

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

*~William Butler Yeats*

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

- 1/2—Students return
- 1/10—6:00—PTO Meeting
- 1/15—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No School
- 1/24—MGR Players visiting for 1st Grade
- 1/26—Half Day
- 1/31—MGR Players visiting for 2nd Grade

## INSIDE THE ONLINE...

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# Allen Road Elementary School

## Gator Gazette E\*News

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

JANUARY, 2018

### Gator 'Tales'...

If you are like me, your sole resolution after this past week is to simply stay warm! It may have been a shorter break than usual, but it sure felt like a full season of winter temperatures all packed into just one week!

It was great this morning to see all of the students returning and excited to get back to their classrooms, teachers, and friends. I'm looking forward to a great second half of the year.

One of the things we worked on as a building across the first half of the year is developing a school mission and vision statement. This is both a challenging and exciting process, as you can find yourself frustrated by wordsmithing vague and sweeping terms, but at the same time taking inventory of



what you believe, value, and support.

We currently have a few drafts of mission statements that we intend to meld into one, but want to be mindful of including the input of all stakeholder groups. Your thoughts as the parent stakeholder group about our mission are valuable. To that end, I have asked PTO to carve out time for me at the upcoming meeting to discuss our draft

statements, and gather some of your thoughts about what our mission should be.

A mission statement answers the questions 'Why do we exist?' or 'What is our purpose?'. While we all know the answers in general terms, it is valuable to articulate them specifically and publicly. After that, we will move on this spring to discuss what our Vision is for Allen Road—or our 'desired state' in order to support our Mission.

I hope you will consider coming out Wednesday night the 10th to be a part of this brief discussion and offer your thinking around Allen Road Elementary School's purpose, from the perspective of a parent. Happy New Year and *-1 Dave* stay warm!

### PTO News and Views

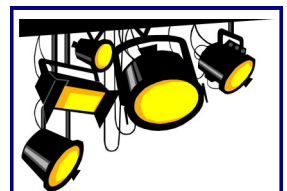
Happy New Year's Allen Road! Welcome back from a very chilly break! We hope your holidays were full of family and friends.

Thank you everyone who attended Winter Wonderland. It was a great success. Our cultural festival was amazing. Thank you to our families who came and taught us all a little something about your culture!

with the event, please stop by our January meeting 1/10/18 at 6pm in the school library. Child care will be available for the evening. All are welcomed.

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

Next month we have our Labor of Love dinner! If you're unfamiliar



### In the Spotlight

Our Winter Wonderland celebration of cultures around the world was highlighted on the district webpage. Visit the

[NSCSD web page](#)

To see some great pictures of some of our families that took time out to share with us about their cultures and holiday celebrations!

## 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 Speach**

**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 Events

- January 10th—PTO meeting @ 6pm
- February 7th—PTO meeting @ 6pm
- February 8th—Labor of Love @ 6pm

All meetings are held at the school in our library. Childcare is available.

### General PTO Information

Have you considered being a member of our PTO board? Our PTO is expecting some openings for the 2018-2019 school year. Please come to a meeting to learn which positions will be needed or email us at [arepto@gmail.com](mailto:arepto@gmail.com)

### Box Tops

Keep sending in your box tops with your children! We are always collecting!!

### After school Enrichment

Our 3rd quarter after school programs will be starting soon. Keep an eye out for the packets coming home with your student.

### 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...

### 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. Commisso on January 17, 2018

Wellness Wakeup call: In January we will be learning about Fast Food. A recipe for Fast food at home 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
- \*the child gets cold or wet, especially gloves and boots
- \*the child feels pain or numbness anywhere, especially hands, feet, ears or nose
- \*the child thinks they may have frostbite which behaves like a burn and requires medical attention.

As always, any concerns feel free to contact me.

Stay warm and safe! Happy winter!

Mrs. Werksman RN

315-218-2303 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*

## Character and Caring at Allen Road Elementary School...

Across the month of December, we filled multiple buckets by donating food to the Salvation Army to go to those in need.



