

#### From the Principals desk

Dear Sherwood Families,

As we welcome the refreshing change of season, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the growth and achievements we've experienced together so far this school year. The transition from winter to spring is always a time of renewal, and it's also a time to celebrate the wonderful progress our students have made in both academics and extracurricular activities.

In the classroom, our students have excelled in their studies, demonstrating resilience and dedication, whether they're tackling challenging subjects or exploring new areas of interest. We're particularly proud of the strides they've made in our technology courses, where innovation and creativity thrive. It's inspiring to see how our students are embracing the future with enthusiasm, mastering new skills that will serve them well in an ever-evolving world.

Beyond academics, our music programs continue to shine, with our talented musicians filling the auditorium with beautiful melodies and harmonies. Whether it's through our jazz band, or orchestra, the hard work and passion our students have shown in these programs is truly commendable.

In the world of sports, our athletes have shown remarkable determination and teamwork. In particular, our football team has had a strong start to the season, demonstrating not only skill but also the values of collaboration, perseverance, and sportsmanship. We couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments both on and off the field.

Kudos to all the coaches and educators who have supported, mentored, and taught our students with excellence, expertise and with generously kind hearts. We appreciate you all.

Sincerely, Angela Ayeni Principal

On behalf of a phenomenal team of administrative staff.

## Important to Note

Vaping: We continue to deal with students vaping while at school. Vaping, often marketed as a safer alternative to smoking, poses serious risks—especially for young people. Many e-cigarettes contain high levels of nicotine, a highly addictive substance that can harm adolescent brain development. In addition to nicotine, vape products may contain harmful chemicals, including those linked to lung injury and cancer. Unfortunately, flavored products and sleek designs often make vaping devices appealing and easy to hide from adults, leading many young people to underestimate the risks. We encourage you to talk with your child about vaping in an open, non-judgmental way. Ask what they know, share the facts, and help them feel supported in making healthy choices. If you suspect your child is vaping, know that you are not alone—and that help, and resources are available. I encourage you to attend the HWDSB Celebrates Wellbeing event scheduled for Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 to 2:00. You will get a chance to listen to presenters who will shed light on the subject. Community service organizations can also be consulted at that time. Together, we can work to keep our children safe and informed. Thank you for being a partner in promoting the health and well-being of all our students.

**Vandalism & Littering** – We ask for your support in speaking with your children about the importance of showing respect for our school environment and the responsibilities we all share in keeping it clean and safe. We particularly also ask you to speak to your student about vandalism in school bathrooms and damage to school property. These actions are often influenced by peer pressure, and we want to emphasize to students that they have the power—and the responsibility—to make positive choices, even when others may not. We're also noticing a growing issue with students leaving trash behind in the cafeteria, stairwells and hallways. Picking up after oneself is a small but meaningful act of respect for our shared spaces and for the caretakers who work hard to maintain them.



## Important to Note

**School Attendance:** As we approach the final weeks of the school year, we want to remind families of the critical importance of regular school attendance and its strong correlation with academic achievement. Research shows that students who attend school regularly achieve higher levels of academic success compared to those with frequent absences. Teachers will be communicating the mandatory final 30% for each course with their students. It is crucial for students to plan and organize their time effectively to prepare for these assessments. Encourage your child to reflect on their progress and identify areas where they can focus their efforts.

**You can Support by Encouraging Attendance:** Reinforce the importance of attending school every day. Help your child understand that each day of learning builds on the previous one, and missing school can create gaps in their knowledge.

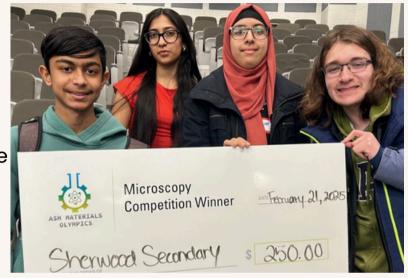
**Create a Study Schedule:** Assist your child in creating a study schedule that allocates time for reviewing course materials, completing assignments, and preparing for final assessments.

**Stay Informed:** Keep in touch with your child's teachers and stay informed about their progress and any upcoming deadlines. Open communication can help address any concerns early on before it is too late.



Sherwood students attended the Materials Engineering Olympics at McMaster University. They competed in several events against schools from across Southern Ontario. The team placed first in the Microscopy challenge and were one of 5 schools to win a science trivia challenge.

**Congratulations** to the whole team!













The junior girls volleyball team at Sherwood ended up getting silver (2nd place) in their playoffs championship game this month. Congratulations!



Trip to the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra A&C SHSM Certification.











Niagara College for EV safety training certification, Transportation SHSM











#### Boys football game - CONGRATULATIONS!

Particularly our football and ultimate frisbee athletes have had a strong start to the season winning tournaments and competing in system wide and city championships in unprecedented ways.



Spring Music Night It will feature all of our music students as well as guest Jazz Soloist - Troy Dowding.



#### **Important Dates**

- May 15 Prom
- May 31 HWDSB Celebrates Wellbeing at Sherwood
- June 4 at 7:00 p.m.- Spring Music Night It will feature all of our music students as well as guest Jazz Soloist Troy Dowding.
- June 5 Sherwood Athletic Banquet
- June 12 Commencement
- June 19 June 25 Exams
- June 25 Grade 12/Grad Breakfast