October 19, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope this communication finds you well and that the first two months of the 2018-2019 school year have gone well for your child!

As I’m sure you know, Halloween is approaching. For many years, SHS has looked forward to this annual holiday. The student body and faculty have embraced it as an opportunity to come together as a school community, to build school spirit, and to have a little fun as well. For the 12 years that I’ve served as principal of SHS, nearly every student has met or exceeded expectations for their behavior on or around Halloween. This yearly letter is simply a reminder of those expectations. Please also know that:

• I’ve touched base with many colleague principals and most do not allow the student body to wear costumes to school.
• I’m committed to the education of your child and realize that sometimes there is a perception that these kinds of activities get in the way of what many believe to be an appropriate school environment and educational setting.

Out of respect for tradition, and out of respect for the desires of the student body and faculty, Halloween at SHS will take place in the same format in which it’s been observed, where students may dress in costume. This year, that day is Wednesday, October 31st.

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of the entire high school community, and in order to ensure that your child’s education remains at the forefront of our efforts, the following reminders are being made:

• Masks are not permitted; any weapon or replica of a weapon is not permitted.
• Costumes that present as potentially disruptive (e.g. religious apparel, sexually suggestive) are not permitted.
• Festival-related paraphernalia such as silly-string, shaving cream, horns, whistles, scooters, roller skates, skateboards, and the like are not permitted.

Any student whose outfit is deemed inappropriate will be expected to change; uncooperative students will be sent home.

While these clarifications are not meant to take the fun out of this event, the fact that SHS acknowledges this day in any way is a privilege. The “celebration” of Halloween is not a right, nor an opportunity to make personal statements or cause a disruption to the learning environment. I anticipate an enjoyable day, and I hope that by being very clear about the school’s expectations that this annual event builds school spirit, brings the school community together, results in some fun, and is deemed worthy of continuing in the future.

To that end, I’ve included on the next page a few pictures from prior year’s Halloween days at SHS. A list of the costume categories for this year’s school contest has also been included.

The faculty and I will remind the entire student body of our expectations prior to Halloween. It would be appreciated, however, if you would review the contents of this letter with your child before Wednesday, October 31st. Also, if your child has questions about a possible costume, please encourage them to speak with me or another administrator.

Thank you, and please contact me with any questions or concerns. Go Eagles!

Respectfully,

Jose Libano, Ed.D.
Principal

VISION, MISSION, AND CORE VALUES

Sharon High School strives to be a respectful, caring, dynamic, and inspirational learning community. We offer our students the academic, civic, and social tools to be informed, thoughtful, and effective contributors to a globally connected world.

Perseverance ~ Responsibility ~ Integrity ~ Dedication ~ Excellence

Sharon Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, homelessness, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.
#halloween2018

2018 Halloween Costume Contest Categories

- Best Individual
- Best Duo/Trio
- Best Group
- Scariest
- Most Creative