



Alexandria Central School

Home of the Purple Ghosts



Newsletter & Calendar 2023-2024

October 2023, Page 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

District Administration

- Mr. Clapper p. 1
- Mr. Fountain p. 3
- Mrs. Morgia p. 4
- Attendance Awards .. p. 6
- November Calendar .. p. 10

New ACS Staff p. 11

Department & Classroom Updates p. 15

- Athletic Updates p. 53
- Gym Dedication p. 54
- Fall Sports Sign Ups . p. 55
- Booster Club p. 56

Yearbook Information p. 58

Annual Notifications p. 61

School Calendar p. 67

FROM THE DESK OF MR. CLAPPER

Dear Members of the ACS School Community,

As we embark on another promising academic year, I am deeply honored to extend my warmest welcome to each and every one of you. Our school district is not merely an educational institution; it is a dynamic and diverse school community where students, families, educators, and staff come together to create a nurturing and inspiring environment.



First and foremost, I want to emphasize that the safety and well-being of every member of our school community remain our top priority. In these challenging times, our commitment to ensuring a secure and welcoming atmosphere is unwavering. We are dedicated to implementing and improving safety protocols to protect our students and staff.

Academics lie at the heart of our mission. We are dedicated to fostering an environment that encourages intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and a love for learning. From our youngest learners to our high school seniors, we are committed to providing quality education that prepares students for a future filled with opportunities. In addition to our strong academic programs, we are proud to offer a wealth of opportunities for personal and intellectual growth. Our college-level classes open doors to higher education and professional success, giving our students an edge in today's competitive world. Simultaneously, our thriving athletics program teaches important life skills such as teamwork, discipline, and resilience.

Furthermore, we are proud to continue our commitment to a skills-based education, including information technology, architecture and

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From The Desk Of Mr. Clapper

October 2023, Page 2

District Offices

District Administration

Christopher Clapper,
Superintendent of Schools
Robert Fountain, 7-12 Principal
Kylie Morgia, UPK-6 Principal &
Director of Special Education
Brianna Kirchoff, School Business
Administrator

Building & Grounds

Darin Trickey, Head Custodian

Transportation

Delmar Lambert, Head Mechanic

Food Service

Crystal Diange, Co-Cook
Managerr
Ashley Watkins, Co-Cook
Manager

Student Health

Pat Hunneyman, School Nurse

School Counselors

Kathryn Durand, PreK-8 School
Counselor
Michelle Mourino, 7-12 School
Counselor

School Psychologists

Pam Monica, School
Psychologist/CSE/504 Chair
Andrea Miller, School
Psychologist

Technology

Robert Wagoner, Network
Administrator

construction, hospitality/tourism, and human services, all of which fall under Career and Technical Education (CTE) and take place on the BOCES campus. These CTE programs offer students specialized vocational training that equips them with valuable skills and knowledge, opening doors to a wide range of career opportunities. Students attending the BOCES campus have the opportunity to explore these diverse pathways, nurturing their talents and passions in various vocational areas.

Moreover, on the ACS campus, we continue to offer programs such as welding, small engine repair, agriculture, and drone certification. The dedication of our students and educators has yielded remarkable results, with two Alexandria CSD students achieving the prestigious status of National Finalists in the FFA agri-science fair. This recognition on the national stage is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and the guidance of our exceptional educators.

At the ACS campus, we also place great emphasis on supporting the arts. Our musicals, choir, and band programs have long been a source of pride, providing students with opportunities to explore their artistic talents and creativity. Additionally, our art classes foster artistic expression and help students develop their visual arts skills. These programs not only enrich our school community but also encourage a deeper appreciation for the arts among our students.

As we commence this academic year, let us embrace the journey ahead with optimism and unity. Together, we will work diligently to ensure that our school district continues to be a place of learning, growth, and school community. I am excited to witness the achievements and progress that will undoubtedly mark this school year and look forward to celebrating the successes of our remarkable students and the dedication of our exceptional educators.

Welcome to the 2023-2024 academic year. Let's make it one filled with hope, growth, and boundless opportunities.

With warm regards,

Chris Clapper
District Superintendent
Alexandria Central School District

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From the Secondary Principal's Desk

October 2023, Page 3

SECONDARY EVENTS

- September 12, Freshman Experience
- September 18th, SUNY Potsdam on Campus
- September 22nd, SUNY Canton on Campus
- September 25th, St. Bonaventure on Campus
- September 28th, Crushing Your Inner Critic Assembly
- October 2nd, JCC Higher Education Day
- October 2nd, SUNY Delhi on Campus
- October 3rd, SUNY Alfred on Campus
- October 7th, Homecoming Dance
- October 12th, Fort Drum Career Fair
- October 18th, ASAB
- October 19th, Choices Assembly at Indian River
- October 19th, Manufacturing Day
- October 24th, PSAT
- October 25th, National JHS Induction
- October 27th, Talent Show
- October 27th, SUNY Oswego College Visit
- October 30th, Internet Safety Presentation
- November 7th, Syracuse/ Lemoyne College Visit
- November 20th & 21st, Parent Teacher Conferences

I trust that you're all geared up for the start of an exhilarating new academic year, and I also trust that you've had a splendid and well-deserved break this summer with your loved ones. My family and I enjoyed a few days camping in the Adirondacks, unwinding by the river, and even embarked on a memorable visit to Legoland. We hope that you also had a chance to create some wonderful memories throughout this Summer and Fall.



During the previous year, we embarked on a mission to challenge our students in both their academic and social growth, encouraging them to realize their full potential. We aimed to celebrate various student achievements, instill a sense of accountability, foster extracurricular pursuits, and work towards achieving our academic goal. As we continue our educational journey in this post-pandemic era, we remain dedicated to adapting our expectations, refining our curriculum, and reshaping our classrooms to better address the unique needs of our students.

Throughout the upcoming school year, our intention is to ensure that our students remain fully engaged with a diverse array of academic, social, and extracurricular activities. We wholeheartedly urge all our students to actively participate, explore new endeavors, follow their passions, and build valuable connections with both faculty and peers. Our dedicated educators and staff members consistently strive to deliver enriching experiences to our students, and we express our gratitude for the unwavering commitment of their time, energy, and expertise.

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From the Secondary Principal's Desk

October 2023, Page 4

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us at our Fall Open House! It was truly a delight to welcome you into our building. We hope you enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by our amazing cafeteria staff, took advantage of a complimentary back-to-school haircut, gathered brochures from one of the 20+ local community organizations present, engaged in conversations with our teachers, or simply strolled through our hallways. We were thrilled to host our community organizations alongside our students and families. We sincerely hope you found the evening as informative and enjoyable as we did.

In the current school year, we are excited to introduce some new members to our ACS family. These individuals bring with them diverse backgrounds, fascinating work experiences, and valuable areas of expertise from their private sector and collegiate studies, which they will generously impart to our students. We have every confidence that they will make a positive and significant contribution to both our students and their colleagues. Additionally, we are deeply grateful for the dedicated veterans who are returning, as they remain a steadfast part of ACS and continue to play a vital role in guiding and mentoring our newest team members.

Construction of our new Gymnasium is near completion and I cannot wait to see our Ghosts back on our home hardwood! We look forward to celebrating a grand opening with all of you soon. You can count on the opportunity to utilize the walking track during those cold winter months here in the North Country too! Thank you, Superintendent Clapper, thank you to our contractors, and thank you to this wonderful community for your support and continued patience throughout this immense project!

I want to express my gratitude in advance for your ongoing partnership and support at home. My commitment is to collaborate with you to create the brightest future possible for your children. I eagerly anticipate working alongside our staff, our families, and the children of this community in what promises to be another fantastic year!

Sincerely,

Robert Fountain
Secondary Principal
Alexandria Central School District

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From The Desk Of Mrs. Morgia

October 2023, Page 5

ELEMENTARY EVENTS

- September 5-11, Scholastic Book Fair
- September 8, Grandparent Social
- September 19, Talk Like a Pirate Day
- September 22, Make a Wish Hat Fundraiser Day
- September 26, Johnny Appleseed Day
- September 28, Movie Night "The Little Mermaid"
- October 13, Fire Prevention Day
- October 19, Pizza Party, BINGO, Movie Night "Nightmare Before Halloween"
- October 20, Apple Cider Making
- October 20, 3rd-5th Grade Field Trip to Clayton Opera House, Catskill Puppet Theatre
- October 27, Talent Show
- October 31, Halloween Parade
- November 1, Literacy Night
- November 9, 6th Grade Field Trip to see Aladdin
- November 9, Veterans' Day Celebration
- November 20th & 21st, Parent Teacher Conferences

Hello and happy fall to our Alexandria Central School families and community. As we approach November, I am excited to share that we had an excellent start to the 2023 - 2024 school year. September is always exciting for us as we welcome back our students into the school building. This September was no different. Each day brought new faces, new smiles, and new excitement. During the first few months, students met and found comfort with their teacher(s), settled into their new classrooms, enjoyed seeing their friends, and learned the new classroom rules and expectations. As the days progressed, students visited the library, joined music and art classes, and spent time outside and at the arena for physical education.



The elementary school has celebrated many memorable moments, events, and programs in just a short period. We celebrated "National Grandparents Day" by welcoming around 250 grandparents and families into the building. We felt blessed to open our doors to our special grandparents while they shared a homemade breakfast with their grandchildren. Visiting and sharing special moments like these with our kids is always lovely. We hope this new tradition continues for years to come. The elementary school has also been celebrating one another. Many staff members have sent home "Good News" postcards to kids displaying characteristics of our PRIDE (Positivity, Responsibility, Integrity, Dignity, and Empathy) acronym. "Good News" postcards will be sent home throughout the school year, so be on the lookout! Our elementary goals this school year are to improve student participation and attendance. ACS Elementary will acknowledge students each month who have perfect attendance this school year.

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From The Desk Of Mrs. Morgia

October 2023, Page 6

Students in Universal Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd Grade receive "Brag Tag" necklaces, and students in 4th through 6th grade receive coupons for our "student-managed" school store or sweet treat from the cafeteria. Lastly, the Elementary will acknowledge a "Student of the Month" each month during the school year. These are all fantastic celebrations, and we are proud to recognize our students throughout the school year.

This school year, we are working hard to build a strong character education program through morning meetings, our Random Acts of Kindness curriculum, assemblies, and other activities. During September and October, our students learned about the concepts of Respect and Caring. Each month, students will learn a new word and participate in activities that connect to the word. These words align with our character education curriculum and monthly morning meeting lessons. Additionally, we want to embrace and teach our students how to "pay it forward" and "give back." Being from a small community that continually supports our student programs and school community, we felt strongly that it was our time to learn, teach, guide, and give back. For the 2023 - 2024 school year, our students are working hard to build a wall of blue stars. Each month, our students will raise money for the "Make-A-Wish" foundation. The Make-A-Wish foundation is unique to us as one of our own faculty members is a Make-A-Wish recipient. We aim to build a community of blue stars and present the 2024, 1000 islands Make-A-Wish recipient with the money raised during the school year.

Other exciting activities and events include Fire Prevention Day on Friday, October 13th, Apple Cider making with Mr. Company on Friday, October 20th, and our Annual Halloween Parade on Tuesday, October 31st. Our first Family Literacy event will occur on November 1st in the library. Our Ghost Academy program will start back up by offering after-school activities for students in all grades. Beginning in November, we will also offer a Skate and Shoot program for all registered hockey players and an Open Skate program for students after school. In December, we will celebrate our 2nd year of "Christmas Around the World." We have many activities and programs to look forward to as the school year continues.

We are delighted with how the 2023- 2024 school year has started, and we look forward to the beautiful things ahead. Our goals are driven by student data, instructional needs, and multi-tiered systems of support, enrichment, and growth. With a new MTSS-I (Multi-Tiered System of Supports - Integrated), enrichment programs, character education programs, student acknowledgment, educational field trips, and after-school activities, we hope that our students grow academically, make healthy choices, nourish their minds, and become contributing citizens in their school community.

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ACS Elementary Attendance Awards

October 2023, Page 7



Amelia Crown, Briana Sherbino, Natalia Bruns, Kenlee Rogers, Angela Bell, Wally MacPherson, Jameson Wills, Caleb Cranker



Zyhle Meyer, Aurora Webster, and Latham Savage



Evy Kernehan, Avelyn Crown, Jackson Durand, Hudson Plantz, Tyler Gillette, and Syann Side



Karen Harris, Matthew Chase, August Bassett, and Sawyer Cole



Thea Desgrosiellier, Chase Fichthorn, and Leah Nier



Lennox Durand, Lettie Savage, Ryder Gilbo, and Jacob Denner





ACS Elementary Attendance Awards



Elliana Durand, Carson Pledger, Nathaniel Rookman, Heath Plantz, and Emmitt Lopez Paul Carnegie, Ella Schwarz, Lauren Ubricaco, Avery Boyer, and Hunter Frost



Parker Dimmitt, Jackson de Meurers, Alex Donegan, and Thade Savage



Bennett Clarke, Camilla Gagne, and Addison Trickey



Walker Cole, Riley Hennessey, Tucker Cole, Lilianna Pawlikowski, and Emaline Narburgh



Liam McDonough and Magdalena Brennan





ACS Elementary Attendance Awards



Gabby McCormick, Elizabeth Hickey, Olivia Rookman
Grey Denesha, Sawyer Hazelton, and Dustin Reitz



Wyatt Savage, Kaden Beers, Kathrin Trickey, Hailey Sawyer
Livia Putnam, Kayleigh Bura, and Elliana Symenow



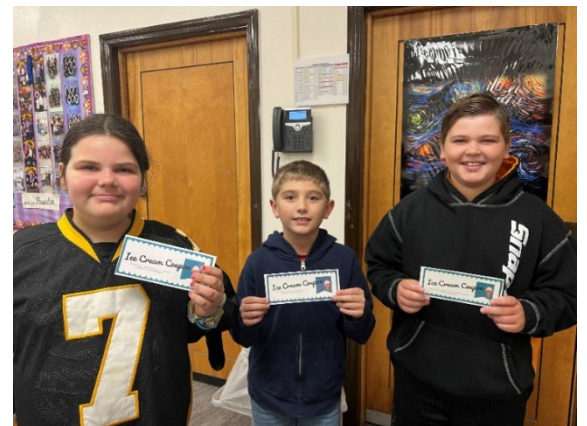
Victoria Muturi, Exley Ingerson, Miles Hickey, Brantley Derrigo,
Colby More, and Tru Ireland



Addilyn Nier, Max Donegan, Colton Carlisle, and Connor Murphy



Reagan Fiorita, Clara Monica, Greyson Horton, Camden Umstead,
Gabriel Sarmiento, and Kaylee Cowart



Brooklynne Nier, Henrik Ryder, and Dylan Wadsworth



November 2023

Class Colors

UPK/K - Red
 1st - Pink
 2nd - Purple
 3rd - Blue
 4th - Green
 5th - Yellow
 6th - Orange

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Happy Thanksgiving

1



CLASS COLOR DAY

2

3

National Jersey Friday



Wear Your Favorite Jersey

6



Everything Pumpkin Day

Wear Fall Pumpkin Colors

7

8

9



VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

WEAR RED, WHITE AND BLUE

10



NO SCHOOL

13

World Kindness Day



Wear Yellow

Show kindness & gratitude

14



National PJ Day! Wear PJ's

15

16

17



PURPLE PRIDE DAY

20



Parent Teacher Conferences

NO SCHOOL FOR ELEMENTARY

21



Parent Teacher Conferences

NO SCHOOL FOR ELEMENTARY

22



THANKSGIVING BREAK

23

24



27

28

Donate \$1 to wear a hat and Support

Make-A-Wish



29

30



Fall Flannel Day





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Welcome to ACS

October 2023, Page 11



SHOSHANNA COHEN, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Ms. Cohen is excited to join the ACS school and community. She is originally from a small town just north of Boston, Massachusetts, called Wakefield. She recently graduated from Syracuse University with a dual degree in Music Education. She has been involved in music her entire life which includes a wide diversity of music, music literature, and instrumentation. She is very grateful to be able to bring her experiences to ACS and the students. Outside of music, Ms. Cohen loves to craft, do puzzles, or swim. One day she hopes to compete World Jigsaw Puzzle Championship in Spain.



ALICIA DEWEY, SECONDARY ENGLISH

Ms. Dewey graduated from St. Lawrence University with a B.A. in History and a M.Ed. In Education. She is looking forward to teaching English 10 this year at ACS. Outside of school she enjoys spending time with her family and her golden retrievers, traveling and reading.



ROBERTO ELIZONDO, SECONDARY MATHEMATICS

Mr. Elizondo earned a Bachelor's Degree in Childhood Education with a concentration in Mathematics from SUNY Oneonta and a Master's Degree in Adolescent Special Education from Fordham University in New York City. He joined ACS in 2023 as a High School Math teacher. This is his 11th year teaching. He has taught in the South Bronx, West Palm Beach, Miami, Chicago, and most recently at Indian River. His previous courses include 4th-6th grade Math and Science, Pre Algebra, Algebra 1, Precalculus, and was a Special Education teacher at the high school level who co-taught Geometry and Biology. Here at ACS he will be teaching Applied Geometry, Geometry, Precalculus/Calculus, and Statistics.

Previously he has coached track and field, baseball, soccer, basketball, and flag football. He was also an after-school tutor through the 4-H program by the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

When not at school he loves finding new music to listen to and going to concerts. He also enjoys anything fitness related, whether that is playing a sport or going on a hike. Lastly, Mr. Elizondo is an animal lover and has a dog and two cats.

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Welcome to ACS

October 2023, Page 12

TAYDAN JEFFERS, SPECIAL EDUCATION



Ms. Jeffers is a former ACS graduate. She attended SUNY Jefferson and then SUNY Potsdam. When not at ACS she enjoys walking, art, spending time with family and friends including her dog Berkley.

I am beyond excited to be a purple ghost. ACS holds a special place in my heart. I am a proud alumni and third generation of teacher here at ACS. I look forward to educating and serving the community.



JULIA KAVAL, ELEMENTARY

Ms. Kaval joined ACS as an Elementary teacher in 2023. She graduated from Pennsylvania State University Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Literacy Education at SUNY Oneonta.

Ms. Kaval enjoys running and going on walks with her puppy Henry. She also enjoys spending her summers at the beach.



LYNDSEY MORROW-KLOSTER, SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER

Lyndsey Morrow-Kloster is the new School Safety Officer here at ACS. She has lived in the north country her entire life. She is married and has three children and one grandson. She graduated from Indian River and continued her education at JCC. While at JCC she played basketball and soccer. She became a NYS Trooper in 2003 and retired as an Investigator in July of 2023. When not working, she enjoys being outside and spending time with her family. She also enjoys boating, snowmobiling, hunting and overall relaxing outside.

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Welcome to ACS

October 2023, Page 13

ALETHEA MCILRATH, TEACHING ASSISTANT



Ms. McIlrath graduated from Jefferson Community College with an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is a graduate of ACS and returned to ACS in 2022 with an Early Childhood Internship working in both Pre-K and Kindergarten. In 2023 she returned as a full time teaching assistant. When not at ACS she loves to read with her pug, Mr. Darcy, by her side. She also loves singing and working with children.

CHRISTINA ROBINSON, TEACHING ASSISTANT



Mrs. Robinson joined ACS as a Teaching Assistant in 2023 after working throughout the building as a substitute teacher the previous school year. She is currently pursuing a degree and certification as a secondary social studies teacher.

