



TIGER TRACKS

AKRON MIDDLE SCHOOL

April 1, 2023

Edition 3

www.akronschoools.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

Happy Spring! The season of spring is always a great reminder of new beginnings and hope. The days will begin to feel longer and soon we will be surrounded by new life. Spring is also a time of refocusing, gaining a refreshed mindset, and appreciating the little things. As we prepare to step into this new period of revitalization, let's remember that we have the entire fourth marking period to recommit ourselves to learning and growing.

As we say goodbye to March, we also sadly say goodbye to Kenneth Kasperek. Ken was always at important ACS events and captured memories for all to cherish. Ken will be missed by the entire Akron Central Schools community.

Our Character Counts! lessons for the month of April will focus on trustworthiness and respect. Several of our Middle School Principal Advisory Council members created engaging "incentives" for our students to work towards over the next several weeks. We must say, they were "egg"cellent ideas!

Finally, our NYS state ELA assessments for grades 6-8 will be on April 19th and 20th. Our NYS Math assessment will be given on May 2nd and 3rd. We are proud of our student's progress in their classes and feel confident in the instruction they receive from our incredible teachers! We are also proud of our participation rate in NYS assessments. Participation in assessments is a tool we use to enhance our practices. With the weather getting warmer, please remind your child to stay for 9th periods for extra support and ask for help when needed.



IMPORTANT APRIL DATES

4-7 Spring Recess - No School

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 11 MS Biology Club Meeting | 19 MS Tech Club Meeting |
| 12 MS Tech Club Meeting | 20 NYS ELA Assessment - Day 2 |
| 13 The Battle of The Books - Round 1 | 20 CARES Club Meeting 3:30pm |
| 14 MP3 Grades Due | 22 Earth Day |
| 14 The Battle of The Books - Round 2 | 24-28 ELA Assessment Make-ups |
| 14 MS Faculty Meeting | 24 The Battle of The Books Celebration |
| 18 BOCES Budget Vote/Elections | 25 Telephone Tuesday |
| 18 MS Biology Club Meeting | 25 MS Biology Club Meeting |
| 19 NYS ELA Assessment - Day 1 | 26 MS Tech Club Meeting |
| 19 MP3 Report Cards Online/Mailed | 27 April SOM Luncheon |
| 19 MP3 Ineligible List Published | 28 CC! Ice Cream Celebration |



**Dates for
6th Grade Seminars**
4/10, 4/13, 4/18, 4/21, 4/26

Upcoming Dates for NYS Assessments:

Grade 8 Science Performance: May 25
Grade 8 Science Written: June 5



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

February 2023

Computer Science: Kendel Murray and Evan Yang
ELA: Liam Budziszewski, Annabella Rodriguez, and Gabriella Truglio
Math: Morgan Marcinkowski, Eileen Thomas, and Cade Jagielo.
Reading/Writing: Quinten VanPelt
Science: Camryn Snyder, Naomi Romesser, and Kylee Rebmann
Seneca: Jellissa Steeprock and Memphis Sundown
Social Studies: Travis PeQueen, Eve Budek, and Emily Odachowski
Spanish: Emma Niescier and Brock Lamont
Ms. Ciepiela: Jack Falker
Art: Evan Iversen
Band: Brooke Warren
CDE: Leah Smith and Kylie Mangione
Chorus: Kendel Murray
Health: Evan Winter
Music 7: Cade Jagielo
Orchestra: Alyssa Jago
PE 6/7/8: Damiana Montondo
Reading AIS: Cooper Kreher
SRO 8th Grade: Derren Brooks III, Evan Delphia, and Lincoln Hill
Academic Achievement: Bentley Jones, Colton Dowe, Riele Stuber, Gabriella Truglio, and Deanna Vasbinder

