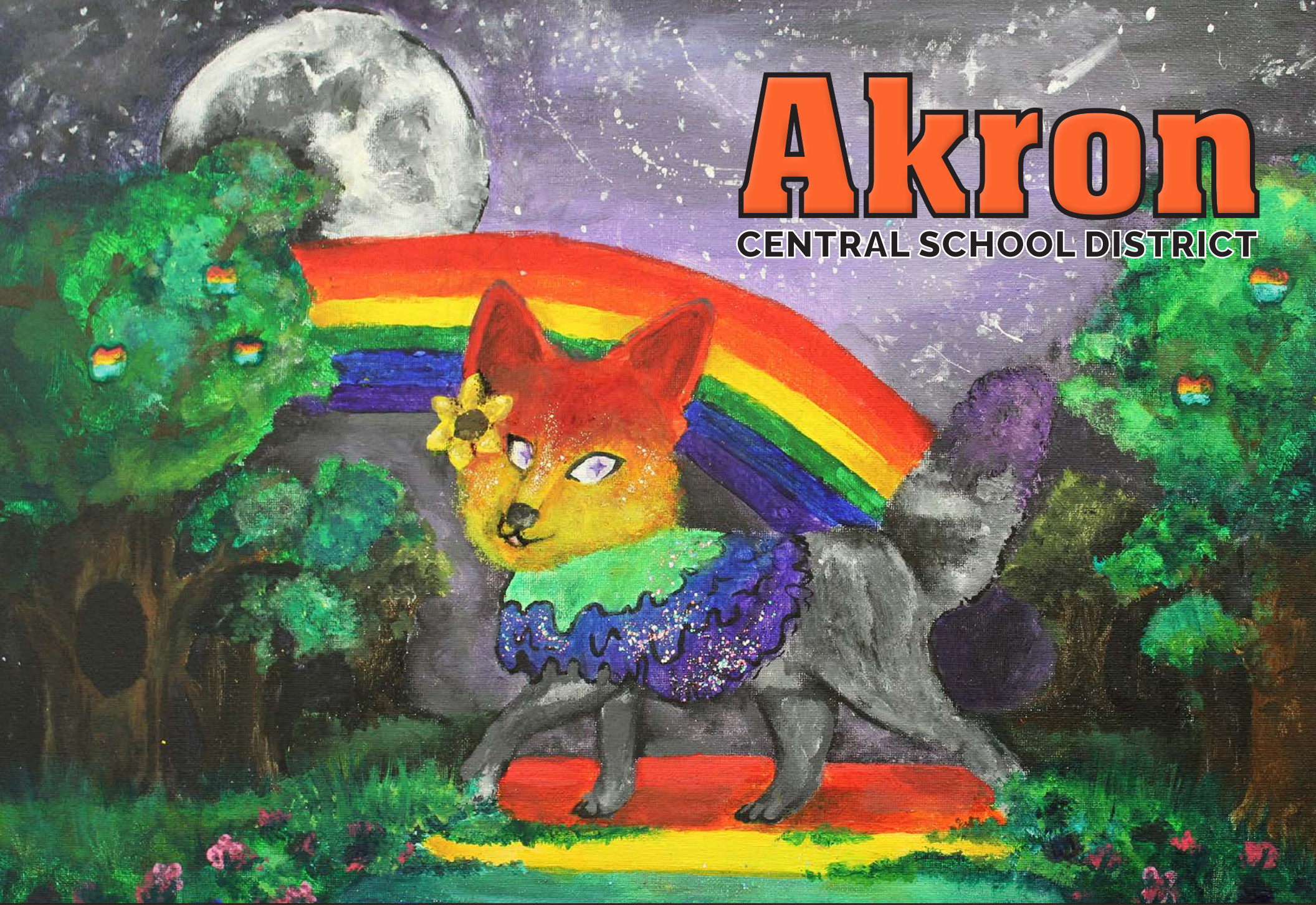


# Akron

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT





# Akron Central School District

## Dear Akron Central School District Parents and Families,

Dear ACS Parents,

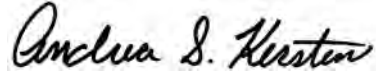
On behalf of the Akron Board of Education, administrators, faculty, and staff, welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. I am honored to serve as your Interim Superintendent of Schools and would like to personally thank you for sharing your children with us. Our faculty and staff are deeply committed to providing students with a safe, caring, and supportive learning environment tailored to meet their individual needs. We appreciate your partnership and do not doubt that it will be a great year for all of us at ACS!

As the District's first official publication of the school year, this calendar spotlights the major school events, grade-related dates, concerts, meetings, productions, PTA-sponsored activities, and NYS testing dates. You will also find a summary of many of the District's policies, procedures, and services. Please take a moment to review it and highlight those activities and services of particular significance. Given the nature of athletic schedules, all athletic events are published and updated on the District's website at [www.akronschools.org/athletics](http://www.akronschools.org/athletics).

A strong commitment to continuous growth and improvement is essential to the success of any school district. To that end, the District has embarked on a multi-year Strategic Plan that prioritizes communication as one of its goals. In addition to our website, we are looking forward to a greater social media presence this year. We invite you to join us as we celebrate our students and share important updates on our new District Facebook page. While our District website will continue to be our primary communication tool, we believe that the addition of a District Facebook page will allow our community greater choice in how information can be accessed.

We wish you a wonderful start to the 2023-2024 school year. We cannot wait to welcome our students back into the building on September 6. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (716)542-5006 or email me at [akersten@akronk12.org](mailto:akersten@akronk12.org).

Sincerely,



Andrea S. Kersten  
Interim Superintendent of Schools



## Mission Statement of Akron Central Schools

The mission of the Akron Central School District, a learning-centered community dedicated to the dreams of our students, is to ensure that each student realizes his or her unique human potential and contributes positively to society, through a system characterized by:

- valuing the unique gifts and dreams of each person
- developing all dimensions of each human being
- advancing the knowledge, skills and wisdom of each student
- nurturing and respecting the dignity of each human being
- cooperatively working to continuously create new realities



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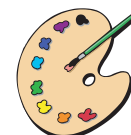


Trinity VanPelt, Grade 9

## Featured Student Artists

The art and photography featured throughout the calendar were created under the direction of teachers Jill Cornell-Slater, Cheryl Wazny, and recently retired, David Long.

Additional photography was contributed by Sharon Catalano, Public Relations.





# September 2023



Eva Sage, Grade 9



August 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

October 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Morgan Sidell, Grade 7

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug. 27	Aug. 28	Aug. 29	Aug. 30	Aug. 31	1	2
		6th Grade Orientation – 6:00PM AUD	Mandatory Freshman & New Student Orientation 9:00AM - 11:00AM AUD Mandatory Parent-Freshman & New HS Student Orientation - 6:00PM AUD		Superintendent's Conference Day - NO STUDENTS	

<div>3</div>  <p>Martha Miller-Salsbury, Grade 12</p>	<div>4</div> <p><b>NO SCHOOL - Labor Day</b></p> <p>Watch Akron Tiger Marching Band at Clarence Center Fireman's Parade 12:00PM</p>	<div>5</div> <p><b>Superintendent's Conference Day - NO STUDENTS</b></p>	<div>6</div> <p>First Day of Attendance Gr. 1-12 Kdg. Student/ Parent Orientation 9:15-10:30AM Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM</p>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div>
<div>10</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <p>Fall Sports Parent-Athlete Meeting - 7:00PM AUD</p>	<div>13</div> <p>Elementary Picture Day</p>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div>	<div>16</div>
<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <p>HS Picture Day - AUD STAGE Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM</p>	<div>21</div> <p>MS Picture Day - AUD STAGE Elementary Open House - Gr. K-2 5:30-6:30PM - Gr. 3-5 6:00-7:00PM</p>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>
PTA Scholastic Book Fair – MPR See website for hours.						
<div>24</div> 	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <p>"Every Child Matters" Day - Wear ORANGE!</p>	<div>30</div>

