Budget Vote • Tuesday, May 17, 2016

A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Akron School Community,

As Superintendent of the Akron Central School District I take great pride in presenting information on the 2016-17 budget. There is much to celebrate in this budget.

We are adding positions that will provide course offerings in Business Education and Computer Science for our students. We're also hiring a Social Worker, a position that has been sorely missed since it was cut several years ago.

The Gap Elimination Adjustment that took millions of dollars away from our District over the past few years has been eliminated. The District was successful in obtaining Federal Impact Aid that will generate \$358,516 of revenue for the District. Federal Impact Aid is money allocated to school districts that are not able to generate taxes on properties in their district such as Military Bases, National Parks or Native American Reservations. This source of income allowed us to restore and create new positions that will strengthen the education we are able to offer our students. For the second year in a row, the Board of Education has been able to hold the request for a tax levy increase to less than 1% (.73%), which is under the New York State Tax Cap.

We recently finished the bidding process for Phase 2 of the Capital Project. As I have mentioned before, Akron and Oakfield-Alabama are the first districts in the state to implement a combined Capital Project. I am pleased to report that this combined process has saved our District \$396,582. The work on Phase 1 is complete and Phase 2 work will begin in late May. You can watch for updates on Phase 2 work on the District website.

If you have a group or organization that would like a budget presentation or if you have any questions regarding the budget, please feel free to email me at kshanley@akronschools.org or call my office at 542-5006.

Yours in education,

Kevin Shanley



Kevin Shanley Superintendent of Schools

Daniel Caprio President

Phillip Kenline Vice-President

Jody Brege Shannon Cinotti William Murty David Penn Diane Snyder

Sample Ballot.....page 8

ENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT May 2016 = U D G Т S U S In this issue... Proposed Budget Summary for 2016-2017.....page 6, 7 A Message from the Superintendentpage 1 Highlights From Our Buildings page 2, 3 STAR Information......page 6 Contingent Budget Spendingpage 7

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Akron Elementary School Building Achievements 2015-16



- Over the past two years, Akron Elementary improved its Elementary School ranking in Business First by 50 spots for both public and private schools.
- Students were able to participate in five afterschool enrichment programs: Science Nature Ed-Ventures, Culture Kids (a foreign language program for Spanish), Bricks for Kids (Lego), Girls on the Run, and athletic Intramurals for grades 4 and 5. This year more than 500 students registered to participate in at least one of these programs.
- Local "Walking Field Trip" destinations within the Akron Community included: Ford Gum, Guy's Sub Shop, Tony's Pizza, Pixley's, Akron Airport, the Newstead Historical Society Knight Sutton Museum and the Octagon House. In addition, special recognition is extended to the Akron Fire Company and the enormous role they play in educating our youth during Fire Prevention & Safety Week.
- Children's author Jim Averbeck gave two assembly presentations telling about his story ideas and illustrations and to read some of his books.



- Building good character traits, Akron Elementary students have worked hard becoming "bucket fillers," and not "bucket dippers." Each time the students "fill up" the huge bucket, they are provided a school-wide reward celebrating GREAT CHARACTER.
- More than 82% of parents participated in Parent - Teacher conferences. The home and school relationship is one of the most important indicators of student success.
- Students participated in "Disability Awareness Day" with opportunities to experience simulations of the challenges faced by students with a disability.
- Participation in several Service Learning opportunities included: Going Gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness; our annual canned food drive that generated over 1,900 items to support the Akron-Newstead Food Pantry; Grade 2 and Grade 3 trip to The Cloisters bringing holiday cheer; the Jump Rope for Heart Campaign to benefit the American Heart Association that raised more than \$2,000; and a "coin tower" collection that raised almost \$800



for donation to the Akron-Newstead Food Pantry.

- More than 300 students participated in the monthly reading challenge that encourages and promotes a love for reading. Once again, we participated in the Pizza Hut "Book It" program and the Darien Lake "Read to Ride" program that rewards students with a free ticket to Darien Lake Theme Park for meeting their reading goal.
- For the fourth year, Akron has been designated a "Best Communities for Music Education" as a result of the important work done at the early stages of our students' music careers. Many Akron Elementary students participated in the All-County Music Festival and nearly 70% of students in Grades 3-5 participate in chorus, band, and/or orchestra.
- Once again, Akron Elementary ranked as one of the top schools in New York State for our PTA's effort in collecting Box Tops for Education from various grocery products. The result is enhanced student programming opportunities including a new book for every student provided by the PTA at the annual June Reading Carnival.

