



Community Bulletin

September 27th, 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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Youth Athletics and Activities

1. [Please Note](#) – Central Mass Revolution "Bruins Academy Learn to Play Hockey" **(New)**

School District Items

1. **Please Note – COVID-19 Testing Update: PARENTAL ACTION REQUIRED**

Shrewsbury Public Schools is partnering with the state [COVID Testing Program](#) to provide voluntary weekly COVID-19 testing and the Test and Stay option for close contacts at school. Please check your email from September 10th for more details about these programs. Testing is voluntary and all staff and students are encouraged to participate. ***The required consent form can be found [here](#).*** We anticipate these programs will be available from the state by the end of the month. More information will follow when available. Your child cannot participate until the parental consent form is completed.

2. **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.

3. Please Note – Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District

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. **We are especially in need of interpreters for Russian, Chinese, Arabic, and Vietnamese.**

Interpreters are very important for teacher conferences, which take place on Tuesday, November 2nd. If you are available to help in any capacity, please give us your contact information and availability by [completing this form](#). We will be in touch when help is needed.

Thank you for your support of Shrewsbury Public Schools!

4. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Bowling for Boosters, October 24th

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!

5. Save the Date – SEPAC General Meeting, October 7th (New)

Please join us for our first meeting of the school year on Thursday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the New Beal School. We'll discuss our plans for the year and get to know each other.

Shrewsbury SEPAC is a volunteer organization made up of parents and caregivers whose children receive special education services through the Shrewsbury Public Schools. The purpose of the SEPAC is to give children with special needs in our community a voice, stimulate parent involvement, and to establish an effective channel of communication between the school

district and families. The ultimate goal is to enhance special education service delivery for students throughout the school district. Membership is open to all parents/guardians of children with disabilities.

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

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!

7. Please Note – Seeking Parent Representative for SWAC

Applications are now being accepted for parent representatives to the Shrewsbury Wellness Advisory Committee (SWAC). This district-wide committee meets at SHS approximately 5 times per year (dates and times below) to discuss current health issues affecting the Shrewsbury Public Schools community and sets health-related goals in conjunction with District Strategic Priorities. The committee is made up of the superintendent, department directors, teachers, parents, and leaders of community-based organizations. Honest, constructive input from parents is a vital part of this committee!

We are seeking 3-4 parent/guardian volunteers with students in various grade levels across the district. To apply, please submit a brief statement outlining the reason(s) for your interest in this committee and how you believe you will be able to contribute to our meetings. Applications are due by Friday, October 1st, and should be submitted via email to Noelle Freeman, Director of School Nursing, at nfreeman@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

The committee will meet on the following Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Shrewsbury High School. Attendance at meetings is important, so please be sure to check your calendar for availability before committing to participation on the committee. For the most part,

the work of the committee takes place at meetings with minimal need for work outside of meetings.

2021-2022 Meeting Dates: October 10th, December 2nd, January 20th, March 10th, and April 28th. All meetings will be held from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Shrewsbury High School.

Community Items

1. Save the Date – Suicide and Mental Health Awareness Walk, October 2nd (New)

Hello everyone! We are the organizers of Zoe's Rocks and we are hosting our first annual Suicide and Mental Health Awareness Walk and Event on Saturday, October 2nd at 4:30 p.m. The event will be held at Oak Middle School and it starts off with a short walk around the neighborhoods surrounding Oak and Sherwood Middle Schools. At the end of the walk, we will end up at the front lawn of Oak Middle School, where there will be food trucks, short speeches, music performances, and a candlelight vigil to honor those who we have lost to suicide and mental illness. We will be raising money towards the "Celebrate Zoe's Life" fund, which raises money for mental health support in our community. The walk will begin at 5:00 p.m., so please arrive at the side entrance at Sherwood Middle School at 4:30 p.m. We hope to see you there, and don't forget to bring your painted rocks to place on the walk!

2. 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/October based on space availability. Pre-registration is required for all Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited.

Youth Basketball League - Accepting registration starting Tuesday, September 28th for leagues: Boys 3rd & 4th, Girls 3rd & 4th, Boys 5th & 6th, Girls 5th & 6th, Boys 7th & 8th, Girls 7th-9th, and NEW this year Boys 9th-12th league. Games are played at the Oak & Sherwood Middle Schools on Saturdays with one weeknight assigned for a team practice. Cost is \$135.

Skills & Drills Basketball Clinic - Tuesday evenings starting October 12th for grades 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th at Sherwood Middle School Gym. Cost is \$66.

