

ALMOND-BANCROFT SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER 1336 ELM ST ALMOND, WI 54909 PHONE 715-366-2941 FAX 715-366-2940 WWW.ABSCHOOLS.K12.WI.US

February 2022

Dates To Remember

2/14-No School, Teacher In-service

2/16-Board Of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium



Almond-Bancroft School District

Jodi Becker District Administrator

Toni Schumacher PK-12 Principal

Andria Bena Special Ed Director/ Psychologist

School Board President: Keith Dernbach Vice President: John Ruzicka Treasurer: Eugene Fosmire Clerk: Kim Weiss Directors: Debbie Bradley Taylor Dernbach Brad Garner



Notes from the District Administrator

I want to begin this message with a huge thank you to all of our staff, our families and community members for continued support and flexibility as we navigate this year with Covid concerns, staff illness, and Wisconsin weather. I know that every time we make a decision to close school, cancel after school activities or have an early release or late start that this impacts all of you in many different ways. I want you to know that we take each and every one of these

decisions very seriously.

Recently we had to close school because of staff shortages. Our school board and administrators really felt like there was no other answer. We didn't have enough teachers, aides or substitutes to cover classes and our students were not getting the instruction that they deserve. We truly appreciate your understanding and know that the three school days that we were not in person added a burden to your family.

Having kids in school is always the highest priority in Almond-Bancroft. We know that students learn best when they are in our school with our teachers. At the January 12th school board meeting, our School Board approved new Covid quarantine and isolation protocols. The new CDC guidelines as well as our district data and area district protocols were taken into consideration when making this decision. This new protocol especially focuses on keeping healthy students in school and limiting isolation based on the new Covid variant.

This new protocol has been shared with all stakeholders and is on our website, but you can also see it on page two of this newsletter. Here is a summary of the new protocol.

• Those who test positive for Covid must quarantine for five days from the first day of symptoms or the day of their test. If the positive person does not have symptoms or their symptoms have improved with no fever, they can come back to school for the next 5 days but must wear a mask.

- Those who are a close contact to a positive case have the following protocols:
- * If they are a close contact with a family member, they need to quarantine for five days. They can test on day 6, and if that test is negative, they can return to school but must wear a mask for days 6-10.
- * If they are a close contact of someone other than a family member and do not have symptoms, they do not have to quarantine. They can attend school wearing a mask for the first five days after contact.
- If they are a close contact of someone other than a family member and develop symptoms, they must quarantine until they no longer have symptoms or they have a negative test.
- Anyone who is a close contact who has had Covid within the last 90 days does not need to quarantine and can attend school wearing a mask for five days.

We know that this year and the past two years there have been constant changes, and this is very frustrating to everyone involved. Please know that we ALWAYS have your child's health and wellbeing at the forefront of our decisions. We will continue to keep you informed on any changes.

Thank you! Please take care and stay healthy!

Jodi Becker District Administrator

Almond-Bancroft School District Vision Statement

We are a collaborative community focused on continued growth in opportunities, choices, and expectations for all students. We prepare self-motivated and responsible students to become well-rounded and successful citizens.

Almond-Bancroft School District Mission Statement

The Almond-Bancroft School District, with support of families and community members, will provide a safe and supportive learning environment, which challenges and prepares each student for success today and tomorrow.



