

Allen East Local Schools 2015-2016

From the Superintendent ~ Mr. Mel Rentschler

Welcome Back!

I hope everyone had a relaxing summer and is excited about returning to school. There has been a lot of activity at the school since students left in May. I am excited to say the Governor and our state legislators listened to the public and dramatically reduced the amount of testing our boys and girls will have to take this school year, reducing the stress placed on teachers and students. At the local level there have been several significant changes to the school which are outlined in the newsletter. If you ever have a question or concern, please contact me directly at (419) 648-3333 ext. 1001. I do make it a priority to return all of my calls. I want to wish everyone good luck this school year, and I look forward to another successful year for all of our students.

New Employees

There are several new employees at Allen East. There are two new kindergarten teachers, Stephanie Zeller and Alexandria Hesson. Stephanie and Alexandria both have experience at the elementary level with Stephanie coming from the Ada School District and Alexandria from the Franklin City School District. Denielle King is our new 4th grade teacher, working previously in Indiana. Kirsten Lindhurst is our new vocal music instructor who will be working with grades 6-12. Kirsten will be assisting the Mustang Brass and take over as the musical director at AE. Kirsten comes to AE from Heidelberg University, growing up in Olentangy, Ohio. Angela Phillips, who has worked part-time at Allen East the past several years, is now a full-time 1st grade teacher. Amy Bradley was hired in July for the newly created social worker position. Last year Amy worked for a group called Foundations that was contracted to serve the Celina City Schools. Lastly, Kelsey Adams becomes the new full-time substitute teacher working in the digital academy. Kelsey was a substitute teacher at Allen East last year.

Social Worker Position

To better serve the students and families of Allen East, a school social worker position was created. The social worker will provide the following services:

Counseling to students and parents; participates in case conferences involving cooperation with other pupil personnel workers, school personnel and community agencies; making referrals to public or private agencies with appropriate follow-up; servicing as a liaison between school, family and community resources; serving as a source of information regarding community resources; maintaining appropriate school records and providing written reports and communications; participating as a resource person in in-service training and planning; participating in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process as required; planning and implementing school groups, including Drug and Alcohol Prevention, crisis assessment and referral to county agency for follow up.

New Start and End Times

This year school will begin at 7:53 A.M. for students in grades 7-12 and 8:05 A.M. for students in grades K-6. School will end at 3:05 P.M. for grades 7-12 and end at 2:50 P.M. for students in grades K-6. The school year is still the traditional 180 days. However, with the additional minutes, it translates into 18 additional days of school for grades 7-12 and 11 additional days for students in grades K-6 which is educationally significant. **The bus routes for the year remain the same as previous years.**

School Media Center

The media center has now been renovated and converted into a 21st century learning environment. Unlike the last several years, the media center will be staffed by an adult all day. Students who come and go from Allen East to take college courses will have a place to study and complete work on-site in the media center. Further, students will be able to check books out during their free time. Teachers will also be able to bring entire classes to the media center with adequate space to complete projects and work collaboratively.

Superintendent's Message Continued ...

Student/Parent Parking & Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up

The parking lots have been reconfigured over the summer. The student lot to the far west has been converted into a bus only pick up and drop off zone. During the day no cars will be permitted to park in the former student lot. Bus drivers will no longer have to worry about cars entering the drop off and pick up zones, increasing student safety. Students will park in the largest lot of the school which can be viewed from many angles in the building. A number of designated visitor spaces have been added in front of the school. All adult visitors will need to enter the building through the elementary office and receive a visitors badge during the day unless there is a special event. Students involved in the College Credit Plus program, will enter and exit the building at the high school entrance. **There have been no changes for parents who drop off and pick up their children via a private vehicle.**

Online Learning Management Tool - Schoology

Prior to the 2015-2016 school year, all teachers have received training on an online learning management system called Schoology. During the 2015-2016 school year all blizzard bag days and calamity days will be made up via Schoology. There will be no need to make up calamity days this year since the online platform is being used during these days unless we get into severe weather and have to miss two or more weeks of school in a row. Schoology should increase communication between the parents, students and teachers. It is understood that not everyone has access to a computer. The school's computer labs will be open during all calamity days so students can get access to the Internet and a computer.