March 2023

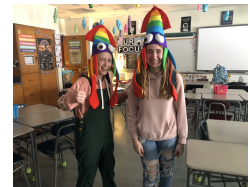
Computer Science: Deanna Vasbinder, Isis Whitmarsh
ELA: Deanna Vasbinder, Lilyana Dean, and Jamie Mapes
Math: Hannah Witkowski, Emma Niescier, Adelaide Mandell and Molly Rooney
Reading/Writing: Jordyn Rosenberg
Science: Daryl Matthies, Anicka Forrestel, and Charles Rebmann III
Seneca: Charlii Benedict Smith and Lincoln Hill
Social Studies: Chris Blask, Liz Russo, and Brooke Milhollen
Spanish: Morgan Sidell and Kendra McConkey
Mrs. Mongioli: Emily Callard
Art: Gabriela Estevez
Band: Addison Schrock
Chorus: Eliza Koopman
Health: Isabella Remsen
Music 7: Mackenzie Tomporowski
Orchestra: Ayden Wilson
PE 6/7/8: Charles Rebmann III
Reading AIS: Ryan Morgan
Mrs. Cramer/Mrs. Brown: Justice Moore
Math Learning Center: Travis PeQueen
SRO 6th Grade: Marissa Abrams, Lexie Ground and Nathan Priebe
Academic Achievement: Hazel Fleming

The Gab from AMS Government



From the voices of:

Adelaide Mandell, Cassie Judge, Reagan Luck



Last month our school participated in March-Making-A-Difference Madness! In the cafeteria, we had many activities to help encourage citizenship throughout our school district. One of the many activities was coloring bookmarks for the elementary, middle and high school libraries. The middle school students also wrote letters to teachers and staff to show their appreciation for all they do to make our school a better place. Students also participated in March Madness Spirit Week. We loved dressing up!

April is a busy month! We will be preparing for campaigns and elections of the Middle School Government Officers and 9th grade class officers! Students can run for positions such as president, vice president, treasurer or secretary. The beginning of May we will have the Erie County Board of Elections in to help students vote in a real voting booth! Isn't that cool?!

CHARACTER COUNTS

Our school focused on the Character Counts Pillar Citizenship for the month of March! Students that were demonstrating citizenship in the school and community were awarded by teachers. Some examples were:



- Making choices that protect the safety and rights of others.
- Doing your share to make your home, school, and community better.
- Protecting the environment.

Congratulations to the following students selected for displaying the Character Counts Pillar Citizenship:

George Laurey, Hunter Haist, Addison Schrock, Hunter Bilicki, Jacqueline Mest, Jillian Bower, Lyla Pechuman, Clara Bogdan, Evan Winter, Alexis Salmon, Abby Gerstung, Novaleigh Lindaman, Charles Rebmann III, Declan Jelson, Jackson Nice, Landin Allen, Michael Middaugh, Elijah Reigle, Brock Lamont and Leah Smith.

For the month of April, Character Counts will be presented on our Middle School Morning Show! This month we will revisit the pillars Trustworthiness and Respect. Students can earn Tiger Tickets for demonstrating these traits. Here are some examples of what actions should reflect each of these pillars.

Trustworthiness:

- Be honest. Don't deceive, cheat, or steal.
- Have integrity. Do what you say you'll do.
- Be loyal. Stand up for your values.

Respect:

- Be accepting of differences.
- Be courteous to others.
- Be considerate of others' feelings.



The Tigers Den is preparing for our official Grand Opening Event which will be held on Tuesday, April 11th in H113. We will have samples, a gift basket giveaway and a special promotion introducing our Den Dollars!! You will earn a Den Dollar for every ten dollars you spend which can be spent on a future purchase.

Our PJ Pants have been a hit and we have just received another order including youth and adult sizes. Look forward to visiting the Tigers Den at the Annual Budget Vote and at Graduation to see your new school store and all the hard work put in by the students and maintenance staff. We would like to thank maintenance for all their help with the clothing racks and signage and to Mr. Clouse for laser cutting our Tigers Den sign.

