

July, 2008



THE STALLION



Schedule Pick Up

9 am to Noon

10th Grade

Thursday, August 14

9th Grade

Friday, August 15

Tax Free Days

Students: Please remember that before you are allowed to pick up your schedule and supplies, you must have your completed Emergency form, signed Truancy Warning form, and **\$5 for your student ID**. Please also be aware that the dress code policy (see page 9) will be enforced before you are allowed to take your picture for your school ID. If you have any questions regarding what will be required for Schedule Pick-Up, please call 469-752-7600. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Tips for a Smooth Check Out

At registration the Shepton *PTSA* will be selling pre-packs, supplies, reading books, calendars and memberships on those days. August 14 and August 15 will both be tax-free days for all items purchased from the Shepton *PTSA* on those days only. Items purchased after registration (i.e. the first week of school) will have sales tax added to all pre-packs, supplies and books. Membership and calendars are not taxable. We will accept checks and cash at registration, but can not accept credit cards. Please make your checks payable to Shepton *PTSA*. We

will have check-out lines for checks only, and lines for checks and/or cash. Please make sure that your Shepton *PTSA* Order Form is completely filled out before you come to the cashier tables.

If you are not able to come to registration, the *PTSA* will be selling pre-packs, school supplies and reading books before school, by the school store, on the first two days of school, August 25 and 26, for your convenience. Please remember to add sales tax (8.25%) to your purchases on these days.

Sign Up to Receive the Newsletter Electronically!

Your *PTSA* wants to send out this newsletter via email instead of incurring the printing and postage expense for such a large mailing. By doing so, we can use our money to more directly benefit your student, teachers, and the school. You may sign up by sending an email to newsletter@sheptonpts.org. Or you may complete the following information, and send it in to the school office (attention Newsletter).

Student Name(s) _____

Mom's Name _____

Mom's Email Address _____

Dad's Name _____

Dad's Email Address _____

For those of you who signed up last year and never received the newsletter in your inbox, please sign up again. We have fixed the issues that plagued us last year.

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

How to be "In the Know" at Shepton

Subscribe to Shepton's E-newsletter, *The Mane Event*.

Receive school announcements, calendar information, and much more! To subscribe, go the elist Web site at <http://elist.pisd.edu> and click the link for new subscribers.

Use the Parent Viewer.

Online access to view your child's grades and attendance is on our Parent Viewer web site. You will now be able to view current grade averages instead of the six or nine week summary averages provided in the past. Daily attendance information will continue to be available as well. Additional reports available online will enable you to view details such as assignments, quizzes and tests along with the grade, score weights, due dates, and maximum values. Missing assignment reports are also an option for you to view. Another enhancement to this online access is the ability to sign up for automatic email notifications.

You will be able to schedule the following types of reports:

- Unexcused absence
- Detailed attendance
- Grade summary
- Detailed grade information
- Grade notification Register for Parent Viewer at <http://parentviewer.pisd.edu> to setup your individual account information for access.

Website

The Shepton High School website is a terrific source of all kinds of Shepton information. Go to <http://11k-12.pisd.edu/Schools/Shepton/home.htm> and save it to your favorites.



**Principal
Burt
Smith**

Teamwork for Excellence in a Caring Atmosphere

I hope that you are all having a safe and enjoyable extended summer. It will be time for school again before you know it! Our staff, students, *PTSA*, Stallion Club and student organizations have been busy making the necessary plans and arrangements to make this year a tremendous success for all Shepton students. Our school is very fortunate to have such dedicated school community members who in partnership help us meet our campus goals and expectations.

We look forward to another exciting year and strongly recommend that Shepton students be actively involved in extracurricular programs to enhance their opportunities for learning and developing their individual sense of belonging on the Shepton campus. You will find important information in this newsletter regarding many events, activities such as freshmen and sophomore schedule pick up dates, school supply sales by *PTSA* and much more. The newsletter is a vital means of communication to our parents and our community and I wish to take this opportunity to thank the *PTSA* for its publication and distribution. This newsletter is just one example of the many helpful services provided by our parent volunteers.

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>.

I would also like to encourage all parents to sign up for Parent Viewer. Parent Viewer provides parents access to real-time student attendance records and grades. You can register for this free service at the following website: <http://parentviewer.pisd.edu/default.asp> 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 at Home. My goal is that we can eventually get 100% of Shepton parents and students to take advantage of these convenient and effective communication tools.

It is a pleasure to serve as the principal of Shepton High School and I am looking forward to Monday, August 25 when the bell rings to begin another exciting school year at Shepton High School! Please feel welcome to join us on campus throughout the school year to experience the spirit of "Teamwork for Excellence in a Caring Atmosphere" in action!



PTSA President Jamie Hanna

Summer, a time for relaxation, renewal, and rejuvenation, has now become a time of preparation and new beginnings. This year, our *PTSA* Board began preparing for the new school year before closing the door on the old one. We met because we needed a head start on the last minute details that we need to do before the last days of summer arrive. I believe that our dedication to details will help us accomplish many things for our parents and students in the coming year.

