



# Tiger Tracks

www.akronschools.org

February 2025

Akron Central School District acknowledges that we gather on the traditional lands of the Tonawanda Seneca Nation and honor the sovereignty of all of the members of the Haudenosaunee. We honor the contributions of the Indigenous Peoples and will make a commitment to honor the land of those who have walked before us.

## A message from the Principals:

### Greetings and Nya:wëh sgë:nö

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that 2025 is off to a wonderful start for you and your family! February is a month filled with academic milestones, celebrations, and opportunities for student growth. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Below are important updates and events for this month.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for February 13th and 14th. These conferences are an invaluable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, address any concerns, and collaborate on strategies for their success.

We value the partnership between home and school, and your active participation is key to ensuring the well-being and academic growth of your child. For more information, please visit

### Important February Dates...

- 3 Report cards on line and mailed home
- 3 Ineligible/Restricted Pass Lists Out
- 6 Student of Month Due
- 6 Student of Month Due
- 6 NHS Ceremony
- 7 Grade Level Mtg.
- 8 ACT Test (not given @ Akron)
- 11 HS Music Dept Student/Parent Band Trip Mtg.
- 13 BOE Mtg.- 6:30 pm HS CAFE
- 13 SOM Luncheon
- 13 **Parent Teacher Conferences**
- 14 **Parent Teacher Conferences (NO CLASSES)**
- 14 **Valentine's Day**
- 14- 23 **MID-WINTER RECESS NO SCHOOL**
- 21 SAT Registration (deadline) for March 8<sup>th</sup>, test
- 22 Cheer Sectionals @ Starpoint
- 24 Tiger Tracks Due
- 24 Petition Sheets Due
- 28 Department Mtg.
- 28 Tiger Tracks Published
- 28 ACT Registration (deadline for April 5<sup>th</sup>, test

 **Attention Class of 2025:** Join us for the 3rd annual Senior to Senior Valentine's Day Dance at the Akron-Newstead Senior Center on Tuesday, February 11th at 5:00 pm. This free event includes dinner, dancing, and a photobooth! Please sign up in the Main Office no later

3RD ANNUAL

## Senior to Senior Valentine's Dance

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH @ 5PM

Join us for an evening with students from Akron High School and the senior citizens of the Akron- Newstead Senior Center to celebrate Valentine's Day.

**FREE EVENT!**

**Meal:**  
Spaghetti and meatballs, side salad, roll and dessert

**FREE EVENT!**

The evening will include:  
Dinner 5:00pm  
DJ Biggs 5:00 - 7:30pm  
Photobooth 5:30 - 7:00pm

# 2025 WNY High School Student Art Exhibition

UB's Department of Art will host an exhibition of Western New York High School student art works. We are excited that your work has been chosen!!

## Dates and Times:

Exhibition

Monday, January 27th, to Saturday, February 19th, 2025

## Reception

Thursday, January 30th, 2025, 5-8PM

Awards given out at 6PM

## Lower Gallery Visiting Hours

Mondays: 10AM-7PM

Tuesdays: 10AM-7PM

Wednesdays: 10AM-7PM

Thursdays: 10AM-7PM

Fridays: 10AM-7PM

Saturdays: 2PM-7PM

Sundays: CLOSED

The above hours are dependent on the continued availability of our student worker gallery attendants. If you arrive at the Lower Gallery during advertised open hours and it's closed, please visit the Dept. Office in CFA 202, or the Art Resource Manager in CFA 129.

Appointments may be requested by writing to [whitneyk@buffalo.edu](mailto:whitneyk@buffalo.edu).

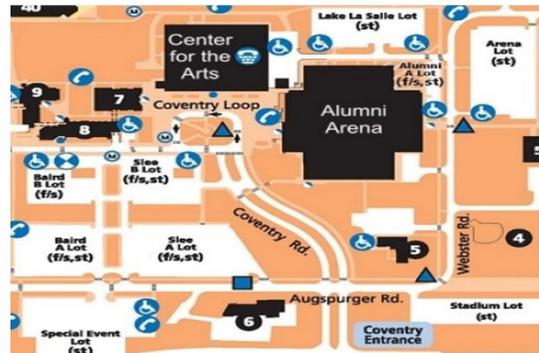
UB Center for the Arts  
Buffalo, NY, 14260

Parking at the Center for the Arts is a breeze on weekends and evenings but can be tricky on school days.

Metered parking is available on Coventry Road, in the Baird Lot, and on the East side of the Alumni Arena. Alternatively, there is one CFA Patron Visitor Parking Spot available in Coventry Loop directly in front of the CFA. A permit for this spot is required and can be obtained from the UBCFA Main Office, Room 103. Please have the make, model, and license plate number available.

After 3 pm and on weekends guests may park in the Slee and Baird lots surrounding the CFA for free.

If you have more questions about parking, please call our gallery attendant at 716-645-6913.



Six Akron Students artwork will be on display at UB's 2025 WNY High School Student Art Exhibition, Congratulations to the following art studentns: Madi Halicki, Kaleb Hucker, WakinyanWin LaFromboise, Emma Leonard, Eva Sage, and Peter Sokolofsky.



