



Community Bulletin

March 11th, 2024

Dear Shrewsbury Families,

Please note the following announcements and information related to various events or activities that may be of interest to you and your children. Announcements from non-school sources are passed on as a courtesy if they meet the requirements of the [School Committee policy](#).

School District Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Two SHS Lunch and Learn Guest Speakers, March 15th **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Jobs for Students Website **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – SPS April Vacation Enrichment Classes **(New)**
4. [Save the Date](#) – SHS Performing Arts Department Presents *Little Shop of Horrors* **(New)**
5. [Save the Date](#) – SHS Athletic Boosters Fundraising Events **(New)**
6. [Please Note](#) – William James College INTERFACE Referral Service **(New)**
7. [Please Note](#) – 2024-2025 New Student Registration Now Open
8. [Please Note](#) – News from the Shrewsbury Public Schools Art Department
9. [Please Note](#) – Summer Programs at Shrewsbury Public Schools

Community Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Police Department Bi-Monthly Newsletter **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Town Meeting Member Nomination Papers **(New)**
3. [Save the Date](#) – Touch-A-Truck Event, April 6th **(New)**
4. [Save the Date](#) – Music Bingo Night Supporting Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse **(New)**
5. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Scholarship Applications **(New)**
6. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events
7. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens
8. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Programs
9. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events
10. [Please Note](#) – India Society of Worcester Spring Programs
11. [Save the Date](#) – Boy Scouts Troop 227 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser, April 7th

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. **Please Note** – Shrewsbury Little League Challenger Adaptive Baseball **(New)**
2. **Please Note** – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Spring Clinic Powered by Scoops Lacrosse

School District Items

1. Please Note – Two SHS Lunch and Learn Guest Speakers, March 15th (New)

Do you have a student interested in learning more about Artificial Intelligence (AI), Product Management, or the Tech Industry and startups?

This week, on March 15th, the SHS Lunch and Learn guest speaker is returning for a repeat engagement, since many students did not have the opportunity to meet him. Mr. Abhinav Garg, Product Manager for an AI developer platform startup, whose product is used by OpenAI who built ChatGPT. Mr. Garg has Bachelors of Engineering (Electrical) and Masters of Science (Software) from India, and has 21+ years of experience in the tech industry. He started his career as a Sales Executive at a small ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) software firm in India, and later pivoted to become a software engineer at a tech consulting firm called Sapient. After moving to the US just over 6 years ago, he made another career shift within the tech industry by joining a Data & AI startup called Databricks which was at the forefront of Enterprise AI at that point. He is currently working at an AI developer platform startup called Weights & Biases, where he leads the product management. Their product is used by OpenAI who built ChatGPT. He would love to talk to SHS students about product management as a career, its relevance in the tech industry & startups, how different businesses think about AI, and related career opportunities available. Registration is required and students can register [here](#). All students who previously registered to meet Mr. Garg on March 1st are automatically registered.

Do you have a student interested in learning more about drug development?

Mrs. Sera Perrotta, Director of Veterinary Services at Charles River Labs (here in Shrewsbury), would like to talk to students about working in drug development, specifically at a Contract Research Organization like Charles River Labs. Registration is required and students can register [here](#).

2. Please Note – Jobs for Students Website (New)

If your student is looking for a job for the spring, several new positions have been added to the [Jobs for Students website](#). Shrewsbury businesses now looking for part-time help include Petco, Chipotle, Napoli Deli and Seasons Corner Market. Other local jobs include Cellar Bar and Grille in Northboro, Dunkin Donuts and Nouria, plus many more! This site is updated frequently.

3. Please Note – SPS April Vacation Enrichment Classes (New)

Shrewsbury Public Schools is pleased to be offering enrichment classes for students in grades K-6 during April vacation. These classes are open to the community. [Registration](#) will open Thursday, March 14th, at 7:00AM. Preview the catalog [here](#).

Program Information

Dates: Tuesday, April 16th - Friday, April 19th

Location: Beal School

Morning Class: 8:30-11:30 - \$100/week

Afternoon Class: 12:00-3:00 - \$100/week

Early Drop-Off: 7:00-8:15 - \$40/week

Extended Hours: 3:00-6:00 - \$85/week

Each class runs Tuesday-Friday, so students may select one class for the morning session and/or one class for the afternoon session. Students who wish to enroll in both AM and PM classes can bring a lunch from home and will be supervised in the cafeteria from 11:30-12:00.

