Shepherd School District #37 Newsletter



Superintendent's Message

As we begin the 2025-2026 school year, I want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support of your child's education. Your involvement truly makes a difference! Take the time to be present in their education and future. To further their success, we encourage you to help your child learn to advocate for themselves by reaching out to their teacher, advisor, or coach if any challenges arise. This will play a key role in making their day more successful. If your child is in early elementary, please reach out to your child's teacher as an advocate for them.

A new school year is just around the corner. Where did July go! We are excited to start another year here at Shepherd Schools. Our first day of school for grades 1-6 and 9th graders is September 2nd and the first day for grades 7-8 and 10-12 will be September 3rd. This will allow 6th grade students and Freshman to have an orientation day where they will be the only ones in the school building trying to navigate the new spaces. This will help them settle in before the rest of the student body arrives and the halls get crowded. Kindergarten will start on September 4th.

Our district is committed to a culture which creates an environment where both students and staff can thrive. We have several new teachers on campus this year. Shepherd Schools welcomes the following new teachers. In the Elementary, we have Emelie Edward in 5th Grade, LeAnn McFarlen in 2nd grade and Amanda Camposan as Elementary Special Education. In the Middle School, we have Gustav Wenz in Art and Dan Hansen Keyboarding/Technology . In the High School in Vo-Ag is Kylee Billingsley. We welcome them to our campus and look forward to them being a part of the Shepherd team.

Shepherd Schools will continue to be committed to our mission: We Are Shepherd: A safe, respectful, and positive community where our high expectations and emphasis on personal growth support all students in being successful, lifelong learners.

Fall sports are beginning right around the corner. Please be looking for information sent out by Tina Downing, our Athletic Director for the HS and from Dan Hansen our Athletic Director for the MS for students wishing to participate in athletics or extra-curricular groups. If you have any questions regarding athletics please reach out to either of them.

We are excited to continue our Adult Education here at Shepherd. If you are interested in using the facility to workout, interested in learning more about any of our classes, or if you have any other questions/suggestions please contact our schools. We look forward to anyone taking advantage of our classes, giving advice on what more we can offer, and helping out the adults of our community.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We encourage you to follow us on the district Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ShepherdK12 or visit our school website at https://www.shepherd.k12.mt.us for the most up to date information. Once again, we are very excited and look forward to the upcoming school year being successful for all!

Wishing everyone the best for the upcoming year,

Drea O'Donnell Superintendent

SECTION 504

Section 504 is an Act which prohibits discrimination against persons with a handicap in a program receiving Federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a handicap as anyone who:

- has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working);
- 2) has a record of such an impairment; or
- 3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

The school district has specific responsibilities under the Act, which include the responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if the child is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

If the parent/guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

Reporting STUDENT ABSENCES

House Bill #358

Recommended procedures to follow in reporting absentees at Shepherd Elementary, Junior High and High Schools:

- 1. Parents should make an attempt to notify the school by a note, in advance, when they know their child will not be in school the next day.
- 2. Parents of children who are absent should call the school by 9:30 a.m. to report that their child will be absent that day. If parents have not called by 9:30 a.m., school authorities will make an attempt to contact the parents. The date and time the call is made will be documented. Parents will be contacted regardless of child's age.

TITLE IX

No person in Shepherd Public School shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity. The Title IX Coordinator is Heather Ekness.

To the Parents/Guardians of students in the Shepherd Public Schools: This is to notify you that the Board's policy concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 930380, is available in the office of the school. You have a right to inspect and review those portions of your students' educational record as stated in policy during regular hours.

SHEPHERD SCHOOLS TITLE I PARENTAL RIGHT-TO-KNOW

Your Right to Know - Professional Qualification of Teachers

Parents of children, who attend schools that receive Title I, Part A funding, have the right to request and receive information about the qualifications of the educators who teach their children core subjects - reading, English language, arts and mathematics. The same applies to paraprofessionals who instruct.

At a minimum, the information you receive must explain these 3 essential components of an educator's

At a minimum, the information you receive must explain these 3 essential components of an educator's qualifications.

- 1. Whether or not the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject(s) he or she is teaching,
- 2. Whether or not the teacher has an emergency or conditional certificate by which state qualifications were waived,
- 3. What undergraduate and graduate degree (s) the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentrations.

NOTIFICATION IF YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER IS NOT HIGHLY QUALIFIED

ESEA directs schools to send timely notice to parents and guardians IF their child has been assigned to, or taught for more than four consecutive weeks by a teacher of a core academic subject, who is not highly qualified.

