



January 22, 2021

Focus...

A Family-Friendly Weekly Update

Notes:

☑ Students returned to the District on Monday, happy to be back in the schools. Classes returned to in-person learning without issue. Staff and administration continue to build on lessons for the second semester.

☑ The District continues to learn and revise its health practices and protocols to provide the safest environment possible for students and staff. With that in mind, Allegheny Valley has modified its Health & Safety Plan to incorporate more stringent guidelines for face coverings. All individuals must wear masks to cover their nose and mouth while in the school building/grounds. Individuals with health or other concerns may be approved to wear a face shield due to their personal circumstances. Teachers may wear face shields in their classroom while teaching, only if/when the appropriate social distancing can be maintained. When traveling throughout the school building/grounds, all students and staff members must wear a face mask, not a face shield or gaiter.

☑ Programs to support parents and families during the pandemic are scheduled for February 10 (Parent Support Circle) and February 24 (Turtle Creek Valley Community Services). Information on both programs will be sent as it becomes available.

Focus On: Technology Education



Students in Mr. McDermott’s Engineering Technology class are working with multi-rotor drones. They are learning drone uses, such as photogrammetry, visual inspections, crop dusting, etc.; how a drone works; how to fly a drone; recording still and video imagery; how to navigate an obstacle course; and programming a drone to fly a flight path or grid.

“The kids are enjoying coming to school as they do hands-on projects,” said McDermott. “The students will be learning and writing programs on virtual days. They look forward to coming to my class.”



Allegheny Valley School District
Together We Can

For Your Information:

- Parents are encouraged to contact the School Nurse, Ms. Kandi Conner, to report positive cases of COVID-19 that directly affect their child, including if the child has tested positive, has symptoms related to COVID, and/or if the child has been exposed and will need to quarantine. In addition, parents should contact Ms. Conner with questions or concerns.

724-900-5443

kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us

All parents are encouraged to utilize this service for our school community.

Good Things:

- Congratulations to 8th grade student Molly Hurley on her First Place win in the Eastern Suburbs Special Program Association (ESSPA), a gifted consortium, Middle School Public Speaking Competition.

Dates To Remember:

Feb. 9 – School Board Planning Session

Feb. 15 – Presidents’ Day, District Closed

Feb. 16 – School Board Meeting

Questions & comments should be emailed to:

pgraczyk@avsd.k12.pa.us

COVID-19 Information:

The Allegheny Valley School District no longer sends individual emails regarding positive COVID-19 cases. The District now reports all positive cases on a weekly basis through this newsletter. Allegheny Valley is also adding updated information to its website with a new [COVID-19 Tracker](#), which will be updated on a weekly basis for any new cases reported. Cases attributed to the school are identified in the Tracker and are useful in considering if and when schools will close. Cases attributed to the schools are cases where an individual was contagious while in school or was exposed to a known positive COVID-19 individual in the school.

The District also asks if your child is symptomatic or may have been in close contact with a positive case he/she needs to stay home. Parents are asked to contact the school nurse immediately with information on a positive case or COVID symptoms. The District stresses the importance of contacting the School Nurse directly. Ms. Kandi Conner serves as the District's School Nurse (kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us or 724-274-8888 (office) or 724-900-5443 (hotline)). Your cooperation with sharing information with the nurse and reporting any positive cases of COVID-19 within your family or close contacts is very important.

All District schools will remain open as personnel closely monitor the weekly COVID-19 cases within the District.

Below is a total summary of cases to date in the Allegheny Valley School District:

| Building | Active | Prior/Inactive |
|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Springdale Jr-Sr High School | 0 | 7 |
| Acmetonia Elementary School | 0 | 10 |
| District (in both buildings) | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 0 | 18 |
| | | |
| Out of District Schools | 0 | 2 |

Additional information on [14-day rolling period](#).

Additional information on symptoms of COVID-19 can be found on the CDC website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact our School Nurse, Ms. Kandi Conner at kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us. As always, thank you for your cooperation as we continue our mitigation efforts.