



# TIGER TRACKS

## AKRON MIDDLE SCHOOL

December 1, 2023

Edition 4

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

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Greetings and Nya:wëh sgë:nö' Middle School Parents,

As we approach the end of 2023, we are filled with warmth and holiday spirit here at Akron Middle School. December is a special time of year when we come together as a school community to celebrate the season, reflect on the year's accomplishments, and look forward to the adventures that lie ahead. We look forward to seeing the final product of our holiday window painting and our #ONEAkron Jolly Jubilee, among many other events/activities!

While the holiday season brings joy and celebrations, it's also a time to ensure that we continue to make progress academically. Here are some tips to help you stay on track with your learning and assignments this December:

- **Set Clear Goals:** Take a moment to identify your academic goals for the month. What do you want to achieve by the end of December? Setting clear, specific goals will give you a sense of purpose and motivation.
- **Create a Schedule:** Plan your study and assignment completion schedule. Allocate specific time slots for studying, completing assignments, and reviewing class materials. Stick to this schedule as closely as possible.
- **Prioritize Tasks:** Determine which assignments and subjects require more immediate attention. Prioritize your tasks based on due dates and complexity. Tackle the most important ones first.
- **Stay Organized:** Use a planner or digital tools to keep track of your assignments, tests, and deadlines. Being organized will help you manage your time effectively and reduce stress.
- **Limit Distractions:** Identify common distractions in your study environment and take steps to minimize them. Put away your phone or use apps that block distracting websites during study hours.
- **Break Tasks into Smaller Steps:** If a project or assignment seems overwhelming, break it down into smaller, manageable tasks. Completing smaller tasks will give you a sense of accomplishment and make the overall project less daunting.
- **Ask for Help:** If you're struggling with a particular subject or assignment, don't hesitate to reach out for help. Your teachers are a first step!
- **Stay Healthy:** Remember to take care of your physical and mental health. Get enough rest, eat nutritious meals, and engage in regular physical activity. A healthy body and mind are essential for effective learning.
- **Celebrate Small Wins:** Acknowledge your achievements, no matter how small. Celebrating your progress can boost your motivation and help you stay committed to your goals.
- **Plan for Breaks:** It's important to take short breaks during your study sessions to recharge. For every 25 minutes of focused work, follow it with a 5-minute break.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep up with any announcements or updates from your teachers regarding assignments, tests, or changes in the schedule. Stay informed to avoid any last-minute surprises.

Remember that staying on track with your learning and assignments is an investment in your future. By maintaining your focus and discipline during December, you'll not only finish the 2023 year strong but also set a positive tone for 2024. We wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful, and heartwarming holiday season. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Mr. Caprio and Mrs. Fial



# Important Dates and INFORMATION

12/01: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 2 @ Albion  
 12/01: 6:00pm JV Boys Basketball vs Kendall  
 12/02: Akron Wrestling Club Tournament  
 12/02: 10:00-1:00pm Boys Basketball Camp - Gym 1  
 12/02: 11:30pm JV Girls Basketball @ Iroquois  
 12/04: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 @ Medina  
 12/05: 7:00-8:30pm HS Prism 38 Concert - AUD  
 12/06: 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201  
 12/06: 5:00pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 vs Kenmore East  
 12/06: JV Boys Basketball vs W. Seneca West  
 12/06: 7:00pm Board of Education Mtg - HS Cafe  
 12/07: Winter Sports Pictures  
 12/07: 5:00pm JV Girls Basketball vs Kenmore East  
 12/08: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 @ Albion  
 12/08: 5:00pm Mod Girls Basketball 2 vs Newfane - Gym 2  
 12/08: 5:00pm JV Boys Basketball @ Alden  
 12/09: 5:00pm Wrestling @ Lyndonville Fred Large Tournament  
 12/09: 10:00-4:00pm PTA Vendor & Craft Fair  
 12/09: 10:00-1:00pm Boys Basketball Camp - Gym 1  
 12/09: 4:30pm Santa Band "Light Up Akron" Parade  
 12/11: 1:30-2:34pm MS Holiday Concert Assembly - Students only  
 12/11: 5:00pm JV Girls Basketball vs Pembroke  
 12/12: 5:00pm Mod Girls B-ball 1 vs Tonawanda - Gym 2  
 12/12: 5:00pm Mod Girls Basketball 2 @ Roy-Hart  
 12/12: 5:00pm JV Boys Basketball vs JFK  
 12/12: 7:00-8:30pm MS Holiday Concert - AUD

