



February, 2009

## THE STALLION

# Footloose

## The Musical

Thursday–Saturday  
Feb. 26–28, 7:30 pm

In Shepton Cafetorium

\$10 General Admission

Call 469-752-7754 for group sales

Tickets sold at lunches week  
of the show and at the door

*Footloose* is the story of a young man from Chicago (Ren) forced to move with his mother to a puritanical, small town after his father abandons the family. To Ren's shock, dancing and rock 'n' roll are forbidden. Through tenacity and clever use of the bible, Ren manages to convince Reverend Moore to let the town's high schoolers dance again.

*Footloose* based on the 1984 movie of the same name. The music is by Tom Snow (among others), the lyrics by Dean Pitchford (with additional lyrics by Kenny Loggins), and the book is by Pitchford and Walter Bobbie.



# Mark Your Calendar

## General PTSA Meeting

Monday, February 23, 11 am  
following this meeting we will be hosting  
Parenting Program

No Charge. Bring a Brown Bag Lunch and  
join us for a Parent Program on

# Time Management

**Lorraine Brock**  
**Professional Organizer and Coach**

Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, 11 am,  
Shepton Library  
Q & A Time  
Door Prize  
Handouts



How we as parents manage our time and activities affects our families. Even more so, our kids take on our habits either good or bad when it comes to Time Management Skills.

This program will cover the difference in scheduling vs. planning. Plus cover how to insert all your "TO DO's" in to your day. Come and learn these skills; then share them with your child. Help them become self sufficient by getting a head start on managing their own life.

<http://www.getorganized.ws/>

*The Stallion* is a publication of the Shepton High School **PTSA**  
5505 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093  
Principal: Burton Smith  
PTSA President: Jamie Hanna  
Newsletter Editor: Becky Byrley  
Correspondence should be directed to the editor at: [newsletter@sheptonpts.org](mailto:newsletter@sheptonpts.org)

# Road Rules What Every Parent Should Know!

**Karen Slay**  
**Texas PTA State Treasurer**

Wednesday, April 1, 7 pm  
Shepton Library

Do you have a teen planning to drive on prom night? Is your son or daughter driving to school or a job? Are you, or someone you know, about to embark on that journey? Attend this Parent program for more details before your student begins driver's training?

This is a good program for both parents and teens. Karen Slay will give you valuable information about driver's education and making students better, safer drivers. She will share details about student programs, graduated drivers licensing and the point system. Learn what you can do to help new drivers be more aware of the risks of the road.

Karen Slay has served on local, council, district, and State **PTA** boards in various chairmanships and elected offices in both Odessa and Lubbock since 1991. She currently serves as the Treasurer for Texas **PTA**. Karen serves on many community-based boards. She is the founder of the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Kids Aren't Cargo" campaign, and was the driving force behind legislation in Texas that passed in 2001 to keep kids out of the back of pickup trucks. She has appeared in many magazines including *Woman's Day* and *Texas Monthly*, and has appeared on the *Oprah Show*.

**Spring Individual Pictures** will be taken on Thursday February 20 all day on the stage.



## Principal Burt Smith

How wonderful  
it is that nobody  
need wait a single  
moment before  
starting to improve  
the world.

—Anne Frank

### Important School Phone Numbers:

Attendance Office:  
469-752-7604  
Cafeteria:  
469-752-7608  
Counselor's Office:  
469-752-7615  
Main Office:  
469-752-7602  
Nurse's Office:  
469-752-7609  
Registrar's Office:  
469-752-7623

We completed a very successful first semester thanks in large part to the amazing partnership that exists between our teachers, students, parents and community. Our PTSA, booster clubs, and other parent volunteer programs have made invaluable contributions to Shepton this year and I would like to thank each of you for your involvement and commitment in making Shepton High School a wonderful place for our students.

As we begin the spring semester I would like to invite each of you to attend our Spring Open House Thursday, March 5 from 7-8:30 pm. This will be a great opportunity for parents to meet their student's teachers and find out what the students are learning this semester. We will also go over our school report card in the library that evening from 6:15-6:50 pm and everyone is invited to attend.