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND EMPLOYEES OF THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Pursuant to the AHERA Rule, 40 C.F.R. §§ 763.84(d)

Asbestos is a naturally-occurring mineral which has, until about 1980, been commonly used in building materials. Asbestos will not burn, is an excellent insulator, has great strength, is resistant to chemicals, and absorbs sound. Examples of asbestos-containing building material (ACBM) are vinyl floor tile, sprayed-on acoustical ceiling material, and pipe insulation. As ACBM deteriorates over time, or is disturbed by maintenance, renovation, or demolition activities, asbestos fibers may be released into the air. Inhalation of these airborne, microscopic fibers has been proven to cause such deadly diseases as lung cancer, mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the lungs), and asbestosis (scarring of lung tissues). Uncontrolled asbestos contamination in buildings has been, and remains, a significant environmental and public health issue. In 1986, Congress enacted the *Asbestos Emergency Response Act (AHERA)* to require public and private, secondary and elementary schools to identify ACBM in their school buildings and take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. In 1987, the US Environmental Protection Agency finalized a regulatory program which enforces the *AHERA* mandate. These regulations are incorporated within the *AHERA Rule (40 C.F.,R. Part 763, Subpart E)*.

In compliance with the AHERA Rule, the Shepherd School/School District had its school building(s) inspected by an asbestos inspector, accredited by the State of Montana. During that inspection, areas of suspect ACBM were identified. The type, condition, and location of this ACBM was noted, Samples were taken of some or all of the suspect ACBM. Laboratory analysis of these samples confirmed the presence or absence of ACBM. Suspect ACBM not sampled and analyzed were assumed to contain asbestos. Confirmed and/or assumed ACBM currently remain in certain locations in our school building (s).

Upon confirmation of the presence of ACBM, an Asbestos Management Plan was developed for each of the school buildings in the School/ School District by an asbestos management planner, accredited by the State of Montana. The Asbestos Management Plan (s) include a description of the measures currently being taken to ensure that the ACBM remaining in our school building (s) is maintained in a condition that will not pose a threat to the health of our students and employees. The Plan (s) describe past response actions taken to abate ACBM, as well as response actions planned for the future. Information is provided on the periodical monitoring of the condition of ACBM remaining in our school building (s) through triennial reinspections, conducted by accredited asbestos inspectors, and through semiannual surveillance, conducted by trained school maintenance staff. Finally, the asbestos awareness training program for maintenance and custodial personnel is documented.

A copy/copies of the Asbestos Management Plan (s) is/are available at School/School District administrative office during regular office hours. the Superintendent is the designated Asbestos Program Coordinator for the School/School district. Please direct all inquiries regarding the Asbestos Management Plan(s) to him/her at 373-5461.

SEXUAL HARASSENT/INTIMIDATION STATEMENT

The Shepherd Public School is committed to a positive and productive working and learning environment free from discrimination. Discrimination adversely affects morale and interferes with employee and student ability to work and learn.

The District prohibits sexual harassment or intimidation of its employees or students, whether committed by a co-worker, supervisor, subordinate, contractor, volunteer, or student, and finds such behavior just cause for disciplinary action. The District will not tolerate such behavior between members of the same or opposite sex. The District will take prompt, effective and remedial action on complaints, grievances, and reports of sexual harassment or intimidations (including informal reports of inappropriate sexual or gender-directed conduct) which come to the attention of the District.

The District prohibits retaliation against any employee or student because he/she has made a report of alleged sexual harassment, or against any employee or student who has testified, assisted, or participated in the investigation of a report. Retaliation is itself a violation of federal and state regulation prohibiting discrimination and will lead to disciplinary action against the offender.

This policy applies to individuals attending any events on District property, whether or not District-sponsored, and to any school-sponsored events, regardless of locations.

A substantiated charge against a student shall subject that student to student disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion, consistent with the District's student discipline policy.

SHEPHERD SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025-2026 School Calendar

		Ju	ly 20	25		
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	23	20
21	20	29	30	31		
		Auc	ıust 2	025		
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	25	20	21	20	23	30
31	,	Septe	mbei	202	5	
S	М	Т	W	T	F	S
•	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		_	24	25	20	21
28	29	30				
		Octo	ber 2	2025		
S	М	Octo	ober 2 W	2025 T	F	S
S	M				F 3	S 4
		T	W 1	T 2	3	4
5	6	T 7	W 1 8	T 2 9	3 10	4 11
5 12	6 13	T 7 14	W 1 8 15	T 2 9 16	3 10 17	4 11 18
5 12 19	6 13 20	T 7 14 21	W 1 8 15 22	T 2 9 16 23	3 10 17 24	4 11
5 12	6 13	T 7 14	W 1 8 15	T 2 9 16	3 10 17	4 11 18
5 12 19	6 13 20 27	T 7 14 21	W 1 8 15 22 29	T 2 9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18
5 12 19	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	W 1 8 15 22 29	T 2 9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25
5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	W 1 8 15 22 29	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25
5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	W 1 8 15 22 29	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25
5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27 M	T 7 14 21 28 Nove	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25 S 1
5 12 19 26 S	6 13 20 27 M	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6	3 10 17 24 31 F	4 11 18 25 S 1 8
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17	7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16 23	6 13 20 27 M 3 10	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13	3 10 17 24 31 F	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16 23	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25 Dece T	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26 mber	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27 2025 T	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22 29
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25 Dece T 2	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26 mber W 3	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27 2025 T 4	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22 29
5 12 19 26 S S 2 9 16 23 30 S	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25 Dece T 2 9	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26 mber W 3 10	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27 2025 T 4 11	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 6 13
5 12 19 26 S S 2 9 16 23 30 S	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24 M 1 8	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25 Dece T 2 9 16	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26 mber W 3 10 17	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27 2025 T 4 11 18	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21 28 F 5 12 19	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 6 13 20
5 12 19 26 S 2 9 16 23 30 S	6 13 20 27 M 3 10 17 24	T 7 14 21 28 Nove T 4 11 18 25 Dece T 2 9	W 1 8 15 22 29 mber W 5 12 19 26 mber W 3 10	T 2 9 16 23 30 2025 T 6 13 20 27 2025 T 4 11	3 10 17 24 31 F 7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 6 13

