



# AKRON



**Central School District**

**Back to School Issue 2024-25**

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## A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Akron Central School Community,

As a mother of four who vividly recalls the mix of emotions that came with sending my own children off to school, I'm confident this annual Back to School newsletter finds you enjoying the final days of summer and eagerly anticipating the beginning of a new academic year. As Superintendent of the Akron Central School District, I am thrilled to welcome each student, parent, teacher, staff member, and community member to what promises to be a successful and rewarding year ahead.

I found myself reminiscing and looking at photos of my children during their elementary, middle, and high school years. The images remind me of the profound responsibility we all share in supporting the dreams and aspirations of our students. One photo in particular, of my kids on their first day of school nearly 15 years ago, still brings a lump to my throat and a flood of memories. It's an important reminder of how quickly time passes and how precious each day truly is. With approximately 180 instructional days on our district calendar, each day is an opportunity to inspire, nurture, and celebrate the unique talents of every student.



*Andrea S. Kersten  
Superintendent*



*Kersten Kids, 2009*

When parents send their children to school, they entrust us with their entire world. That trust is the foundation of our theme for this year, **#OneAkron OneFamily**, which embodies our collective commitment to caring for one another and working together to create an environment where everyone feels valued and supported - like family. This year, we will reach out to our Akron Family for feedback and collaboration as we update our Strategic Plan. Our current plan enters its final year, creating a pivotal moment to ensure our future direction aligns with the evolving needs and values of our students, and the broader community. Our Strategic Plan is not a static document; it's a living, advancing roadmap to guide our efforts in providing the best possible educational experience for our students.

We are also excited to announce that work on Phase 1 of our Capital Improvement Project is on the horizon. We anticipate the State Education Department's approval of our plans any day now, with the project set to go out for bid this fall. Construction will

*(continued on page 2)*

**Welcome Back! School Resumes at ACS on Thursday, September 5th**

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

# #OneAKRON

## Superintendent Message

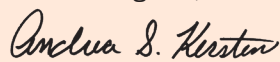
(continued from page 1)

begin in non-instructional areas shortly after bids are awarded. More details about the project are below and regular updates on the project's progress are available on our website.

Let us embrace the opportunity to create wonderful new memories together. Just as a family grows closer through shared experiences, our Akron Schools community will continue to thrive through our cooperative efforts. This year is filled with promise, and I look forward to all that we can achieve together.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust. Please feel free to contact me at (716)542-5006 or [akersten@akronk12.org](mailto:akersten@akronk12.org).

Warmest regards,



Andrea S. Kersten, Superintendent

## Meet our Board of Education



Erik Polkowski  
President



Phillip Kenline  
Vice President



Ryan Allen  
Trustee



Heather Cayea  
Trustee



Joseph Cena  
Trustee



Stephanie Coffta  
Trustee



Kristy Pingitore  
Trustee

The Akron Board of Education held their annual re-organizational meeting on July 9, 2024. Mr. Erik Polkowski was re-elected as President and Mr. Phillip Kenline was re-elected as Vice President. District Clerk Roxanne Rebmann administered the oath of office. Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Joseph Cena, Mrs. Heather Cayea, Mrs. Stephanie Coffta, and Mrs. Kristy Pingitore, will continue to serve as trustees.

Members of the Board of Education are unpaid public officials elected at large by the voters of our District to three-year terms. They face complex and demanding challenges as they advocate for the education of our children, the well-being of our staff, and the preservation of school facilities for this community. Their service is highly valued and their dedication strongly commended.

More information about the Board of Education, meeting dates, agendas or minutes, and policy, as well as a link to recordings of meetings on YouTube, are found at [www.akronschools.org/BOE](http://www.akronschools.org/BOE).



## Capital Improvement Project Update

We are excited to share with our students, faculty, and community that Phase I of our 2-part Capital Improvement Project is in the final stages of planning and will be bidding this September! Phase I of our Capital Project has transportation facility improvements that include renovations and an administrative area and a bus wash bay addition. Phase I also encompasses significant improvements to our educational building, including but not limited to auditorium enhancements, gymnasium improvements, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing upgrades to the facility, as well as improvements to our main entrance corridors and common areas.