Registration is foremost on our mind and it will arrive before we know it. Our students will set the tone for the new school year with 10th grade registration on Thursday, August 14 and 9th grade registration on Friday, August 15. Both run from 9 am to 12 pm.

For all incoming students and parents, please note that these will be YEARBOOK PICTURE DAYS! This means that students will have their yearbook and photo ID picture taken at registration, so they should dress accordingly. Shepton registration involves more than we may have experienced at previous schools.

The *PTSA* does not take care of everything at registration. The various Booster Clubs make up a large part of the process. The *PTSA* part and schedule pick up will be in the main gym along with the opportunity to join the *PTSA*, sign up for volunteer opportunities, and pick up school pre-packs and school supplies.

The Booster Clubs will be in the cafeteria with the photos and the rest of the registration process in the foyer of the building. Remember, you will need to bring all your forms with you in order to receive your schedule. These forms will arrive in the mail within a few weeks before registration. Also, please note that we don't take credit cards, so bring a couple of checks or cash.

I also invite everyone to our Back-to-School Coffee and General *PTSA* Meeting on Thursday, August 28 at 10:30 am in the Shepton Library. Put it in your calendar and forget about it, so you can have a great summer!

I look forward to serving as your *PTSA* President in the upcoming school year.



2nd VP, Volunteers Lynda Gates

Volunteering at SHS

Without the help of committed volunteers, many things at our schools would not happen. Teachers would not feel appreciated, directories would not get published, and newsletters would not be delivered. Now is the time to decide to become involved at your child's school! Get on the volunteer list by contacting Lynda Gates at 214-455-7290 or volunteers@sheptonptsa.org. Putting your name on a list does not commit you to any dates or times. It just gets you on the list of interested people who will be contacted when the time comes.

Help make our school a better place – volunteer!

Preparing to Volunteer

PISD requires that all volunteers go through an on-line volunteer application process. The online process for the 2008-2009 school year will start July 1, 2008 to renew your application or to apply. Simply go to <http://www.pisd.edu>. At the bottom of the page you will see a button to complete the online application. Click on this button and follow the instructions given. Things you will need to complete this process are: your driver's license number, your social security number, etc. If you do not have a driver's license number and/or social security number, complete the online application without it and bring your passport and birth certificate to the Administration Building for assistance in getting the background check completed.

In the past, when the application was complete, a form printed out that had to be notarized and sent to the school. This form has been eliminated! The online process is the only thing that has to be done this year! For questions about the background check process, contact Security at 469-752-8057. For general questions about the volunteer process, contact Kim O'Bryon at 469-752-8142. For other questions, call Lynda Gates, 2nd VP Volunteers at 214-455-7290 or email her at volunteers@sheptonptsa.org.

We will all have to have our driver's license scanned again after July 1. If you are volunteering at registration, feel free to arrive a few minutes early to have yours scanned.

PLACES TO VOLUNTEER

Schedule Pick Up and Registration

Your opportunity to participate and be involved at your child's school begins by volunteering at summer registration and schedule pick-up. Your help is needed on Thursday, August 14 and Friday, August 15. The Shepton *PTSA* will be selling pre-packs, supplies, reading books, calculators and protractors, calendars and memberships on those days.

We need over 100 volunteers to work registration. Positions available are in many areas from cashiers, membership, volunteer table to handing out schedules. NJHS students may work this event to earn two hours of their service. If you wish, you may work the shift of your child's grade level. During this time you can register your own child, catch up with old friends and meet new friends.

Special call for cashiers:

We will have a need for volunteers to work as cashiers on both of those days

from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. We would like to have eight cashiers each day to make check out go smoothly for all families. Please contact Laura Dolan, Treasurer at treasurer@sheptonptsa.org if you can help



on one of these days as a cashier. We will also have opportunities for students to get their service hours in this area.

Please contact Lynda Gates, VP-Volunteers at volunteers@sheptonptsa.org if you can help in any of the above areas at registration on either day.

Hospitality Committee

Shepton parents, are you in the mood to throw some parties this coming year?

Hospitality "helpers" put together several nice luncheons for the teachers and staff as school begins, at semester break and at the end of the year. We pick a theme, select food, a caterer--and then oversee the event. Let's make some fun for the Shepton Staff! There's a place for you here and it's a rewarding one.

Please email Carol Landt at hospitality@sheptonptsa.org or phone her at 972-378-0857. Many thanks!

"Create" History

Love Scrapbooking? Want to Learn? Make Shepton *PTSA* History!

This year our *PTSA* adds a new officer on its board: Historian. The purpose of having a historian is to capture the *PTSA*'s activities for the year in a scrapbook. We're putting together a creative committee to help make the scrapbook a reality. So we're looking for people who enjoy scrapbooking and those who want to learn it so they can do something with all those scrapbook supplies they have collecting dust.

Become a part of Shepton *PTSA* history in helping make its first *PTSA* scrapbook. If you're interested, please contact Meryl K. Evans, Historian, at historian@sheptonptsa.org. Let's make the first one a success!

