

"Education is not filling a pail but the lighting of a fire."

~William Butler Yeats

# Allen Road Elementary School

## Gator Gazette E\*News

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER, 2017

### UPCOMING EVENTS...

- 12/8—Half Day
- 12/11—6:30—  
Holiday Chorus  
Concert @  
RRMS
- 12/13—PTO  
Winter  
Wonderland
- 12/25—1/1—  
Christmas  
Recess
- 1/2—Students  
return to  
school

### INSIDE THE ONLINE...

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December](#)

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## Gator 'Tales'...

Wasn't it just last week that we were gathering on the playground for a hot dog and unpacking school supplies on the 1st day of school? Now we are knocking on the door of Christmas and a New Year—what an incredibly busy fall it has been!

There are four brief topics I would like to touch on in this month's article, beginning with a compliment to all of our students for the great job they did today on our first Lockdown Drill! While it saddens me that we even have a need to prepare for potential emergency situations, our staff and students are well prepared. Later this year we will spend time at one of our PTO meetings discussing all we do to ensure building safety and security. Look for it on an



upcoming agenda.

Second, having just navigated online report cards for the first time in our district, I felt it important to share some additional information which you will find on page 5 of the newsletter. Please take a moment to click on the link at the bottom to go to the full newsletter and read this important message.

Third, I would like to invite you all to attend our PTO's Winter Wonderland on the 13th, as we are adding a celebration of many of our ENL students cultures to this event. While celebrating the holiday season, we want to be mindful of the diverse cultures we have represented in our building. We will have a number of families and students setting up tables to share what we may not know about holidays and celebrations in other countries.

Finally, I want to express thanks after Thanksgiving for the wonderful and supportive family community we have at Allen Road. From our staff families to yours, we wish you a very blessed, safe, and happy holiday season! Have a wonderful holiday and we will see you

*-Diane*

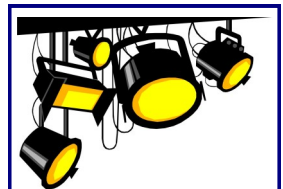
## PTO News and Views

Happy December Allen Road families! It's been a great end of 2017 with many new and exciting events happening this year. It always seems while this time of year is the most magical, its also the busiest. PTO has been working hard getting ready for our next event, Winter Wonderland on December 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. Every year this event becomes something even more exciting. In addition to our Festival of Trees, tree lighting and Santa, we are having our 2<sup>nd</sup> Kid's Corner Gift Shoppe.

Preorder slips are due December 6<sup>th</sup>, so be sure to send those in! Volunteers are still needed, so please take a moment and head to our Facebook and sign up. Even thirty minutes makes a difference.

Please have a safe and happy winter break and we will see all your smiling faces back in 2018!

Gina Baker and Ashley Kirby  
PTO Co-Presidents  
arepto@gmail.com



### In the Spotlight

Want a good laugh? Check out Mr. Lunden in reindeer pajamas on PJ Day by following

[@AREPrincipal](#)

The students did a great job as always filling others buckets! We raised over \$400 to donate to Golisano's Childrens Hospital, while having a great time wearing pajamas to support Paige!

## North Syracuse Board of Education:

**Michael Shusda—President**

*Michael Mirizio —Vice-President*

*Paul Farfaglia*

*George Harrington*

*Michael Leone*

*Erin McDonald*

*Jacqueline Owens*

*Mary Scanlon*

*Patrick Svoboda*

### **NORTH SYRACUSE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

*The students, residents and staff of the North Syracuse Central School District will work collaboratively to ensure a respectful and diversified learning environment. Our collective focus is to provide educational experiences and opportunities that inspire students to reach their individual potential as productive citizens.*