12/13: 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201  
 12/13: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 vs Barker Gym 2  
 12/13: 6:00pm Wrestling vs Albion - Gym 3  
 12/15: 12:00pm Wrestling @ NCCC Tournament  
 12/15: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 @ Alden  
 12/15: 5:00pm JV Girls Basketball vs Albion  
 12/15: 5:00pm JV Boys Basketball @ Albion  
 12/16: 8:30am Wrestling @ NCCC Tournament  
**12/18: Holiday Spirit Week: Grinch Day**  
 12/18: Progress Reports available online  
 12/18: 4:30pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 vs Wilson - Gym 2  
 12/18: 6:00pm JV Wrestling @ Alden  
**12/19: Holiday Spirit Week: Winter Wonderland**  
 12/19: 8:15am-2:15pm NA Dance Demo @ Lockport  
 12/19: 4:30pm JV Girls Basketball @ Barker  
 12/19: 4:30pm Jack Silvernail Memorial Tournament  
 12/19: 7:00-8:30pm Elementary Holiday Concert - AUD  
**12/20: Holiday Spirit Week: Holiday Headwear**  
 12/20: 3:18-4:20pm MS Tech Club Mtg - M201  
 12/20: 4:30pm Jack Silvernail Memorial Tournament  
 12/20: 5:00pm Mod Girls Basketball 1 @ Sweet Home  
 12/20: 7:00pm Board of Education Mtg - HS Cafe  
**12/21: Holiday Spirit Week: PJ Day**  
 12/21: 4:30 JV Girls Basketball @ Wilson  
**12/22: Holiday Spirit Week: Ugly Sweater Day**  
 12/22: MS/HS #ONEAkron Jolly Jubilee (more info TBD)  
 12/22: 4:30pm JV Boys Basketball @ Barker

## 12/25/2023 - 1/1/2024 - WINTER RECESS

## 01/01/2024 HAPPY NEW YEAR

## 01/02/2024: CLASSES RESUME



Happy Holidays! Who are you shopping for this holiday season? Whoever that special someone is, we have an abundance of goodies to choose from to suit your holiday needs! We have Olivers and Henry's chocolates, Akron apparel, freeze dried candy, candles and much more. Did you know that the Tigers Den has gift cards?

In addition to all your holiday shopping needs, the Tigers Den will have select apparel 20% off this month at both the Tigers Den and Market on Main.

Visit us on 12/5 outside the elementary school gym for our annual Holiday Pop-Up store and on 12/19 in the Middle school foyer next to the main office. There will be giveaways at each event and lots of gift and stocking stuffer ideas.

We appreciate all of your support throughout the course of this school year! Your support will help us reward two Class of 2024 seniors with \$1000 scholarships pursuing a business related field.

The Tiger's Den school store takes debit/credit cards and Apple Pay!

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



# Congratulations



## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Computer Science 6 - Gia Dispenza  
ELA 6 - Edie Hess  
Math 6 - Jenny Yang  
Reading/Writing 6 - Lila Fiegl  
Science 6 - Sunny Stafford  
Social Studies 6 - Henry Fiegl  
SRO 6 - Finn Blackley, Jase Gangloff & Landon Zellner  
Robotics 7 - Quinn O'Malley  
ELA 7 - Emmie Chase  
Math 7 - Brian Stempniak & Brooke Wood  
Science 7 - Emily Callard & Carter Jablonski  
Seneca 7 - Eliana Bruce  
Social Studies 7 - Marissa Abrams  
Spanish 7 - Evan Kabangira-Rugadju

