**13th Annual SSCS Booster Club Golf Tournament**

**September 2015—Back to School Issue**

**Date:** Saturday, September 5th, 2015  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m. Start  
**Location:** Canajoharie Golf & Country Club, 154 Golf Club Road, Canajoharie, NY  
**Format:** Four (4) Person Scramble. Proper golf attire is required (no t-shirts) and players are not permitted to bring their own alcohol.  
**Cost:** $60.00 per player includes 18 holes & cart (Students pay only $30.00)  
**Prizes:** 1st Place; Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive. Dozens of prizes raffled and 50/50 raffle.  
**Optional:** Buffet Dinner—Reservations required in advance for Buffet (no later than 8/28). $20 per person.

This is our only major fundraiser for the sports & music department, so your participation is greatly appreciated and why not have fun while raising money for our students.

Please return the registration form and fee to: SSCS Booster Club, P.O. Box 218, Sharon Springs, NY 13459.

Any questions or to make a reservation please call Sherri Brown at 518-817-5597 or visit www.sharonsprings.org

**Player 1:** ____________________________________________  
**Player 2:** ____________________________________________  
**Player 3:** ____________________________________________  
**Player 4:** ____________________________________________

*Buffet Dinner Reservation ($ x $20 by *8/28/15):* Amount Enclosed $ __________

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The vision of the Sharon Springs Central School, a community oriented district, is to educate all students to become healthy, hardworking, honest and respectable citizens, who will value lifelong learning and contribute to a global society.

The mission of Sharon Springs Central School is to provide a supportive and creative learning environment which challenges our students to achieve excellence as a way of life.

Welcome to a new school year! SSCS will be open and ready for students to return on Tuesday, September 8th. As the summer draws to a close, and the start of a new school year grows closer, I am always encouraged by the hopeful anticipation and excitement that is generated by our students and staff.

This summer, we have been busy preparing for opening day and we are pleased to provide you with this “Back to School” edition of our newsletter to make sure that you have all the information you will need for a smooth start. Thanks to our custodial staff, the hallways and classrooms are clean, waxed and ready for another year.

Academically, again our focus is on providing each child with new challenges that result in a rewarding school experience. Throughout our curriculum technology will be used as a learning tool by teachers to enhance the overall learning experience and broaden students’ 21st century skills.

At the secondary level, “Schoolology” is replacing “My Big Campus” as the school’s on-line learning system. Look for more information from your child’s teacher concerning this exciting new tool.

In addition, we will be phasing in the eSchoolData Parent Portal. This is a highly secure, internet-based application through which parents/guardians will be able to view district permitted details of their student’s academic record. Through the Parent Portal, parents/guardians have instant access to important information such as student schedules, daily attendance information, progress reports, and report cards. Look for additional information in the Weekly Bulletin during the weeks ahead.

In other news, SSCS once again made annual yearly progress on the state issued District Report Card. The complete school report card is available on the district website, www.sharonsprings.org, along with the 2015-16 School Supply List and up to date calendar of events. The Student Code of Conduct is also available for review on the website and our main goal, as always, is to create and maintain an educational environment in which all students feel safe and are able to concentrate on learning.

We would also like to announce several “new” staff members. Replacing secondary Special Education teacher Sandy Quay, who retired in June 2015, is Melissa Freeman. Ms. Freeman previously taught at Sharon from 2007-2013 when the position was cut due to declining enrollment. Since that time she has been teaching Special Education at Chenango Valley. Keri Jones will be teaching 2nd grade, Ms. Jones worked in the Sharon Springs School District in 2005 as a 5th grade teacher and then in the 2nd grade the following school year before her position was abolished due to declining enrollment. For the last few years, she has been working as a Registered Nurse in the Bassett Healthcare Network. Both have remained current with teaching practices and are excited to be welcomed back to the team at Sharon Springs Central School District.

New to SSCS this year will be half-time Guidance Counselor Stacey Padua. Ms. Padua is a graduate of Northville Central and received degrees from Sienna and Sage Colleges. She also completed her year-long internship at Bethlehem High School. Her primary focus will be to assist high school students with transition planning.