Phase II of our Capital Project is in the final stages of planning and will bid in the February/March 2025 timeframe. Phase II will include a multi-sport athletics complex, alongside necessary roadway improvements and parking enhancements. The multi-sport complex will encompass a turf field equipped to host football, soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey, an 8-lane track and accompanying track & field event areas, as well as grandstands, a press box, and lighting for both the athletics area and common walkway areas.

Based on our current project schedule, construction is slated for completion by Fall of 2026, prior to the 2026-27 school year.

We look forward to providing our District and the Akron community with these exciting new facilities and improved student spaces!

Updates on the Capital Improvement Project progress can be found at [www.akronschools.org/capitalproject](http://www.akronschools.org/capitalproject).



# Welcome New Faculty

Akron Schools is pleased to welcome several new faculty & staff members.



**Sarah Filion**

KDG Special Education  
BS St. Bonaventure University  
M.S. Ed. St. Bonaventure University



**Melanie Orffeo**

Gr. 3-5 Special Education  
BS SUNY Fredonia  
MS Niagara University



**Leanna Parzych**

MS Counselor  
BS Nazareth University  
MS Ed Canisius University



**Rachel Polanski**

HS Math  
BA University of Buffalo  
M. Ed. University of Buffalo



**Julia Salim**

HS AIS  
BA University at Buffalo  
MS University at Buffalo



**Erica Stoeckl**

Universal Pre-Kdg.  
BS SUNY Cortland  
MS Buffalo State University

The District is also hiring a long-term substitute for Grade 4, an elementary teacher aide, a high school study hall monitor, a high school principal clerk typist, a food service helper, an elementary lunch monitor, and a second lifeguard/monitor.

## We Are Hiring!

Akron Schools is always looking to hire for substitute positions including teachers, teacher aides, bus drivers, bus attendants, food service helpers, clerical and maintenance personnel. Positions are ideal for stay-at-home parents, retirees, and anyone who enjoys working with children! Please visit our website at:

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



## New Faces in our Business Office

Several well-deserved retirements in the Business Office have created opportunities for new staff members. We express gratitude to School Business Administrator Cynthia Tretter (20 years), Benefits Clerk Donna Ciurzynski (32 years), and Payroll Clerk Sandra Janson (4 years), for their excellent service and hope they enjoy exciting adventures during retirement! Account Clerk Typist/District Treasurer Susan Brewer (34 years) has also retired from her full-time position but will continue to serve the District in a part-time capacity.

We're pleased to introduce those who will work to "fill the big shoes" of those retiring. Mr. Paul Kowalski, who has been Director of Technology since March of 2022 in addition to Interim Director of Federal Grant Programs/Chief Information Officer for the 2023-24 school year, becomes School Business Administrator. He earned a Master of Science degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Canisius College and then earned an Advanced Certificate in School Business and Human Resource Administration from the University at Buffalo. He has held administrative roles at Cattaraugus-Little Valley and Lockport City School District.

He resides in the District with his wife and three daughters; Hannah in Middle School, and Jenna and Kayla in the Elementary School.

In addition to Mrs. Brewer, Mr. Kowalski will be supported by Ms. Beth Kasprzak as the Payroll Clerk and Mrs. Michelle Rorick, Benefits Clerk.



**Paul Kowalski**  
School Business  
Administrator



**Beth Kasprzak**  
Payroll Clerk



**Michelle Rorick**  
Benefits Clerk

# Administrative Team Strengthened by New Appointees

Superintendent Andrea S. Kersten has enthusiastically made several recommendations for administrative changes here at Akron Schools this past spring and summer. Our Board of Education has affirmed each of these appointments! We are pleased to introduce:



**Mrs. Mary Fial**, who served as Akron High School/Middle School Assistant Principal since 2021, has begun her new role as Director of Special Education. Mrs. Fial's educational and teaching background is in Special Education having taught in an Intensive Therapeutic 6:1:1 classroom for Cattaraugus-Little Valley BOCES and as a self-contained 8:1:1 teacher at Sweet Home Central.