Akron Middle School Building Achievements 2015-16

- Akron Middle School improved its Business First ranking for the fourth year in a row! Akron Middle School ranks 12th of all public middle schools in WNY and 29th of all public and private middle schools.
- Akron Schools was designated one of the "Best Communities for Music Education" in the nation for the fourth year in a row!
- Playing his tuba, 6th grader Charlie Martina joined tuba players from WNY at Eastern Hills Mall for the 42nd anniversary of TUBACHRISTMAS, a world-wide event.
- Celebrating "Music in Our Schools Month" during March and April, the Music Department



put on the musical production of *Once On This Island*, the "Music & Munchies" Orchestra Concert and the Cabaret "Pops" Concert.

- Sixth graders Mikayla Venter (clarinet), Isabella Leiker (trumpet), Charlie Martina (tuba), Will Chubb (percussion), Hannah Raybon (violin), Kaitlin Pusateri (voice), and Jacob Koziej (voice) were selected to perform with the Erie County Elementary ensembles.
- Lucas Wicks earns a chair playing bass with the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra.
- Caeley Harsch, Emily Cummings, Tiffany Judge, Marissa Brennan, Isabella Smith, Casey Middaugh and Lucas Wicks participated in a



side-by-side concert with professional musicians from the Genesee Symphony Orchestra. Harsch, Brennan & Middaugh received \$50 scholarships for their excellent preparation of their music.

- The NYSSMA Festival was hosted at Akron in November. Caeley Harsch, Amanda Lombard, and Marissa Brennan were selected to play in the Area All-State Orchestras.
- Middle School string students Caeley Harsch, Marissa Brennan, Isabella Smith, and Lucas Wicks volunteer to tutor the elementary string students.
- Sydney Hall, Natalie Karmazyn, Abby Dailey, Madison Kelly, Alia McQuestion, Danielle Bellis and Annica Gustafson were accepted into the All-County SATB Chorus.
- In November, Danielle Bellis and Annica Gustafson were selected to sing in the Junior High Area All-State SATB Chorus.
- 43 Middle School students participated in this year's musical, Once On This Island. Following auditions, 27 students were cast, including several as featured soloists and dancers, and 16 helped to build and paint the set on the backstage crew. continued on page 3

Akron Middle School Building Achievements 2015-16 continued from page 2

- An educational leader, Mrs. Danielle Class developed an on-line Grade 7 Science curriculum and led her students in a 1:1 technology initiative! She estimates this initiative saved over 13,000 sheets of paper over the course of the school year.
- Ms. Yuan Yuan Wang from the Confucius Institute introduced students to the Mandarin Chinese language and Chinese culture.
- Zachary Sanford, Kristen Stachowiak, Kevin Wawro, and Liam Regan competed in the First Annual Minecraft Madness Challenge at the Potter Road Career and Technical Center.
- In May, 20 eighth grade girls will participate in the Girls Gone STEM program, where they will tour STEM related companies: Greatbatch and

Jiffy-Tite, as well as the Potter Road Career and Technical Center. This opportunity will expose girls to STEM related careers.

- Tech students learned computer programming to design their own animations and video games, while creating their own hands-on controller with a Makey-Makey kit to play.
- Middle School Technology Students will compete in the annual ECC Tech Wars on May 19th.
- A unique cross-curricular project challenged 8th Grade ELA students to read a historical fiction novel of their choice, develop a research question, learn to conduct and organize their research in Social Studies class, and present their research as a live website developed in Technology class.
- Devin Heberling's skimmer car traveled the furthest distance against similar cars designed and constructed by his technology classmates. The champion received \$100 to donate to a charity of his choosing, the Akron-Newstead Food Pantry.
- Using Auto CAD Inventor, 8th Grade Technology students created 3D models that were printed on a new 3D printer and constructed in the woodshop.
- Technology students designed, etched, and soldered their own electronic circuit board.
- Therapy dogs "Liberty" and "Bubba" visited for a special assembly that taught students how dogs can help individuals suffering from PTSD, depression or other medical conditions or disabilities.