Stallion Shop

The Stallion Shop is the *PTSA* School Store where students may purchase loose school supplies, required reading books, *PTSA* spirit-wear and snacks from 11:30 am to 1:45 pm every day. Pencils, pens, spiral notebooks, poster board, highlighters, colored pencils, markers and required reading books are just a sampling of the items that are available for purchase from the Stallion Shop. Before you run out to the store in that last minute panic, consider sending your student to the Stallion Shop!

The Stallion Shop needs two to three volunteers daily – if you are interested in volunteering, please be sure to fill out your online background check through the <http://www.pisd.edu/parents/pta.volunteers/> beginning July 1 – well before school starts so we can have volunteers start right away.

You may sign up to volunteer at the August 14 and 15 Registration Day and Schedule Pick Up and/or you may contact Leslie Gian by e-mail at waysmeans@sheptonptsa.org. Please put Shepton or Stallion Shop on the subject line e-mail.

Attendance Office

You will be assisting with clerical duties, providing relief for lunch and directing visitors. Shifts are 11 am-1 pm Monday-Friday throughout the school year. Please contact Tami Stewart, Attendance Office Coordinator, at attendance@sheptonptsa.org to schedule weekly, bi-monthly or monthly dates.

Copy Room

Copy Room help needed Monday-Friday throughout the school year. Start time will be at 9 or 9:30 am for about three hours depending on the copy needs that day. Please contact Carol Snelling, Copy Room Coordinator, at copyroom@sheptonptsa.org to schedule weekly, bi-monthly or monthly dates.

Other Opportunities

Here are other areas where you can volunteer. Fill out the enclosed form in your packet and bring to registration or email your interest to Lynda Gates at volunteers@sheptonptsa.org.

- Arts in Education: Assist Arts in Ed chairperson with competition.
- Attendance office: Work in the SHS Attendance Office at least one day per month.
- Baking/Cooking: Bake/cook for an event(s) throughout the year.
- Casserole Day: Provide a casserole for a teacher to take home on Casserole Day.
- Copy Room: Work in the copy room at SHS making copies for teachers.
- Newsletter distribution: Work with the Newsletter chairperson to get the newsletters mailed.
- Proofreading Directory Info: Proofread directory information before it goes to print.
- Schedule Pick-up: Work one or both day(s) at schedule pick-up.
- Stallion Shop: Work the school store/ candy sales at least one afternoon per month.
- Teacher Appreciation Week: Work with the Teacher Appreciation chairpersons to plan and run the week.
- Working Events: Be on a general volunteer list to call for any events.
- Call me for Anything: Be on a general list to call for anything.



Join Shepton PTSA

The Shepton *PTSA* invites you to become a member of the 2008-2009 Shepton Parent Teacher STUDENT Association!

That's right, for those of you new to High School this year, you will be excited to know that Students are also invited to join the *PTSA*. Be the first to join this year's *PTSA* during schedule pick up on August 14 and 15. There will be a Memberships table set up at this time to process your *PTSA* membership form, and answer any of your questions.

For students - College Admission Boards look favorably on students who belong to their school's *PTSA*. Invest in your future now, get the additional membership...and the directory, that way you won't be borrowing (or losing) your parents!

All Parents, Teachers, and Students are welcomed and encouraged to join the 2008-2009 Shepton *PTSA*.

**3rd VP—
Membership
Cyndi
Scroggins**

A directory is included with each paid membership

First Membership - \$15
Additional Membership - \$7
Life Membership - \$13.75
Faculty Membership - \$15

**Thank you for the difference
YOU are making in our
children's lives!**

Let Your Talent Shine! Participate in PTA's Reflections Program. The 2008–2009 Reflections theme is . . .

Are you looking for a way to express yourself and show others your talent as a photographer, visual artist, writer, composer, choreographer, or film producer? Use your creativity and design an original piece of artwork in one of six categories:

- Musical Composition
- Literature
- Dance Choreography
- Visual Arts
- Film Production
- Photography

Complete rules and entry forms are available at: <http://www.sheptonptsa.org>. If you have any



questions, contact Holly Nichols at artseducate@sheptonptsa.org.

To view a gallery of last year's national award-winning entries, visit <http://www.pta.org>.

Supply Prepacks available at Registration

The Shepton *PTSA* will have school supply prepacks available August 14 and 15 during registration for students to purchase. There will be a Basic Prepack, AVID Prepack, Choir, Technical Theatre and Orchestra Prepacks, along with some additional binders, calculators, etc. Packaged Prepacks will be priced as follows:

Basic Prepack	\$45
AVID Prepack	\$25
Choir Prepack	\$5
Technical Theatre Prepack	\$22
Orchestra Prepack	\$3

We have kept the price on the basic prepack the same as last year, and we have lowered the prices on the choir and orchestra prepacks. The technical theatre prepack has gone up due to more supplies in the prepack this year. Due to many requests, we have added an AVID prepack this year also. Band will now only require a binder, which we will have for sale at registration as a single item.

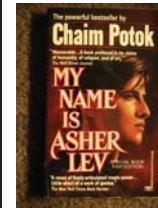
The above prices have no sales tax added, as our two registration days are tax-free. Purchases after these two days will have 8.25% sales tax added (i.e., the basic prepack will be \$48.71 with sales tax).

Supply prepacks will also be available for sale before school on the first two days of school – August 25 and 26, and sales tax will be added to all supplies sold then.