Remember that profits made at the Tigers Den go directly back to students in the form of scholarships. We are happy to announce that, with your help, we will be giving two scholarships of \$500 each to two students that are continuing in business related fields.

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

The Tigers Den is ready for all your Easter needs with both Oliver's and Henry's Chocolates, jelly beans, and much more! Come visit the school store during 9th period today-Thursday!

TIGER TRAITS:

3/10/2023: Gift Card Winner: Althea Kreher
Ice Cream Winners: Reagan Polkowski
Drake Rosenberg, Mackenzie Tomporowski
and Brooke Warren

3/31/2023: Gift Card Winner: Sahpur Grijalva
Ice Cream Winners: Isaac Kelkenberg,
Drake Rosenberg, Taylor Fisher and
Peyton Waterbury



NATIVE AMERICAN OFFICE

Student Council is an educational staple. Running for office appears to be very competitive. Becoming a school leader is an important task. Indigenous students do not often participate.

In my years at ACS, approximately 3 students have been involved in Student Council. I've often wondered why they don't get involved because our students always have great ideas on how to make this school a better place!



So why don't they fill out the application packet, write an essay, get recommendations, create campaign posters and solicit votes at lunch tables. . .Right!?! Indigenous students, for the most part, do not participate in voting for any office. (That is not to say we can't participate. Some Indigenous people choose to participate in political races and elections.) Our traditional governments at Tonawanda, Onondaga, and Tuscarora continue to use a consensus model for choosing our leaders. The process involves a gathering of minds to make a decision that everyone agrees to. It can be time consuming but it is harmonious. And it is much different than voting. Voting is based on an individual and not the community as a whole. And voting can be done very quickly.

So if the barrier is voting (and the campaigning process) - how do we ensure that Indigenous students have an opportunity to participate in Student Council. Easy! Gather the indigenous students and have them decide a representative to participate - consensus style. We have discussed this with administration and Student Council advisors. It is happening! Indigenous students will be meeting after Easter Break to choose an Ambassador/Runner from each grade in the middle and high school. The Ambassador/Runner will be a life position for the duration of middle or high school. All Indigenous students will be offered a chance to participate in the deliberations. More details will be rolled out to families in early April. This is groundbreaking and very exciting!!

We are looking forward to engaging in the process and fostering leaders in school!



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

It is finally Spring! Springtime allows us to get outside and enjoy the sunshine and fresh air! It also serves as a reminder of the importance of having a schedule to help to make sure we all take time to relax, while still having enough time to complete our homework, our chores and our other responsibilities. Here are some pointers:

- Create a simple schedule for your at home time! Don't forget to schedule some relaxation and fun activities!
- Write your homework down in your Agenda AND don't forget to open your Agenda and read through it at home. Be sure to cross off items once they are completed.
- If you prefer, keeping a written To-Do List is a great visual way to remind yourself of what needs to be completed each day. It is also a super way to feel accomplished as you check those completed items off our list!
- Using the calendar app on your phone can be super helpful! You can use the notification feature to give reminders of what needs to be done BEFORE it's too late. For example, set a reminder at 4pm that you need to do your Math homework. Or set a reminder for 6pm the night before your PE day to remind you to put your PE clothes in your backpack!

PRO TIP: If you Google FREE After School Schedules or Free Middle School To Do Lists, you will find an amazing amount of choices to personalize, print and use! If you don't have a printer and would like some to use, please let us know.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



Spring break is upon us! Whether you are going on vacation, working, or at home during break, these important safety tips can help keep you and your kids on track:

- Know where they are, and where they are planning to go: It's important to keep an open line of communication with your kids, no matter what.
- Know who they are with, and if another adult will, or should be with them: Depending on age, and the activity, it may be necessary to make sure an adult is present.
- Set a curfew, and transportation if necessary: Know the curfew times for the area you reside, or where your kids are going to be. Set a fair curfew time that is manageable, and attainable. Make sure they have a way to get to and from their destination safely.
- Lastly, enjoy the time off, do family activities to stay engaged with one another.