Akron High School Building Achievements 2015-16

- Akron High School ranks #14 overall among all public high schools in WNY according to Business First.
- Business First ranks Akron as 5-star in Math scores and 4-star in English and Social Studies.
- Business First also ranks Akron #2 in Erie County as an overachieving school; this compares socio-economic ranking and academic ranking.
- US News and World Report award Akron High School, "America's Best High Schools."
- US News and World Report as well as Newsweek rank Akron High School in the top 500 high schools in the USA. These specifically take into consideration graduation rates, Regents results, AP participation and results, and socio-economic ranking.
- US News and World Report designated Akron a "Silver Medal School," placing #1,372 in the entire country. In NYS, we placed #140 of 1,259 high schools, and in WNY, placed at #10.
- Akron was recognized as the first American Heart Association CPR Smart School in WNY.
- Seniors Emma Conway, Emily Dees, Nicholas Grisanti and Curtis Miller, students at career and technical centers, are inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.
- Inducted into the Akron Chapter of the National Honor Society are Kayleah Aldrich, Zachary Cleversley, Heather Cummings, Katherine Grant, Cierra Janis, Tyler Jones, Sydney Leeds, Jenna Little, Allison Norton, Sarah Schultz, Abbigail Sokolofsky and Morgan Wagner.



- A stand-out high school bassoon player in all NYS, Kaitlyn Stachowiak is selected to the National Association of Music Education's (NAfME) 2015 All-National Honor Ensemble and performed at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, TN in October.
- Mr. Hickey's class made purchases of over 100 pairs of socks to donate for the holiday giving tree.
- Freshman Shannon Roberts was selected to perform for the HS Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall. These students perform under master conductors before invited representatives from collegiate and professional music programs.
- Akron is named a "Best Communities for Music Education" by NAMM for the fourth year!
- Akron Art students submitted works to the 21st Annual HS Photography Exhibition at Villa Maria College in May 2015. Erin Roberts (2015 graduate) received a \$2,000 scholarship to attend the college for her submission.
- Since Spring 2015, 1st Team All-League selections include: Brooke Peters and Abigail Stone (softball), Brad Borowczyk, Zachary Pfentner and Connor Riggs (baseball), Gates Abrams, Geffrey Besser, Chaunce Hill, Owen Hill and Larson Sundown (lacrosse), Tyler Powell-Kelly and Ryan Meek (tennis), Emma Chubb and Margo Henley (cross country), Cierra Janis, Sarah Schultz and Abigail Stone (field hockey), Ashley Mietz, Morgan Wagner, Bryan Whitbeck and Erik Kreher (soccer), Austin Ladd, Ethan PeQueen and Jacob Sarow (football), and Taydem Printup (volleyball).
- All-WNY Scholar Athletes since Spring 2015 include: Carrie Akin, Emma Chubb (2x), Rachel Heim (2x), Katherine Grant and Anna Pisano.
- Abby Stone is selected to 1st Team All-WNY Softball and Sarah Schultz and Abby Stone are selected 1st Team All-WNY Field Hockey.
- Team Sportsmanship awards were earned by Softball, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Football and Girls Swimming!
- Scholar-Athlete teams are: Girls Track, Boys Track, Tennis, Softball, Boys XC, Girls XC, Field

Hockey, Golf, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Girls Basketball and Girls Swimming.

- 2015 Graduates Larson Sundown (2x) and Chaunce Hill are selected US Lacrosse® All-Americans.
- 2015 Graduate Chaunce Hill received the 2015 Male High School Tewaaraton \$10,000 Scholarship Award which recognizes and rewards a Native American lacrosse player for academic achievement, athletic performance and ambition.
- 2015 Graduate Larson Sundown received the Tom Borrelli Memorial Award & Scholarship as the top male lacrosse player in WNY.
- Abby Stone (softball), Sarah Schultz (field hockey) and Gates Abrams (lacrosse) are selected for WKBW's Super 7 Athletes of the Week.
- Long-time Akron Boys' Soccer Coach and Akron US History teacher, Mr. Charles Pfohl, is awarded Floyd Peckham Memorial Award for his distinguished coaching career.
- Akron Schools is featured in Public Broadcasting's groundbreaking national television special "CPR in America" – a documentary and live-action program teaching Hands-Only CPR.
- Senior Quiana Spring, an Erie 1 BOCES Fashion Design & Merchandising student, has her plussize clothing designs featured in the "Limitless" fashion show at Galleria Mall.
- Kylee Schultz signs to run cross country and track for Division 1 Niagara University in the fall.
- Katherine Apholz is chosen a Buffalo Business First Community All-Star for her character, community service and leadership.



