

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Our School Year Theme – Celebrate!

We are centering our attention on Philippians 4:4 and the call to rejoice! Our hope is to celebrate what God is doing in our lives as well as celebrating student and Shekinah family achievements and milestones. It's about celebrating character as well as achievement! This morning we talked in chapel about how we can make a choice to rejoice in the Lord regardless of circumstances.

Welcome to our new faculty, staff, and students!

We are thrilled to welcome our new science teacher for 7-12th grade, Ms. Shaina Harmon. We are also pleased to introduce our new part-time athletic director Mr. Jared Yoder. Mr. Yoder's office hours will be limited due to other responsibilities. However, he will assist with site management to help us meet OHSAA requirements. If you haven't done so already, I hope you will extend a warm Shekinah welcome to both Ms. Harmon and Mr. Yoder. We also are welcoming 26 new students this year to Shekinah. We are thankful for each of you that God has brought to Shekinah!

What's New This Year?

We are so thankful for the re-sealed blacktop, new gym wall carpet, additional lighting in two classrooms and the bathrooms, new kitchen counter tops, freshly painted office, and new hydration stations in our hallways among other Traditions Project changes this summer. Thanks for your prayerful and generous support that is making ongoing improvements like these possible!

New Attendance Policy for 2018-2019 School Year

In today's envelope you will find a copy of the new attendance policy. Please take time to read this! Feel free to ask questions now rather than wait until an issue arises. This policy emphasizes the importance of student attendance on a regular basis in every class while also clarifying and simplifying the process of categorizing tardies, half-day and full-day absences in the school office. Students who miss too many classes may lose privileges or end up failing a particular class. *See the attendance policy for complete details. Note that the new policy for junior high and high school is based on class periods rather than specific times of day.*

Bible Memory Will Now Be Completed as Part of Bible Class

rather than being centrally tracked in the school office. Bible memory is a valuable part of every students' education, but the details surrounding Bible Memorization details have changed. Teachers have more flexibility to implement at an age-appropriate level. Bible Memorization may count for up to 10% of a student's Bible grade, but will no longer be tied to athletic eligibility. All students should make Bible Memorization a priority to earn top grades, not just student-athletes.

Want to Reach the School Office During the School Year?

Our office hours are 8 AM to 4 PM when school is in session. You can call (614) 873-3130 or e-mail: schooloffice@shekinahchristian.org In addition, if the school close's you will find that the office typically closes as well.

Mark your calendars – important upcoming dates in the 1st Quarter

- Jr & Senior Parent Meetings – August 27th (6:00 PM/7:00 PM)
- Shekinah Festival Work Night – September 4th
- Early Dismissal for Shekinah Festival & Auction preparations – September 7th
- Early Dismissal for Professional Development – September 14th
- School Pictures – September 28th

Our 2018-2019 School Year Calendar Has Been Posted on our Website Calendar! Paper copies are available in the office as well.

There is much to be done and many hands make light work!

The Shekinah school board is divided into strategic sub-committees. One of those committees focuses on communications and another on facilities & equipment. Occasionally, there is a task a board member may be leading that needs just a little extra help. This year we are requesting that each parent indicate which of three areas they would prefer to help out with. No regularly scheduled meetings. No specific time commitment. However, when we need extra help, it will help streamline our communication to know your preferences ahead of time.

Facility & Equipment Team

Possible opportunities include:

Construction and/or installation tasks; painting, removal of unused equipment; assisting with technology related needs; set-up and tear-down from events

Communications Team

Possible opportunities include:

Assisting with preparation of our weekly envelope, helping with website updates, editing photography, assisting with managing our social media, assisting with other editorial tasks for various school communication pieces

Advancement Team

Possible opportunities include:

Assist with identifying and coordinating opportunities for involvement in our local community, assist in design, revision & distribution of fundraising & marketing media.

FOR PARENTS

Weekly Brown Envelope

Each week on Wednesday we will communicate with your family through a newsletter we call "The Spark". Along with this, there may be other forms or flyers from different committees within the school. Usually, if we do not have something that needs returned we will email the information home instead; **please** make sure you have current email address set up with us.

This envelope will come home with your oldest child. Both parents need to read the enclosed information, sign the outside of the envelope, and then return the envelope with your oldest child on Thursday morning. (Friday for Kindergarten students). If you do not receive the envelope, please check your email for "The Spark". If you did not receive the email or envelope please let us know in the office. As a reminder, if you have an announcement you would like included in the weekly envelope, please give it to Ann by Monday noon.