September 2023



# October 2023




Charlotte Andolina, Grade 3



September 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  Madison Hillman, Grade 10	<b>2</b> Senior Portrait Retake Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> WNY College Consortium for Juniors & Seniors - AUD	<b>7</b>

Fire Safety Week – October 2-6

8	9 <b>NO SCHOOL - Indigenous Peoples' Day</b>	10	11 PSAT for registered students	12	13 HOMECOMING Class of 2024 Group Photo – 11:25AM Homecoming Parade – 5:00PM Athletic Wall of Fame Induction – 6:00PM Football Game – 7:30PM	14
<b>SPIRIT WEEK – October 10-13</b>						
15	16	17	18 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	19	20 <b>HS Staff ½ Day PM Conference Day – HS ONLY Dismissed at 11:30AM</b>	21
22	23 Public Flu Shot Clinic – 3:00-6:00PM GYM 3	24	25	26 Elementary Picture Retake Day	27 GSA Halloween Fun Night – 4:30-6:30PM HS	28
29	30	31 Elementary “Homegrown” Assembly – 9:00AM				

October 2023



# November 2023





October 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Pippa Schneider, Grade 4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> HS Picture Retake Day Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	<b>2</b> MS Picture Retake Day	<b>3</b> NYSSMA Music Festival hosted by Akron	<b>4</b> NYSSMA Music Festival hosted by Akron

Kayla Roberts, Grade 10

Edith Poodry, Grade 5



5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				HS Blood Drive – MPR MS/HS End of 1st Marking Period	<b>NO SCHOOL - Veterans' Day Observance</b>	<b>Veterans' Day</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Elementary End of 1st Trimester	Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		MS/HS Report Cards available on Parent Portal Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30PM	<b>Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:00-11:30AM NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Recess</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Recess</b>	
26	27	28	29	30		

November 2023

# December 2023






Ben Printup, Grade 11

November 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Evelynn Torrelli, Grade K



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Whitley Koopman, Grade 9	 Amaya Dockstader, Grade 5	 G. Dispenza, C. Hamlett, A. Jagielo, A. O'Malley, Grade 5			1	2



<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> HS Prism 38 Concert – 7:00PM	<b>6</b> Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> PTA Vendor & Craft Show – 3:30-6:00PM Community Christmas in Russell Park Elementary Chorus – 4:00PM Santa Band “Light Up Akron” Parade – 4:30PM
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> MS Holiday Concert – 7:00PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Jack Silvernail Memorial Basketball Tournament Elementary Holiday Concert – 7:00PM	<b>20</b> Jack Silvernail Memorial Basketball Tournament Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Holiday Wrestling Tournament – JV	<b>30</b> Holiday Wrestling Tournament – Varsity
<b>31</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - HOLIDAY RECESS</b>					

December 2023

# January 2024



Dant Grijalva, Grade 10



Gabriela Estevez, Grade 7




Rosemary VanEvery, Grade 9

December 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Scarlette Grady, Grade 3	1 <b>NO SCHOOL – HOLIDAY RECESS</b>	2 School Resumes	3	4	5	6



7	8	9	10 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	11	12	13
14	15 NO SCHOOL - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	25	26 MS/HS End of 2nd Marking Period	27
NYS REGENTS EXAMINATIONS January 23-26						
28	29 Grading/Record Keeping Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	30	31			

January 2024

# February 2024



Zoey Allen, Grade 2





Jase Gangloff, Grade 5

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Abigail Schlabbach, Grade 5</p>		 <p>Tessa Irvine, Grade 9</p>		<div>1</div> <div>MS/HS Report Cards available on Parent Portal</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>



4	5	6	7 National Honor Society Induction – 6:00PM AUD	8	9 Elementary End of 2nd Trimester	10
11	12	13	14 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	15 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30PM	16 <b>Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:00-11:30AM NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>	17
18	19 <b>NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day</b>	20	21	22	23	24
<b>NO SCHOOL - MID-WINTER RECESS</b>						
25	26	27	28	29		

February 2024

# March 2024



Emma Leonard, Grade 9



February 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

April 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Eleanor Winter, Grade K



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Candice Wick, Grade 10					1 Musical Production – 7:00PM	2 Musical Production Matinee – 2:00PM Evening – 7:00PM



3	4	5	6 HS Blood Drive – MPR	7	8	9
10	11	12 Grade 4 String Recital – 7:00PM MPR	13 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	14	15 <b>Superintendent's Conference Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>	16
17	18	19 Music & Munchies Orchestra Concert – 7:00PM HS CAFÉ	20	21	22	23 MS Cabaret Concert – 2:00PM GYM 1 HS Cabaret Concert – 7:00PM GYM 1
24	25	26 Spring Sports Parent- Athlete Meeting - 7:00PM AUD	27 Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM	28 Elementary“Homegrown” Assembly – 9:00AM	29 <b>NO SCHOOL – SPRING RECESS</b>	30
31						

# April 2024




Cheyanne Ellis, Grade 10



March 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
NO SCHOOL - SPRING RECESS						

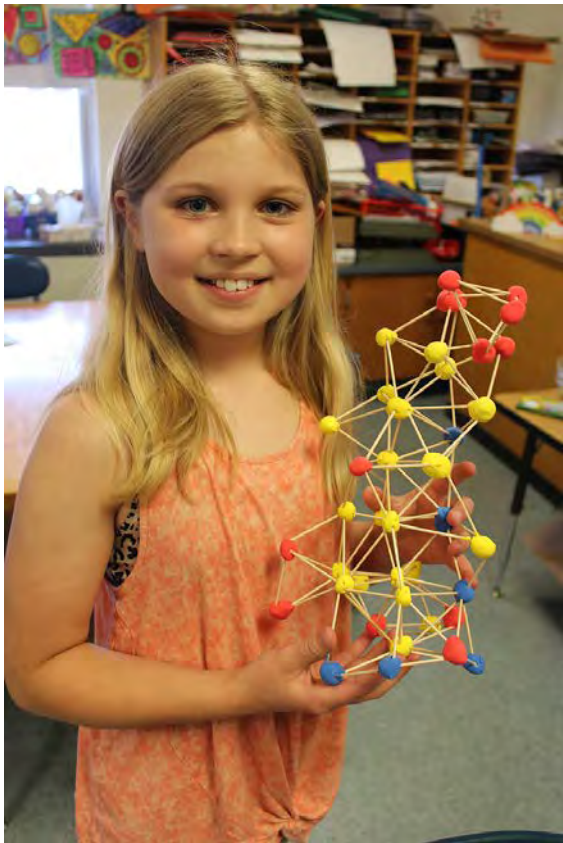
Sophia Mast, Grade 5



7	8 <b>NO SCHOOL – SPRING RECESS</b>  Total Solar Eclipse 2:18:54PM Wear eclipse safety glasses!	9	10	11	12  MS/HS End of 3rd Marking Period	13
				<b>Grades 6-8 NYS ELA Assessments</b>		
14	15	16  Elementary Spring Picture Day Board of Education Regular Business Meeting (BOCES Budget/ Elections) - 7:00PM	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24  MS/HS Report Cards available on Parent Portal	25	26	27
		<b>Grades 3-5 NYS ELA Assessments</b>				
28	29	30	 Avery Haak, Grade 7			

April 2024

# May 2024



Lily Bellinger, Grade 9





April 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Ayla Bochniarz, Grade 1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Ava Zellner, Grade 7			1	2	3	4



5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Grades 3-8 NYS Math Assessments				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Budget Hearing - 7:00PM AUD followed by Board of Education Regular Business Meeting	Grades 5 & 8 NYS Science Assessment			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Annual Budget Vote Noon-9:00PM Gym #3 District-Wide Art Show - 5:00-9:00PM Elementary Spring Concert - 7:00PM	Elementary Instrumental Recruitment Night - 7:00PM MPR			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day  Akron Tiger Marching Band performs in Akron Parade - 9:00AM		HS Scholastic Honors Breakfast for Students - 8:15AM HS Scholastic Honors Ceremony - 6:00PM AUD Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM			