	August
Aug. 26-28	Teacher In-Service Days
Aug. 27	Open House (4:00-6:00 pm)
-	September
Sept. 1	Labor Day (No School
Sept. 2	First Day of School (Grades 1-6 & 9)
Sept. 3	First Day of School (Grades 7-8 & 10-12)
Sept. 4	First Day of School (Kindergarten)
Sept. 22	Teacher In-Service Day (No School)
	October
Oct. 6	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
Oct. 13-14	Student-Led Conferences
Oct. 16-17	Teacher In-Service Days (No School)
	November
Nov. 3	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
Nov. 25	End 1st Trimester (Elementary)
Nov. 26-28	Thanksgiving Break (No School)
	December
Dec. 8	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
Dec. 22-31	Winter Break (No School
	January
Jan. 1-2	Winter Break (No School)
Jan. 16	End 1st Semester (Middle & High School)
Jan. 19	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
	February
Feb. 16-17	Student-Led Conferences
Feb. 19-20	
Feb. 23	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
Feb. 27	End 2nd Trimester (Elementary)
	March
Mar. 23	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
	April
Apr. 2-6	Spring Break (No School
Apr. 27	Progress Report (Middle & High School)
	Мау
May 11	Teacher In-Service Day (No School)
May 22	Last Day of Schoo
	Progress Report (Middle & High School)

First day of school (note grade levels)
Teacher In-Service Day - No School
No School
Student-Led Conferences
End of School Year

		Janı	uary 2	2026		
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
4 11 18 25	5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	8 15 22 29	9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24 31
		Febr	uary	2026		
S 1 8 15 22	M 2 9 16 23	T 3 10 17 24	W 4 11 18 25	T 5 12 19 26	F 6 13 20 27	S 7 14 21 28
		Mai	rch 2	026		
S 1 8 15 22 29	M 2 9 16 23 30	T 3 10 17 24 31	W 4 11 18 25	T 5 12 19 26	F 6 13 20 27	S 7 14 21 28
		Ap	ril 20	26		
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	1 8 15 22 29	9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24	4 11 18 25
		Ma	ay 20	26		
3 10 17 24 31	M 4 11 18 25	5 12 19 26	W 6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	F 1 8 15 22 29	S 2 9 16 23 30
	_		ne 20			
7 14 21 28	M 1 8 15 22 29	T 2 9 16 23 30	W 3 10 17 24	T 4 11 18 25	F 5 12 19 26	S 6 13 20 27

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 2nd:

1st - 6th, 9th, & New Students

Wednesday, September 3rd:

7th - 8th & 10th - 12th

Thursday, September 4th:

Kindergarten

STUDENT ATHLETES

All student athletes need an ArbiterPay account for paperwork this school year. Code of Conduct will be done in person and is mandatory for all parents that have athletes in any sport for any season August

18th @ 6pm in the cafeteria contact Tina

Downing if you have questions at t-downing@shepherd.k12.mt.us

Tina Downing

High School Athletic Director Shepherd High School PO Box 8, Shepherd MT 59079 t-downing@shepherd.k12.mt.us

Welcome back, student-athletes, parents, and fans! I am so excited to kick off another amazing year of athletics and activities!

Thank you for your patience as we transition from Dragonfly Max to Arbiter. Starting on August 13, you will be able to pay all of your sport-specific participation fees and purchase activity cards. Physicals are now good for two years, but all incoming freshmen must have a new one. Otherwise, you can download last year's physical on Dragonfly Max and upload it to your Arbiter account.

Impact testing will be offered on August 13 from 8:00am-3:00pm. Incoming freshman, juniors, and new student-athletes will need to test. There will also be limited space to test on August 14. Testing will also be offered on August 18 from 11:30am-3:00pm. Student-athletes cannot practice without a current baseline test.

The MANDATORY Parent Code-of-Conduct Meeting will be held on August 18 at 6:00pm in the cafeteria.

Lastly, the Annual Community Kick-off will be held on August 23 beginning at 4:00. Meet our cross country team and see our girls flag football team, our volleyball team, and our football team in action. Shandi's Snack Shack and Barnyard Bubbles will be on-site.

