



March 1, 2024

Edition 7

[www.akronschoools.org](http://www.akronschoools.org)

# TIGER TRACKS

## AKRON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings and Nya:wëh sgë:nö' Middle School Parents,

Welcome back from the February break! We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends. As we enter the month of March, we're excited about the changing seasons and the opportunities for growth and learning that come with it. We believe in the potential of each of our students and we challenge every individual to bring their best to school each day. Whether it's in academics, extracurricular activities, or social interactions, we encourage students to set high standards for themselves and strive for excellence.

Mr. Caprio and Mrs. Fial

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## Regents Review

Please refer to our [Parent Letter for Regents/AP Review](#) for information regarding Regents Exams and AP Exams. Please reach out directly to teachers should you have a question,

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Even though you may not see us in the Middle School often, the PTA is active behind the scenes. Has your child earned tiger tickets this year? The PTA provides the gift card prizes for tiger tickets, helping to recognize students who show good character. Do you have an 8th grader? The PTA helps sponsor the 8th Grade dance following their end of the year recognition ceremony.

Additionally, the PTA provides all middle school students with an ice cream treat during their end of year field day!

***We welcome you to attend a PTA meeting to find out about all of the initiatives we support throughout the district. Our next meeting is March 6th at 7:00pm in H190.***



## Important Dates

- 1 - 2:00pm Mamma Mia! Musical Production - AUD
- 1 - 7:00pm Mamma Mia! Musical Production - AUD
- 6 - 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201
- 6 - 7:00pm PTA Meeting - H190
- 8 - 3:45 pm Jr. Hi ECMEA Music Festival - Clarence MS
- 9 - 8:15am Jr. Hi ECMEA Music Festival - Clarence MS
- 11 - Spring Sports Begins
- 11 - 3:23pm-4:30pm Spanish Club Mtg - M128
- 13 - MS NA Field Trip Big Woods Tonawanda Nation
- 13 - 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201
- 13 - 7:00pm BOE Meeting - HS Cafe

- 15 - Superintendent's Conference Day - No Students
- 18 - 7:00pm Music Dept Concert Performance Wright Center
- 19 - Spring Sports Pictures
- 19 - 7:00pm Music & Munchies Orchestra Concert - HS Cafe
- 20 - 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201
- 23 - 2:00pm MS Cabaret Concert - Gym 1
- 23 - 2:00pm MS Cabaret Concert - Gym 1
- 26 - 7:00pm Spring Parent-Athlete Meeting - AUD
- 27 - 3:18pm-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201
- 27 - 7:00pm BOE Meeting - HS Cafe

## SPRING RECESS - MARCH 29TH - APRIL 8TH



Our next Spanish Club meeting will be held Monday, March 11th, from 3:23pm-4:30pm in M128 (Mrs.

Bergman's classroom). We hope that you will consider joining us to help celebrate **National World Language Month** at March's meeting!

**Expect fun, food, and friendship... ¡OLÉ!**



## MS LUNCH MENU - MARCH

Monthly lunch menus can be accessed each month through our school website, [www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org). Or please click on the picture of the March 2024 menu for the link.

If you would like a paper copy please reach out to the Middle School Office.





# Congratulations

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Computer Science 6 - Cameron Cena  
 ELA 6 - Baiionne Smith  
 Math 6 - Nick Grier  
 Reading/Writing 6 - /Blakelyn Pawlick  
 Science 6 - Jase Gangloff & Malory Greiner  
 Social Studies 6 - Troy Matthies & Grayson Baehr

ELA 7 - Eli Doll  
 Math 7 - Sarah Piscitelli  
 Robotics 7 - Robert Ferens  
 Science 7 - Declan Jelson  
 Seneca 7 - River Hallett  
 Social Studies 7 -  
 Spanish 7 - Hazel Fleming

Academic Achievement -  
 Gabbie Wilson, Isabella MacRae, Drew Borden,  
 Liam Wedgwood, MJ Gehl & Jenny Yang

ELA 8 - Ashley Koziej  
 Algebra - Cassie Judge  
 Science 8 - Evan Winter  
 Seneca 8 - Takoda VanEvery  
 Social Studies 8 - Karlie Reeb  
 Spanish 8 - Kiley Kumpf  
 ALC - Andrew Blasko  
 Art 7 - Declan Jelson  
 Band - Alex PeQueen  
 Chorus - Kendel Murray  
 Health 7/8 - Camryn Snyder  
 Music 7 - Travis PeQueen  
 Orchestra - Maddie Odachowski  
 PE 6/7/8 - Adelaide Mandell  
 Reading AIS - Eli Doll  
 SRO 6 - Ossy Stevens, Bronson Wind &  
 Anthony Walden



Congratulations to the following students for the 2nd marking period:

### Outstanding Academic Achievement

Samuel Reagan - 8th  
 Kennedy Kozlowski - 7th  
 Myla Vaillancourt - 6th

### Tiger Leaps Achievement

Mason Bartsch - 8th  
 Mitchel Krieger - 7th  
 Andrew Blasko - 6th



## CHARACTER COUNTS from the desk of Darian Papia:



Akron Middle School is focusing on the Character Counts! Responsibility: the month of March. Students can earn Tiger Tickets by displaying the following:

- Do what you are supposed to do. Try your best.
- Persevere: Keep on trying!
- Be self-disciplined.
- Coming prepared for class.
- Be accountable for your words, actions and attitudes.