May 2024

# June 2024



Avery Wolfe, Grade 10

May 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Quinn Reagan, Grade 12

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



<div>2</div>  <div>Clara Bogdan, Grade 6</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>HS Music Awards Concert – 7:00PM</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Junior-Senior Prom – 6:00 - 10:00PM</div>	<div>8</div>
<div>9</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Elementary End of 3rd Trimester MS/HS End of 4th Marking Period HS Academic &amp; Athletic Awards Assembly – 8:15AM MS Music Awards Concert – 7:00PM</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Elementary “Homegrown” Assembly – 9:00AM</div>	<div>15</div>
<div>16</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>HS REGENTS/LOCAL EXAMS</div>			
<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Last MS &amp; HS Attendance Day</div>	<div>26</div> <div> <div>NO SCHOOL – Juneteenth</div> <div>Rating Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</div> <div>Board of Education Regular Business Meeting - 7:00PM</div> </div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Graduation Rehearsal – 9:00AM Graduation – 7:00PM</div>	<div>22</div>
<div>30</div>	<div>HS REGENTS/LOCAL EXAMS</div>					

June 2024

# July/August 2024

June 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

September 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 <small>Independence Day Akron Tiger Marching Band performs in Gala Parade - 4:30PM</small>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



# Parent Notifications

## Parental Involvement, Title I Programs in Elementary and Middle School

Consistent with the parent involvement goals of Title I, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the Board of Education will develop and implement programs, activities and procedures that encourage and support the participation of parents or students eligible for Title I services in all aspects of their child's education. The Board will also ensure that all of its schools receiving Title I, Part A funds develop and implement school level parental involvement policies, as further required by ESSA.

For purposes of this policy, parental involvement refers to the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. At a minimum, parental involvement programs, activities and procedures at both District and individual school level must ensure that parents:

- Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
- Are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

The term parent refers to a natural parent, legal guardian or other person standing *in loco parentis* (such as grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

District and school-level Title I parental involvement programs, activities and procedures will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

## Complaint Procedures for Title I or Academic Intervention Services

Any parent, teacher or interested person may file a complaint concerning violations of the Title I Part A or Academic Intervention Services Regulations of the New York State Commissioner.

To file a complaint, please use the following information as a guide:

- All complaints must be written and signed by the person filing the complaint.
- Each complaint must specify the requirement of the law or regulation being violated and the issue/problem/concern that is occurring.
- The complaint must be accompanied by evidence/information supporting the complaint.
- The corrective action desired must also be included.
- Everything must be submitted to the:  
District Office, 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001

## ACS Asbestos Management Plan Available to the Public

As required by federal regulations, the Akron Central School buildings have been inspected for the presence of asbestos. The results of the inspection of asbestos-containing building materials are contained in the Asbestos Management Plan. The plan also contains the results of all materials sampled during inspection process. As required by New York State, portions of this plan have been sent to the State Education Department's Bureau of Facilities Planning in Albany. The Asbestos Management Plan is available in the District Office for review during regular work hours.

Upon request, residents may receive a copy of this plan at a cost of 25 cents per page.

## Campus Parking Restriction Enforcement

The safety of our students, staff and visitors to Akron Central Schools is of the utmost importance. Access to the school building, surrounding athletic fields and other venues is critical for emergency vehicles and emergency personnel. We ask that all parking restrictions be obeyed for the safety of all.

Signage and road paint on the ACS campus will indicate "NO PARKING - FIRE LANE" areas. The Akron Police Department will enforce the parking rules and ticket violators who have illegally parked their cars.

While the District does not wish to alienate its visitors, illegal parking is a serious safety issue that cannot be ignored. Please be safety-minded and refrain from parking in fire lanes or other restricted parking areas as indicated.

## Akron Central School District Initial Notification Pursuant to Section 409-H of State Education Law

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

**The Akron Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticides applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:**

- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;

- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In addition, there will be no written notice of such application when a school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72 hours following an application.

In the event an emergency application is necessary to protect against imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list. If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form below and return it to the school. For further information on these requirements please contact the Director of Facilities at 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001 ((716)542-5025) or fax at ((716)542-5018) .

### Akron Central School District Request for Pesticide Application Notification

*(please print your name and contact information)*

Elementary School      Middle School      High School  
*(circle appropriate school)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Release of Certain Student Information Under the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act" & ESSA

Pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and ESSA, the school district must disclose to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon request, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students. The District must also notify parents of their right and the right of their child to request that the district not release such information without prior written parental consent.

Parents wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters and/ or institutions of higher learning must sign and return the attached form to the building principal by September 29, 2023.

# Parent Notifications

## Withholding Consent for the Release of Certain Student Information Under the “Elementary and Secondary Education Act” & ESSA

Please do not release the name, address and telephone number of

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of student)  
To: \_\_\_\_\_ military recruiter  
\_\_\_\_\_ institutions of higher learning  
(check all that apply).

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/ Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

## Right to Request and Review Information Regarding Teaching Qualifications

In accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, parents and guardians have the right to request specific information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. As a parent/ guardian of a student in the Akron Central School District, you have the right to request the following information:

- If the teacher has met New York State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas he or she teaches;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees; and
- If your child is provided services by any instructional aides or similar paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Requests for information about the qualifications of your child's teacher(s) can be directed to the building principal. All requests will be honored in a timely manner. Thank you for your continued support and interest in your child's education.

## Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity Act Coordinators are Mrs. Tracy Martin for Elementary, Ms. Heather Mann for Middle School and Mrs. Susan Myers, High School.

## Student Privacy - Notification to Parents

The Board of Education recognizes that student privacy is an important concern of parents and the Board wishes to ensure that student privacy is protected pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, as revised by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. To that end, the Board has adopted a policy on student privacy.

Pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, as revised by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Akron Central School District policy on student privacy, you have the right to opt your child out of the following activities:

1. The collection, disclosure and use of personal information gathered from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information. This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to students, such as:
  - a. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
  - b. Book clubs, magazines and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
  - c. Curriculum and instructional materials used in schools;
  - d. Tests and assessments used to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information for students or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
  - e. Student recognition programs; and
  - f. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related activities.
7. The administration of any survey revealing information concerning one or more of the following:
  - a. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
  - b. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
  - c. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
  - d. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
  - e. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;

- f. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers;
  - g. Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parents; or
  - h. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.)
9. The administration of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school, not necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of the student or other students and not otherwise permitted or required by state law. The term “invasive physical examination” means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injecting into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision or scoliosis screening. It does not apply to any physical examination or screening required or permitted under State law, including those permitted without parental notification.

## Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy & Security

A summary of Rights and Information for Parents and Students can be found at [www.akronschools.org/billofrights](http://www.akronschools.org/billofrights).

## Child Find

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screening and evaluation designed to locate, identify, and refer as early as possible young children with disabilities and their families who are in need of an Early Intervention Program or Preschool Special Education services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

To receive Special Education services, children must meet eligibility guidelines according to IDEA. IDEA requires all states to have a “comprehensive Child Find system” to assure that all children who are in need of early intervention or special education services are located, identified, and referred. If you believe that your child may be a child with a disability or in need of support services, please contact the Office of Special Education at (716)542-5077.



Whitley Koopman, Grade 9



# Parent Notifications

## Notification of Rights Under FERPA (The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student records. The law gives parents and students over 18 years of age (referred to in the law as “eligible students”) the following rights:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Building Principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The Principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parents or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading by writing the Principal, clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed, and specifying why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their rights to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent of student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-5605.

In addition to the rights outlined above, FERPA also gives the school District the option of designating certain categories of student information as “directory information.” Directory information includes a student’s name, address, telephone number, date

and place of birth, major course of study, participation in school activities or sports, weight and height if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, most recent school attended, class schedule, photograph, e-mail address, and class roster.

You may object to the release of any or all of this “directory information”; however, you must do so in writing by September 29, 2023. If we do not receive a written objection, we will be authorized to release this information without your consent. For your convenience, you may note your objections to the release of directory information on the form provided and return it to the Building Principal.