Fiscal Accountability Summary (2013-14)

Commissioner's Regulations require that certain expenditure ratios for general-education and special-education students be reported and compared with ratios for similar districts and all public schools. The required ratios for this district are reported below.

The numbers used to compute the statistics on this page were collected on the State Aid Form A, the State Aid Form F, the School District Annual Financial Report (ST-3), and from the Student Information Repository System (SIRS).

| This School District | General Education | Special Education | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| Instructional Expenditures | \$12,387,045 | \$3,999,708 | |
| Pupils | 1,431 | 160 | |
| Expenditures Per Pupil | \$8,656 | \$24,998 | |
| Similar District Group Average Need/Resource Capacity | General Education | Special Education | |
| Instructional Expenditures | \$8,165,063,757 | \$3,244,954,913 | |
| Pupils | 764,707 | 107,424 | |
| Expenditures Per Pupil | \$10,677 | \$30,207 | |
| All School Districts | General Education | Special Education | |
| Instructional Expenditures | \$31,235,849,883 | \$13,185,189,540 | |
| Pupils | 2,660,775 | 418,555 | |
| Expenditures Per Pupil | \$11,739 | \$31,502 | |

Instructional Expenditures for General Education are K-12 expenditures for classroom instruction (excluding Special Education) plus a proration of building level administrative and instructional support expenditures. These expenditures include amounts for instruction of students with disabilities in a general-education setting. District expenditures, such as transportation, debt service and district-wide administration are not included.

The pupil count for General Education is K-12 average daily membership plus K-12 pupils for whom the district pays tuition to another school district. This number represents all pupils, including those classified as having disabilities and those not classified, excluding only students with disabilities placed out of district. Pupils resident in the district but attending a charter school are included. For districts in which a county jail is located, this number includes incarcerated youth to whom the district must provide an education program.

Instructional Expenditures for Special Education are K-12 expenditures for students with disabilities (including summer special education expenditures) plus a proration of building-level administrative and instructional support expenditures. District expenditures, such as transportation, debt service and district-wide administration are not included.

The pupil count for Special Education is a count of K-12 students with disabilities for the school year plus students for whom the district receives tuition from another district plus students for whom the district pays tuition to another district. Students attending the State schools at Rome and Batavia, private placements and out-of-state placements are included.

Instructional Expenditures Per Pupil is the simple arithmetic ratio of Instructional Expenditures to Pupils. The total cost of instruction for students with disabilities may include both general- and special-education expenditures. Special-education services provided in the general-education class-room may benefit students not classified as having disabilities.

Total Expenditures Per Pupil

| This School District | Similar District Group | NY State |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| \$18,023 | \$20,538 | \$21,812 |

Total Expenditures Per Pupil is the simple arithmetic ratio of Total Expenditures to Pupils. Total Expenditures include district expenditures for classroom instruction, as well as expenditures for transportation, debt service, community service and district-wide administration that are not included in the Instructional Expenditure values for General Education and Special Education. As such, the sum of General Education and Special Education Instructional Expenditures does not equal the Total Expenditures.

Information about Students with Disabilities (2014-15)

Commissioner's Regulations require reporting students with disabilities by the percent of time they are in general education classrooms and the classification rate of students with disabilities. These data are to be compared with percentages for similar districts and all public schools. The required percentages for this district are reported below.

| Student Placement | This School District | | Similar District Group (Average Need/Resource Capacity) | NY State |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| (Percent of Time Inside Regular Classroom) | Number of Students | Percent of Students | Percent of Students | Percent of Students |
| 80% or more | 115 | 74.7% | 56.2% | 58.0% |
| 40% - 79% | 9 | 5.8% | 19.4% | 11.7% |
| Less than 40% | 15 | 9.7% | 17.4% | 19.9% |
| Separate Settings | 15 | 9.7% | 4.4% | 5.9% |
| Other Settings | 0 | 0.0% | 2.6% | 4.5% |

The source data for the statistics in this table were reported through the Student Information Repository System (SIRS) and verified in Verification Report 5. The counts are numbers of students reported in the least restrictive environment categories for school-age programs (ages 6-21) on BEDS Day, which is the first Wednesday of the reporting year. The percentages represent the amount of time students with disabilities are in general-education classrooms, regardless of the amount and cost of special-education services they receive. Rounding of percentage values may cause them to sum to a number slightly different from 100%.

