



Alfred-Almond Central School District Newsletter

March 2023

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A message from the Superintendent

Spring is always an exciting time here at Alfred-Almond CSD! Although I often struggle with fitting everything into my daily schedule, I look forward to attending our extracurricular events. I am always amazed at the talent of students as I watch the various athletic, music and arts performances and competitions. Student involvement in sports, clubs, the arts and other activities is essential to a well-rounded educational experience. Please make sure to come out and support our students in all of their athletic and extracurricular endeavors.

Spring is also a busy time of year in our schools as we prepare for our NYS tests. Our teachers work tirelessly to help every student reach their full potential. The

dedication and commitment of our parents are imperative for our students and our schools' success. We are in the business of students, and I would put our students up against any students anywhere. We have the absolute best students here at Alfred-Almond.

Thank you for staying connected and engaged in our district. We appreciate your ongoing support and partnership.

In Education,

Brett A. Dusinberre
Superintendent of Schools

New Science Club offered for fifth and sixth graders

This year, Mrs. Ormsby started a fifth and sixth grade after-school Science Club. Twenty-five students have joined and they've been having fun ever since. They've learned about chemical and physical changes by doing experiments. They've also been doing a lot of STEM activities, including making Cupid's bow for Valentine's



Day. Students were given limited materials and criteria to create a bow and arrow that would actually work. The club was recently awarded a grant from the Teacher's Center to purchase materials. They've been having a great time and are thankful for the support of the district and families.



Secondary School update

It is hard to believe we are in our third quarter of school! Our students, faculty and staff have been busy with field trips, music competitions, athletics, Academic All-Stars and gearing up for our school musical, *The Little Mermaid*. Our second quarter honor roll students were rewarded for their hard work on Friday, March 10. We had 119 students make the first honor roll and 11 CTE students made the first honor roll at BOCES. More than 50 percent of the student body earned first or second honors.

Other good news to report is that seniors are receiving their college acceptance and scholarship letters, as well as job offers. Seniors leave for their senior trip on April 21. CTE students competed at SkillsUSA at Alfred State on March 7, showcasing what they have been learning in competitions against other CTE students throughout the region. Prom is coming up in the beginning of May.

We have a lot to be proud of here at Alfred-Almond and look forward to all our students will accomplish this spring!

Dr. Melissa Rivers
Secondary School Principal

Positive behavior celebration

Alfred-Almond Elementary celebrated positive behaviors with a PBIS assembly in February. Students receive Golden Tickets for their demonstration of expected behaviors, and more than 6,400 tickets were earned between December and February.

During the assembly, students practiced their 0-4 voice levels. Level 0 is a silent voice, no talking. Level 1 is a whisper voice, partner talk. Level 2 is a normal voice, table talk. Level 3 is a strong speaker voice, classroom talk. Level 4 is an outside voice, playground talk. Students had fun demonstrating their loudest Level 4 voice during the assembly. Students in the High School may have heard us!

Elementary students work hard daily to demonstrate the expected behaviors of the bus, hallways and stairwells, classrooms and specials, bathrooms, cafeteria, playground and during special events and while using technology. We are very proud of our students! Alfred-Almond Eagles SOAR!



Language students demonstrate cooking skills

Language Club, Spanish II and Spanish III brought the “Sazón” to the Home Economics kitchen! March is “National Sauce Month,” so Language Club made Argentinian chimichurri and Peruvian huancaína sauce and sampled Mexican mole, Cuban mojito and a savory Peruvian sauce on chicken and steak. Of course, they made Spanish yellow rice to accompany.

After writing a grocery list and cooking directions in Spanish, Spanish II used their food unit knowledge to whip up a popular dish that most Latin American countries have a version of, Arroz a la Valenciana. They added a very popular side, fried plantains.



Spanish III crafted the famous Tortilla Española. They proved they not only have skills in the classroom, but also the kitchen – just ask Dr. Rivers, Ms. Correto, Mrs. Snyder and Mr. Murphy, who were lucky enough to “saborear” the well-crafted tortilla.

Students collaborated and made their Spanish teacher proud. Being able to eat “la deliciosa comida” they made was like icing on the “torta”!



