

Shadle Park Special Education Newsletter

April is Autism Awareness Month a time to celebrate inclusion, break down barriers, and raise awareness for the autism community. It's a powerful reminder of the importance of advocacy, understanding, and building a world where everyone feels celebrated and supported. Please see the bottom of this letter for details on joining our Walk for Autism team!

April 2nd is Paraeducator Appreciation Day, and we are beyond lucky to have the BEST paraeducators in the business. Our paras don't just support—they lead with heart. They know our students deeply, advocate fiercely, and go above and beyond every single day to make sure every student feels valued, safe, and loved. Whether it's stepping in without being asked, creating meaningful connections, or finding creative ways to meet student needs, their dedication is unmatched. We truly couldn't do this work without them.

Spring Break is almost here! We know it can bring a mix of excitement and stress for families. If there's anything we can do to help whether it's preparing your student for upcoming events, providing Bite2Go food bags, or sending home activities please connect with your case manager. We're here for you!

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 soccer practice	2	3	4 DI Efeld Trip
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Sensory movie at the Garland
SPRING BREAK						
13	14	15 Pickleball practice	16 soccer games @ Cheney	17	18	19 Unified Art show
20 soccer games @ Union Stadium	21	22 The Village parents night	23	24	25	26 Steps for Autism
27 soccer games @ Deer Park	28	29 Pickleball practice	30			



DETAILS ABOUT THE CALENDAR:

- 4/2 First unified soccer practice from 3-4:15 at Glover Middle School.
- 4/4 Parry, Hoenike, and Blooms Class will be going on their fieldtrip to the Ronald McDonald House.
- 4/7-4/11 No school all week for spring break
- 4/12 The Garland theater shows a movie that is sensory sensitive the second Saturday of each month at 11:30. This month is Toy Story
- 4/15 First Pickleball practice at Shadle
- 4/16 First Soccer games at Cheney High School
- 4/19 Unified Art Show details attached in the flyer below
- 4/21 Soccer games at Union Stadium
- 4/22 Pickleball practice at Shadle
- 4/22 The Village Parents night for parents and caretakes of students in Special education at 6pm at Shadle. Main topic this month is Guardianship, though we will be covering a lot this month! Please reach out if you have any questions!
- 4/22 Pickleball practice at Shadle
- 4/26 Steps for autism
- 4/28 Soccer games at Deer Park High School
- 4/29 Pickleball practice at Shadle

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 5/14: Adapted Field Day
- 5/20: The Village parents and caregivers night
- 6/5: SPSHS Night of excellence

SENIORS AND STUDENTS GRADUATING

Did you know there have been recent changes within legislation for services in Special Education? Please connect with your IEP case manager regarding your student's graduation timeline!

The Village SPECIAL EDUCATION CAREGIVERS NIGHT SAVE THE DATES

25 FEBRUARY	MAIN TOPIC: CAREGIVERS
26 MARCH	MAIN TOPIC: TRANSITIONS
22 APRIL	MAIN TOPIC: GUARDIANSHIP
20 MAY	MAIN TOPIC: TBD

6-8 PM IN THE SHADLE PARK LIBRARY
FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT KELEIGH KRELLKAMP AT KELEIGH@SPOKANESCHOOLS.ORG

SHADLE PARK HIGH SCHOOL A UNIFIED ART SHOW

APRIL 19TH FROM 2-4 PM
AT CHRYSALIS GALLERY 991 S MONROE ST.

Shadle Park High School presents
Bloom Together, a vibrant art show celebrating creativity, inclusion, and collaboration. Students with and without disabilities worked together to create pieces that reflect the beauty of diversity and teamwork. Inspired by the bright colors and renewal of spring, this exhibit showcases how art flourishes when we grow together. Join us in celebrating the talent and unity of our student artists!

Spring Unified Season is coming soon!!!

Unified Soccer and Unified Pickleball are currently seeking Gen Ed partners to join our teams for some after-school fun! For those in need, there is transportation available after practice.

Unified Soccer Schedule

Practice at Shadle Wed Apr 2	Game at Deer Park HS Mon Apr 28
Games at Cheney HS Wed Apr 16	Game at Deer Park HS Fri May 9
Games at Union Stadium Apr 21	Game at Shadle Mon May 12

Pickleball will be on Tuesdays after Spring Break.
Locations still being scheduled.
Go to spokane-wa.finalforms.com to register.

ALL athletes are required to pay the \$42 GSL Fee (can be waived or lowered based on CEP eligibility via Nutrition Services)
Student athletes will need a Sports Physical on file to participate. Those who have prior physicals on file are ready to go.

Coach Cathy (DI Para)
catherinen@spokaneschools.org
509-354-6791

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TOYS AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



The Ronald McDonald House provides free or low-cost housing and support for families with seriously ill or injured children receiving medical care away from home. We are taking donations until 4/4 Our students will be delivering these on April 4th!

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE AMBASSADOR

Mikee Kirstein proudly served as this year's Ronald McDonald House ambassador. Earlier this year when Mikee became ill, his family was able to stay close by his side thanks to the support of the Ronald McDonald House, which provided them with the comfort and resources they needed during a difficult time.

Now, as a resident leader, Mikee uses his voice and passion to raise awareness, support fundraising efforts, and share the mission of RMHC within his school and community. He brings heart and a strong sense of purpose to everything he does making a meaningful impact on families in need.