I would like to remind everyone of a wonderful communication tool that we have available. *Shepton eNews* is a free service in which you can receive e-mails from the school several times each week with the school announcements and other very helpful information. You can sign up at the following website: <http://elist.pisd.edu> or you can access the website from the main PISD webpage, <http://www.pisd.edu>.

I would also like to encourage all parents to sign up for Parent Portal. Parent Portal provides parents access to real-time student attendance records and grades (grades are updated every Monday). You can register for this free service at the following website: <http://parent.mypisd.net/CookieAuth?domain=www.parent.mypisd.net> or you can access the website from the main PISD webpage, <http://www.pisd.edu>.

Families who do not have a computer to use can receive a used one free of charge from the school district through a program called Computers@Home. You are welcome to call our campus technology assistant, Daniel Ramirez, at (469) 752-7606 regarding this program.

We are excited about all of the incredible things going on at our school and appreciate the support of our parents and community in helping insure the success of every student at Shepton High School.

Please feel free to contact me anytime I can be of assistance with your student's education.



## PTSA President Jamie Hanna

Unless someone  
like you cares a  
whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to  
get better.  
It's not.  
~Dr. Seuss

Spring traditionally brings changes some good and some bad, and this year goes without exception. We've had changes in the Administration of our Country, changes in our economy, changes to come from our State Legislature and even changes in our students as they continue to grow and learn. Our school continues to strive to be the best and our students don't let us down. If you get the Mane Event, you will see all the accomplishments on a daily basis.

Soon we will have 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Frankford and Renner Middle Schools visiting our campus and getting tours from a great bunch of Shepton Students called the Stallion Stampede. If you have friends who have future Shepton students, please share all our successes and how great our kids are! Help them feel comfortable with their student continuing their education in PISD especially at Shepton.

Our Teachers and our Parents are the best too. We can't even count the number of hours they spend up at school and after school helping our students accomplish all their goals and grow into young adults. We were fortunate to award four staff members and two *PTSA* parents Life Member Awards on February 17 at the Plano Centre. See the article later in this issue for more detail on who they are and how they contribute to our Shepton Community.

The most important part of change is that we should only change the things that need changing – not just changing for the sake of changing. On that note, we will begin filling a new *PTSA* Board to get ready for the new 2009-2010 school year. Some of our *PTSA* friends will be moving on to Plano West or on to new and different jobs. If you have an interest in joining our *PTSA* Board, please send me an email at [president@sheptonptsa.org](mailto:president@sheptonptsa.org) or visit our website at [www.sheptonptsa.org](http://www.sheptonptsa.org) and fill out an interest form. We would LOVE to have you help us CHANGE the new school year!

I look forward to a new year and reflecting back on all the changes that have occurred. I hope that they are all filled with hope and good news.

**The Shepton *PTSA* Directories are in!** If you haven't received your copy, please contact Andrea Forray at [directory@sheptonptsa.org](mailto:directory@sheptonptsa.org) or Amy Bullington at [codirectory@sheptonptsa.org](mailto:codirectory@sheptonptsa.org).



Correspondence for Senator Florence Shapiro should be sent to:

The Honorable  
Florence Shapiro  
5000 Legacy Dr., Ste. 494  
Plano, Texas 75024  
Phone (972) 403-3404  
Fax (972) 403-3405

E-Mails can be sent through her website at [www.shapiro.senate.state.tx.us](http://www.shapiro.senate.state.tx.us) (click link to access, then select "E-Mail" in the menu at the top of the home page).

## The Legislature is in Session!

By Jamie Hanna

A few short weeks ago our Texas Legislators returned to Austin. They have many important items on their list to address, none more important than changing the current 4X4 plan that was passed into law during the last session. All in all, encouraging students to take four years of the core subjects (English, History, Math and Science) is a good thing. As a parent, I want my children to be the best prepared that they can be exiting high school. I also know that not all children are alike or have the same needs. All three of mine are very different in abilities, interests and desires. That being said, it is very important that the Legislature address the needs of other children that may end up forced out of high school without a diploma because they are unable to complete the four years of math and science now required.