Winter sports highlights

The value of athletics in schools is significant and cannot be overlooked. It has a profound impact on individuals, schools and communities. Athletics is powerful because it can bridge gaps, bring people who otherwise might not interact together and provide opportunities not available elsewhere. The comradery and togetherness created when a school is collectively proud of their athletics is nothing short of outstanding and there are many life lessons for students to learn through these behaviors. We are very proud of our student athletes here at Alfred-Almond and we would like to share some of our Varsity highlights from the winter season.

Swimming

The Varsity swim team began its winter break with a road trip to Churchville-Chili for sectional finals. By the end of the meet, the team would leave with numerous personal best times, many sectional champions, a perfect season and as Section V Class D champions!

Sixteen team members qualified to compete at sectionals this season. After preliminaries, 15 were able to return and ended up scoring points for the team. Every team member proved crucial.



Individual sectional champions were Noah in the 200 freestyle and 500 freestyle and Julian in the 100 freestyle, which was the second fastest time in the history of Alfred-Almond swimming. Teaming up to win the 200 freestyle relay was Owen, Andrew, Noah and Julian, who also swam the second fastest Eagles time ever in this event. Teaming up to win the 400 free relay and seal the win for the team was Patrick, Andrew, Noah and Julian.

A team sectional championship cannot be accomplished only by a handful of swimmers and a few first places. Other crucial contributors and top scorers were Owen (2nd and 3rd), Lucian (2nd and 4th), Andrew (5th and 6th), Patrick (3rd), Jack (8th) and Quinn (8th). Finishing in the top 16 and contributing important points were Gracen, Ellora, Ella, Olivia, Henry, Matt and Joey.

To finish the day and add the exclamation point, Noah was recognized for his four sectional wins (two relays and two individual) as the 2023 Class D Swimmer of the Meet.

Congratulations to the team on a perfect 16-0 season, a county championship and a Section V Class D championship!

Wrestling

On February 4, the Varsity wrestling team competed at the Class B3 sectional tournament. Although not all members of the team made it through to next level, all participants gave it their all and represented Alfred-Almond well. Kanye upset last year's state representative in the semifinals at 160 lbs. In the finals, Kanye fell short of a championship, but wrestled hard to finish in second place. Hunter finished in sixth place at 172 lbs. Both wrestlers traveled to SUNY Brockport on Saturday, February 11 and competed in the Section V state qualifying tournament.

On Saturday, February 18, Alexis and Clarissa competed in the Women's Intersectional Wrestling Tournament at Chautauqua Lake High School along with 90 other female wrestlers. Having wrestled primarily male competition throughout the season, the girls were primed to wrestle against other female competitors. Clarissa, competing at the 138 lb. weight class, was able to score her first points this season. Although she did not place, Clarissa represented Alfred-Almond well. Alexis, competing at 152 lbs., started the day with a win to make it to the semifinals, where she lost to the eventual champion. Alexis won her consolation semifinal match with a reversal with one second remaining in the match to advance to the consolation final, where she would fall to finish in a very respectable fourth place.

Skiing

On February 13, the boys' Alpine ski team earned a second place finish in the Section V Class B races. Ben earned a third place overall medal in the slalom, while the runs of Jack, Nial and Talon all contributed to the runner-up finish. Congratulations to our boys' ski team on an outstanding team effort.

Basketball

The girls' Varsity basketball team season ended with a first-round loss in sectionals at Avoca-Prattsburg during winter break. The girls improved tremendously during the season and always worked hard in every practice and game. Many opposing coaches and officials complimented on the effort, improvement and sportsmanship these girls showed during the season. Regardless of the score or outcome of the games, the girls always held their heads high and walked away with a positive attitude, looking to get better each and every game. Thank you to the parents and players for their commitment this season. We look forward to the juniors returning next year and wish the four seniors best of luck in the future. Congratulations to Isabel for her selection to play in the exceptional senior game at Cuba-Rushford on March 10.

Petrillo selected for music award

Every year the Hornell Area Wind Ensemble offers local high school students a chance to showcase their talents on band instruments. The Luther R. Hoffman/Georgine E. Salisbury Young Artist Award features a competition requiring each student to play a chosen solo with accompaniment. First and second place winners have the chance to play their solo with piano or with the Wind Ensemble as accompaniment. The AACS Music Department is proud to announce that Julian Petrillo was awarded first place in this year's Young Artist Competition. Julian has chosen to play a solo with the Wind Ensemble, and will be presented a certificate and monetary honorarium at their next concert on March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Hornell High School.



