**Sherwood Middle School**

Weekly Update to Families

September 2, 2018

“As you enter this place of work, please *choose* to make today a great day.

Your colleagues, customers, team members, and you yourself will be thankful.

Find ways to*play*. We can be serious about our work without being serious about ourselves.

Stay focused in order to *be present* when your customers and team members most need you.

And should you feel your energy lapsing, try this surefire remedy:

Find someone who needs a helping hand, a word of support, or a good ear-

and *make their day.*

*(*Stephen C. Ludin, Ph.D., Harry Paul, and John Christenson, authors of the *FISH Philosophy!)*

Dear Families,

The first few days of the school year were filled with anticipation, enthusiasm, and discovery as students and faculty became acquainted with each other and endeavored to familiarize themselves with their new classmates, teachers, and for many, a new school environment. During the opening day for staff on Monday, we shared ways in which we can actively live the message highlighted above, as we continuously strive to become the most vibrant, joyful, passionate, and collaborative professional learning community we can be. We know that a positive school culture contributes to successful change and improvement endeavors, increases engagement and motivation of staff and students, and encourages greater effort and productivity within the school and workplace communities.

During this past Friday’s Professional Development Day, faculty members focused on two of the district’s Strategic Priorities including, *Learning environments where everyone’s success matters* and *Enhanced well-being of all*. The first activity invited faculty members to share games, strategies and other practices that they have found to build relationships and strengthen connections with students, families, colleagues, and community members. Following the discussion, the faculty viewed a video clip (filmed by the Shrewsbury Media Connection) consisting of SMS teachers and students last spring, a copy of which can be found here:

[Cultivating Connections.Teachers and Students - Sherwood Middle School.mp4](Cultivating%20Connections.Teachers%20and%20Students%20-%20Sherwood%20Middle%20School.mp4)

The morning ended with a *Learning Walk*where faculty toured the learning spaces throughout our school to look for evidence of a positive climate where students and adults are encouraged to do their best work all in a safe, joyful, and trusting school environment. We are grateful to have these opportunities to grow our professional practice and know that we are better educators as a result.

We hope that you are enjoying this Labor Day weekend and look forward to greeting our students on Tuesday!

 Respectfully,

 Jane Lizotte

 Heather Gablaski

 Karen Gutekanst

**Day Schedule This Week:**

**Tuesday- Day 4**

**Wednesday-Day 5**

**Thursday-Day 6**

**Friday-Day 1**

**Important Messages:**

1. **Sherwood Middle School Fall Musical**
2. **Reminder to Band and Orchestra Students**
3. **Curriculum Nights-Coming Soon!**

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1. **Sherwood Middle School Fall Musical**

Sherwood Middle School is proud to announce auditions for its annual Fall Musical, **The Pied Piper of Hamelin**, a fun modern twisted adaptation of the classic story.

Sherwood Middle School Musical-Coming Soon! Auditions will take place after school on September 10th, 12th, and 13th in the Chorus room. A sign-up board with additional information is located outside of the Band Room. There will be an optional informational parent meeting on Thursday, September 6th at 6pm in the Media Room.

Rehearsals will tentatively take place on select Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays after school till 5pm. Performances will take place on December 7th and 8th. Anybody and everybody is welcome to audition! Students will not need to prepare anything specific prior to auditions.

For questions, please email David Lien (Oak Middle School drama teacher) at dlien@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

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1. **Reminder to Band and Orchestra Students**

For those students who require a lesson (band and orchestra), please be sure you are registered for lessons by September 17th. Lessons held at Sherwood Middle School will begin on September 10th.

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1. **Curriculum Nights-Coming Soon!**

Grade 5 Curriculum Night is being held on Monday, September 10th, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Grade 6 Curriculum Night is being held on Tuesday, September 11th, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

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