

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

~William Butler Yeats

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- 1/4—6:00—PTO Meeting.
- 1/16—Martin Luther King Jr. Day—No School.
- 1/26—MGR Players visiting for 3rd and 4th grades.
- 1/27—Half Day
- 2/1—6:00—FEBRUARY PTO MEETING.

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Allen Road Elementary School

Gator Gazette E*News

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

JANUARY, 2017

Gator 'Tales'...

Well, we are here again—launching into a new year while simultaneously wondering where the last one went. For the Lunden household, 2016 was a year packed with multiple graduations, surgeries, home repairs, family moves, and more. It seemed like there wasn't a weekend free from some obligation, event, or lengthy 'to-do' list to tackle. So we are labeling 2017 a 'year of recovery' to catch our breath and slow down a bit...(I know, good luck with that one!)

But as we enter the new year, I always think about the concept of resolutions. And this year in particular—about the word 'resolute'. Whether it is legitimate or in our minds, there is something to the turning of a



calendar page and feeling we have a 'clean slate'. The break recharges, and the mindset is refreshed, but I am still nagged by the question, what am I resolute about—regardless of the day and date on the calendar?

The answer is simple—I am resolute about the fact that in my life—and for our students—there are simply no shortcuts to

being effective. And that good is good, no matter how you slice it. Good teaching is good teaching—requiring planning, energy, skill, time, etc.. And good character is good character—nothing replaces kind words, compassion, and understanding. And that good relationships are good relationships based on mutual investment, common goals, and respect.

As we enter the new year in a relationship intended to do the best for our students—your children—consider what you are resolute about in their education. This article; [New Year's Resolution: Help Your Kids Do Well in School](#), offers simple ways to resolve to be involved in your child's education a little differently this year. Thank you
-1 Jane
half

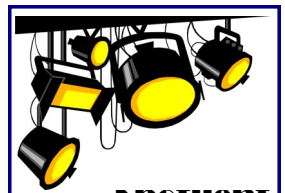
PTO News and Views

Happy New Year to all our ARE families! It was so nice to see many of you at our Winter Wonderland and Festival of Trees. What an enjoyable evening it was. We hope you and your families enjoyed it as much as our families. Now, here we are in 2017 already planning for Allen Road's annual Labor of Love (2/10 from 6-8pm). Our charity this year is McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center. Their programs come to our school every year to speak to our children in K-2. They do amazing work here in our community. You

can read more about what they do at mcmahonryan.org.

Our next PTO meeting is scheduled for January 4th at 6pm in our school library. Child care will be provided. Also upcoming this month is our UNOs community night on January 18th. Its an all day event. Come have dinner with your ARE families. Class with the most participants will win a pizza party!

~Ashley Kirby & Kim Kennedy,
PTO Presidents
arepto@gmail.com



SPOTLIGHT

Looking back at the month of December...

Visit our

[January Spotlight](#)

Which highlights more than 30 students that took part in some special giving as part of our Allen Road Caring Club.

North Syracuse Board of Education:

Michael Shusda—President

Michael Mirizio —Vice-President

Paul Farfaglia

George Harrington

Elizabeth Kasch

Michael Leone

Scot McClintock

Jacqueline Owens

Mary Scanlon

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*



Upcoming PTO Events

January 4th—PTO Meeting at 6pm in the Library. Childcare provided

January 18th—UNOs Community Event

February 1st—PTO Meeting at 6pm in the Library. Childcare provided

February 10th—Labor of Love

Our PTO meeting this month has no speaker. We will be discussing the PTO's annual budget, giving a recap from our Winter Wonderland event, and briefly discussing our upcoming February Labor of Love event. We would love to welcome parents who have ideas and opinions about our events, or on ways we could improve them in the future. All are always welcomed and are encouraged to attend our meetings.

UNO's Community Night

UNOs Community night will be held at the UNOs location on Route 31. Come and enjoy a dinner with your Allen Road family. Look for the flier to be send home in the next couple weeks. Please bring the flier with you to the event. Class with the most participation will win a pizza party!

General PTO Information

Have you ever considered being an officer on our PTO board? We are expecting some openings next school year for the following positions: Co-President and Vice-President.

We will also have an opening for our Yearbook Coordinator. For more information about

any of these positions, please contact us at

arepto@gmail.com

Thank You
Ashley Kirby and Kim Kennedy
PTO Co-Presidents

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

*~Frederick
Douglass*

A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT...

We Want to Hear From You!

North Syracuse Central School District

Community Survey

Your Opinion Matters!

www.nscsd.org/NSCSDComsurvey



January 10 - February 28, 2017

*It is easier to
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*~Frederick
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The Library Information Link by Ms. Kathy Spitzer, School Librarian

As of Jan. 3, I will transfer to the North Syracuse Junior High School to fill a vacancy left by my colleague who has retired. It was a very difficult decision to leave all of our wonderful staff and students here at Allen Rd. I am transferring because the schedule will allow me to better care for my parents who are 85 and 86 years old and I believe it is important to honor my father and my mother.

It has been a joy to teach and learn from all of your children and I would like to leave you with the first stanza of one of my favorite poems by Sara Teasdale. It expresses the joy of teaching your students whose faces do, indeed, hold wonder like a cup!