Communication

Please feel free to e-mail the administrator, Mr. Brice Kauffman, with any questions or concerns at: bkauffman@shekinahchristian.org.

SPORTS

Games Please look for our current game schedule on our web site and head on out for the games. We would love for our teams to be surrounded by fans!

Concessions We are in need of someone to head up concessions for the girls' volleyball games. Please contact the office if you would be willing to help out in the area. It would be greatly appreciated!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST

27 - Jr. parent meeting @ 6:00
Sr. parent meeting @ 7:00

SEPTEMBER

3 - No school, Labor Day
4 - Festival Work Evening At 4:00 p.m.
7 - ½ day - Early dismissal at 12:30
8 - Shekinah Festival
14 - September Bible Memory
14 - Professional Dev. Day
Early dismissal 12:30 p.m.
24-29 - OHSAA Post season
Golf Tournament Begin
28 - School Picture Day

HOT LUNCH FRIDAY

There will be no hot lunch this week.

Counselors' Corner

TESTING

ACT Aspire test results are back. If you took the test, you should have the results in your envelope today. This year the ACT Aspire will be given November 6-8, 2018. Please fill out and return the enclosed form if you want to take the test this year.

PSAT results are also available and in your envelope today. The test date for the PSAT for grades 9-11 is October 10, 2018. We need to hear back from you as soon as possible if you intend to take the test. Please see the enclosed form.

Summer Courses?

If you took a course this summer please have the transcript sent to Shekinah as soon as possible. You should have filled out the form, Request for Course Credit Granted by Non-SCS Educational Providers and returned it to the guidance office. This form was given to students who indicated that they were planning to take a summer class.

Student Activity Booster Club would like to thank our **GOLD Level Sponsors for their support!**

Country Closet Thrift Shop, Plain City Village Market, Plain City Animal Hospital
Buckeye State Pipe, Yutzy Farm Market
The Glassman, R&T Yoder Electric



Festival News



Attention ALL Shekinah Parents

We are looking forward to and planning for the **Shekinah Festival on September 7 & 8!!** Included in your envelope today is the Festival Committee List. All parents have been assigned to a committee. If you have any questions about your responsibilities, please be in contact with the Chairperson of your committee.

Parents of high school and Jr. high students, please be aware that your son/daughter is required to work at the Festival (high school: all day, Jr. high: 4 hours.) The students will be assigned to specific committees. **The student Festival committee list will be sent home next week.**

Thank you in advance to everyone for all your work in making the Festival successful and for God's glory!!

Festival Committee Chairpersons

Please be in communication with your committee ASAP. Keep in mind we have a lot of new families at Shekinah who don't know what's going on. This is a great opportunity to help the new families feel a part of the Shekinah Family!

Work Night

We will be having a **work night on Tuesday night, September 4 @ 5:30pm.** We are requesting that all the fathers of attending school students and all high school guys be present to help set things up. Dinner will be served.

Request from Kids' Zone Committee:

Ms. Maust is in need of **small** baby food jars for the kids' sand art. If you have jars, please bring them to the office.

From the Baked Goods Committee: Yummy Baked Goods Needed!

Hello Shekinah Family! The Shekinah Festival is quickly approaching and the Baked Goods Committee once again needs your help! This year we are in need of CINNAMON ROLLS (as always) with icing. In addition, we often get requests for baked items that are GLUTEN FREE. We hope you can help! With a touch of love and sprinkle of sweet, could you bake some of your favorites?

If you need supplies to package items, there is a bin in Shekinah kitchen. Help yourself! Please drop off your baked goods to the cafeteria the evening before or early morning of festival.

If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Hudnutt at 614-207-4946.

In-Home Dinners

Enclosed you will find a form where you can sign up to provide an In-Home Dinner to be auctioned at the Festival. If you are interested in helping out, please see flyer for details.

Auction Committee

Auction committee is looking for donations for the festival, either for the silent auction or live auction on Saturday. Please contact the office if you have an item to donate.

Festival Posters and Brochures

Some of you may have found a Festival poster and / or brochures in your envelope. If you received a poster, we are asking that you hang it at your church if you are permitted to do so. We included extras for you to put out as well. There are brochures included in everyone's envelope to pass out or hang at locations in your area. Also, we have extra posters and flyers in the office! Spread the word!

**Pick up a yard sign today to promote
the festival in your neighborhood!
Signs can be found in the foyer of
the school!**