Mrs. Robinson is originally from southern Florida, but moved to the area eight years ago. Outside of the classroom, Mrs. Robinson enjoys the culinary arts. She also has love of both science and history. She also loves a fun fact or good joke. She enjoys creating with her hands, especially clay. She enjoys the many outdoor activities the North Country offers such as swimming and snow skiing. She has two cats, Marm and Huck.

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Make A Wish Fundraiser

October 2023, Page 14

One of Alexandria Central School’s (ACS) initiatives this year is Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Social Emotional Learning (SEL) has become a vital and essential part of schools’ curriculums around the country. Studies show that social-emotional skills—such as feeling compassion and empathy—help improve academics, reduce negative social behaviors like bullying, and create positive classroom climates. Social-emotional skills also help kids successfully manage everyday life. Throughout the year, empathy, dignity, inclusiveness, and caring will be themes that are introduced, taught, and discussed as part of our SEL curriculum.

To support our SEL curriculum, Alexandria Central School has chosen a charity to support throughout the school year to teach these skills along with the meaning of philanthropy. ACS has selected the local Make-A-Wish Foundation as our philanthropic mission. We feel that choosing to support an organization that creates life-changing wishes for children with a critical illness will foster positive SEL traits in our students.

How will we fundraise to support Make-a-Wish?

Our students will help coordinate and support various fundraising opportunities throughout the year. Such fundraising opportunities include paying \$1 to wear a hat, purchasing a Halloween treat for your child, and many more fun and exciting events. The fundraiser will be announced each month through our monthly school calendar and ParentSquare notifications. Each time a donation is made, a star will be added to a community Make-A-Wish mural displayed in the school's main hall. At the end of the school year, the donations will be counted and presented by students and faculty to the Make-A-Wish Foundation at the local 1000 Islands Charity Poker Run in July 2024.

We look forward to our 2023-2024 school year and seeing how many stars we can get to support Make-A-Wish and our students’ SEL learning.

Thank you for your support as we continued to teach our students the essential elements of social-emotional learning and being a positive, contributing citizen.

Best regards,

Kylie Morgia
Kylie Morgia
Elementary Principal

The MTSSI Team
The MTSSI Team
Alexandria Central School District



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Business Office Updates

October 2023, Page 15

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you all had a great summer! There have been several changes over the past couple of years as staff retired and new hires have joined us. So who is the Business Office?

- Brianne Durham, Business Administrator / Extraclassroom Ext 2082
- Louise Aitcheson, Treasurer / Payroll Ext 2085
- Jennifer Cashel, Part Time Account Clerk Ext 2086
- Lisa Tillman, Tax Collector / Claims Auditor Ext 2083

Business Office Hours are 7:30am - 4:00pm

We are here for all your school business related items, or the occasional chocolate fix and a good laugh.

Elementary Counseling Updates

Greetings from the Elementary School Counselor!

As we embrace a new school year, it is essential to prioritize not only academic success but also the social-emotional well-being of our students. The role of a school counselor goes beyond resolving conflicts, teaching social skills, and helping to address academic concerns; it also includes fostering a supportive environment where all students can thrive! One of my goals is always to help bridge and support a strong partnership between home and school so that our students can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. If you have any questions or concerns at any time during the school year, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I am really excited for this school year and all of the exciting activities and events we have planned for our elementary students! Here's to another great school year!

-Mrs. Katie Durand



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SEPTEMBER 2023 HS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT EVENTS

FRESHMAN EXPERIENCE

9th-grade Freshman team-building experience at Beaver Camp in Lowville NY. The bus leaves at 7:00 am (12th)

SUNY POTSDAM ADMISSIONS VISIT

11th & and 12th graders get the chance to speak with a SUNY Potsdam Admissions counselor from 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Please reach out to Ms. Mourino if interested. (18th)

US NAVY RECRUITMENT TABLING

11th & and 12th graders will get a chance to speak with a Navy recruiter during their lunch period. (20th)

SUNY CANTON ADMISSIONS VISIT

11th & and 12th graders get the chance to speak with a SUNY Canton Admissions counselor from 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm. Please reach out to Ms. Mourino if interested. (22st)

ST. BONAVENTURE ADMISSIONS VISIT

11th & and 12th graders get the chance to speak with a St. Bonaventure University Admissions counselor from 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Please reach out to Ms. Mourino if interested. (25th)

CRUSHING THE INNER CRITIC ASSEMBLY

Missy West is a professional Athlete and Trainer who will present to grades 9 - 12 and athletic teams about identifying and overcoming challenges with your inner critic, unlocking the power of vulnerability to become courageous, and learning simple tools to help with anxiety, disappointment, and failure.

(28th)

For any questions please contact the secondary counseling office.

Michelle Mourino mmourino@acsghosts.org

(315) 482 - 9971 x3350



OCTOBER 2023 HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT EVENTS

SENIOR MEETINGS

12th graders and families meet with Ms. Mourino about several topics including academic plans, transcripts, college applications, trade/technical school applications, work force, financial aid, scholarships, etc. Please email Ms. Mourino to set up a time if you'd like to attend your students' meeting.
(Entire Month)

JCC HIGHER EDUCATION DAY

11th & 12th graders go to JCC to attend the Higher Education Day (College Fair), with over 100 Colleges & Universities for students to explore (2nd)

SUNY DELHI ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR VISIT

11th & and 12th graders get the chance to speak with a SUNY Delhi Admissions counselor from 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm. (2nd)

SUNY ALFRED ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR VISIT

11th & and 12th graders get the chance to speak with a SUNY Alfred Admissions counselor from 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm. (3rd)

FORT DRUM CAREER FAIR

11th & 12th graders attend a field trip to Fort Drum to explore different careers that exist on base, both military and civilian. (12th)

ASVAB

11th & 12th graders who are looking for career direction and/or are thinking of enrolling in the Armed Forces must take the ASVAB Test. There is no cost to taking the exam. (18th)



OCTOBER 2023 HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT EVENTS

SUNY OSWEGO ADMISSIONS VISIT

11th & 12th graders get the chance to speak with a SUNY Oswego Admissions counselor from 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm. (17th)

CHOICES ASSEMBLY

7th & 8th grade students will travel to Indian River for this assembly hosted by the Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs. Tony Hoffman will share his powerful story of overcoming addiction and shedding light on the profound impact a single choice can have on one's life. (19th)

MANUFACTURING DAY

Career exploration for 9th graders, they will visit and explore Knowlton Technologies. (19th)

PSAT/NMSQT

11th The PSAT/NMSQT provides a preview of the College Board's SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), which is often required for college admissions purposes. Also, some Juniors who take the exam may qualify to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation programs. (24th)

SUNY OSWEGO VISIT

11th & 12th graders get to tour SUNY Oswego, attend an admission, and EOP Presentation. Lunch in the dining hall, no cost. (27th)

For any questions please contact the secondary counseling office.

Michelle Mourino mmourino@acsghosts.org

(315) 482 - 9971 x3350



NOVEMBER 2023 HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT EVENTS

MASH CAMP ADVISORY PRESENTATION

During Advisories Mash Camp Coordinator Beth Solar will present on healthcare career opportunities, MASH camp, and the job shadowing program. Student in grades 10th-12th have the opportunity to attend MASH camp during Feb break.

They get to spend 16-24 hours observing in a healthcare facility. (1st)

JCC FINANCIAL AID NIGHTS

JCC's financial aid office will be presenting via Zoom information on FAFSA, TAP, and financial aid opportunities. Please see Zoom link/dates/times on parent square post. (6th, 18th, 13th, 16th, 20th, 28th)

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY/LEMOYNE COLLEGE VISIT

11th & 12th graders get to tour Syracuse University & Lemoyne College, attend an admissions, and have lunch in the dining hall, no cost. (7th)

BOCES PRESENTATION

BOCES Counselor will present to 10th graders about the different programs they have at BOCES and what is required of them to attend. Application process is also explained. (13th)

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents and students have the opportunity to meet with teachers and discuss student performance in the classroom.

Sign-Ups will be forthcoming Via ParentSquare (20th & 21st)

WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS

12th graders will get to go to the Watertown airport for interviews. Students will participate in mock interviews with several local and national companies/agencies.

This is part of their English 12 curriculum. (15th)

Any questions please contact the Secondary Counseling Office.

Michelle Mourino: mmourino@acsghosts.org

(315) 482 - 9971 x3350





Cafeteria Updates

October 2023, Page 20

We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and made lots of memories with friends and family. As we enter a new school year we have so many new things happening in our cafeteria. We have redecorated the High School Cafeteria and now we have the MPR open for elementary, the students are able to watch movies which they enjoy and High School Students enjoying our new soft seating area.



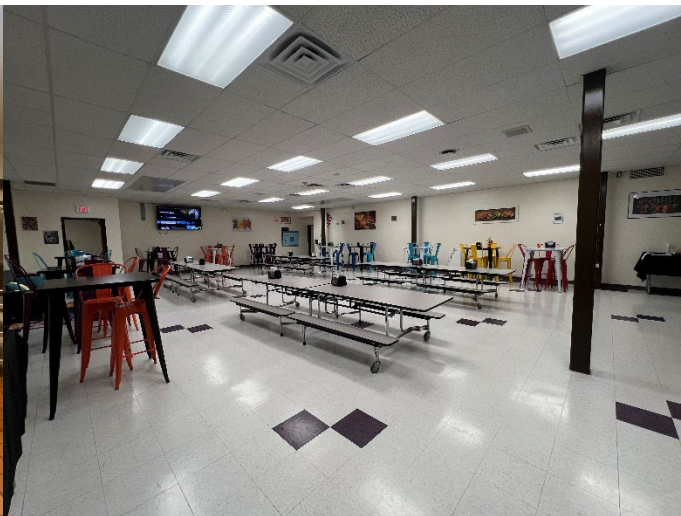
As far as the menu and options, we have offered a lot of new menu items and using the students comment box to our advantage.