Open House/Parent Teacher Conferences

Open house for grades K-12 will occur on Monday, August 31, 2015 from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. Parent teacher conferences have changed dramatically for the 2015-2016 school year in an attempt to reach more parents of students in the upper grades. For students in grades 7-12, parent teacher conferences will be held on October 15, 2015 from 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. and February 11, 2016 4:30 to 7:00 P.M. Parent teacher conferences for grades K-6 will be held on November 23, 2015 4:30 to 7:30 P.M. and November 24 from 12:00 to 7:00 P.M. Students in grades 7-12 will have school on November 24, 2015 at the normal time when conferences are being held for the younger students. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher at any time if you have concerns.

Special Education Pre-School

It is very exciting to have our special education preschool come back to Allen East from the Allen County Educational Service Center (ESC). For many years the special education preschool has been housed at the ESC located in the Bath school district. The ESC is still running the program but the unit will be housed in our building. With the program being located at Allen East, it will give Allen East children more of an opportunity to receive services. It is the goal of the school to educate as many kids in our building and bring back students who have been placed in alternative settings.

Mustang Breakfast

Allen East will again be hosting seven breakfast programs for the senior citizens of Allen East. The breakfast program will occur on October 1, 2015, November 5, December 3, January 7, 2016, February 4, March 3, and April 7. During breakfast, Allen East students will be providing the entertainment. A huge **"thank you"** goes out to the Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio (Bluffton) and Richland Manor of Bluffton for sponsoring this year's breakfast program. Any resident age 55 or over is welcome to attend these complimentary breakfasts.

Student Safety

Just a reminder, last year two very important tools were added to our web site to help prevent problems and assist students/parents who have information that could assist our students. On the front page of the Allen East web site to the left of the page at <http://www.ae.k12.oh.us/>, there is a link labeled Allen East Anonymous Incident Tip Line and Safer Schools Ohio. The Allen East Anonymous line goes directly to all administrators and the counselors at Allen East as soon as the document is submitted. The Safer Schools Ohio line goes to outside, multiple agencies who will contact the school immediately if there is a problem submitted. We encourage the use of these tools to help prevent potential problems.

ALLEN EAST LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kevin Dues, President
Russell King, Vice President
Geri Ewing
Brian Hershberger
Brad Richardson

ALLEN EAST LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Mel Rentschler, Superintendent
Rhonda Zimmerly, Treasurer/CFO
Andrea Snyder, Assistant Treasurer
Nathan Redmond, Technology Manager
Sue Young, Board Secretary

Junior High and High School (Grades 7-12) Info ~ Mr. Baumgartner

Welcome back to the 2015-2016 school year. I hope the summer was relaxing and enjoyable. As we start this school year, we have a few changes from the previous year.

EARLIER START TIME: This year the school day will start at an earlier time. The **warning bell will ring at 7:50 A.M.** and the **day will end at 3:05 P.M.** The added time will allow our teachers to cover the ever-expanding requirements to prepare our students for success in a global society. The schedule remains as an eight period day format.

PARKING: Parking for students will change location. Students will now park in the main activity lot and the lot area by the football stadium. The lot previously designated as student parking will be the bus loading and unloading zone. No parking during the school day will be permitted in this lot. The A1, B1 and B3 entrances will all be points of entry for student drivers prior to the start of first period. Any 7-12 student riding a bus will still be able to enter the building at the end of their grade level wing. After 7:53 A.M., all students arriving at school will have to enter the A1 entrance by the high school office or at the elementary office entrance and check in the office for attendance. This includes any college credit plus students or students arriving late.

NEW FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

DRUG TESTING: New for this year will be random drug testing for students involved in school sponsored athletic events. The program follows a five-step violation progression. The point of our drug testing is to give students an added support reason to say NO to drug use. The program is non-punitive. If a positive test occurs, results never go into a student file. The whole point is to help a student if there is an addiction issue or help the student that might be just going through an experimental phase. We will be conducting random testing, which means if a student is involved in only a winter or spring school sponsored sport, they will need to declare this and be included in the random pool at the beginning of school. The following is directly from the handbook:

If only the random testing process is used, students in all extracurricular activities for all seasons (fall, winter and spring) must declare their intent to participate in August, prior to the start, to be included in the list for random sampling throughout the year. If a student does not declare their intent to participate in August and decides to try out or participate in an extra curricular activity, they will be subject to a mandatory drug test during the month prior to the start of the season. They will then be included in the random sampling list for the remainder of the year.

You can find the comprehensive policy on our website under the athletics tab and then in the athletic handbook. We also have hard copies available in the office.

Please welcome our new vocal music teacher Ms. Kirsten Lindhurst. She is assigned to our choir for grades 6-12. She will be assisting Mr. Dellifield and the Brass this fall. She is a recent graduate of Heidelberg University. Please welcome her when you have the opportunity.