## Release of Directory Information Under FERPA

Unless objection to any of the specific items in the following “Directory Information” is submitted in writing by parents, legal guardians or those students over the age of 18 years, the Akron Central School District herewith gives notice of intention to provide, release or publish in the district or building newsletters; school or student newspapers; school website or other district approved social media or social networking sites; yearbooks or other publications; daily or weekly newspapers; athletic programs; musical, theatrical or award programs; news releases and school-related organizations any or all of the following directory information pertaining to students as may be appropriate under the circumstances: the student’s name, student’s photograph, parent’s name, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Under the regulations of this act, parents, guardians or students over the age of 18 who do not desire the release of any of the above directory information must make a specific request in writing to the Superintendent by September 29, 2023. Failure to make such request shall be deemed consent to release, provide or publish directory information (during the 2023-2024 school year).

*Please Note: Although not considered directory information, student created work, video or audio recordings, or electronic images may be used without prior consent in order to publicize or promote a school district program. If you wish to refuse permission for the use of your student’s work, video or audio recordings, or electronic images in district publications, media releases or district website, you must notify the Superintendent of Schools or Building Principal in writing by September 29, 2023.*

## Title IX Public Notice

In compliance with Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972, the Akron Central School District provides equal access to all its educational programs and activities regardless of sex, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation or disability. No student will be excluded on such basis from participating in or having access to any course offerings, student athletics, counseling services, extracurricular activities, or other school resources. The District’s designated compliance officers who coordinate the nondiscrimination requirements of Title IX are Mr. Stephen Dimitroff, HS Principal, and Mrs. Caroline Kos, Elementary Assistant Principal.

## Section 504 Public Notice

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Akron Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

No qualified student with a disability shall, on the basis of that disability, be denied access to any of the District’s educational programs or activities. The District’s designated compliance officer who coordinates the nondiscrimination requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is the Director of Special Education at (716)542-5077.

## Grievance Procedure

The Akron Central School District has an established grievance procedure for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging discrimination based on sex or disability. For information regarding the District’s grievance procedure or questions about the District’s policy in regard to Title IX or Section 504, please contact the Superintendent of Schools, 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001. Telephone: (716)542-5006.

# District Policies and Procedures

## District Web Site

The Akron Central School District Web site is our primary source of communication and is designed to promote and enhance educational opportunities and provide timely and appropriate information to the Akron school community and beyond.

Use of the Internet will be consistent with the District's mission, strategic plan and Board of Education policies.

## District Technology

The District will make available a variety of technological resources to support learning and enhance instruction. Our goal is to provide access to diverse, state of the art technology tools to facilitate resource sharing, innovation and communication. The users (defined as any student, teacher, administrator, staff member or community member utilizing a District computer) of these tools take on certain responsibilities, including the use of technology in an ethical manner.

We encourage the use of computers and technology available at the District; however, with this privilege comes responsibility. Violations of District guidelines may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Use of the District computer equipment, internet accounts, as well as networks and information contained on them is required to support the instructional program. While every reasonable effort will be made by District personnel to provide internet filters to questionable materials, the student and the parent/guardian also must accept responsibility of ethical usage of District facilities.

The District respects the right of each parent/guardian to be fully informed of all requirements of this policy and any procedures adopted to insure acceptable use of the District's computer system. Student access to the District's computer system will automatically be provided unless the parent has submitted written notification to the District that such access not be permitted.

All students have been assigned a Chromebook device. Parents and students are reminded of their responsibility for the care of and repair or replacement cost for District-issued devices as outlined in the Chromebook Handbook and Chromebook Acknowledgement.

## Tobacco Free School

The Akron Central School District is proud to be a Tobacco Free School. The use of tobacco and tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, by students, employees, chaperones or visitors shall not be permitted on school property or at any school-sponsored off-campus event or activity.

The Akron Central School District recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety and environmental hazard to people and school facilities and has a comprehensive policy prohibiting its use for the benefit of all.

## Registration

A child who transfers into the school district at any time during the year may be considered for admission provided the parents are legal residents of the District. Contact the Registrar's Office at (716)542-5039 for appointment times. Children entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before December 1. Kindergarten registration is held in late winter.

## Immunizations

New York State requires the following immunizations before registration or transfer into school:

- 4-5 doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP)
- 3-4 doses of Polio (IPV)
- 2 doses Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- 2 doses Varicella (chicken pox) or proof of disease
- 3 doses Hepatitis B
- 1 dose Tdap (Tetanus) for students entering grade 6 or age 11 years
- 1 dose Meningococcal for students entering grade 7
- 2nd dose Meningococcal for students entering grade 12 or age 16 years.

## Student Physicals

New York State Education Law requires a health certificate or a health appraisal for students at school entry, pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Physical examinations are also required for students participating in interscholastic sports and occasionally for students requesting a work permit. Before a child who is mandated to have a physical examination starts school, a parent/guardian must submit a health certificate signed by a licensed physician indicating the medical examination has been conducted within the previous 12 months. The school physician will conduct a physical exam if no health form is submitted. The NYS School Health Examination Form can be found at [www.akronschools.org/physical](http://www.akronschools.org/physical).

New York State Education Law requires each student's health certificate or health appraisal include an assessment of Body Mass Index (BMI) and weight status. Selected school districts will be asked to report summary information about students' weight status group to the Department of Health. The information collected will be used to understand the severity and distribution of obesity among youth and to target resources for childhood obesity prevention to high-risk communities. No identifying information will be sent.

Parents may choose to have their child's information excluded from this report. If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included in the survey, send your request to the school nurse at the school your child attends. Include the statement: "Please do not include my child's weight status information in the 2023-24 School Survey" followed by your child's name, the date, your printed name and signature.

The NYS Education Department recommends a dental certificate for all students required to have physical exams.

## Administration of Medication

Under special circumstances, when it is necessary for a student to take medication during school hours, the nurse may administer the medication. The parent/guardian must provide the medication accompanied by a written physician's order to the Health Office. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medication. This is especially important for those students with a documented history of anaphylaxis requiring the use of an epinephrine pen or inhaler. It is not permissible (by NYS regulation) for the Health Office to provide medication to a student. All medication must be delivered to the Health Office by an adult in the original, labeled container, prior to the start of the new school year. Students are not permitted to transport medication to and from school. At year end, the parent/guardian must pick up remaining medications, including emergency medications, by the student's last day of class. All medications not picked up will be disposed of by the Health Office. Please contact the Health Office with questions. The Akron Schools Health Office receives physician orders from Healthworks of WNY.

## Attendance

The Board of Education requires that each minor from six to sixteen years of age shall regularly attend school full time. As a member of the school community, it is each student's basic responsibility to be on time and attend all classes. Students are responsible for keeping informed of make-up work for time missed in class.

Each absence must be accounted for. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the office on the morning of the absence and to provide a written excuse as soon as the student returns to school.

The following reasons for student absences or tardiness are recognized as valid:

- Sickness
- Impassable roads
- Religious observance
- Sickness or death in the family
- Required court appearances
- Approved school-sponsored trips

Notification is also required if a child needs to be excused early. No student will be released to the custody of any individual who is not a parent or guardian of the student, unless another individual has been designated in writing. Anyone seeking the release of a student should report to the school office.



# District Policies and Procedures

## Reporting Absences

The District has a dedicated phone line and email address in each building for a parent or guardian to report a child's absence from school. Absences should be reported as early as possible to:

**Elementary School (716)542-5007 OR ESAttendance@akronk12.org**  
**Middle School (716)542-5008 OR MSAttendance@akronk12.org**  
**High School (716)542-5009 OR HSAttendance@akronk12.org**

If the absence is reported by phone, the parent or guardian will receive an automated call from the District alerting and/or confirming the student's absence. The student must present a note to the main office, signed by the parent or guardian indicating the date(s) and reason for the absence upon their return to school. If the absence is reported by email, the parent must indicate the child's name, grade level, and reason for the absence.