Finally in our Transportation Department, we welcome Jason Tissiere as the new Bus Mechanic/Bus Driver. Mr. Tissiere is a resident of Sharon Springs and comes to SSCS with several years experience. Mr. Tissiere is filling the position formerly held by Chris Gray. Mr. Gray was recently appointed to Transportation Director after Joe Hills resigned to assume a similar position in the Schalmont District. Mr. Gray has extensive experience as a mechanic and has been with SSCS since 2004. Our staff is eager to reconnect with your children and help them in any way that they can, he is academically or extracurricular. The goal of educating each child to his or her fullest potential is one that the faculty and staff of SSCS take seriously. With your continued support, we move forward into the school year to accomplish this goal.

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Laura Jackson, President**  
**James MacFadden, Vice President**  
**Helen Roberts**  
**Worothy Harding**  
**Kevin Kutscher**

**District Superintendent/Principal**  
**Patterson Green**  
**Business Manager**  
**Anthony DiPace**

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**SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
PO Box 218  
Sharon Springs, New York 13459

**SHARON SPRINGS**  
Home of the Spartans

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**DISTRIBUTION OFFICE 284-2266**  
**Superintendent**  
**Business Manager**  
**FAX NUMBER 284-9033**

**MAIN OFFICE 284-2267**  
**Principal**  
**Guidance Counselor**  
**FAX NUMBER 284-9075**

**BUS GARAGE 284-9047**  
**SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**PO BOX 218**  
**SHARON SPRINGS, NY 13459**

**WEBSITE:**  
www.sharonsprings.org
The Transportation Department at Sharon Springs Central School operates under guidelines approved by the Board of Education. The school district will provide transportation to and from a student’s legal residence (located within designated walk zones) and/or alternate locations along regularly scheduled district bus routes.

The School District allows parents to designate TWO PICK-UP OR DROP-OFF locations for school district transportation. The primary location will be the location the child is normally dropped off at (student’s legal residence/daycare). Parents will be allowed to designate one alternate location. Forms will be mailed home the week prior to school starting. Completed forms must be returned to the student’s homeroom teacher on the 1st day of school.

The student will be transported to the primary location at the end of each school day, unless other arrangements are made by the parent. The student can be transported to the alternate location beginning by 9:00 AM and e-mails and phone calls will not be accepted. The notes must include all necessary information for the bus driver to safely drop a student off at the alternate location, including the student’s full name, physical house address of alternate location, parent/guardian phone number and signature.

Any emergency related change will require administrative approval. Emergencies are defined as rare, unexpected, unavoidable events. The Superintendent of Schools, Business Administrator and/or Transportation Supervisor may approve an emergency change in transportation if deemed necessary. However, without such approval, no student will be delivered to a primary or alternate address as indicated by the parent on the transportation designation forms. (In the event that this occurs repeatedly, parents/guardians will be required to meet with school officials to implement alternative plans).

Special drop offs (i.e. sleepovers, birthdays, etc.) to locations besides the primary or alternate drop off can be approved by the Superintendent of Schools, Business Administrator and/or Transportation Supervisor on a case by case basis, but must be made 24 hours in advance of the special request.

In the event of a School District declared emergency dismissal, the school district will follow the parent/guardians instructions on the early closing/emergency dismissal notification forms on file.

PM DROP OFF GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS 3RD GRADE AND YOUNGER:

- The school district requires a Parent/guardian, older sibling or other responsible party to be at the bus stop in the afternoon to receive students. Due to safety concerns, no child, 3rd grade and under will be dropped off unless a responsible party is available. If there is no responsible party at the bus stop the student will be taken back to the school (or the bus garage) where they will need to be picked up by 4:00 PM. The school will attempt to contact parents/guardians in the event a guardian is not on hand. (In the event that this occurs repeatedly, parents/guardians will be required to meet with school officials to implement alternative plans).

If you have any questions, please contact: SCS Transportation Department at (518)-284-9047 or Sharon Springs Central School at (518)-284-2266.

Access to Student Records Notification

Dear Parent or Eligible Student:

This is to advise you of your rights with respect to student records pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student records. The law gives parents and students over 18 years of age (referred to in the law as “eligible students”) the following rights:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records and request the amendment of the student’s record if the parent or student believes that such record is not accurate or misleading. Parents or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading by writing the Principal clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed and specifying why it is inaccurate or misleading.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s educational records records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading by writing the Principal clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed and specifying why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District denies not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement personnel), a person serving on the school board, a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school District in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The person that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office

US Department of Education, disclosures, or use records they wish to inspect. The Principal will arrange for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

Who do I contact about......?