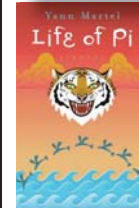
Any questions, please contact Kim Zekany at 972-248-6376 or prepacks@sheptonptsa.org. See you at registration!

English Required Reading

English I (9th grade) and English II (10th grade) have reading book requirements during the course of the year. All required books will be available for purchase at registration. The books will be discounted off the cover price and no sales tax will be charged (August 14 and 15). The books will also be available during the school year in the Stallion Shop, located at the foot of the main stairway.



The required reading books for 9th grade honors are *21 Great Stories*, *Night* and *Life of Pi*; 9th grade regulars are *The Pearl* and *Night*. The required reading books for 10th grade honors are *Enders Game*, *My Name is Asher Lev*, *A Man for All Seasons*, and *The Count of Monte Cristo*; 10th grade regulars is *Enders Game*.



Save time and money, and purchase your copies at registration, or at the beginning of the school year!

Missing Registration?

Are you going to be out of town during Registration? Here are three options:

1. A parent may authorize someone else to pick up the schedule for their child by providing a letter, the emergency card, and truancy warning notice.
2. The parent and/or student may pick up the schedule in the counseling office between August 18-22.
3. The student may pick up the schedule in the cafeteria between 8-8:45 am on the first day of school.

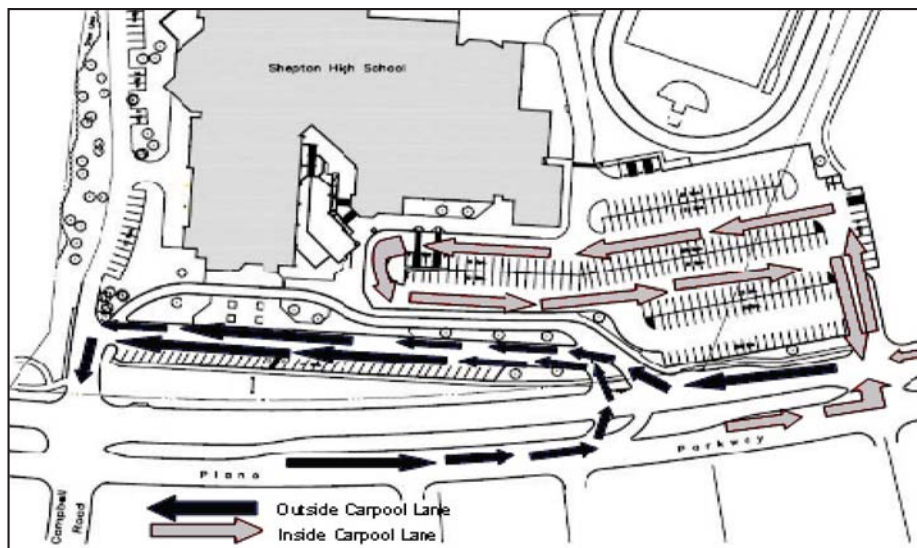
Shepton Carpool Tips

New to Shepton and wondering how to survive afternoon carpool? Here are some tips to help make Shepton carpool easier.

First, yes there are a lot more students, which equates to more cars, some driven by new drivers, trying to enter and exit the Shepton parking lots. Patience and courtesy are very important.

Second, there are two main entrances and exits for Shepton carpool. The first, lets call the Inside Carpool Lane, runs through the Shepton parking lot and loops directly in front of the front steps of the school. The Inside Carpool Lane is marked on the

map below with an arrow that shows the direction that cars will be moving. Plano Police Officers man this carpool entrance and exit to help traffic move more safely. The second carpool entrance, lets call the Outside Carpool Lane, runs in front of the school, directly off Plano Parkway and is a two lane drive, with visitor parking to the left. It is marked on the map below with an arrow that shows the direction the cars will be moving.



Third, there is a specific lane for buses only. Do not enter or block this lane. This bus lane is marked on the carpool map below. If you are heading west on Plano Parkway and are using the Outside Carpool Lanes, you may fill in the lane along the inside curb only as long as you do not block the bus lane. If this lane is full, you will