*During the month of February, students, faculty and staff focused on the Pillar: Fairness. The following students were selected and enjoyed a CC! Ice Cream Celebration on Wednesday, February 28, 2024.*

8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Gabriel King Rylie Lutz Evan Winter Ava Zellner	Eli Doll Emma Pfeiffer Camryn Snyder Brooke Warren Holly Wolfe	Lila Fiegl Jase Gangloff Keeghan Haist Ayla Jagielo Alexis Kelly

The Tiger's Den has a busy March planned with all the following events happening:

1. We will be having a **Pop-Up Store in the AUD Foyer before each Musical Performance on March 1st and 2nd**. We look forward to seeing you there!
2. This Month the Tiger's Den will be **celebrating March Madness by having different samples, promotions and giveaways all month long.**  
**Week One:** Pop Daddy Pretzel sampling (while supplies last)  
**Week Two:** Spend five dollars, get a free Gannios Chocolate  
**Week Three:** 30% off select apparel  
**Week Four:** Guess how many Jelly Beans in the jar Giveaway!
3. During the month of March, we will also be having a special **Easter Pop-Up shop in the Elementary school Library on Thursday, March 21!**



We still have the **#OneAkron** apparel online store open if you haven't placed an order yet. Visit the online store at <https://carried-away-customs.square.site/>

Students will deliver your #OneAkron apparel to you when it comes in!

The Tiger's Den school store takes debit/credit cards and Apple Pay!

**Follow us @akronschoolstore on Instagram!** We post updates on promotions, sampling, and everything the school store has to offer.

## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICE (SRO)

As the old saying goes, March goes "in like a lion, and out like a lamb."

This month brings great changes, the weather turns from blustery, cold winter, to a calming and warmer spring.

We are in the third marking period of the school year! Yay! This is the time to make sure your children are on track or getting back on track. Spring sports begin, and so many other fun and exciting things are taking place. The musical, string recital, Music and Munchies, and the Cabaret Concert!

With all of this upon us, it is important to remember to stay supportive, listen, and communicate effectively.

### ***Plan, plan, plan!***

- Have pick up and drop off arrangements for practices and rehearsals to ensure safety and know where your children are at all times.
- Have their cell phone location on and shared in case of emergencies or anything else that may pop up.
- Have contact information for where they will be to get a hold of the person in charge at that establishment or residence.

Reach out for help if there is a conflict or any other issue that may arise. This can help your child thrive through their last months of the school year.

Safety is always our first priority however we also want to do what we can to make the rest of the year enjoyable, and seamless for your child/children.

***Stay safe, and Go Tigers!***







## CREATIVE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING

8th graders in Creative Design and Engineering (CDE) wrapped up their unit on civil engineering with a design challenge: design and construct the most efficient cantilever.

This structure had to have a low dead load (low amount of weight of all materials used to build the structure) to carry a large live load (weights hung within the last 2 inches of the structure).

1st place went to Brooklyn Gerstung and Montana Burg

2nd place went to Gauge Herbst and Hillton Scrogg

3rd place went to Addison Wilkins and Gabrielle Dispenza.

1st place winners received \$100 to donate to a charity of their choice. Brooklyn and Montana chose to donate the winnings to *Hearts and Hands of Akron*. This will afford van transportation for a community member to Roswell Park Cancer Institute for 6 chemotherapy treatments.

All students were creative and applied important skills and knowledge to construct these cantilevers. Additionally, students all selected very worthy charities. They will have another opportunity to win their charitable donation with our next design challenge.



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## Akron Central School Presents:



The curtain will open on Akron's production of Mamma Mia, on Friday, March 1st at 7:00 PM and Saturday, March 2nd at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM. For nearly 25 years, people all around the world have fallen in love with the characters, the story, and the music that make Mamma Mia the ultimate feel-good show. Audiences will be delighted by the amusing drama that unfolds, the exciting dance routines and the show stopping songs of ABBA that have made this musical a smash hit worldwide. Tickets are on sale now at [akronmusical.ludus.com](http://akronmusical.ludus.com) for \$12.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students, and \$10.00 for senior citizens.

