

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

~William Butler Yeats

Allen Road Elementary School

Gator Gazette E*News

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 9

MAY, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- 5/2—Teacher Appreciation Day
- 5/3—School Nurse Appreciation Day
- 5/3—6:00—PTO Meeting
- 5/9 & 5/16—Teaching Assistant and Teacher Aide Appreciation Days
- 5/12—Half Day
- 5/23—Race For Education
- 5/29—Memorial Day—No School

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Gator 'Tales'...

There are months where I click 'send' for the newsletter and think "Man—I really nailed that article!", believing myself to be truly inspirational. And in fairness—other months where I wonder if I have simply sent the gazette into a great big Cyber-black hole of school communications—and then everything in between.

Then there is this month... admittedly a shameless plug to a captive audience (for those of you still reading...) asking for your help.

In hopes that you will forgive me for not being witty or deep, I would like to briefly discuss three important events occurring that we would love to see the Allen Road parent community support.

Race For Education

PTO News and Views

Welcome back from Spring Break! It is unreal to think that we have eight weeks until summer vacation! May welcomes many activities including our Race for Education and the start of our 4th quarter After School Enrichment activities, as well as the final touches for Carnival, which is June 2nd.

Don't forget to order your yearbook online. The link to the website is on our [Facebook page!](#)

Race for Education is off to a slow start this year. We are



For three years we have held only one fundraiser to raise money for both our annual operating costs and to raise money for new capital projects. Currently we are well below our donation level compared to past years, and we hope you will consider sending in more labels with names and addresses for us to send flyers out to. RFE takes place on the 23rd, so we can send flyers out right up until that week.

under our goal of 2500 labels. It's never too late to send in labels to help out the school. Remember, the money raised during race determines our events for next school year.

We'd also like to see you at our last PTO meeting Wednesday, May 3rd at 6pm in the library. We'll be voting in new board members for next year and wrapping up end of the year information.

Kim Kennedy and Ashley Kirby
PTO Co-Presidents
arepto@gmail.com

NSCSD Budget Vote

On May 16th we hold our annual budget vote and we hope you will come out to one of our two voting locations to cast your ballot. Our Board of Education and District Administration have worked hard to share and approve the budget presented to the community. We hope you will take a moment out of your day to vote.

PTO Carnival

Friday, June 3rd is our annual PTO Carnival which requires 100 volunteer hours just to make the event possible. Please consider contacting our PTO to offer an hour of your evening to make it possible to continue this tradition for our students which caps a great year.

Thank you as always for

-Diane



spotlight

Click and visit our

[Allen Road PTO Facebook page](#)

Scroll down to see pictures of our recent visit from the Merry-Go-Round Players!

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*



Important Dates

May 3rd: PTO meeting at 6pm in the school library

May 23rd: Race for Education

June 2nd: Carnival 5-8pm

[April PTO Meeting Minutes](#)

[May PTO Meeting Agenda](#)

Apparel Orders

Apparel should be in by the middle of May. Unless specified as a gift, the apparel will come home in the student’s backpack.

After School Enrichment

Our last quarter of After School Enrichment starts the beginning of May. We are always looking for new and exciting ideas for next year. Please reach out to the PTO if you have an idea that you’d like to see available to the students next year

Box Tops

Here are the amounts collected for each class room

Schulz 1918	Nelson 322	Emond 144	Guthrie 398
Traylor 308	Collins 167	Loman 629	Brigham 344
Jerome 27	Freeman 408	Corwin 18	Ciesla 287
Barzee 360	Kocher 367	Welsh 603	Henty 117
Burns 482			

Our Box Top total for our Spring Collection is: **6,899 box tops!** Way to go!

Our winners for the Ice Cream Party is our third-grade class **Mrs. Schulz!!** Congratulations!

Our students in each level who won a \$10 gift card are:

- K: Jason Woods 1st: Nicky Harders 2nd: Leah Emmi
 3rd: Karastyna Sokolwski 4th: Melissa Bryan

Please find us on Facebook!! [Follow this link](#) and be sure to like the page!

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

*~Frederick
 Douglass*



I.M.P.O.R.T.A.N.T

Announcements

Periodically, parents bring issues to my attention about building procedures or information that they were not aware of and it reminds us that not everyone is aware of some routines that myself and the staff have become accustomed to. Here are some general announcements to keep you informed—and please do not hesitate to ask questions if you are wondering about other topics—thank you!

