



# Tiger Tracks

July 2024

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

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:



Ms. Renee Reedhardt joins the ACS administrative team as Assistant Principal for the High School.

Ms. Reedhardt earned her Bachelor's degree in Health Education K-12 from SUNY Brockport, as well as her Master's degree in Physical Education K-12, from Canisius College. She has a Advanced Certification in Educational Leadership for both the Building and District level from SUNY Fredonia. Over the past 20 years Ms. Reedhardt has been a Health/PE teacher at Iroquois High School. During that time, Ms. Reedhardt has served as advisor of multiple extra-curricular clubs, coached various athletic teams, served as Department Chair for PE/Health, as Summer Academy Principal intern as well as Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA) Assistant Principal at the high school level for a medical leave.

"I've always placed relationships at the center of what I do. Through my experiences I've discovered that fostering empathy and understanding requires creating spaces where every voice is heard and valued. The Akron Central School District's commitment to acknowledging, respecting, and supporting each unique individual truly inspires me. I am excited to begin working alongside everyone to create the greatest opportunities for our students," expressed Ms. Reedhardt.

Please join us in welcoming our new Athletic Director/ Middle School Assistant Principal Mr. John Morello. John comes to us with a wealth of athletic experience.

As an athlete, John was a NYS Champion wrestler back when wrestling only had one division. After high school, John joined the United States Army where he wrestled for Team Army.

After John served his time in the military, he taught physical education and coached in South Carolina. John was Teacher of the Year for his school and Coach of the Year for the state of South Carolina. John was also a four time Regional Coach of the Year. For the past ten years, John has worked with Coastal Carolina's football team as a life/character coach. During his time with Coastal Carolina, John had the opportunity to travel all over the country to different major football stadiums.



## Important July & August Dates...

July 30 Class of 2025 Senior Portraits

Aug. 7 Class of 2025 Senior Portraits

8 Class of 2025 Senior Portraits

19 Football Practice begins

26 Fall Sports Practice begins

27 Marching Band Rehearsal

28 Freshman/New HS student ONLY  
Orientation

28 Mandatory parent/Freshman/New HS  
Student Orientation (6-7 pm Aud)

28 Marching Band Rehearsal

29 Marching Band Rehearsal



Prior to the start of the 2024 Graduation Ceremonies on June 28th. Hailey Reigle was awarded the Army Reserve National Scholar Athlete Award from Army Reserve Recruiter Salas.

Graduation photos on page 6. Also, view additional photos at <http://gretchendoktorphotography.gotphoto.com/> Access code: akron2024

# FACTS



## ABOUT VAPING

[www.wnycdc.com](http://www.wnycdc.com)



**E-cigarettes are not safe for kids, teens, young adults, and pregnant women, as well as adults who do not currently use tobacco products.**

**If you don't smoke or vape, don't start!**

**More than 1 in 4 Middle & High School Students vape daily**



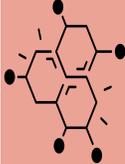
**Nicotine can permanently change the developing brain, creating a nicotine addiction for life.**



**e-cigarettes contain Heavy Metals**

like Lead, Nickel, Chromium and

**Cancer Causing Chemicals**



Diacetyl, Formaldehyde, Propylene Glycol, Flavorings and many others



Vapes can be various shapes and sizes and look like

**highlighters, watches, USB drives, phone cases, watches, backpacks, pens sweatshirts etc.**

All created make it more appealing & easier for youth to vape without anyone knowing



**Some vapes contain as much nicotine as a whole pack of cigarettes.**

Data shows that kids who vape are more likely to start smoking cigarettes.

Vapes are also a popular method for using cannabis.

**Nicotine levels are very high, so youth become addicted quickly.**

Overcoming a nicotine addiction is extremely difficult especially for a teen. Resources to help them quit are limited but are evolving.