WayinyanWan LaFromboise  
My Skyline

Madi Halicki / Collage



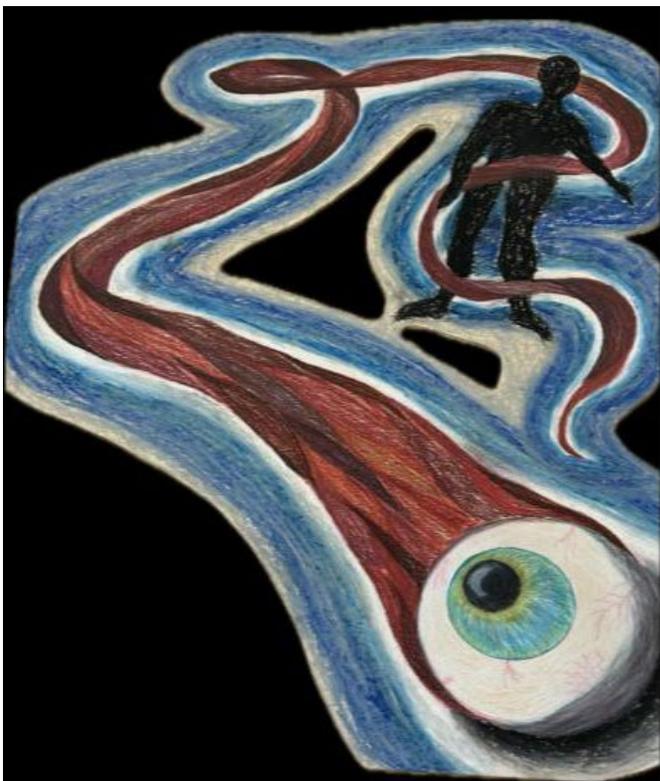
Eva Sage / Still Life



Emma Leonard / The Watchful Eye



Kaleb Hucker / The Eye



Peter Sokolofsky / Felicette



## Social Worker

We hope your New Year is off to a great start! The high school counselors have been meeting with all Juniors individually. These meetings have been very productive as we assist in preparing these students for their Senior year as well as life after high school plans.



It may seem early but we are already digging into the course selection process for next year. Scheduling will take place in the spring. We are excited to offer some interesting electives that will hopefully be beneficial and worthwhile for our students. More information will be forthcoming to make sure our students are aware of how to proceed with their course selections. The majority of their core courses will be mass added for them, leaving only electives needing to be selected. The student support office will be assisting students throughout this entire process to make sure it runs smoothly for them. We also encourage students to gain input from their teachers as well as classmates for more information regarding these courses.

The ACS On-line Senior Scholarship Application information memo will be made available to all Seniors in Homeroom on February 13.



Valentine's Day is an opportunity to celebrate deep, meaningful connections with ourselves, friends, and family. Whether it's appreciating your own growth, sharing laughter with friends, or cherishing moments with loved ones, there's so much to be grateful for. Take some time throughout the month to nurture these relationships and to remember that you are worthy of love, kindness, and joy! Join us in fostering or creating those connections during our -

\*Tiger Talk meeting (HS and MS girl mentorship program) during 9th period in C-120 on February 12th (or)

\*Wellness Club meeting (open to all HS students) during 9th period in Mrs. Bowen's office H-111 on February 11th.

## SENIORS

Class Of **2A25**

The Class of 2025 is now starting to prepare for the fun senior festivities that will take place this spring including prom & the annual senior picnic. We are excited to announce that Prom 2025 will be taking place this year at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery!

## JUNIORS

Class Of **2A26**

The Class of 2026 would formally like to invite any high school student to the Semi Formal Dance "A Dance Under the Stars" on Saturday, January 11th from 7-9 PM. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold during both lunches from 1/2-1/10.

## SOPHOMORES

Class Of **2A27**

The Class of 2027 encourages everyone to come out and support student government at the basketball concessions this winter sports season!

### ATHLETES OF THE WEEK:

Week of January 2nd: James Crooks from Wrestling and Ben Gerstung from Boys Basketball  
Week of January 9th: Madigan Reagan from Swim and Derren Brooks from Boys Basketball  
Week of January 16<sup>th</sup>: Elden Ground from Boys Swim and Olivia Novak from Girls Basketball  
Week of January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Whitley Koopman from Girls Swim



Listed below are Akron's Fall All-WNY Scholar Athletes. Congratulations to all.