Thank you and LET'S GO MUSTANGS & FILLIES! #WeAreShepherd





YOU ARE INVITED

Shepherd Schools Open House Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:00-6:00pm Hope to see you there! JOIN US FOR THE

SHEPHERD LIONS JAMBORE

Saturday, Sept. 6th

SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CENTER - 5541 HAYNES RD

11am - 3pm Live Auction at NOON

SILENT AUCTION ~ BAKE SALE ~ PETTING ZOO BIKE GIVEAWAY ~ INFLATABLES ~ TREAT WALK DUNK TANK ~ NERF GUN SHOOTING GALLERY FACE PAINTING ~ FOOD & DRINK FOR PURCHASE

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SHEPHERD LIONS
CLUB COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THE
EASTER EGG HUNT, HIGHWAY CLEAN UP,
MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE, HALLOWEEN PIT STOP,
THANKSGIVING BASKET DONATIONS & DRESS-ACHILD CHRISTMAS GIFT DONATIONS



To donate, contact Rebecca @ 406-855-5875

Drea O'Donnell Superintendent

Curriculum Director 406-373-5461

Kinsey Szillat

Business Manager/Clerk 406-373-5461

McKenna Sealey Asst. Clerk/Activities Clerk 406-373-5461

Shepherd School District #37

7842 Shepherd Road PO Box 8 Shepherd, MT 59079-0008 Autumn Arlian

Elementary Principal 406-373-5516 FAX 406-373-5076

Rich Hash

Middle School Principal 406-373-5300 FAX 406-373-5342

Kenneth Poepping

High School Principal 406-373-5300 FAX 406-373-5342

Dear Shepherd Community,

We are excited to start the 2025-2026 school year. The summer crew worked hard over the summer to clean the buildings. Many of our teachers attended training over the summer to better prepare us for the upcoming school year. We are excited to welcome everyone back.

Open House will be on August 27th from 4:00-6:00. You will enter through the main elementary entrance. We will have people at the doors to give directions. Please come to Open House with your school supplies.

I would like to welcome our new elementary staff. LeAnn McFarlen (2nd grade) and Emelie Edward (5th grade). Dancia Greenfield is returning this year, but she will be our new librarian. Please make sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to Shepherd.

We always love parent volunteers. New volunteers will need to get their background check and fingerprints done before they can be in the classroom helping. Please see my website for more information. This can take a couple of weeks to complete.

Students will be allowed to enter the building at 8:00 AM. Please do not drop them off early, as our teachers are not available to monitor them. The dropoff lane always seems to be hectic in the mornings. To help with traffic flow, please make sure you pull all the way forward to the end of the sidewalk below the library. We ask that parents don't exit their vehicles. Allow your child to follow the sidewalk into the building. If you would like to walk your child to the door, please park in front of the old building (where the flagpole is). Students may also walk from this area alone as long as they follow the sidewalk and don't walk in the parking lots.

We will continue to use the metal detectors each morning. Students did a great job last year. Once they get back into the routine, I am sure this will go quickly. Parents that come into the building will also need to use the metal detector before entering.

If you need before or after-school childcare, please contact The Sunshine Academy. They are offering a program that will be run at the school.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you at Open House.

Autumn Arlian Elementary Principal



Drea O'DonnellSuperintendent
Curriculum Director
406-373-5461

Shepherd School District #37

Autumn Arlian Elementary Principal 406-373-5516 FAX 406-373-5076

Middle School Principal

Kinsey Szillat

Business Manager/Clerk 406-373-5461

McKenna Sealey Asst. Clerk/Activities Clerk 406-373-5461 7842 Shepherd Road PO Box 8 Shepherd, MT 59079-0008

Rich Hash

406-373-5300

FAX 406-373-5342

Kenneth Poepping High School Principal 406-373-5300 FAX 406-373-5342

8-5-2025

Welcome Back!

We are excited to get the school year going. I hope your children are ready as well. We will be doing our Open House on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 pm. Students will receive their schedules that night and have the opportunity to put things in their lockers, and show their parents around. Teachers will be here to help students if needed as they look for their classrooms.

We have switched over to a different school information system, as you probably have seen several posts on social media as well as information from our superintendent. Please make sure that you register your students as soon as possible as all student must be registered in this new system before getting a schedule. This system is more state friendly when they need data and information from us.

The middle school will be doing a different fundraiser this year as we have not been able to raise the funds we need to operate the past few years. It is very important for your kids to help us with this fundraising as these are the funds we use to provide reward parties for honor rolls, MAP testing and other purposes. We will be asking each student to provide twenty emails to this program. Emails will be sent out for donations, and we get 85% of the funds raised. This is much easier for the kids, and hopefully we can raise enough that we don't have to fundraise every year.

It is important that you read through the handbook with your child when they bring home their planner the first week of school. There is important information about how things are done at the middle school, and things are spelled out pretty well in the handbook.

Looking forward to working with your wonderful kids again this year!