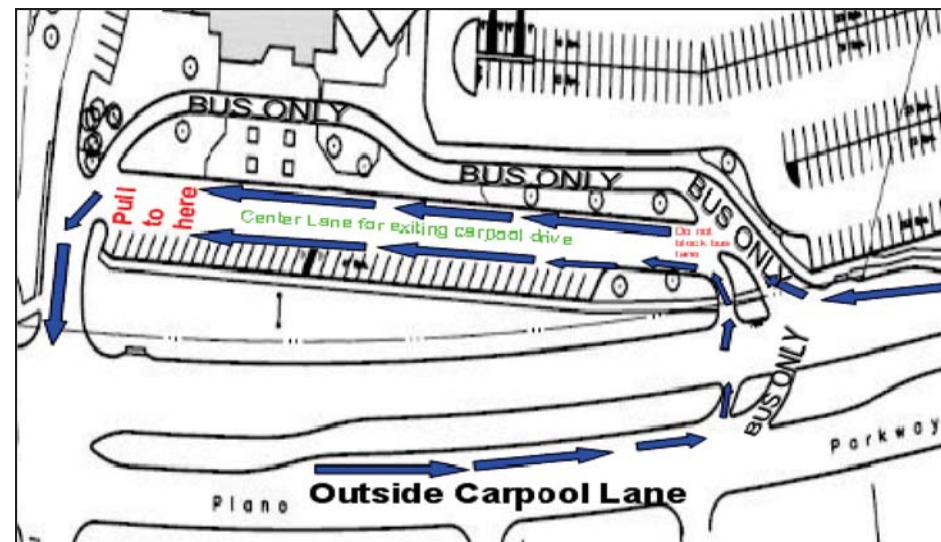
have to wait on Plano Parkway until there is space for you to move forward without blocking the bus lane. If you are heading east on Plano Parkway and want to use the Outside Carpool Lane, you must turn left at the first cut-in and proceed into carpool, as the lane clears. Do not enter into the second cut-in, which has "no left-turn buses only" signage. Also, the buses always have

the right of way, when exiting the parking lots. You must stop for them.

Fourth, here are specific tips for the Inside Carpool Lane. The number one thing to remember is GO SLOW and BE COURTEOUS! There are students cutting through this parking lot, as well as cars trying to back out of parking spaces. If you continue to move forward, as the line in front of you moves, this lane can move rather quickly. There are also multiple lanes trying to merge together at the end to exit the lot. The Plano Police do help with this carpool lane, to expedite cars entering and exiting the lot onto Plano Parkway.

Fifth, here are specific tips for the Outside Carpool Lane. It is important to continue

to pull forward in carpool line as you wait for your student(s). Your student(s) will find you in line. Do not stop in the carpool lane to sit in a specific spot (under trees, etc.). You are blocking traffic. The cars trying to enter carpool from Plano Parkway cannot enter the carpool lane, while you are waiting for your student to arrive. There are three lanes for this carpool line. Two used for pick-up lanes, and one lane to be used to exit the parking lot. The pick up lanes are those that runs closest to the inside curb, along the bus lane, and the lane that runs closest to Plano Parkway. Cars fill these two carpool lanes and move forward as they wait for student(s). Once your student has arrived, you pull into the center lane and drive forward to exit the lot. This flow of traffic is marked on the map below.



Sixth, do not at any time stop on Plano Parkway to pick up or drop off your student(s). This is a busy road and puts you, your student(s) and other drivers at great risk. Your student must be picked up in one of the carpool lanes or ride the bus.

Shepton carpool can be easy if we all just remember to follow these simple tips and be patient and courteous to the other drivers.

Student Booster Clubs

Listed below are the clubs/organizations that are open to Shepton students. More information about each group will be available when school begins in the fall. There are lots to choose from and a place for everyone! So begin thinking of which one you will want to be a part.

- 2 Fly (Step Club)
Art Club
Promote the visual arts in both our school and the community.
- Book Club
Read and discuss books from the latest best sellers to the classics.
- Bravo Theatre Club
Organization for students who have an interest in theatre.
- Chess and Games Club
- Crochet for the Cure
- DDR Club
- Destination ImagiNation
Problem-solving competition which takes place at regional, state, and world finals levels.
- Equestrian Club
- ESOL Club
- F.B.L.A. (Future Business Leaders of America)
Business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.
- F.C.A. (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)
- F.F.A. (Future Farmers of America)
Dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares students for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.
- Film Club
- French Honor Society
Academic organization of students that participate in a wide array of French activities.
- Frisbee Club
Non-curricular club that offers students the opportunity to play the game of ultimate Frisbee on a weekly basis throughout the school year.
- German Club
- H.O.S.A. (Health Occupations Students of America)
HOSA provides a variety of classroom and community-based educational experiences.
- Hungerbusters (Cooking and Baking Club)
- International Club
Celebrate and learn about various cultures and traditions through art, music, food and dance.
- International Thespian Society (Theater Honor Society)
- Jewish Student Union
The mission of JSU is to connect Jewish public school students to something Jewish.
- Key Club
Key Club is a service organization that helps find volunteer opportunities for members.
- L.A.S.E.R. (Learning About Science & Engineering Research)
Devoted to supporting and encouraging students interested in the fields of science, math and engineering research.
- Latin Club
- Mahjong Club
- Math Club
The purpose of the Shepton's Math Club is to develop higher level math skills by participating in Math Competitions.
- Mock Trial Club
- National Honor Society (N.H.S.)
The purpose of this organization is to reward and promote scholarship leadership and provide a service to the school and community.
- National Junior Honor Society (N.J.H.S.)
The purpose of this organization is to reward and promote scholarship leadership and provide a service to the school and community.
- P.A.C.E. (Plano Academic Creative Education) Honors course (Humanities) focusing on the connections between world art, music, and literature.
- Pan American Student Forum
- Poetry Club
- Red Cross Club
- S.N.A.P. (Society of New and Advanced Photographers)
- Spanish Honor Society
Academic club where people who love Spanish can get together and participate in a wide array of Spanish activities.
- S.T.A.N.D. (Students Taking Action Not Drugs)
Our mission is to form positive peer groups through activities and speakers so students will make healthy life choices.
- S.T.A.R.S. (Students Together Achieving Remarkable Success)
Club geared towards creating natural peer connections among a diverse student

population while helping the community through the performance of service projects.