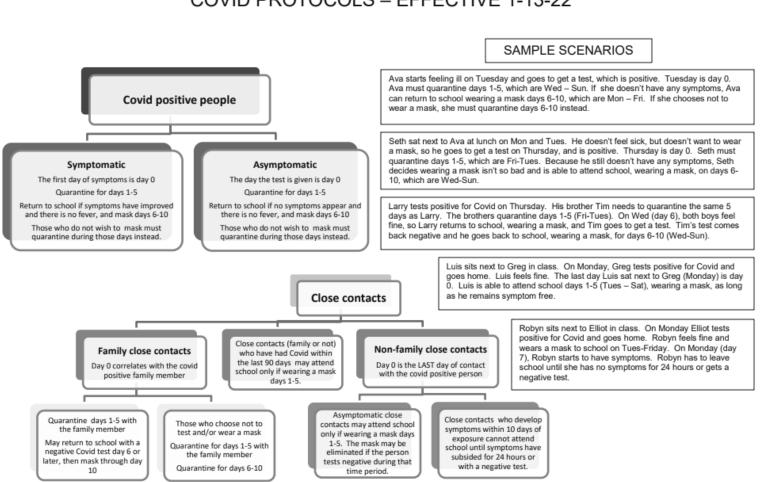
I was reading a couple articles on an education website and had to laugh when I read about one teacher's struggle with EDOF, the eternal darkness of February. I think most of the people in our lives experience this struggle, which is often called the February slump. January usually finishes on a high note. The students come back from winter break, they find themselves swooped up in the flurry of end of semester work and activities, and second semester begins. About two weeks later the dreaded EDOF starts creeping in. It is often too cold for the elementary students to go out to play for recess. Spring break is almost two months away. February can seem dim indeed. Unless one really loves ice fishing or snowmobiling, outdoor activities are limited. Most people do not head out for a nice walk after dinner in February. It is just too cold and it is still getting dark before 6:00.

Unfortunately, EDOF often affects schoolwork. The slump strikes at motivation, and very often even the most dedicated students have a slip in grades. But that doesn't mean that parents/guardians should just sit back and marvel at how spectacularly the slump has hit the students, however tempting that might be (EDOF can affect adults too). You know the children in your households; you know what will help and what will be a distraction. Can your child do one subject's homework and then take a short break, or will that break never end? Does your child need to do their homework in the kitchen, where you can see what they are doing? Should your child do their homework before or after dinner; what works best?

The answers to these questions may have been figured out in your household for a good while now, but - trust me -February is when you are going to need to be the most on top of the game. Your elementary child says their work is done and tucks their folder into their backpack? Have them pull it back out and show you what they accomplished. If their work is done, hooray! If not, now you know. Your secondary school child says that their work on Google classroom is turned in? Have them show you the actual finished assignment. Unfortunately, a student can turn in an assignment with absolutely nothing on it. It will show up as turned in until the teacher can take a look at it and return it. Teens love loopholes!

But besides keeping tabs on your student's schoolwork, how else can you help combat that stifling EDOF? Ironically, the cure is the very thing that is seemingly prevented by the weather: activity. But being active does not have to mean going outside. Being active just means doing something that involves, well, actually doing something. Baking is an activity. A rousing game of Go Fish is an activity. Painting a picture or a room or one's fingernails is an activity. Vegging out in front of the tv or mindlessly watching TikToks? Not an activity. Those are passive. Neither your child's brain nor body is working very much during a passive event. Get them doing, get them thinking, and watch EDOF lose it's power. And take heart! At least February is the shortest month.

Toni Schumacher PK-12 Principal



COVID PROTOCOLS – EFFECTIVE 1-13-22

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Each month middle school staff members choose one student from each grade level that has demonstrated positive behavior throughout the month. Here are the winners and comments from November and December.

November Students of the Month



6th grade: Jackson Barden

- Always gives his best effort in both assignments and assessments. Very willing to participate in class.
- Jackson has a positive attitude and is willing to help others.
- Jackson gives quality work, is friendly and kind to everyone, and he is a joy to have in class.

7th grade: Eddie Ortiz

- Has a positive attitude and enjoys joking around. He is a hard worker and always smiles.
- Eddie puts forth a lot of effort, is always positive, never complains, and is so creative.

8th grade: Davis Dernbach

• Davis has shown incredible improvement and effort this year. Very proud of his hard work!

• Davis volunteers all the time in class and brings a great attitude to the classroom environment.

December Students of the Month

6th grade: Tia Dernbach

- Tia gives her best effort. She is creative and helpful to others. Tia always has a smile on her face! 7th grade: Lacie Bradley
- Lacie tries her best and she is a sweetheart! Lacie has a positive attitude and is responsible.
- 8th grade: Oakley Omernik

• Oakley has a positive attitude and is respectful and responsible. She completes her work in a timely manner and scores on her assessments are very high. Congratulations!

Artist of the Month



Joshua Beltran

Almond-Bancroft Junior India Ink Drawing

India ink is a traditional black drawing ink which stems from one of the oldest and most durable pigments of all time: carbon black.

Made from ash mixed with a binder such as water, liquid or glue.