Musicians score high at festival

On Saturday, January 28, 12 band students in grades 7-12 attended the Steuben County Instrumental Solo Festival, hosted by Jasper-Troupsburg. All 12 AACS participants scored a 94 or higher. Congratulations to Cameron Heinig, Morgan Trudell, Anna Yarnal, Jennie Bensley, Liam Carstens, Candy Zhou, Gabe Fioretto, Noah Eldridge, Rona Powers, Luca Reginio, Leon Beaudry and Zophia Wojtkowiak. These solos also serve as auditions for the Steuben County All-County Band Festivals, and we are pleased to announce that all of our participants in grades 8-12 were selected for the Junior and Senior High All-County Bands.

Fifth-graders choose subjects for Black History Month project

Mrs. Ormsby's fifth-grade class learned about Black History Month in February. Students studied different African Americans who influenced history in some way. They made a collaborative poster, watched interviews, read stories and did a research project on a person they chose. It was a great hands-on learning experience.



Universal Pre-Kindergarten

A-A anticipates that the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program for our preschool children will continue into the 2023-24 school year. Children born on or before December 1, 2019 are eligible to apply for attendance in the program. Children who are eligible to attend kindergarten are not eligible to apply for attendance in UPK.

The application is included in this newsletter and will be available at the Elementary Office and on the district website at www.aacsapps.com. If you would like to receive an application in the mail, please contact Heidi Putnam at 607-276-6530 or email hputnam@acsapps.com. Completed applications and a copy of your child's birth certificate, current physical and immunization records are due at the Elementary Office no later than Wednesday, May 3.

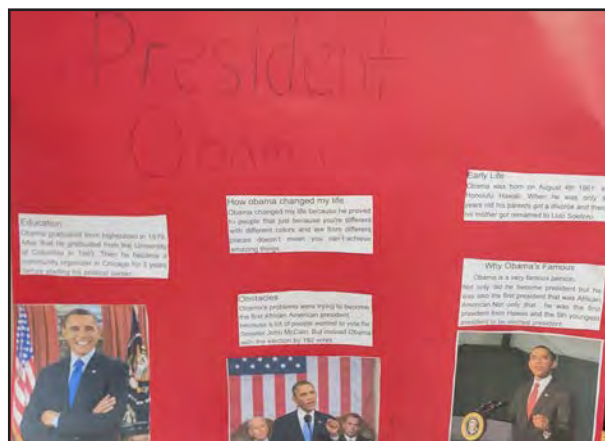
Applications received after this date will not be considered if more than 18 applications are received. A random selection process, as required by New York State, will be performed should the district receive more applications than the 18 available openings. Families will be notified whether their child did or did not receive a spot in the UPK program with letters mailed on Monday, May 8.

Questions should be directed to Casey Barber, Elementary Principal at 607-276-6525.

Kindergarten information

Children born on or before December 1, 2018 are eligible to enter school in September 2023.

If your child is eligible to attend kindergarten in September 2023, please call the Elementary Office at 607-276-6525 or email Heidi Putnam at hputnam@acsapps.com to be added to the list to receive informational mailings.



PreKindergarten Program Application

Alfred-Almond School District

Today's Date _____

Student's Legal Name: _____
Last Name First Name

Name Called: _____

Male Female Date of Birth _____ Social Security # _____

Is Student Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin? Yes No

Ethnic Group/Race: American Indian/Alaska Native Asian Black/African American
White Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Birth Place: _____
City State Country

What was the first language your child learned? _____ Language spoken most often: _____

Did your child attend preschool as a 3 year old? Yes No If yes, where? _____

Does your child need to take medication at school? Yes No If yes, what? _____

Does your child have special medical problems/allergies/drug allergies? Yes No If yes, please explain: _____

Please indicate the following in case of an emergency.