**Choose to be a trusted adult they can talk to and get support from so they can quit.**



**Scan to find more Information & Resources about vaping to educate yourself & youth**

kgc 2024

## PARENT RESOURCES FOR HELPING YOUR TEEN QUIT VAPING 2024



### THE BEST WAY TO HELP YOUR CHILD IS TO BE AWARE & INFORMED.

Quitting vaping can be a challenging journey, but your child can successfully overcome their dependence. There is help in the form of resources and support. **You are not alone.**

The evidence-based resources listed here are designed specifically for teens and young adults. We hope that they help you keep the conversation going with your teen.

### IT STARTS WITH A CONVERSATION.

Talking with your kids about vaping will let them know that you are concerned about their health. Your goal is to have a conversation and encourage an open dialogue. Consider these five tips to help you get started.

#### 5 Ways to Help Your Teen Quit Vaping

1. Ask questions
2. Be patient
3. Help them remove temptation
4. Encourage them to have a plan
5. Point them toward more help

[Read more from Beating Nicotine Together](#)

#### New York State Smokers' Quitline

1-866-NY-QUIT  
(1-866-697-8487)  
Text QUITNOW to 333888  
Chat online at [NYSmokeFree.com](http://NYSmokeFree.com)  
Free quitting resources for those who use nicotine products and their loved ones. Free medication available for those 18+

#### New York State Department of Health

"Drop The Vape" Texting Program  
Text [DROPTHEVAPE](text:DROPTHEVAPE) to 88709  
Free texting programs to quit vaping for 13- to 17-year-olds and 18- to 24-year-olds.  
Free DropTheVape materials for schools, health clinics and community centers:  
[Click here for posters, rack cards and palm cards.](#)  
[Click here for order form.](#)  
Parents can text QUIT to 202-899-7550 for help.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Youth Tobacco Cessation [Considerations for Clinicians Resource](#)

American Lung Association's (ALA) [Helping Teens Quit](#)

[Campaign For Tobacco-Free Kids \(CFTFK\)](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[Parents Against Vaping E-cigarettes \(PAVE\)](#)

[The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)

[SmokeFree Teen](#)

[Alliance for a Healthier Generation: Resources for Tobacco-free and Vaping-free Schools and Communities](#)

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Resources [Youth and Tobacco Real Cost Campaign](#)

[FDA's Vaping Prevention and Education for Parents](#)

For more resources and information visit [www.wnycdc.com](http://www.wnycdc.com)



The Western New York Youth Anti-Vaping Coalition (WNY YAVC) is a collaboration of agencies and community organizations working to reduce the vaping epidemic. We do this by providing current evidence-based education and resources to schools, youth and their families.

Click on above documents to get full view. Documents were prepared by members of the WNY Youth Anti-Vaping Coalition and the other comes from Kate Chudoba and partners of the WRARC (Western Regional Addiction Resource Collaboration)



## Tiger of the Week

Senior Lucas Possinger was recently named HS Tiger of the Week for helping Mr. Brian Hubbard, the High School's preferred substitute, to reconnect with his US Coast Guard mates from over 40 years ago! Lucas took it upon himself to make it happen and Mr. Hubbard is very appreciative of the effort! Go Tigers!





Representatives from Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center were at ACS today to present Akron High School with the Spirit Award for the Schools Against Cancer Spirit Week Showdown held in May. Akron's Media Production class submitted a video for the Showdown that "wowed" the event organizers! Student Council members also held a bracelet-making event to raise money for Team Roswell and donated friendship bracelets to patients. Akron High School is also mentioned in the latest edition of the Roswell Park Alliance Foundation What's Next newsletter! You can view the video at <http://akronschools.org/roswell> You can view the newsletter at: <http://give.roswellpark.org/.../MessageViewer.jsessionid...>



Some of our High School Student Displays that were observed during the District Wide Art Show.



## Annual Senior Safety Seminar

Akron High School seniors attended the annual Senior Safety Seminar ([click photo to the left for video](#)). This year's event utilized the two new pedal carts donated to the school by the Akron-Newstead Rotary Club. Students wore impairment goggles and were challenged to pedal through cones set up in the gym. The event moved outside for a drunk driving accident simulation that included a back-seat passenger extraction as well as an attempt to save a passenger ejected



from the vehicle. The event wrapped up with a visit from a Mercy Flight helicopter and crew members. Thank you to the Akron Police Department, Akron Fire Company, Newstead Fire Company, Wolcottsville Fire Company, and Mercy Flight. Stay safe, seniors!