Wednesday, August 27, 2025- Open House- 4:00 pm to 6:pm Tuesday, September 2, 2025- First day of School- 6th graders only Wednesday, September 3, 2025- First day of school- 7th/8th graders

Thank You!

Mr. Hash Shepherd MS Principal



Shepherd High School August 2025

Well here we are! It's time for the 2025-2026 school year to begin! The beginning of a school year is always an exciting time for students and staff. It's a chance for 'things' to start over or start anew. And it provides a chance to move on from the past. With that said...let's move forward and here we go!

The biggest change this year will be our districtwide switch from PowerSchool to Infinite Campus. Messages have been sent to parents asking them to get their students registered. Please, if you have not done so already...it needs to be done AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We need this information in the system prior to providing student schedules. Utilizing this new system will be a learning process for all...students, parents, staff, and administration. Please remember that we will all need a little 'grace' when it comes to this system. Once we are used to it, I am sure that it will be fine for everyone.

As I'm sure most of you have heard, many/most schools are limiting the use of cell phones in classrooms. Therefore we will not be alone in this very difficult task. The high school staff discussed this last Spring and have agreed that we will all be on the same page with this endeavor. Students, please follow the guidelines that will have been set up for you. Parents, please work with us in getting the kids to keep the phones where they need to be. Thank You for your help.

Thankfully this year we will have minimal staff changes in the high school. Miss Kylee Billingsley will be our new Vo-Ag instructor/FFA advisor and Mrs. Vici Duran will be our new administrative assistant in the office. They are going to be great additions to our staff. Please help us to welcome them into our community.

I would like to say Thank You to our maintenance and custodial staff for the work that they have done over the summer. Not only have they done their normal summer maintenance and cleaning, but with the storms that have blown through the community this summer, they have worked diligently to make sure that the buildings will be ready for when the students arrive.

Upcoming Items of Interest:

Aug 14-15	New Student Pre-Registration
Aug 15	Fall Practice Begins
Aug 26	PIR Day for Teachers
Aug 27	PIR Day for Teachers and Open House from 4-6pm
Aug 28	PIR Day for Teachers
Sept 1	Labor DayNo School
Sept 2	First Day of School for freshmen and new high school students
Sept 3	First Day of School for seniors, juniors, and sophomores

Infinite Campus Information

If you have not registered your child(ren) in Infinite Campus, you must do so before school begins. **Parents/guardians of ALL current and new students must complete the online registration.** The link for the Infinite Campus online registration is:

https://shepherdmt.infinitecampus.org/campus/OLRLogin/shepherd?configGroupID=2

Once your online application has been approved, you will receive an email with the link to the Infinite Campus parent site to create your account.

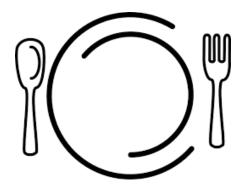
If you have any questions, please contact Drea O'Donnell or Craig McKinney.

LUNCH INFORMATION

<u>Kindergarten - 5th Grade:</u> Teachers will receive and handle the students' lunch money. It will be the teachers' responsibility to turn in the lunch money to the lunch accountant.

<u>Middle School - High School:</u> Lunch money is to be given to your building secretary.

- Charging is discouraged and will be kept to a minimum.
- Parents will be notified by phone and email of low and negative balances in your account.
- A "cash-only" basis exists if a non-sufficient funds check is issued to the lunch program.



LUNCH PROGRAM PRICES

LUNCH	K - 5th	6th - 12th	Adults
1 lunch	\$3.00	\$3.50	\$4.75
5 lunches	\$15.00	\$17.50	\$23.75
10 lunches	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$47.50
20 lunches	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$95.00

REDUCED PRICES	K - 5th	6th - 12th
1 lunch	\$0.40	\$0.40
5 lunch	\$2.00	\$2.00
10 lunch	\$4.00	\$4.00
20 lunch	\$8.00	\$8.00

DDEAKEACT	Students	Reduced	Adults
BREAKFAST	\$1.75	\$0.30	\$2.35

FREE & REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM

Our school participates in the **Free & Reduced Lunch Program.** See the chart above for the Reduced breakfast and lunch prices. To apply for either FREE or REDUCED COST meals for your student (s), please visit our school website at www.shepherd.k12.mt.us to access the application or pick up a form from the school, and return it to Paige Atkinson (lunch account-ant) in the Elementary Building by

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Paige at p-atkinson@shepherd.k12.mt.us or call 406-373-5516 ext. 108.



