elementary Principal

Hello Sherwood Families!!



We at the elementary school have had a great start to the year. We started off our year with our Grandparents Day and it was great to see all of them at the school. It was a great turn out and we had another great turn out for our Fall Parties. We also hosted our Fall Family Night that was put on by our Title Teachers. This night had a turn out of over 70 Families coming in and doing a variety of activi-

ties. Some of these activities had them guessing the weight of a pumpkin, going on a book walk (all kids got a book), math activities, and we had door prizes. It was an amazing night and our staff was excited to see all these families.

Our students have been using our STAR 360 testing to measure their learning. We administer this online test 3 times a year to measure the students growth and what we can improve on. Second semester we will start our "5th grade jobs" for the 5th grade students who applied and will be of-

fered jobs that help around our school. Students are working hard in the classroom and continue to use our School Expectations to be successful. Our School Expectations are "It is never ok to be hurtful, it is never ok to stop students from learning, it is never ok to stop the teacher from teaching." We have been working to make our best choices.

Sherwood Elementary is excited for the new year and we are looking to grow more everyday!

Happy Holidays!!
Phil Rogers

Public Notice

PUBLIC RELEASE

July 28, 2022

Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household	Maximum Household Income			Maximum Household Income		
Size	Eligible for Free Meals			Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$17,667	\$1,473	\$340	\$25,142	\$2,096	\$484
2	23,803	1,984	458	33,874	2,823	652
3	29,939	2,495	576	42,606	3,551	820
4	36,075	3,007	694	51,338	4,279	988
5	42,211	3,518	812	60,070	5,006	1,156
6	48,347	4,029	930	68,802	5,734	1,324
7	54,483	4,541	1,048	77,534	6,462	1,492
8	60,619	5,052	1,166	86,266	7,189	1,659
Each add'l						
member	+ 6,139	+ 512	+ 118	+ 8,732	+ 728	+ 168

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the school office. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/TANF case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and last four digits of social security number or indication of no social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income or other information provided on the application at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Households with children who are eligible under the foster, Head Start, homeless, migrant, or runaway programs should contact the school for assistance in receiving meal benefits. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants may be eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Children who are members of households currently certified as receiving Food Stamps, TANF or FDPIR are eligible for free meals. To complete an application, the household must provide the names of the children, a statement that the household receives the qualifying benefits, the Food Stamps/TANF/FDPIR case number, and the signature of the adult household member making application. When known by the school that members of a household are receiving assistance from Food Stamps, TANF or FDPIR, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free school meals. If any children in the household were not listed on the eligibility notice or not listed on the application, the household should contact the school to have benefits extended to all children in the household.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, the determining official will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official, they may wish to discuss the decision with the hearing official on an informal basis or he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to the Superintendent of Schools. Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

(Continued from Page 6)

USDA Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) which can be obtained from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

A Note from the High School Principal

Sherwood Family,



We are almost through the 1st semester and have already had a great deal of success. In our activities, our softball team placed second in state, volleyball made it to the district championship, football went 6 - 5 to cap their first winning record in a decade, and our cross country team had three runners compete at the state level. Not only did our sports teams have success, we had two students make honorable mention All-District Band, one student make All-District Choir, two students make All-

District Treble Choir, and our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) was awarded the Gold Seal Chapter. We have so many dedicated staff working to give students opportunities to learn skills outside of the traditional classroom.

Our staff and students have been working just as hard in the classroom as they have in their activities. Sherwood High School was above the state average on three of the four End of Course Assessments. Teachers are continuing to focus on student achievement. This year they have collaborated by department and in small cross-curricular groups during professional development to focus on specific

skills to best help students. Each teacher independently has the ability to impact student learning, but by sharing ideas with colleagues, it significantly improves student success.

Even though we are proud of our successes, we will continue to work to help students both in and out of the classroom.

Sincerely,

Bryan Himes

Veterans Day Ceremony Held at Sherwood

By Megan Lewis, Public Relations

A Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony was held at Sherwood High School on November 11th. The keynote speaker for the ceremony was Colonel Carrie Perry, U.S. Marines, Retired.

Colonel Carrie Perry started her address by giving the history of Veterans Day and how it has changed over the years. She then went on to explain her story and give some solid advice for those in attendance. Colonel Perry graduated high school in 1978 and went to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD immediately after graduation. She pointed out that when she entered the academy no woman had yet graduated from there; her class was the 3rd class to have women in it. Her class had 6% that were women; that number has since increased to each class having around 20% women. Colonel Perry has a long line of veterans in her family, this played a part in her decision to enlist. Her grandpa, dad, husband, sister, and now her son are all veterans. She emphasized that each veteran has a different reason for join-

ing. Some join to be able to get away, to see the world, to be a part of something bigger or education. She explained that regardless of their reason for joining, or what branch they serve in, all veterans have a strong bond to serve our country; that is a bond that will never go away. Colonel Perry told of a story of her 40 year reunion from the Naval Academy. She told those in attendance that each time that they are together, they hold a memorial service for the classmates they have already lost. They try to acknowledge that they were a part of their team. She said that they always remember that while it is true that one person can make a difference, it is usually a bigger impact when it's a team. Colonel Perry challenged the audience to remember that and how it can be applicable in all settings.

Colonel Carrie Perry has spent over 25 years serving her country in both active duty and a reservist in the United States Marines. She currently lives in Ozark,



Colonel Carrie Perry speaking at the assembly.

MO and is enjoying retirement. Colonel Perry really enjoys seeing other veterans in her community.

Sherwood High School Principal Bryan Himes recognized students who are enlisted. This year Sherwood High School has five students who plan to enlist or have already enlisted to serve. Those students are Josey Arthurs, Kaitlyn Stolifer, Jonah Kopriva, Riley Merrifield, and Bailey Turner. Kaitlyn Stolifer, Bailey Turner, both with U.S. National Guard and Josey Arthurs, KS National Guard, all completed their basic training the summer of 2022. Jonah Kopriva, Navy, and Riley Merrifield, U.S. National Guard will complete their basic training the summer of 2023.



**Sherwood Cass R-VIII
School District**
PO Box 98
Creighton, MO 64739
(660) 499-2239

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