# Student Support Services

## *Hello Parents of current 8th Grade Students!*

High School scheduling time is quickly approaching. During the Month of May, there will be a couple of informational sessions to help familiarize your students with the expectations of the High School and what to expect with the scheduling process.



On March 7th, during 8th period, we will hold an assembly for all 8th grade students. A presentation will be given by both Middle School and High School Administrators and School Counselors to share information about the High School transition, including but not limited to behavioral and academic expectations.

On Tuesday, March 19th, the High School Counselors and I will be pushing into English classes to answer more specific questions about High School, the scheduling process and electives. About a week before this, each 8th grade student will be emailed a GoogleForm titled, "Heading to High School". Each student should fill out this form and ask any specific questions they may want answered during this informational session.

On March 25th, a Robo call will be sent to Parents of 8th graders, alerting them to an email that was sent to their students' school Gmail account. This email will contain a link to their Scheduling Portal and a full set of detailed instructions of how to go about choosing their elective(s). This Scheduling Portal will be open between March 25-28, and then again between April 9-12. All elective choices for next school year should be made no later than April 12th.

Please feel free to call or email me at 716-542-5044/hmann@akronk12.org with any questions or concerns.

Heather Mann

## **Grade 9 Electives 24-25**

- Band, Strings and Varsity Chorus (will be added automatically if currently enrolled)-Full Year page **84-87**
- Studio in Art-Full Year page **23**
- Design and Drawing for Production (DDP)-Full Year page **136**
- Intro to Business I & II -Semester Each page **31**
- Media Production-Semester \*
- Computer Programming: Coding 1 & 2 (Algebra 1R prerequisite or permission of teacher)-Semester Each page **136**
- Library STEAM Studies (Teacher interview and approval required)-Full Year page **140**
- Wellness Center-Semester page **60**
- Woodshop (Teacher approval required)-Semester page **142-143**

Please access the **2023-2024 Curriculum Guide** for complete details on the Electives above. In addition, we are also offering the following elective:

# Student Support Services . . . continued

## \* MEDIA PRODUCTION

Subject Area: Technology

Student Grade Level(s): 9-12

Length of Course: 20 weeks

Credit Assigned: 0.5 credit

### **Overview:**

This course is designed to help students learn to engage in an ever changing digital world. The curriculum will cover a wide range of topics including: video production, podcasting, storytelling/journalism, and graphic design. This course is cross-curricular and will supplement students in English Language Arts while building literacy, media, and technology skills that can be used throughout their education.

**Additionally**, as a class, students will work together to produce journalism pieces for activities going on in the district which may include:

- Content about school events like homecoming, athletics, the musical, and spirit weeks
- District update videos to showcase the work going on throughout the schools
- Work in association with the Athletics Department
- Other student ideas or teacher suggestions

### **Course Objectives:**

- Students will develop critical thinking and literacy skills in analysis of text and visual media
- Students will engage in hands-on work in development of original ideas in video, podcasting, and journalism
- Students will collaborate as a class in development of original concepts to production of various pieces of media
- Students will gain an understanding of the concepts of bias and reliability in the current news landscape.

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## Native American News

Happy March!

This month, Seneca 7 & 8 are going on a field trip to Big Woods with Neil Patterson, Director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment at SUNY ESF. The students will be identifying Indigenous wildlife plants and scouting for animal tracks. Later, the students will have the opportunity to analyze camera trap data. We are looking forward to a wonderful, educational day spent outdoors!

Mrs. Brittany Smoke

MS Native American Home-School Counselor

716-542-5040 x6226





# The Cab from MS Government

Welcome back to school after winter break AMS!

Last month we celebrated Kindness week thanks to one of our members: Cassie Judge! Hearts with kind messages were put on each locker and students were encouraged to dress up in themed days related to kindness.

This month we will be meeting to discuss the beginning of class officer elections for the 7th and 8th graders! We plan to visit student lunches to help explain some of the roles of a class officer position and what a class officer campaign entails.

Before we know it, April break will be here! We are looking forward to another week off, soon enough!

## 2024 Chinese New Year - Year of The Dragon







## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CLIPBOARD

**PARENTS!** PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR SPORTS REGISTRATION FOR YOUR STUDENT!  
SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

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### Newstead Recreation Department Painting Workshop

New Program! Newstead Rec is offering a one-day paint workshop!



Saturday, March 16, 2024

Grades 6-12 from 12-1:30pm

ACS Elementary Cafeteria

Cost: \$20 Register: [newsteadny.myrec.com](https://newsteadny.myrec.com)

Registration starts 2/12 and events are limited to 20 painters. Do not delay, sign up today!

All participants should wear appropriate clothing for a painting project. All supplies provided.