Athletics.............................................Mrs. Tammy Behr 284-2266 ext. 121
Bus Schedule....................................Mr. Chris Gray 284-9047
Cafeteria/Lunch Program.................Mrs. Melissa Simpson 284-2266 ext. 123
Course Curriculum..........................Mrs. Brenda Stetin 284-2267 ext. 109
Health Concerns.............................Mrs. Emily Haley 284-2267 ext. 107
Use of Building.................................Mr. Anthony DiPace 284-2266 ext. 100
Personal Issues...............................Mrs. Brenda Stetin 284-2267 ext. 109
Disciplinary Issues...........................Mr. Anthony DiPace 284-2266 ext. 116
Unresolved Disciplinary Issues..........Contact Teacher Involved 284-2266
Boys' and Girls' Varsity Soccer Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Game Time</th>
<th>Home Team</th>
<th>Visitor Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 9/25/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Cherry-Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 9/26/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Richfield Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9/28/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Richfield Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 9/30/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Schenevus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 10/2/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Milford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 10/3/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV &amp; BV Championship Games</td>
<td>GB vs. Mount Upton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 10/8/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Franklin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 10/9/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Cherry Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 10/10/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Edmeston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 10/12/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Schenevus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 10/14/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Northville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu. 10/15/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV Tournament</td>
<td>Cherry Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 10/16/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV &amp; BV Playoffs Seeds 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 10/17/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GV &amp; BV Championship Games</td>
<td>Soccer Hall of Fame Field, Oneonta, NY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boys' and Girls' Modified Soccer Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Game Time</th>
<th>Home Team</th>
<th>Visitor Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 9/11/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Away vs. Morris</td>
<td>Milford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9/14/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Colton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 9/16/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 9/18/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9/21/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 9/23/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 9/25/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 9/26/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 9/28/15</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BM Home vs. Morris</td>
<td>Canajoharie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tools for Schools Program at Price Chopper Supermarkets

Once again, Price Chopper Supermarkets is sponsoring The Tools for Schools Program. Everything you purchase at Price Chopper with your Advantage Card earns points to help your school get a larger share of the $500,000 in FREE equipment to be distributed through our Tools for Schools Program.

To enroll or re-enroll you can go to www.pricechopper.com/savings/tools-for-schools and click on the "SIGN UP" link. The Sharon Springs Central School District Code is: 138740.

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To enroll or re-enroll you can go to www.pricechopper.com/savings/tools-for-schools and click on the "SIGN UP" link. The Sharon Springs Central School District Code is: 138740.
Emergency Information Sheets

Emergency information sheets will be sent home with your child on the first day of school. Please update the health, address, phone and emergency contact information and return the sheet to school with your child the next day. Also, if information should change during the school year, please be sure to let the school know as soon as possible. Up-to-date phone numbers and emergency contacts are essential for the safety of your child.

Emergency Management Plan

The Sharon Springs Central School District has developed an Emergency Disaster Preparedness Plan as required by the State Education Law, §550. It is required that each public school district has emergency plans in place and that the information of emergency procedures be provided to all students and staff. The District will provide training drills throughout the school year and conduct at least 2 fire drills, in addition to a “go home drill” to test the transportation and communication systems. Emergency evacuation route information is posted in each classroom.

If you would like more information regarding the school’s Emergency Management Plan, please contact Mr. Patterson Green, Superintendent/Building Principal.

Drug Free/Tobacco Free School Zone

Sharon Springs Central School is considered a Drug Free/ Tobacco Free School Zone. Anyone arrested and convicted of selling or using illegal drugs within 1,000 feet of school property will be subject to a penalty of at least one year’s suspension from school, though the Superintendent of Schools may modify this policy based on circumstances and the student’s previous record. A suspended student will be provided with alternative instruction during the suspension period.

Food Services

Non-Discrimination Notice

The Sharon Springs Central School District does not discriminate in employment or in the education programs and activities which it operates on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, religion, race, or handicap in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, or §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the NYS Human Rights Law. Inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to Section 504/Title IX Coordinator, Tony DiPace, Business Manager at 284-2266.

