

Shrewsbury Borough School

20 Obre Place

Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

Brent A. MacConnell

SUPERINTENDENT

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August 29, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to SBS! I hope this summer was restful and enjoyable and that everyone in your family enjoyed a truly wonderful summer! We have been hard at work preparing for the start of another busy school year, and we are looking forward to another year of growth, change, and continued improvement as we endeavor to give every one of our students the very best public education available. We will be focusing on several areas of importance that will help all of our students achieve more and be ready to meet the challenges of the future. SBS will be prioritizing differentiated learning in all of our classrooms, finding ways to implement more STEM/STEAM and technology instruction throughout the school, and continuing to find ways to maintain and improve the facility.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank several, important, parent community groups that play a big role in the success of our school in several key areas:

- **The Shrewsbury Youth Athletic Association** continues to support SBS and our student-athletes with their donations of equipment and uniforms for our middle school sports programs. The SYAA also holds several events during the year that our school community enjoys and they have become an important part of our 8th Grade Awards Ceremony as they honor our students for athletics, sportsmanship, and scholarship.

- **The Foundation for Shrewsbury Education** has been an important partner for many years as SBS continues to acquire hardware, software, and emerging technologies that benefit students in the classroom. The SFE has donated over \$250,000 in recent years to support classroom instruction and also has provided teacher grants and scholarships for students to attend programs after school including Bricks for Kidz, Small Factory, and the STARS Challenge. **We are excited to announce that the FSE has donated \$30,000 to help SBS establish a graphic arts and design program in the Art Room and an Innovation Lab (STEAM) in the Library Media Center!**

- **The Shrewsbury Parent Teacher Association** supports our students and the school in a variety of ways. For years they have worked to defray the cost of our student field trips, provided outstanding in-school programs and assemblies, and provided after school enriching, wide-ranging, extra-curricular opportunities for our students. **During our Open House on September 11th, the SPTA will discuss important changes regarding fundraising, field trips, and other important information for parents.**

I look forward to continuing to work with all of these volunteer groups that play such an important part in our school and in the lives of our students. Please consider how you can join any of these groups and be part of their efforts to make our school a great place for our community!

Please see some important reminders below:

- Please continue to visit our school website for the latest, most up-to-date information about our school, www.sbs.k12.nj.us.

- Our security vestibule at the Main Entrance of the school is the only entrance to the school for parents and visitors during the school day. Every visitor will need to provide a valid driver's license for a background check prior to entering the school. Our LobbyGuard kiosk will issue you a visitor's pass and you should proceed directly to the Main Office to check in. Your assistance helps ensure the safety of all of our students, staff, and community members. The safety and security of everyone here at SBS is our primary concern at all times. You will also notice our security camera system that further enhances our ability to screen visitors and to keep everyone safe.

- SBS will does not allow any meal delivery services into the school under any circumstances, i.e Uber Eats, DoorDash, GrubHub, etc. Deliveries will be refused entrance to the school.

- **Currently, the use of cellphones is not permitted by students during the school day.** If a student brings a cell phone to school, it should be turned off during the school day and may be stored in students' backpacks and lockers. Student cell

phones will be searched when confiscated. SBS is not responsible for lost or damaged cell phones, or other student possessions, at any time. Cell phones that have been confiscated will only be returned to parents here at the school. For chronic offenders, other disciplinary consequences will be assigned to discourage use.

I would also like to remind all of our students and parents that the Student Dress Code will be strictly enforced. Please ensure that student clothing is appropriate for school at all times.

- Our updated **Student/Parent Handbook** will be posted on our website and sent to you along with directions for signature and acknowledgement. **It is important that you read and review the Student/Parent Handbook with your child or children. We have included an important NJDOE photo release which gives the New Jersey Department of Education your permission to use pictures, video, etc., of your child if they visit the district. You will need to acknowledge receipt, understanding, and consent for all of this information in the Genesis Parent Portal before you will be able to access teacher assignments and student schedules.**

- The Shrewsbury Borough Police Department will be patrolling all of the key traffic points in front of the school and on the streets leading to SBS. I encourage all of you to exercise civility and discretion while driving on our streets at all times, for the sake of our students. Please observe all of the parking and drop-off zone ordinances and know that they will be **strictly enforced** by the SBPD.

- You are cordially invited to the following events:

- ★ Kindergarten Orientation on September 4th at 9:00 AM in the gymnasium

- ★ Pre-School Orientation on September 4th at 10:00 AM in the gymnasium

- Our first day of school is Thursday, September 5th and students will be dismissed at 12:30 PM. No lunch that day.

➤ I would like to Welcome our new staff members for the 2019-2020 school year.

- ❖ Miss Lisa Aquilino –ABA Pre-School Teacher
- ❖ Mrs. Kelly Buskey – 5th/6th Grade – Language Arts
- ❖ Mrs. Tori Long – 5th /6th Gr. Math
- ❖ Mr. Joseph Cherry – Custodian
- ❖ Mr. Dwayne Morgan- Custodian

We also have staff in new positions:

- ❖ Miss Leigh Trillhaase – Kindergarten – Co Teacher
- ❖ Miss Kelly Schlosser – LLD Gr. 3-5
- ❖ Mrs. Christine Masica – 2nd Grade – Co –Teacher
- ❖ Miss Alissa Watts – 2nd Grade
- ❖ Ms. Jillian Davis – 4th Grade – Co-Teacher
- ❖ Mrs. Debby Agro – 8th Grade – Language Arts

Parents will be able to access the Parent Portal on Thursday, August 29, 2019 after 5:00 PM. You will receive an email from Genesis when the Parent Portal is open.

- Contact Management/Student Demographic Information is always available via the Genesis Parent Portal for all parents/guardians to review and make any necessary updates on the screen. **Parents/guardians are responsible to update all contact information whenever a change should occur and to notify the main office of these changes. It is extremely important that parents/guardians make necessary updates as changes occur should the need arise for school to contact you.**

- **Please remember to update your account with the Two River Alert emergency notification system. If you are a new user, you can utilize the link on our main website page to register yourself for alerts.** On an annual basis, we ask that you update your preferences so that we have the most current and accurate contact information possible in the event that we need to communicate with you.

To view your child's or children's assignment(s), please log into the Parent Portal.

- **Select your student and press the Summary Button.**

- Under your child's photo will be the name of the homeroom teacher
- Middle School students will have their schedule displayed next to their photo

To access the parent portal cut and paste this link into your browser:

<http://parents.genesisedu.com/shrewsbury/parents>

We have also added a link on the school's website for your convenience.

If you need further assistance, please email help@sbs.k12.nj.us. Our Parent Portal help is monitored Monday through Friday 10am to 3pm during the school year.

Please enjoy the holiday weekend. I look forward to seeing everyone on September 5th as we start another great year here at SBS!

Sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell

Brent A. MacConnell
Superintendent