Shepherd School District #37 SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST MENU 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5
NO SCHOOL TODAY	Breakfast Bar	Cereal	Tornados	Donut
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
	Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice
	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
8	9	10	11	12
Breakfast Bar	Waffle	Cereal	Early Riser	Muffin
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice
MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
15	16	17	18	19
Breakfast Bar	Bagel	Cereal	PANCAKES	Donut
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice
MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
22	23	24	25	26
NO SCHOOL TODAY	Sausage and Pancake	Cereal	Early Riser	Muffin
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
	Juice	Juice	Juice	Juice
	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
29	30			
Breakfast Bar	Bagel			
Fruit	Fruit			
Juice	Juice			
MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety			

MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Shepherd School District #37 SEPTEMBER LUNCH MENU 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5
NO SCHOOL TODAY	Corn Dogs	Turkey Subs	Chicken Nuggets	Pizza Sticks
	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
8	9	10	11	12
French Toast Sticks	Chicken Fajitas	Beef Pot Roast	Meatball Subs	Chrispitos
Sausage Links	5 Star Salad Bar	Mashed Potatoes	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar
Hash Brown	Fruit	Brown Gravy	Fruit	Fruit
5 Star Salad Bar	MILK - Variety	5 Star Salad Bar	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
Fruit		Fruit		
MILK - Variety		MILK - Variety		
15	16	17	18	19
Pulled Pork Sandwich	Nacho Surprise	Chicken Patty Sandwich	Ravioli	Bean Burrito
5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar	Bread Sticks	5 Star Salad Bar
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	5 Star Salad Bar	Fruit
MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety	Fruit MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety
22	23	24	25	26
NO SCHOOL TODAY	Soft Shell Taco	Country Fried Steak	Mac & Cheese	Hamburgers
	5 Star Salad Bar	Mashed Potatoes	Chicken Strips	French Fries
	Fruit	Country Gravy	Baked Beans	5 Star Salad Bar
	MILK - Variety	5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar	Fruit
		Fruit	Fruit	MILK - Variety
		MILK - Variety		
29	30			
Chili	Hot Dog			
Cinnamon Rolls	Chili Dogs			
5 Star Salad Bar	5 Star Salad Bar			
Fruit	Fruit			
MILK - Variety	MILK - Variety			

MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

2025 Transportation News Letter

Hard to believe that it is almost time to start going to school again, isn't it? As usual, Summer has flown by!

We have been working all summer to get the buses in tip top shape for the school year as well as adjusting to the changes with Infinite Campus being implemented at the school.

Currently the bus routes will remain exactly the same as last year. There may be changes, once everything is up and running, but they should be minimal. It is critical that everyone is registered with Infinite Campus as that is where Transportation requests are made!

The schedules remain the same as last year with

Mon/Tue/Thurs school is out at 03:35 Pm and Buses roll @ 03:45 PM

Wed/Fri is out at 02:45 Pm and Buses roll @ 02:55 PM

11th/12th grade Parents please take note: If your child has "Aged Out" and is now driving to school, please do not request bus service in Infinite Campus.

If they need transportation, then please request it.

Elementary Parents:

In the last couple of years, we implemented a scanning system for each bus and issued a scan card to each student. This has allowed us to quickly determine if everyone is on the correct bus and exactly which bus they boarded. The system works very well with 1 exception.... Lost or damaged scan cards. We had several students that lost 3,4,5 and more last year. A few more where bent, chewed on or washed. The elementary provided back pack lanyards last year and that helped, but we still need to reduce this. Please take a minute and make sure your child is aware of the importance of taking care of the card and having it ready to scan before boarding the bus.

Kindergarteners: Parents please work with your child on names, Especially last names, addresses etc. I know it is a big ask for the little ones to remember all this but it is critical when we are trying to determine which bus and which bus they are assigned. Also let them know that Bus Drivers are OK and that they can answer questions when asked by the driver.

Riding a bus is a new adventure for younger students and many times they are caught up in the experience and forget their names, which bus to ride or which stop to get off at etc. The drivers can determine who and where but they need a name, especially the first few weeks, until they get to know all of the riders.

Every day we have every kind of clothing, books, lunch boxes, trapper keepers etc left on the buses. <u>Please write your child's name on everything possible so</u> we can quickly get their things back to them.

If they come home missing a coat, jacket or whatever, the drivers place these items on the buses dash for a couple of days before sending to the elementary lost and found.

All Grades:

Finally, when you receive the parent / student transportation handbook, <u>PLEASE</u> review it with your child, especially the section on electronic devices.

The handbook has the basic rules and expectations for all riders to maintain the privilege of riding the bus and we need everyone to follow them.

Cell phones, I-Pads, Laptops etc, need to remain in backpacks and otherwise out of sight, while riding on the bus.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again, this fall!

Thank You!

Bobby Trotter

Transportation Director

Shepherd School District

THANK YOU!

We would like to give our amazing Shepherd PTO a HUGE Thank You for providing the Elementary with the following school supplies!

- Colored pencils
- Pens
- Reusable water bottles
- Expo markers
- Agendas
- 3 prong folders
- Vinyl take-home folders
- Watercolor paint sets
- Colored markers

- Glue sticks
- Crayola crayons
- Tabbed dividers
- Scissors
- Earbuds
- Reusable bags
- Crayola Markers
- Plastic Pencil Boxes

We greatly appreciate your support!



Supply lists are provided on the following 7 pages. They are also located on the school website and Facebook page.