Tiny Tykes Basketball Program - Thursday evenings starting December 2nd for 1st and 2nd graders at Sherwood Middle School Gym. Cost is \$88.

Chalk it Up Halloween Theme! - Pumpkins, ghosts, black cats, and haunted houses! Families are able to create funny, scary, or sweet designs for everyone to see. We supply the chalk, you create the designs! Bring some painters tape or cutouts to build your work of art! Sign up the whole family! Sunday, October 17th from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Paton School Playground Area. **FREE EVENT!**

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

Social Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Saturday, October 16th from 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.

3. Save the Date – Worcester Center for Crafts Programs, October through May

Worcester Center for Crafts is running a series from October through May of free craft and performance programming for the community. This “handcraft bash” is suitable for youth and families and is free to all. Click [here](#) to see the flyer, which includes details about each month’s events.

4. Save the Date – Scarecrows on the Common, Through October 17th

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.

5. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 17th

The Shrewsbury Rotary Club is hosting a Community Recycling Fundraiser on Sunday, October 17th from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Town Hall (100 Maple Avenue). Please click [here](#) to see the flyer for information about items that will be accepted. Proceeds benefit service

projects of The Shrewsbury Rotary Club. Please contact Beth Casavant at (508) 641-8174 or bethcasavant@gmail.com with questions.

6. Save the Date – The Friends of Shrewsbury Public Library’s Book and Media Sale **(New)**

The Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library’s Annual Book and Media Sale is back! It will take place from Thursday, October 14th through Sunday, October 17th at the Shrewsbury Public Library (609 Main Street). This time, all bags will be provided, so no need to bring your own. The sale features a \$10 Bargain Bag - ask a cashier for a bag and fill it for \$10. Books can be purchased individually, too!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL EDUCATORS: Local educators can fill a bag on the last day of the sale (Sunday, October 17th) for FREE! Just sign in with a cashier with your name and school!

Meeting room capacity limits will be enforced and masks/face coverings are required. Check or cash payments only! Please see the [flyer](#) and [press release](#) for more information.

7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Grant Funding, Closes October 15th

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.

8. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Domestic Violence Vigil, October 13th

The 2021 Shrewsbury Domestic Violence Vigil, sponsored by ADVISE (Against Domestic Violence in Shrewsbury Education project), is a vigil to remember victims and survivors and to raise awareness about domestic violence. The vigil will be held on Wednesday, October 13th, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Common (Main Street and Route 140). In the event of inclement weather, the vigil will be canceled.

Elected officials and leaders from our community will speak about how they work to prevent domestic violence, assist victims, and hold perpetrators accountable, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Domestic violence affects a broad spectrum of our society, but it is largely unrecognized or, worse, tolerated. The Shrewsbury community is invited to join in the vigil to remember those who have suffered domestic violence and to express a unity of purpose to eliminate domestic violence. Additional details and updates on this event may be found by calling the ADVISE Hotline, (508) 842-0056, or viewing the flyer [here](#).

9. Save the Date – Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library Meeting, October 6th

Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library's Annual Fall Program and Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 6th.

Boston actor Kathryn Woods recreates the remarkable life of famous abolitionist, feminist, and escaped slave Sojourner Truth, one of the most significant figures in American history. Woods memorializes Sojourner Truth at the end of her life with recollections of her early days as a slave and her relationship with God. Sharing poignant stories, Woods uses Sojourner's own words and the spiritual music she may have sung to recreate this inspiring woman.

The performance is suitable for teens and adults and is free and open to all. Friends' membership is not required, but registration is required. To register, visit the [website](#) or call the library at (508) 841-8609 x 3. For more information, please see the [announcement](#) and [flyer](#).

10. Please Note – Public Works Logo Design Contest, Closes September 30th

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.

11. Save the Date – Cub Scout Pack 158 Open House, September 27th (New)

Cub Scout Pack 158 invites families with boys in grades -4 to attend an open house from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. on Monday, September 27th in St. Mary's Church Hall. We will answer questions about scouting and our organization. The open house will be followed by our normal monthly Pack meeting. Please join us! For more information about our organization, check out cubscoutpack158.org or contact CubMasterMaggie@gmail.com.

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. Please Note – Central Mass Revolution “Bruins Academy Learn to Play Hockey” (New)

Central Mass Revolution is pleased to once again partner with the Boston Bruins offering the Bruins Academy Learn to Play Hockey. Registration is filling up quickly! Receive over \$500 worth of hockey equipment and 4 on-ice sessions. Registration, dates, cost, and more can be found at www.revshockey.com. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information. Visit us on [Facebook](#), too!