The Plano Council of *PTA* has made a proposal that aims to amend the current law to include the two new paths for student graduation. One that includes a Fine Arts/Humanities Path and a Career Path, both of which only require three years of both Math and Science. They would also rename the original path, STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering, & Technology.

The idea being, that we want more students to be successful and graduate from High School and move on to higher education, be it a University or Trade School. We don't want to leave more students behind because we had good intentions.

Now is the time to make your voice heard. With the legislators back in Austin – we need to make everyone's voice heard. If you are interested in voicing your opinion please contact Senator Florence Shapiro.

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I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do. —Edward Everett Hale

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## Congratulations to...

Coach Morgan, Coach Leraas and the Plano West Men's Basketball program!! Four Championships in one weekend!!

Plano West Men's Varsity Basketball team on winning the Garland Coca-Cola Tournament. Michael Groselle - Tournament MVP. Tyler Melville & Geoffrey Bates - All Tournament Team selections.

Plano West Men's Jr Varsity Basketball team on winning the Haltom City Tournament.

Shepton High School's 9<sup>th</sup> A team and 10<sup>th</sup> grade team on their Royce City Tournament championships. We are building a Legacy of Champions!!!



**3<sup>rd</sup> VP,  
Membership  
Cyndi  
Scroggins**

**Congratulations  
to all our Texas  
Life Member  
Award winners.  
They are a  
positive and  
motivating force  
for our students  
at Shepton!**

## Shepton PTSA honors Six Recipients with Texas Life Member Awards

Carol Landt



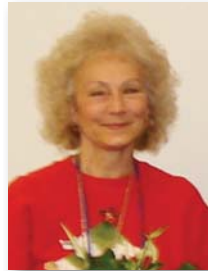
Joni Strobel-McLean



David Mejares



Eileen Zack



Creed Hansen



Bruce Strong



The Shepton *PTSA* was honored to award four staff and two parent members with the Texas Life Member Awards at the Life Member Banquet, February 17. Each recipient whether staff or parent member, exhibits qualities that exemplify why our students succeed be it by mentoring or by example. The honor is bestowed not because they have a high profile position, but because of what they have accomplished.

Our first parent recipient is Carol Landt; she is our Hospitality Chairperson here at Shepton. She usually hides behind the

scene helping where needed, but has shined this year taking excellent care of our staff.

The second parent recipient is Joni Strobel-McLean who is our Newsletter Distribution Chairperson. She has worked in many positions over the years, often doing that job that no one wants but needs to get done.

They both give of their time freely and by example show our students how important volunteering your time can be.

**As you know, our Staff at Shepton is the best. There is no job that is too small or not important.**

Our first staff recipient is probably the least likely to be known by parents by name, is here all the time, and definitely picks up after all of us and always with a smile on his face; he is our Head Custodian, David Mejares!

Our second staff recipient, Eileen Zack, not only is the head of the Foreign Language

Department, but is an amazing educator who has devoted her life to teaching and mentoring students. She also helps with the International Club and sponsors the Crochet for the Cure Club that crochets hats for cancer patients.

Our third staff recipient, Creed Hansen, English Teacher, has a passion for teaching which motivates his students in and out of the classroom including the Frisbee Club which he sponsors.

Our last staff recipient isn't last because he is the least qualified but because he is probably the better known of the four awarded. Coach Bruce Strong, Athletic Director, is instrumental in the development of so many of our students and athletes that he exemplifies the motivation our teachers provide our students. He is a positive force in our building and many of our students credit him with helping them achieve their successes in school.

## Delete Cyber Bulling

A seminar to help parents protect their children. This isn't your Mom's internet safety class! It's real, and it's in Plano.

**Crossroads Family Services  
Thursday, February 12, 2009, 7 pm  
Plano ISD Administration Building,  
2700 W. 15th St.,  
Plano, TX 75075**

What is cyber bullying? It's not what you think. MySpace in YourSpace. What are the benefits and risks? We're not just talking about child predators – Cyber bullies are children. Real life education about how technology affects your child's life. Tools for your kids to keep them from becoming a perpetrator or victim. Identifying & taking action to stop cyber bullying.