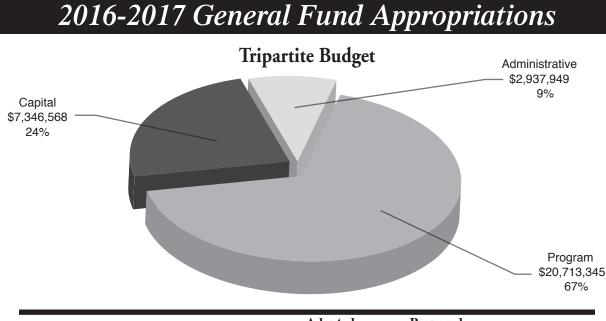
School-age Students with Disabilities Classification Rate

| This School District | Similar District Group | NY State |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| 12.1% | 12.7% | 14.3% |

This rate is a ratio of the count of school-age students with disabilities (ages 4-21) to the total enrollment of all school-age students in the school district, including students who are parentally placed in nonpublic schools located in the school district. The numerator includes all school-age students for whom a district has Committee on Special Education (CSE) responsibility to ensure the provision of special-education services. The denominator includes all school-age students who reside in the district. In the case of parentally placed students in nonpublic schools, it includes the number of students who attend the nonpublic schools located in the school district. Source data are drawn from the SIRS and from the Basic Education Data System (BEDS).

Similar District Groups are identi ed according to the Need-to-Resource-Capacity Index. More information is available on our NRC capacity categories page.





| | Adopted 2015-16 | Proposed 2016-17 | \$ Change |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Administrative Component | | | |
| Board of Education/District Clerk | \$ 21,150 | \$ 18,150 | \$ (3,000) |
| Central Office/District Services | \$ 1,190,524 | \$ 1,237,686 | \$ 47,162 |
| Legal & Personnel | \$ 151,750 | \$ 114,550 | \$ (37,200) |
| Instructional Administration | \$ 830,353 | \$ 943,867 | \$ 113,514 |
| Allocated Employee Benefits | \$ 628,503 | \$ 623,696 | \$ (4,807) |
| | \$ 2,822,280 | \$ 2,937,949 | \$ 115,669 |
| Program Component | | | |
| Instruction | \$ 9,364,125 | \$ 9,499,560 | \$ 135,435 |
| Exceptional Education | \$ 3,673,584 | \$ 4,347,012 | \$ 673,428 |
| Co-Curricular & Athletics | \$ 501,050 | \$ 658,650 | \$ 157,600 |
| Transportation | \$ 1,255,157 | \$ 1,315,772 | \$ 60,615 |
| Allocated Employee Benefits | \$ 5,251,022 | \$ 4,892,351 | \$ (358,671) |
| | \$ 20,044,938 | \$ 20,713,345 | \$ 668,407 |
| Capital Component | | | |
| Operations & Maintenance | \$ 2,042,793 | \$ 2,095,075 | \$ 52,282 |
| Debt Service | \$ 3,713,820 | \$ 4,805,657 | \$ 1,091,837 |
| Allocated Employee Benefits | \$ 477,588 | \$ 445,836 | \$ (31,752) |
| | \$ 6,234,201 | \$ 7,346,568 | \$ 1,112,367 |
| Total Expenditures | \$ 29,101,419 | \$ 30,997,862 | \$ 1,896,443 |

