

FALCONER NEWS

April 2025

www.allendale.k12.mi.us

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****Please continue to check our website for the most up-to-date information on events taking place****

- April 1 Oakwood 5th Grade Fine Arts Fair, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Ceglarek Fine Arts Center
- April 4-11 Spring Break
- April 14 School Resumes
- April 14 Board of Education meeting, 6:00 PM, Oakwood Board Room
- April 23 NHS Blood Drive, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Ceglarek Fine Arts Center
- April 25-26 MSVMA State Solo & Ensemble
- April 28 Board of Education Work Session, 6:00 PM, Oakwood Board Room
- April 30 High School Art Fair, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM, Ceglarek Fine Arts Center
- April 30 Collage Concert, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Ceglarek Fine Arts Center

Kindergarten – 12th Grade and Preschool registration is now open. Visit allendale.k12.mi.us to register.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR



PRESCHOOL!

**Allendale Public School
2025-26 Preschool Registration**

INVESTING IN ALLENDALE'S FUTURE

BOND PROPOSAL | MAY 6, 2025

Allendale Public Schools is dedicated to creating a safe, modern, and engaging learning environment for all students. The May 6 bond proposal would allow us to invest in essential improvements with zero expected increase in the current tax rate.



Community Information Nights
March 26 & April 24 | 6:00pm
Oakwood Intermediate Boardroom



ZERO TAX RATE INCREASE
(over the 2024 levy)



\$88.135 MILLION
For district-wide improvements



VOTE BY
May 6, 2025



**REGISTER
TO VOTE**

KEY PROJECTS INCLUDE

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY & FINE ARTS UPGRADES

Improved spaces for career & trade skills and creative arts education

NEW MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDHOUSE

A space for athletics and community events

ROBOTICS & STEM BUILDING

Expanding hands-on learning opportunities in science and technology

ENHANCED SECURITY MEASURES

Upgraded safety features across all schools

CLASSROOM EXPANSIONS & UPGRADED TECHNOLOGY

Modernized learning spaces at every grade level

ATHLETIC FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS

Updates to fields, courts, and training areas

PLAYGROUND & CAFETERIA RENOVATIONS

Creating more inclusive and functional spaces

HVAC, PARKING & ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Ensuring comfort, safety, and ease of access for all



Scan for
Bond
Information



A **ALLENDALE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



Stretch Your Grocery Budget With SUN Bucks!

This Summer

The Sun Bucks program offers a \$120 grocery benefit for eligible school-aged kids, so you can buy more healthy foods and enjoy meals together.



Questions:

Contact Jodi Brower

616-892-5591 or brouwerjod@apsfalcons.net

Why SUN Bucks?

- \$120 in grocery benefits for each eligible school-aged child.
- SUN Bucks are in addition to other benefits like free Summer Meals, *SNAP, and *WIC.
- Choose the foods your kids love and keep them fueled all summer long.

*SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

*WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

Scan to find out about meal options and grocery benefits in your area.



- ✉ MDHHS-SEBT@michigan.gov
- ☎ (833) 905-0028, option 2
- 🌐 <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food/summer-ebt>

Funding provided in part by the United States Department of Agriculture. Summer 2025.

Join us for the new and improved Allendale Foundation Golf Outing at Pigeon Creek Golf Course—an exciting day of friendly competition, networking, and fun, all in support of a great cause! Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just out for a good time, this event has something for everyone, including exciting new course challenges, upgraded prizes, and enhanced player experiences. Enjoy a day on the greens while making a meaningful impact on our community. A special thank you to Main Street Pub for providing lunch and Peppino's for providing dinner—your support helps make this event even better! Gather your team, mark your calendars, and get ready for a golf outing like never before!

