

October, 2008

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The Stallion

PTSA News

Students, Parents
Join PTSA

Shepton
Casserole Day
Thursday, Oct. 2

Back in Session...
by Jamie Hanna
PTSA President

Thank you to all
registration volunteers.

How will the new 4 X 4
plan affect our kids?
What is 4 X 4? it is a
new state law requires
four years of English,
Social Studies, Math
and Science for every
student.

Celebrating 100 years
of Texas PTA

Volunteer
Needs

PTSA Board
Members

Community

Plano International
Festival
Another Fun and
Free Event!
October 4, 2008
11 am-5 pm
Haggard Park in
downtown Plano

The Spurs and
Spikes Annual
Golf Classic
Dinner & Auction
Monday, Oct. 13
Hills of Prestonwood
Country Club

**FREE Money
for Shepton!**

Trail

Visit to a Small
Planet Auditions
Thursday, Oct. 2
after school

This year's One Act Play
is going to be out of this
world! Auditions will be
held on October 2
after school. Audition
packets will be available
on the callboard in the
theatre hallway.

A Message from
Burt Smith,
Principal

How to be "In the
Know" at Shepton

UIL Eligibility

Parking at
Shepton events

**Want to Receive
this Newsletter
in your inbox?**

You may sign up by sending an email to
newsletter@sheptonptsa.org. Or you send in
writing the following information to the school
office (attention Newsletter).

Student Name(s)
Mom's Name and Email Address
Dad's Name and Email Address

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. 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 International Festival

Another Fun and Free Event!
October 4, 2008
11 am-5 pm
Haggard Park in downtown Plano



Listen to terrific music, see dancers from across the world, have fun at the kids area, visit the booths representing lots of countries and community organizations, and taste some fantastic food! The park also has a great play area for kids. Make sure to come visit PTA Council in the *PTA* booth! If you'd like to volunteer to help in the *PTA* booth, we'd love to have you. Just email Graciela Katzer at diversity@planopta.org.

Visit to a Small Planet Auditions

Thursday, October 2, after school

This year's One Act Play is going to be out of this world! Auditions will be held on October 2 after school. Audition packets will be available on the callboard in the theatre hallway.

We are also looking for a few good technicians. If you are interested in the technical side of theatre, including lights, sound, and stage management, please see the callboard for a packet and to sign up for an interview.

For more information, contact Laura Darce at laura.darce@pisd.edu or 469-752-7754. Hope to see all of you earthlings at the audition!



Principal Burt Smith

Students, make your school experience better by getting involved in one of many clubs and organizations.

The school year is underway and we have over 1,500 students walking the halls of Shepton High School. This is such an exciting time in the lives of our students and we hope this is their best school year ever!

The beginning of the year has gone very smoothly thanks in large part to all the efforts of our staff, students, and parent volunteers. Many hours of planning and preparation went into getting ready for the first day. Our wonderful PTSA provided lunch for all the staff on our first day back as well as breakfast after our district convocation and it was greatly appreciated. Many volunteers helped to plan, set up, and work during schedule pickup and have also helped in the office area during the first week of school. I don't know what we would do without these wonderful parents and the time they volunteer to Shepton. A big "Thank You" goes to each one of them. Their time and energy are greatly appreciated by all of the Shepton staff.

We anticipate another great year at Shepton High School and hope that all of our students get involved in at least one of our clubs or organizations to help make their high school experience the best it can be.

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 Viewer. Parent Viewer 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: <https://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@Home. You are welcome to call our campus technology assistant, Dan 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.



Back in Session....

I received an email the other day that talked about school being back in session. Quite frankly so many of our board and other *PTSA* members have been so busy over the summer getting ready for school, that it sometimes seems like we never stopped being in session. Thank you so much to everyone who took time to make our two days of registration a success. We had over 150 parent and student volunteers who took part in either setting up or working one or both days at registration. Without you we would not have had the success that we had. Our student volunteers were extraordinary. We certainly have a group of future leaders here at Shepton and Plano West. Please see the list of volunteers that helped with registration and when you see them – please thank them for their service.