Sponsored by Plano ISD Council and *PTA*.



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# Congratulations to Shepton's Teachers of the Year!

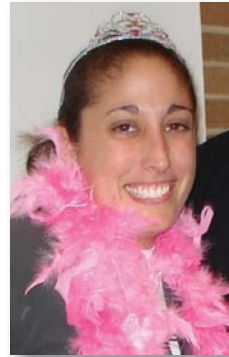
Experienced Teacher of the Year  
Fran Cowherd



Shepton is extremely proud of the selection of Shepton's Experienced Teacher of the Year, Fran Cowherd. Mrs. Cowherd teaches math in our Special Education Department. She is also the campus coordinator for our recycling program. Mrs. Cowherd has been a tremendous support to our building for many years, and we are thrilled to be able to recognize her as our Experienced Teacher of the Year.

Our Physical Education and Athletic Departments are equally proud as Ms.

Beginning Teacher of the Year  
Kristen Grassi



Kristen Grassi has been named Shepton's Beginning Teacher of the year. Ms. Grassi teaches Physical Education and coaches our sophomore girls' basketball team. Possibly the greatest testament to her teaching ability is the fact that our staff had no idea she is a new teacher!

Congratulations to both of these fabulous teachers! We look forward to the Plano ISD selection of Teacher of the Year as we feel that we have clearly selected the district's best teachers, right here at Shepton High School!

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## After School Supervision

Please note that after school administrative supervision of students in front of the school concludes at 4:45 pm. We request that all students be picked up by that time each day. Exceptions are those students who are with a teacher/sponsor for scheduled tutorials, meetings, or practices. In these cases, students should be picked up immediately upon conclusion of the activity.

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## Your Dollars at Work!

This past month we were able to fund almost \$8,000 in Teacher Grants and \$1,000 for Student Organization /Club grants. Your dollars put more calculators, reference books & dvd's into our Classrooms, just to name a few. It also helps pay for various activities held at our school. These dollars are used to touch as many students in the school as possible so that all of them will benefit from the money that we raise as a *PTSA*. Each year we ask the staff and student organizations to apply for grant money and we try and fund as many of them as we can. With your help we continue to make our school great!

Thinking about how you might score on the

# PSAT, SAT, or ACT?

## Practice Test:

**Saturday, February 14, 2009**

Practice SAT 9 am-1:15 pm

Practice ACT 9 am-1 pm

Practice PSAT 9 am-11:30 am

Where: Plano Senior High School

**Register By: Monday, February 9**

## Strategy Session:

**Thursday, February 19, 2009**

6:30-8:30 pm

Parents are encouraged to attend the

Strategy Session

Session Location: PSHS Cafeteria

Cost: \$12 (SAT, ACT), \$10 (PSAT)- non-refundable and due by registration deadline  
Checks payable to PSHS PTSA  
Walk-Ins will NOT be accepted.

Don't forget your calculators and pencils. Please show up 15 minutes prior to testing. Students will receive their test booklets and the score sheets with tips on how to improve their scores on the actual exam.

## Send your registrations & fee to:

Plano Senior High School  
c/o *PTSA* Practice Test  
2200 Independence Pkwy.  
Plano, TX 75075

Please visit [www.sheptonptsa.org](http://www.sheptonptsa.org) for a copy of the registration.

Sponsored by: Plano Senior *PTSA* and  
The Princeton Review

For more information, please contact Dana Billbray at [billbray@verizon.net](mailto:billbray@verizon.net) or [pshs\\_ptsa@yahoo.com](mailto:pshs_ptsa@yahoo.com).

# FREE Money for Shepton!

Shepton *PTSA* (Parent-Teacher-Student Association) finances all of its programs and support of the school through membership dues, school supply sales, snack sales and grocery store partnership programs. If you shop at Tom Thumb, Albertsons or Central Market, please be sure to register and use your cards to support the Shepton *PTSA*.