Financial Assistance

Students who meet the financial guidelines for the free and reduced lunch program can use the code APRVAC50 at checkout to receive a 50% discount off their total fees. Please note, even though all SPS students currently receive free lunch, this discount is only for families who meet the federal income guidelines for free and reduced meals. If you meet the criteria, you are eligible for financial assistance with other school programs. Learn more and apply [here](#). All discounts will be verified with Food Services, and if you do not qualify, you will be billed the full cost of the class. Students who do not attend Shrewsbury Public Schools are not eligible for this discount, regardless of income status.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning, at 508-841-8727 or kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

4. Save the Date – SHS Performing Arts Department Presents *Little Shop of Horrors* (New)

The Performing Arts Department is proud to present *Little Shop of Horrors*, the 1960 Sci-Fi rock-n-roll musical with a hunger for humans. Seymour Krelborn is a meek and dejected assistant at a floral shop who happens upon a strange plant, which he affectionately names “Audrey II” after his crush at the shop. Little does he know that this strange and unusual plant will develop an unquenchable thirst for human blood.

As Audrey II grows bigger and meaner, the carnivorous plant promises limitless fame and fortune to Seymour, as long as he continues providing a fresh supply of blood. Just when it's too late, Seymour discovers Audrey II's extra-terrestrial origins and their true drive for world-domination.

There are three performances this year: Thursday, March 14 through Saturday, March 16 @ 7:00 pm. Adults are \$15; students and senior citizens are \$10.

Tickets will be available for purchase on the evenings of the shows in the lobby. We are not taking advance orders. Please plan to arrive early to purchase. We do not accept electronic payments. Cash and check only (payable to SHS Music).

We look forward to seeing you at the show!

5. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Fundraising Events (New)

Bowling for Boosters. April 7th from 5:00-7:00 pm at Bowlero

Join us for the 16th annual SHS Athletic Boosters Bowling Tournament. Click [here](#) for registration and additional details.

Comedy Night. April 20th from 7:00-9:00 pm at El Basha Restaurant

Join us for a night of laughs sponsored by the Shrewsbury Athletic Boosters. Doors open at 6pm. light appetizers and cash bar available. Click [here](#) for registration and additional details.

We encourage your support to raise money for our athletic department. If you have any questions, please reach out to Paula Toti at ptoti@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us or call 508-847-1871.

6. Please Note – William James College INTERFACE Referral Service (New)

The Shrewsbury Public Schools in partnership with the Town of Shrewsbury is pleased to share our continued partnership with William James College INTERFACE Referral Service. The William James INTERFACE Referral Service is an outpatient mental health resource and referral Helpline available Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm, 888-244-6843 (toll-free), to assist residents and public-school students in Shrewsbury and other subscribing communities to access outpatient mental health service referrals. What makes this service unique is that they do not provide merely a list of providers, but rather matched referrals to outpatient mental health professionals and practices who best meet the caller's needs, insurance or fee requirement, specialty request and availability. Additionally, [here](#) is a link to a YouTube video about INTERFACE, as well as a [flyer](#) with what to expect when you reach out to INTERFACE.

7. Please Note – 2024-2025 New Student Registration Now Open

Dear parents and caregivers: New student registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. If your student is not currently enrolled in Shrewsbury Public Schools and you plan to enroll your child for the coming school year, please complete the online student registration process as soon as possible. You can access the registration link [here](#).

8. Please Note – News from the Shrewsbury Public Schools Art Department

On February 28, 2024 Anna Maria College recognized student award winners for their 30th Annual Exhibition. Shrewsbury High School students did very well in this competition, receiving awards in various categories. The Merit Award/Scholarship from Anna Maria was awarded to Cooper Fox. Check out the [Anna Maria College Annual Art Competition](#) images and award recipients!

March is Youth Art Month! The exhibit is held at the Worcester Art Museum. Here is a complete listing of those representing Shrewsbury Public Schools at [Youth Art Month](#), along with the details. A family reception will be held on Sunday, March 24, 2024 from 1-3pm.

9. Please Note – Summer Programs at Shrewsbury Public Schools

Summer Enrichment

Registration for the Summer Enrichment program is now open. You can learn more about the program and preview the catalog [here](#).

Location: Sherwood Middle School

Dates: June 24-27, July 8-11, July 15-18, and July 22-25

For students who will be entering grades 1-8 in fall of 2024

All members of the community are welcome!

