



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHIOCTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shiocton Elementary (PK-8th) Recognized as Wisconsin Blue Ribbon School

Shiocton Elementary and Middle School in the School District of Shiocton is proud to announce its recognition as a Wisconsin Blue Ribbon School by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The designation honors schools that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, strong growth, and an exemplary school climate.

Shiocton is a true community school where students are known, supported, and celebrated. Visitors often remark that there is “something special” in our halls, a feeling of belonging created through strong relationships, small class sizes, and a staff committed to helping each child grow. Guided by the motto *One Town. One School. One Family.*, educators embrace a “whatever it takes” approach to ensure students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Serving approximately 360 students in PK through grade 8, the school emphasizes personalized learning, meaningful connections, and a culture of collaboration. A distinctive mentorship program pairs high school students with younger learners as reading buddies, tutors, and classroom helpers, further strengthening a family-like environment across grade levels. With dedicated, long-serving staff, engaged families, and a strong focus on social-emotional learning, Shiocton provides a safe, supportive, and inspiring place where every student matters every single day.

“This recognition reflects the unwavering day-to-day commitment of our PK-8 students, staff, families, and entire community” said Shiocton PK-6th Grade Principal Kim Griesbach. “Our students rise to high expectations every day, our staff pour their hearts into their work and help each child grow, and our families partner with us all along the way. Together, we have built something truly special. We are deeply honored to be recognized as a Wisconsin Blue Ribbon School.”

“I am lucky enough to see our students and staff in action each and every day, so this recognition for all of the hard work going on here is well deserved and well received,” said Nick Ortlieb, the 7th-12th Grade Principal. “Our staff work tirelessly to provide the best possible experience for our students. We are also grateful that we have a community that supports our students and staff. The educational experience here in Shiocton is truly unique in the best way.”

Superintendent Garrett Zimmerman said, “What our school community has achieved is remarkable and demonstrates the strength of collaboration across the district. This recognition goes to all of our current and former students, educators, and families who have built a legacy of growth and excellence in Shiocton.” The school and district thank students, families, educators, and community members for their continued support and engagement.

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“Where Excellence is Expected”