## Here's How It's Done...

### Tom Thumb Reward Card

Present your Tom Thumb Reward Card to the service desk at any local Tom Thumb and ask them to link it to Shepton's number: 6657

### Albertson's Community Partners

The preferred Savings Card is now the ONLY card needed for easy, year-round fundraising! Register your card now to start earning money for Shepton! REGISTER ONLINE: Go to [www.albertsons.com](http://www.albertsons.com). Click on "In the Community" then click on the Community Partners logo link. Once you log in, click on "Sign me up." Shepton's ID Number is 49000105382.

### Central Market

#### "Fundraising Foodies" Card

Central Market has begun a new card program to benefit schools—you simply show your "Fundraising Foodies" card to the cashier before they ring the total of your sale and Shepton earns five percent of your purchase! Pick up your "Foodies" card in the school's front office and use it each time you shop at Central Market!

Thank you for supporting the Shepton *PTSA* by helping us provide the funds to support Shepton High School through programs, volunteers and educational enhancements!

## Plano West Senior High PTSA Board



If you will be moving on to Plano West Senior High and are interested in serving on the PWSH board, contact either Libby Goldman at [madlib@flash.net](mailto:madlib@flash.net) or Joany Pardee at [pardeeboys@aol.com](mailto:pardeeboys@aol.com). Available positions are located at <http://wolfdenpts.org/board.htm> along with current board members.

Their nominating committee is getting a head start on next school year board and would like to begin filling those positions. So if you want to support Plano West in one of these areas, please let them know.

## FBLA in the News...

(Future Business Leaders of America)  
By Debra L Sepp, FBLA Sponsor

FBLA has been busy at Shepton during their 1<sup>st</sup> Semester. We completed two Fund Raisers. **Sign-A-Stud**, to benefit Habitat for Humanity, generated a \$110 contribution and our studs were placed in the home of a PISD employee. She and her son were very grateful and I know they had a wonderful Christmas in their new home. **Coin Drive**, to benefit Hurricane Ike victims, generated a \$200 contribution. All the monies from this Texas FBLA fund raiser were donated to Ball High School in Galveston ISD. They lost everything ~ equipment, uniforms, etc. Shepton FBLA was very proud to have been a part of helping Ball High School recover from this devastating event.

Through **Plano Santa**, we were able to make two children's Christmas a very happy one. FBLA members had fun shopping for their gifts. It is wonderful to be able to do this every year. Helping in the community is a huge part of being a Future Business Leader.

Second Semester begins the competitions. Friday, January 16 will be step one: Area Competition in Mt Pleasant, TX. Those who place in the top five for their event will move on to Step Two ~ State Competition in Fort



Worth, TX April 23-25. Those who place in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in their event at State will be attending National Competition in Anaheim, CA June 23-30. It is an exciting time.

Shepton FBLA will be having one more fund raiser this year. It will benefit **Hope's Line through Verizon**. In late February-early March FBLA will have boxes decorated for the collection of all those wonderful cell phones you are no longer using and have no idea what to do with them. We will collect them for you and take them to Verizon. Verizon will refurbish them and give them to people who are in need of cell phones or dispose of them appropriately. Please have your student listen for the announcement of when this will begin. We look forward to collecting your old cell phones.

Thank you for your continued support with Shepton Future Business Leaders of America.

## JROTC WOLF Battalion Goes for the Gold

By Kathy Bunch, Cadet Captain, Public Affairs/Marketing Officer

As 2008 rolled to an end the Wolf Battalion participated in the annual Plano City Christmas Parade. Cadets marched for two miles up and down hill through slightly less than satisfactory weather. But the cold was nothing to the Battalion as we marched with our heads held high showing our pride in our schools. To celebrate the end of the semester the Wolf Battalion hosted its annual Holiday Winter social. Cadets had a fun time eating pizza and interacting with each other in a mutual environment.