Our first week of school went extremely well and we rounded out the week with a Back-to-School Coffee on that first Thursday. Dr. Doug Otto, Superintendent of Schools, came and spoke to the parents in attendance. So many things will be going on with the district that will be affecting our students. Some changes we will need from the State Legislature, for example the need to address the per dollar allowance for each student that has not risen with

inflation and rising gas prices. How will the new 4 X 4 plan affect our kids? What is 4 X 4? It is a new state law requires four years of English, Social Studies, Math and Science for every student. We will also be celebrating 100 years of the Texas *PTA*. Stay in touch by reading your newsletters and emails. It is the best way to know what is going on in our school!



*Dr. Doug Otto speaking at the Back-to-School Coffee.
Photo by Maryam Nazari.*

**PTSA
President
Jamie
Hanna**



Volunteers - the backbone of our school!

Are you a first time volunteer, long time volunteer, or a potential volunteer? How much does our time really benefit our school and students? We have more than 1,500 students at Shepton High School. If one parent of each of these students volunteered for a total of three hours for the entire year we would accumulate 4,200 volunteer hours or the equivalent of 175 twenty-four hour days. Do you have time to make a difference?

Contact volunteers@sheptonpts.org to find out how you can donate three hours to our school.

**2nd VP,
Volunteers
Lynda
Gates**

Registration Volunteers

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Adam Maurer | Emily Zekany | Madalien McMillian |
| Alex Steiber | Geri Crawford | Maggie Peck |
| Alexander Lee | Hari Steiber | Marissa Forray |
| Alexander Stewart | Helen Jalbert | Mary Maurer |
| Amal Sahay | Jaime Kin | Melody Michael |
| Amanda Hu | Jasmine Shevell | Michael Bartling |
| Andrea Forray | Jeff Dolan | Michelle Birkenbile |
| Andrew Zekany | Jennifer Mason | Morgan Allen |
| Andy Graham | Jessica Tydings | Nancy Graham |
| Barbara Tydings | Jill Brinson | Nancy Womack |
| Becky Byrley | Joni Strobel-McLean | Natalie Ardizzoni |
| Becky Tanoury | Jordan Tanoury | Pam Riegel |
| Ben Nichols | Joy Allington-Baum | Patrick Lee |
| Brendan Strobel-McLean | Judy Milton | Robin Allen |
| Carol Landt | Julie Geldert | Rose Deckard |
| Carol Snelling | Karen Dibble | Ryan Bartling |
| Carson Tanoury | Kathleen Alexander | Sarah Taylor |
| Chris Dolan | Kavita Sahay | Shamsa Shahab |
| Chris Hoffman | Kim Zekany | Shelley Heinmiller |
| Christina Massad | Laura Dolan | Stacy Floyd |
| Colin Dibble | Laurene Massad | Stephanie Morgan |
| Cyndi Scroggins | Laurie McMillian | Tami Stewart |
| Dale Anne Price | Leslie Gian | Tammy Miller |
| Debbie Bird | Linda Vincze | Tess Michael |
| Debbie Tillett | Lori Geer | Yvonne Bartling |
| Emily Brinson | Lynda Gates | |

According to the Virginia Department of Education, more than four million school volunteers in America are helping more than 40 million students. When you volunteer, you're in good company.

PLACES TO VOLUNTEER

Shepton Casserole Day Thursday, October 2

We will be giving each teacher and staff member a casserole on October 2.

To accommodate our busy schedules, *PTSA* has partnered with Dinner My Way for a special price of \$22 per casserole. Each casserole will feed four-six people. The delivery cost is included! When you go to purchase your donation, ask for Shepton High School.

If you wish Dinner My Way will attach a note to your casserole denoting your name as the giver.

Please e-mail Janie Burke, Staff Recognition Chair, at recognition@sheptonpts.org if you are willing to donate a casserole for Shepton Casserole Day.