APS Foundation/AET



FALCON OPEN

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH

Pigeon Creek Golf Course
10195 120th Ave, West Olive, MI

REGISTRATION 8 AM
SHOTGUN START 9 AM

4 PERSON
SCRAMBLE

\$500.00 a team

Includes:

GREEN FEES, CART,
PRACTICE RANGE,
MEAL, & PRIZES

CLICK ON THE QR
BELOW TO REGISTER:



GOLF WITH A
CELEBRITY

Featuring Legendary
Detroit Tiger's
Pitcher, Dave Rozema



APS Foundation/AET



ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
**ALLENDALE
ENCOURAGEMENT
TEAM**

FALCON OPEN

Sponsorships Opportunities

| | |
|---|------------------|
| <i>Falcon Open Event Sponsorship</i> | \$2000.00 |
| <i>Gold Sponsor</i> | \$1500.00 |
| <i>Silver Sponsor</i> | \$1000.00 |
| <i>Bronze Sponsor</i> | \$300.00 |
| <i>Golf Cart Sponsor</i> | \$300.00 |
| <i>Driving Range/Putting Sponsor</i> | \$250.00 |
| <i>Golf Hole Sponsors</i> | \$250.00 |
| <i>Golf Cart Goodie Bags Sponsor</i> | \$200.00 |
| <i>Sponsor an APS Student Team</i> | \$500.00 |
| <i>Sponsor a Celebrity: Dave Rozema</i> | \$600.00 |

For more information and to sign up, click on the QR Code:



APS Foundation /AET is a non-profit charity recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3).

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH
PIGEON CREEK GOLF CLUB

REGISTRATION 8 AM
SHOTGUN START 9 AM

Congratulations

Congratulations to the APS Spring 2025 Mini-Grant Winners! The APS Foundation acknowledged the valuable contributions of the following APS staff who were recipients of these awards. Please congratulate them and thank them for their dedication to APS students.

1. Jenna Masselink, Early Childhood Center – STEM Activities
2. Megan Sampson, Evergreen Elementary – Flexible Seating
3. Elisabeth Gross, Good Time Friends – Gym Supplies
4. Gwen Luban, Oakwood Intermediate – Playground Equipment
5. Janene Schroeder, Oakwood Intermediate – Native Plant Garden
6. Jacie King, Middle School – Design posters for PE students
7. Kyle Oslund, Middle School – Purchase Omnikin balls to use in PE team building
8. Leah Schmuker, Middle School – Smart TV and Full Motion Wall Mount
9. Allison Whiteside, Middle School – Classroom Library focusing on Special Ed ELA Students
10. Anna Bolton, High School – Help cover AHS Spring Musical Costs
11. David Brown, High School – Badminton Equipment
12. Elizabeth Stalzer, High School – Add to Library to keep Students Engaged in Spanish
13. Heather Lake, High School – Speaker for HS Assembly
14. Lyndsay Daly, High School – PBIS Awards for Student Nominees
15. Lindsay Harness, High School – Transform Invasive Plants into Paper



Spring is meant for Reading Outside



5th Grade Wax Museum ~ Alexander Hamilton (aka Kaylee)

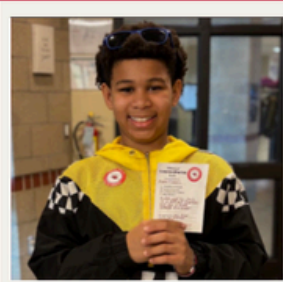


Guest Reader in Miss Kulikamp's Class



Crazy Socks to Recognize World Down Syndrome Day

Oakwood April '25



Communitarian



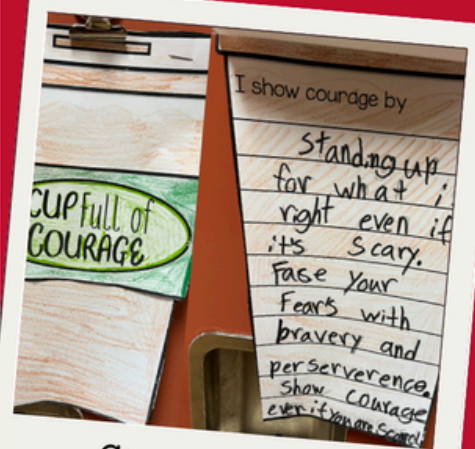
4th grade listens to presenter from the Careerline Tech Center



Guest Reader in Mrs. Brose Class



Students Keeping Our Playground Clean and Safe



Cup Full of Courage

OAKWOOD: WE BELONG HERE



Mrs. Brose's Class



Mrs. Elis' Class



Mrs. Johnson's Class



Miss Wisnieski's Class



Mrs. Weycker's Class



Miss Licari's Class

OAKWOOD: I BELONG HERE... YOU BELONG HERE!