## Class of 2024 Final Day

It was a big day for our seniors! Many, many scholarships, made possible through the generosity of our community, were awarded during the Academic & Athletic Awards Assembly held this morning. Our athletic teams and individual athletes, including senior honor awards and MVPs, were recognized, too! Caps and gowns were distributed before our seniors took one last walk through the halls of ACS with students from grades K-11 and staff cheering them on with congratulations. They sat together to view their Senior Video - a compilation of photos and videos from kindergarten to senior year - before heading outside for a picnic. Tonight, they'll come together one

last time before graduation on June 28th for their "Senior Sunset" on the football field. Congratulations to our Class of 2024!

[Click above photo for video on the days events.](#)





Varsity Lacrosse earned the title of Section VI Class D Champions



The Unified Basketball Team was crowned Class C Division Champions



Girls Track Team NO League Champions



Madigan Regan with new school record in the 800 meter (2:19.46) finished 2nd in the State Qualifier



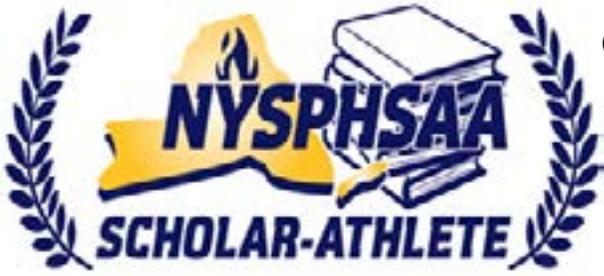
Kuuchut Grijalva NO League 1st place 400 hurdles



4x800 Relay Team at State Qualifier- 4 Place  
Madigan Regan, Hannah Liss, Nevada Bergman, Emily Snyder



Jack Holland NO League 1st place Discus



Congratulations to our  
Spring 2024  
All-WNY  
Scholar-Athlete  
Winners pictured to  
the right



Zackary Borton  
Lacrosse



Dawson Stone  
Baseball

The following seniors were selected as Spring 2024  
All-WNY Scholar Athlete Honorable Mention:

Ava Blochwitz- Tennis  
Kaylee Marble- Tennis  
Elexis Mitten- Tennis  
Jazmine Borynski- Track & Field  
Kayla Cebulski- Track & Field  
Meron Forrestel- Track & Field  
Margaret Middaugh- Track & Field  
Hailey Reigle- Track & Field

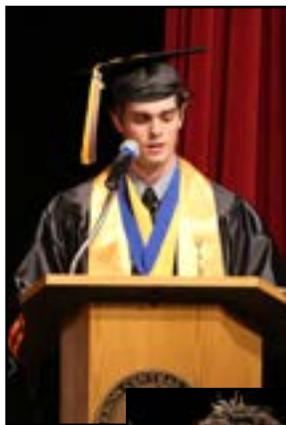
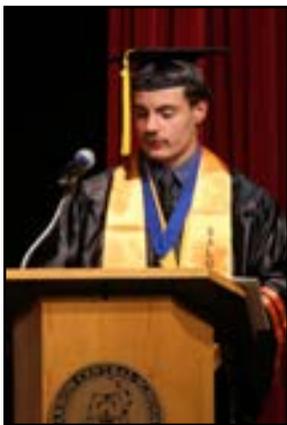
Emily Snyder- Track & Field  
Aidan Coffta- Baseball  
Dylan Crockford- Track & Field  
Logan McClaine- Track & Field  
Jonathan Steen- Track & Field  
Autumn Hall- Flag Football  
Ashlee Henning- Softball  
Trace Hill- Lacrosse

**Spring Scholar- Athlete Teams**

Baseball 92.18  
Softball 93.48  
Flag Football 92.05  
Tennis 96.49  
Boys Track & Field 93.88  
Girls Track and Field 95.40



**Congratulations  
Class of  
2024**



Pictured above: Crystal Tiger recipient  
Kuuchut Grijalva

