

Sharon Middle School

SMS Weekly Newsletter - 8.14.2020



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

First Day of School
Wednesday, September
16th

Summer Office Hours
Mon. - Thurs. 8:30-3pm
Closed on Fridays.

No visitors are allowed in
the building.

Please email [Karen Wald](#)
with any questions.

SMS 2020 Summer Reading
[Check out the list!](#)

SMS Summer Math
[Enrichment and Practice](#)
[for all grades.](#)

Incoming 6th Graders -
Check out the virtual
greeting for our incoming
6th graders. [Click here.](#)

Rising 7th & 8th grades
[All About 7th Grade](#)
[All About 8th Grade](#)

Sharon Public Schools is
serving **FREE MEALS** to any
child under 21
through August 27th.
Monday and Thursday only

School Committee Votes for Hybrid School Opening

On Wednesday, 8/12, the school committee voted 6-0-1 to offer a hybrid learning model for students to begin the 2020-2021 school year. Parents may choose the remote learning model if they prefer to keep their students home. Fortunately, our middle school schedule is the same for both models, designed to maximize a consistent learning experience for all students. Dr. Greer's full presentation during the 8/12 meeting may be viewed at: [SharonTV](#)

Class Schedules for Fall

We continue to develop student schedules for fall. Please note: **no students schedules or teams are finalized at this time.** Thank you for your patience.

SMS Info for 2020-2021 Fall Opening - September 16, 2020

Here is an overview of Sharon Middle School's plans for fall 2020. More details are available in [Mr. O'Rourke's letter to parents sent today.](#)

- There will be three teams per grade. Students will be assigned to one homeroom in that team, where they will stay for the day unless they are required to move to their math class.*
- Teachers will travel to each classroom in the team. World language teachers and specialist teachers (art, music, technology, PE, special education, life skills) will also travel to the students' homerooms.
- Each homeroom will consist of two cohorts. One cohort will attend SMS in-person on Monday and Tuesday, and will attend remotely on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The other half of the homeroom, the other cohort, will attend remotely on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and attend SMS in-person on Thursday and Friday.
- All Wednesdays will be early release days for students. Staff will schedule meetings and attend professional development training in the afternoons.
- *In grades 7 & 8, students may move to a new classroom for standard or accelerated math class, depending on their math level.

**9:30am-10:30am
Pick-up at SMS - Breakfast
& Lunch for 7 days**

**Place a sign in the
passenger window of your
vehicle indicating the
number of children for
whom you are getting
meals. Please do not exit
your vehicle; a staff
member will place the
meals in your vehicle. For
more information call
781-784-1560 x6024**

SMS Library

Please visit the [Library
Webpage](#) for access to
ebooks, audiobooks,
podcasts, and more.

- The district will provide information for families that decide to opt for fully-remote learning instead of the hybrid model. Information will be provided via email soon.
- Attendance in both in-person and remote classes is required.
- Students will receive grades for their work. Active and appropriate participation is expected from all students.
- Students will eat lunch in classrooms or pre-determined outdoor lunch sites. The cafeteria will offer a small menu of meal choices that students can order in advance. Meals will be delivered to classrooms. More info to follow from our Food Services Department.
- Textbooks from last year will be collected. Details to follow.
- Supply lists for all grades will be provided soon.

For SMS-specific questions/comments, please use our [SMS Reopening Questions and Comments form](#).

General Update on 2020-2021 Fall Reopening

Members of the Sharon school community (parents, students, staff, administrators) have been meeting to coordinate a comprehensive plan for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. For updated information, please visit: [SPS Fall 2020 Reopening Planning Website](#)

Thank you to the following parents and educators who took time from their summer activities to help develop the middle school-specific plans for the school year:

Amy Abrams - Special Education Coordinator
Karen Wald - Administrative Assistant
Christine Moore - 7th Grade ELA
Esme Sammons- Drama Specialist
Jon Warriner- ASD IA and Lead Staff Lounge program
Molly Van Cott - Food Services Director
Karen Gulley - Spanish Teacher
Sally Lehr- 7th Grade Social Studies
Rebecca Canelli- 6th Grade Math and Social Studies
Ray Votolato- Chorus and Music Teacher
Valerie Ordway- 7th Grade Science
Karen Ellston- Special Education Teacher 7th Grade
Patricia Bolgen - IA 8th Grade
Mary Alice Nathan -SMS Nurse
Michelle Fox- SMS Math Specialist
Nicole Hadden - Spanish Teacher
Michelle Paluzzi - IA ASD Program
Jay Brenner- 6th Grade ELA and Science

Kathleen Whiteside - PE and Health
Cathy Collins - SMS Technology Teacher
MaryBeth Walsh- Guidance Counselor
Joseph Connolly- 6th Grade Science Teacher
Erinne Silver - 7th Grade Science Teacher
Kathy Kaplan - 8th Grade Math
Jennifer Brown -SMS Parent
Kristen Hayes Hoemke - SMS Parent
Jess Weiss- SMS Parent
Abigail Brookes Young-SMS Parent
Lisa Uebelacker- SMS Parent
Adam Shain- SMS Parent
Barbara Wright - SMS Parent
Lisa Eloi -SMS Parent
Emily Burke - Science Coordinator
Maureen Magnan- World Language Coordinator
Rebecca Smoler - ELA Coordinator
Meg Dussault -Director of Community Ed
Celeste Ruggiere - Food Services Coordinator

- [Local Resources and Support](#)
- [Sharon Public Schools Counseling Staff 2020-2021](#)

Practicing Mask Use

Masks are required for all SMS students and staff when inside the building and on busses. Students may want to “practice” wearing masks for longer periods of times in preparation for the return to school. We hope to model positive views of mask-wearing to our students and help them understand the importance.

Check out these links for some strategies:

1. [Tips for Getting Comfortable with your Mask](#)
2. [Feeling Anxious About Wearing A Mask? Here Are 5 Ways To Overcome It](#)

Withdrawal from Sharon Public Schools

If your child will not be returning to SMS or is not going to Sharon High School in the fall, please fill out the official [Withdrawal Form](#), and email it back to [Ms. Shuffain](#). We cannot remove your child from the schools and forward records to the new school if we do not receive a Withdrawal Form. Chromebooks, textbooks and library books must be returned to school as soon as possible.

Incoming 7th Graders - IMPORTANT

All 7th graders need to have a current physical on file with our Health Office. The physical needs to be dated after August 2019. The paperwork, including immunization records, can be emailed to Nurse Nathan at mnathan@sharonschools.net or faxed to her at 781-793-5139.

Yearbook Distribution Delayed

We have not yet received the shipment of yearbooks from the publisher. As soon as we receive the yearbooks, we will send out an email with instructions on the distribution process.

Middle School Hockey Tryouts - 8/26

Hockey is back!. Each year the towns of Sharon and Norton combine to form teams for middle school hockey. We feel confident in our ability to start the season and have set a date for our MS tryout. We are hoping to start the season on September 11th. The tryout will be Wednesday, August 26th at 7:10pm. We will be fielding only one team this year, so depending on the numbers, there may be some players who will not make the team.

Please [see this flyer](#) with all of the information on the tryout. Please feel free to be in touch with me if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing everyone on the ice!

Thanks,
Pat Leahy 617-694-4367

Sharon Middle School

75 Mountain Street, Sharon, MA

[SMS Website](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#)

781-784-1560 Main#

781-784-1560 x1 Absence Line

781-784-8432 FAX