Miss Czarnecki & Miss Bingham's Class



Mrs. Busman's Class



Miss Kulikamp & Miss Mindling's Class



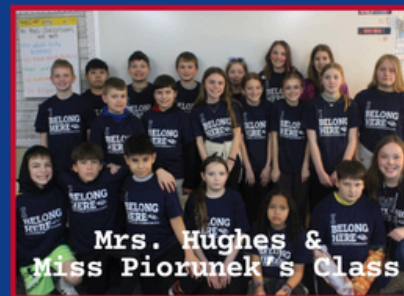
Mrs. Feenstra's Class



Mrs. Modderman's Class



Mrs. Hoffman's Class



Mrs. Hughes & Miss Piorunek's Class



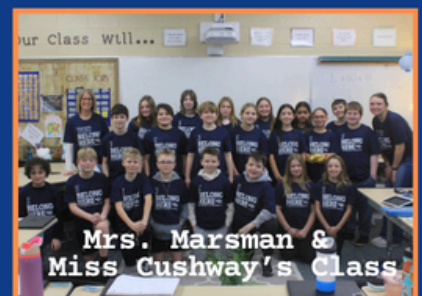
Miss Haveman's Class



Mrs. Schroeder's Class



Mrs. Graham's Class

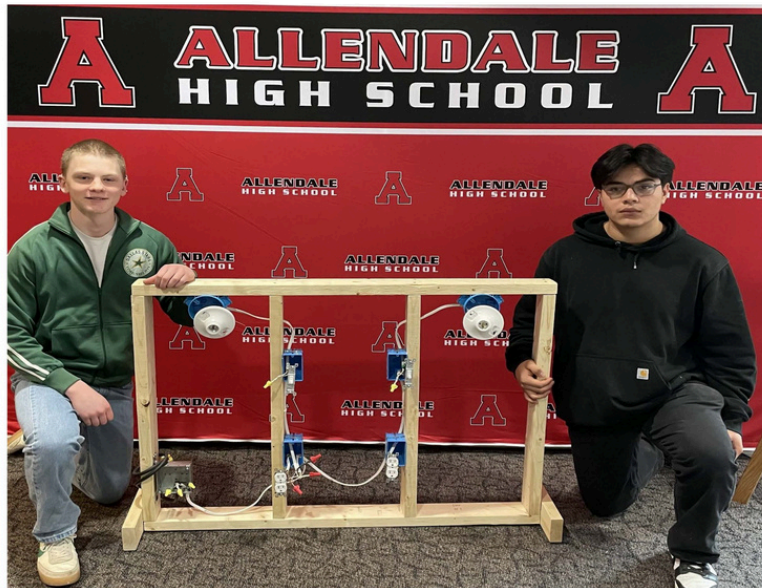


Mrs. Marsman & Miss Cushway's Class

The **Allendale Middle School Archery Club** is in full swing! Students meet at Grand Valley Sporting Goods every Tuesday after school to hone their archery skills and compete in competitions, challenges and activities. No experience necessary! Thank you, Mr. Winters, for organizing such a safe and fun club!



High School Happenings



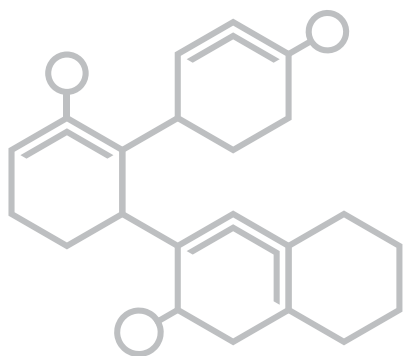
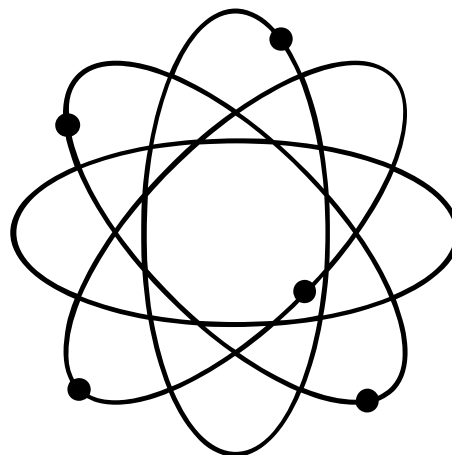
Advanced Residential Structure students showing off their electrical rough-in wiring skills. The students built mock-up wall sections, wired outlets, single switches, 3-way switches and light fixtures. Great work Gentlemen!