5930 West Park Blvd & Tollway, Suite 400
(SE corner)
Plano, TX 75093
972-250-6325

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@sheptonpts.org to schedule weekly, bi-monthly or monthly dates.

Stallion Shop

The Stallion Shop is the *PTSA* School Store where students may purchase loose school supplies, required reading books and snacks from 11:30 am to 1:45 pm every day. Pencils, pens spiral notebooks, poster board, highlighters, colored pencils, and markers 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 for their school supply purchases!

To make the Stallion Shop a successful part of the *PTSA* we need two to three volunteers daily. Every volunteer MUST be cleared through PISD to volunteer anywhere in Shepton so please be sure to complete your background check on-line through <http://www.pisd.edu/parents/pta.volunteers/>.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Leslie Gian by e-mail at waysandmeans@sheptonpts.org or 972-306-6993.

PTSA Calendars are also available for sale in the Stallion Shop, while supplies last.

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@sheptonpts.org to schedule weekly, bi-monthly or monthly dates.

Hospitality Update

On August 18, *PTSA* Hospitality Committee Volunteers served a hungry Shepton staff delicious Atlanta Bread Company box lunches during a break from meetings. The following morning, August 19, Hospitality Volunteers served a "Grab and Go" Breakfast of yogurt, sweet rolls and bananas to all staff as they returned from an early morning Convocation service. The response from both of these events was both heartwarming and newsworthy: The Shepton staff loves to be appreciated and well fed!

Serving 160 staff members cannot be done without the wonderful volunteers from August; many thanks to each and every one who helped.

Our next Hospitality event will take place at the end of the first semester, just before Winter Break; at that time we'll host an end-of-the-semester luncheon. To do so, we need YOU. Please contact Carol Landt, Hospitality Chairperson at hospitality@sheptonpts.org or phone her at 972-378-0857 or 469-855-5609 if you would like to be part of this rewarding opportunity.

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. Thank you for your cooperation!

Students, Help Create History!

Here is a perfect opportunity for student *PTSA* members to put the student into *PTSA*! Be a part of making 2008-2009 a memorable one by helping with the *PTSA* Scrapbook. The scrapbook involves artists, photographers, and writers.

So you can pick up a skill, share one, or get better at it. If you are interested, please contact Meryl K. Evans, Historian, at historian@sheptonpts.org.



First day of School!



Back-to-School Coffee
Photo by Maryam Nazari.



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*. If you didn't sign up at Registration, you still can. A form is on page 19. Turn this form into the school office. If you have any questions, please call Cyndi Scroggins, VP – Membership, at 972-612-0612 or email membership@sheptonpts.org if you have any 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 - \$7

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

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. 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. You will also have the ability to sign up for automatic email subscriptions and 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.

Beginning shortly after the start of school year, teachers will be updating their students' grades every Monday and attendance will be updated throughout each day. Exceptions may exist to this guideline due to a variety of factors which include holidays, major projects and teacher absences.

If you have questions involving registering for the Plano ISD Parent Viewer service, email parentviewer@pisd.edu. Questions regarding grades and attendance can be directed to your child's teacher or principal.

Website

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

www.ur.pisd.edu:

this is the Plano ISD University Ready site. You will find many resources here as you plan for your postsecondary education.

www.mypisd.net

this site enables you to track class assignments and departmental news. To access this site, you will need your student's computer sign on and password.

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

It's time to start thinking about your Reflections entry. The deadline is October 31, 2008. Shepton students can submit entries in the following categories;

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

Students can win awards that will enhance their college resume.

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



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

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

Guidelines for Beverage Service

The Plano ISD has an existing agreement with Dr Pepper Snapple Group. Based on this agreement, employees and volunteers are asked to utilize the following guidelines when planning activities and events:



All events that take place on or at any district facility must serve Dr Pepper products. This includes drinks that are purchased or donated. The agreement states that Dr Pepper Snapple Group is the sole and exclusive provider for beverages at all events in the district. Beverages do not include milk, brewed coffee products, tea brewed on the premises, or tap water.

