



Alfred-Almond Central School District Newsletter

March 2025

Inside this issue...

Donlon named national finalist; Universal Pre-K and Kindergarten info; Kindness Club; Positive behavior partyPg. 2

Tech Day; Seniors gain privilege; Electromagnetic investigations; 2025 year-bookPg. 3

Learning on the slopes; Ski Club; Wrestlers visit PE classPg. 4

Pre-K Application ...Pg. 5

Census Pg. 6

The arts at AACs.... Pg. 7

Emergency closing info; Transportation requests; Important dates; 2025 BumpapaloozaPg. 8

A message from the Superintendent

Dear Alfred-Almond families,
As the first signs of spring emerge, we're filled with a sense of renewal and excitement at Alfred-Almond CSD. This time of year is always special, marking the culmination of hard work and the anticipation of exciting opportunities ahead.

We've had a year filled with remarkable achievements by individual students and as a community. From academic honors and inspiring artistic performances to athletic wins and simple acts of kindness, our students have consistently shown their dedication and potential. It's truly rewarding to see them grow and develop. I also want to express my sincere appreciation for our exceptional staff. Their unwavering commitment to creating a supportive and engaging learning environment is invaluable. The countless hours they dedicate to personalized instruction, innovative programs and enriching extracurricular activities are deeply appreciated. They are genuinely pillars of our students' educational journey.

Spring brings exciting possibilities! We eagerly anticipate upcoming events, including the high school musical, band and choral performances, field trips, the art show, spring sports and graduation ceremonies. These events promise to create valuable learning experiences and lasting memories for our students.

Our school community's strength lies in our collaborative spirit. Parents, guardians and families play a vital role in supporting their children's academic and personal growth. We encourage your continued engagement through attending events, volunteering opportunities and open communication with teachers and staff. Together, we ensure Alfred-Almond remains a vibrant hub of learning, growth and opportunity for all.

In closing, I sincerely thank everyone who contributes to our school's success. From our students' enthusiasm to our staff's tireless dedication and the unwavering support of families, you are the heart and soul of Alfred-Almond.

Wishing you all a joyful, renewing and prosperous spring season.

Warmly,

Brett Dusinberke

Superintendent of Schools

Download the ParentSquare app today!

Stay involved with your student's learning and activities at school. From anywhere.





ParentSquare

Donlon named national finalist

Brogan Donlon has been named a 2025 National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Less than one percent of the nation's 1.6 million eligible high school seniors are chosen as finalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. In the spring, 7,500 National Merit Scholarships, worth approximately \$31 million, will be awarded to select finalists.

Congratulations and good luck, Brogan!



Universal Pre-K enrollment

Administration anticipates that the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program for our preschool children will continue into the 2025-26 school year. Children born on or before December 1, 2021 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 UPK application is included in this newsletter and also will be available at the Elementary Office and on the district website at www.aacsapps.com. If you wish to receive an application in the mail, please contact Nicole VanNorman at 607-276-6530 or email nvannorman@aacsapps.com. Completed applications, a copy of your child's birth certificate and current physical and immunization records are due at the Elementary Office no later than Wednesday, May 9. 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 12. Questions should be directed to Casey Barber, elementary principal, at 607-276-6525.

It's fun to be kind at A-A

Our Elementary Kindness Club recently celebrated World Kindness Day by including the whole elementary school to make a human "BE KIND" sign.



This was a fun and creative way to celebrate and show that we know how to be kind.

Party celebrates positive behavior

Our school auditorium was filled with the sounds of laughter and the delicious aroma of popcorn as we celebrated our students' outstanding positive behavior with a movie and popcorn party on January 31.

The PBIS incentive was a fantastic way to recognize the many students who have consistently demonstrated safety, ownership, acceptance and respect. We were thrilled to see so many students enjoying the classic animated film *An American Tail* while indulging in fresh movie theater popcorn purchased from the Hornell Spotlight Theater.



We are incredibly proud of our students for their dedication to positive behavior and this event served as a reminder of the importance of recognizing and reinforcing those positive choices.

Thank you to everyone who made the party a resounding success. We look forward to continuing to celebrate our students' achievements and fostering a positive school culture.