We are putting together a High School Input Team, for the purpose of getting more feedback on meals.

As always please fill out the application for free or reduced school meals as it helps the school with funding so we can keep free meals for all.

Any questions please email Awatkins@acsghosts.org

Ashley & Crystal
Ashley Watkins
ACS cafeteria



Date Withdrew _____

F _____ R _____ D _____

2023-2024 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals/Milk

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and **return it to the address listed below**. Call **(315) 482-9971**, if you need help. Additional names may be listed on a separate paper.

Return Completed Applications to: **Alexandria Central School**
34 Bolton Ave
Alexandria Bay NY 13607

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	Homeless Migrant, Runaway
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. **Skip to Part 4 and sign the application.**

Name: _____ CASE #: _____

3. Report all income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you completed step 2)

All Household Members (including yourself and all children that have income).

List all Household members not listed in Step 1 (including yourself) **even if they do not receive income**. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any other source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of household member	Earnings from work before deductions <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Child Support, Alimony <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Pensions, Retirement Payments <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Other Income, Social Security <i>Amount / How Often</i>	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Household Members (Children and Adults)

*Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX- ___ - ___

I do not have a SS#

*When completing section 3, an adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SS#) or mark the "I do not have a SS# box" before the application can be approved.

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Home Address: _____

5. Ethnicity and Race are optional; responding to this section does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (Check one or more): American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island White

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)
Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

SNAP/TANF/Foster
 Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: _____ / _____ Household Size: _____
 Free Meals Reduced Price Meals Denied/Paid
Signature of Reviewing Official _____ Date Notice Sent: _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for free and reduced price meals, complete only one application for your household using the instructions below. Sign the application and return the application to Alexandria Central . If you have a foster child in your household, you may include them on your application. A separate application is not needed. Call the school if you need help: (315) 482-9971 . Ensure that all information is provided. Failure to do so may result in denial of benefits for your child or unnecessary delay in approving your application.

PART 1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

- (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one application.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, or if you believe any child meets the description for homeless, migrant, runaway (a school staff will confirm this eligibility).

PART 2 HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDIPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.

- (1) List a current SNAP, TANF or FDIPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4. SKIP PART 3. Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP case number, TANF or FDIPIR number.

PART 3 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE THESE PARTS AND ALL OF PART 4.

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are applying for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people **in your household**. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. **Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box.** The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should **not** be considered as income for this program.
- (3) Enter the total number of household members in the box provided. This number should include all adults and children in the household and should reflect the members listed in PART 1 and PART 3.
- (4) The application must include the last four digits only of the social security number of the adult who signs **PART 4** if Part 3 is completed. If the adult does not have a social security number, check the box. **If you listed a SNAP, TANF or FDIPIR number, a social security number is not needed.**
- (5) **An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4.**

OTHER BENEFITS: Your child may be eligible for benefits such as Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). To determine if your child is eligible, program officials need information from your free and reduced price meal application. Your written consent is required before any information may be released. Please refer to the attached parent Disclosure Letter and Consent Statement for information about other benefits.

USE OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

Use of Information Statement: The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not submit all needed information, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. The social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs.

We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION FACT SHEET

When filling out the application form, please pay careful attention to these helpful hints.

SNAP/TANF/FDPIR case number: This must be the complete valid case number supplied to you by the agency including all numbers and letters, for example, E123456, or whatever combination is used in your county. Refer to a letter you received from your local Department of Social Services for your case number or contact them for your number.

Foster Child: A child who is living with a family but who is under the legal care of the welfare agency or court may be listed on your family application. List the child's "personal use" income. This includes only those funds provided by the agency which are identified for the personal use of the child, such as personal spending allowances, money received by his/her family, or from a job. Funds provided for housing, food and care, medical, and therapeutic needs are not considered income to the foster child. Write "0" if the child has no personal use income.

Household: A group of related or non-related people who are living in one house and share income and expenses.

Adult Family Members: All related and non-related people who are 21 years of age and older living in your house.

Financially Independent: A person is financially independent and a separate economic unit/household when his or her earnings and expenses are not shared by the family/household. Separate economic units in the same residence are characterized by prorating expenses and by economic independence from one another.

Current Gross Income: Money earned or received at the present time by each member of your household before deductions. Examples of deductions are federal tax, State tax, and Social Security deductions. If you have more than one job, you must list the income from all jobs. If you receive income from more than one source (wage, alimony, child support, etc.), you must list the income from all sources. Only farmers, self-employed workers, migrant workers, and other seasonal employees may use their income for the past 12 months reported from their 1040 Tax Forms.

Examples of gross income are:

- Wages, salaries, tips, commissions, or income from self-employment
- Net farm income – gross sales minus expenses only – not losses
- Pensions, annuities, or other retirement income including Social Security retirement benefits
- Unemployment compensation
- Welfare payments (does not include value of SNAP)
- Public Assistance payments
- Adoption assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Survivor's Benefits
- Alimony or child support payments
- Disability benefits, including workman's compensation
- Veteran's subsistence benefits
- Interest or dividend income
- Cash withdrawn from savings, investments, trusts, and other resources which would be available to pay for a child's meals
- Other cash income

Income Exclusions: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

If you have any questions or need help in filling out the application form, please contact:

Name: Ashley Watkins Title: Cafeteria Manager

Telephone Number: (315) 482-9971 ext 9



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ACS Elementary MTSS-I Team

October 2023, Page 24

The MTSS-I (Multi-Tiered System of Supports Integrated) Team worked hard over the summer to develop a framework that targets students' social, behavioral, and academic needs and gives interventions based on data to close skill gaps that will improve student outcomes. Kindergarten through 6th grade students were assessed at the beginning of the school year to identify their needs, and then skill-based groups were formed. During class intervention time, every student is working with a teacher on mastering skills necessary to succeed with grade-level content. Teachers and interventionists collaborate to deliver the most effective instruction for all students, and data is collected on a timely basis to determine if interventions are effective. The MTSS-I team has developed systems and processes for both early intervention and tiered support services. When the MTSS-I model is implemented with fidelity, all students are exposed to Tier 1, core instruction and specialized, explicit interventions. This model will ensure that all students are given the resources, tools, and strategies to be successful. The goal is for all of our students to show academic, behavioral, and social - emotional growth throughout the school year.



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Library News

October 2023, Page 25

The library is open every day for everyone to browse and read. There are also board games, areas to work on homework, and class projects. All students have access to the library through their Chromebooks. Using the school website, students may go to the library page to search and request books. Additionally, students may go on 'SORA,' which is an online app to access ebooks and audiobooks.



Inside the library, we have an area called the "Bay Cafe." This area is for 9-12 grade honor students to enjoy a snack and drink. There is also an area called "The Creation Station. This area is designed for students to explore, discover, and learn. We hope students will use this area to tap into their inner creativity. "The Collaboration Studio" is another area where students can gather to share ideas, discuss solutions, and debate courses of interest.



With the great success of our March Madness reading incentive last year, this year, we have decided to do a year-long incentive to promote reading.

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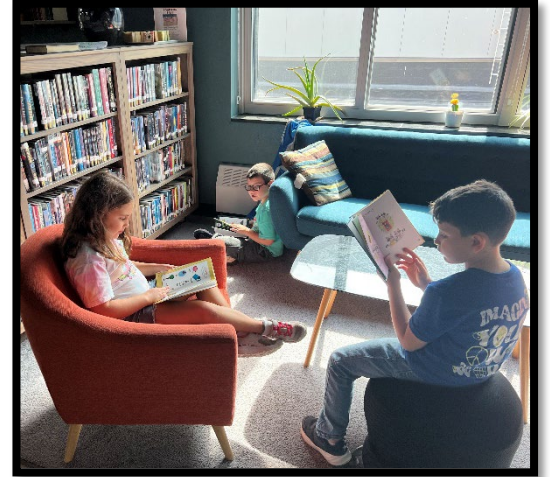
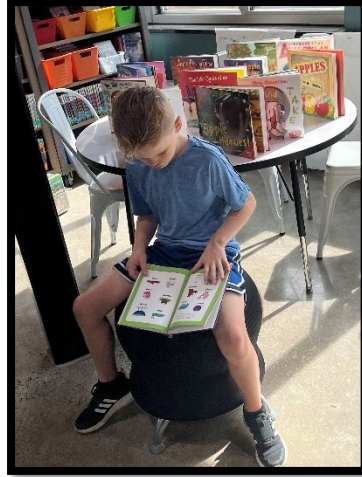


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PreK- 3rd grade ~ Read ten books by May 18th. Keep a running log of the books and authors. Once finished, turn in the list to Mrs. Haddock to be added to the remarkable reading wall. Each additional ten will add more bling and prizes.



4th -6th grade ~ Read 5 chapter book by May 18th. Keep a running log of the books and authors. Once finished, turn in the list to Mrs. Haddock to be added to the remarkable reading wall. Each additional ten will add more bling and prizes.



7-12 grade ~ Read 5 chapter books by May 18th. Keep a running log of the books and authors. Turn in logs to Mrs. Haddock for a remarkable reader recognition. Each additional log will add bling and prizes.

This year, we look forward to hosting some fun library nights for families. Our first Literacy night will be November 1st. More information will be available soon. For more information on any of the library happenings, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Haddock at dhaddock@acsghosts.org.

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Fall Activities

October 2023, Page 27

September 26th was Johnny Appleseed day. Many students wore red and dressed in an apple theme. Friday, October 20th Mr. Campany made cider with students for national apple day.