As assistant principal at ACS, she has worked to revise the Code of Conduct; helped to implement character and leadership programs in the Middle School; helped to re-institute the Positive Alternative With Supports (PAWS) program; provided reflective feedback using the Thoughtful Classroom Teacher rubric when evaluating teachers; and was instrumental in piloting the new eSports program for middle and high school students; among many other initiatives.

Mrs. Fial has recently moved to Alden with her husband and two elementary-aged children.



**Mrs. Danielle Hawkins**, our new Director of Curriculum & Instruction, spent nearly eight years with the Newfane Central School District serving as Newfane Elementary School Principal most recently, and as their High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director. She began her career as a high school Business teacher then worked as a Teacher on Special Assignment with the Charter School for Applied Technologies overseeing teacher orientation and mentorship programs, as well as instructional and curricular coaching.

She has experience addressing social, emotional, health and well-being, behavior and discipline concerns with students, as well as working to improve academic outcomes. At Newfane, she led the cultural and curricular shift to the Science of Reading and supported significant curricular adoption of Amplify CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts), both of which are in practice at Akron Schools.

Mrs. Hawkins makes Pendleton home with her husband and two sons, who are elementary students.



**Ms. Renee Reedhardt** is our new High School Assistant Principal. She brings 20 years of experience as a Health and Physical Education teacher at Iroquois Central Schools, where she was also a Summer Academy Principal and most recently, a Teacher on Special Assignment serving as Assistant High School Principal.

Ms. Reedhardt has collaborated with local agencies to promote Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) opportunities within and beyond the school environment. She developed a high school health curriculum that encompassed the state's regulations on Erin's Law, mental health, dating violence, opioid prevention, bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, trauma-informed instruction, and Dignity for All Students Act.

She and her wife and daughters, ages 7 and 3, reside in Elma.



**Mr. John Morello**, our new Middle School Assistant Principal and Director of Interscholastic Athletics & PE, originally hails from Lockport and served our country in the US Army, and was a member of the All-Army Wrestling Team. He taught Physical Education and was a football and wrestling coach with Horry County Schools in South Carolina where he not only developed a charming southern accent but earned many accolades, including Teacher of the Year at his school and Coach of the Year for the state of South Carolina.

For the last ten years, Mr. Morello was Football Life/Character Coach and Campus Director at Coastal Carolina University. His experiences will be valuable to our Middle School and our Athletic Department.

He makes his home in Newfane with his two teenage boys and is happy to live closer to local family members.



**Mr. Mark Alexander**, Akron's Transportation Director since 2018, wears another hat now, taking over the District's Facilities Department. His new title is Chief Operations Officer for the expanded role.

Superintendent Kersten recently described him as "consistently promoting a culture of trust and collaboration with everyone he works with." She is also certain that the combined responsibilities under his leadership will allow for greater efficiency and coordination within the District.

Mr. Alexander was a fifth-grade teacher, elementary principal, and former superintendent at the Oakfield-Alabama Central School. He resides in Oakfield with his wife, Jenna, who is a Middle School Special Education teacher at ACS.



**Mr. Nicholas Hill** will become Director of Technology on October 1st, a position that opened up after Mr. Paul Kowalski became Akron's new School Business Administrator. Mr. Hill will come to ACS with plenty of administrative experience at Lewiston-Porter Schools where he holds a similar position in addition to directing their curriculum and instruction department. It is expected he will easily "hit the ground running" when he arrives at Akron Schools.

Mr. Hill began his career in education as a science teacher at Clarence, North Collins, and Pioneer school districts before beginning his administrative career as Assistant Principal at Lewiston-Porter Middle School. He brings a great deal of experience and a track record of cultivating strong relationships and fostering an environment that is both productive and enjoyable.

He lives in Amherst with his wife and three boys, ages 9, 6 and 2.

Akron Schools is excited to have these top-notch individuals, selected for their stellar backgrounds, bring fresh ideas to the administrative team, our faculty, and staff, so that we can continue to provide high-quality academic and extra-curricular experiences to each student in a safe and welcoming environment.

# Swim Program Returns to ACS

Following a 13-year hiatus, Akron Schools is very pleased to return swimming lessons to the Physical Education program for students in Grades 4 through 8! Akron Schools, with its outstanding natatorium, will offer swimming units approximately 6-8 weeks in duration following the American Red Cross certified swimming guidelines.

The swim units will address water safety and include a pre-assessment for each student. They will learn to enter and exit the pool safely and learn rhythmic breathing, survival floating, flutter kick, front crawl and back crawl, sidestroke, treading water and breaststroke. Of course, they will also learn to play water games and have time for free swim.

The return of the swimming program will ensure students will benefit from a life-long skill and safely enjoy the recreational and fitness benefits of swimming in a region abundant with opportunities for water-related sports and leisure activities!

For questions about the program, please contact Mr. John Morello, Director of Interscholastic Sports & Physical Education, at [jmorello@akronk12.org](mailto:jmorello@akronk12.org) or (716)542-5088.

## Community Eligibility Provision

Akron Schools is pleased to inform parents of the continuation of the meal certification option available to schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for 2024-2025.

All students enrolled at Akron Central Schools are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to the household each day of the 2024-2025 school year. No further action is required of parents. District children will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit an application.

Please Note: Any second meal or ala carte items purchased are not covered by this CEP provision and remain the responsibility of each family.

If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Kathleen Rybarczyk, Cook Manager, at (716)542-5027 or [krybarczyk@akronk12.org](mailto:krybarczyk@akronk12.org).



## Public Flu Shot Clinic

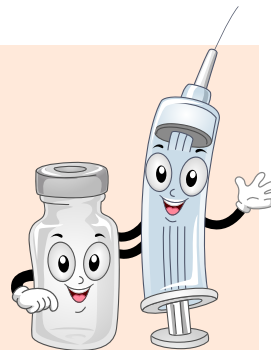
**Wednesday October 23rd**

**3:00 - 6:00 PM**

**GYM 3**

**adjacent to the HS upper parking lot**

Wegmans Pharmacy will administer vaccinations to those 2 years of age or older. Insurance plans accepted include Blue Cross of WNY, Independent Health, Univera, Fidelis, Medicare and most regional and national plans.



*Wegmans*  
pharmacy

### IMPORTANT LINKS:

2024-25 School Safety Plan: [akronschools.org/SAVEManual](https://akronschools.org/SAVEManual)

2022-25 Strategic Plan: [akronschools.org/StrategicPlan](https://akronschools.org/StrategicPlan)

## “Start With Hello Nya:wëh sgë:nö”

“Start With Hello/Nya:wëh sgë:nö” Week is a national call-to-action week dedicated to making new and closer social CONNECTIONS and creating a sense of BELONGING and INCLUSION among youth.



Details on individual building activities for the week of September 16th-20th will be disseminated as the dates approach!

## Complete the Digital Resource Survey

Collecting accurate data regarding digital resource access for our students will greatly help educators to better serve their students and families. In order to accomplish this, the New York State Education Department is asking parents/guardians to complete a Digital Resource Survey (for each student in the family) in grades K-12 for the 2024-2025 school year. This survey will provide information on student access to computing devices and internet access in their places of residence. To assist us in this process, please fill out the survey at [www.akronschools.org/digitalsurvey](https://www.akronschools.org/digitalsurvey).







## Bus Safety Tips & Reminders

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Stand at least 15 feet from the road and wait for the driver to signal to cross.
- Look both ways before stepping on to the road and cross 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Remain seated at all times. Talk quietly and keep your hands to yourself.
- Backpacks should be placed on the floor near student or on lap.
- No eating or drinking on the bus.
- Make sure your child knows and recognizes their bus number.
- Upon return home, look both ways before stepping off the bus.
- Walk 10 steps in front of the bus and wait for the driver to signal to cross.
- If the driver sounds the horn, stop and go back where you came from.
- Go immediately up your driveway; do not stop to get mail or garbage cans.
- Drivers are reminded that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus with its lights flashing whether on or off roadways.