*Adopted by the Board of Education, August 11, 2014*

## Central Office Administration:

**Ms. Annette Speech**

**Superintendent of Schools**

*Donald F.X. Keegan*

*Associate Superintendent for Business Services*

*Jason Nephew*

*Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*

*Daniel Bowles*

*Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning*

*Dawn Wilczynski*

*Assistant Superintendent for Instruction*

*Valerie DiFlorio*

*Executive Director for Diverse Learning  
and Student Support*

*Donna Marie Norton*

*Executive Director for Data and Accountability*

## Allen Road Elementary Office Staff:

**David M. Lunden**

**Building Principal**

*Kathy See and Robin Floyd*

*Secretaries*

*218-2300*

*Fax: 218-2385*

*Anna Werksman*

*School Nurse*

*218-2303*

*School Hours: 8:30-4:00*

*Student Hours: 9:00-3:20*

*A leader is a  
dealer  
in hope.*

*~Napoleon  
Bonaparte*



### **Kids' Corner Gift Shoppe**

Presale is going on now! You can purchase gift(s) so that your child can shop for family, friends, teachers, etc. **Presales are due by 12/6.**

1 gift for \$2

2 gifts for \$2

3 gifts for \$5

The night of Winter Wonderland, all gifts will be \$2 each.

### **Winter Wonderland Volunteers**

We are in need of volunteers for our Winter Wonderland event. Please consider donating your time. To volunteer, please [follow this link](#) and choose a time slot of your liking. A flier will come home next week that you can also send in if you're unable to sign up on line.

### **Apparel**

Apparel orders are due to arrive by next week so you should see them come home with your children. If you marked Christmas gift, you'll be contacted to let you know where you can pick up your orders.

### **Upcoming Dates**

There is no PTO meeting this month

January PTO meeting is 1/10/18 from 6-8pm in the school library.

### **General PTO Information**

Have you considered being an officer on our PTO Board? We are expecting openings next school year. Positions will be discussed at our March PTO meeting. If you have any questions, please contact us at [arepto@gmail.com](mailto:arepto@gmail.com)

*It is easier to  
build strong  
children than to  
repair broken  
men.*

*~Frederick  
Douglass*

## From the Health Office...

In November I finished up all the NYS mandated hearing and vision screenings. You were notified, if I had a concern

Wellness Wakeup call- this month we will be learning about Power eating.

Please check out the recipe of the month on my website.

FLU VACCINE - If you or your child has not yet received one - it's not too late. Check out the information on my website - why everyone should get a flu vaccine.

PHYSICALS - Just a reminder, that physical exams are required for all students in Kindergarten, second and fourth grades. Also students new to the NSCSD. For students who have not presented the nurse with a physical or a scheduled appointment date-physicals will be given by Dr. Comissio on January 17, 2018.

BMI REPORTING - This school year New York State department of health has chosen our district to take part in a survey that requires our school to report students BMI (body mass index). Please read the attached letter. Do you NOT wish to have your child's weight status group information included in the survey, please call me by December 18<sup>th</sup> 2017.

LOST & FOUND - If your child is missing clothing, take a look through the lost and found, it's located outside my door.

As always, please notify me if there are any changes in your child's health

Have a wonderful Holiday Season,

Mrs. Werksman RN

218-2303 or [awerksma@nscsd.org](mailto:awerksma@nscsd.org)

*I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them.*

*~Phyllis Diller*



## Online Report Cards—what we've learned already!

If you have successfully viewed your child's report card using the Parent Portal in School Tool, you're halfway there! We appreciate the patience and persistence this past month as we discovered a lot about the process of going online.

During the week of Parent/Teacher Conferences we discovered that when trying to view the report card from your phone, you **MUST** click on **VIEW FULL SITE** when first logging in—otherwise you will be limited in what you are able to view once logged in.

We also noticed that some parents were having difficulty finding the small purple triangle next to their child's name, which is also a key to being able to view information and report cards online.

**Most concerning though is our recent discovery that we have an incredibly large number of STUDENTS who have not yet seen their report card, based on parent log in activity and student feedback.**

Please remember that report cards are a great way for students to monitor their own progress toward their academic and behavioral goals. It is also a powerful conversation to have together when you go online and review the document together.

If you haven't already, please share the report card with your child. Ask them what they are learning in each of the areas, what they are proud of, and what new goals they might want to set for themselves.

If you need help with accessing your child's report card at any time, please call our office (315) 218-2300 and ask for Kathy or Robin.

