

## BOOSTER BASH

MARCH 16, 2024

R&R VENUE  
(550 W. WRIGHT AVENUE, SHEPHERD)

6:00 COCKTAIL &  
CASH BAR

7:00 DINNER & CASH BAR

8:00 LIVE AUCTION,  
REVERSE RAFFLE, GAMES  
& CASH BAR

TICKETS \$50/EACH (ONLY 250 AVAILABLE)  
AVAILABLE FROM SPORTS BOOSTER BOARD MEMBERS  
& THE ATHLETIC OFFICE

What did the painter say  
to his girlfriend?

I love you with all my  
art!!!

What did one cat say to  
the other cat on  
Valentine's Day?

You're purrrrrrrrrrr-fect!

What do you call sweets  
that can keep a beat?

Candy Rappers

## Did you know?



The first heart-shaped box of chocolates  
was introduced in 1861.

More than 8 billion conversation  
hearts are manufactured each year  
and words of encouragement were  
added to Sweethearts in 2022.



It's one of the most popular days for  
proposals.

# Superintendent's Corner

BOND INVESTIGATION CONTINUING- THANK YOU so much to any and all of our “stakeholders” who have engaged to any degree so far in our Bond Investigation process. The numbers of participants have left our friends from Kingscott Architecture and Wolgast Construction overtly impressed, expressing that it’s rare for them to see the amount of involvement in this process that Shepherd has had in comparison to other school districts; some twice our size!! The next group of events available with regard to the Bond Investigation are:

- Tuesday, February 13th; Guided tour of SMS/SHS facilities to view potential improvements. This will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center.
- Thursday, February 15th; Guided tour of Odyssey Middle/High School Alternative to view potential improvements. This will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the main entrance.
- Wednesday, February 21st; All internal and external STAKEHOLDERS invited for what sharing out of what input has determined are the “must haves” for a potential Bond. This meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the SMS/SHS Media Center.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAM- Some people may not be aware of the VAST number of class/trades-like offerings the regional CTE program offers for our SHS juniors and seniors. To name just a few... Construction, Cosmetology, Drafting, Educational Careers, Health Occupations and Welding. There are SO MANY offerings that - of the SHS juniors and seniors - 48% of them participate!! If you’re a local tax payer, you also know that a portion of your taxes goes to support and fund this programming. PLEASE know that BECAUSE of the millage generated from your taxes, these programs provide AMAZING opportunities to so many of our students that represents a HUGE benefit to our District AND creates a ready workforce in so many ways for regional employers. My hope and prayer is that this millage will ALWAYS be funded to support this incredible programming that single districts alone simply cannot afford to provide its students. What a blessing the CTE program is and THANK YOU for your support!!

FOUR MAJOR DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT LEADER- Blessings and good fortune have meant my career in education has spanned up to this point in time just less than forty years. Over the course of time, it’s crystalized what I believe a school district leader’s four key responsibilities ought to be - and the four things I strive to accomplish on a daily basis. They are:

- Work to ever-improve student achievement
- Work to constantly improve school safety
- Be the district’s best “cheerleader”
- Strive toward financial solvency (spend the same as what is coming in).

These four areas have been my focus and will continue to be as the Shepherd Public Schools superintendent. If you would like to speak more with me about any of these or have suggestions on how I can improve you are welcome to reach out to me; Terry Starr, Superintendent: [tstarr@shepherdschools.net](mailto:tstarr@shepherdschools.net).

# Middle School

We held our trimester 2 BlueJay Renaissance on February 2nd. BJR is our reward system here at Shepherd Middle School. We focus on students' ATTENDANCE, ACADEMICS, and ATTITUDE. Students look forward to this loud, high energy, student focused, student created event. Thank you to all who put so much time and effort into making this a great event for our students.



Here is the Link if you are interested in:  
<https://forms.gle/KGva9V8pVYenATqV9>



**SHEPHERD CHOIR APPAREL FUNDRAISER**

JANUARY 22, 2024 TO FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Hey everyone! Mrs. Ingersoll here. From January 22 to February 22 all choir students will be selling t-shirts and sweatshirts! A portion of each shirt goes directly to our program to fund festival dues, new music, and soon a field trip. If you are interested in purchasing, reach out to your favorite choir student or send me an email at [claire.ingersoll@shepherdschools.net](mailto:claire.ingersoll@shepherdschools.net). Money will be due February 22 by 3pm. T-shirts are \$15 and hoodies are \$28. Please add \$2 for 2X and 3X. Thank you in advance for supporting this growing program!



*Valentine's Day is coming - send your student a Valentine!*

Shepherd Middle School Student Council is selling Valentine's Day items! These treats will be delivered to your student during SOAR class on Valentine's Day.

Are you interested in purchasing a Valentine for your student? Follow the link to fill out the order form and pay with Venmo, cash, or check. Supplies are limited - order now through February 12th!!