Firearms Prohibited

As stated in the Sharon Springs Central School Board of Educa-
tion policy, no person shall bring a firearm or any portion of a firearm on the premises of a school or any area controlled by the School District. School premises means all school owned, leased, or otherwise controlled buildings, grounds and transportation vehicles.

In accordance with Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, (Gun-Free Schools Act of 1995), and Education Law §214 and 226, any student possessing a firearm on school premises will be subjected to a penalty of at least one year’s suspension from school, though the Superintendent of Schools may modify this policy based on circumstances and the student’s previous record. A suspended student will be provided with alternative instruction during the suspension period.

Fire Inspection Completed

The annual fire inspection has been conducted and the required reports have been submitted to the New York State Education Department. For questions, please contact Mr. Tony DiPace at 284-2266.

From the Cafeteria

At the start of another school year, the cafeteria staff would like to thank those who participated in our program last year and welcome you back. Above you will find the September 2015 Breakfast/Lunch Menu including the prices for breakfast and lunch. (Please note price changes.)

Children from households that meet the Federal Income Guidelines may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Reduced meals cost $2.25 for breakfast and $.25 for lunch. To apply for free or reduced price meals complete the application found in this newsletter and return it to the school as soon as possible. This information is kept in strict confidence.

If you participate in the free/reduced price meal program last year, he/she is eligible to continue the receive the same benefits until SEPTEMBER 30, 2015. A new application must be completed and approved before this date in order for your child to continue with the program for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year.

If you have any concerns or suggestions please feel free to leave a message on my voice mail at 284-2246 ext. 121. I will be returning phone calls from 1:00-2:00 p.m. daily. You may also reach me via email at tspence@sharonsprings.org. Communication is a big factor, so please do not hesitate to contact me. As always, we thank you for your continued support!

Melissa L. Simpson, SSCS Food Program Services

Breakfast Every Monday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scrambled eggs &amp; Cheese OR Cold Cereal Choice OR WG Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</td>
<td>$1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit Juice/LM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breakfast Every Tuesday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/ French Toast Sticks OR Cranberry Sauce OR Cold Cereal Choice OR WG Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</td>
<td>$1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit Juice/LM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breakfast Every Wednesday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FF French Toast Sticks OR Cranberry Sauce OR Cold Cereal Choice OR WG Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit Juice/LM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breakfast Every Thursday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/ French Toast Sticks OR Cranberry Sauce OR Cold Cereal Choice OR WW Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit Juice/LM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

September 2015 Breakfast/Lunch Menu (Subject to Change)

Television Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Arrival to P1</th>
<th>Period 1</th>
<th>Period 2</th>
<th>Period 3</th>
<th>Period 4</th>
<th>Period 5</th>
<th>Period 6</th>
<th>Period 7</th>
<th>Period 8</th>
<th>Period 9</th>
<th>Activity/Hours/Extra Help</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>8:05 a.m.</td>
<td>8:51 a.m.</td>
<td>9:16 a.m.</td>
<td>9:41 a.m.</td>
<td>10:06 a.m.</td>
<td>10:31 a.m.</td>
<td>11:06 a.m.</td>
<td>11:31 a.m.</td>
<td>12:06 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>8:05 a.m.</td>
<td>8:51 a.m.</td>
<td>9:16 a.m.</td>
<td>9:41 a.m.</td>
<td>10:06 a.m.</td>
<td>10:31 a.m.</td>
<td>11:06 a.m.</td>
<td>11:31 a.m.</td>
<td>12:06 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
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<td>8:51 a.m.</td>
<td>9:16 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>9:16 a.m.</td>
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<td>10:31 a.m.</td>
<td>11:06 a.m.</td>
<td>11:31 a.m.</td>
<td>12:06 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
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Melissa L. Simpson, SSCS Food Program Services

Offered Daily for Lunch: Grilled Chicken Salad, Fresh Fruit & Yogurt Parfait, PB & Jelly and Water
# EDUCAUTION MATTERS

## NOTIFICATIONS

### ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

The Sharon Springs Central School District has developed a District-wide School Safety Plan and confidential Building-level School Safety Plans for each building as required by New York State Education Law Against Violence in Education (S.A.V.E.) Law. This law requires the district to annually provide written information to all students and staff about emergency procedures. As required, the District-wide School Safety Plan was originally submitted to the New York State Education Department in June 2001. Each confidential Building-level Emergency Response Plan was originally submitted to the local police and New York State Police in June 2001.

