



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHIOCTON

N5650 Broad St, P.O. Box 68, Shiocton, WI 54170-0068  
(920) 986-3351 • Fax (920) 986-3291

**Nichole J. Schweitzer**  
District Administrator  
Extension 761

**Nicholas M. Ortlieb**  
Grades 7-12 Principal  
Extension 751

**Kim M. Griesbach**  
Grades PK-6 Principal  
Extension 747

**Kelly J. Thiel**  
Special Education Director  
Extension 773

September 29, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians ~

We are celebrating the fifth week of being in school learning, growing, and appreciating our time together. Each afternoon, when our students board the bus to head home, I say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone for one more day of in-person instruction – it's a day to be celebrated. Too, we are celebrating Homecoming 2020! While a few changes are needed, the plan for Homecoming should afford students and community members the chance to enjoy most of the traditions related to this annual event.

**Homecoming 2020** - High school students will have a half-day of academics on Friday, October 2 and an afternoon of Homecoming fun. Activities planned were done so with the 3 W's in mind: Wear face coverings, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance. So, too, these best practices for health and safety will be incorporated into the **Homecoming Parade** that will begin at 2:15PM. Students in elementary and middle school grades will be stretched out along the parade route, wearing masks, social distancing, and cheering on those in the parade. The community is invited to view the parade by standing along the parade route, where we ask that you observe social distancing of 6 feet and wear a face covering. (See next page for parade route.)

Join us Friday night as the **Chiefs take on the Chargers** from Wittenberg-Birnamwood at 7:00PM. As one can never predict the full ripple effect of a positive COVID case and its potential impact on student-athletes, coaches, and the team as a whole, we ask that you observe social distancing of 6 feet and wear a face covering when attending the game.

What? **Toilet papering** is allowed?? Yes, it is – to an extent. See Mr. Ortlieb's letter to students and staff below for more details.

**COVID-19 Dashboard** - Recently, I was asked if Shiocton would be featuring a COVID Dashboard like some of the neighboring districts are offering. The Dashboard essentially shows the number of COVID cases, percent testing positive, and the burden rate. Some districts are breaking down the number of cases by school buildings and some even by numbers for students and for staff. Shiocton has not launched a dashboard of such for two reasons: (a) the numbers don't always jive – the County reports positive cases according to the school district that is tied to his/her home address; because not all of our students live in the District and not all of the District's kids attend Shiocton Schools, the numbers we report are unlikely to match the numbers the County report; and (b) the prioritization of our time continues to be on the students and staff, on maintaining a healthy and safe as possible learning environment, and on conducting thorough contact tracing, which has left little time to create and then update a COVID Dashboard. For now, if you are interested in numbers, please visit [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#).

**What can you tell us?** What I can share is this ... As I write, not one of the positive cases that we have had among the children and the adults has been attributed to school. And while we have had many classmates out due to close contact status, we have not yet had one that has tested positive.

So PLEASE continue to do what you are doing with regard to sending your kiddos to school with face coverings, supporting them when they do not want to attend large gatherings, and encouraging them to keep their circle of friends small all the while embracing 6 feet social distance. It is helping us manage the virus and minimize the number of students and staff that need to be quarantined due to 'close contact' status or that contract the virus.

