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Allegheny Valley School District

eNEWS



Allegheny Valley Prepares To Go Back To School

The Allegheny Valley School District enthusiastically looks forward to the 2021-2022 school year. The theme of “Rethink – Reset - Reignite” highlights the District’s commitment to move forward, even with the challenges currently in society. This year, emphasis will be placed on taking the education provided, setting a new standard, and reigniting enthusiasm to build a better Allegheny Valley School District.

The upcoming school year brings new programs and ideas to the District. Acmetonia Elementary students will continue to take full advantage of the facilities and expand the

The Springdale Dynamo Football Team enters Veterans’ Field for their new season.

District's commitment to education. Through new programs that support STEAM learning, staff and students will concentrate on math, engineering, and science. *Reflex Math* will assist students in mastering basic facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Through fun games and activities, students at every level quickly gain math fact fluency and confidence. The program also includes reporting that allows teachers and parents to monitor progress and celebrate success.* (<https://www.reflexmath.com/>)

In addition, Acmetonia Elementary students will be able to participate in the *Acme Engineers-Drone Program*. *LocoRobo's* Pioneer Modules expose elementary school students to the magic behind drone technology - coding, sensors, mechanical design, aerodynamics, and semi-autonomous flight control. The project is used to expose elementary students to how drones can be used and the various career fields that use drones. Grade 6 teacher Sheila Reed sponsors the program. Fourth grade students will incorporate an LED Pegboard/Engineering Station into their classroom. Teacher Elizabeth Newill will utilize the hanging peg board design with LED lights to create a fun environment for students to practice skills. Science students will be able to develop and demonstrate science, engineering, problem solving, math as well as social and emotional skills. Both programs have support through Grants provided by the Dynamo Education Foundation.

Springdale Jr-Sr High School welcomes two teachers to its staff. The newcomers will continue the first-rate history of the school's art and technology education programs. Both individuals are happy to begin working with students and continue to build their various programs.

Allegheny Valley provides details on goals, initiatives, and additional programs on its web site, www.avsdweb.org.

Welcome Back



The members of the Allegheny Valley School District are excited to begin a new school year. The pages of this newsletter contain information for the start of school. Students in grades 1-12 will begin school on Monday, August 23. Kindergarten students and their parents are encouraged to come to Acmetonia

Elementary between 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23 for the Kindergarten Kick-Off. The event will allow students to tour classrooms, see their teachers, and review classroom procedures and routines. Kindergarten begins on Tuesday, August 24. For additional information on Kindergarten activities, please call the Acmetonia Primary School at 724-274-6500.

Please keep in mind the following information:

- Classroom, scheduling, and bus information has been included on the parent portals and given to families through the Parent Portal.
- Parents are reminded that students must ride the bus **THEY ARE ASSIGNED**. Students cannot change buses on a day-to-day basis and will not be permitted to ride home with friends. Administrators would appreciate **NO** parent requests of this nature. This policy is in place for the safety of the students.
- Parents who pick up their children at the bus stops are reminded to park at least ten feet from street corners. While waiting for buses, individuals are asked to respect the property of the homeowners around bus stops.

Important Information

Activity Calendars

Each year, the Allegheny Valley School District publishes an Activities Calendar, which is available in all District offices. After publication, updates for additional activities are added to the District's web site and can be printed directly from the calendar area.

Gold Cards

Senior residents are reminded that passes to enter District events are available. Residents can register for a Gold Card at Springdale Jr-Sr High School's main office. Seniors will need to complete an application and present proof of age, 62 or older, to receive their card. The cards do not have to be renewed.

Use of Student Photos or Interviews

Individual and/or group photographs, interviews, and/or videos of Allegheny Valley students may be taken for use by the District in publications, on its web site, or in local newspapers. Allegheny Valley provides opportunities for positive media publicity; a staff member is always present at these times. If a parent/guardian would prefer that his/her child not be photographed/interviewed for publicity purposes, he/she should send written notification to: Allegheny Valley School District, Public Relations Department, 300 Pearl Avenue, Cheswick, PA 15024.

- Please note that changing traffic patterns throughout the communities may vary bus times. The District asks that parents be patient with these time changes and understand that the District has no control over the time fluctuations.



COVID 19 Information...

The Allegheny Valley School District provides information and updates on the Covid virus and procedures within the schools associated with the current situation. Click here for [additional information](#).



From the Food Services Department...

Information about the Food Services Department, along with breakfast and lunch menus are listed on the District's web site. Click here for [additional information](#) and [back-to-school menus](#).



Public Notices...

Each year, the District publishes important information for parents. These notices are intended to provide valuable information for parents and members of the community. [Click here for Allegheny Valley School District's Public Notices](#).



2021-2022 Alumni Hall of Fame...

Information and the nomination form for the Allegheny Valley School District's Alumni Hall of Fame is attached. Please consider taking time to nominate a deserving alumnus. Click here for [additional information](#).

FERPA Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, requires that the Allegheny Valley School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- The annual yearbook & graduation programs
- Honor roll or other recognition lists
- A playbill, showing the student's role in a drama production
- Sports activity sheets, such as football, showing weight & height of team members

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outsider organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories -names, addresses, and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Allegheny Valley to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice. The Allegheny Valley School District has designated the following information as directory information:

A Student's:

- Name
- Address
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Degrees, honors,
& awards receive
- The most recent agency
or institution attended
- Photograph
- Telephone listing
- Grade level
- Participation in officially
recognized activities & sports
- Weight & height of members of
athletic teams

eNEWS is a publication of the Allegheny Valley School District. Questions or comments should be sent to jzastawniak@avsd.k12.pa.us. The Allegheny Valley School District will not discriminate in its education programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, ancestry, disability, union membership, or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Employees and others involved with the District who have a complaint of discrimination or harassment or require information about accommodations for disabled individuals, should contact the superintendent of schools by calling 724-274-5300 or writing and mailing a letter addressed to 300 Pearl Avenue, Cheswick, PA 15024