



October 21, 2021

# Friday Focus...

## A Family-Friendly Weekly Update

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According to the governor's mandate, anyone attending any activity inside a school district facility must wear a mask. All activities include those attending meetings (School Board Meetings, booster group meetings, etc.), events, and performances. In addition, all visitors to the buildings must wear masks to enter.

☑ Congratulations to the Boys' and Girls' Soccer Teams for making the WPIAL playoffs. The Girls' team will enter the playoffs on Saturday, October 23 vs. Bentworth beginning at 1:00 p.m. The game will be held at Kiski Area High School. The Boys' team will kick off their playoffs on Tuesday, October 26 vs. Seton LaSalle at Elizabeth Forward High School. Game time is 6:00 p.m. Let's Go Dynamos!!

☑ A reminder that the Allegheny Valley School District has scheduled an Act 80 day for Friday, October 22. There is no school for students on this day. Classes resume on Monday, October 25.

☑ The District will hold security drills at both buildings on Tuesday, October 26. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, within 90 days of the beginning of a school year, school entities must conduct one school security drill in each school building in lieu of a required fire drill. After 90 days of the commencement of each school year, school entities may conduct two security drills per school year in each school building in lieu of two fire drills. Each school security drill must be conducted while school is in session and students are present. School districts must notify and request assistance from the local law enforcement agency and emergency management agency before conducting the school security drill.

☑ Activity calendars are available in the building offices. Please contact your child's building secretary if you would like a copy.

☑ As you may remember, the District distributed Learning Loss Surveys at the beginning of the school year. One survey went to each group - families, staff, and students. We received good return rates, and participation was closely split between Acmetonia Elementary and Springdale Jr-Sr High School. The top three priorities from each group include:

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Allegheny Valley School District  
*Rethink - Reset - Reignite*

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Families - Student mental wellness, Teaching and learning, Before/After-school academic learning  
Staff – Student mental wellness, Before/After-school academic learning, Facility improvements  
Students – Student mental wellness, Mathematics, Teaching and learning

To date, the District has implemented several initiatives:

- Two Reading Specialist Interns from the University of Pittsburgh will support grades K-8.
- A Summer Learning Camp for elementary students was held in June.
- Credit recovery courses for Springdale Jr-Sr High students were offered over the summer.

In addition, based on the survey results, observation, and feedback from stakeholders, the District is considering:

- Utilizing PASS, a screening tool that measures both students' attitudes toward themselves as learners and their school. The tool plays a unique role in helping uncover social and emotional barriers to student well-being and academic success.
- Providing after-school tutoring in mathematics across the grade levels.
- Implementing social-emotional support for students at all levels.

Districtwide, teachers continue to present ideas to the building principals that address learning loss. Administrators discuss the ideas in their weekly meetings to determine what measures are feasible among the various grade levels and buildings. Overall, families should understand that spending the available funding is based on ESSER guidelines that all school districts must follow.

If you have an idea that would help mitigate Learning Loss, you are encouraged to share it with your child's building principal. Your thoughts and ideas provide a much-needed lens on how Allegheny Valley approaches Learning Loss.

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## COVID-19 Information:

Parents are encouraged to contact Ms. Kandi Conner, School Nurse, to report positive cases of COVID-19 that directly affect their child, including if the child has tested positive, has symptoms related to COVID, or has been exposed and will need to quarantine. The District also asks if your child is symptomatic or may have been in close contact with a positive case, he/she should stay home. The District stresses the importance of contacting the School Nurse, Ms. Kandi Conner at [kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us) or 724-274-2110 (office) or 724-900-5443 (hotline)). If your child has been vaccinated for COVID-19, parents are asked to please provide a copy of his/her vaccination card as documentation of the date(s) the vaccine was given. COVID-19 vaccination documentation may be sent electronically to Ms. Kandi Conner at [kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us). Copies of vaccination cards may also be sent by U.S. mail to Ms. Kandi Conner, School Nurse, Springdale Jr-Sr High School, 501 Butler Road, Springdale, PA 15144 or dropped off at the high school building. The District will gladly make a copy of the vaccination card.

In addition, parents with health questions should contact: **[Ms. Kandi Conner](#) 724-900-5443**

The District has re-posted the [Covid-19 Tracker on the web site](#) to help notify families of Covid cases within the District.