Student Anti-Genocide Coalition

Student Senate
Student Senate is an active group of Shepton students who have volunteered to participate before and after school in service activities that benefit our school and our community.

Whiz Quiz
Whiz Quiz/Newscurrents compete at local, regional, and national levels in a generalized areas of knowledge that include history, politics, economics, sports, science, math, and current events.

Yearbook
Shepton High School publishes a yearbook each year. The "memory" book includes sections on Student Life, Academics, Clubs/Organizations, Individuals', and Sports.

Y.E.S. (Youth for Environmental Sanity)
The YES club promotes awareness of environmental issues and practices energy and resource conservation at Shepton and in the community.

Shepton Athletics

Just a note to those interested in trying out for an athletic team at Shepton or Plano West in the fall. You will need to have a current physical before you can begin practice or tryouts. That form and the other forms you will need can be found on the athletic link on the Shepton home page. Physical forms can also be picked up in the front office this summer when it is open.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Shepton 's Athletic Coordinator Coach Strong at 469-752-7741.

Traffic Hotline

The Plano Police Department has created a hotline for citizens to report traffic violations and requests for special traffic enforcement. The number of that hotline is 972-941-5483. This number may be used by anyone to report traffic violations (speeding, parking violations, running red lights/stop signs, etc.) or request that the police department practice traffic enforcement in any given area. Drive safely!

PACE

(Plano's Academic and Creative Education) Program Information
Shepton Humanities Enrollment

Shepton High School serves gifted and talented students identified as part of the PACE (Plano's Academic and Creative Education) program through the core elective, Humanities. Students enrolled in Humanities may also receive gifted and talented differentiation in PACE-designated sections of math and science classes.

In order to enroll in the Humanities class, students must apply for and be accepted into the PACE program. This procedure requires an initial application form and a day of standardized testing. Students new to Plano ISD or returning students who have not been assessed for the PACE program in the past year may apply.

Students interested in applying for the PACE program must pick up a referral packet from Mr. McKinney in Room C104 during the first weeks of school. Completed PACE referral packets are due to Mr. McKinney by Friday, September 19. Assessment for all students completing referral packets will take place during the school day on Wednesday, September 17. Students who are placed in the program will be notified within two weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. McKinney at 469-752-7600, ext. 37636, or via e-mail at craig.mckinney@pisd.edu.

Dress Code Guidelines

As you shop for your back-to-school wardrobe, it is important to remember that the Plano ISD does have a dress code. This code is enforced at Shepton High School. Students that are not within dress will be placed in our in-school suspension room until the problem is corrected. Please follow the guidelines closely when making purchases and decisions about what your will be wearing to school.

The dress and grooming of secondary students for school is expected to be in keeping with accepted community standards. Guidelines include:

- Shoes must be worn at all times. House shoes are not to be worn.
- Shorts may be worn but must meet the following standards:
 - Must be loose fitting - no biking shorts, cutoffs, boxer shorts, or combination thereof;
 - Must be hemmed or cuffed,
 - Length must be to the fingertips or longer.
- Dresses or skirts must be longer than fingertips.
- Tank tops, tube tops, bare midriff or half shirts, halter-type blouse or mesh shirts will not be permitted. Shirts should overlap the waist band of skirts, shorts, or pants by at least one inch. (When arms are raised, the shirt remains over the waistband). All tops must be modestly cut.
- Items with provocative, drug-related, alcohol or tobacco, offensive, or violent pictures or slogans will not be permitted.

- No hats, caps, bandannas, hoods, wallet chains, or sunglasses are to be worn. This includes headscarves for girls.
- No type of clothing which has been torn or has holes will be allowed.
- No sagging pants or shorts (back pockets must cover the rear). Both pant legs should be down.
- Pajama pants are not allowed.
- No gang paraphernalia or gang related markings on clothing, books, notebooks, or drawn on body.
- No visible pierced jewelry other than earrings.
- All students are expected to meet community standards and school policies with regard to health, cleanliness and appearance. All safety rules must be obeyed.
- The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal's judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations.

Any student in violation of the dress code will report to SSR and solve the problem. Students may call a parent for clothing items to be brought to school. If the problem cannot be solved, the student will remain in SSR for that day. Dress code violations are cumulative for the semester.

- 1st offense: Referral to SSR to correct the problem.
- 2nd offense: Referral to SSR to correct the problem. Parent contacted.
- 3rd offense: Referral to SSR to correct the problem. Saturday School assigned.

Student Absences

From time to time, it is necessary for a student to miss school for a planned event such as a trip with a parent, a sports tournament, etc. Often, these trips are not school-related. In order for the staff to properly handle the absence, it is important that the school be notified at least five (5) days in advance of any such absence. This gives the attendance clerk the time necessary to clear the records, and it gives the teachers the opportunity to make advanced classroom assignments. Your student may pick up a form in the attendance office. It should be completed and returned to the attendance office at least five (5) days prior to the planned absence.