The District-wide School Safety Team annually reviews the District-wide School Safety Plan. The Building-level School Safety Teams annually review the confidential Building-level Emergency Response Plans. All updates are approved by the Board of Education prior to re-submitting them to the New York State Education Department and the local police and New York State Police respectively.

The district will provide training throughout the year and will conduct at least twelve fire drills as well as conduct a district-wide drill to test sheltering plans and/or early dismissal. Emergency evacuation information is posted in each classroom and Emergency School Closing information can be found in the district calendar. For more information concerning the District-wide School Safety Plan, please contact Mr. Patterson Green, Superintendent/Building Principal at 284-2266.

### ANTI-IDLING LAW

The Anti-Idling Law prohibits the idling of a diesel or non-diesel fueled engine for more than five consecutive minutes except to maintain temperatures inside the vehicles during the cold or hot weather when it is required by certain regulations and the operation of equipment.

Sharon Springs Central Schools Transportation Department monitors compliance with the Anti-Idling Laws. When loading or unloading our buses at school, buses are shut off during those times. The school is also responsible to ensure visitors at our school follow the same rules and regulations regarding the idling of buses.

### Pesticide Use Notification

The Sharon Springs Central School District may use pesticide products periodically throughout the year. The Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law requires school districts to maintain a list of staff and persons in a parental relation who wish to receive notifications periodically throughout the year. The Pesticide Use Notification Plan for each building is available and kept in the main office. These records are available for review during normal business hours.

Six-month periodic asbestos surveillances as well as a triennial inspection are required in pursuant of AHERA. The six-month surveillance will be completed in December, 2015 and June, 2016. The triennial inspection was completed in June, 2015. To date, no asbestos projects are scheduled. If any are scheduled in the future, all work shall be conducted according to all applicable local, state and federal regulations. For more information, please contact the LEA Asbestos Designee, Mr. Tony DiPace, Business Manager at 284-2266.

### Release of Student Information Under No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

Pursuant to the federal education legislation also known as No Child Left Behind Act, Sharon Springs Central School must disclose to military recruiters, upon request, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of high school students. The District must also notify parents of their rights and the right of the child to request that the District not release such information without prior written parental consent. Parents (or students if they are 18 or older) wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent are asked to sign and return the form below to the Guidance Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student name</th>
<th>military recruiters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Student name)</td>
<td>to military recruiters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parent Signature and Date

Sharon Springs Central School
Reservation of consent for the release of certain student information under the No Child Left Behind Act

Please DO NOT release the name, address, and telephone number of

(Please sign)


**EDUCATION MATTERS**

**Back to School Issue**

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**Important Reminders**

- Doors for students will open on **Tuesday, September 8th** at **8:00 a.m.** Student schedules will again be distributed in an expanded homeroom.
- Each year, schools are required to provide information in written form to parents. To comply with these regulations you will find various notices in this newsletter. New York State S.A.V.E. Legislation (Schools Against Violence in Education) requires school districts to annually review their Code of Conduct. The Code outlines the rights and responsibilities of students, outlines the policy on decoration and harassment, spells out expected behaviors, and outlines prohibited student conduct as well as the penalties for deviating from these expectations.
- In the past, parents and students are reminded that the Code prohibits inappropriate clothing including suggestive language on clothing, bare midriff and straps tops as well as any exposed undergarments. Skirt and shorts should extend at least past the students’ outstretched hands.
- Students are expected to leave their coats, backpacks and other large bags in their lockers. Each student will be issued and have their own individual locker. Combinations should not be shared with anyone. Teachers have been concerned with the possible safety and health concerns of large, heavy backpacks, therefore students should only bring with them to class the materials that they need for their classes during the school day. Any locker experiencing mechanical problems should be reported to the main office immediately.
- Students are reminded that the ownership remains the property of the Sharon Springs Central School District and the District retains the right to search any locker that it believes may contain illegal or dangerous items.
- Students are reminded that their lockers will not be accessible after school. When a student leaves for the day, it be for sports or home, they should have all their necessary materials with them.
- It is essential for parents to play an active role in their child’s education. Teachers can be reached by phone through their school extension numbers and their school based e-mail accounts (firstinitial.lastname@sharonsprings.org).