Questions or concerns about bus safety should be directed to Mr. Mark Alexander, Chief Operations Officer, at (716)542-5026.

## Chromebooks - Be sure to charge for the start of school!



Students in grades 6 through 12 should locate their Chromebook and charge the device for the start of school.

If you are missing your charger, replacement chargers can be purchased for \$20 through the Technology Office in room M212. Replacement chargers are billed through MySchoolBucks or payment can be made at the Business Office.

Devices for elementary students will be available in classrooms on the first day of school.

Devices needing repairs should be brought to the Technology Department in room M212. Parents are reminded that charges for repairs are for the cost of parts only, up to \$100; there is no charge for the labor as per the Chromebook Agreement. Chromebooks are an integral part of a student's education at every grade level. Repairs are important to keep devices in working order so that students are prepared each day.

Troubleshooting tips and helpful tutorials are available on the school website at [akronschools.org/techsupport](http://akronschools.org/techsupport) for both students and their parents.

Any questions regarding the Chromebook program may be directed to the Technology Department at (716)542-5045 or by email at [akronitdept@akronk12.org](mailto:akronitdept@akronk12.org).

## Health Office Reminders



- **All students entering Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12** must have the meningococcal vaccine to start school! 12th grade students may require a booster depending on when the child received the initial vaccine.
- New York State mandates physical examinations and BMI (body mass index) for **all new entrants and students entering Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11**. We are also requesting a dental certificate for students in those grade levels as well. The NYS Required Health Examination Form is available at [www.akronschools.org/physical](http://www.akronschools.org/physical)
- Students entering 6th Grade are required to have the Tdap immunization with documentation from their private physician.
- Students entering Kindergarten are required to have two vaccinations for Varicella (chicken pox) and MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella).
- A lead level with documented results is required for all students entering Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten.
- A current sports physical is required for all students in Grades 7-12 participating in interscholastic athletics. Sports physicals are good for one year and must be on file in the Health Office.

Please send all documentation to:

**HEALTH OFFICE: Akron Central Schools**  
**47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001**

# Parent Portal Access

The Parent Portal, a web-based application for parents of students at all grade levels, except Universal Pre-K, allows the parent/guardian to access their child's grades, attendance, class schedule and other information pertaining to academics. Report cards or progress reports are no longer mailed home unless requested through HS Student Support Services, the MS Office or the Elementary Office. Third trimester report cards for Elementary ONLY will be mailed home. Parents are encouraged to access the portal regularly. To recover a lost username or password for the Parent Portal, please contact the Instructional Technology Office at (716)542-5045. A letter will be mailed home as passwords cannot be disclosed over the phone.

## Child Find

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screening and evaluation designed to locate, identify, and refer as early as possible young children with disabilities and their families who are in need of an Early Intervention Program or Pre-school Special Education services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

To receive an Early Intervention Program or Special Education, children must meet eligibility guidelines according to the IDEA. IDEA requires all states to have a "comprehensive Child Find System" to assure that all children who are in need of early intervention or special education services are located, identified, and referred.

If you believe that your child may be a child with a disability or in need of support services, please contact Mrs. Mary Fial, Director of Special Education, at (716)542-5077.

## Sports Registration & Fall Athletic Meeting - September 11th

The Athletic Department uses FamilyID for online interscholastic sports registration. If you have not already done so, please visit [www.akronschoools.org/FamilyID](http://www.akronschoools.org/FamilyID) to register for Fall 2024 sports. Deadline is September 6th for those still planning to play on modified teams! If you have any questions, please call the Athletic Department at (716)542-5088.