Half-day and Full-day options are available, with dozens of classes to choose from each week. Each half-day class costs \$100 per week. Shrewsbury Public Schools students who meet the financial guidelines for the free and reduced lunch program can use the code SUMMER50 at checkout to receive a 50% discount off their total fees.

Summer Robotics

Registration for the Summer Robotics Program is now open. You can learn more about the program [here](#).

Location: Shrewsbury High School

Dates: July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26, and July 29-Aug 2

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-3:30

For students who will be entering grades 4-8 in the fall of 2024

All members of the community are welcome!

Cost: \$310 per week.

Shrewsbury Public Schools students who meet the financial guidelines for the free and reduced lunch program can use the code SUMMER50 at checkout to receive a 50% discount off their total fees.

Community Items

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Police Department Bi-Monthly Newsletter (New)

Please [click here](#) to see the Shrewsbury Police Department's bi-monthly newsletter for January and February 2024.

2. Please Note – Town Meeting Member Nomination Papers (New)

Nomination Papers are available for the Annual Town Election on May 7, 2024. Town Meeting Members needed in most precincts. Papers are available at Town Clerk's office and must be submitted to Registrars of Voters by 5:00 P.M. on March 19. A minimum of fifty signatures of Shrewsbury voters are required for all positions other than town meeting member. Town Meeting Member candidates must submit a minimum of ten signatures of registered voters who reside in the candidate's precinct. Candidates are encouraged to obtain more than the required number of signatures. For more information contact the Town Clerk's office at (508) 841-8507.

3. Save the Date – Touch-A-Truck Event, April 6th (New)

Ready to rev up some excitement? Mark your calendar for our 2nd annual Touch-a-Truck event happening at 333 South St on Saturday, April 6 from 12-4pm! Get ready to experience the thrill of exploring all sorts of cool trucks and vehicles. As we celebrate Autism Acceptance Month in April, the event will have a sensory-friendly atmosphere. Last year was a blast, and we're gearing up for an even bigger and better event this time around! Don't miss out on the fun – everyone's invited, so bring your friends and family along. We can't wait to see you there!

4. Save the Date – Music Bingo Night Supporting Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse (New)

Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse presents its Annual Music Bingo Night Fundraiser! Get ready for a night filled with music, raffles and delicious eats, all for a fantastic cause! Indulge your taste buds with mouthwatering delights from Shrewsbury's own Buck Hill BBQ – they're bringing the flavor to our event! You can bet your brisket, it's going to be a night to remember.

Date: March 30, 2024

Time: 6-10pm

Venue: SAC - 438 Lake Street, Shrewsbury, MA

Tickets are \$25 in advance - register at [this link](#) and pay for tickets via Venmo @ShrewsburyLax, \$30 at the door. Please note, this is an adults-only event.

5. Please Note – Shrewsbury Historical Society Scholarship Applications (New)

The Shrewsbury Historical Society is pleased to announce two scholarships for Class of 2024 high school seniors who attend public or private high schools in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts and reside in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. These scholarship awards are \$500.

The Shrewsbury Historical Society Stephen Porter Scholarship is awarded to a high school senior in memory of Stephen Porter, a longtime member who was involved in the historic restoration of the District #5 Schoolhouse on the corner of Old Mill Road and West Main Street.

The Shrewsbury Historical Society Jean McDonald Graham Scholarship is awarded to a high school senior in memory of Jean Graham, a longtime member dedicated to educating students about local history.

Students who are currently seniors in high school in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, reside in Shrewsbury, and anticipate being accepted into a four-year college this spring are invited to apply for the scholarships. Applications and additional requirements can be found online at www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.org. Completed applications and support materials are due March 31.

6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events

Emerging Thoughts About Regulating AI

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. with Representative James McGovern and Senator Mike Moore as they discuss the regulation of AI. Today, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is everywhere in our lives! There are many positive applications for AI, such as in health care with early diagnostic capabilities to prevent or treat future illness. But there are many negative aspects to AI as demonstrated by the recent news about famous individuals being publicly compromised by AI images and voice messages. What are the Federal and State

Governments going to do about regulating this swiftly advancing technology? The Foundation's Distinguished Speaker Series is proud to present Congressman James McGovern to discuss the potential for guard rails being considered by the Federal Government and State Senator Mike Moore, Chair of the Mass. Legislature's Committee on AI, to inform us about the State's emerging thoughts about regulating AI.

This program will take place in person; please [register](#) to attend.