Did you know...



That the first school day of every month is SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY? This was actually a parent suggestion because it makes it easier than trying to remember specific dates. So every first school day of the month is the day to send your child in with school colors and Allen Road clothing to show their school spirit!



In an effort to be consistent with our building focus on 'Enjoying our Day the Healthy Way' - we ask parents to NOT bring fast food/unhealthy food into the cafeteria when visiting for lunch. Our hope is that you will bring a lunch from home or purchase our school lunch, with a focus on time spent together instead of what is brought in from other places. Thank you!

Regarding our grouping process...

Parents often have questions about, or wonder what procedure is used to group students into classes for the next school year. The question is an important one as the process begins very soon.

At each elementary school a grouping committee consisting of classroom teachers, special educators, and support staff assist the principals with this process. Beginning in May with initial draft lists, students are grouped taking into consideration primarily the mix of boys and girls and the mixture of academic abilities. Because many new students register throughout the Spring and Summer, the process is not completed until mid August. Once class assignments are finalized, a letter will be mailed to parents indicating their child's room number and teacher. Our overall goal is to create balanced, heterogeneous classrooms at each grade level. This gives each child the optimum chance for a successful school year.

Beginning with spring conferences, staff is asked to **NOT** discuss placement with parents. Individual teachers cannot guarantee the placement of any student and requests for specific teachers will not be honored, but you may wish to share concerns about your child's particular educational needs. Again, these concerns will be considered by the grouping committee, but do not guarantee a specific teacher or classroom.

Please communicate these concerns in writing to Mr. Lunden by **May 15th**. Be concise and limit your comments to the following:

~Your child's specific learning style, strengths, or weaknesses;

~A request to not have a teacher an older sibling had;

~Critical information that your child's teacher may not have access to.

Once placements are made and letters are mailed, it is very difficult to make any changes. If you have a

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

*~Frederick
Douglass*



ADA-PEP NEWS From Miss Thome

PEER TO PEER PROGRAM

A district wide program is underway again this year to help ease the transition of 4th graders to middle school. The Peer to Peer program matches 4th grade students with 5th grade student pen pals. The program is designed to help decrease the anxiety that some 4th graders feel as they begin to think about leaving the elementary school they have called home for five years and venturing out to their new middle school.

During the first part of the program, 4th grade students write letters to their 5th grade pen pal asking questions about middle school life. The 5th graders respond answering the questions and introducing themselves to their new friend. On Tuesday, May 30th, 4th grade students will visit Roxboro Road Middle School, meet their pen pals and participate in a special building tour prepared by their 5th grade "buddies."

As part of the tour, 4th graders will have an opportunity to practice opening lockers, learn about after school activities and clubs and meet some of the middle school staff. After the tour, 4th graders will be familiar with the building they will be entering in September and have their first friend at the middle school.

Caring Club

The past 4 weeks the Caring Club has been collecting gently used towels, sheets and blankets as well as dish soap for the local Humane Society.

Thanks to the bucket filling students at Allen Road we were able to donate 11 HUGE bags to help out the shelter.

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From the Health Office...

Seasonal Allergies: “Achoo! “ It’s your son’s third sneezing fit of the morning, and as you hand him another tissue you wonder if these cold-like symptoms – the sneezing, congestion, and runny nose – have something to do with the recent weather change. If he gets similar symptoms at the same time every year, you’re likely right; seasonal allergies are at work. Even kids who have never had seasonal allergies in the past can develop. Seasonal allergies can start at almost any age, though they usually develop by the time someone is 10 years old and reach their peak in the early twenties.

Signs and Symptoms: Allergy symptoms, which usually come on suddenly and last as long as a person is exposed to the allergen, can include: **sneezing, itchy nose/throat, nasal congestion, clear, runny nose, coughing.** These symptoms often come with **itchy, watery, and /or red eyes, which is called allergic conjunctivitis.**

Diagnosis: Seasonal allergies are fairly easy to identify, talk with your Doctor and he will be able to make a diagnosis. They might also do a skin test or blood test to identify the allergen.

Treatment: There are many ways to treat seasonal allergies, depending on how severe the symptoms are. The most important part of treatment is knowing what allergens are at work. Some kids can get relief by reducing or eliminating exposure to allergens that bother them. If certain seasons cause symptoms, keep the windows closed, use air conditioning if possible, and stay indoors when pollen/mold/weed counts are high. It’s also a good idea to wash their hands or shower and change clothing after playing outside.