Attendance can be the single most important factor in a student's academic success. Akron Central School takes student attendance very seriously and works to assist students with poor attendance in both policy and practice.

## Homework

Homework provides an excellent opportunity for developing good study habits and encouraging self-initiative on the part of the student. Homework is a learning activity that increases in complexity with the maturity of the pupil. It should be considered a gradual, progressive and indispensable experience for all pupils. In an effort to provide education that will meet the varying needs of the students, it is the policy of Akron Schools to have some directed homework beyond the regular school day. Homework is the responsibility of the student, but parents can assist their children by:

- Providing a study area free of distractions and with good lighting,
- Asking questions about the content of student homework,
- Giving requested assistance, but letting the student do his/her own work,
- Avoiding undue pressure,
- Helping create a "homework habit" at the same time each day.

## School Closing Information

Occasionally, it is necessary to close school in case of weather conditions or other emergencies that may pose a threat to the health and safety of students. The Superintendent of Schools makes this decision based on information from the transportation supervisor and in consultation with the State Police who monitor road conditions. Every effort is made to make the decision as early in the morning as possible. **NOTE:** In some instances, it may be necessary to delay the opening of school by 1 or 2 hours. Please have a plan in place. When Akron Central School is closed,

Akron school buses will not transport any students, regardless of the school they attend. When schools are closed, all activities are cancelled within the building and all sport trips and field trips are also cancelled, unless specific approval is granted by the Superintendent. Due to child care issues, school will normally dismiss at regularly scheduled times, even in the event of bad weather. Only the most extreme conditions warrant the early dismissal of students. The decision may be made, however, to cancel after-school activities. Please turn to one of the following radio or television stations for school closing information and/or cancellation of after-school activities.

Should an urgent situation occur, the District will send an emergency message to affected households through an automated phone notification system. Because power outages may affect the reliability of the automated system, emergency information is also released to the following agencies:

- WBEN (930) • WGRZ - TV Channel 2 • Spectrum News
- WTVB - TV Channel 4 • WKBW - TV Channel 7

## Communication

Good communication is essential to building strong school-community relations. The District employs a comprehensive communication system to convey news and vital information to school district residents that include formal publication of information in building and District newsletters and release of information to the media. In addition, information about the school, personnel, events, policies and programs is available at our website at: [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org). School personnel communicate with parents through report cards, telephone calls, e-mail, written notes, parent/teacher conferences and Open House.

Notes and flyers regarding school activities, such as Elementary Points of Pride or Tiger Tracks newsletters, plus informational letters from building principals or the superintendent, may be sent home with students, posted to the Parent Portal or the school's website at [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org). Our website plays an integral part of our communication efforts and we encourage parents to visit the site often.

## Parent Portal

The Parent Portal, a web-based application for parents of Elementary, Middle and High School students, allows the parent/guardian to access their child's grades, attendance, class schedule and other information pertaining to academics. Report cards for all students are no longer mailed home unless requested through HS Student Support Services, the MS Office or Elementary Office.

Parents of kindergartners or new students will receive a letter with instructions to create their own username and password for access to the Parent Portal. If you need assistance recovering a lost username or password, please contact the Technology Dept. at (716)542-5045. Passwords cannot be disclosed over the phone.

## Community Use of Buildings

The Akron Schools belong to the community and are available to individuals or groups for worthwhile activities when they are not being used for school functions. Application forms for school building use may be obtained from the school website at [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org) or by phoning the Superintendent of Schools Office at (716)542-5006.

## Crisis/Emergency Management Plan

The Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Law (SAVE) and Commissioner of Education regulations require school districts to establish a district-wide school safety plan. In order to provide a safe and secure environment, the Akron Central School District adopted a comprehensive plan that outlines specific actions and responses to any crisis or emergency. The plan was developed by a committee consisting of various school personnel, community members, parents, students, and police and fire officials. Building-based emergency response plans are in place in each school.

## Public Access to Information

Certain District records are available for public inspection and copying in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Records available for inspection in accordance with the law may be inspected after an application for Public Access to Records form is completed and returned to the Records Management Officer. Records may be inspected in the presence of authorized school personnel during the regular workday. Copies may be obtained for 25 cents per page. Please call (716)542-5006 for more information.

## Non-Public School Transportation

Akron Central School will transport students to nonpublic schools which are located within the statutory 15 mile limit. To qualify for the transportation the following requirements must be met.

1. REQUESTS MUST BE FILED IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE APRIL 1ST DEADLINE.
2. Families moving into the District after April 1 must file a request within 30 days of residence.
3. The distance must be measured from the student's residence along the nearest available route to the school.

Akron Central School District will not provide transportation prior to the opening day of school at Akron Central School each September or when Akron Central School is closed for holidays.

# Code of Conduct

## Purpose

The Akron School District Code of Conduct is intended to:

- Encourage appropriate behavior;
- Insure the safety and security of all members of the school community;
- Promote a safe and effective learning environment.

The Code governs the conduct of students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors while on school property or attending school functions. It includes the range of penalties that may be imposed for code violations and defines the roles of essential partners (teachers, administrators, other school personnel, the board of education and parents) in maintaining safe, orderly schools.

## Student Dress Code

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students who violate the dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering, changing, or removing the offending item.

## Prohibited Student Conduct

Behavior that is disorderly, insubordinate, disruptive, violent, or endangers others is prohibited. Plagiarism, cheating, copying, altering records, or assisting students in such actions is considered academic misconduct and, therefore, prohibited.

## Reporting Violations

All students are expected to report violations of the Code of Conduct to those in authority. District staff not authorized to impose disciplinary actions are expected to report violations to their supervisor. Any weapon, alcohol, or other illegal substance will be confiscated immediately. Code violations that constitute a crime may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

## Disciplinary Penalties and Procedures

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent. As a general rule, discipline will be progressive. That is, a student's first offense will usually merit a lesser penalty than subsequent violations. The Code of Conduct contains levels of discipline ranging from oral warning to permanent suspension from school. Regardless of the penalty imposed, school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary procedure must inform the student of the alleged misconduct. Students subject to more severe penalties have additional rights as spelled out in the Code of Conduct.

## Alternative Instruction

When a student under the age of 16 is removed from class or is suspended from school, the District will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student. When a student over the age of 16 is removed from class or suspended from school, the District will provide instruction in a practical manner.

## Discipline of Students with Disabilities

While all students are subject to the same Code of Conduct, the Board of Education recognizes that students with disabilities are entitled to additional procedural protections. The Code of Conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

## Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is defined as an act of physical force upon a student and is forbidden except in cases where persons or property are placed in danger.

## Student Searches and Interrogations

Authorized school officials may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the District Code of Conduct. Students are not entitled to a "Miranda" type warning, nor are school officials obligated to contact a student's parents before questioning. School officials, however, will tell students why they are being questioned. In addition, the Board authorizes certain school officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if there is reasonable suspicion that such a search will result in evidence that the student violated a law or the District Code of Conduct. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. The rules regarding searches of students and their belongings do not apply to student lockers, desks, and other school storage places. Students should have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to areas considered school property. This means that student lockers, desks, and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials without prior notice to students and without their consent.

## Visitors to the Schools - SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY

Akron Schools has instituted a single point of entry to the building during the school day to improve the safety of students, staff and visitors. All visitors must enter the building at the main front entrance near the flagpoles between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. A School Safety Officer (SSO) will be stationed at this location to greet and admit visitors. A communication system will allow visitors to state their name and purpose of their visit prior to entrance. Once permitted entrance, visitors must present a driver's license to the SSO for scanning to the Visitor Management System; visitor must sign in. The driver's license will be kept with the SSO until the visitor returns to sign out. A visitor identification sticker will be printed and must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. Once signed in, the SSO will direct visitors to the appropriate office to finish the sign in process before proceeding to their destination. When the visit is complete, all visitors must first sign out in the appropriate office before returning to the SSO at the front entrance to sign out, return the visitor identification sticker and retrieve their driver's license.