Shepherd Elementary Kindergarten Supply List 2025-2026

6 glue sticks

12 pre-sharpened pencils

2 boxes of 24-count Crayola crayons

1 box of 10-count Crayola washable markers

1 plastic crayon/pencil box

2 containers of Lysol wipes

2 boxes of Kleenex

8 black fine-point Expo markers

1 small bag of chewy candy (**no suckers**)

1 large box of individually wrapped snack (no peanuts)---MINIMUM 24

Ideas: Cheez-Its, Goldfish, Fruit Leather, Pirate Booty, Granola Bars, Cookies, Apple Sauce, Popcorn, etc...

1 backpack - keep in mind they will need to fit their winter gear inside

1 reusable water bottle (labeled with your child's name)

1 set of headphones (BASIC headphones work best for our computers - no ear buds or wireless please)

*Please do not label items!

~~~Thank you, Shepherd PTO, for purchasing paint dabbers, watercolor sets, colored pencils, extra glue sticks, blue folders, & yellow take-home folders for our class.~~~

Thank you, Kindergarten Teachers



## 1st Grade 2025-2026 Shepherd Elementary Supply List

2 boxes of 24 pk crayons (Crayola work the best) 8-10 **FINE** point **BLACK** Expo Markers 1 **plastic** pencil box with **snap** lid (no zippers or locks) 1 pack of pencil top erasers 2 containers of disinfecting wipes 1 bottle of pump hand sanitizer 3 boxes of facial tissues 1 box of snack (individually wrapped please- snack will need to be sent **every month**) 1 bag of individually wrapped bite-sized candy (starbursts, hi-chews, tootsie rolls, etc.) Label the items below with your child's name 1 set of wired headphones (no earbuds or bluetooth-the cheaper pairs work best) 1 two-pocket, plastic folder (your choice of color/design) 1 backpack

# Thank you to the Shepherd PTO for providing the following supplies to our classroom:

1 reusable water bottle (spill-proof)

Scissors, vinyl take home folders, glue sticks, watercolor paint sets, colored markers, pencils, notebooks and zip-top bags.

# Second Grade Supply List



2025-2026

- 1-Pair of headphones
- 2-Boxes of Kleenex
- 1-Backpack-keep in mind they will need to fit their winter gear inside
- 1-Leak resistant water bottle
- 1-Glue Bottle
- 4-Packages glue sticks (5 count or higher)
- 1-Pencil box
- 1-24 Pack Crayola crayons
- 2-Packs of black Expo markers
- 2-Packs of pencils
- 2-Composition wide ruled notebook
- 1-2 Pocket folder
- 1-Bag of WRAPPED hard/chew candy
- 1- Large box of pre-packaged snacks.

Please thank your PTO representatives for providing your classroom teacher with:

Crayola Markers

Take home folders

Cardstock

Highlighters

**Colored Pencils** 

Big pink erasers

Thank you, Second Grade Teachers

## 3rd Grade Student Supply List for 2025-2026 School Year ©

- 3 boxes of Kleenex (any brand of tissue)
- 3 containers of Lysol/Clorox wipes (NO BLEACH)
- 1 composition notebook
- 1 three ringed binder (1 inch wide with hard cover/pockets for writing)
- headphones (no earbuds or wireless, please)
- 1 bag of individually wrapped candy. Please choose from the following: Tootsie Rolls, Rolos, Lifesavers, Hershey Kisses, Jolly Ranchers, Smarties, Hi-Chews, Saltwater Taffy (NO SUCKERS)

\*\*Please note that supplies will be shared in supply cubbies, so please **DO NOT** put names on anything.

## The following supplies were provided by our Shepherd PTO:

Expo Markers
Colored pencils
#2 pencils
Crayola fine-tip colored markers
Pencil-Top erasers

# Dear New 4th Grade Student,

Welcome to the 4th Grade!! Below is a list of supplies that you will need to start off the year.

# 4TH GRADE SUPPLY LIST

| Classroom Essentials                                                                                                          | Quantity     | <b>/</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Headphones(preferably over the head not earbuds) - Please put name on them. We will keep them here throughout the whole year. | 1 pair       |          |
| Extra large cloth pencil case                                                                                                 | 1            |          |
| Spiral Notebook                                                                                                               | 1            |          |
| Glue sticks                                                                                                                   | 5            |          |
| Ticonderoga Pencils                                                                                                           | 1 box        |          |
| Stickynotes                                                                                                                   | 2 packages   |          |
| Clorox wipes (Boys)                                                                                                           | 2 containers |          |
| Kleenexes (Girls)                                                                                                             | 2 boxes      |          |