# Odyssey Middle/High

The rest of the school year will go quickly! Here are some important dates at Odyssey.

- Feb 16-19 - No School
- Mar 8 - End of Tri 2
- March 21- ½ day for students  
12-3pm PT Conferences
- March 22- ½ day for students
- March 23- Spring Break Begins
- April 1- School Resumes
- April 25- ½ day for students
- April 26-29- No School
- May 9- Senior Last Day
- May 11- Prom
- May 16- Graduation
- May 27- No School
- June 6- ½ day, Last Day of School

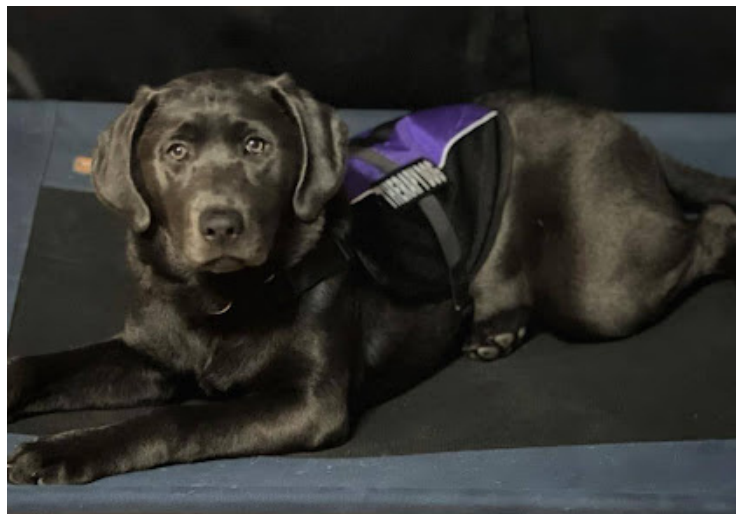


We are excited that basketball is back!

Feb 6 Odyssey vs Mosaic

Feb 20 Odyssey vs Lincoln HS

Feb 27 Odyssey vs Mosaic



Our therapy dog, Blaze, is now 6 months old and finishing up training held at Mid Michigan Community College. She will graduate and begin visiting us in April.

# Project Aware Counselors

## Developing Skills

Project AWARE Counselors have been able to reach over 190 students across the district! We are so glad to have the opportunity to positively impact our students!

TRAILS to Wellness Groups are happening across the district at Shepherd Middle School, Shepherd High School, and Odyssey MS/HS. These groups help teach students the skills to manage stress and symptoms of anxiety and depression!



Project AWARE Counselor Morgan Harnish at Shepherd High School has been involved with the Advocacy Club! She joined them on a recent field trip to the Zibiwing Center where students got the opportunity to learn about Native American history and culture.

## Family Resources

Greater Lansing Food Bank will be distributing food to Isabella County residents at the Black Elk Building parking lot (7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858) on February 17 beginning at 10 am until noon or supplies run out. All that is required to receive food is a Driver's License with current address.

Gratiot-Isabella Great Start Family Coalition is hosting parent cafés at the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum! Enjoy a free child-care, snacks or dinner, earn some money, and win some great prizes all while spending time with other parents! The next Parent Café will be held on March 5th! There are morning (10am-noon) and evening (5-7pm) sessions available for each parent café! Visit Gratiot-Isabella Great Start Family Coalition's facebook page or email [mmonroe@giresd.net](mailto:mmonroe@giresd.net) for more information!



## Building Connections

We are excited to be able to take our students out to HopeWell Ranch for great experiences with supportive adult mentors and many animals across the ranch. HopeWell starts Tuesday, February 13th.

If you are interested in having your child attend, please reach out to a Project AWARE Counselor as soon as possible. Spots are limited!

Leadership students at the high school have been helping to tutor and mentor middle schoolers through our Heart-2-Heart Program! We are so appreciative of the help and connection that the high school students are able to provide to the middle school students!



Project AWARE Counselor Dave Gutierrez is excited to share that Odyssey MS/HS will be starting their basketball season soon, with 8 games scheduled for their season. We wish them good luck!

## Connect With Us!

If you feel that your student could benefit from additional support at school, please reach out to us!

Cathy Huffer, Shepherd Elementary - [chuffer@shepherdschools.net](mailto:chuffer@shepherdschools.net)

Emily Hinsman, Winn Elementary - [ehinsman@shepherdschools.net](mailto:ehinsman@shepherdschools.net)

LeeAnn Gall, Shepherd Middle School - [leeann.gall@shepherdschools.net](mailto:leeann.gall@shepherdschools.net)

Dave Gutierrez, Odyssey MS/HS - [dgutierrez@shepherdschools.net](mailto:dgutierrez@shepherdschools.net)

Morgan Harnish, Shepherd High School - [morgan.harnish@shepherdschools.net](mailto:morgan.harnish@shepherdschools.net)