Have a wonderful Spring break!

Attention 8th Grade Parents and Guardians!

On February 27th, our 8th grade students took part in an Assembly briefly outlining expectations, scheduling and curriculum. You can view the slide show here! [8th Grade Scheduling Assembly 2023](#).

After the break, we will be starting the actual high school scheduling process! This is an exciting time for your child! In an effort to ease the transition, your child's teachers will be submitting their recommendations for their core classes directly to the high school. However, your child will be asked to choose an elective (or two) to participate in starting in September. If your student already participates in Band, Orchestra and/or Chorus, they will be automatically scheduled to continue with this course(s) in high school. Below are the other courses that are open to Freshmen. We ask that all students choose one elective to start them on their way to meeting their graduation requirements as outline in the 8th grade scheduling assembly (refer to the slide show linked above).

The direct link can be accessed by clicking --> [ACS Curriculum Guide for 2023-2024](#). This guide is FULL of a lot of information. In order to help focus you and your child to the electives open to Freshman, we have listed them (and their page numbers) below.

- Studio in Art-Full Year (Page 23)
- Business Applications for the Workplace, Business Law, Introduction to Accounting, Introduction to Business I & II -Semester (Page 29)
- Computer Programming: Coding 1 & 2, Pre-Requirement - Algebra 1R-Semester (Page 136)
- Design, Drawing for Production-Full Year (Page 135)

After break, 8th grade students will participate in Seminars during their study halls that will discuss the above options. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Mann at 76-542-5044 or at hmann@akronk12.org



Our next **Tiger Talk** meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 19th from 330-430 in C-120.**

All middle school and high school girls interested in being a mentor or mentee are welcome to attend.



ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CLIPBOARD



"It wouldn't be the start of Spring Sports without persistent rain, clouds, and chilly evenings! Our Modified Lacrosse team has begun practice and they are improving everyday. Their games are scheduled to start on 4/17. Modified Track & Field starts on 4/24. Please be sure to register on Family ID if you intend to join the modified track team!"

Please visit the [athletics webpage](#) for the most up to date game & meet schedule. Please follow the Athletics Twitter page at [@AkronHSSports](#) for updates."



MUSIC NOTES



The following middle school students participated in the **Junior High North All County Festival**, held at Franklin MS in KenTon. These talented musicians were named to these ensembles because of their top scores in January's Solo Festival. Rehearsals took place Friday evening and Saturday morning, March 10th and 11th. Performances for each ensemble took place throughout Saturday afternoon.

Band: Audrey Garverick - percussion, Hannah Liss - bassoon

Orchestra: Sam Reagan - bass

SSA Chorus: Vivian Bentley, Leah Furmanek, Jacquie Mest, Damiana Montondo

SATB Chorus: Phoenix Abrams, Mark Molitor (not pictured)

The following student was named as Alternate to the Festival:
George Laurey - trumpet

MUSIC & MUNCHIES

The MS/HS Orchestra held their annual Music and Munchies Concert in the HS Cafeteria on March 21st.



MS CABARET

The MS/HS Orchestra held their annual Music and Munchies Concert in the HS Cafeteria on March 21, 2023



MS LUNCH MENUS

Monthly lunch menus can be accessed each month through our school website, www.akronschools.org. Please click on the April menu for the link.

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



Middle School Lunch Menu \$2.60 April 2023					
Monday, April 3rd Roast Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Tuesday, April 4th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Wednesday, April 5th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Thursday, April 6th Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Friday, April 7th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Saturday, April 8th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread
Sunday, April 9th Roast Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Monday, April 10th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Tuesday, April 11th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Wednesday, April 12th Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Thursday, April 13th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Friday, April 14th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread
Saturday, April 15th Roast Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Sunday, April 16th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Monday, April 17th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Tuesday, April 18th Beef Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Wednesday, April 19th Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread	Thursday, April 20th Turkey Sandwich Potato Salad Fruit Bread