Graduating in 2018 and beyond

In a continually changing global economy, colleges and businesses expect more knowledge and skills from Ohio graduates. To match these high expectations, Allen East is making sure that your son or daughter leaves high school ready to succeed.

Ohio's graduation requirements for the classes of 2018 and beyond offer several ways to earn a high school diploma in Ohio. The class of 2018 are those students who entered ninth grade in the 2014-2015 school year.

There are two components of graduation requirements: credits and assessments.

The credit component requires all students to successfully complete a minimum of 20 high school credits. (*Allen East requires one additional credit for a total of 21.*) Additionally, your son or daughter must receive instruction in two areas – fine arts and economics and financial literacy. These credit requirements have not changed from the class of 2014.

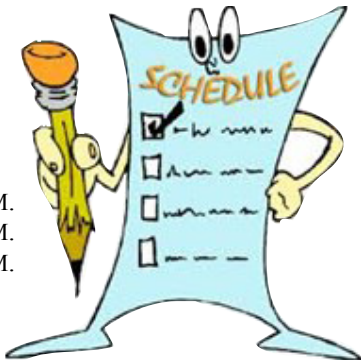
The assessment component provides your son or daughter three ways to be eligible for a high school diploma. He or she must minimally meet one of the three options to earn an Ohio diploma.

1. Earn a cumulative score of 18 points, using seven end-of-course state tests over four years of high school.
2. Earn 12 points by attaining an industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and a workforce readiness score on WorkKeys, a nationally recognized job skills assessment.
3. Earn scores in English language arts and mathematics on a national college admissions test or tests that indicate the student can do college-level work without needing to take remedial classes.

The assessment component provides more flexibility than in previous years to reach graduation. Your family can find more information about graduation requirements by meeting with our high school counselor, Mr. Woods, and at education.ohio.gov by entering *Graduation Requirements* in the search box.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS: Online assessments will take place for students in the class of 2018 and beyond. Grade 7 will take an ELA and Math assessment, grade 8 will take an ELA, Math and Science assessment. High school students will have end-of-course exams in ELA I, II, Algebra I, Geometry, Integrated Math I, Biology or Physical Science (Class of 2018 only) American History, American Government. Students will take their high school assessment when they are enrolled in the appropriate course. The Classes of 2016 and 2017 still fall under the requirement to pass the OGT in the five areas of Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies and Science. As always, if you have any questions comments or concerns please contact me. Thank you.

Mr. Keith Baumgartner, 419-648-3333 ext. 2001
baumgartnerk@alleneastschool.org

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| High School and Elementary School Fees and Schedule Pickup: |  |
| August 17, 2015: (Monday) | 8:00-11:00 A.M. 1:00-3:00 P.M. |
| August 18, 2015 (Tuesday) | 8:00-11:00 A.M. 1:00-6:00 P.M. |
| August 18, 2015 (Wednesday) | 8:00-11:00 A.M. 1:00-3:00 P.M. |

Elementary School (Grades K-6) ~ Mr. Altenburger

We would like to welcome everyone back for the 2015-2016 school year! We are looking forward to the new school year that will also bring some changes. The biggest change is the starting time of school. Doors will open at 7:35 A.M. and the elementary day begins at 8:05 A.M. and the school days ends at 2:50 P.M. As Mr. Rentschler stated, the bus pick-up/drop-off will be located west of the school. Students in grades K-5 will enter the J1 entrance. A sidewalk leads directly to this door and the students have the option of heading directly to the cafeteria for breakfast or their classroom hallway.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Fall picture day: September 8, 2015 (Tuesday).

Grandparent Luncheon:

We will have one grade (from grades K-3) designated for lunch with grandparents during the week of September 13, 2015. Grandparents must be on a preapproved list in order to have lunch with their grandchild. Teachers will send out letters and create the list from the parents who reply with the grandparent's name. Lunch tickets can be bought at this time and the grandchild will bring the ticket home before the designated day. Grandparents are encouraged to come in and have lunch with their grandchild followed by a short time on the playground or in the classroom. Grandparents can park in front of the school and enter the L1 entrance at 10:15 A.M. and proceed to the auditoria. The students will meet the grandparents in the auditoria at approximately 10:20 A.M. for lunch. Lunch lasts 30 minutes. We have always had a great turnout for this day and look forward to another great week with grandparents!

COSI on Wheels: October 28, 2015 (Wednesday) for grades 4-6.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.