Physician: _____ Phone # _____

Dentist: _____ Phone # _____

Does your child receive any of the following services? Special Education/IEP 504 Plan
ESL PT OT Speech Accelerated Learning Other Please Explain: _____

House Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Mailing Address if different: _____

Do you: own () rent () or share residence with another family ()

If you share this residence with another family, list family/owner's name: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Is this a cell phone? Yes No

Parent/Guardian Status: Married Separated Divorced Single

Student resides with: **Both natural parents** **One natural parent** **Natural parent/Step parent** **Guardian** **Foster**

Parent/Guardian 1: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian 2: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Additional parent/guardian that should receive correspondence but student does not live with:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Is either parent/guardian a civilian employee on federal property or on active duty in the uniformed services? _____

Please list the names and ages of siblings under 18:

I understand that my child is not guaranteed a spot in the UPK program by my submittal of this application and that the number of children the District can serve will be determined by UPK funds identified in the annual State budget. Additionally, I understand that if the District receives more applications than the available number of slots a random selection process will be applied as required by New York State.

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature:

-----**Office Use Only**-----

Application Received: _____

Proof of Residency: _____

Bus #: _____

Birth Certificate ()

Enrolled () By: _____

Immunization Record ()

Homeroom: _____

District is seeking census data from all Alfred-Almond residents

Each year, district residents receive a census data card in the mail requesting important information concerning all children living in the household from birth through age 21. The information collected is *vital* for the district in planning staffing structures and attaining precise information of district preschool students. If you have not returned your census card this year, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. Your help in compiling this information is greatly appreciated and critical for planning purposes. If you did not receive a census card, or need an additional copy, please contact Bryan Burdick at 607-276-6565 or at bburdick@aacsapps.com. Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation and helping us best plan for the educational needs of children.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Elementary Principal, Alfred-Almond Central School, 6795 State Route 21, Almond, NY 14804

PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S):

Mother:

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
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Father:

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
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ADDRESS:

Number and Name of Street

Post Office Zip

Home Phone Emergency Phone Number

Children live with: Mother _____ Father _____ Both _____

CHILD(REN)

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Date of Birth	Grade

Do you suspect any handicapping conditions in any of your children? Yes _____ No _____

POSTAL PATRON

Alfred-Almond Central School
6795 Rte. 21
Almond, New York 14804
Return Services Requested

U.S. Postage Paid
Alfred, New York 14802
Permit No. 20
Non-Profit Organization

February break theater trip

During February break, 25 students from Alfred-Almond enjoyed a day at Shea's Theater in Buffalo to see the 2019 multiple Tony award winning musical *Hadestown*. The musical intertwines two mythic tales: that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persphone. The students and chaperones had a great time and were inspired by the music, story and performance.



Important Dates

April 3-7 _____ Spring Recess – No School
May 2 _____ Voter Registration, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
May 2 _____ Budget Presentation, 7:00 p.m.
May 16 _____ Annual Vote/Election, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
May 26-30 _____ Memorial Day Holiday – No School
June 19 _____ Juneteenth – No School
June 24 _____ Graduation, 2:00 p.m.

School closing information

It is sometimes necessary to close school because it is not safe for students to walk or ride to school. Should it be necessary to close school, you will receive an automated message notifying you of this occurrence. For additional information on school closings, please listen to one of the following radio or TV stations:

- WLEA 1480 AM
- WLSV 790 AM
- WKPQ 105.3 FM
- WCKR 92.1 FM
- WJQZ 103.5 FM
- WETM-TV (Elmira)
- WZKZ 101.1 FM
- WKBW-TV (Buffalo)

Order your yearbook today

Time is running out to buy your 2023 Alfred-Almond Yearbook! April 28, 2023 will be the last day to order your yearbook online. This year, all books MUST be ordered online.

Please follow the directions to order your book:

- Go to www.jostens.com
- Click the link: Order Your Yearbook Today
- Search for Alfred-Almond Central High School
- It will then ask you to input your information
- The cost of the book is \$60 plus tax.

If you have any questions on this process, please email Kelly Valentine at kvalentine@aacsapps.com.

Thank you for your support.

Trudell accepted at Houghton

After a rigorous audition process, senior percussionist Morgan Trudell has officially been accepted to the Bachelor's of Music Education program at Houghton University. She has been a wonderful mentor and resource for many band and chorus students in both the High School and Elementary School, assisted both beginning and elementary band students in rehearsals and lessons and has dedicated much of her time to finding ways to improve the school and program. Congratulations, Morgan!