Congratulations Josh!

-Mrs. Zíebell



A big THANK YOU to the Almond Rod and Gun Club for their generous donation of a box of 100 arrows to the Physical Education Program. The Archery unit is one the favorite units for the students. The arrows we have are getting beat up. This donation allows us to have enough arrows to go along with our bows and targets.





Kindergarten Fun

Since Christmas break the kindergarten students have been learning about Martin Luther King Jr. and acts of kindness. Each student thought of a positive act they could do to make the world a better place. Since Valentine's Day is just around the corner, it was fun thinking of special acts of kindness they could do at home or at school to help others.

On Friday, February 4th, we will celebrate 100 Days of School!! It's hard to believe that's almost here!!

Students are improving their letter writing skills and learning the difference between facts and opinions

Students had so much fun on the big snow hill at the helicopter park last week! It was a great afternoon. A fun way to celebrate winter!

4K/ELC Art

Mrs. Kathy's classroom read the book Papa please get the moon for me. The students really enjoyed the book so we made an art project to show how much we liked it. Thank you Mrs. Mocker for loaning the book to us from the library!



Second Grade Wishes Mrs. Pagel Good-Bye!

Mrs. Pagel was a student teacher in Mrs. Blanke's class 2nd quarter. She planned and taught many lessons. She especially loved getting to know the students! Best of luck in your next adventure!

Elementary Dance with DJ Jazzy Collins





Fifth Graders Participate in CounterAct Program

The Almond-Bancroft School District and Portage County Sheriff's Department are partnering to provide instruction about the effects of drugs, alcohol and violence. The CounterAct program has been delivered to fifth grade students in the district for approximately a decade. Deputy Yenter, the Community Resource Officer, facilitates the program.

CounterAct is an interactive skill-based curriculum where students learn specific skills that they can apply in real-life situations. In order to complete the program, students must demonstrate their knowledge and their ability to use the skills that they have learned. Part of the work that students do in the classroom includes discussing what they've learned with their family.

Another important part of the CounterAct program is the relationships that are built between students and police officers as well as parent, school and community partnerships that are built. Officer Yenter will continue to meet with fifth graders a few days each week into the beginning of February.





District Spelling Bee

On Friday, January 21st, twenty 4th-8th grade students participated in the annual spelling bee. The competition was challenging and exciting. The championship word turned out to be "fidgeting" and was spelled correctly by Blake Williams. Congratulations to Blake Williams and Shawn Carpenter for finishing in first and second places. The two young men will represent our district in the upcoming regional spelling bee in Wild Rose on February 7th. Congratulations and good luck gentlemen!

Washington DC Trip

Our 2022 DC Trip is moving forward with plans to travel. The trip is open to all Junior and Sophomore students and will be taking place June 12th through the 17th. At \$550 the five-day trip cost is all-inclusive including

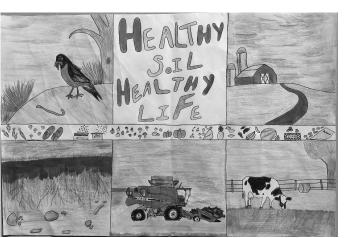
entry into Gettysburg, Mt. Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian museums, the U.S. Capitol building, and the various, famous memorials and landmarks. There is still room for students who have yet to sign up. Please contact Luke Steuerwald for more information if interested in traveling or helping to support the trip.



Soil Conservation Poster Contest Winners

During the School Library/Media rotation, 7th grade students were given the opportunity to design and create posters for the WI Land+Water Soil Conservation Poster Contest. Posters from students across Portage County were collected and judged. Delaney Omernick's poster placed 1st and Callie Warzynski's poster placed 3rd in the Grades 7-9 category. Both students won cash prizes. Delaney's poster will advance to the North Central Area contest, which takes place virtually on January 28. First place posters at the Area contest advance to the State contest to be held the first week of March at the WI Land+Water Annual Conference. Congratulations to both students, and best of luck, Delaney, in the Area contest!

Pictured is Delaney's winning poster.