With the 2009 getting off to a start, the Wolf Battalion has already dove head first into a great many things. The first major event of the New Year is our Triannual Formal Inspection which is to be held on 13 January. This event determines the status of the Mighty Wolf Battalion for the next three years. There are three possible standings for a JROTC battalion under-going an inspection: Merit Unit, Honor Unit and Honor Unit with Distinction. The Wolf Battalion has held the Gold star, Honor Unit with Distinction, since its beginning in 1999. And we intend to keep that tradition alive, this year, and for many more years to come. During the inspection cadets will be evaluated on their marching abilities, and their wealth of knowledge. There is a curriculum knowledge inspection where select cadets from each LET (Leadership Education Training) level will spend time preparing answers to questions about different subjects taught throughout the year. A color guard will also be inspected during this day long process. And the Battalion Staff will present a detailed briefing about the different aspects and jobs in the WOLF Battalion. When we achieve the Gold Star, besides bragging rights, it will also allow our Senior Army Instructor to nominate senior cadets to the many service academies.



On 07 February cadets will compete in the Wylie Drill Meet as well as in the Birdville Drill Meet on 21 February. Cadets are all preparing for each of these drill meets, still devoting their Wednesday and Thursday afternoons as well as other days throughout the week. There will be one more drill meet in March and April.

On 02 March cadets will begin training for the annual Cadet Challenge. In this challenge each cadets will perform a serious of physical events ranging from sit ups, shuttle run, one mile walk/run, and push ups. Results from this event are calculated and cadets will be presented awards for placing in the top five cadets in the whole battalion for the Cadet Challenge. Of course we are looking forward to the Formal Military Ball, 25 April, as well as the All-Services Awards Ceremony, 12 May 09. I wonder who the JROTC Sweetheart and King will be this year...

For additional information about JROTC, contact Major (Ret) John Napoli at (469) 752-9782 or 1st Sergeant (Ret) Steve Ford at (469) 752-7000.

## Attendance Office News...Absenses

- To report a student absent before 9:30 am, call (469) 752.7600 and press 3.
  - Include legal name of student, spelling last name
  - Grade of student
  - ID# (if known)
  - Brief reason for absence

The absence will be recorded and temporarily excused(3 days) pending receipt of written note from parent/guardian
- Notes are required to excuse the absence upon return to school.
  - All notes must contain the information listed above.
  - Doctor's note required if absent for five consecutive days.
  - Planned absences require a note at least one week in advance so that administration may consider excusing the absence.

It is important to remember that if a class is missed due to a doctor's/dental appointment or medical treatment, a note from the physician not only excuses the time out of class, but these are not considered to be absences. PLEASE return such permits to the attendance office the moment that you return to the building. Any absence becomes unexcused if written notice is not received within three days.
- Signing students in and out during the school day:
 

Parent/Guardian or someone listed on the emergency card can sign students out at the Attendance Office.

A note giving permission and stating the reason for absence and the time needed to leave school must be turned in to Attendance Office first thing in the morning so a pass can be issued and the student can leave class at the appointed time.

If the note can be verified by phone during the day, students may sign themselves out at the Attendance Office. If the note cannot be verified, the parent or guardian must come to the Attendance Office to sign the student out.

## Parking at Shepton...

### Parking for Shepton Events

Please be advised that the business parking lot across Plano Parkway is in use for business purposes in the evening and on weekends. Please park in Shepton's parking area for Shepton High School events. Additional parking may be found on the west side of Shepton and/or the Huffman Elementary School parking lot.

### Parking Lot Etiquette

As you are all probably aware, our parking lot is extremely congested before and after school. To assist in alleviating traffic issues, we do ask that all students and parents observe the following suggestions:

- When in the carpool lane, please pull over to the right, by the curb, for drop off/pickup. This will allow the left lane to continue moving. Even that "quick stop" in the left lane causes the entire lane to stop.
- Be observant of the traffic direction arrows painted on the parking lot.
- As more students receive their drivers' licenses, more students are walking through the parking lot and between cars after school. Please be extra vigilant.
- Observe the maximum speed of 5 mph in the parking lot.