Attendance Guidelines

To report a student absent, call 469-752-7600 and press 3 before 9:30 am. Include legal name of student, spelling last name
Grade of student
ID# (if known)
Brief reason for absence

Notes are required to excuse the absence upon return to school and 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.

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.

PayPAMS

Use PayPAMS, the PISD district's new electronic payment system for meal payments, athletic fees and fare busing.

About PayPAMS

The needs of the Plano ISD community for electronic payments have exceeded the ePay system designed internally by PISD. Having sought a new electronic payment service from an outside vendor, the district has been able to address parental requests for features that were not available with ePay.

PayPAMS Features

- E-mail confirmation notification of payments
- Timely posting of payments – account balances updated two times per day
- Low balance email notification when balance falls below \$10
- Repetitive automatic payment option with e-mail confirmation when payment is initiated
- Payment by phone option
- Balance transfer from year-to-year
- Universal PIN number for use by student throughout his school years with PISD
- Ability to monitor what your child eats on a daily basis
- Ability to view account balance
- Ability to view payment history
- Parents have been requesting each of these enhancements, and Plano ISD is pleased to be able to offer this full service comprehensive online payment option.

To register, go to: <https://paypams.com/HomePage.aspx>

“Can I send a note to my child?”

Please be aware that Shepton maintains a message board across from the attendance window in our front foyer. Each time a parent calls with a message or delivers an item left at home, the student's name and directions for retrieving the message or item will be placed alphabetically on the board. It is the responsibility of the students to check the message board for messages from home. In the case of an emergency, we will deliver directly to the student.

2008-2009 PTSA Board Members

President — Jamie Hanna
president@sheptonpts.org

1st VP Programs —
Shamsa Shahab
programs@sheptonpts.org

2nd VP Volunteers —
Lynda Gates
volunteers@sheptonpts.org

3rd VP Membership —
Cyndi Scroggins
membership@sheptonpts.org

4th VP Ways & Means —
Leslie Gian
waysmeans@sheptonpts.org

Secretary — Lisa Kerr
secretary@sheptonpts.org

Treasurer — Laura Dolan
treasurer@sheptonpts.org

Parliamentarian —
Shelley Heinmiller
parliament@sheptonpts.org

Historian — Meryl Evans
historian@sheptonpts.org

Arts in Education —
Holly Nichols
artseducate@sheptonpts.org

Attendance Office —
Tami Stewart
attendance@sheptonpts.org

Calendar — Carrie Damrich
calendar@sheptonpts.org

Copy Room — Carol Snelling
copyroom@sheptonpts.org

Diversity & Inclusiveness — Cindy
Dennenberg
diversity@sheptonpts.org

E-Communications —
Becky Byrley
communicate@sheptonpts.org

Hospitality — Carol Landt
hospitality@sheptonpts.org

Newsletter — Becky Byrley
newsletter@sheptonpts.org

Newsletter Distribution -
CoChair — Ashley Parker
newsdistribute@sheptonpts.org

Newsletter Distribution —
Joni Strobel-McLean
conewdistribute@sheptonpts.org

PISD/Legislative Rep. —
Debbie Press
legislative@sheptonpts.org

PTA Council Delegate —
Becky Tanoury
delegate@sheptonpts.org

Pre-Paks — Kim Zekany
prepaks@sheptonpts.org

Publicity — Kathy Garber
publicity@sheptonpts.org

SAGE — Tammy Miller
sage@sheptonpts.org

School Supplies —
Melody Michael
supplies@sheptonpts.org

School to Life —
Joy Allington-Baum
schooltolife@sheptonpts.org

Snack Sales — Linda Rosen
snacksales@sheptonpts.org

Staff Recognition —
Janie Burke
recognition@sheptonpts.org

Student Directory-Art —
Ron Gates
art@sheptonpts.org

Student Directory-General —
Andrea Forray
directory@sheptonpts.org

Student Directory-General
Co-Chair — Amy Bullington
codirectory@sheptonpts.org

Student Directory-Student
Listings — Linda Vincze
listings@sheptonpts.org

Student Organizations Liaison
— Dorrie Brennan
liaison@sheptonpts.org

Teacher Appreciation Week
— Kathy Kelly
teacher@sheptonpts.org

Teacher Appreciation Week
Co-Chair — Dale Ann Price
coteacher@sheptonpts.org

West Cluster Liaison —
Nancy Womack
westcluster@sheptonpts.org

PISD 2008-09 Calendar At-A-Glance

First Semester

August 25 (Monday)
September 1 (Monday)
October 17 (Friday)
November 26-28
December 16-19
December 19 (Friday)
December 20 (Saturday)
December 22-January 2

First Day of Classes
Labor Day (Student/Teacher Holiday)
Parent/Teacher Conference Day (Student Holiday)
Thanksgiving Holiday (Student /Teacher Holiday)
Semester Exams (Grades 6-12)
Last Day for Students
Teacher Work Day
Winter Break (Student/Teacher Holiday)

Second Semester

January 5 (Monday)
January 6 (Tuesday)
January 19 (Monday)
February 16 (Monday)
March 16-20
April 10 (Friday)
May 25 (Monday)
June 1-4
June 4 (Thursday)
June 5 (Friday)