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**Morning Arrival and Afternoon Dismissal**

School buses will drop students off on the front loop facing Route 20 in the morning. Parents will drop their children off on the side loading loop by the front desk entrance.

There is no student drop off/park parent in the eastern lot near French Street. School staff will be on hand at both the bus unloading and front desk entrance to assist the younger elementary students.

Dismissal time for student in K-2 is 2:47 p.m. Dismissal time for students in grades 3-6 is 2:53 p.m.

Afternoon buses will load in the front loop facing Route 20. Parent pick up will be in rear of the building behind the auditorium with elementary students exiting at 2:47 p.m. Parents should remain in the rear parking lot when picking up their children.

It is important to note that the on-campus speed limit will remain 5 miles per hour.

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**New On-line Parent Portal To Open This School Year**

The eSchoolData Parent Portal is a highly secure, internet-based application through which parents and guardians are able to view district students’ academic record. Through the Parent Portal, parents and guardians have instant access to important information such as student schedules, daily attendance information, progress reports, and report cards. Look for additional information in the Weekly Bulletin during the weeks ahead.

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**EDUCATION MATTERS**

**School Health Services**

*Dear Parent/Guardian:*

The district’s School Health Services program supports your student’s academic success by promoting health in the school setting.

During this school year, the following screenings will be required or completed at school:

- **Vision:** Distance acuity for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 10. Near vision acuity, hyperopia and color perception screening for all newly entering students.
- **Hearing:** Hearing screening for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10.
- **Scoliosis:** Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for all students in Grades 5 – 9.
- **Physical/Health Certification:** A physical examination including Body Mass Index and Weight Status Category Information is required for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, 7 and 10.

If your child has had any of these screenings with their primary provider, please have them forwarded to the Health Office as soon as possible.

A letter will be sent home if there are any findings on the screening that would cause concern or need medical follow-up. Please call the school’s Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

**Emily Haley, RN, School Nurse**

P. (518) 284-4266 X. 107 / F. (518) 284-9075

chyaley@sharonsprings.org

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**Visitor Procedures**

For the safety and security of everyone, the procedures for visitors and parents entering the school building will be as follows:

During the school day, the main entrance door will remain locked and is the only one that will be accessible.

- All visitors must use this door, and wait patiently to be buzzed in. Once in, please report immediately to front reception desk, sign in and indicate the nature of your visit.
- Visitors may be asked for identification at any point.
- Visitor passes will be issued accordingly and must be visibly worn at all times while in the school building.
- When leaving the building visitors must sign at the front desk and return their visitor pass.
- Classroom visitation should be arranged in advance with your child’s teacher. Any unscheduled visitors must be announced by the teacher and the teacher availability or be advised to return at another time.
- Parents who drop off their child are expected to leave the classroom wing daily at 8:05 a.m.

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**Medication In School**

New York State Education Law prohibits the giving of internal medication in school unless a written doctor’s order for that medication and a written parental request to give that medication is brought to the school nurse. This law also includes over-the-counter medication such as aspirin, acetaminophen, cold preparations, and cough drops.

A parent must personally bring to the nurse all medications in the bottle with the original prescription on the label. This also includes over-the-counter medication, which needs to be in the original manufacturer’s container/package with the student’s name affixed to the container.

If your child needs medication at school, please obtain the appropriate form from the nurse’s office for medication administration in school. The form must be filled out and signed by a parent/guardian and then taken to the physician’s office for completion. It must then be returned to the nurse’s office.

A pharmacy label on a prescription DOES NOT constitute a written order. A written order MUST be used instead of a written order from a licensed prescriber.

Medication CANNOT be administered at school unless all of these procedures are followed.

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**BMI Survey**

As part of a required school health examination, a student’s weight and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student’s body mass index or BMI. The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student’s weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student’s school health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State Department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students’ weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child’s information excluded from this survey report. The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier. If you do not wish to have your child’s weight status group included as part of the Health Department’s survey this year, please call Emily Haley, RN at (518) 284-4266 ext. 107 and inform her of your choice to opt your child or children out.
EDUCATION MATTERS

Back to School Issue

LETTER TO PARENTS FOR SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS
2015-2016 School Year

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Sharon Springs CSD offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs $1.40, lunch costs K-5 $1.85 and 6-12 $2.05. Your child may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is $0.25 for breakfast and $0.25 for lunch.