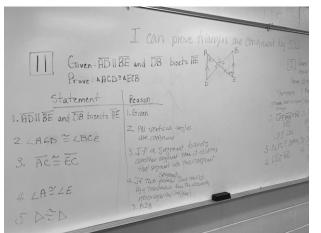


High School Choir and Band News

On Saturday, January 15th, a select number of band and choir students traveled to Weyauwega-Fremont High School to participate in the annual CWC All-Star Band

and Choir Festival. High school choir and band students came from all over central Wisconsin to work with two guest conductors to learn music and put on a concert all in one day! The students who participated in the All-Star Choir were John Luna, Riley Stiles, and Vivian Kramer. The students who participated in the All-Star Band were Ben Colombe, Ty Huntington Katie Hintz, and Jesus Perez-Pacheo. The students were nominated to participate based on their hard work, dedication, and musicianship. It was a fun day full of lots of laughter and amazing musicmaking! We are so proud of our Almond-Bancroft musicians.





Two-column proofs, did I hear two-column proofs!! Y-E-S!! They are one of my favorites in all of math. And I hope they were one of your favorites too. The current Geometry students complete the proofs on a regular basis. Deductive thinking is part of everyday life even if we don't think of it in those terms. But making logical decisions or coming up with ways to make things work is important. I'm sure Geometry students NEVER forget the twocolumn proofs. All you need to do is ask a former Geometry student! And asking them will always put a smile on their face!

-Mrs. Ciula







High school students in Mrs. Ziebell's Drawing and Painting class display their artwork! Emily Wysocki, Mckenze Kowalski, Madalyn Potts, John Luna, Ella Winn-Seghers, and Riley Stiles.



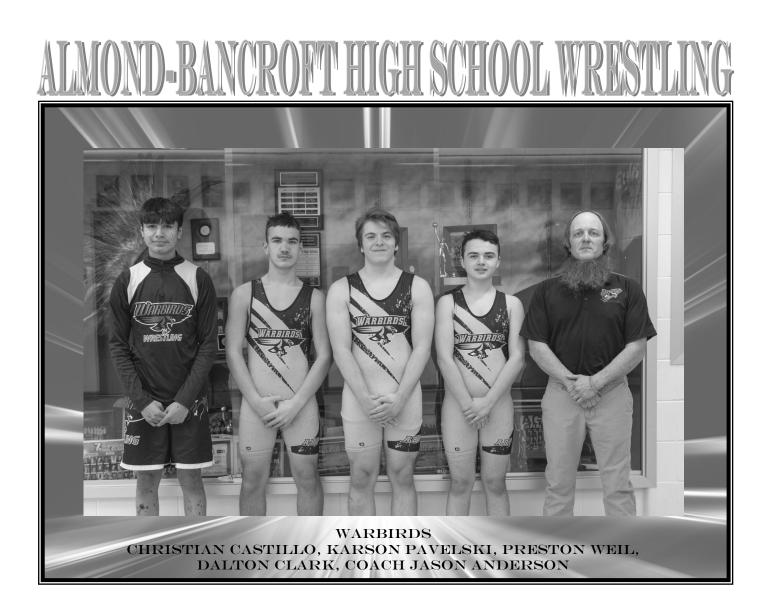
Eagles Athletic Events

- 2/1-MS Girls Basketball at Wild Rose, 5:30 p.m.
- 2/3-MS Girls Basketball at Tri-County, 4:30 p.m.
 -HS Girls Basketball at Pittsville, JV 6:00 p.m., Varsity 7:15 p.m.
- -HS Wrestling at Wittenberg-Birnamwood, 7:00 p.m. 2/4-HS Boys Basketball at home vs. Pittsville, Varsity 6:00 p.m., JV 7:15 p.m.
- 2/5-HS Wrestling Conference Tournament at Pittsville, 9:30 a.m.
- 2/7-MS Girls Basketball home vs Pittsville, 5:00 p.m.
- 2/8-MS Girls Basketball home vs Iola-Scandinavia, 4:45 p.m.
 - -HS Girls Basketball at Tri-County, JV 4:30 p.m., Varsity 6:00 p.m.
- -Varsity Boys Basketball at Tri-County, 7:15 p.m. 2/10-MS Girls Basketball home vs Mosinee, 5:00 p.m.
- -HS Boys Basketball at Pacelli, JV 6:00 p.m., Varsity 7:15 p.m.