Celebrating Women's History Month with Authors of Women Who Win

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Sunday, March 17th at 2:00 p.m, with the authors of Women Who Win: Real Stories, Real Women: Inspiration, Resilience, and Ambition from Women Around the World, a book about diverse women who share their stories – of business success, personal growth, challenges met, obstacles overcome, and more. Authors Shaleen Sheth , Dr. Deepa Jhaveri, and Dr. Manju Sheth (Author) compiled this collection of stories during the pandemic to amplify the voices of the women, a majority of whom are from the New England area. Meet the authors and some of the featured women and get inspired by their stories. Let's celebrate Women's History Month by celebrating local women achievers from a spectrum of races, cultures, and backgrounds.

This program will take place in person; please [register](#) to attend.

7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens

We have some great events for tweens and teens happening in March at the Library!

Please remember that program attendees in grades 5-6 must be accompanied to the library by a parent/parent's representative who will remain in the building during the program and rejoin the attendee at the conclusion of the program.

- Friday, March 1st-Sunday, March 31st - Scavenger Hunt - in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Try our monthly Scavenger Hunt! Find all the hidden items and you're entered to win a fun prize. This month's prize is a live potted plant from the Teen Room!
- Thursday, March 14th - Teen Writing Club - 7:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration required.](#) Writers and aspiring writers are invited to join this new club for teens. Bring a work in progress or try something new. Over the course of the hour we'll write, brainstorm, work with prompts, and enjoy snacks. Writers of all skill and experience levels welcome - we're here to have fun! This club will meet on the second Thursday of each month during the school year
- Friday, March 15th - Post Pi Day Extravaganza - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Celebrate pie after Pi Day! Drop in for fun with baking pies, playing pie games, making pie crafts, and more.

- Monday, March 18th - Teen Advisory Meeting - 8:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration required](#). What is Teen Advisory? It's a way for you to connect with the library and make your voice heard. It's a chance to see your ideas and opinions come to life. It's an easy way to earn volunteer credit by attending monthly meetings. Join us to meet some new people, eat snacks, and help us make our Teen Room (and library) THE BEST!
- Friday, March 22nd - Friday Board Games- 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Are you a fan of the classics like Clue and Monopoly? Want something funny like Cards Against Humanity or Apples to Apples? How about a game you've never tried before, like King of Tokyo or Castles of Mad King Ludwig? Drop in and play! There will be snacks.
- Friday, March 29th - Friday Trivia - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Drop in for trivia fun! We'll do trivia lightning rounds - try one or stay for the whole game!

Check our [online calendar](#) for more details and registration!

8. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Programs

Pre-registration is required for all of the Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited. Visit our [website](#) for more information and registration and follow us on Facebook or Instagram for updates and photos!

Summer Youth Program Update

Registration for week-long Summer Programs is open! Check out the options [here](#) in our guide. This guide includes our Summer Playground program, Half Days at Dean, Playground Adventures, and specialty camp opportunities.

Become a Community Partner

We are planning more events than ever before, and are seeking community partners to help support our initiatives. Do you or someone you know enjoy our free or low cost events - like Summer Concerts in the Park, Truck or Treat, and the Food Truck Festival - and would like to take advantage of the opportunity to give back to your community while also promoting their business or organization? Take a look at our [Sponsorship Packet](#) and see how we can work together!

Upcoming Seasons

Registration for spring programs will open on March 21st. Registration for summer programs and classes will open on May 22nd.

Family Programs & Events

- A Syrup Soiree, March 23, 10-11 am, Pure BS Maple Shack in Auburn, \$25/family

- This interactive experience shares the sweet science of making maple syrup. You will have an opportunity to sample the evolution of syrup (raw sap, sap as it is being processed, syrup and maple cream) while also enjoying the various grades of syrup! Learn about the different ways to tap trees, check out the Shack's evaporator, see the chickens and enjoy a themed craft along with a fire pit and hot chocolate!
- Eggstravaganza, March 30, 10 am-12 pm, no registration or fee
 - Celebrate the arrival of Spring with the Shrewsbury Recreation Department. All ages are welcome to join us for our annual egg hunt and crafts down at Dean Park! More details to come.

Please [click here](#) for the Parks & Recreation website.