Please Note: Vehicles must be moved from the front bus loading area by 2:00p.m.

The District appreciates the cooperation and support of all visitors with regard to these procedures. Any unauthorized person on school property will

be reported to the principal or designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules of public conduct on school property as contained in the Code of Conduct.

## Public Conduct on School Property

All persons on school property or attending a school function, including athletic events, shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function should be properly attired. The District may rescind authorization to be on school property or attend school functions for any visitor who violates the rules of public conduct.

## Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity Act Coordinators are Mrs. Tracy Martin for Elementary, Ms. Heather Mann for Middle School and Mrs. Susan Myers, High School.

## Essential Partners

### A. Parents

All parents are expected to:

1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
2. Establish positive working relationships with school personnel and other families.
3. Ensure their children attend school regularly on time, ready to participate and learn.
4. Ensure absences are minimal and for reasons that are legally excusable.
  - Akron Central School District is committed to ensuring each child's regular participation in their education through their attendance. Failure to comply with building attendance policies may result in mandatory meetings with building administration, school social workers, and essential school personnel.
5. Ensure their child is dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code and conducive to learning.
6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society, appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment according to the "Code."
7. Know and support school rules and help their children understand them. Lead by example and conduct themselves in a courteous, respectful manner.
8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
9. Provide school with proper contact information, including phone numbers where they can be reached.
10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure in accordance with the "Code."



# Code of Conduct

11. Exemplify an enthusiastic attitude towards school and education by acquainting with their child's school, staff, curriculum, and activities. This may include attending parent/teacher conferences, meetings, school functions, and contacting staff regarding concerns.
  12. Inform school officials of changes in home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
  13. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
  14. Demonstrate dependability, integrity, and other standards of ethical conduct, including monitoring their child's online activity (ex. Social media) and encouraging students to be responsible in their use of electronic communication.
  15. Exemplify and teach their children respect and dignity for themselves, and other students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen the child's confidence and promote learning in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act.
  16. Model behavior that is free from harassment or discrimination.
  17. Report any school-related concerns to a building administrator.
6. Build good relationships with their students, parents, student support staff (Social Worker, School Counselors, and Psychologists), and administrators.
  7. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to their attention to the building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
  8. Maintain confidentiality about all personal information and educational records concerning students and their families.
  9. Act as role models for students; maintain appropriate personal boundaries with students, and refrain from engaging in any behavior that could reasonably lead to even the appearance of impropriety. Inappropriate fraternization of staff with students is against Board of Education Policy #6180. Employees are expected to maintain a professional, ethical relationship with students.
  10. Be familiar with the district and building emergency and security policies and procedures, and assist in their implementation as appropriate/required. Report any school-related safety concerns to a building administrator.
  11. Be prepared.
  12. Confront issues of discrimination and harassment in any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students, school employee or any person who is lawfully on school property or at a school function.
  13. Address personal biases that may prevent equal treatment of all students in the school or classroom setting.

## B. Teachers/Support Personnel

All District teachers and support personnel are expected to:

1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
2. Know school policies and rules and enforce them in a fair and consistent manner.
3. Communicate to students and parents:
  - a. Course objectives and requirements
  - b. Marking/grading procedures
  - c. Assignment deadlines
  - d. Expectations for students
  - e. Classroom discipline plan
4. Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning growth and achievement.
5. Assist students in dealing effectively with peer pressure and emerging personal, social, and emotional issues that affect success at school. Work collaboratively to teach students about the ramifications of destructive peer pressure and teasing.

## C. School Counselors/Social Workers/School Psychologists

All District school counselors, social workers and school psychologists are expected to:

1. Establish meaningful relationships that affirm and support students.
2. Assist students in coping with peer pressure and emerging personal, social and emotional challenges.
3. Initiate teacher/student/counselor conferences and parent/teacher/student/ counselor conferences, as necessary, as a way to resolve problems.
4. Regularly review with students their educational progress and career plans.
5. Provide information to assist students with career planning.
6. Encourage students to benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular programs.
7. Act as role models for students, maintain appropriate personal boundaries with students and refrain from engaging in any behavior

that could reasonably lead to even the appearance of impropriety. Inappropriate fraternization of staff with students is against Board of Education Policy #6180. Employees are expected to maintain a professional, ethical relationship with students.

8. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.
9. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to the counselor's attention to the building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
10. Be familiar with the district and building emergency and security policies and procedures, and assist in their implementation as appropriate/required. Report any school-related safety concerns to a building administrator.

## D. Other School-Related Personnel

All other school staff are expected to:

1. Follow the Code of Conduct; know, abide by and enforce school rules in a fair and consistent manner.
2. Set a good example for students and other staff by demonstrating dependability, integrity, respect and other standards of ethical conduct.
3. Assist in promoting a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment.
4. Maintain confidentiality about all personal information and educational records concerning staff, students and their families.
5. Report any school-related safety concerns to a building administrator for resolution.
6. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.
7. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to a staff member's attention to the building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.

# Code of Conduct

8. Be familiar with the district and building emergency and security policies and procedures, and assist in their implementation as appropriate/required. Report any school-related safety concerns to a building administrator.

## E. Principals/Building Administrators

All District principals and/or designee are expected to:

1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
2. Ensure that students and staff have the opportunity to communicate regularly with the principal and approach the principal for redress of student complaints/grievances.
3. Closely monitor the implementation of curriculum content and performance standards across all disciplines.
4. Support the development of and student participation in appropriate extracurricular activities.
5. Enforce the Code of Conduct and ensure that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
6. Act as role models for students; maintain appropriate personal boundaries with students and refrain from engaging in any behavior that could reasonably lead to even the appearance of impropriety. Inappropriate fraternization of staff with students is against Board of Education Policy #6180. Employees are expected to maintain a professional, ethical relationship with students.

*Note: Each principal shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the building dress code at the beginning of the school year.*

7. Maintain and encourage a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, with an understanding of appropriate appearance, language, and behavior in a school setting, which will strengthen students' self-image and promote confidence to learn.



Brianna Wilbur,  
Grade 10

8. Follow up on any incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or
9. otherwise brought to the Principal's attention in a timely manner in collaboration with the Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC).

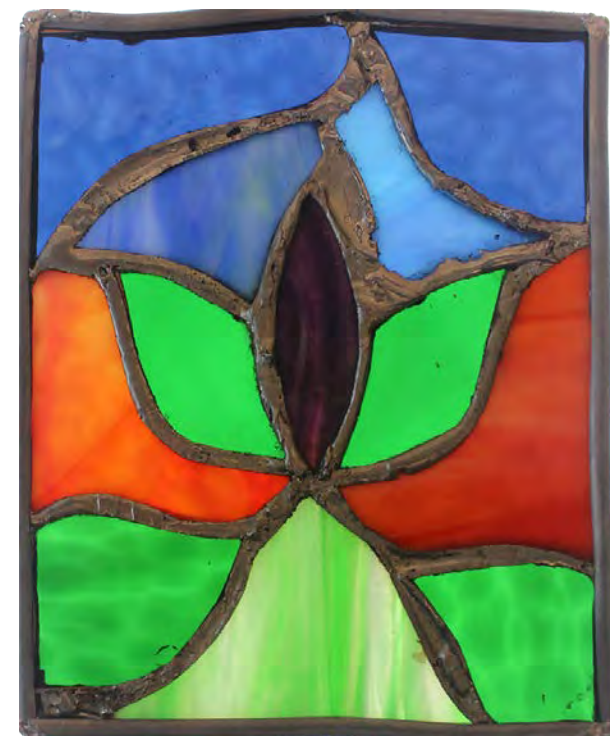
## F. Superintendent and District Administrators

The Superintendent of Schools and/or designee is expected to:

1. Promote a safe, orderly and stimulating school environment, free from intimidation, discrimination and harassment, support active teaching and learning.
2. Review with district administrators the policies of the Board of Education and state and federal laws relating to school operations and management.
3. Review with district administrators the policies of the Board of Education and State and Federal laws relating to school operations and management.
4. Inform the Board of Education concerning educational trends relating to student discipline.
5. Work to create instructional programs that minimize problems of misconduct and are sensitive to student and teacher needs.
6. Work with district administrators in enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
7. Include training on Code of Conduct to all new teachers as part of new teacher orientation.
8. Act as role models for students; maintain appropriate personal boundaries with students, and refrain from engaging in any behavior that could reasonably lead to even the appearance of impropriety. Inappropriate fraternization of staff with students is against Board of Education Policy #6180. Employees are expected to maintain a professional, ethical relationship with students.
9. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to his/her attention to the building administrator and/or Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) in a timely manner.
10. Maintain confidentiality about all personal information and educational records concerning students and their families.
11. Communicate any immediate changes with the District Safety Team.
12. Effectively address and resolve all school-related safety concerns reported by members of the school community. Know their school's emergency and security procedures and ensure their proper implementation.