BITE2GO

Many of our students have had the opportunity to work in our Bite2Go program this month. They've helped with filling bags, reading orders, organizing items, and keeping the space clean and well-maintained. We've loved being able to take part in this meaningful program within our department.



Did you Know?

SIDE BY SIDE SPOKANE

Side by Side brings people with and without disabilities together to do fun things in the community such as bike riding, walking, basketball, water rafting, field trips to local farms, prayer groups, home gatherings, etc. Side by Side connects people to one another for friendship and support.

SIDE BY SIDE
CLICK HERE

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

The Community Connection Newsletter is published every month by the Arc of Spokane. They have great resources, announcements/updates to changes within our community, information about legislative matters, and more. Register today!

SIGN UP HERE FOR THE COMMUNITY
CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

ISAAC ALERTS

An ISAAC Alert is a temporary caution note registered with your county's regional 911 dispatch center on behalf of an individual with a disability. The content of the caution note is submitted by an individual's parent or guardian through the ISAAC Foundation and must be updated annually. ISAAC Foundation will notify family by email when it's time to renew the content of the ISAAC Alert.

REGISTER FOR
ISAAC ALERTS

PARA Shout-out

TAYLOR



Taylor is a former Shadle Park student who has long aspired to return to the field of education. She is currently working toward her Special Education Master's degree while a paraeducator. Taylor has the patience of a saint: calm, composed, and endlessly understanding, even in the most challenging situations. She consistently goes above and beyond to support anyone in need. Whether it's jumping in to cover duties, assist with a behavior plan, or prep materials, she never hesitates to help. As a teacher, I truly value her "with-it-ness" her ability to anticipate what needs to be done without being asked. Taylor also coaches all things unified! We're so lucky to have her. Thank you for everything you do within our program, Taylor!

AARON



Aaron is the kind of person who is all-in, all the time. Whether he's guiding students through challenges, cracking a well-timed joke, or stepping up whenever and wherever he's needed, Aaron is a constant source of support and encouragement. When the school day ends, Aaron can be found supporting our local youth as a coach for football and wrestling.

Aaron has a gift for helping students find their own growth, pushing and challenging them just enough to help them realize their potential. His dependability, kindness, and unwavering commitment make a lasting impact every single day. Thank you, Aaron, for being a mentor, a motivator, and a role model!

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD HELP US SPONSOR FIELD DAY?

Searching for Event Sponsors!

Shadle Park High School is hosting Adapted Field Day, a special event designed for ALL secondary students in the district who access special education programs. This fully inclusive hero-themed day ensures that every student can participate and shine in activities tailored to their abilities.

The event will feature exciting activities like an adapted home run derby, unified basketball, track and field events, and sensory games—all aimed at fostering accessibility, inclusion, and a sense of community. Every student will have the chance to be a hero in their own way as we come together to celebrate their strengths and build lasting memories.

Your support can help make this event unforgettable. Join us in championing inclusion and creating an incredible experience for these amazing students!

DATE: May 14th, 2025 **LOCATION:** Shadle Park High School **TIME:** 9 am-2 pm



Community Cheerleader Sponsor: your support will help us purchase items like adapted switches, sensory items and equipment to ensure that every student, regardless of ability, can actively participate in Adapted Field Day. **\$100**

Fearless Friendship: As a Fearless Friendship Sponsor, your generous support will bring extra magic to Adapted Field Day by funding activities like a photo booth, petting zoo, face painting, or appearances by superhero characters. These additions will enhance the hero-themed experience, making the day even more memorable and exciting for our students in special education. **\$300**

Accessibility Ally: As an Accessibility Ally Sponsor, your support will contribute to the t-shirt and cape fund for Adapted Field Day, helping us provide these special keepsakes for the students. These items will celebrate their participation and serve as lasting reminders of the joy, inclusion, and community experienced during this incredible event. **\$500**

Champion of Inclusion: As the Champion of Inclusion Sponsor, your contribution will support Adapted Field Day, funding all aspects of the event—including activities, adapted equipment, sensory stations, event extras like a photo booth and superhero characters, and towards the funding that every student takes home a t-shirt and cape. In recognition of your generosity, your name or logo will be prominently featured on the back of the event t-shirts, showcasing your commitment to inclusion and community. Your support will make this day unforgettable for our students in special education, empowering them to feel like heroes! **\$1000**

FUNDRAISER GOAL: \$4,000

For any questions please contact our: Darby Santos at darbys@spokaneschools.org or (509) 354-6825

All donations will go directly into our Booster Club unified account and will go directly to support Adapted Field Day. Allocations may vary based on funding and sponsor support, but every contribution will go directly toward the event.

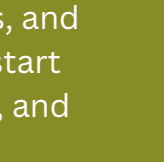
Community Events



LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

A workshop for parents of students (14+) with disabilities to explore next steps, resources, and lifelong support. Learn from experts and start planning for a future full of dignity, choice, and opportunity.

LEARN MORE



AUTISM WALK:

Join our Shadle Park team for the Steps for Autism walk on April 26th at 10AM for a 5K walk through River Park Square! Wear your Unified shirts or Shadle gear and bring the whole family to celebrate and support inclusion for those touched by autism. Let's walk together as a community: students, families, staff, and friends!

REGISTER HERE