Dr Pepper Snapple Group has two bottles water products: Deja Blue and Evian.

For evening socials and weekend events any Dr Pepper Snapple Group products must be served if the event is at a district facility. A list of their brands are: 7UP, A&W, Canada Dry Clamato, Country Time Crush, Deja Blue Diet Rite, Dr Pepper, Hawaiian Punch, Hires IBC, Margaritaville, Mott's Mr and Mrs T, Nantucket Nectars, Orangina, Peñafiel, RC Cola, RealLemon, Rose's Schweppes, Snapple Squirt, Stewart's Sundrop, Sunkist Vernors Welch's Yoo-hoo.

BRAVO Theater Club

Do you like to socialize and have a good time? What are you waiting for? Join the Bravo Theater Club! It is the largest club at Shepton and its members have lots of fun. It is open to all interested students.



Here is a sampling of the fun activities we do: Six Flags, Whirlyball and attending Plays. Membership costs \$10 for the year. Also, t-Shirts are available for \$15.

Contact Mrs. Laura Darce at laura.darce@pisd.edu, 469-752-7754 or stop by C-116 for more information.



100Years

Guess who's having a birthday? We all are!

Texas PTA will turn 100 on Oct. 18, 2009, and we're all having a party to celebrate the contributions of PTAs — past, present and future. PTA has a long and impressive history in Texas in doing some pretty rearkable things for our children. Our history of success should be an insiration to current and future PTA members for years to come. Mark your calendars for these exciting Centennial PTA events:

Texas PTA Day at the Capitol
Austin - February 26, 2009

100th Annual Convention

Austin - February 27 – March 1, 2009

Centennial Celebration

at the State Fair of Texas
Dallas - October 18, 2009



Monday, October 13 Hills of Prestonwood Country Club

The Spurs and Spikes Annual Golf Classic Dinner & Auction is scheduled for Monday, October 13 at the Hills of Prestonwood Country Club. This is the Shepton Stallionettes only fundraiser of the year. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to defray various expenses throughout the year related to their competitions and their Spring Show.

If you are interested in participating by either becoming a sponsor or donating a prize for the silent auction, or, if you just want to spend the afternoon playing a round of golf with your friends, then please contact Patti Postel, Golf Chairperson, at ppostel@ccsprojects.com.

JROTC on the Move

by Major (Ret) John Napoli, Jr

We are pleased to welcome the incoming new cadets. My first of many recommendations to the new cadets: do not fool around. Your high school grade point average starts the first six weeks. First Sergeant Ford and I will be monitoring your progress every step of the way. Do not let us or yourself down. You can play after you graduate from college!

Throughout summer vacation, the mighty Wolf Battalion participated in several events. We completed the Junior Cadet Leadership Course (summer camp), Officer Candidate School, and the Non-Commissioned Officer School, as well as Command & Staff School. We'd also like to congratulate all of our cadets who attended the various state leadership seminars. Kathy Bunch was selected for and attended the Texas Bluebonnet Texas Girl's State. The following male cadets were selected for and attended Texas Boy's State: Michael Chapman, Matthew Burnham, and Neel Desai. The following cadets were selected for and attended the Military Order of World Wars Summer Leadership Program: Michael Chapman, Mathew Burnham, and Tyler Ford. Success through leadership and leadership through success is what we teach.

This school year is going to be a busy one. There will be many exciting challenges and enough for everyone to do. For the parents of the new cadets, I would encourage you to get involved with the Patriot Booster Club. They are an integral part of all that we do, and we accomplish all that we do with parent support. Just check it out.

For additional information, call Major (Ret) John Napoli, Jr., Plano West Senior High, 469-752-9782 or 1st Sergeant (Ret) Steve Ford, Shepton HS, 469-752-7700 or Jasper HS, 469-752-7459.