## G. Board of Education

1. Collaborate with students, teachers, administrators, parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel to develop a Code of Conduct that clearly defines expectations for the conduct of students, district personnel and visitors on school property and at school functions.
2. Adopt and review at least once a year the Code of Conduct and evaluate its effectiveness, fairness and the consistency of its implementation.
3. Conduct Board meetings in a professional, respectful, courteous manner, thus leading by example.
4. Appoint a Dignity Act Coordinator in each school building. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, and sex. The Dignity Act Coordinator will be accessible to students and other staff members for consultation and advice as needed on the Dignity Act.



Trinity VanPelt, Grade 9



# Student Services

## Student Support Services

The Akron Central School District provides comprehensive educational services for all students. Additional services are available to students in the Akron Central School District when appropriate. These may include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Speech/Language Services
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Access to an Instructional Support Team at every level
- Academic Intervention Services
- Reading and Math Intervention Services

Additional information is available on the following topics: Home Instruction, Students who may be considered Homeless and Limited English Proficient Programs.

For information, questions or concerns related to any aspect of student services, please contact the Office of Special Education at (716)542-5077.

For information about Home Schooling, please contact the Office of Educational Services at (716)542-5060.

Certified School Counselors provide support to students at every level. They may provide counseling in academic support, vocational opportunities and transitional programs between levels (Elementary to Middle and Middle to High School). School counselors assist high school students with the college application process as well as identification of other post-secondary options. The District's two psychologists and two social workers work closely with the school counselors in meeting student needs. Instructional Support Teams are developed at each level to facilitate mandated Response to Intervention Programming.

## Health Services

The Akron Central School District maintains medical service offices, staffed with fully qualified, professionally licensed registered nurses on duty throughout every regular school day. Akron Central School has two Health Offices, one servicing Elementary students and one serving both the Middle School and High School students. Enhancements in Health Services resulted in a configuration that adjoins the health offices so that services can be maximized for the benefit of all District students. School nurses can be reached at the following numbers:

**MS/HS Health Office (716)542-5036**  
**Elementary Health Office (716)542-5056**

Students remaining for after school activities, such as sports, are under the supervision of an adult staff member. Professional registered nurses are not on duty after school hours; however, all members of the coaching staff are trained in first aid and CPR according to State guidelines.

The District retains the services of a physician from Healthworks of WNY to provide consultation for the administration and nursing staff. Athletes must get a sports physical from their health care professional prior to the start of the sports season. Physicals are valid for one calendar year. No athletic participation is allowed without a current sports physical. The

NYS Required School Health Examination Form is used for sports physicals and is available at [www.akronschools.org/physical](http://www.akronschools.org/physical).

Whenever an emergency may occur, either during or after school hours, every effort will be made to notify parents or other emergency contacts.

## Speech-Language Services

The District's speech-language service providers evaluate, treat and help to prevent speech, language, cognitive-communication, voice fluency and other related disorders. They collaborate with teachers, special educators, other school personnel and parents to develop individual or group programs and support classroom activities.

Areas of Speech and Language include:

- Receptive Language
- Articulation (Speech Improvement) Voice
- Phonemic Awareness
- Expressive Language
- Fluency

## Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education

The Director of Special Education for Akron Central Schools serves as chairperson of the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). Any questions about services for preschool or school age students with disabilities should be directed to this office at (716)542-5077. The CSE and CPSE are multidisciplinary teams appointed by the Board of Education.

The committee reviews, evaluates and recommends to the Board appropriate programs for all students classified with an educational disability. Matters are dealt with in a highly confidential manner. CPSE and CSE members shall include, but not be limited to: the parents or persons in parental relationship to the student; not less than one regular education teacher of the student whenever the student is or may be participating in the regular education environment; not less than one special education teacher of the student, or, if appropriate not less than one special education provider of the student, a school psychologist, representative of the school district who is qualified to provide or supervise special education, a school physician if requested in writing at least 72 hours prior, an additional parent member if requested in writing at least 72 hours prior, if appropriate the student.

The role of the CPSE/CSE is:

- To identify and determine eligibility for special education programs and services.
- To determine present levels of performance, strengths and needs.
- To develop and/or review an Individual Education Program.
- To recommend program and services in the Least Restrictive Environment.
- To forward the recommendations to the Board of Education.

Students identified by the CSE/CPSE as having an educational disability receive an Individualized Education Program (IEP) which identifies strengths, needs, present levels and abilities across a variety of domains as well as services required. Each student's IEP is reviewed at least annually by the CSE. Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in each step of the process.

## Transportation

The Akron Central School District's fleet of 38 buses log over 400,000 miles each year while also transporting approximately 143 student to 30 out of district locations. We also provide transportation for educational field trips, as well as athletic events. Transportation is provided to all students in grades K-5 and/or students in grades 6-12 as outlined in the school policy. In late August of each year school bus assignments by road will be listed on the school website as well as published in The Akron Bugle. Each day, all students must be at the bus stop five minutes before the bus arrives.

The Traversa Ride 360™ web and mobile app for Apple® and Android® devices allows parents and students to access their own secure data for bus stop location, route, pick up times and drop off times. To learn more, go to [www.akronschools.org/Ride360](http://www.akronschools.org/Ride360) or contact the Transportation Office at (716)542-5026.

## Late Buses

As a convenience, the District provides transportation home at 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and again at 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, for students staying after for school activities other than athletics.

## Transportation Department State Law

It is illegal to pass a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing. This also applies to buses in the loading zone. Please obey the traffic law regarding school buses.

## Food Services

One of the most important ways to help children perform better in their classrooms is to provide them with the nutrition necessary for the healthy growth of their minds and bodies. Akron students may purchase a school breakfast or lunch at a reasonable cost. The breakfast cost is \$1.50 for grades K-5 and \$1.75 for grades 6-12. The lunch cost is \$2.50 for grades K-5 and \$2.75 for grades 6-12.

## Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program

Akron Central School District participates in the federally-funded breakfast and lunch program and provides free or reduced priced meals to qualified District students. Information and application forms regarding this program are sent home during the summer and are available on the school website.

## MySchoolBucks.com

Akron Schools uses MySchoolBucks.com for pre-paid student lunch accounts. Currently registered accounts can be accessed by using your email account for the username and your same password. MySchoolBucks.com is a direct link to your child's school lunch account where you can pre-pay meals and view purchases. For more information, please visit [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org) for a link to MySchoolBucks.com or call Cook Manager, Kathleen Rybarczyk, at (716)542-5027.

# Akron Board of Education

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*Erik Polkowski  
President*



*Phillip Kenline  
Vice President*



*Ryan Allen  
Trustee*



*Joseph Cena  
Trustee*



*Heather Cayea  
Trustee*



*Stephanie Coffia  
Trustee*



*Kristy Pingitore  
Trustee*

## Responsibility

Members of the Akron Board of Education are unpaid public officials elected at large by the voters of this District to three-year terms. The Board consists of seven elected community residents. The Board has the authority, under guidelines set forth in New York State Education Law, to adopt policies, rules, and by-laws to fulfill their responsibilities and to secure the best educational results for the students within their charge. The Board is the official policy-making body of the school District. In exercising their authority and performing their duties, board members act as representatives of all the citizens of the Akron School District.