Winners

Andrew Bergman – Football

Aleyna Susfolk – Girls Soccer



Honorable Mention



Aubrienne Baltzley – Volleyball, Anthony Consiglio – Football, Noah Crockford - Boys Soccer  
Ava Fox - Field Hockey, Nicholas Fry – Football, Madison Hillman - Girls Soccer,  
Zachary Hollenbeck – Football, WakinyanWin LaFromboise – Volleyball,  
Brayden Lamont – Football, Gracie Leiker Girls Soccer, Ella Liss - Girls Soccer,  
Alexander Schrock – Football, Hunter Sears - Boys Soccer, Clarise Wawrzyniec - Field Hockey,  
Brianna Wilber – Volleyball, Avery Wolfe - Girls Soccer

ART – Jelissa Steeprock  
 BAND – Ava Fox  
 BUSINESS – Emma Leonard  
 CHORUS – Jamie Bower  
 BOCES – Tyler Massaro  
 PHYS. Ed – Joeseeph Burg  
 ORCHESTRA – Samuel Reagan



**DECEMBER**  
*Students of the*  
*Month*

ENGLISH – Emily Raybon  
 SENECA – Camryn Laude-Binder  
 HEALTH – Andrew Bergman  
 MATH – Savannah Ling  
 SCIENCE – Evan Yang  
 SS - Caylin Thomas-Wells  
 TECH – Alexander Schrock



● This month's PTA meeting will be held February 5th at 7:00pm in H190.

● The PTA will be providing refreshments for the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony on February 6<sup>th</sup>. We extend a heartfelt congratulations all of this year's inductees!

● Additionally, the PTA will help celebrate students who have earned Academic Achievement or who are a Tiger Leap recipient for the second quarter.



Check out our [January Newsletter](#), including videos:

- Akron News Show
- An interview with Miss Johnson
- Winter Sports Show
- Athletes of the week in winter

Plus, the first ever Akron "Mean Tweets" edition!



Do you need new notebooks, folders, or binders for the second semester? The Tigers Den School Store has you covered.

The Tigers Den School Store hours will be **Tuesday-Thursday 9th** period during the second semester.

The school store has chocolate and jewelry for your Valentine.

The Tigers Den will be open in the AUD Foyer before each Musical Performance on March 14th and 15th. We look forward to seeing you there!

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.

Welcome to February!

Last month, we continued our exploration of nutrition, learning how to read food labels, manage portion sizes. This month we will learn how to build balanced meals within a budget, and then we're shifting gears to focus on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD).

## February Focus: Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs

### Class Topics:



- 1. Understanding the Effects:**
  - How alcohol and drugs impact the brain and body.
  - The short- and long-term health consequences of substance use.
- 2. Risks and Consequences:**
  - The dangers of addiction and substance abuse.
  - The impact of impaired judgment and decision-making.
- 3. Refusal Skills and Peer Pressure:**
  - How to say “no” confidently in situations involving substance use.
  - Strategies to navigate peer pressure and make healthy choices.
- 4. Community and Legal Impacts:**
  - Exploring the legal consequences of underage drinking and drug use.
  - The ripple effect of substance use on families and communities.

This month we will welcome KEDs to help discuss risk factors of addiction, as well as the harmful effects of vaping, and speak to how their organization works with individuals who may be dealing with addiction.

## Healthy Habit of the Month: Avoiding Risky Behaviors

Making informed choices about your health means knowing when to avoid situations that may put you at risk. Surround yourself with positive influences and practice assertive communication to prioritize your well-being.

### Quick Tip: Peer Pressure Strategies

Plan Ahead: Know what you'll say in situations where substances might be offered.

Stay Firm: A clear and confident “no” is often the best response.

Use an Excuse: Have a reason ready, like, “I have a big test tomorrow.”

Change the Subject: Redirect the conversation to something else.



### Native American Office News

Missing just one day can often seem like a small thing, but it can snowball in several ways, especially if it's part of a larger pattern. Over the years, I have heard parents and students say “it's just one day.” It might be a situation where we have a one-day week for whatever reason or a kid wants to get their hair/nails done or there is a non-school sports event or you woke up late so you didn't bother to come to school or someone somewhere had a cough that made attendance optional. Oftentimes those who say “it's just one day” tend to miss excessive days of school. So, it is never “just one day”.

There are five major reasons that one missed day impacts students. It can throw off your flow and that day of catching up might affect your energy or focus moving forward. Catching up after one day can be overwhelming. There is always a possibility of missing crucial lessons or instructions and now others have to fill in those gaps. A day of missed work can snowball into more missed work which then causes an avalanche of stress. Finally, it can feel like you are less-than because you are consistently a step behind.

It's all about balancing the immediate impact of missing one day and managing how it fits into the larger picture. Have you experienced this snowball effect yourself, or are you trying to figure out how to prevent it?



We are halfway! The second marking period is over, and that means the second half of school has begun. February is also the halfway point of the cold winter, and it is safe driving month.

**Tips and refreshers for new and experienced drivers include:**



Check your tires and make sure there is enough tread and they are in good condition.



Give yourself time to slow down, it takes longer to slow and stop on icy and slippery roads.



Communicate where you are going and when you should be expected back, so if you break down or skid off the road, people will know where to start looking.



Always have extra supplies in your vehicle like snacks, water, flashlights, extra hats and gloves.

These safety tips are good to keep in mind all year round, just change up some of the supplies depending on the season. Always be prepared, and always communicate! Let's get through this second half of the school year!

Go Tigers! 



## 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:

High School (716) 542-5009 OR  
[HSAttendance@akronk12.org](mailto: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.