Teacher Work Day (Student Holiday)
Classes Resume (Students)
Martin L. King, Jr., Birthday (Student/Teacher Holiday)
Professional Development Day (Student Holiday)
Spring Break (Student/Teacher Holiday)
Student/Teacher Holiday
Memorial Day (Student/Teacher Holiday)
Semester Exams (Grades 6-12)
Last Day for Students
Last Day for Teachers

Bad Weather Make-up Days

- First Day - June 5
- Second Day - June 8

Secondary Grading Periods

End of 1st Grading Period — October 2 End of 4th Grading Period — February 12
End of 2nd Grading Period — November 6 End of 5th Grading Period — April 9
End of 3rd Grading Period — December 19 End of 6th Grading Period — June 4

Visiting Shepton


Parents are always welcome at Shepton. When coming to campus, please remember to stop at the front desk to be issued visitor tag. For your first visit only to this campus you will need to show your driver's license to be entered into the system. For subsequent visits you will need to give your name. If you have children in multiple schools, you will need to follow this procedure for each. This helps us in providing safety and security on campus.

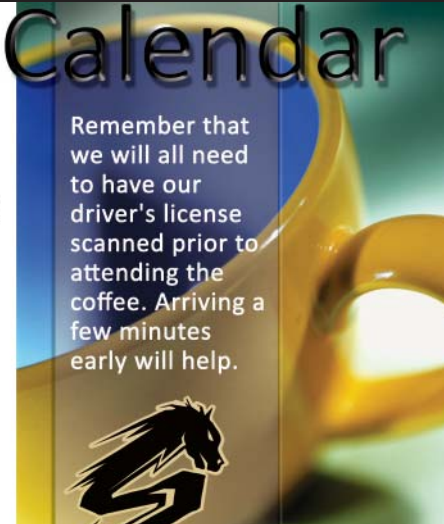
Mark Your Calendar

**Back-to-School Coffee and
General *PTSA* Meeting
Thursday, August 28 at 10:30 am
Shepton Library**

Please plan to attend these General *PTSA*
Meeting held throughout the school year.
Meetings will be at 11 am in the
Shepton Library.
January 26, '09
February 24, '09
April 21, '09

Remember that
we will all need
to have our
driver's license
scanned prior to
attending the
coffee. Arriving a
few minutes
early will help.





Back to School Drug Awareness/ Education

from the district student services and safety and security departments

In our continuing efforts to keep students safe, drug-free and successful we want to provide a refresher of the following resources for information on drug and alcohol related issues.

Plano Police Department Crime Prevention Unit: 972-941-2431

Plano Police Department Dispatch: 972-941-7900

Collin County Substance Abuse Prevention: 972-424-1460 x 5570

Campus Counselor(s) & Administration: 469-752-7600

Plano ISD Substance Abuse Specialists: 469-752-5797

These are some of the illicit substances present in Collin County:

cocaine ecstasy heroin
methamphetamine marijuana

If you would like additional information on these substances please contact one of the numbers listed above.

The key to Substance abuse prevention is early intervention. Talk with your students.

- know where your students are, Who they are with, and what they ARE doing.
- follow up on suspicions
- take action
- do not leave it to chance

Special Education Notification

Options and Requirements For Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide informed written consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 60 calendar days of the date the district receives the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent.

If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice must inform the parent how to obtain a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards - Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*.

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education is Shelby Chestnut, 469-752-7600.

Shepton High School PTSA Membership and Student Directory Information

Student Name _____
Last First Name goes by Grade

Student Name _____
Last First Name goes by Grade

Student's Phone () _____

Mother's Name _____

Home Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

Address _____

(City) (Zip)

Mom's E-mail _____

Father's Name _____

Home Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

Address _____

(write in "SAME", if same as mom's) (City) (Zip)

Dad's E-mail _____

I give my permission for the above information to be published in the 2008-2009 Shepton Student Directory for the personal, non-commercial use of the Shepton families and staff. Yes No

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Yes, I want to become a member of the Shepton *PTSA*!

	Name	Type	Cost
_____	First Membership	_____	\$15
_____	Add'l Membership	_____	\$ 7
_____	Add'l Membership	_____	\$ 7
_____	Add'l Membership	_____	\$ 7
	Types: P(parent) S(student) LM(Texas PTA Life Member, may deduct \$1.25)		
_____	Additional Student Directories (only available to <i>PTSA</i> members)		\$ 7
_____	Faculty Membership	_____	\$ 7

Total PTSA Membership \$ _____

Please attach check made payable to the Shepton *PTSA*. Thanks for your support!
Please call Cyndi Scroggins, VP - Membership, at 972-612-0612
or email membership@sheptonptsa.org if you have any questions.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Plano, Texas
Permit No. 459



Shepton High School
PTSA

5505 W. Plano Parkway
Plano, TX 75093

Must Reads!

Back-to-School Coffee	17
Car Pool	10&11
Membership Sign-Up Form	19
Principal Letter	3
PTSA President Letter	4
PTSA Membership	8
Volunteering @ Shepton	6&7