| Bag of wrapped candyNO Gum or Suckers PLEASE. (Starburst, Mini chocolate candies, taffy, etc)                                 | 1 package    |          |
| Lined paper                                                                                                                   | 1 package    |          |
| Popcorn (BOYS) for our Class Dojo reward system                                                                               | 1 box        |          |
| Hot Chocolate (GIRLS) for our Class Dojo reward system                                                                        | 1 box        |          |



- **♦** Composition notebooks
  - Yellow Take Home Folders
- Thin black Expo markers



## Dear 5th grade student,

We are so excited to have you in fifth grade! We want to start theyear off right so we have included a list of supplies that you will need. Thank you for starting the year prepared!

- 4 Spiral college rule notebooks
- Pencil pouch
- 3 boxes of pencils (your child may need more throughout theyear)
- 1 pack of highlighters (fit in pencil pouch)
- 1 pack of colored pencils (fit in pencil pouch)
- Assorted Colored Sticky-notes
- Earbuds or headphones
- Kleenexes
- Clorox wipes (boys)
- Gallon ziplock bags (girls)

Thank you to the wonderful PTO for providing additional items: class folders, erasers, yellow take home folders, and agendas.





## SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL 2025-2026 SUPPLY LIST



## General Supplies -- Grades 6-8

2 dozen, pencils 4 glue sticks 1 pair of scissors

Supply bag

Jumbo-size book covers

1 dozen pens (black/blue ink only)

12 pack colored pencils

2 large boxes of Kleenex (1st period)

Earbuds or headphones Trapper Keeper (optional)

1 package black Sharpie (fine tip) Highlighters -- assorted colors 2 large erasers & pencil caps 1" binder (Student-Led Conferences)

**Language Arts** 

6th Grade

1 plastic folder 1 spiral notebook 1 pack sticky notes 7th Grade

**Language Arts** 1 plastic folder

1 spiral notebook -- wide ruled

1 pack sticky notes

8th Grade

Language Arts

1 plastic folder

2 spiral notebooks -- college ruled

1 pack sticky notes

1 package mechanical pencils

Math

1" 3-ring binder Calculator

Six pack dry erase markers

1 pack note cards

<u>Math</u>

1" 3-ring binder Calculator

Six pack dry erase markers

1 pack note cards Graph paper (Steiner) Math

1" 3-ring binder Calculator

Six pack dry erase markers

1 pack note cards Graph paper (Steiner)

**Science** 

1" binder w/ filler paper

4 pack dry erase markers

**Science** 

1 folder (Jeuschede) 2 composition notebooks (Jeuschede)

1" binder w/ filler paper (Struck)

6 pack dry erase markers (Struck)

Playdough (Jeuschede)

**Science** 

1 folder

2 composition notebooks Boys: Black poster board

Girls: Styrofoam balls (various sizes)

**Social Studies** 

2 notebooks Lined Paper

1 packet 3" x 5" note cards

**Social Studies** 

Lined Paper 1 packet 3" x 5" note cards 2 notebooks (Butler)

2 notebooks (Kent)

<u>History</u>

2 notebooks Lined paper

Keyboarding I

1 2-pocket folder **Physical Education**  Keyboarding II

Intro. to Google Apps 1 2-pocket folder

**Physical Education** 

1 gym sack (string bag) 1 college ruled spiral notebook

**Physical Education** 

1 gym sack (string bag)

1 2-pocket folder

**Exploratory Art** 

1 gym sack (string bag)

1 large eraser 6 wooden pencils 2 black Sharpies

24 colored pencils 12" ruler

9" x 12" sketchbook

<u>Art I</u>

9" x 12" sketchbook (unlined pages)

6 wooden pencils

erasers

2 black Sharpies Markers 24 colored pencils

12" ruler Supply bag Art II

9" x 12" sketchbook (unlined pages)

6 wooden pencils

erasers

2 black sharpie Markers 24 colored pencils

12" ruler Supply bag

**Exploratory Vo-Ag** 

1 2-pocket folder

Shop-Vo-Ag

1 1" binder w/loose paper

Shop/Vo-Ag

**Spanish** Folder

Notebook

**Basic Math** 

3 ring binder

Folder

Spanish 5 4 1 Folder Notebook

**Basic Math** 

3 ring binder Folder

Notebook or loose leaf paper

1 1.5" binder

**Spanish** Folder Notebook

**Basic Math** 

3 ring binder Folder

Notebook or loose leaf paper

Notebook or loose leaf paper

Please check with your child at the end of the semester to see if any supplies need to be replenished!



## SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL 2025-2026 SUPPLY LIST



## Drawing (7th/8th)

9" x 12" sketchbook Drawing pencil set Kneaded erasers/2 white erasers 5 Sharpies with fine tips 24 colored pencils Supply box

## Painting (7th/8th)

9" x 12" sketchbook
Acrylic paint set (12-24 colors)
Watercolor paint set
Brush set (7-10 round/flat combo)
Palette
Masking tape
8 canvas frames/panels 9" x 12" or bigger
Supply box

## **Family Consumer Science**

3-ring binder w/notebook paper or notebook and pocket folder Writing utensil Sewing kit fee (\$20)

## S.T.E.A.M. Science

Graph Paper Spiral Notebook Girls: Masking Tape Boys: Toothpicks

## S.T.E.A.M. Science

Graph Paper Spiral Notebook Girls: Rubber Bands Boys: Cotton Balls