Congratulations to all students involved in **Allendale High School's** production of *The Little Mermaid*! Students' hard work, dedication, and creativity were evident in every moment, and the entire production was spectacular. We couldn't be more proud of each and every one of you! Bravo!



Allendale's High School Science Olympiad team performed outstandingly at the Frankenmuth Invitational! This group of students works collaboratively with each other, their teamwork and dedication are Falcon PRIDE in action!





TriSonics FRC won the Excellence in Engineering award and were event finalists at the Mt. Pleasant competition.



VIQ 61187D tied for 1st at states and VIQ 61187D placed 2nd in the Grandville Invitational event. They are also attending the World Championships in Dallas, Texas in May.

V5 61187E will also be attending the World Championships.



APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Special Education



Molly Bingham

Special Education Teacher

- Mrs. Bingham has been with APS for 2 years.
- Mrs. Bingham does an excellent job working with students. She treats each student with the highest dignity and respect. Her instruction is exceptional and she differentiates to meet the individual needs of all the learners she services. Mrs. Bingham is also very flexible, meeting the needs of two buildings, Oakwood and Evergreen. She works half-time in each building but does not miss a beat. Mrs. Bingham has taken on co-teaching this year at Oakwood and does an incredible job with this as well. She is all around a great teacher and advocate for students. We are fortunate to have her on our special education team.
- Mrs. Bingham likes to rock hunt and polish rocks (particularly Petoskey stones, which you have to hand polish). She is a giant Swiftie. She has attended The Eras Tour four times.

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Special Education



Lauren Clark

Occupational Therapist

- Ms. Clark has been with APS for 5 years.
- Ms. Clark is a great person to have on our team. She is always positive and everyone enjoys working with her. Ms. Clark is also very knowledgeable and works well with a wide range of students. Ms. Clark works with students in multiple buildings and is able to meet their diverse needs. Ms. Clark works incredibly well with all students. She genuinely cares for the students and it shows in the way she works with them. She is creative and knowledgeable of the supports needed for the students. Ms. Clark also is a great collaborator and supports staff as needed as well. She is a rock star!
- Ms. Clark has been to 18 different countries, and is still counting. Her favorite thing to do is hike, camp and backpack around the world. Especially third world countries. Above is a picture of her in Indonesia from her Southeast Asia backpacking trip this past summer.

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Allendale Early Childhood Center



Ellie LaMotte

Kindergarten Teacher

- Ms. LaMotte has been with APS 1 year.
- Ms. LaMotte is a dedicated member of our Kindergarten teaching team here at the AECC. Even though she is in her first year of teaching, Ms. LaMotte has gone above and beyond to build relationships with her students and families, along with developing a close classroom family. Ms. LaMotte is always willing to improve her teaching abilities, as she wants to learn and grow, just like her students. Ms. LaMotte has bought into the "team" here at the AECC, as she is willing to go above and beyond to support her teammates, and also her students. We are blessed to have Ms. LaMotte as a member of the AECC, and we cannot wait to see the teacher that she will continue to develop into!

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Allendale Early Childhood Center



Emily Rotman

Resource Room Teacher

- Mrs. Rotman has been with APS for 3 years.
- Mrs. Rotman is a dedicated member of our Special Education team here at the AECC. Mrs. Rotman does a tremendous job of building relationships with her students, and everyday she goes above and beyond to support her students with whatever they might need. Even with students spread across classrooms, Mrs. Rotman makes sure she is always available to support them and their classroom teachers. Mrs. Rotman uses many different techniques to support her students, and the growth that they show is remarkable. We are blessed to have such a dedicated teacher who is willing to do whatever it takes to make sure her students are successful everyday at school.