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men.*

*~Frederick  
Douglass*



Annette Speech  
Superintendent of Schools  
[www.nscsd.org](http://www.nscsd.org)

Allen Road Elementary School  
David M. Lunden, Principal

803 Allen Road  
North Syracuse, NY 13212-1900

[dlunden@nscsd.org](mailto:dlunden@nscsd.org)

315/ 218-2300

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*~Frederick  
Douglass*

~~December 1st, 2017~~

Dear Parent/Guardian:

*As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or "BMI". The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. This only applies to students in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State Department of Health. Our school has been selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.*

*The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier.*

*If you **do not wish** to have your child's weight status group information included in the survey please call the health office (315-218-2300) by ~~December 18, 2017~~.*

*If you have any questions, please call Tim Bednarski, Director of Health Education at 315-218-4115.*

Thank you,  
Mrs. ~~Wendy~~

# DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4 7:00—BOE Meeting	5	6	7	8 Half Day	9
10	11 6:30—Holiday Chorus Concert @ RRMS	12	13 6:00—PTO Winter Wonderland	14	15	16
17	18 7:00—BOE Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Christmas Break	28	29	30
31	1	2 Student return to school				

# Elementary School Menu

Menu Subject to Change  
 North Syracuse School District Is An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

# December 2017

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

## Available with All Lunches

Assorted Fruit Cups  
 Milk Choice

4 Hot Meatball Sub  
 Tossed Salad w/  
 Dressing  
 Seasoned Corn

5 BBQ Rib Sandwich  
 BBQ Baked Beans  
 French Fries  
 Fresh Fruit

11 Pizza Crunchers  
 w/ Sauce  
 Seasoned Carrots  
 Seasoned Green Beans

12 Italian Turkey  
 Combo Panini  
 Sweet Potato Bltes  
 BBQ Baked Beans  
 Fresh Fruit

6 Orange Chicken w/  
 Fried Rice  
 Steamed Broccoli  
 Stir Fry Veggies  
 Fortune Cookie

13 Egg McMuffin  
 Sandwich  
 w/ Sausage  
 Hash Brown Patty  
 100% Fruit-Vegetable  
 Juice

7 Garlic Parmesan  
 Chicken  
 w/ Texas Toast  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Cut Green Beans  
 Fresh Fruit

14 Chicken & Potato  
 Bowl w/ Biscuit  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 California Blend  
 Vegetable  
 Fresh Fruit

1 Personal Pan Pizza  
 Garden Salad w/  
 Dressing  
 Seasoned Broccoli  
 Fresh Fruit

8 ½ Day  
 NO LUNCH

15 Nardone's  
 Pizza  
 Garden Salad w/  
 Dressing  
 Seasoned Broccoli  
 Fresh Fruit

18 Breaded Pork Patty  
 w/ Gravy &  
 Dinner Roll  
 Seasoned Green Beans  
 Garden Salad w/  
 Dressing

19 Bacon  
 Cheeseburger  
 BBQ Baked Beans  
 Sweet Potato Fries  
 Fresh Fruit

20 Macaroni & Cheese  
 Seasoned Carrot Fries  
 w/ Dip  
 California Blend  
 Vegetable  
 Snowman Pretzel

21 Hot Turkey  
 w/ Gravy & Biscuit  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 California Blend  
 Veggies  
 Fresh Fruit

22 Homemade  
 Pizza  
 Garden Salad w/  
 Dressing  
 Seasoned Broccoli  
 Fresh Fruit

25 Holiday  
 Recess  
 No  
 School

26 Holiday  
 Recess  
 No  
 School

27 Holiday  
 Recess  
 No  
 School

28 Holiday  
 Recess  
 No  
 School

29 Holiday  
 Recess  
 No  
 School

Breakfast \$1.75  
 Lunch  
 Elementary Schools \$2.25  
 Middle Schools \$2.50  
 High Schools \$2.75  
 Milk \$0.65

## Second Choice

Monday – Burger  
 Tuesday – Popcorn Chicken  
 Wednesday – Hot Dog  
 Thursday – Chicken Patty  
 Friday – Burger

PB & J and Yogurt Meal  
 also available

Visit our website to print an  
 application and to  
 view menus.

[www.nscsd.org](http://www.nscsd.org)

What do elves make  
 sandwiches with?

peartious