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Backpack Program

October 2023, Page 28

History: The Backpack Program was established in January 2008 by Terry Satterly. It was the first such program in Northern New York. The club was started after it became apparent that some of our ACS students were experiencing hunger issues on the weekends. The goal of the Backpack Club is to provide food for those students that might not be getting enough to eat over the weekend. This program continues to be supported through donations from our local community, including but not limited to: local businesses, churches, community residents, ACS staff, students, and their families. Over the years the program has been run by the faculty and students.

Why & How it Works: We understand that current times are financially stressful for many families. The Backpack Program provides children in our district with nutritious food each weekend and on school vacations to help families make their food stretch farther during the month. Every week, "backpacks" are filled with nutritious non-perishable foods that the participating students take home to their families. All items are sent home in a durable bag, rather than the traditional backpacks. These bags do not need to be returned!

Donations: The Backpack Program is always accepting donations! We will gladly accept any cash, check (made out to ACS Backpack Program), or food donations. Donations can be dropped off to Mrs. Gorman in the Attendance Office. The program always accepts any non-perishable, unexpired foods.

Enrollment & Eligibility: Enrollment is open throughout the entire school year. The Backpack Program is a CONFIDENTIAL program.

If you have any questions about the program or wish to enroll, please contact Lucy Gionet or Ron Hazelton at Alexandria Central School (315) 482-9971. We may also be reached at the following Email: lgionet@acsghosts.org or rhazelton@acsghosts.org



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Music Department News

October 2023, Page 29

The Vocal Music Department is on a roll at ACS this fall! Select Choir is raising funds to travel to NYC in January to represent our school at the Barbershop Harmony Society Midwinter Youth Festival! They held a car wash and bake sale in September, they're providing monthly movie nights for students in grades 3 and up, and as this article is being written, they are preparing for their Fall Talent Show & Silent Auction on Oct. 27th! If you missed it, don't worry! They'll do one in the spring, too! On October 14th, Select Choir also sang on "Sing Fling," hosted by Northern Blend Chorus, Mrs. Taylor's barbershop chorus based in Watertown! They have been so lucky to have donations and sponsorships coming in to help support their endeavors, and they send thanks to ALL who have done so! Coming up in November is Movie Night 3 (Mary Poppins!) on Nov. 16, followed by their Fundraiser Concert on Nov 17, featuring members of Select, alumni (many of which are siblings that will be singing with little brothers and/or sisters!) as well as some guest barbershop groups from the local area!



December brings us CONCERT season! You can mark your calendar for Dec 12th for grades 1-4 "December Around the World," and grades 5/6 chorus "December Nights, December Lights," and Dec 14 for grades 7-12 Concert Choir & Select Choir! More details are forthcoming!

Junior High music students in grade 8 have been learning about some of the elements of music - dynamics, structure/form, melody, major vs minor modes, as well as music in film and how to create their own leitmotif (think opening notes of Jaws or the haunting melody that pairs with Darth Vader in Star Wars!) Listening to and analyzing music, and learning the vocabulary to accompany that has been fun and interesting!

Our musical this spring will be Mary Poppins, and auditions will be in December. Dates TBA. They will be open to students in grades 4-12. We are looking for a big cast! The show, which will be live March 7-8-9, is full of amazing singing, dancing, and even a little flying!! We can't wait!

Hope everyone is having an amazing fall and as always, please reach out if ever you have any questions about the music department!

Katie Taylor
PK-12 Vocal Music

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Fort Drum Career Day

October 2023, Page 30

On October 12th students participated in Fort Drum Career Day. The Career Day event introduced students to Fort Drum, and the many career opportunities that are available (both civilian and military), and it involved live training demonstrations, static equipment displays, facility tours, and interactions with the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum soldiers and leaders from aviation, military police, maintenance, transportation, culinary, engineering, communications, and combat arms related specialties. It was a fun and exciting day for students.



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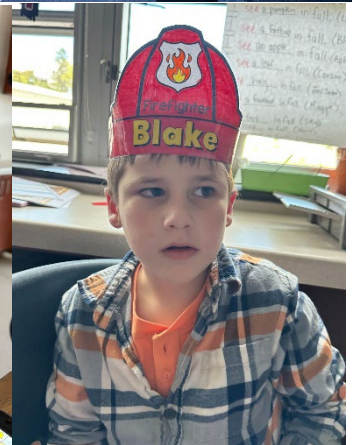
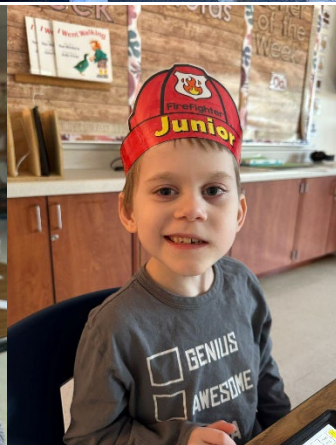


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ACS Elementary Fire Prevention Day

October 2023, Page 31





ACS Elementary Fire Prevention Day

October 2023, Page 32





ACS Elementary Fire Prevention Day



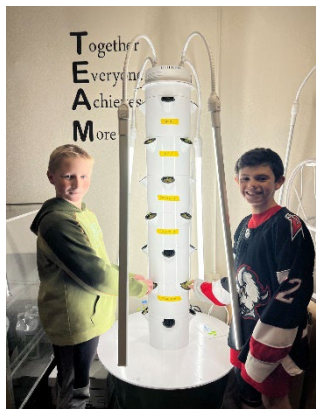


Green Ghost Machine

Last school year, Alexandria Central purchased twelve grow towers with a mission and vision to grow vegetables not only organically, but locally as well. After great success in our first year with the Green Ghost Machine, we are excited to continue using them this year, while expanding their potential and capitalizing on its benefits. Similar to the concept of "farm to table", these machines allow us to grow vegetables from "classroom to table" or "classroom to community".

Bronx educator and Green Machine founder, Stephen Ritz, has developed an incredibly successful indoor gardening curriculum that allows children to grow vegetables in the classroom, learn about healthy foods, become more engaged with school, and potentially gives them pathways for future jobs. This curriculum will allow the kids to continue to learn and "grow" as students throughout this school year.

Two towers have been placed in the school cafeteria and will be growing vegetables, herbs, and spices that the head cafeteria staff have hand selected to use as healthy ingredients for our daily school lunches. In addition to the two grow towers in the cafeteria, classroom towers will also be harvesting vegetables that will be utilized in daily lunches, shared with students in their classrooms, and with the school community.





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Speaker Missy West

October 2023, Page 35

On Wednesday, September 28, 2023, speaker Missy West came to deliver two presentations to students and staff. Students in grades 9-12 took part in her, "Crushing Your Inner Critic!" message. ACS athletes then enjoyed an athlete specific group discussion after-school with her. We were joined by LaFargeville CSD varsity athletes and coaches as well!

Missy West is a native of the North Country. A former professional athlete who has been inducted to seven hall of fames including the National High School Hall of Fame.

What a powerful presentation and message for our school communities!



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Physical Education News

October 2023, Page 36

Happy October! It's time for another exciting month of Physical Education! In October, our elementary students will continue to focus on developing their ball skills and locomotor movements. They'll have the opportunity to further enhance their dribbling, passing, and throwing abilities, as well as work on their running, hopping, and skipping techniques. It's going to be a month filled with fun and progress! Let's keep the energy high and make the most out of every PE session. Stay tuned for more updates and let's make October an awesome month in the PE!

Sincerely,
Physical Education Staff





The School Store

October 2023, Page 37

The boys running the school store are very excited with their progress. They have received customers every day since they have been open and have been practicing inventory management, calculating sales, counting money, and learning to maximize profit.



Pictured Left to Right are Noah Stull, Hunter Side, Antonio Lucidi, and Avery Schwandner

The school store is an integral part of Mr. Roslonowski's Business 101 mathematics class and has been student run for three years.





Beaver Camp

October 2023, Page 38

The Freshman class this year took an excursion to Beaver Camp in September for the purpose of developing skills such as teamwork, cooperation, communication, and responsible leadership. Students enjoyed the day bonding as a class and developing relationships with staff members.





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FFA News

October 2023, Page 39

This summer our FFA Chapter has been busy doing a variety of activities.

In June over 20 members attended the 1st annual Cortland County Bull Bash. It was the first time many of our members had ever been to a rodeo before.

Our members have been hitting the Jefferson County and Lewis County fair competitions with some great success!! Top 10 finishes by multiple members (with some family bragging rights on the line), as well as a second place team finish in dairy judging at the Lewis County Fair!



This summer we had several members attend FFA Camp Oswegatchie. Members participated in a variety of activities and made many new friends.



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Our team came in top 5 and Zoe and Hannah were 10th and 5th place individuals in the Nursery/Landscape contest at the New York State Fair.

This year members participated in the Hammond Fair. Members helped teach elementary students about a variety of agricultural topics and then got to try showing a heifer. For many of them, this was their first time.



FFA Members put in a float at the annual Redwood Fireman's Field Days Parade.

Alexandria Central School
34 Bolton Avenue
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
Phone: 315-482-9971
Fax: 315-482-9973



Please visit us online at
www.alexandriacentral.org and
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National Junior Honor Society 2023-2024

The Sage Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society at Alexandria Central School inducted the newest 8th and 9th grade members on Monday, March 20th, 2023 at 6pm in the ACS Auditorium. Callie Dishon, freshman member of the NJHS, emceed this honorary evening. The 2023 induction ceremony was held on Wednesday, October 25th at 6pm with a brief reception that followed.