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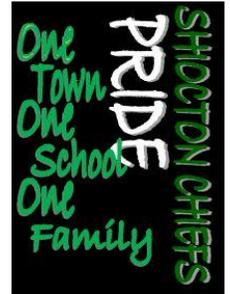
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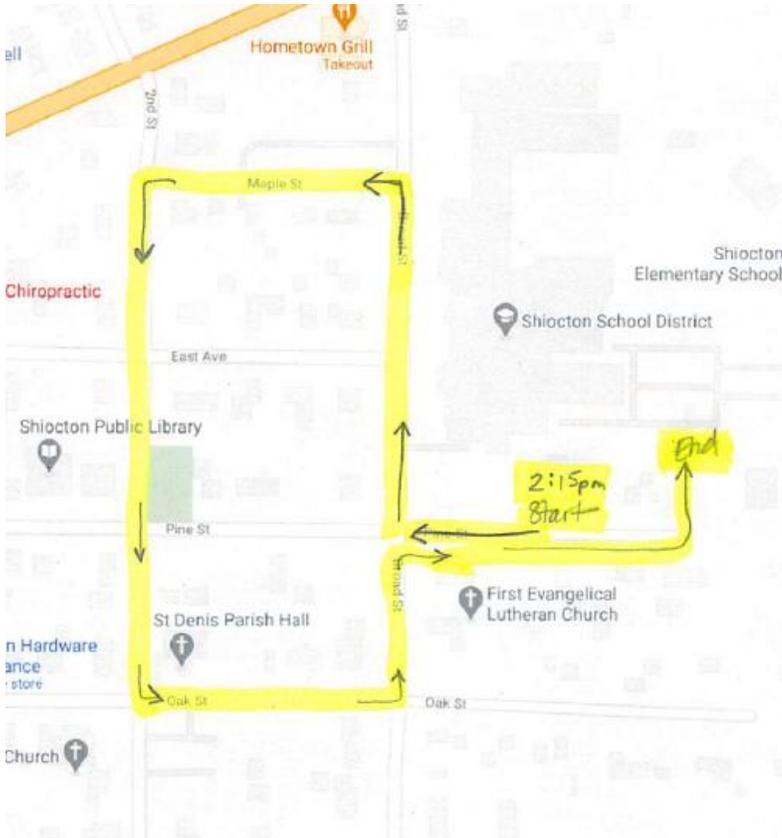
If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting last night, please visit <https://sites.google.com/a/shiocton.k12.wi.us/shiocton-schools-board-of-education/board-meetings> for a copy of the agenda. If you are interested in receiving a printed copy of the Annual Report, please email your request to Mrs. Buser at [jbuser@shiocton.k12.wi.us](mailto:jbuser@shiocton.k12.wi.us).

We continue to be grateful for your understanding of our efforts to keep players and coaches safe. We know it is not easy when a child, especially a young one, is sent home for quarantining as a close contact or with a request to test. Often times, this impacts everything from work schedules to family events. We understand that and thank you for your continued cooperation. Your efforts to keep kids home when symptomatic and when sent home are helping us manage the virus' impact on classmates, classrooms, the school, and the district. A continued example of how, as ONE, we will be successful in keeping our students learning in the classrooms with the teachers.

Yours in Education,  
Mrs. Schweitzer



## PARADE ROUTE



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## LETTER TO STAFF AND STUDENTS

Good Afternoon,

I am sending this email to students and staff to give everyone a good idea as to how Homecoming this Friday is going to work.

First, if you have not already signed up for an activity on **Homecoming** day, make sure that you do so. Otherwise, you will be put into an activity that has an opening. Information was sent to your email from Mrs. Schneider.

Secondly, I want to give everyone a rundown on how that day will go. During the first half of the day, the High School will run on a half day schedule and attend classes 1st through 7th hour. Lunch will be at the normal time. Starting at 12:45, students will take part in activities until 1:40. Starting at 1:45, everyone will report to the track around the football field for our pep assembly. After the pep assembly, we will start the traditional Homecoming parade at 2:15. All students should make sure that they are dressing appropriately for events. Students should bring warm clothes if their activity is outside. As of right now, the highs are looking to be in the low 50s.

Next, I want to talk about the **parade** itself. While the elected class representatives for Homecoming will be in vehicles, other members of the class will be walking in the parade. We are doing this to create space for the younger grades to observe the parade while creating space for social distancing. In past years, most of the class has been on their respective floats in the parade, the only difference is everyone will be in it and will be walking. Class advisors will be alongside their class at this time. We are asking that students wear masks while walking in the parade. While it is outside, the opportunity for students walking to get within 6 feet is too great to not wear masks. Again, all students will need to wear their masks in the parade.

Lastly, I want to talk about **toilet papering**. In the past we have banned toilet papering because students have taken that activity and escalated it to the point of damage being done to the school building. Because of this, in the last two years there has been a strict ban on toilet papering. In the last 2 years, Homecoming has been a very positive, successful celebration of our school. This year the district has decided to lift the strict ban on toilet papering. However, if students decide to toilet paper the school, know 2 things: 1) students will need to come and pick up any toilet paper left out Friday morning, and 2) if there is any action that goes beyond just toilet papering, you run the risk of putting Homecoming activities in jeopardy.

*Mr. Ortlieb*  
Gr 7-12 Principal

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