### Parking Tags

A reminder to all students that a Shepton Student Parking Tag is required in order to park on our lot. Tags may be purchased in the attendance office. Students parking without tags are subject to being towed at the owners' expense.

### When you visit Shepton

Parents are always welcome at Shepton. When coming to campus, please remember to sign in at the front desk and pick up a visitor badge. This helps us in providing safety and security on campus.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation!

# Sports News...

## 2009 Shepton Baseball Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Site
2/17/09	Tuesday	Coppell (Scrim)	4 pm	Coppell
2/20/09	Friday	Marcus (Scrim)	5 pm	Marcus
2/26/09	Thursday	Highland Park JV Tournament	TBA	Highland Park
2/27/09	Friday	Highland Park JV Tournament	TBA	Highland Park
2/28/09	Saturday	Highland Park JV Tournament	TBA	Highland Park
3/5/09	Thursday	Plano Invitational Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/6/09	Friday	Plano Invitational Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/7/09	Saturday	Plano Invitational Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/10/09	Tuesday	Allen*	5 pm	Allen
3/12/09	Thursday	Elks Lodge Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/13/09	Friday	Elks Lodge Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/14/09	Saturday	Elks Lodge Tournament	TBA	TBA
3/17/09	Tuesday	McKinney Boyd*	5 pm	Plano West
3/24/09	Tuesday	Vines*	5 pm	Plano
3/27/09	Friday	Jesuit*	5 pm	Plano West
3/28/09	Saturday	Naaman Forest JV	10 am	Plano West
3/28/09	Saturday	Naaman Forest JV	12 pm	Plano West
3/31/09	Tuesday	Williams*	5 pm	Plano East
4/3/09	Friday	Wylie*	5 pm	Plano West
4/9/09	Thursday	Allen*	5 pm	Plano West
4/11/09	Saturday	Rockwall Heath	10 am	Rockwall Heath
4/11/09	Saturday	Rockwall Heath	12 pm	Rockwall Heath
4/11/09	Saturday	McKinney Boyd*	5 pm	McKinney Boyd
4/14/09	Tuesday	Jasper*	5 pm	Plano West
4/17/09	Friday	Jesuit*	5 pm	Jesuit
4/21/09	Tuesday	Williams*	5 pm	Plano West
4/24/09	Friday	Wylie*	5 pm	Wylie

\*District Game

Head Coach – Greg Pierce  
(469) 752-7747, [gregory.pierce@pisd.edu](mailto:gregory.pierce@pisd.edu)

Assistant Coach – Martin Melson  
Athletic Director – Bruce Strong

## Pep Rally — February 20

Shepton High School has two pep rallies to accommodate our large student body in our small gym. We request that parents attend only the second pep rally because we have a larger student population attend the first pep rally and seating is limited. Our second pep rally begins around 3:42 pm, and parents are encouraged to stand along the walls with Shepton staff members due to

our large student body. If you are planning to video the performance, please contact an administrator before the pep rally for special accommodations. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding regarding these requests. Please do not forget to sign in and wear a visitor's badge before you catch that Stallion Spirit!!

February 20 is the last pep rally for the year!

## Counselor Office News...

As we begin the second semester, we want to encourage you to be aware of your student's grades and the credits he/she is receiving. In order to be promoted to 10<sup>th</sup> grade a student must have six credits. Failing more than one class will result in retention. In order to be promoted to 11<sup>th</sup> grade and to go to Plano West, a student must have 13 credits as well as English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology and one completed social studies class. Please contact your student's counselor with any concerns that you might have.

There are many things happening in the counseling office this semester. We hosted Plano West Senior High Counselors as they came and spoke to the 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Those students also registered for their

11<sup>th</sup> grade classes on-line through their English classes. In order to finalize those choices and to provide more information to parents and students, each sophomore student will be scheduled for an individual conference with his or her counselor.

**Parents are an important part of the planning process. Please look for a yellow postcard to arrive in the mail with your appointment date and time.** The conferences will continue from February through May and the cards will be mailed two to three weeks before each appointment time. Sophomores were also given the opportunity to register with College Board through the Quickstart program. Ask your student to show you that website and the wealth of college and testing information found there.