Kindergarten information

Children born on or before December 1, 2020 are eligible to enter school in September 2025. If your child is eligible to attend kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year, please contact the Elementary Office at 607-276-6530 or email Nicole Van Norman at nvannorman@aacsapps.com to be added to the list to receive informational mailings.

Students attend Tech Career Day

Mrs. Boone and Mr. McAneney took their students to Technical Career Day at Alfred State College's Wellsville Campus.

The students had a great day shadowing the vocational programs and watching hands-on demonstrations.



Seniors gain new privilege

On February 3, the Secondary School implemented a new privilege for senior students. Seniors will now have the option of choosing late arrival or early dismissal in their schedule. This would allow a senior to opt out of a study hall for 1st Mod or 8th Mod. Late arrival would allow a senior student to come in to school at 9:23 a.m. Early dismissal would allow a senior student to leave after 7th mod at 2:11 p.m.

To maintain this privilege, students must adhere to following qualifications throughout the school year:

1. The senior must maintain at least 2nd honor status;
2. The senior cannot be chronically absent (more than 10% of school days);
3. The senior cannot be late to school more than three instances;
4. The senior may not appear on the blue list;
5. The senior may not be in violation of the code of conduct.

As seniors are fast approaching their futures in higher education and/or the workforce, we want to reward students who have maintained a high level of excellence and responsibility.

Seniors for the 2025-26 school year will have this year's quarter 4 grades and attendance utilized to grant privileges for the start of the school year.

Electromagnetic investigations

Some of Mr. Weller's fourth-grade scientists created and tested the strength of electromagnets. They worked in small groups and did a great job.

Our sixth-grade scientists investigated electromagnetic force by building electromagnets. They then chose variables

to change to see how the changes affected efficiency before deciding what changes they would implement to make the most powerful electromagnet. Next up, we will investigate weather and water.



Order your 2025 yearbook today

The 2025 Yearbook is almost done and ready to print. Time is running out to buy your copy! The deadline to order is May 2, 2025.

Again this year, all yearbooks must be ordered online. The cost is \$65 plus tax. To order your yearbook:

- Visit www.jostens.com;
- Click the link: Order Your Yearbook Today;
- Search for Alfred-Almond Central High School;
- Follow the prompt to input your information.

Please direct any questions to Kelly Valentine at kvalentine@acsapps.com.

A day of learning on the slopes

Our fourth grade spent a bright, sunny February day at Swain Resort learning to ski and snowboard. The field trip was funded and supported by GST BOCES as part of a CoSer program created by Mr. Dwyer and Mr. Mann.

Our students had an amazing time on the slopes! Thank you to GST BOCES, Swain Resort, the ski instructors, our chaperones and administration for supporting this enriching experience.



A season of smiles and snow

Ski Club members have wrapped up a happy season. Each week, approximately 30-40 fourth- through twelfth-grade students hit the slopes supervised by Mrs. Cady and Mr. Rech.

Many times, big snowflakes fell on our smiling skiers both on the slopes at Swain Resort and while waiting for our bus.

No make up dates will be scheduled this March as we were able to complete all six trips in January and February.



College wrestlers visit PE class

The Alfred State Women's Wrestling team led by Coach Laine visited our second- through sixth-grade PE classes. Team members introduced basic fundamental skills and techniques and taught our students about the sport of wrestling.

Special thanks to the team for volunteering to come in to our classes and show us some moves.



PreKindergarten Program Application

Alfred-Almond School District

Today's Date _____

Student's Legal Name: _____

Last Name

First Name

Name Called: _____

Male **Female** **Date of Birth** _____

Is Student Hispanic, Latino or 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:** _____

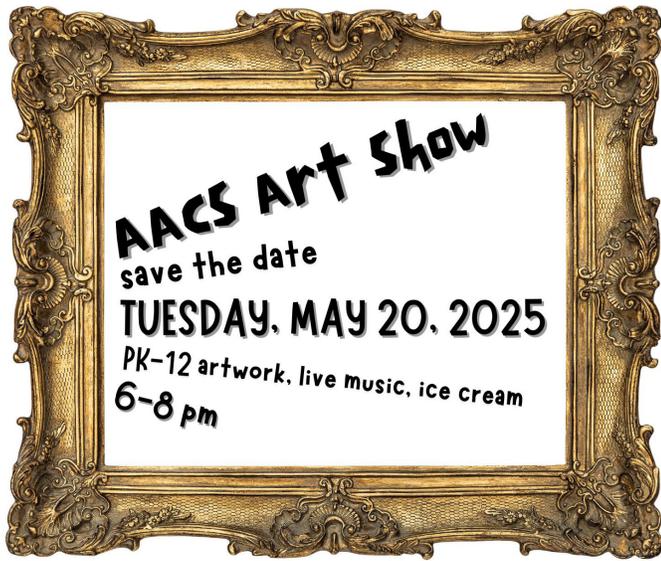
Mailing Address if different:

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**

Experience the arts with AACCS



Jr./Sr. High Spring Concert
March 26, 7:00 p.m.

NYSMMA Instrumental at Hornell
May 8

NYSSMA Zone 15 West Side Solo Fest at Fillmore
May 9-10

Select Ensembles at the AACCS Art Show
May 20

Darien Lake Field Trip
May 31

Elementary Strawberry Festival Concert
June 3

Jr./Sr. High Strawberry Festival and Senior Night Concert
June 5, 7:00 p.m.

Senior High Band and Choir Perform at Graduation
June 28, 2:00 p.m.

Art students go wild for grayscale

Sixth-grade artists went wild in art class. They recently completed the grayscale unit with some excellent grayscale animal portraits. Well done!



POSTAL PATRON

Alfred-Almond Central School
6795 Route 21
Almond, New York 14804

US Postage Paid
Alfred, New York 14802
Permit No. 20
Non-Profit Organization

Important Dates

- March 13 & 14.....Parent/Teacher Conferences
Elementary Students Dismissed at 11:30 a.m.
- March 21 & 24.....Superintendent’s Conference Days
NO SCHOOL for Students
- April 14-18..... Spring Recess: NO SCHOOL
- April 21Deadline for BOE Petitions
- May 6 Voter Registration, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
- May 6 Budget Presentation, 7:00 p.m.
- May 20Annual Vote/Election, 1:00-8:00 p.m.
- May 26 Memorial Day: NO SCHOOL
- June 19 Juneteenth: NO SCHOOL
- June 28 Graduation, 2:00 p.m.

Teachers reign at Bumpapalooza

It was a night of fierce competition and fun on Friday, March 1, as 17 teams stormed the high school gym, vying for the title of 2025 Bumpapalooza Volleyball Tournament Champions. The energy was electric as teams battled through the intense double-elimination bracket, showcasing skill, determination, and a whole lot of heart.

Looking to defend their reign, *In Court Suspension*, the teacher team, fought their way to the top, clinching the championship trophy once again. They emerged victorious in the finals, besting the formidable 11th-grade squad, *Back That Up* (Lucas Stearns, William Deninger, Henry Lawrence, Alexis Kuhn, Noelle Emerson and Zavier Rao).



The 12th-grade team, *Clear My Serve History* (Noelle Hildreth, Connor Warren, Patrick Power, Caleb Roberts,



Magnus McMichael and Owen Stuart) earned the coveted title of Toilet Bowl Champions.

Thank you to all teams and players for making this year’s Bumpapalooza another smashing success.

Special appreciation to Mr. Decker and Miss Ball for their expert refereeing, as well as the PE department for their seamless setup and organization of the bracket.

Beyond the competition, this event served a greater purpose—more than \$1,000 was raised for the Allegany County Area Foundation. Your support made a difference and the student government couldn’t have done it without you.

Emergency closing info

As a reminder to parents, it is sometimes necessary to close school because it is not safe for our students to walk or ride to school, such as in the event of inclement winter weather.

Should it be necessary to close school, you will receive an automated message notifying you of this occurrence. Please be sure we have your accurate and updated contact information to ensure you receive messages.

For additional information on school closings, please listen to one of the following radio or TV stations:

- WLEA 1480 AM WLSV790 AM WKPQ 105.3 FM
- WCKR 92.1 FM WJQZ 103.5 FM WZKZ 101.1 FM
- WKBW-TV (Buffalo) WETM-TV (Elmira)

Transportation requests

Any parent requesting transportation for his/her child to a non-public school for the 2025-26 academic year must make such request in writing no later than April 1, 2025.

These written requests should be submitted to the Alfred-Almond District Office.