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Evergreen Elementary



Alondra Fortune, Ann Marcus, Sylvia Stokes

Good Time Friends Aides

- Mrs. Fortune has been with APS for 4 years. Ms. Marcus has been with APS 3 years. Ms. Stokes has been with APS for 5 years.
- These aides are responsible for the before-school and after-school care and well-being of children between Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. They are constantly vigilant, ensuring that children are safe, monitored, and secure. Their hard work, dedication, and patience should absolutely be recognized and celebrated. Thanks Mrs. Fortune, Ms. Marcus, and Ms. Stokes!
- Mrs. Fortune enjoys reading and hiking with her family and friends. Ms. Marcus is a diehard Packer fan who loves to read, hike and watch college sports. Ms. Stokes loves to watch scary movies and go on roller coasters at amusement parks. She also enjoys playing Mario Kart with her kids.

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Oakwood Intermediate



Celia Young - Oakwood Custodial Staff

Cristyn Tobin - Operations Projects Coordinator

This month, Oakwood would like to highlight two of our key staff! Special thank you to Cristyn Tobin, who has been with APS for over five years now. She has served in numerous capacities, but is currently our Operations Projects Coordinator for the district. Working closely with Cristyn, is Celia Young. Celia replaced Cristyn in the head Custodian role at Oakwood and has been with us since February.

Cristyn and Celia both exude many positive traits that contribute to a welcoming and well-maintained environment. They compliment each other very well and have great attention to detail. They often identify and addresses issues before they become bigger concerns. They are friendly and quick to share a kind word or gesture with our students and staff. Our Oakwood building has never looked better! We are glad to have this 'dynamic duo' in our building.

Cristyn enjoys working with the staff coordinating projects and activities all over the district. She is great at problem solving and is the first to offer her help or support when needed. She is organized and a forward-thinker, making her the ideal person for her role. When she isn't focused on a project, she is tending to things that need to be done at Oakwood. In her spare time, Cristyn enjoys spending time with family, painting and going for walks. She feels lucky because her parents live on a lake and her in-laws have a pool.

Celia comes to us with over six years of experience with Hamilton Community Schools. She is very willing to jump in and help out wherever help is needed. She is very observant and takes pride in maintaining a clean and safe environment. She is easy to talk to and brings a positive, uplifting spirit to Oakwood. She might be new to the Oakwood staff but Celia is already making a difference. When not at school, Celia enjoys spending time with her family, including six grandchildren. She also enjoys crocheting, crafting and remodeling (they are currently remodeling a bathroom).

Thank you Cristyn and Celia for helping us look so good at Oakwood! You are appreciated!

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Middle School



Keith Piccard

6th Grade Science Teacher

- Mr. Piccard has been with APS 23 years.
- Congratulations to Mr. Keith Piccard, our Teacher of the Month! As a 6th grade science teacher and middle school wrestling coach, Mr. Piccard brings enthusiasm, energy, and a love for learning to AMS. He makes science exciting by taking students outside for hands-on experiences, exploring nature, and even wading in the stream to study ecosystems firsthand. His passion for teaching, dedication to his students, and no nonsense attitude makes him a valued member of our school community. Mr. Piccard is always the first in the building and usually the last to leave. APS is a family affair with his wife, Gail, working in the district and 3 daughters in 1st, 6th, and 9th grades. Thank you, Mr. Piccard, for your hard work and commitment to our students and district!
- Mr. Piccard is an amazing artist and often draws pictures on a large whiteboard outside of his room that welcomes his students to class.

APS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

High School



Lindsay Harness

Science Teacher

- Mrs. Harness has been with APS for 3 years.
- Mrs. Harness finds interesting guest speakers for her students. She brings students on field trips that reinforce her curriculum. She took over the Science Olympiad a couple of years ago and has met those challenges with grace even when she has had to search for resources. She just seems to make everything she does with students enjoyable. She knows how to ENGAGE students in her classroom. She is extremely organized, and she hosted the recent- successful -Science Olympiad tournament showing our students, and students from several other school districts, just how great Allendale is. She is continually upbeat and smiling even when she is exhausted. She is without fail always ready to have conversations about students and curriculum. She is always excited to discuss details about what's going on in her classroom. There are so many things going on in there. Mrs. Harness is very deserving of staff member of the month!