SHES COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SHES Community Outreach, a collaboration between Student Council and SHES PTO, will be collecting donations of hats, gloves, socks and toys for all ages. Collection will take place from 12/03-12/14 before school in front of the office. Distribution of the items will occur on Saturday, December 15 from 9 am -12 pm at the New Hope Food Pantry which is located at 415 SW Polk. Volunteers will be needed to hand out food and donation items. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please email thunderbolt-pto@gmail.com or on Sign Up Genius. The event is designed for families to volunteer together and give back to the Topeka community. Kids are highly encouraged to come along and help out.

ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER, BASKET AUCTION, SPECIAL RAFFLE AND INTRAMURALS TOURNAMENT

The annual SHES PTO Chili Supper/Basket Auction/Intramurals night will be Thursday, December 6 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Final bids will start at 7:30 p.m. If you purchased meal tickets they will be sent home in your student’s backpack on Tuesday, December 4. Dinner will be served from 5:00-8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

New this year at the auction:
1) There will be a Square which will allow you to pay by card!
2) Raffle: The raffle tickets are for a Dierks Bentley concert tickets. Tickets will cost $5.00 each and 4 for $15.

Kindergarten students who are participating in the performance of the National Anthem should meet in the Literacy Tutor Classroom at 4:45 p.m. with the performance starting promptly at 5:00 in the gym. Casual attire, including SHES spirit wear, is acceptable.

All participants in the fifth and sixth grade intramural volleyball program will be playing in the gym. A bake sale in the main hallway to satisfy your sweet tooth and raise funds for community and school projects.

Also, check out our Teacher’s Holiday Wish List in the main hallway for items needed in the classroom. Participation is completely optional.
5th/6th GRADE VOCAL MUSIC PROGRAM

On Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00 pm our fifth and sixth graders will be presenting their holiday program at the Shawnee Heights High School Auditorium. Students are to arrive at school by 6:45 that evening. There will be a dress rehearsal on Monday, December 10 at 10:00 am in the SHES Gym. Please join us for one of the performances.

Students should wear their holiday finest (no jeans, shorts, sweatshirts or t-shirts are to be worn.). Please keep in mind when selecting clothes that the stage area becomes very warm.

SHES STUDENTS SELECTED TO PERFORM IN HONOR ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to Jackson Freeman, Hannah Strole, Ellie DeLier and Reese Perkins. These SHES students have been selected, along with other students in the district, for the Kansas Music Educator’s NE District Elementary Honor Orchestra. They are preparing to perform for the Mini-Convention on Saturday, December 1 at Washburn Rural High School. They will be rehearsing that day and will perform the concert at 3:00 pm. Mrs. Martha Barnhill, Mr. Steve Kile and Mr. Nicolas Carr are the orchestra teachers.

MAJOR SAVER: SMALL CARD, BIG RESULTS!

The Shawnee Heights Public Schools Foundation is offering Major Saver cards on sale through the Shawnee Heights elementary and middle schools. Major Saver is a restaurant and activity discount card offering 21 great local offers for only $15. Cards will be available for purchase from Tuesday, November 27 through Wednesday, December 5.

Major Saver cards can be purchased via cash, check or online at www.majorsaver.com. All cards purchased online will be mailed to the customer. Participating students can earn credit for online sales.

This program benefits the Shawnee Heights Public Schools Foundation and our schools. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide ways to enhance, enrich and expand educational programs for our district youth, not otherwise available through normal district funding. Since 2013, nearly $125,000 has been raised through the Major Saver program for Shawnee Heights Public Schools Foundation and the participating schools.

The 2018 participating restaurants/establishments include: Dandelions Arts and Crafts; HyVee; Family Fun Center/Sports Center; Sky Zone Trampoline Park; Chuckburger; Old Chicago; Carlos O’Kelly’s; Juli’s Coffee & Bistro; Texas Roadhouse; Senor Burritos; Subway; Lonnie Q’s BBQ; Dickey’s Barbecue Pit; Goodcents Deli; Glory Days Pizza; Hazel Hill Chocolates; Bonkers; Pie Five Pizza Co; Cold Stone Creamery; Jersey Mike’s Subs and Cici’s Pizza.

Please consider purchasing a Major Saver card from a Shawnee Heights student!
SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

The winter season is upon us. Our district staff understands that our decision to open or close schools in bad weather has a big effect on families. We also understand that our students are better served – both academically and socially – by being in school. But as always, our top priority is the safety of our students.

How do we make our decision?

Please understand that we make the decision to open or close the schools in bad weather based on a careful analysis of all relevant factors, such as:

- Information on road conditions from transportation staff, administration and the police.
- Amount of snow and ice accumulated.
- Whether precipitation is continuing.
- Building conditions (such as whether we have electricity and heat).
- Parking lot conditions. Administrators talk to maintenance and custodial staff members who are responsible for clearing and treating school parking lots and sidewalks.
- Weather predictions. We prefer not make our decision based on weather predictions, which are not always accurate. But sometimes this is unavoidable.
- What other school districts are doing. While this doesn’t necessarily mean all districts in the area will agree to the same outcome, we share information with other local districts and check whether they are opening or closing.

How is the public notified of a school closing?

Tune into our local TV and radio stations (WIBW, Kansas Public Radio, Country Legends 106.9, WIBW-AM 580, 94.5 Country, Cumulus Broadcasting, KSNT – Channel 27, KTKA Channel 49, Fox 43, and Great Plains Media) for up-to-date information on school closings. You can also check our district website (www.usd450.net), our official Facebook (@usd450) or Twitter (@sh_usd450) pages. Signing up for our district App, available by searching for Shawnee Heights in the Google Play or App Store, will allow you to receive notifications such as school closings sent to your phone.

When is the decision made?

The Superintendent, Dr. Stessman, must make a decision by 5:45 am or earlier so that we can notify radio and TV stations and post the decision on our website and other communication tools.

Although the Superintendent and staff does their absolute best in this process, we know that no perfect decision exists. If, based on current weather conditions, you do not feel as though it is safe for your child to attend school, use your best judgement on whether he or she should attend. Also, discourage teenagers from driving in bad conditions and offer them alternatives if weather conditions worsen.

We hope that this explanation helps everyone understand the process and notification methods our district staff uses to make the best possible decision for all in our district.

Sincerely,

Communications Specialist

Tiffany Kinsch