PTSA Board Members at work.



Volunteers waiting for registration to begin.

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

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@sheptonptsa.org

Cafeteria Courtesy

Did you know that nearly 1,500 students eat in our cafeteria daily? It is important to remember the following each day during the lunch period. Parents please help us by reviewing the following guidelines with your son/daughter.

- Please wait your turn in the lunch line. There are four lines available. Students will be given five days of lunch detention in ISS for cutting in line.
- After you have completed your meal, please take the time to clean your area. Throw away your trash in the appropriate recycling can (not on or under the table) and return your tray to the cart provided. Once your table has been cleaned, you may use the time to visit and relax with your friends.
- Please remain in your seat until the bell rings to dismiss you from the cafeteria. Students should return to the table after purchasing candy, drinks, etc. **PTSA** snack sales end two minutes before the end of each lunch period.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Golf Team

The varsity boys golf team returns two seniors from last years state championship team, Jeremy Kutscherousky and Daniel Hagen. Other players qualifying for varsity this year include:

Juniors: Michael Kelly, Ben Sater,
Zach Tenore

Sophomores: Chris Hopson, Trevor McInroe, Cody Thompson

Freshmen: Cody Hardison, Preston Standley

Driver's License!!!

Are you about to apply for a driver's permit or a driver's license?

READ THIS CAREFULLY!

Please be aware that, in order to receive a driver's permit or a driver's license, you must verify your school attendance. This is done through our Registrar's office. BY LAW, you can only receive a TEA Verification of Attendance form if you have been in attendance 90% of the days in the previous semester (up to nine absences). If you do not present this form, the State of Texas will not issue a permit or license to you.

If the number of absences exceeds nine, an exception can be made if the work was made up and all assigned Saturday schools were attended. Any student who has been denied credit in any class due to absences during the previous semester cannot receive a TEA Verification of Attendance form until the end of this semester, providing that absences are no longer an issue.

It is important to remember that if a class is missed due to a doctor's appointment, a 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 it is not excused with a written notice within three days.

When You Visit 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.

PayPAMS

Use PayPAMS, the PISD district's 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>

Dress Code Guidelines

As you purchase new clothing for your rapidly growing student, 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.

“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.

Attendance Office News...

Welcome to Shepton High School! Here are some important phone numbers, Web sites and information to help you become familiar with your new 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

Frequently Asked

Questions:

“What should I do if...”

My child will be absent. Call the attendance sick line at 469-752-7600 option 3 before 9:30 am. Leave a message with your legal name of student, spelling last name, Student ID#, your name and reason for absence. Make sure that your child brings in an absence note to the attendance office upon their return – all absence notes must be turned in within three days of the student's return.

My child is sick extended time.

Doctor's note required if absent for five consecutive days.

My child is late for school. If your child is late due to a doctor's appointment, please have them bring in the note from the doctor's office. If your child is late due to illness, please send them in with a note stating that they were ill. Please note that three tardies are the equal to one unexcused absence.

My child needs to leave school early for an appointment.

Write a note and have your child give it to the attendance office first thing in the morning. The note should state the time that your child must leave school, a number we can call and confirm the note and the reason that they are leaving early. If a child is leaving school early or will miss time due to travel plans, you must submit a note at least five school days prior to the absence. 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.

Registering for driver's ed. Once registered, your child will need a VOE or TEA form. This form is available at the attendance office. Note: TEA forms are only valid for 30 days. Student must be 15 years or older to receive.

My child has completed driving school and is applying for their license. In order to get their license, they need a new TEA form.

My child is driving to school. Is a parking permit required? A parking permit is required for all cars parked on Shepton's campus. Permits are sold Tuesday and Thursday for \$20 through the Attendance Office. Forms are located on wall outside of Attendance Office and must be signed by a parent.

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!

Counselor's News...

It has been a great start to the school year. Counselors have been very busy enrolling new students, changing schedules and making sure that students are properly placed. If you need help, the following is a list of our Alpha breakdown.