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Melissa Simpson, SSCS Food Services, PO Box 218 Sharon Springs, NY 13459. 518-284-2266 ext. 123.

2. Who can get free meals? All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or TANF, can get free meals regardless of their income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household’s gross income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines.

3. Can foster children get free meals? Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income.

4. Can homeless, runaway, and migrant children get free meals? Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven’t told your bank your child will get free meals, please call Russell M Scimeca, 518-284-2266 ext. 114 to see if they qualify.

5. Who can get reduced price meals? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Chart, shown on this application.

6. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free meals? Please read the letter you got carefully. Call the school at 518-284-2266 ext. 123 if you have questions.

7. My child’s application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another one? Yes. Your child’s application is only good for that school year and for the first 30 days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

8. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out a FREE/REduced PRICE MEAL application.

9. Will the information I give be checked? Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.

10. If I don’t qualify now, may I apply later? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

11. What if I disagree with the school’s decision about my application? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Anthony DiPace, Business Manager. PO Box 218 Sharon Springs, NY 13459 or 284-2266.

12. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.

13. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.

14. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you usually receive. For example, if you usually make $1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made $900, put down that you made $1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

15. We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income? If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.

16. My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is their combat pay counted as income? No. Combat pay and other military compensation is not counted as income.

17. My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for? To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 1-800-342-3009.

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How to Apply: To get free or reduced price meals for your children you may submit a Eligibility Letter for Free Meals/Milk formerly (Direct Certification Letter) received from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, OR carefully complete one application for your household and return it to the designated office. If you now Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children, or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children’s names, the household SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. All children should be listed on the same application. If you do not list a food stamp, TANF or FDPIR case number for all the children for whom you are applying, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult’s social security number, or check the box if the adult does not have a social security number. An application that is not complete cannot be approved. Contact your local Department of Social Services for your food stamp or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application.

Reporting Changes: The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year. You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive food stamps.

Income Exclusions: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development Block Grant Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

Meal Service to Children With Disabilities: Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities are defined to include functions such as caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. You must request the special meals from the school and provide the school with medical certification from a doctor. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical certification must contain.

Confidentiality: The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students names and eligibility status, without parent/ guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school’s attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and Federal, State or local nutrition programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, all information contained in the free and reduced price meal application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA); including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC), the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and Federal, State or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA. The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian. We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

Reapplication: You may apply for benefits any time during the school year. Also if you are not eligible now but during the school year become unemployed, have a decrease in household income, or an increase in family size you may request and complete an application at any time.

Melissa L. Simpson, SSCS Food Program Services
Page 8

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grade/Teacher</th>
<th>Foster Child</th>
<th>Homeless, Migrant, Runaway</th>
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2. SNAP or TANF Benefits
If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. Skip to Part 4, and sign the application.

Name: ____________________________  CASE #: ____________________________

3. Household Gross Income: List all people living in your household, how much and how often they are paid (weekly, every other week, twice per month, monthly). Do not leave income blank. If no income, check box. If you have listed a foster child above, you must report their personal income.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of household member</th>
<th>Earnings from work before deductions</th>
<th>Child Support, Alimony, Pensions, Retirement Payments</th>
<th>Other Income, Social Security</th>
<th>No Income</th>
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4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application and provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN), or mark the “I do not have a SSN” box before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all of the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Email Address: ____________________________  Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: ***-**-***

Home Phone: ____________________________  Work Phone: ____________________________  Home Address: ____________________________

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)

Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

- SNAP/TANF/Foster
- Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: ____________________________  Household Size: ____________________________
- Free Meals
- Reduced Price Meals
- Denied/Paid

Signature of Reviewing Official: ____________________________  Date Notice Sent: ____________________________

2015-2016 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete only one form for your household, sign your name and return it to Melissa Simpson, Sharon Springs Central School, PO Box 218, Sharon Springs, NY 13459. Call 518-284-2266 if you need help. Additional household names may be listed on a separate page.