



September 4, 2020

Friday Flashback...

A Family-Friendly Weekly Update

To provide additional communication for families on the re-opening of school, this short newsletter will be available each Friday.

Notes from Dr. Graczyk:

The District remains extremely encouraged with the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. We appreciate all of the patience and understanding that staff, students, and families have exhibited as we opened education online. As we look forward, we have planned for three phases: 1. Virtual, 2. Blended, and 3. Traditional w/ health & safety precautions.

The District will utilize these phases until we “phase out” and return to school without precautions. Currently, we plan to start the "blended phase" of instruction on Sept 21, 2020. However, a lot can change from now until then, thus like most information, our move to a “blended phase” is subject to change.

In an effort to keep our families updated, we want to provide information on the phased reopening of both Acmetonia Elementary School and Springdale Jr-Sr High School. Below, you will find specific information regarding the second phase: the blended phase.

- Students at both schools will attend school in either Cohort A or Cohort B.
- Students with a last name ending in A-L will attend school in-person on Monday and Thursday.
- Students with a last name ending in M-Z will attend school in-person on Tuesday and Friday.
- All students will work from home on Wednesday; this flexible day for students will allow some of the following to occur: individual instruction, group instruction, enrichment, remediation, parent meetings, etc.
- In order to best accommodate families, students living in the same household will be a part of the same cohort.
- Elementary teachers will be communicating students assigned cohorts through Seesaw on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. In the case that the elementary student(s) has/have a high school sibling(s), the students’ cohort will be the same.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cohort A	Cohort B	All Virtual	Cohort A	Cohort B

Committee Reports:

Reopening of School

- The committee continues to meet to review the plan and make any necessary updates.
- The committee has begun working on details for the Hybrid plan to begin in September.

Health & Safety

- The committee continues to meet to implement details of the Health & Safety Plan in anticipation of students returning to the buildings.
- Trainings continue for staff members in health and safety protocols for return to school.
- The committee will announce a helpline for families to access before and after school for COVID-related questions as soon as details are finalized.
- Any health questions can be sent to building principals or the Ms. Kandi Conner, School Nurse, at kconner@avsd.k12.pa.us



Allegheny Valley School District

Please know we remain mindful of the strain that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on everyone and their families. The health, safety, and welfare of staff, students, and our community are important to us. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best,
Dr. G

Notes

- **Food Service items** – Information on meals for students while on virtual learning is posted on the web site: www.avsdweb.org.
- **The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act)** – The District continues to review the law and any applications from employees. This law may create a shortage of staff to work in the schools.
- **Transportation** - The District sent information on transportation through Blackboard Connect yesterday. Updates will be posted on the web site: www.avsdweb.org.

ATHLETICS:

As many of our Dynamo fans are aware, the Governor announced that spectators will be permitted to attend outdoor events. This announcement forces school districts to limit the number of spectators, which will create incredible inequities. We kindly ask for your patience as we wait on additional guidance and to provide time to put a plan in place.

WEB SITE:

The District will be changing its web site design over the holiday weekend. The site may be down for a short period of time while this occurs. We appreciate your patience as we make this change.

Parent/Guardian Program - Transform for Tomorrow and Remake Learning Days Across America are offering a new, six-part, back-to-school parent and caregiver series entitled *So Now What? Helping Parents & Caregivers Navigate A School Year Like No Other*.

- When: Wednesday evenings in September
Where: Held via Zoom.us
How: Visit <http://bit.ly/SoNowWhatSeries>

Important Dates:

- Sept. 7 Labor Day Holiday, District closed
Sept. 8 School Board Planning Session, 7:00 p.m.
Monthly planning meeting of the Board.
Sept. 15 School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Monthly meeting of the Board.

Friday Flashback is a publication of the Allegheny Valley School District. All questions concerning the newsletter or information contained in the newsletter should be sent to: pgraczyk@avsd.k12.pa.us.

PK-12 Cyber School

- For information on the Dynamo Virtual Academy, please contact:

Elementary:

Jennifer Vecchio

jvecchio@avsd.k12.pa.us

Secondary: Andrew Leviski

aleviski@avsd.k12.pa.us

Finances

-The District continues to search out grants to help support resources for the reopening of school.

Resources

- Springdale Free Public Library - The Springdale Free Public Library offers resources for area families. Please contact them for additional information:

