



Community Bulletin

September 7th, 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](#).

School District Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Free Meals for all SPS Students
2. [Please Note](#) – Extended Day Program 2021-2022
3. [Save the Date](#) – SSMA Music Drive, September 18th

Community Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Offerings
 2. [Save the Date](#) – Scarecrows on the Common **(New)**
 3. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Grant Funding **(New)**
 4. [Please Note](#) – Public Works Logo Design Contest
 5. [Please Note](#) – India Center Language Classes
 6. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury's Got Talent, September 18th
-

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. 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!

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.

Capture the Flag & Field Games - Grades 1-6 on Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Floral Street Soccer Field. Cost is \$50 for 5 classes. Starts September 15th.

Social Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Saturday, October 16th from 1:30 p.m. to 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 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$42.

Archery - Grades 3-5 (4:00 p.m.) & 5-9 (5:15 p.m.) on Thursdays at Floral Street Soccer Field. Cost is \$145 for 4 classes. Starts September 9th.

Youth Tennis - Starting Monday, September 13th. \$96 for 8 classes. Website has class times, grades, and schedules.

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

Babysitting - Grades 6-8th, Thursdays, September 30th and October 7th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Dean Park South Pavilion. Cost is \$57.

Adult Bodyweight Bootcamp - For ages 18 and older on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. at Dean upper parking area. Starting Tuesday, September 7th. Cost is \$60 for 6 classes.

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. Save the Date – Scarecrows on the Common (New)

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.

3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Grant Funding (New)

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.

4. 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.

5. 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!

6. 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.