ELA 8 - Jacob Stewart  
Math 8 - Anthony Abrams  
Science 8 - Lucy Felski  
Seneca 8 - Sahpur Grijalva  
Social Studies 8 - Brooke Ground  
Spanish 8 - Michael McDonald  
Art 7 - Eliza Koopman  
Band - Abby Gerstung  
Chorus - Kennedy Kozlowski  
Health 7/8 - Annabelle Rumenapp  
Music 7 - Landin Allen  
Orchestra - Sam Reagan  
PE 6/7/8 - Evan Yang  
ALC - Makayla Pask

Academic Achievement - Gabriella Wilson, Alex PeQueen, Edie Hess, Alexis Kelley, Hannah Kowalski, Maddy Oberlander, Ayla Jagielo, Baiionne Smith, Maddox Krull, Reese Addesa, Drew Borden, Liam Wedgwood, Andrew Blasko & Kathleen Ferrell.

## CHARACTER COUNTS



This month for Character Counts our school is focusing on Trustworthiness. Students may earn Tiger Tickets for demonstrating any of the following actions:

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

***Congratulations to the following students who were nominated for demonstrating Trustworthiness:***

Reese Addesa  
Henry Fiegl  
Maddox Krull  
Makayla Pask  
Morgan Tomporowski

Finn Cayea  
Abby Gerstung  
Maddox Krull  
Sarah Piscitelli  
Brooke Warren

Gavin Cottle  
Riley Irish-Baker  
Suzanna Mest  
Sam Reagan  
Jenny Yang

School is in full swing, the second marking period has started, and winter activities have begun! With the Holiday season fast approaching (how is it December already?!), and the snow falling is imminent, here are some things to keep in mind:



Getting somewhere late and safe is better than not getting there at all!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from your SRO's!



The Cab from MS Government  
From the voices of Gabrielle Dispenza and Marissa Abrams!



***Hello Akron Middle School!***

December is fast approaching and we are excited to announce some great things happening here at AMS!

We will be hosting a food drive with the AEA to help those in need in our community.

We will also be hosting a spirit week filled with fun dress up days. We can't wait to see your outfits! Participation is not mandatory, but it will be fun!

At our most recent MS Government meeting we celebrated together with a Friendsgiving. We all brought a bunch of snacks and treats and shared them with each other. We had so much fun, it was a really great way to bring joy to everyone!

## MS LUNCH MENU - DECEMBER

Monthly lunch menus can be accessed each month through our school website, **[www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org)** Or please click on the picture of the December menu for the link.

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

[illegible]



**Effective December 1, 2023**, all students enrolled at Akron Central School will receive one (1) breakfast and lunch meal at no cost to your household. No further action is required of you. Please note that any second meal or ala carte items purchased are not covered by this CEP provision and remain the responsibility of each family.

### Mobile Menu App

We are pleased to announce a new Mobile Menu App that offers an easy way to view menus and nutrient information for products right from your smart phone.

The new "Web Menus" mobile App includes:

Interactive Nutritional Menus, Daily menus, Menu item nutrient information, Menu item description, Menu item photos, Menu item allergens, PDF Documents, Link to Online Payment Provider, Link to Nutrition Services website, Info section "All About School Lunch"

This is just one more step we are making in an effort to continually improve the quality of the menus we offer our students and raise the bar on the standards of our school meals. Our focus is on enhancing the diet of students with more nutritious choices here at school and by providing nutrition education that will help students form healthy habits that last a lifetime!

Key nutritional improvements that we have made include offering a variety of more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and fat-free and low-fat fluid milk with our meals. We are also reducing in the levels of sodium, saturated fat and have eliminated added trans fat. We do not supersize our meals, but instead strive to meet the nutrition needs of students within their age specific calorie requirements.

**The School Nutrition & Fitness Mobile "Web Menu" App is available in the App Stores!**

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

This month in 6th grade Seminar we have been talking about bullying. Bullying is defined as intentional physical, verbal or social (relational) aggression. The hallmarks of bullying is that it is often repeated over time and occurs when there is a real or perceived power imbalance. Seminar students have learned how to recognize bullying, the effects bullying can have on themselves and others, and the difference between joking around and bullying. We have also discussed specific examples of bullying, including cyberbullying, its effects and a few strategies for responding to online bullying. Some strategies include (shared with permission from SecondStep):



## NATIVE AMERICAN OFFICE NEWS

Now that parent teacher conferences are over, you may be thinking about how you could view your child's grades this coming quarter. The parent portal is a great resource located right on the schools webpage. If you need any help setting that up, please call!