9. Please Note – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events

Shrewsbury Historical Society Upcoming Programs

- March 27th: “Needle & Thread: The Art and Skill of Clothing an Early 19th-Century Family” by Rebecca Beall
 - Clothing a New England family in the early 19th century was a challenging task! Drawing on their extensive collection, “Needle & Thread” is the most recent exhibit at Old Sturbridge Village. It showcases early 19th century garments, as well as essential sewing tools and household equipment that supported this important work of New England housewives. This Powerpoint presentation highlights the responsibilities involved with constructing new garments, patching, mending, and darning worn items, and repurposing old items into new wardrobes, ensuring that every family member was clothed in good order for many different occasions.
- April 24th: “Spectacle and Substance: Tracking a Tale of Victorian America” by April Jones Price
- May 22nd: Annual Meeting and “Having Fun: Wish You Were Here: Historical Society Game Night!” by Erik Larson, President

Mission Statement

The Shrewsbury Historical Society was organized on January 7, 1898, and incorporated on June 23, 1902. The purpose of the Society shall be to keep alive and increase interest in the history of the Town of Shrewsbury; to collect and preserve items of special value, traditions, and curiosities; to encourage general public interest in its work; and to maintain such personal properties and real estate that may come under the control of the Society. Questions? Email shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com.

10. Please Note – India Society of Worcester Spring Programs

India Society of Worcester is offering many new programs coming up:

[Free Seminars on March 16 - How to Survive the ChatGPT Invasion - Strategies for Parents & Students](#)

Learning, mathematics and AI and impact on our children's future employment. If you are a high schooler or parent of a middle or high schooler, this talk is for you. Prof Loh will discuss educational strategies that build relevant skills to survive this new era of Generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT). He is a social entrepreneur, an inventor, a math professor at Carnegie Mellon University, and served a decade-long term as the national coach of the USA International Mathematical Olympiad team from 2013–2023. He will talk about his experience going from the ivory tower of academia into the practical mess of the real world, including his pioneering innovations for a scalable way to learn challenging math live online.

The second seminar is on [Industry Wisdom for Personal Growth](#) - be prepared for the volatile job market. Meet directly with industry experts. Open to students and adults.

[ISW Cultural and Language School](#) continues to offer rolling admissions for several Indian languages, like Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, Marathi & Online Sanskrit. We also encourage kids to attend Indian Cultural and Yoga only assembly, held on Sundays at 10:30 am. Conversational Hindi classes for adults are also offered. Send email to schoollead@iswonline.org for more information.

[India Center's Free Health Stop](#) since 2005, has been providing health care and is open to all. It is held on Wednesdays 6-8 PM. Services are provided to anyone regardless of their financial, immigration and insurance status.

[Sign up for ISW's free newsletter](#) for all our activities including Showcase India, a cultural event organized by our Indian Youth Group.

11. [Save the Date](#) – Boy Scouts Troop 227 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser, April 7th

Who doesn't like a pancake breakfast? BSA Troop 227 is hosting our Second Annual Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale Fundraiser on Sunday, April 7th. The event will be held at St Anne's Church in the Father Smith Center building in Shrewsbury. Breakfast will be served from 7:30am to 12:00pm. All proceeds from the event will go towards the troop camping equipment and fun activities.

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Little League Challenger Adaptive Baseball (New)

The Shrewsbury Little League Challenger Adaptive Baseball team is looking for Buddy Volunteers. This adaptive baseball program, which follows the Unified Sports model, is for individuals with physical and intellectual challenges who rely on Buddy volunteers. The role of a Buddy is to assist the Challenger players in the areas of batting, base running, catching, and throwing, as needed during practices and games, to ensure their safety.

Requirements for Buddies:

- Buddies/volunteers are needed for this program at a 1:1 ratio.
- We ask that buddies commit to coming to each practice and game.
- We rely heavily on email for communication for this program.
- Volunteers must possess a lot of patience.
- No prior experience is necessary.

Practices are on Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 pm, on the Upper Dean Softball Field. Games are on Saturdays from 9 am to 12 (either in Northboro, Westboro, Grafton, or Shrewsbury).

If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in volunteering, please get in touch with Chip Collins at shrewsburychallenger@gmail.com.

2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Spring Clinic Powered by Scoops Lacrosse

In partnership with Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse, Scoops will be running a 6-week spring lacrosse clinic on Sunday afternoon, open to boys and girls ages 3-7. Scoops Clinics are designed for kids who are interested in learning as well as continuing their development of lacrosse. Kids will be broken into different groups based on age and/or skill levels. Most importantly, Scoops Clinics are designed for maximum amounts of fun, confidence building, and pure lacrawsomeness. The only equipment necessary is a lacrosse stick - no pads needed!

Click [here](#) to register. Reach out to info@shrewsburylacrosse.com with any questions.