8th Graders:

- Jasper Brennan
- Charles Colello
- Cameron Dishon
- Garrin Ferency
- Avery Hazelton
- Rayne McAloon
- Allison McCormick
- Asa Reed
- Bradly Robbins
- Grady Symenow
- Autumn Trickey
- Kendall Walton
- David Williams



9th Graders:

- Michaela Adsit
- Kamryn Beers
- Madison Bradley
- Eva Croll
- Kaitlyn White
- Kathryn Papin
- Jerica Parrow
- Baron Ryder
- Ty Stiefel
- Micah Weldon





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Honor Society Updates

October 2023, Page 42

National Honor Society

During the 2022-2023 school year, the Alexandria Central Bayou Chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed new members:

Rylynn Bain	Tarryn Pitts
Brayton Bradley	Evan Sanford
Paityn Bridenbaker	Mason Savage
River Costello	Kalman Trickey
Mia Davis	Cecil Velez
Sincerity Diange	Faith Watson
Hailey Fadden	

Current members of the National Honor Society were celebrated for their continued commitment to their academic and civic duties within their communities.

We look forward to celebrating our seniors this year!

Class of 2024:

Olivia Adsit	Molly Edgar
Brady Carpenter	Elijah McIlrath
Erik Croll	Wade Stone
Ciara Dawley	

Congratulations to our Class of 2023 National Honor Society students as they continue on their journey:

Kayden Anderson	Megan Monica
Breanna Booth	Felicity Roberts
Ethan Brennan	Emma Stine
Angelina Ciarfella	Kierstyn Travers
Kayla Felder	Cassandra Van Brocklin
Atlas Hyde	Bridget Watson
Colin Hynes	Gabrielle Williams

Mr. Fountain, secondary principal, Mrs. Ascough, National Honor Society Advisor, along with the entire Alexandria Central School District look forward to watching these students continue to serve as young leaders in the school and community.

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Adventure Club

October 2023, Page 43

The Adventure Club is for anyone who wants to spend time outdoors, gain self-confidence, increase self-reliance, and meet other people who also enjoy nature. Students are learning low impact ways to enjoy the outdoors responsibly by following *Leave No Trace* ethics. And most importantly developing leadership and teamwork skills

There are several planned outings throughout the year. So far students have visited Otter Creek Preserve and the MacSherry Trail at Crooked Creek Preserve. Students will also visit: Sissy Danforth Rivergate Trail, Redwood Hill Preserve, The Wild Center, Wellesley Island State Park, Whetstone Gulf State Park, Azure Mountain Fire Tower, Debar Mountain Wild Forest



International Club

The ACS International Club is excited to announce our 2022-2023 club officers. President: Wade Stone, Vice President: Ciara Dawley, Secretary: Elijah McIlrath, Treasurer: Olivia Adsit

Our first meeting kicked off the start of the school year on Tuesday, September 26. This meeting helped us begin our cookie dough fundraiser and plan new and exciting events for this school year. We are excited to explore the world right from our school!

We look forward to bringing back the popular cheese curd fundraiser this winter just in time for the Super Bowl. Both fundraisers help support the events the club does each year.

Any students in grades 7-12 interested in joining us can see Mrs. Ascough for more information.

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FFA National Finalists

October 2023, Page 44

Callie Dishon and William Weldon are national finalists in the Agriscience Fair at the 2023 National FFA Convention. They presented a research project on "The Effects Different Aggregates have on the Tensile Strength of Concrete" and won first place at the New York State FFA Convention in May. They were sent onto the National Agriscience Fair and chosen as National Finalists Callie and William completed an interview about their project in front of a panel of experts. They await their placing at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis at the end of October. Congratulations Callie and William!! Your chapter and school are very proud of your achievements!



Food & Culture

Food and Culture students made Chimichangas, freshly squeezed lime and watermelon juices, and buñuelos (Mexican donuts) as they learn about Latin American foods and contributions to the United States during Hispanic heritage month.





Pinwheels for Peace

Imagine... "Whirled Peace"

September 21, 2023

In today's world, peace needs to become more than just a word. On September 21, 2023, Alexandria Central art students will took part in an International art and literacy project, Pinwheels for Peace by "planting" pinwheels as message of peace in front of the school building.

Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started in 2005 by two Art teachers, Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan, of Coconut Creek, Florida, as a way for students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. In the first year, groups in over 1,325 locations throughout the world were spinning pinwheels on September 21st - there were approximately 500,000 pinwheels spinning throughout the world. At last count, in 2019, over 4.5 million pinwheels were spinning in over 3,500 locations



This project is non-political – peace doesn't necessarily have to be associated with the conflict of war, it can be related to violence/intolerance in our daily lives, to peace of mind. To each of us, peace can take on a different meaning, but, in the end, it all comes down to a simple definition: "a state of calm and serenity, with no anxiety, the absence of violence, freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people."

On the morning of September 21, 2023 ACS art students placed pinwheels along the front sidewalk as our own Pinwheels for Peace installation.





Pre-K News

October 2023, Page 46

In Pre K, We love apples! They are crunchy, juicy, and sweet. We learned that apples come in different colors, shapes, and sizes. We also learned that apples have many health benefits, such as vitamin C, fiber, and antioxidants.

This week we decided to make our own applesauce. First, we washed our hands, then, we washed the apples and used a special tool called an apple corer to remove the seeds and the stem. We put the apple pieces in a big pot with some water and cinnamon. We cooked them in a crockpot until they were soft and mushy.

Each student tried our homemade applesauce at the end of the day, and it was a hit!

Mr. Hudon teaches the students how to core and peel the skin off the apples to prepare for applesauce.

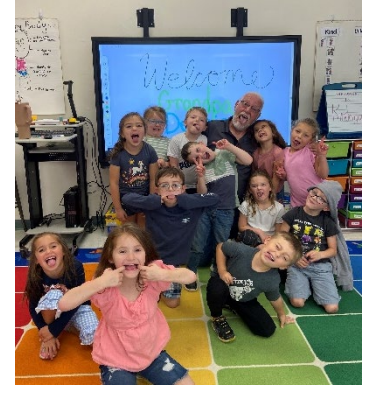




Kindergarten News

October 2023, Page 47

Kindergarten has been learning and growing by leaps and bounds since September. We have been working hard on our numbers and letters and getting creative too! We can't wait for the rest of the year with these cuties!





Fun times in 1st Grade!!





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2nd Grade News

October 2023, Page 49

Second grade is off to an excellent start! We have been working hard on adding and subtracting within 100 and measuring with rulers and meter sticks. In ELA we have read our first chapter book, *The Cat Bandit*, read several Fairy Tales and Tall Tales, and learned all about Ancient Asia. Second grade parents please be on the lookout as the year progresses. We will be honoring a student of the month each month. We will also be sending exciting Good News Postcards to celebrate our students and their accomplishments as the year progresses. We are looking forward to a fun and knowledgeable school year.



Mrs. Putnam's Second Grade Class

Mrs. Thomas' Second Grade Class

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3rd Grade News

October 2023, Page 50

The students in Mrs. Heath's and Mrs. Sinkbeil's class have enjoyed the start of their third grade year. The warm fall days allowed for extra time on the playground filled with sunshine and friends.



This year, both classes have high school helpers that come into the classroom each day. Jasmine Langridge joins Mrs. Sinkbeil's class and Ella Graveline joins Mrs. Heath's class. The third grade students look forward to their high school friends coming in to work with them and participate in our conversations.



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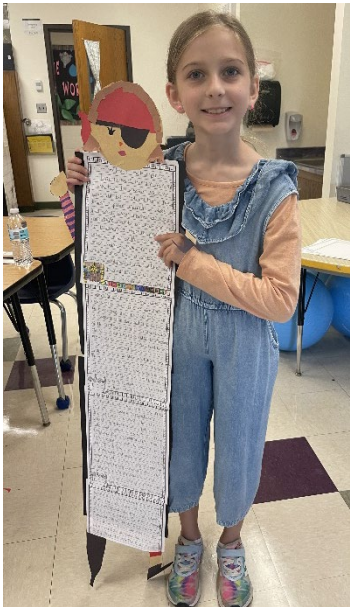


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A PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME IN 4TH GRADE!

4th grade has been working on the literary unit "Treasure Island" during which students read the story and then write a fictional narrative on "If I met a pirate..."



"I am not afraid of storms as I am learning how to sail my ship."





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Fun in 5th Grade

October 2023, Page 52

It's hard to believe, but our first five weeks are complete. We have enjoyed getting to know our students and are so excited for the rest of this school year. We will be doing several engaging activities this year that will make learning fun. Some of these activities in ELA are an Ancient Civilizations codex project, A Christmas Carol unit to get us into the holiday spirit, and experiencing some Renaissance art techniques. We will also read a Shakespeare play in the spring and have the opportunity to create costumes and act out the scenes together. In social studies, we will be learning about Native Americans and the different indigenous tribes, what Colonial life was like, and finishing with the American Revolution and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In math, we will be doing several hands-on projects where we will be able to use the many math skills we have learned. We hope students are as excited about our year in 5th grade as we are!



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Athletic Updates

October 2023, Page 53

This year there are plenty of exciting things happening for ACS athletics! First off, there are two new Athletic Coordinators: Miles Kearns and Ron Hazelton. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. We are both ACS alumni and teachers and coaches at ACS. Ron is part of the science department and Miles the physical education department. We would also like to thank Diane Bush and Teri Lowe for all their hard work and dedication they have put into the ACS athletic department over the years. We have big hopes and ideas for the athletic department and are striving to get our athletics back to the top. The biggest news this year is the full renovation of our gymnasium! We are entering the final steps, which means our school and ACS athletics will have one of, if not, the best facility in the area. The gymnasium will include a walking track which will be open each day after school to the public. The fitness center is also open to the public after school!

More exciting news that coincides with the gym is our varsity basketball teams will have new uniforms this season. Our administration and custodial staff has put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to make ACS facilities some of the best in the North Country. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening for the gymnasium the night of our first home basketball games. Other exciting news regarding athletics is the addition of two new scoreboards on our fields outside. One scoreboard will go on the varsity soccer and softball field, and another will be on the soccer and baseball field. As the fall sports season comes to the end, we are excited to welcome the success of our winter and spring teams. Congratulations to all of our fall athletes. Any person interested in coaching ACS athletics please reach out to rhazelton@acsghosts.org or mkearns@acsghosts.org for more details.