Alpha	Counselor	Ext. Number
A – Chh, AVID	Jane Clanahan	469-752-7620
Chi – Her	Robbie Condit	469-752-7617
Hes- McD	Shamia Feist	469-752-7616
McE-Sal	Denisa Valenzuela	469-752-7619
San – Z	Donnette Globe	469-752-7618

Counselor Administrative Assistant:
Diane Baker 469-752-7615
Registrar: Fran Weidemier 469-752-7623

Upcoming Dates:

October 2 is the end of the 1st Six Weeks and the last day to change from an honors class to a regular class.

All 10th graders will take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 15.

All 9th graders will take the CoGAT on Wednesday, October 15.

Parent Conference Day – October 17.

Shepton Counselors are part of Plano ISD Student and Family Services Department. That title describes who we are. We are here to serve you and your student through academic guidance, personal/social counseling and referrals, as well as providing college and career information.

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.

Please contact Shelby Chesnut, 469-752-7600, regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education.

Curriculum Office News...

Student Absence Request

Sometimes it is necessary for a student to miss school for reasons other than illness. Unfortunately, most of those absences are unexcused absences. In order for a student to make up and receive credit for work assigned during an unexcused absence, the student must submit one week in advance a written notification of the planned absence to the principal. When no prior notification is given, students shall receive a zero for all work assigned during the absence. Please use the attached form to make the appropriate notification to the school. Siblings need to be listed only if the siblings will be absent on the same dates.

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 2nd six weeks will be assessed based upon the grades posted at 4:30 pm, Thursday, October 2. The student will then regain or lose eligibility at 4:30 pm Thursday, October 9. All students who are deemed to be ineligible as of October 2 will be reassessed for eligibility based upon the grades posted on 4:30 pm, Thursday, October 16. If the student is deemed eligible on that date, the student will then regain eligibility at 4:30 pm, Thursday, October 23.

Report Cards and Progress Reports

Progress reports for the 1st six weeks were issued Monday, September 15. If you did not receive your student's progress reports, please contact your child's 4th period teacher by calling our front desk at 469-752-7600. If a student is failing any course, that student should also receive a progress report from the teacher of that course. That progress report will need to be signed and returned

to the teacher of record. Report cards for the first six weeks will be issued during 4th period on Friday, October 10. They should be signed by a parent and returned to the 4th period teacher on Monday, October 13. Another copy will then be sent home for your records. If you do not receive your student's report card, please contact our registrar, Fran Weidemier, to receive a copy.

Is Your Student Enrolled in an Honors Course?

Our staff is committed to giving each student the most rigorous academic possibilities during his/her time at Shepton. For that reason, we encourage students to begin the year in the highest level of a course that the student and family believe is appropriate.

However, many of our students find themselves somewhat overwhelmed after a few weeks of school. Most of them have enrolled in more than one honors or AP course, and most are also actively involved in more than one extracurricular program. This can sometimes be more than anyone expected when the courses were selected.

While our goal is success at the most rigorous level possible, we must also assure academic success. It is in no student's best interest to lose credit for a full semester of any course. Therefore, some students will find it necessary to take a step back in at least one of their courses.

Please realize that we do have a deadline for dropping from honors to regular. The student must have dropped the course before the end of the day on Friday, October 17. If not, the student must remain

Cont'd on page 18

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 —
Melanie Yonks
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

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@sheptonpts.org if you have any questions.

Curriculum Office News Cont'd from page 17

in the honors level of the course until completion of the first semester.

If at any time your family is considering dropping an honors course, please feel free to contact the teacher of record to discuss

your thoughts. Along with the teacher, the family can make an informed decision. If the decision is made to drop the course, it is then a simple matter of contacting your child's counselor. Please realize that no drop will be done without parental approval.



Shepton High School

PTSA

5505 W. Plano Parkway

Plano, TX 75093

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PTSA President Letter	4
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Reflections	8
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