Policies set by the Board are carried out by the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent is a professional educator hired by the Board of Education. He or she acts as an advisor, informing the Board of the needs, programs and progress of the school district. He or she is the Chief Executive Officer of the District, responsible for the execution of all School Board decisions regarding the operation of the District.

## Agenda

Copies of the agenda for each meeting are available to community residents prior to the meetings at the District office, website and at the meeting itself. Agendas and supporting documents are e-mailed to Board Members on the Friday preceding the meeting to allow the members time to review and study the information.

Call to Order	Minutes of Meeting	Financial
Pledge to the Flag	Personnel	School Board Correspondence/Information
Hearing of Individuals and Delegations	District	Upcoming Dates
Superintendent's Report	Special Education	Executive Session
		Adjournment

## Executive Session

Often, at the end of the Board of Education meetings, the Board meets in executive session to discuss personnel matters, contract negotiations, litigation, lease of property, and other topics that are confidential as defined by the Open Meeting Law of the State of New York. All executive sessions are closed to the public. However, the Board does not vote on resolutions while in executive session and if action is necessary may come out of executive session to vote on a matter.

## Visitor Comments

An opportunity is provided at each Board meeting for residents to address the Board with questions, concerns, or suggestions. The Board welcomes community participation at the meeting. Anyone who wishes to speak to the Board may do so during the Hearing of Individuals and Delegations portion of the meeting using the comment cards. An individual or group may have an item placed on the Board agenda by contacting the Superintendent of Schools or the School Board President at least seven days prior to the Board meeting.

## 2023-2024 School Board Meeting Dates

**Board Reorganizational Meeting – Tuesday, July 5, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Regular Business Meetings 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 9, 2023	Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Wednesday, September 6, 2023	Wednesday, February 14, 2024
Wednesday, September 20, 2023	Wednesday, March 13, 2024
Wednesday, October 4, 2023	Wednesday, March 27, 2024
Wednesday, October 18, 2023	Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (BOCES Budget/Elections)
Wednesday, November 1, 2023	Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Wednesday, November 15, 2023	Wednesday, May 29, 2024
Wednesday, December 6, 2023	Wednesday, June 12, 2024
Wednesday, December 20, 2023	Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Wednesday, January 10, 2024	

**Budget Hearing: Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

Auditorium 7:00pm

**Annual Budget Vote & Board Member Elections: Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

Noon – 9:00pm – Gym #3

## Budget Referendum & Board Election

Board elections are held on the third Tuesday in May in conjunction with the annual vote on the District budget. Candidates for the Board must be 18 years of age or older, a United States citizen, and a District resident for at least one year prior to the election. Prospective candidates must file nominating petitions with the District Clerk. Petitions are available at the District Office, 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron.

## Voter Qualifications

Voters must be at least 18 years of age, citizens of the United States, and residents of the school district (and Tonawanda Indian Reservation) at least 30 days immediately prior to the vote.

Voters should be prepared to show identification when they arrive to vote.

## Absentee Ballot Applications

Absentee Ballot Applications are available for district residents. Applications are available at the District Office, 47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron.



# Akron CSD Telephone Directory

**District Phone**  
(716)542-5010

**District Fax**  
(716) 542-5018

**District Website**  
[www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org)

## Central Office

Office of the Superintendent.....(716)542-5006  
Curriculum & Instruction.....(716)542-5060  
Special Education Services.....(716)542-5077  
Business Office.....(716)542-5020  
Athletic Office.....(716)542-5088  
Instructional Technology.....(716)542-5045

## Schools

Akron Elementary School.....(716)542-5050  
Attendance Line.....(716)542-5007  
Akron Middle School.....(716)542-5040  
Attendance Line.....(716)542-5008  
Akron High School.....(716)542-5030  
Attendance Line.....(716)542-5009  
High School Student Support Services.....(716)542-5035

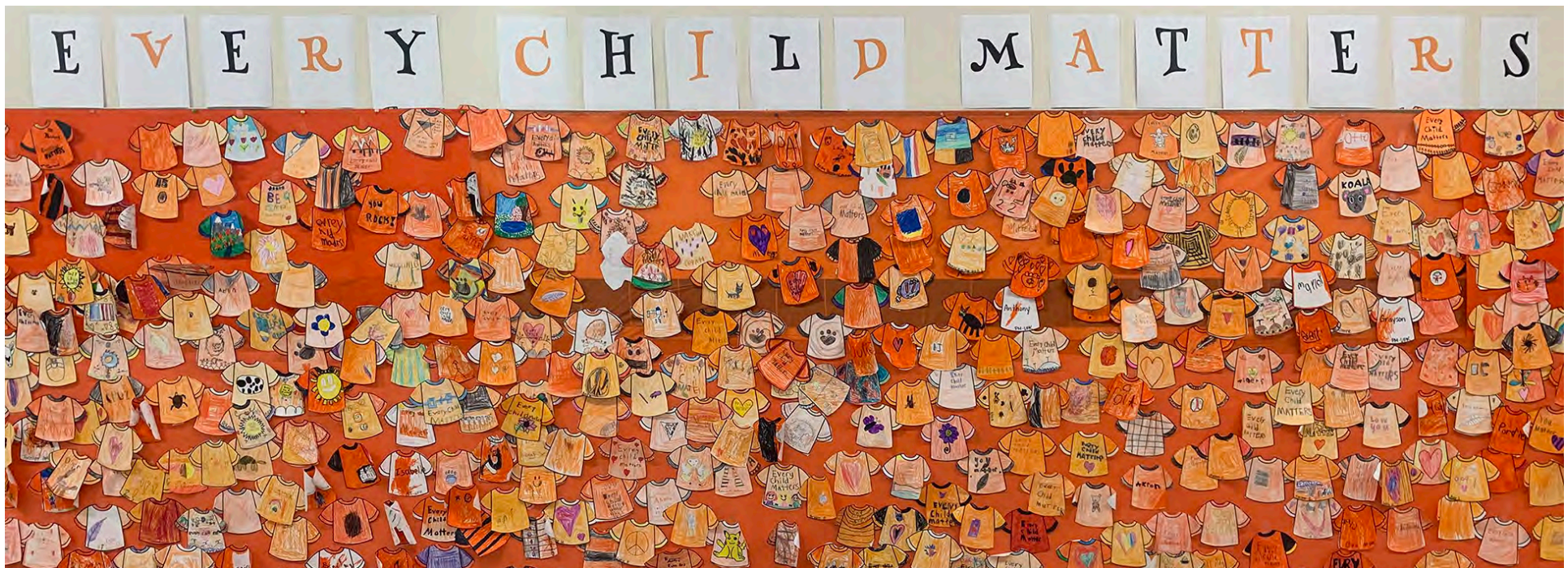
## Health Services

Middle/High School.....(716)542-5036  
Elementary School.....(716)542-5056

## District Support

District Registrar.....(716)542-5039  
Food Service.....(716)542-5027  
Operations & Maintenance.....(716)542-5025  
Transportation.....(716)542-5026

To contact teachers, dial the building number, then 7 for a directory by last name.  
Please be advised that during instructional hours classrooms cannot be accessed directly.  
If you know the teacher's extension, you may dial it at any time to reach their voice mail.  
Teacher e-mail addresses are listed in the staff directory section of the district website at [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org).





**Akron Central School District**  
47 Bloomingdale Avenue  
Akron, NY 14001

**Board of Education**

Erik Polkowski, President  
Phillip Kenline, Vice President  
Ryan Allen  
Heather Cayea  
Joseph Cena  
Stephanie Coffta  
Kristy Pingitore

**Interim Superintendent of Schools**

Andrea S. Kersten

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# Akron Central School District Congratulates the Class of 2023



**Alexis Hoffman**  
Valedictorian

**Natalie Ginestre**  
Salutatorian