



Community Bulletin

September 13th, 2021

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](#).

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School District Items

1. Please Note – Free Meals for all SPS Students

Shrewsbury Public Schools is providing free meals to all students under the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs. All children enrolled in the district are eligible for these free meals* regardless of their eligibility status through June 30th, 2022. *(*This does not apply to a la carte items that are in addition to a standard meal. A la carte items may be sold for a fee at some point during the school year.)*

Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications are used to determine free or reduced cost eligibility for many school programs, such as sports, transportation, music, etc. if there is financial need. To qualify for reduced costs for programs, you must fill out a Free and Reduced Application. Applications are available online at <https://shrewsbury.familyportal.cloud>. Applications must be submitted this school year by October 8th, 2021 to continue eligibility.

If you received a letter from the Food Service Department stating your children were eligible for free or reduced meals in school year 2021-2022 as a result of a Direct Certification from the Department of Health and Human Services for school year 2021-2022, you do not need to fill out an online application.

Applications will be accepted at any time during the school year for new applicants as the need arises for families. If you need an application at any time during the school year, [visit our webpage](#) and fill out the [online application](#). Eligibility is governed by guidelines set by the Federal Government. A notification will be sent to all families stating what program they qualify for.

If you need help filling out the application, or have questions about the Free and Reduced Meal Program, please call the Food Service Department at (508) 841-8819 or email Beth Nichols, Food Service Director, at bnichols@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

2. Please Note – Extended Day Program 2021-2022

The Extended Learning program has limited openings in the before- and after-school programs for students attending Beal, Coolidge, Floral, Paton, Spring, and Sherwood.

Extended Day offers a structured enrichment program led by experienced, professional staff. Students can choose from a variety of planned activities each day including art, gym games, dramatic play, outdoor play, and many special projects and clubs. Students in grades 1-6 also have a period of quiet homework time. A snack and drink are provided each day.

The program is located in each of the school cafeterias and students go directly to the program at school dismissal. There is no transportation for Extended Day. Parents must pick up their child no later than 6:00 p.m. The before-school programs at the elementary schools open at 7:00 a.m. and parents may drop off anytime between 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. Our staff will ensure students get to class at the start of the school day. Please note that there is no morning program at Sherwood.

Program details, tuition rates, and registration instructions can be found on our [website](#).

3. Please Note – Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District (New)

Do you speak English and another language well enough to help teachers or school administrators communicate with other families who speak that language? Teachers and staff sometimes need help to communicate with a parent or caregiver who may speak a language other than English. They may need help making a phone call or communicating during a conference or other parent/caregiver meeting. If you are available to help in this capacity, please give us your contact information and availability, and we will be in touch when help is needed.

We especially need interpreters for teacher conferences on Tuesday, November 2nd. We will contact you when needed, so please provide times when you know that you are available to be an interpreter. If you are interested, please give us your contact information through this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPSVolInterp21-22>

Thank you for your support of Shrewsbury Public Schools!

4. Save the Date – SSMA Music Drive, September 18th

Please save the date for the 66th annual Music Drive, taking place the morning of Saturday, September 18th. All high school theater and music students should plan to participate in this one-time, four-hour event to sell season concert tickets in our neighborhoods and help raise funds for our theater and music departments. This one event alone earns as much as \$16,000 for use by our performing arts directors and teachers, and we need full community support to accomplish this!

We are in great need of adult drivers! Each year we need 40 to 50 parents to help drive the students out on their routes. It is a tremendous task to find enough drivers to help us in this event. Please consider helping this year! Visit <http://www.myssma.com> to learn more and volunteer to drive!

5. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Leo M. Murray Jr. Golf Classic, October 5th (New)

We are happy to announce that the SHS Athletic Boosters Leo M. Murray Jr. Golf Classic has been rescheduled and it will now take place on Tuesday, October 5th at Juniper Hill Golf Course in Northborough. The money raised from this event will be used to support the needs of all our athletic teams, along with funding two scholarships for graduating seniors.

We have sold out early over the past several years, so we encourage you to register quickly. The cost of the tournament remains \$135 per player, which includes green fees, cart, tournament gift, dinner buffet, and a chance to win a luxury car. You will also be able to buy-in to fun tournament contests. Your registration is confirmed upon receipt of electronic payment. If you have not already registered, please consider doing so by [visiting our website](#).

This site will also be used for sponsorship opportunities as well. If it is of interest to you or your business, please take a look. We look forward to you joining us again this year for another exciting day of golf! Thank you in advance for your anticipated support!

6. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Bowling for Boosters, October 24th (New)

The SHS Athletic Boosters' 12th Annual Bowling for Boosters has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Bowlero Bowling, Route 9 West, Shrewsbury. Teams of 4-6 players each are wanted! Adults 21+ only.

The evening will feature a Halloween-themed event, including unlimited bowling, pizza, soda, raffle prizes, cash bar, and awards ceremony for best score, worst score, and best-dressed team in costume! Please see the [flyer](#) or visit the [website](#) for more information and to register. Thank you for your support!

Community Items

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Offerings

Fall Online Registration - Currently accepting registration for some of our fall programs. New programs will be added throughout September based on space availability. Pre-registration is required for all Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball - Intermediate on Mondays, Advanced on Tuesdays, and Recreational on Thursdays. Program starts in October; our website lists fees, times, dates, and schedules.

Social Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Saturday, October 16th 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at Dean Park South Pavilion. Cost is \$52.

Restaurant Ready Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Thursday, October 14th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$42.

Home Safety - Ages 9 and up on Saturday, October 2nd from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Dean Park South Pavilion. Cost is \$37.

Visit our new website! shrewsburyma.myrec.com Old accounts do not work in the new system. Please build a new household and we can approve it for you.

2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library September Events for Tweens & Teens (New)

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

- Fridays - Each Friday after school we'll have a different game or activity! Drop in for guessing games, puzzles, board games, and more.
- Thursday, September 16th - Get Organized with Bullet Journal - 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. Grades 5 - adult. Supplies provided. Register [here](#).
- Wednesday, September 22nd - Fancy Hand Lettering - 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. Grades 5 - adult. Register [here](#).
- Friday, September 24th - Teen Take & Make: Retro TV Phone Stand - 3:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary - grab a kit to take home.

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

Volunteer positions available at Shrewsbury Public Library - Teens and tweens, we need YOU to volunteer at the library this school year! We currently have openings for in-person volunteer roles as well as ongoing virtual volunteer opportunities. The deadline to apply for our current in-person volunteer roles is Tuesday, September 14th at 5:00 p.m. See more information about available roles and how to apply [here](#).

3. Save the Date – Scarecrows on the Common

For the 17th year, the Shrewsbury Garden Club is sponsoring Scarecrows on the Common. Any Shrewsbury resident, individual, group, family, or business may display their scarecrow creation on the Town Common starting September 20th through October 17th. For more information, please visit www.ShrewsburyGardenClub.org.

4. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Grant Funding

The Shrewsbury Cultural Council announces that proposals to receive funding to support community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs are due Friday, October 15th. These grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Shrewsbury -- including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies, or performances in schools, workshops, and lectures.

The Shrewsbury Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) serving all 351 communities in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities every year. The state Legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to every community.

This year, the Shrewsbury Cultural Council will distribute \$18,768 in grants, the largest amount in the history of the Shrewsbury Cultural Council. Previously funded projects include: Assabet Valley Mastersingers, Arts on the Green, Bad News Jazz & Blues Orchestra, and EcoTarium Days.

For local guidelines and complete information on the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, contact us at scc@shrewsburyma.gov. Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at www.mass-culture.org.

5. Please Note – Public Works Logo Design Contest

Creative high-schoolers - we need your help! The Department of Public Works is holding a contest to design our new logo. Any student living in Shrewsbury entering grades 9-12 in Fall 2021 may apply. Group submissions are welcome. The contest will run from August 1st through September 30th. The winner will be notified by October 8th. Full contest details are available online at shrewsburyma.gov/contests.

6. Please Note – India Center Language Classes

Indian language classes will be starting again right here in Shrewsbury at the newly expanded ISW's India Center. Registrations for Hindi, Telugu, Tamil Gujarati, and Marathi are now open for September 2021-2022. [Click here](#) for signups. Classes start September 25th/26th, based on language selected. Conversational-level classes for adults are also offered. [Click here](#) to see the flyer.

Tutoring classes will be offered by high school volunteers to help support the community programs at the India Center. They will help prepare your child for the upcoming academic year in subjects including math, English, Spanish, French, speech, lego, chess, and many more. Tutor and Tutee will meet online once a week, one-on-one (no group classes). [Click here](#) for more information.

Just a reminder, India Center's Free [Health Stop](#) has been providing health care since 2005 and is open to all. It is held on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at 152 Main Street. Services are provided to anyone, regardless of their financial, immigration, and insurance status.