### The 2009 TAKS Tests scheduled dates:

March 3	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
April 28	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math
April 30	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science
May	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

It is very important every student take the test. Please schedule doctor's appointments and avoidable absences on another day.

The Shepton Counselors here to help students in a variety of ways ranging from academic concerns to crises interventions. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.



*9<sup>th</sup> A team girls basketball winning the Duncanville tournament in November, 2008. They also won the Denton tournament in December, 2008!*

## Got Pic?

**Have you taken photos of PTA events and PTA-sponsored events?**

Please email them to Meryl K. Evans at [historian@sheptonptsa.org](mailto:historian@sheptonptsa.org) for inclusion in the *PTSA* scrapbook for the year. Let us know the event name, who is in the photo, and the date of event. Thank you!

## Curriculum Office News...

### TAKS Time

We are all very aware of the approach of the state exam – TAKS. You cannot enter a classroom these days without some discussion and preparation for at least one of the sections – Reading/English Language Arts, Math, Science, or Social Studies. Our first TAKS tests will be given on Tuesday, March 3. Freshmen will be taking the Reading TAKS, and the sophomores will be taking the English Language Arts TAKS. However, three very important tests remain to be given in April. The sophomores will be taking Math TAKS on Tuesday, April 28; Science TAKS on Thursday, April 30; and Social Studies TAKS on Friday, May 1. The freshmen will take Math TAKS on Thursday, April 30. The freshmen do not take the Social Studies or Science portions. Please help your child prepare for each of these days with lots of rest, proper nutrition, and a determined focus to do his or her best work! In addition, we would encourage you to read The Mane Event and listen to any phone messages from Shepton regarding specific TAKS tutorials. These could be invaluable to your students!

### Fines and Fees

As we progress through the middle of the second semester, it is imperative that students who have been notified of first semester fines and fees get those cleared as quickly as possible. In addition, please be aware that all books, fees, and fines for the entire year will need to be cleared by Wednesday, June 4. As your student begins

final exams, please check to see that your student still has all of his/her textbooks, school equipment, school uniforms, etc. Please contact us at 469-752-7600 if you need to know the cost of items that you feel certain are truly lost.

### UIL Eligibility

All students in an extracurricular program are subject to the UIL No Pass-No Play Policy when his/her extracurricular program is in season. Eligibility for the 4<sup>th</sup> six weeks has been based upon the grades posted at 4:30, Friday, December 19. The student will then regain or lose eligibility at 4:30, Tuesday, January 13. Those students deemed ineligible on December 19 will be reassessed based upon the grades as of 4:30, Thursday, January 22. If a student is deemed to have regained eligibility, the student will be eligible as of 4:30, Thursday, January 29.

### Report Cards and Progress Reports

Report cards for the fourth six weeks will be issued from 4<sup>th</sup> period teachers on Friday, February 20. If you do not receive a copy of your student's report card, please contact our registrar, Fran Weidemier, to receive a copy. Progress reports for the 5<sup>th</sup> six weeks will be issued from 4<sup>th</sup> period teachers and any teacher in whose class your child is failing on Monday, March 10. If you do not receive your student's progress report(s), please contact the individual teachers by calling our front desk at (469) 752-7600.

A HUGE CONGRATULATION to sophomores Kelly Silverthorn and Harrison Tsai who were selected as members in the Texas All State Choirs.

## Did You Know...

PISD Code of Conduct and PISD School Board Policy prohibit sexual harassment and bullying, harassment, or making hit lists as defined in Texas Education Code Chapter 37 (state law). Such infractions are serious Student Status violations. Please report any concerns that may arise.



Shepton High School

PTSA

5505 W. Plano Parkway

Plano, TX 75093

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# Must Reads!

Delete Cyber Bulling Class	7
Footloose, the Musical Performances	1
4x4 Update	5
Parenting Programs	2
Principal Letter	3
PSAT, SAT, or ACT? Practice Tests	9
PTA Lifetime Members	6
PTSA President Letter	4