If reducing exposure isn’t possible or effective, medicines can help ease allergy symptoms. These may include decongestants, antihistamines, and nasal spray steroids. If symptoms can’t be managed with medicines, the Doctor may recommend taking your child to an allergist and be evaluated for allergy shots, which can help desensitize kids to specific allergens.

From: www.kidshealth.org

Wellness Wakeup call: This month we will learn about: Media literacy and Food politics .Look for a “Happy Burger” recipe on my website.

Happy Spring!

Mrs. Werksman RN

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

~Phyllis Diller

Life in the Library...



Last month we experienced makerspaces by creating a structure using magnetic blocks. Students used STEM skills to create castles, rockets, bridges, houses or just freeform structures. They had to collaborate with their group to decide on a project, take turns adding to it and discuss what worked and what they would do differently next time.



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

~Phyllis Diller

Across all grades we also learned and reviewed internet safety rules. For younger students the emphasis was on:

- Ask permission to use the internet
- Only visit sites that are adult approved
- Don't talk to strangers

For older students we also discussed usernames, what is personal vs. private and how to be a good digital citizen. For more information about keeping your child safe on the internet, visit www.common sense media.org.

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00—BOE Meeting	2 ← 3rd and 4th Grade NYS Math testing → Teacher Appreciation Day!	3 School Nurses Appreciation 6:00—FTO Meeting	4 Transportation Appreciation	5	6
7	8	9 Teaching Assistant Appreciation Day	10	11	12 STEM Day! Half Day—Noon dismissal	13
14	15 7:00—BOE Meeting	16 District Budget Vote Teacher Aide Appreciation Day	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 RACE FOR EDUCATION!	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day— No School	30	31			

Elementary Menu

Menu Subject to Change

North Syracuse School District Is An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

MONDAY

1 Popcorn Chicken w/ Dipping Sauce & Dinner Roll
Baked Beans
Sweet Potato Fries

8 Pizza Crunchers w/ Sauce
California Blend Vegetable
Carrot Coins

15 BBQ Rib Sandwich

Sweet Potato Fries
Cowboy Cavalier

22 Hot Dog on Whole Grain Bun

Baked Beans
Sweet Potato Fries

29 Memorial Day
No School

TUESDAY

2 Garlic Roasted Chicken w/ Dinner Roll
Baby Carrots w/ Dip
Steamed Corn
Fresh Fruit

9 Chicken Fajita w/ Lettuce, Cheese and Salsa
Steamed Brown Rice
Refried Beans
Seasoned Corn
Fresh Fruit

16 French Toast Sticks w/ Sauce
Star Potatoes
100% Fruit/Vegetable Juice
Fresh Fruit

23 Pizza Crunchers w/ Sauce
California Blend Vegetables
Corn
Fresh Fruit

30 Mini Pancakes w/ Sauce
Star Potatoes
100% Fruit/Vegetable Juice
Fresh Fruit

WEDNESDAY

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

10 Mini Corn Pop Dogs
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Green Beans

17 Homemade Mac & Cheese w/ Dinner Roll
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Carrots

24 Cheese Ravioli w/ Stuffed Breadstick
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Green Beans

31 Chicken & Potato Bowl w/ Biscuit
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Carrots

THURSDAY

4 Hot Turkey & Gravy w/ Dinner Roll
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Fresh Fruit

11 Turkey & Cheese Panini
Pasta Salad w/ Veggies
French Fries
Fresh Fruit

18 Chicken and Cheese Nachos
Steamed Brown Rice
Refried Beans
Seasoned Corn
Fresh Fruit

25 Pretzel Dog
Potato Gems
Baby Carrots w/ Dip
Fresh Fruit

Available with All Lunches
Assorted Fruit Cups
Milk Choice

FRIDAY

5 Nardone's French Bread Pizza
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Fruit

12 No Day
No Lunch Served

19 Personal Pan Pizza
Tossed Salad w/ Dressing
Steamed Broccoli
Fresh Fruit

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

Second Choice

Monday = Burger

Tuesday = Popcorn Chicken

Wednesday = Cheeseburger

Thursday = Popcorn Chicken

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

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

www.nsscsd.org

Remember- you may apply for meal benefits at any time during the school year.

What do you call a nice french fry?

A sweet potato!