



Alfred-Almond Central School District Newsletter

March 2019

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A message from the Superintendent

Dear Alfred-Almond Central School District Community Members,

I want to provide you with a quick overview of what has been going on at Alfred-Almond in the “building department.” So many great upgrades and renovations have been completed/planned for the future and I want to ensure that everyone is up-to-date and fully informed.

Our district has a strong history of providing quality programs and facilities for our children as well as maintaining the historic integrity of our campus. On May 21, district residents

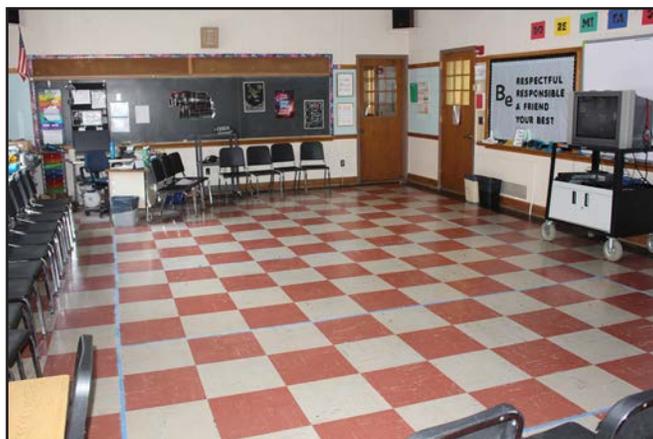
will vote on a **no additional tax impact** capital project. The project is another step toward enhancing our buildings and programs for current and future students by focusing on safety and security improvements and the replacement of aging infrastructure items.

In an effort to protect our past investments, the district and the Board of Education worked hard to develop a plan. The work began with the Building Condition Survey,

as required by the New York State Department of Education to ensure school districts are planning for and maintaining their facilities. This plan outlines a scope of work which, among other things, replaces items giving way to years of normal wear and tear.

The proposal includes hot water heater replacements, unit ventilator replacements, partial roof replacements, electrical upgrades, a new emergency generator, locker room renovations and asphalt and sidewalk restorations.

Students will be able to enjoy enhanced music facilities with a renovated chorus room



The auditorium (above) and chorus room (left) will be renovated as part of the proposed project.

Continued on page 2

Capital project, continued

and auditorium. Auditorium renovations include improvements to the doors, seating, flooring, lobby and an HVAC system that will make you even more eager to see the next school musical or student performance. In addition, the bus garage will be restored and brought up to 2019 code with drainage upgrades, door, window and overhead door replacements and HVAC and fire alarm upgrades. The roof in the elementary wing will also be replaced, as it is at the end of its 20-year warranty and is starting to show its age.

The remainder of the project includes program-related items such as classroom renovations and updates. A minimum of one elementary, one middle school and one high school classroom will be renovated into a state-of-the-art STEM learning center. These upgrades are especially exciting, as they provide great learning environments for our students. It is intended that these classroom renovations will serve as a basis for future enhancements and that the entire project will improve the overall educational experience for our current and future generations of children.

Additionally, to further improve and modernize our facilities, the district has selected Day Automation to implement an Energy Performance Contract (EPC) to include state-funded energy saving building improvements. An EPC enables a school district to cover the costs of energy efficiency upgrades over time using the savings generated by these upgrades. The upgrades will include conversion of lighting to LED technology with daylight harvesting and dimming capabilities, improved insulation and sealing, automated electronic controls and several mechanical system upgrades. The savings generated are guaranteed by Day Automation during the life of the Energy Performance Contract. In short, if the savings at the end of the year are not what was promised in our contract, the firm is legally bound to pay Alfred-Almond the difference in cash. This vote authorization will qualify the project for an additional 10 percent of building aid to further enhance the financial benefit of this energy saving project. Voters may remember that we completed a similar project in the 2002 school year with great benefit and success.

The capital project will cost \$3,800,000 and will not require any additional taxes on the part of our community. More than 80 percent of the project will be funded by New York State Aid, with the rest coming from our capital reserves. Just as we have done with past projects, the local share will be covered by monies that we saved over time in preparation for this needed work.

At Alfred-Almond Central School District, we strive to improve our facilities to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff, while at the same time being mindful of the need to be fiscally responsible. During these renovations, we greatly value the heritage and history of our buildings and aim to uphold their visual integrity. We believe you will find that the proposed project will improve our school district and positively impact our community as a whole.

As we get closer to the May vote, we will provide you with a more detailed explanation of the proposed work, as well as the established funding structure which will allow it to be completed with no impact to taxes.

In the interim, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

My best regards,

Rich Calkins

Superintendent of Schools



The project would include a partial roof replacement.



(Right) Lights would be converted to LED technology and older sidewalks would be restored.

Computer Science Club showcases student projects

Alfred-Almond's Computer Science Club is now in its third year of offering after school opportunities for students in grades 4-6 who are interested in learning more about coding. Participants explore and learn how to write code for a variety of topics including fashion design, storytelling and video game design.

In November, 18 students and their families participated in the Club's final presentations. Each student created a unique program based on their interest that showcased all that they learned during club meetings. It was an exciting night and a great way to end the fall session of Computer Science Club.