*Barter
By Sara Teasdale*

*Life has loveliness to sell,
All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,
Soaring fire that sways and sings,*

From the Health Office...

Physicals:

If to date, the Health office has not received documentation that you child had a physical examination for the following grades: K, 2, 4 your child will be receiving a Physical by our school Physician Dr. Comisso on January 11, 2017

Wellness Wakeup call: In January we will be learning about Fitness & Exercise. A recipe for Super Energy bars will be on my website.

Used clothes: When your child borrows clothes at the health office, could you please return it back to me washed.

Cold weather safety: This time a year it's a good idea to talk to your children about cold weather safety. Extra care is needed, especially for the younger children to be sure frostbite does not occur.

- *Check what your children are wearing, hat, gloves, boots
- *Explain danger signs and risks of when to seek help
- *Check if the child gets cold or wet, especially their gloves and boots
- *Check if the child feels pain or numbness anywhere, especially hands, feet, ears or nose
- *Check if the child thinks they may have frostbite which behaves like a burn and requires medical attention.

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

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

~Phyllis Diller

Come be a part of the
Allen Road ELV's!



Early Literacy Volunteers

We need volunteers to work with our Kindergarten students. Our instructional focus is based on letter names, sounds, sight words, blending, decoding and reading.

If **A little time makes a big difference!** Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring services for just 15 minutes at a

you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact us at the Main Office and we will get you connected right away! Thank you!

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

~Phyllis Diller



IMPORTANT PARENT NOTIFICATION

~ BUILDING PROCEDURES ~

Over the first months of the year we have discovered some confusion and/or miscommunication over certain building procedures. Please make sure you are aware of the following expectations when visiting:

- ◆ For classroom parties and celebrations, younger siblings should not attend. While we know this may present some childcare issues, our intent is maintain a focus on the student/classroom being celebrated.
- ◆ When visiting for lunch, please remember that we do not allow 'fast food' to be brought in to the cafeteria, as we try to promote healthy eating habits across the district. Parents may still bring in food from outside the school, but with a healthier focus. Thank you for your support!

JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 6:00—PTO Meeting	5	6	7
8	9 7:00—BOE Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No School	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 7:00—BOE Meeting	24	25	26 MGR Players visiting for 3rd and 4th Grades	27 Half Day for students	28
29	30	31	FEBRUARY 1st 6:00—PTO Meeting			

North Syracuse Elementary School

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

January 2017

Second Choice

Monday – Burger
Tuesday – Chicken
Smackers

Wednesday – Burger
Thursday – Chicken
Smackers

Friday – Burger

PB & J and Yogurt Meal
Available daily

Breakfast \$1.70
Lunch

Elementary Schools \$2.20
Middle Schools \$2.45
High Schools \$2.70
Milk \$0.65

The food service department is looking for substitute food service workers. Please call the food service office for an application 218-2175.

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

www.nscsd.org

What do you get when a chicken lays an egg on a barn? An eggroll!

MONDAY

2 Christmas Recess
No School

9 Hot Dog on Whole Grain Roll
Potato Gems
BBQ Baked Beans

16 Martin Luther King Day
No School

23 Pizza Crunchers w/ Sauce
California Blend Vegetable
Brown Sugar Carrots

30 Mini Turkey Corn Dogs
Sweet Potato Fries
Green Beans

TUESDAY

3 Cinnamon Glazed French Toast Sticks
w/ Sausage
Star Potatoes
100% Fruit/Vegetable Juice

10 Homemade Sloppy Joe Sandwich
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Baby Carrots w/ Dip
Whole Fruit Frozen Cup

17 Fish Nuggets w/ Dinner Roll
Seasoned Carrot Coins
Sweet Potato Fries
Fresh Fruit

24 Beef Nachos w/ Salsa & Cheese
Steamed Brown Rice
Refried Beans
Corn
Fresh Fruit

31 Mini Chocolate Chip Pancakes
w/ Sausage
Star Potatoes
100% Fruit/Vegetable Juice

WEDNESDAY

4 BBQ Rib Sandwich
Potato Wedges
Green Beans

11 Chicken & Potato Bowl w/ Roll
Mashed Potatoes
California Blend Vegetable

18 Chicken and Broccoli Alfredo w/ Bread Stick
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Seasoned Corn

25 Turkey & Cheese Panini
Sweet Potato Gems
Coleslaw
Brownie Bites

THURSDAY

5 Soft Beef Taco w/ Lettuce, Salsa & Cheese
Steamed Brown Rice
Refried Beans
Corn
Fresh Fruit

12 Homemade Mac & Cheese w/ Dinner Roll
Seasoned Carrots
Celery w/ Dip
Fresh Fruit

19 Hot Turkey & Gravy w/ WG Biscuit
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Fresh Fruit

26 Pasta & Meat Sauce w/ Breadstick
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Green Beans
Fresh Fruit

FRIDAY

6 Nardone's Pizza
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Fruit

13 Assorted Homemade Pizza
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Fruit

20 Stuffed Crust Pizza
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Fruit

27 ½ Day School
NO LUNCH

Available with All Lunches

Assorted Fruit Cups
Milk Choice