Plus, we offer daily [free online yoga](#) for the community!

7. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society History Week, September 18th-27th (New)

Shrewsbury Historical Society and Shrewsbury Media Connection proudly present the 13th Annual Shrewsbury History Week, September 18th through September 27th, on SPAC TV 328 HD and 28. [Click here](#) to see the featured programs relating to Shrewsbury History.

Schedule may repeat the following week. Some programs are also available at the Shrewsbury Media Connection [Online Library](#).

8. Save the Date – Spirit of Shrewsbury Events, September 24th-26th (New)

The Miss Shrewsbury Pageant - Friday, September 24th, 6:00 p.m. at Congregational Church: Girls in grades 1-11th can participate with no experience necessary and gain valuable leadership skills such as voice projection, elevator speech planning, and stage presence. Workshops to prepare are free and open to all ages - see our [website](#)! Sign up today and be the 2021 Miss Shrewsbury!

Craft Fair and EXPO - Saturday, September 25th, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Oak Middle School: 50 vendors, lots of fun for the whole family! Volunteers needed! Sign up [here](#). Click [here](#) for more information.

Virtual Parade - Sunday, September 26th, 1:00 p.m. broadcast on SELCO channels: First ever virtual parade (no in-person parade)! Make a TikTok-style video of how you spend the parade as if you were in front of the 90 year old tent! Upload it and become part of the official Spirit of Shrewsbury parade this year. Make your video on any street, be creative, and be safe. Click [here](#) for the invite!

9. Save the Date – Reuse and Recycling Event, September 25th (New)

The Reuse and Recycling Event will be on Saturday, September 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Westborough High School. The event is sponsored by WE CAN (aka Shrewsbury Farmers Market), Zero Waste Westborough, and the towns of Grafton, Northborough, Shrewsbury, and Westborough.

Please see the [flyer](#) for prices and list of items accepted. Cash only. Many items are being collected for free to be donated to nonprofits. Here is a partial list of items accepted for FREE:

- Styrofoam (only #6 white – no food containers or packaging peanuts and free of stickers and tape)
- Assorted clothing and textiles (clean, dry, and odor-free)
- Appliances, pans, utensils, new or like-new craft and office supplies, good unwanted new holiday gifts, unexpired canned food items, wooden furniture, building items, doors, windows, and tools.

For more information and map, visit wecan-ma.org or contact Missy Hollenback at (508) 284-7314.

10. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society Virtual Program, September 22nd (New)

Shrewsbury Historical Society presents “Traditional New England Cider Making: History and Techniques” by Dennis Picard on Wednesday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. This virtual program will also be taped and rebroadcast on Shrewsbury Channels 28 and 328 and available on-demand online at www.shrewsburymediaconnection.org. For any questions, please email shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com.

About the Presentation: What today is understood as “apple cider” is not the same as cider during the 18th and 19th century. Cider was considered the normal drink in New England, to be consumed at every meal. The basic method of making cider is relatively simple and because it is, so much could go wrong! Learn about the mills, machinery, and products of New England’s cider-making tradition.

About the Presenter: Mr. Picard began his career in 1978 at Old Sturbridge Village and has been a museum professional in the “Living History” field for over 35 years. He has authored many articles on the lifestyles and folkways of New England and served as a consultant for many Historical Societies and Museums.

11. Save the Date – Shrewsbury’s Got Talent, September 18th

India Society of Worcester (ISW), in collaboration with Spirit of Shrewsbury, is back with our annual "Shrewsbury's Got Talent" contest. Due to Covid-19, this event will be held virtually this year. Three prizes will be awarded to the top three winners within each of the following age categories:

- Tiny Tots – 8 years and under
- Young Icons – 9 years to 12 years
- Terrific Teens – 13 years to 18 years
- Awesome Artists – 19 years and above

Click [here](#) to register and click [here](#) to see the flyer. More details and payment link can be found [here](#). See our [website](#) for updates.

12. Save the Date – Cub Scout Pack 158 New Parent Meeting, September 15th (New)

Calling families of boys entering grades Kindergarten through 4th in the fall! Cub Scouts is a wonderful chance for families to explore nature, serve the community, and make friends. There will be an informational meeting for new families interested in Pack 158 at St. Mary's Church on Wednesday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m. We will gladly answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact our leader, Maggie Riani, at CubMasterMaggie@gmail.com. Visit cubscoutpack158.org for more information about our Pack.