Mr. John Morello, our new Athletic Director, will welcome all fall athletes and their parents for a meeting on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 7:00PM, in the Edward Allen Auditorium. Mr. Morello will share what it means to be an Akron Tiger and the expectations of each athlete for a successful season. Breakout sessions for teams with coaches will follow. Go Tigers!



## Parking Restrictions

Visitors to Akron Schools are reminded to adhere to all parking restrictions. Signage and road paint throughout the campus indicate "NO PARKING - FIRE LANE" areas. The Akron Police Department will enforce the parking rules and ticket violators who have illegally parked their cars.

Thank you for keeping our campus safe by refraining from parking in fire lanes or other restricted areas.



## School Closing Information

Occasionally, it is necessary to close school in case of weather conditions or other emergencies that may pose a threat to the health and safety of students. The Superintendent of Schools makes this decision based on information from the Chief Operations Officer and in consultation with the State Police who monitor road conditions. Every effort is made to make the decision as early in the morning as possible.

When Akron Central School is closed, Akron school buses will not transport any students, regardless of the school they attend. When schools are closed, all activities are canceled within the building and all sport trips and field trips are also canceled. Due to child care issues, school will normally dismiss at regularly scheduled times, even in the event of bad weather. Only the most extreme conditions warrant the early dismissal of students. The decision may be made, however, to cancel after-school activities.

Should an urgent situation occur, the District will send an emergency message to affected households through an automated notification system. Because power outages may affect the reliability of the automated system, emergency information is also released to the following radio and television stations:

- WBEN (930 AM)
- WKBW-TV Channel 7
- WIVB-TV Channel 4
- WGRZ-TV Channel 2
- Spectrum News

## SAVE THE DATE: Homecoming is October 11th

The annual ACS Homecoming festivities are planned for Friday, October 11, 2024!

The community is invited to join in the fun! The Akron Tiger Marching Band leads the parade at 5:00PM beginning from Brooklyn Park, marching up Main Street, then Bloomingdale Avenue. There will be Disney movie themed floats, the homecoming court, Athletic Wall of Fame inductees, other tiger-spirited groups, and local fire trucks "roaring" all the way to the school!

The Athletic Wall of Fame induction ceremony will begin at 6:00PM in the performance gymnasium. Inductees include Mrs. Wendy Pazderski, secretary extraordinaire for the ACS Athletic Department who has been selected for the "Eye of the Tiger" award for transforming and streamlining the processes of the department while keeping it athlete-focused; Nelson Logan of the Class of 2018 for his exemplary lacrosse career that included selection to the All-WNY First Team, the Player Sportsmanship Award, and the Cross Training Athlete of the Game following the team's Section VI Final Championship; Tommy James '14 for his stellar career for the Tigers' baseball and football teams, earning 1st Team All-League in both sports and Defensive Player of the Year for Class C North in football; and Casey Neill O'Meritt of the Class of 2008 who made her mark as a five-year cross-country runner earning four trips to the NYSPHSAA championships and as a championship distance runner for the track team.

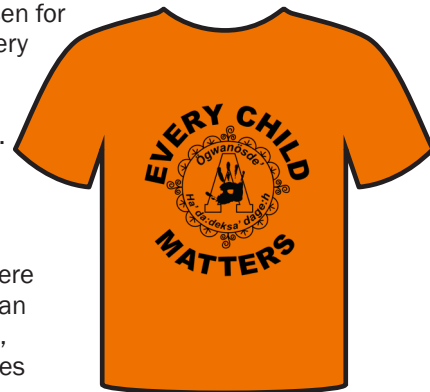
The Tiger football team will take on the Cleve-Hill Golden Eagles at 7:30PM. As is tradition, admission is free with a non-perishable food donation for the Akron-Newstead Food Pantry.



## New Orange Shirts raise awareness for Sept. 30th "Every Child Matters" Day

Junior Rosemary VanEvery's artwork was chosen for a new orange shirt design recognizing the "Every Child Matters" movement. Orange Shirt Day is an international event recognized by the U.S. and Canada on Monday, September 30, 2024. It is meant to bring awareness, recovery and reconciliation for the atrocities at Residential Schools against Native American people.