As the fall sports season comes to the end, we are excited to welcome the success of our winter and spring teams. Congratulations to all of our fall athletes. Any person interested in coaching ACS athletics please reach out to rhazelton@acsghosts.org or mkearns@acsghosts.org for more details.

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**ACS
GYMNASIUM
DEDICATION
AND
GRAND
OPENING**

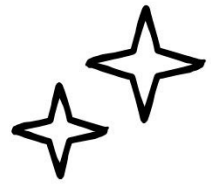
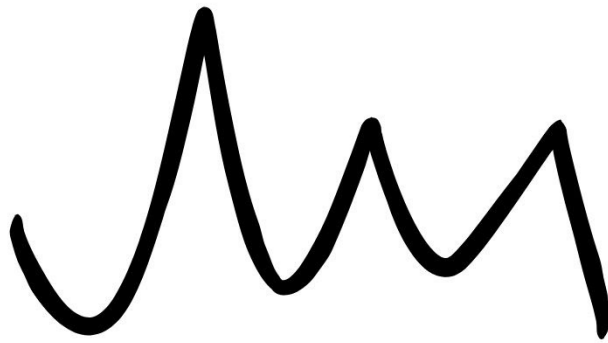
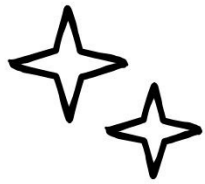
DEC. 8TH & 9TH

**FRIDAY 5:30PM RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
AND GYM DEDICATION FOR**

MERRILL "BUD" BULGER

VARSITY BASKETBALL GAMES TO FOLLOW

**SATURDAY 10:00AM JV BOYS & GIRLS
BASKETBALL GAMES FOLLOWED BY ALUMNI
GAME AND FAMILY FUN DAY**



ATTENTION



Winter sports
sign-ups are open
on FamilyID!

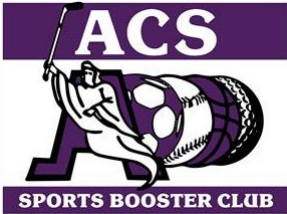


Please complete
all the necessary
forms. All forms
need to be
completed before
the first practice!

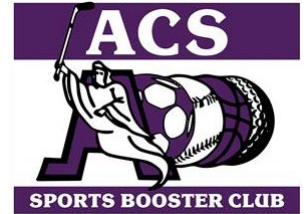


Thank you! -Mr. Kearns and Mr. Hazelton





ACS Sports Booster Club



Welcome back to the new school year from your ACS Sports Booster Club!

The Booster Club's mission is to unite the local community in supporting the Alexandria Central School athletics department, while recognizing the importance that athletics play in student development and morale.

What we do:

This past year, we purchased a portable skate sharpener for the hockey teams, Coaches vs Cancer basketball jerseys, senior banners, various team dinners, t-shirts for JV/V players for each team, basketball tickets to a SU Women's game, plaques for the Varsity Softball team, Championship banner for golf, fencing for the soccer field, and offered spaghetti dinners for athletes. This year we are hoping to purchase home run fencing for the baseball field, scorekeeper table for the basketball court, scorekeeper tent for the soccer field, and purple and black striped soccer nets.

How do we do this?

We rely on fundraisers, donations, event admissions and concessions, and volunteers to help pull all this together! This past year, our major fundraising came through the TI Half Marathon, can drives, an ACS spirit wear clothing sale, and a Riley's lunch/dinner fundraiser. All proceeds from our events and fundraisers are put right back into our athletic department.

How can you HELP?

The Boosters' community is at its best when we have volunteers to help run the many activities throughout the school year. Check out our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ACSSportsBooster/>) for volunteer opportunities or email acssportsboosterclub@gmail.com if you are interested in helping us out. Students and/or parents are welcome to volunteer. Student volunteer hours will go towards their community service graduation requirement and our scholarship requirements. If you would like to help by making a tax deductible donation to support the mission of the ACS Sports Booster Club, please fill out and return the form below along with your donation.

Check us out!

We have monthly meetings throughout the school year that members of the community are welcome to attend. Please check our Facebook page for announcements of these meetings or contact us by email if you would prefer to receive an email notification of the meetings.

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation to support the mission of the ACS Sports Booster Club

\$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____

Method of payment: _____ cash _____ check _____ Venmo (@ACSSportsBoosterClub)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Please mail to: ACS Sports Booster Club, PO Box 523, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

**THIS NOVEMBER
BRING YOUR RETURNABLE BOTTLES & CANS TO
PHINN'S ABAY REDEMPTION
45447 RT-12, ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY**

**BOTTLE
DRIVE**
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
BUD BULGER MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP



2024 YEARBOOK

ON SALE NOW @
ybpay.lifetouch.com



NOW-DEC 31 \$35
JAN 1-FEB29 \$40
MAR 1-APR 14 \$45
AFTER APR 15
FULL PRICE \$46
UNTIL SOLD OUT

Parents and Businesses, please e-mail
lballantyne@acsghosts.org for more
information on how to place ads.



UPK-12th students and their Veteran are invited

Alexandria Central School



VETERANS DAY

CELEBRATION

Please join us in commemorating your
Veteran and their service to our country.



To ensure safety and an efficient check-in process, all families will need to RSVP by Friday for their Veteran via ParentSquare.

If you are experiencing difficulty RSVPing via ParentSquare, please contact your child's respective office @ 315-482-9971

Please enter through the Main Entrance

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

8:30 AM TO 9:00 AM

ONE VETERAN GUEST PER FAMILY, PLEASE

RSVP BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT

**Wednesday,
November 1, 2023**

ACS Library

5:30 pm - 7 pm

Pre-K through 3rd



Come and enjoy the library as well as a story, activity, and craft. Each family will take home a book with an activity. Snacks will be available. Please RSVP via ParentSquare.



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Annual Notifications

October 2023, Page 61

RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records, including:

- (1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records.
- (2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.
- (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.

Exceptions which permit disclosure without consent include directory information; disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests; to another educational institution; for health and safety emergency reasons; to foster care agencies; pursuant to a subpoena or court order; for financial aid purposes; to accrediting organizations; to parents of a dependent student; for audit/evaluation purposes; for conducting studies.

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 School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

- (4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:
Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Dept. of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605
School contact: Brianne Kirchoff, at 34 Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

Student Health Records: For PreK through grade 12 students, health records maintained by the District, including immunization records and school nurse records, generally are considered "education records" subject to FERPA. Since student health and medical information in education records is protected by FERPA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule excludes such information from its coverage.

PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS FOR DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY

The Alexandria Central School District seeks to use current technology, including electronic storage, retrieval, and analysis of information about students' education experience in the district, to enhance the opportunities for learning and to increase the efficiency of our district and school operations.

The Alexandria Central School District seeks to insure that parents have information about how the District stores, retrieves, and uses information about students, and to meet all legal requirements for maintaining the privacy and security of protected student data and protected principal and teacher data, including Section 2-d of the New York State Education Law.

To further these goals, the Alexandria Central School District has posted this Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security.

- (1) A student's personally identifiable information cannot be sold or released for any commercial purposes.
- (2) Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's education record. The procedures for exercising this right can be found in Board Policy 7240 (Student Records: Access and Challenge). You may access these policies from the District's website.
- (3) State and federal laws protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information, and safeguards associated with industry standards and best practices, including but not limited to, encryption, firewalls, and password protection, must be in place when data is stored or transferred.
- (4) A complete list of all student data elements collected by the State is available at <http://www.pl2.nysed.gov/irs/sirs/documentation/NYSEDstudentData.x1sx> and a copy may be obtained by writing to the Office of Information & Reporting Services, New York State Education Department, Room 863 EBA, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234.
- (5) Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed in writing to the Chief Privacy Officer, New York State Education Department, Room 863 EBA, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234.



Alexandria Central School

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Annual Notifications

October 2023, Page 62

Supplemental Information About Third Party Contracts: In order to meet 21st century expectations for effective education and efficient operation, the District utilizes several products and services that involve third party contractors receiving access to student data, or principal or teacher data, protected by Section 2-d of the Education Law. The District recognizes that students, parents, and the school community have a legitimate interest in understanding which of the District's vendors receive that data, for what purpose, and under what conditions. The District has undertaken the task of compiling that information, and of insuring that each new contract adequately describes

- (1) the exclusive purposes for which the data will be used,
- (2) how the contractor will ensure that any subcontractors it uses will abide by data protection and security requirements,
- (3) when the contract expires and what happens to the data at that time,
- (4) if and how an affected party can challenge the accuracy of the data is collected,
- (5) where the data will be stored, and
- (6) the security protections taken to ensure the data will be protected, including whether the data will be encrypted.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Notice for Directory Information: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Alexandria Central School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Alexandria Central School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Alexandria Central School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- (1) The annual yearbook
- (2) Honor roll or other recognition lists
- (3) Graduation programs
- (4) A playbill from a drama production
- (5) Sports activity sheets

Directory information, which is information that is generally not Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. Alexandria Central School District has designated the following information as directory information: Student's name; Address; Telephone listing; Electronic mail address; Photograph; Date / place of birth; Major field of study; Dates of attendance; Grade level; Participation in officially recognized activities and sports; Weight and height of members of sports teams; The most recent educational agency or institution attended.

If you do not want Alexandria Central School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, notice of refusal must be sent in writing to Brianne Kirchoff, at 34 Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607 by September 15.

DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT INFORMATION TO MILITARY RECRUITERS AND/OR COLLEGES

In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories—names, addresses and telephone listings—unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

Parents, or students who are at least 18 years old, wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning must notify the High School Principal by September 30 with a letter requesting that the student's name, address, and telephone number are not released to military recruiters or institutions of higher learning, and must be signed and dated by the parent or the student if 18 years or older.

RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of



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Annual Notifications

October 2023, Page 63

Education:

- (1) Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- (2) Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
- (3) Sex behavior or attitudes;
- (4) Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- (5) Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- (6) Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
- (7) Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
- (8) Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

- (1) Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
- (2) Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
- (3) Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

- (1) Protected information surveys of students;
 - (2) Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 - (3) Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
- (4) These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.
- (5) Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:
- (6) Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
 - (7) Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
 - (8) Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Dept of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5901.

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (DASA)

The District seeks to create an environment free of harassment, bullying, and discrimination; to foster civility in its schools; and to prevent conduct that is inconsistent with its educational mission. The District, therefore, prohibits all forms of harassment and bullying of students by employees or other students on school property and at school functions. In addition, other acts of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination that occur off school property may be subject to discipline or other corrective action, where such acts create or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation, or abuse might reach school property.

To report any incident of bullying on school property (including athletic fields, playgrounds, and parking lots), as well as at school-sponsored events or activities, contact Co DASA Coordinators: Ms. Kathryn Durand or Ms. Michelle Mourino. Administrators must report incidents of bullying or bias-based harassment to the NYS Department of Education. Additional information including reporting forms and the full Board policy can be found on the Alexandria Central School District website's homepage.

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-HARASSMENT

The Board of Education is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment. Accordingly, the Board prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability or other legally protected category. Such actions and occurrences are prohibited regardless of whether they take place on School District premises or at school-sponsored events, programs, or activities held at other locations.

The Alexandria Central School District provides equal opportunity for students and does not discriminate against any student enrolled in (or any candidate for admission to) its programs and activities on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. Further, the District does not discriminate on the basis of weight, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, sexual orientation, gender, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal non-discrimination laws, and provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.



Alexandria Central School

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Annual Notifications

October 2023, Page 64

The School District will act to promptly, thoroughly, and equitably investigate all complaints of discrimination and will promptly take appropriate action to protect individuals from further discrimination.

A formal complaint may be filed in writing with the District's Civil Rights Compliance Officer(s): Michelle Mourino at Alexandria Central School District, Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607, 315-482-9971. mmourino@acsghosts.org

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Students in temporary housing (i.e., homeless children and youth) will have access to the same free and appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as other students, as well as access to educational and other services necessary to be successful in school.

The McKinney-Vento Liaison for Students in Temporary Housing: The District has designated Michelle Mourino as the District liaison for students in temporary housing (otherwise referred to as the McKinney-Vento liaison). The District's McKinney-Vento liaison serves as one of the primary contacts between families experiencing homelessness and school staff, district personnel, shelter workers, and other service providers. The McKinney-Vento liaison coordinates services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed. For any questions please contact Michelle Mourino at Alexandria Central School District, Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607, 315-482-9971. mmourino@acsghosts.org

Access to Free Meals: The District will provide free meals to all children identified as homeless. They do not have to complete a free or reduced-price meal application. When the McKinney-Vento liaison or a shelter director provides a child's name to the District's school food service office, free school meals will commence immediately.

Comparable Services: The District will provide services to students in temporary housing comparable to those offered to other students in the District, including: transportation services; educational services for which the child or youth meets the relevant criteria, such as services provided under Title I or similar State or local programs; educational programs for students with disabilities; educational programs for English learners; programs in career and technical education; programs for gifted and talented students; and school nutrition programs.

Student Privacy: Information about a student in temporary housing's living situation will be treated as a student education record and will not be deemed to be directory information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). A parent or guardian or unaccompanied youth may consent to the release of a student's address information in the same way they would for other student education records under FERPA.

WELLNESS & NUTRITION

The Alexandria Central School District is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects children's health, well-being, and the ability to learn by fostering healthy eating and physical activity before, during, and after the school day.

The District has established a wellness & nutrition committee to establish goals for, and oversee the development of, the District's local wellness policy.

PESTICIDE USE

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, 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 Alexandria 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 pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- a school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72 hours following an application;
- 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;
- 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, wasp, and hornets.



Alexandria Central School

Home of the Purple Ghosts



Annual Notifications

October 2023, Page 65

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on a the 48-hour prior notification list.

To be placed on a list to receive 48-hour prior notice of pesticide application, please send notice to Darin Trickey, Head Custodian, Alexandria Central pesticide representative, at 34 Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. Include your name and student’s name, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

In accordance with the Federal EPA Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), all public and private K-12 schools in the United States are required to inspect their facilities for asbestos. An additional requirement of the regulations is that parents and staff are to be informed that the inspection was done.

A copy of the AHERA management plan is in the main office and available for your inspection. For additional information or questions, contact Darin Trickey, Head Custodian, Alexandria Central School District, 34 Bolton Avenue, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607.

STUDENT WORKING PAPERS

All minors (under the age of 18) require employment certificates. School districts in New York State are responsible for issuing employment certificates to qualified applicants. Minors in the Alexandria Central School District can contact Meredith Graveline (mgraveline@acsghosts.org), the designated certifying official at Alexandria Central School, to apply for their working card by calling 315-482-9971 or by email.

General Information: An employment Certificate may be used for an unlimited number of successive job placements in lawful employment permitted by the particular type of certificate.

A new Certificate of Physical Fitness is required when applying for a different type of employment certificate, if more than 12 months have elapsed since the previous physical for employment.

An employer shall retain the certificate on file for the duration of the minor’s employment. Upon termination of employment, or expiration of the employment certificate’s period of validity, the certificate shall be returned to the minor. A certificate may be revoked by the school district authorities for cause.

Prohibited Employment: Minors 14 and 15 years may not be employed in a factory (except in delivery and clerical employment in an enclosed office thereof), or in certain hazardous occupations such as: construction work; helper on a motor vehicle; operation of washing, grinding, cutting, slicing, pressing or mixing machinery in any establishment; painting or exterior cleaning in connection with the maintenance of a building or structure; and others listed in Section 133 of the New York State Labor Law.

Minors 16 and 17 years of age may not be employed in certain hazardous occupations such as: construction worker; helper on a motor vehicle, the operation of various kinds of power-driven machinery; and others listed in Section 133 of the New York State Labor Law. In order to work past 10 p.m. on nights before a school day, both school and parental consent will be required. For work past 10 p.m. on a night before a non-school day, only parental consent will be required.

Generally, employment is illegal for minors under the age of 14 years. No minor under 14 years of age may be employed in any capacity except:

Newspaper Carrier, provided the applicant is at least 11 years old; as a farm worker employed, however only in the hand-harvest of berries, fruit and vegetables, provided the applicant is at least 12 years old; as a worker on the minor’s home farm or doing other outdoor work not connected with a business for his or her parents or guardians.

	Maximum Daily Hours	Maximum Weekly Hours	Permitted Hours when not required to attend school	Maximum Days per Week
Minors 14-15 years of age	3 hrs – school day 8 hrs – other days	18	7 a.m. – 7 p.m.	6
Minors 16-17 years of age	4 hrs – school day 8 hrs – day before non-school day, Sundays, and holidays	28 –When school is in session 48 – When school is not in session	6 a.m. – 10 p.m. When school is in session 6 a.m. –Midnight when school is not in session	6



VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

The Board welcomes parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms; however, certain limits must be set for such visits:

- (1) Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
- (2) All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. All visitations must have a purpose. All visitors are required to sign the visitor's register,
- (3) Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings are not required to register.
- (4) Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
- (5) Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
- (6) All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.

- (1) Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- (2) Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
- (3) Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
- (4) Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- (5) Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- (6) Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
- (7) Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
- (8) Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
- (9) Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
- (10) Loiter on or about school property.
- (11) Gamble on school property or at school functions.
- (12) Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- (13) Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
- (14) Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

B. Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- (1) Visitors. Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection.
- (2) Students. They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.

ALEXANDRIA CENTRAL SCHOOL 2023-2024

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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		

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						7
1	2	3	4	5	6	8
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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		

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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						

September (19)	
4	Labor Day
5	Superintendent's Conference Day Open House
6	Superintendent's Conference Day
7	Opening Day of Classes
October (21)	
6	End of 5 Weeks
9	Columbus Day
November (18)	
9	End of 10 Weeks
10	Veterans Day
20-21	Superintendent's Conference Days Parent / Teacher Conferences
22-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December (15)	
15	End of 15 Weeks
22	Christmas Holiday
25-29	Christmas Holiday
January (21)	
1	New Year's Holiday
15	Martin Luther King Day
23-26	Regents Exams
26	End of 20 weeks
February (16)	
19	President's Day
20-23	Winter Recess
March (20)	
8	End of 25 Weeks
29	Good Friday
April (17)	
12	End of 30 Weeks
22-26	Spring Recess
May (22)	
24	End of 35 Weeks
27	Memorial Day
June (17)	
4	Regents Days
14-18	Regents Days
19	Juneteenth Holiday
26	Regents Rating Day
26	Last Day of School
26	End of 40 Weeks
Total number of days 186	

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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			

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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		

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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						

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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				

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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	

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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						

NOTE: Occasional 1/2 days for students may be added to meet emerging staff PD demands. If additional days must be used for emergency closings and remote days cannot be used, make up days will be used from Good Friday, March 29 and the Spring Recess April 22-26. In the event of long term emergency closings, the Board of Education reserves which makeup days will be used from any scheduled recess periods and/or holidays, consistent with any language that may exist in district labor agreements.

Alexandria Central School
34 Bolton Ave.
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

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Alexandria Central School
Home of the Purple Ghosts



Alma Mater

*Let's join in song to the school that we love
She stands in her glory all others above
She hopes for the victory
With courage she'll fight
Let's hold a torch for the Purple and White*

Alexandria Central School
34 Bolton Avenue
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
Phone: 315-482-9971
Fax: 315-482-9973



Please visit us online at
www.alexandriacentral.org and
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