ROCCO  
GROTTO  
ROOM 110

MIA  
TRABUCCO  
ROOM 111

CHLOE  
BARBER  
ROOM 110

RYAN  
KIRBY  
ROOM 111

BRODY  
OREFICE  
ROOM 110

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

~Phyllis Diller

During the entire month of January we will again try to help those less fortunate by supporting CNS student Damon Villnave, Founder of DJ's Gift of Warmth. Please take a moment to read the message from DJ below—he is one of our own NSCSD students that has started this great work in the Syracuse area:

*DJ's Gift of Warmth will be collecting new and gently used blankets for the Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission uses these blankets in their local shelter and community outreach van. You will be able to place the donated blankets in boxes located in the school foyer. We appreciate any donation. Thank you for the support your schools have given us.*

*Sincerely,*

*Damon Villnave*



## 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.

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

*~Frederick  
Douglass*

# JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6	1	2 Students return	3	4	5 Half Day	6
7	8 7:00—BOE Meeting	9	10 6:00—PTO Meeting	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King, Jr Day—NO SCHOOL	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 7:00—BOE Meeting	23 MGR Players visiting for 1st Grade	24	25	26 Half Day—Noon Dismissal	27
28	29	30 MGR Players visiting for 2nd Grade	31			



# Elementary School Menu

# January 2018

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

## MONDAY

1 Holiday Recess  
 No School

## TUESDAY

2 Pancakes w/ Sausage  
 Hash Brown Patty  
 100% Fruit-Vegetable Juice  
 Fresh Fruit

## WEDNESDAY

3 Spaghetti & Meatballs w/ Texas Toast  
 Seasoned Green Beans  
 Garden Salad w/ Dressing

## THURSDAY

4 Ham & Cheese Bagel Melt  
 French Fries  
 Seasoned Carrots  
 Fresh Fruit

## FRIDAY

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

## Second Choice

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

8 Hot Dog on Bun  
 Steamed Corn  
 Potato Gems  
 100% Juice Cup

9 Beef Nacho's w/ Salsa  
 Garden Salad w/ Dressing  
 Cut Green Beans  
 Corn Muffin  
 Fresh Fruit

10 Macaroni & Cheese w/ Dinner Roll  
 Carrot Fries w/ Dip  
 California Blend Vegetable

11 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla  
 Cheesy Bean Dip w/ Chips  
 Seasoned Corn  
 Fresh Fruit

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

15 School Closed

16 Crispy Fish Nugget w/ Dinner Roll  
 Sweet Potato Bites  
 Baked Beans  
 Fresh Fruit

17 Baked Rotini w/ Cheesy Breadstick  
 Seasoned Green Beans  
 Garden Salad w/ Dressing  
 100% Juice Cup

18 Hot Turkey w/ Gravy & Biscuit  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Seasoned Corn  
 Fresh Fruit

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

22 Pizza Crunchers w/ Sauce  
 Baby Carrots w/ Dip  
 Steamed Spinach  
 100% Juice Cup

23 White Chicken Chili w/ Corn Bread  
 Seasoned Carrots  
 Seasoned Green Beans  
 Fresh Fruit

24 Toasted Cheese Sandwich  
 Tomato Soup w/ Goldfish Crackers  
 100% Fruit-Vegetable Juice

25 Stuffed Crust Pizza  
 Garden Salad w/ Dressing  
 Seasoned Broccoli  
 Fresh Fruit

26 ½ Day No Lunch

29 Pork Chop Patty w/ Gravy & Roll  
 Ranch Mashed Potatoes  
 Seasoned Corn

30 Tangerine Chicken over Fried Rice  
 Seasoned Carrots  
 Stir Fred Vegetables  
 Fortune Cookie  
 Fresh Fruit

31 Macaroni & Cheese w/ Dinner Roll  
 Seasoned Carrot Fries  
 California Blend Vegetable

**Available with All Lunches**  
 Assorted Fruit Cups  
 Milk Choice

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

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 is in a penguin's favorite salad?

lettuce