Standout programs included the work of Erin Sanborn, Gabe Fioretto and Brogan Donlon. Erin created an interactive game that included Pokémon characters of her design that the user has to navigate through a series of different settings and interact with different characters. Gabe and Brogan created a website to showcase four different interactive video games. One game was based on the Harry

Potter books and involved answering a series of questions to help the player determine which house at Hogwarts he or she would be best fit for.



Gabe Fioretto presents his website at the student showcase.

Ski Club members hit the slopes at Swain Resort

Ski Club students have been enjoying the snow at Swain this winter. Ski Club provides students with transportation to Swain on six Saturday evenings through January and February. Student lift and rental packages include a weekly lesson from the very supportive and encouraging Swain Ski School staff. There have been many "first timers" this season learning to enjoy skiing and snow boarding.



(Left) Bella Lang, Ty Kenney, Aidan Burdick, Andrea McMahon, Mirra Robbers and Kayla Snyder.

(Right) Reagan Comer and Kiara Wisniewski.



Students celebrate Seuss

Mrs. Woughter's second grade class celebrated Dr. Seuss Day by making "Thing" hats and reading Seuss books. The library set up a Seuss March Madness to compare 16 Seuss stories and had students vote for their favorites to declare the Final Four and eventually an overall champion.



Second graders show off their hats on Dr. Seuss Day.

Universal Pre-K Info.

Administration anticipates that the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program for our preschool children will continue into the 2019-20 school year. Children born on or before December 1, 2015 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.aacs.wnyric.org. If you would like to receive an application in the mail, please contact Heidi Putnam at 607-276-6530. 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 1.

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 by letters that will be mailed on Monday, May 6.

Questions should be directed to Brett Dusinberre, Elementary Principal at 276-6525.

Kindergarten visitation and registration scheduled

Children born on or before December 1, 2014 are eligible to enter school in September 2019.

Parents and their children are invited to attend kindergarten visitation on May 8 at 2:30 p.m. This visitation is open to all children who will be eligible to enter school in September 2019.

Kindergarten registration will be held by appointment only on May 14-17 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. When registering your child, you will need to bring:

1. Child's birth certificate or other legal record of child's birth date. Children must be five years of age on or before December 1, 2018.
2. Your child's immunization record (see list below). According to law, your child may NOT enter school without proof of these immunizations.
3. Current physical.
4. An end-of-the-year checklist from any nursery school your child may have attended.

If your child is eligible to attend kindergarten in September 2019, please call the Elementary Office at 276-6525 to confirm mailing information to register your child.

New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance		
Vaccine	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTap, DTP)	4 doses	5 doses OR 4 doses if the 4th dose was received at 4 years of age or older
Polio (IPV, OPV)	3 doses	4 doses OR 3 doses if the 3rd dose was received at 4 years of age or older
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	1 dose	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1 dose	2 doses
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B Conjugate (Hib)	1-4 doses	N/A
Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV)	1-4 doses	N/A

PreKindergarten Program Application 2019-20 School Year

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 of 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: _____
Birth Certificate () _____
Immunization Record () _____

Proof of Residency: _____
Enrolled () By: _____
Homeroom: _____

Bus #: _____

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

Important Dates

Spring Recess – No SchoolApril 15-19
Jr./Sr. PromMay 4, 6:00-11:00 p.m.,
Lake Lodge
Voter Registration May 7, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Budget PresentationMay 7, 7:00 p.m.
Annual Vote/Election May 21, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Strawberry Lawn Concert,
Elem. Band and ChorusMay 20, 7:00 p.m.
Art Show and Ice Cream Social..... May 21
Memorial Day, No School May 27
Strawberry Lawn Concert,
HS Band and Chorus.....May 29, 7:00 p.m.

Math Team competes at Houghton College

On February 7, the Alfred-Almond Math Team participated in the American Mathematics Competition at Houghton College. After the contest, students enjoyed presentations on how mathematics connects to the real world such as how music can be represented with the sine wave.



Back Row: Reagan Comer, Jennie Bensley, Damien Robbers, Lucian Fioretto
Middle Row Standing: Jack Wisniewski, Joe Miletti, MeKaylka Wisniewski, Abby Kelly, Lauren Kelly, Jake Schultze
Middle Row Seated: Aidyn Empson, Arnold Saint Phard, Gabe Empson, Jina Zhao, Tiphaine Felton
Front Row: Cameron Heinig, Abby Quick, Sage Empson, Shannon Heinig, Anna Yarnal, Kiara Wisniewski, Julian Petrillo, Luna Quintana, Jin Wilson

School closing information

As a reminder to parents, it is sometimes necessary to close school because winter weather conditions make it unsafe 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 WZKZ 101.1 FM
WKBW-TV (Buffalo) WETM-TV (Elmira)

Useful apps and SAT prep sites

SAT Connect by Watermelon Express (free app)
Easel SAT (free app)
SAT Study Guide by EduCare Education (app)
Princeton Review iPad App-ScoreQuest (paid app)
Tutor.com To Go (free app)
Prepmunch.com
Kaplan SAT Flashcubes (free)
CK12.org-SAT-free mini-book
INeedAPencil.com
collegeboard.org-Kaplan review
SATFlash (app)
Khan Academy (app)
Daily Practice SAT (app)
SAT Up (app)