Nya:wëh!

Brittany Smoke

716-542-5040 x6226



Our meeting this month is scheduled for November 8th at 7:00pm in H190, we would love to have you join us.



At the top of our priority list right now is the upcoming Holiday Craft Fair and Vendor Fair. The show is December 9th from 10-4pm. If you or someone you know is interested in a table at our show, please send an email to [kim.akronpta@gmail.com](mailto:kim.akronpta@gmail.com) for an application. The revenue generated from the fair helps support numerous PTA initiatives in the district including, but not limited to: The Crystal Tiger Scholarship, character awards, guest speakers, author visits, and much more. We also host a basket raffle at the craft fair and are in search of donations for that raffle. If you would like to donate a basket, or know a business who would be kind enough to donate, baskets and donations will be received by Melissa Garverick in the Elementary School Office. Additionally, we are in search of volunteers on the day of the fair. If your student is in need of volunteer hours, this is a great way to fulfill them. Any interested volunteers can contact Melissa Garverick at [mgarverick@gmail.com](mailto:mgarverick@gmail.com), or stop by the Elementary Office.

Akron Schools is pleased to offer the Fitness Center and the hall walking program to faculty, staff and community members for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

Registration is required for both programs. A fee is charged for the Fitness Center. While Hall walking is Free, all participants must register! Thank You

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)  
[WAIVER FORM](#)



## ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CLIPBOARD



The Modified Girls Basketball season is underway and they are doing awesome. Our girls have played great games against Albion, Oakfield, Newfane, and Medina so far this season. Between the two teams we have one or two home games each week so check the Athletics Calendar and come show your support!

Registration is now open for Modified Boys Basketball and Modified Swimming. These seasons will begin on Tuesday, January 2nd. Please see below for information regarding registration:

Middle School student athletes wishing to participate in Boys Basketball or Swimming, will need to register on the school's registration platform, FamilyID, at [www.akronschools.org/FamilyID](http://www.akronschools.org/FamilyID). Parents can also get to the school's FamilyID platform by going to [akronschools.org/athletics](http://akronschools.org/athletics) and clicking on SPORTS REGISTRATION from the left navigation menu. The program will guide users through the registration process. Sports physicals must also be turned in to the school nurse prior to participation in any practices or submitted on the FamilyID webpage.

Questions regarding the process may be directed to Mrs. Wendy Pazderski, Athletic Secretary, at (716) 542-5088.

For the most up to date athletics game schedule, please visit:  
<https://www.brownbearsw.com/mc/akron/athletics>

**Follow us on x/twitter: @AkronHSSports**

Go Tigers!



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## DIGITAL RESOURCE SURVEY & DATA COLLECTION

Dear Families,

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 2023-2024 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 [Digital Resource Survey Google Form](#).

Thank you for your time and cooperation.



# Holiday Spirit Week

At AMS!

DECEMBER 18-22

• Monday

## GRINCH DAY

Wear your red, green, and grinch stuff too!



• Tuesday

## WINTER WONDERLAND

Wear your white, blue, and snowflakes too!



• Wednesday

## HOLIDAY HEADWEAR

Deck your head with holiday cheer, wear headwear that's oh-so-dear!

• Friday

## UGLY SWEATER

Tacky, but oh So wonderful!



• Thursday

## PJ DAY

Show us your most festive pajamas!



Happy Holidays From ACS!

THE AEA IS HOSTING & MS GOV IS  
SPONSORING !

# HOLIDAY **FOOD** **DRIVE**

**Bring your donations to the MS office!**



□ 15 OZ. CANS OF VEGETABLES;  
PEAS, POTATOES, TOMATOES,  
ETC.

□ 11 OZ. CANS OF PORK & BEANS

□ 15 OZ. CANS OF FRUIT;  
APPLESAUCE, PEACHES, PEARS,  
ETC.

**Collecting until  
12/15!**