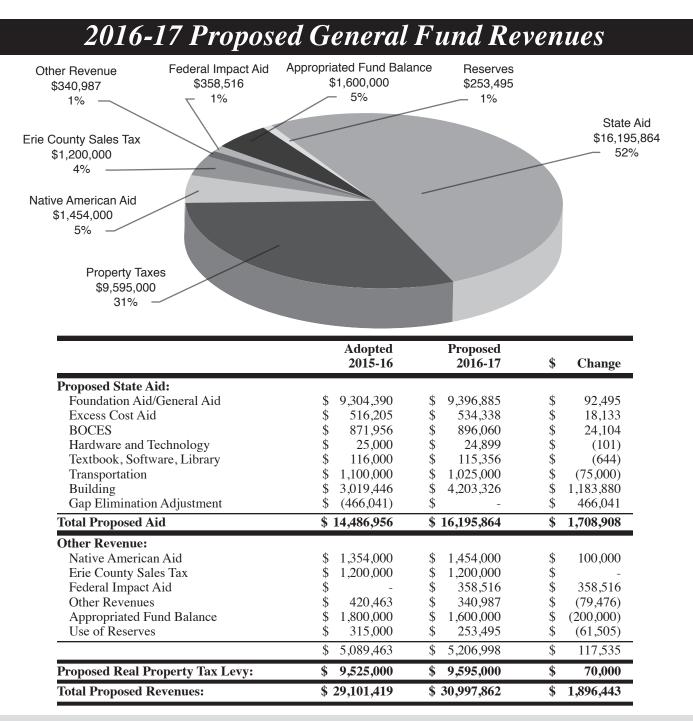
STAR Program Information

The New York State School Tax Relief Program (STAR) provides New York homeowners with partial exemptions from school property taxes. If you earn less than \$500,000 and own and live in your home, you are probably eligible for the STAR exemption.

Basic STAR is available for owner-occupied, primary residences where the owners' total income is less than \$500,000. Basic STAR works by exempting the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home from school taxes.

Enhanced STAR provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with qualifying incomes. For qualifying seniors, Enhanced STAR exempts the first \$65,300 of the full value of their home from school taxes. For the 2016-17 school year, senior citizens applying for the Enhanced STAR exemption must demonstrate that the combined income of all of the owners of the property was no greater than \$84,550 in 2014.

Beginning with the 2011-12 school tax bills, the savings resulting from the Basic or Enhanced STAR exemptions are limited to a 2% increase over the prior year.



Contingent Budget Spending

Contingency budget estimates are based on Section 2023 of the Education Law. A contingent budget for Akron CSD for 2016-17 is anticipated to result in a decrease of approximately \$336,061 from the original budget of \$30,997,862.

Under a contingency budget, state law allows a school district to operate the regular instructional program, preserve the health and safety of students and staff, and protect the district's property. Districts are prohibited from spending money on items such as new equipment or nonessential maintenance projects. In addition, a district would be required to charge for public use of their facilities, except when there is no cost to the district.

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING - MAY 10, 2016 Edward Allen Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.

SAMPLE BALLOT

PROPOSITION NO. 1: 2016-2017 BUDGET

Shall the following proposition be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Akron Central School District (the "District") for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017, as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated, and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS Three (3) Seats Vacant

The election of members of the Board of Education shall be held to fill three (3) at-large vacancies on the Board created by the expiration on June 30, 2016 of the terms of Board members Shannon Cinotti, Phillip Kenline and David Penn. All seats are for three (3) year terms.

A drawing was conducted to determine the order in which Board of Education candidates will appear on the ballot. The order will be as follows:

1. David Penn 2. Shannon Cinotti 3. Deborah Forrestel

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. AND 3:30 P.M.

Please Vote Tuesday, May 17, 2016 12:00 Noon - 9:00 p.m. High School Gymnasium #3 (orange gym)

Parents:

All kids entering 7th and 12th grade must have the meningococcal vaccine. Without it, they can't start school.



About the Vaccine:

- · It's not a new vaccine. It's been recommended for a decade.
- Most parents already choose to vaccinate their children.
- What's new is that the vaccine will be required for school entry as of Sept. 1, 2016.

About Meningococcal Disease:

- · It causes bacterial meningitis and other serious diseases.
- Teens and young adults are at greater risk.
- · It comes on quickly and without warning.
- · Its symptoms are similar to the flu.
- Every case of this disease can result in death or long-term disability.

Check with your doctor. Even kids who have had a shot before may need a booster to start school.

To learn more, visit health.ny.gov/immunize

US Postage Non-Profit PAID Permit #41 Akron, NY

Akron Central School 47 Bloomingdale Avenue Akron, NY 14001

Board of Education

Daniel Caprio, President Phillip Kenline, Vice-President Jody Brege Shannon Cinotti William Murty David Penn Diane Snyder

Superintendent of Schools Kevin Shanley

www.akronschools.org

District Phone Numbers

Main District Phone - 542-5010 District Office - 542-5006 Business Office - 542-5020 High School - 542-5030 HS Guidance Office - 542-5035 HS/MS Nurse - 542-5036 Middle School - 542-5040 Elementary School - 542-5050 Elementary Nurse - 542-5056 Central Registrar - 542-5039 Special Education and

Educational Services - 542-5077 Athletic Office - 542-5088 Instructional Technology - 542-5045 Building & Grounds - 542-5025 Bus Garage - 542-5026 Food Service - 542-5027 District Fax - 542-5018