Students in Mrs. Cornell-Slater's art classes were charged with coming up with a new design as an assignment last spring. Samples of beadwork, quillwork, as well as many other visual examples of local Native American artwork and culture, were used to spur creativity.



Students in Mrs. Saeli's Intro to Business class are taking pre-sale orders for the new t-shirts at their online store at [www.cac-us.com](http://www.cac-us.com). Pre-orders for other Akron apparel is also available. Additional shirts with the new design will be for sale at The Tigers Den school store and Akron Market on Main, 57 Main Street, in limited quantities. Pre-sale orders will close at the online store on Monday, September 9th to ensure orders will be delivered by September 20th.

This is the second collaboration for specially designed shirts for the "Every Child Matters" movement.

For additional information about the shirt sale, please contact Mrs. Karen Saeli at [ksaeli@akronk12.org](mailto:ksaeli@akronk12.org). To learn more about the "Every Child Matters" movement, visit [orangeshirtday.org](http://orangeshirtday.org).

## Community Use of School Facilities

The facilities at Akron Schools are available for use by community organizations. Scheduling priority is given to academic and extra-curricular school activities. Organizations must submit a Facilities Use Form to the District Clerk, at the District Office, Room H193 of the High School. The form and additional information about using school facilities are available on the school website at [www.akronschools.org/facilities](http://www.akronschools.org/facilities). Proof of insurance must also be submitted as indicated on page two of the form.

Organization leaders requesting use of the facilities are asked to be mindful that many organizations request the use of facilities and considerable time is spent scheduling the building as well. Leaders are asked to please contact the District Office if their scheduled event is canceled or their organization no longer needs to use the reserved space.

Please contact the District Clerk with any questions at (716)542-5006.

## Join us on Facebook!

Join the 1000+ followers of our District Facebook page @AkronCentralSchoolDistrict! Our page serves not only as a source of information, but also as our digital scrapbook!

**Take a look - 'Like' and 'Follow'!**





2024-2025

## Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) - Required Household Income Eligibility Form

Akron Central School District is participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 in a non-base year. All children in the school will receive meals/milk at no charge regardless of household income or completion of this form. **The Akron Central School District is asking all families to fill out the Household Income Eligibility form to determine eligibility for additional State and federal program benefits that your child(ren) may qualify for. This information is confidential and will only be used for routine data reporting. By completing this form, you will be helping to secure funding that directly impacts all Akron Schools students in grades K-12.** Read the instructions on the back, complete only one form for your household, sign your name and return it to: Akron Schools, Ms. Kathleen Rybarczyk, 47 Bloomingdale Ave., Akron, NY 14001. Call (716) 542-5027 if you need help.

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	No Income
			<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"/>
			<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. Then skip to Part 4.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE # \_\_\_\_\_

3. Household Gross Income: List all people living in your household, how much and how often they are paid (weekly, every other week, twice per month, monthly). Do not leave income blank. If no income, check box. If you have listed a foster child above, you must report their personal income.

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"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application.

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 may receive 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 Eligibility ☐ Reduced Eligibility ☐ Denied Eligibility

Signature of Reviewing Official \_\_\_\_\_

## CEP/Provision 2 Non-Base Year Household Income Form INSTRUCTIONS

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### 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 form.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, and check the box for each child with no income.

---

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

- (1) List a current SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. Do not use the 16-digit number on your benefit card. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the form in PART 4. **SKIP PART 3** - Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR number.

---

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

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are completing the form for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people living 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.

#### NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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, audiotope, 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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# Akron School System 2024-25 Student-Teacher Calendar

Retrieval Days/In Order-If Needed: 6/23(Full Day ES), 6/24 (Full Day ES/MS), 6/25 (Full Day ES/MS), April 4 becomes a student attendance day/April 14 becomes Superintendents Conference Day

Approved 3/27/24

SEPTEMBER 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

OCTOBER 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

JANUARY 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

September

2 Labor Day - No School  
3&4 Superintendent Conf. Day -Staff Only - No Students  
5 First Student Day

October

14 Indigenous Peoples' Day - No School

November

8 High School Staff Conference Day PM Only  
High School Student Only Dismissal 1:30 pm  
11 Veterans' Day - No school  
26 K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 pm  
27 K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00-11:30 am-  
No Students

December

28-29 Thanksgiving Recess - No School  
23-1/1 Winter Recess - No School

January

2 School Resumes  
20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School  
21-24 Regents Exams  
29 Lunar New Year-Grading/Record Keeping  
No Students

February

13 K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 pm  
14 K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00-11:30 am-  
No Students

March

17-21 Mid-Winter Recess - No School

April

4 Superintendent Conf. Day -Staff Only - No Students  
14-18 Spring Recess -No School

May

26 Memorial Day - No School

June

17-25 High School Regents  
19 Juneteenth - No School  
23 Last Day of Attendance for Elementary-  
Elementary Students Only Dismissal 11:30 am  
25 Last Day of Attendance for MS/HS School  
26 Rating Day - No Students  
27 Graduation

FEBRUARY 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

APRIL 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

MAY 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

JUNE 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

## Legend

	Holiday/Recess - No School
	Parent Teacher Conference
	Superintendent Conf. Day-No Students
	Grading/Record Keeping Day
	Rating Day
	HS Staff Conference



## Akron Central School

47 Bloomingdale Avenue  
Akron, NY 14001

### Board of Education

Erik Polkowski, President  
Phillip Kenline, Vice President  
Ryan Allen  
Heather Cayea  
Joseph P. Cena  
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Kristy Pingitore

### Superintendent of Schools

Andrea S. Kersten

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## Single Point of Entry for all Visitors to ACS

The system for visitors to the district between the hours of 7:45AM and 3:30PM, as implemented by the Board of Education and the Safety Committee is as follows:

- All visitors will enter the building through the main entrance, Door #53, at the front of the school near the flagpoles.
- A School Safety Officer (SSO) will be stationed at this location to greet and admit visitors.
- A communication system allows visitors to state their name and purpose of their visit prior to entrance.
- Once permitted through the exterior set of doors, visitors must present a driver's license to the SSO for scanning to the Visitor Management System; visitors must sign in.
- The driver's license will be kept with the SSO until the visitor returns to sign out.
- A visitor identification sticker will be printed and must be worn at all times while in school or on school grounds.
- Once signed in, the SSO will direct visitors to the appropriate office to finish the sign in process before proceeding to their destination.
- When the visit is complete, all visitors must first sign out in the appropriate office before returning to the SSO at the front entrance to sign out, return the visitor identification sticker and retrieve their driver's license.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Vehicles must be moved from the front bus loading area by 1:45PM.

The District appreciates the cooperation and support of all visitors as we continue to use these procedures designed to improve the safety of all students, staff, and visitors.

Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules of public conduct on school property as contained in the Code of Conduct.

Questions regarding the procedures may be directed to the Superintendent's Office at (716)542-5006.

### Upcoming Events

#### Tuesday, August 27

UPK, KDG & Gr. 1 "Meet the Teacher"  
Event - 2:00-6:00PM CLASSROOMS

#### Tuesday, August 27

6th Grade Orientation - 6:00PM AUD

#### Wednesday, August 28

Mandatory Freshman & New HS Student  
Orientation - 9:00-11:00AM AUD

#### Wednesday, August 28

Mandatory Parent-Freshman & New  
HS Student Orientation - 6:00PM AUD

#### Thursday, September 5

First Day of Attendance Gr. 1-12

#### Thursday, September 5

Kindergarten Parent-Student  
Orientation - 9:15AM MPR

#### Friday, September 6

UPK Parent-Student  
Orientation - 9:15AM MPR

#### Wednesday, September 11

Fall Parent-Athlete Meeting -  
7:00PM AUD

#### Thursday, September 19

Elementary Open House  
Gr. K-2 5:30-6:30PM;  
Gr. 3-5 6:00-7:00PM