Larry Altenburger, K-6 Principal, 419-648-3333 ext. 1002
altenburgerl@alleneastschool.org

OPEN HOUSE—August 31, 2015 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Grades 7-12 School Day: 7:53 A.M. - 3:05 P.M.
 Grades K-6 School Day: 8:05 A.M. - 2:50 P.M.

ALLEN EAST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

AUGUST

Aug. 31 - Teacher In-Service Day 10:00 AM-4:30 PM
 Aug. 31 - OPEN HOUSE 5:30-7:30 PM



| Aug-15 | | | | | | |
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SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1 - Students 1st Day
 Sept. 7 - NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
 Sept. 14 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Develop.

OCTOBER

Oct. 15 - Parent/Teacher Conf. (grades 7-12) 5:30-8:00 PM
 Oct. 30 - 1st Nine Weeks Ends (42 days)

| Oct-15 | | | | | | |
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Nov. 24-K-6 only No School

NOVEMBER

Nov. 23 - P/T Conf. (grades K-6) 4:30-7:30 PM
 Nov. 24 -NO SCHOOL (K-6) - P/T Conf. 12:00-7:00 PM
 Nov. 24 - School (grades 7-12) 7:53 AM - 3:05 PM
 Nov. 25 - 27 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

Dec. 23 - Jan. 1, 2016 - NO SCHOOL-Winter Break

| Dec-15 | | | | | | |
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| Jan-16 | | | | | | |
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JANUARY

Jan. 4 - School Resumes
 Jan. 15 - 2nd Nine Weeks Ends (45 days)
 Jan. 18 - NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY

Feb. 11- P/T Conf. (grades 7-12) 4:30-7:00 PM
 Feb. 15 - NO SCHOOL - President's Day

| Feb-16 | | | | | | |
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| Mar-16 | | | | | | |
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MARCH

March 24 - 3rd Nine Weeks Ends (47 days)
 Mar. 25-28 - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

MAY

May 20 - Seniors Last Day
 May 22 - GRADUATION
 May 24 - Last day for Kindergarten
 May 25-27 - Kindergarten Screening
 May 27 - Students Last Day (grades 1-11)
 May 27 - 4th Nine Weeks Ends (44 days)

| Apr-16 | | | | | | |
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| May-16 | | | | | | |
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Allen East Local Schools
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Postal Customer

Cafeteria News ~ Mrs. Vernell

Allen East cafeteria is looking forward to the up-coming school year and has some new items on the menu this year:

- Taco pizza
 - Flat bread pizza
 - Sparkling Ice drink in different flavors
- Allen East follows the All Healthier Alliance guidelines.

Breakfast will be served every morning at 7:25 A.M. On days when school is delayed, no breakfast will be served.

Congratulations to the winners of the Rightway poster drawing who were honored at the Civic Center this summer. The posters will be displayed at open house—August 31, 2015, 5:30-7:30 P.M. Hope everyone enjoyed making their posters and the cafeteria ladies look forward to seeing you this year.

CAFETERIA PRICES 2015-2016

Breakfast

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Student | \$1.50 |
| Adult | \$1.75 |
| Reduced | \$.30 |

Lunch

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| K-3 | \$2.50 |
| 4-12 | \$2.75 |
| Mustang Meal (larger portion) | \$3.50 |
| Adult | \$3.50 |
| Reduced | \$.40 |

Ala Carte

| | |
|--|--------|
| Milk | \$.50 |
| Orange Juice | \$.50 |
| Salad (Type A lunch) | \$2.50 |
| Meat/sandwich/pizza/soup | \$2.00 |
| Peanut butter or cheese sandwich | \$1.50 |
| Fruit (assorted) | \$.50 |
| Vegetables (assorted hot/cold) | \$.50 |
| Chips (baked) | \$.50 |
| Water | \$1.25 |

EZpay

Payment of school fees and lunch account balances can be made online through EZpay on the Allen East Local School website, ae.k12.oh.us. Any payments made before 8:00 P.M. will be credited to your student’s account on the next school day.



School Bus News for 2015-2016

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer break and is ready to return to school. We will be starting the school day earlier this year. This means that students riding the bus will be picked up earlier as well. **Pick up times will be approximately 15-30 minutes earlier than last year** depending on your bus route. Please be out early and watch for your bus the first few days of school. The Apollo bus will be leaving from the Allen East parking lot at 6:45 A.M. this year.

We have rearranged the student parking lot as explained by Mel Rentschler, Superintendent on page 2; so be sure to read that. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 419-648-3333 ext. 1506.

Perry Heise, Transportation Supervisor