- 2/11-HS Girls Basketball home vs. Pacelli, Varsity 7:00 p.m.
- 2/12-HS Wrestling Regionals at Shiocton, 9:30 a.m.
- 2/14-MS Girls Basketball home vs. Wild Rose, 5:00 p.m.
 -HS Boys Basketball at home vs. Manawa, Varsity 6:00 p.m., JV 7:15 p.m.
- 2/15-MS Girls Basketball at St. Peter MS, 5:00 p.m. -HS Girls Basketball at Nekoosa, Varsity 6:00 p.m.
- 2/17-MS Girls Basketball at Wautoma, 5:00 p.m.
 -HS Girls Basketball home vs. Gresham, JV 5:45 p.m., Varsity 7:00 p.m.
- 2/24-HS Boys Basketball at home vs. Wild Rose, Varsity 6:00 p.m., JV 7:15 p.m.

*Schedule is subject to change.

All athletic events held in the west gym can be watched via live stream at <u>https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/almondbancroft-high-school-almond-wi</u>





Almond-Bancroft Girls JV Basketball





Back Row (L to R): Azrael Reisner, Madalyn Potts, Lydia Lemanski, Coach Chad Newby Front Row: Gracie Rendall, Claire Turzinski, Paige Turzinski, Kerstyn Clark, Olivia Baumgartner

Almond-Baneroft Boys

1.MON

BANG

MON



L to R: Coach Greg Otto, Brandon Beltran, Clarence Pratt, Christian Castillo, Josh Beltran, Connor Brewer Front Row (L to R): Evan Stuczynski, Anthony Beltran, Cohen Preissner, Keagan Nigh



Thank you, Almond-Bancroft Junior, Emily Wysocki of MLE Photo Art for the team photos!

* Photos were cropped to fit this publication.



(L to R): Claire Turzinski, Paige Turzinski, Lydia Lemanski, Messina Meddaugh, Lexie Dernbach, Carlee Lamb, Mikala Seymour, Madalyn Potts, Riley Stiles, Raegen Omernik, Gracie Rendall, Olivia Baumgartner, Jillian Newby



(L to R): Brody Dernbach, Clarence Pratt, Connor Brewer, Tyler Huntington, Austin Zinda, Xander Miner, Aiden Phillips, Jyles Kraeger, TJ Lamb, Elijah Applebee, Dalton Omernick, Anthony Beltran

Almond Fire Department Happenings.

The last 6 months of your Almond Fire Department has seen a few changes and have new blood coming into the department.

First, the Emergency Responder Group and Fire Department saw the retirement, or semi-retirement of Patti Wohlfeil and Carol Smith who have been with the department since 1984 and the inception of the EMS Program in Almond. Both have served in many capacities through out the years, but in most recent years have co-chaired and over seen the growth of the First Responders in Almond. Both fine ladies have given so much to this community that it would be extremely hard to list all of their achievements and accolades. Both will be missed as the First Responder Group moves forward! Taking over the First Responder Group is Matt and Lori Helmrick, and the group thanks Matt and Lori for stepping up and continuing to lead us.

Second, the Fire Department started a Junior Cadet Program in conjunction with Bancroft Fire and the Almond Bancroft High School. In May of 2021 we held a day for students to come to the department and see firsthand what it is like to be a firefighter. Five stations were set up at the department for the kids to go through. Stations were from EMS/CPR, to working with hoses and water, to using the Jaws of Life to take apart a car. Out of the fifteen students that attended this day, two have since became Cadets with the Almond Fire Department. Ty Huntington and Andy Burns joined the Program. As cadets they will be attending meetings and trainings with the department, come to the department to assist with duties on fire calls, and become a part of the department once they have taken and passed firefighter classes at Mid-State. As of this writing, Ty has passed his Firefighter 1 class and is midway through his HAZMAT Class. Andy plans to work on this within the next year. Plans are in the works for next year's Demo Day at the department.

Third, at our December meeting Ken Brehmer was given the Pagel Firefighter of the year. Congratulations to Ken for all of his hard work and dedication to the Department this year. Also at our meeting, we saw the Promotion of three firefighters to Lieutenant. Those being 1st Lieutenant Evan Helmrick, 2nd Lieutenant Matt Lemke, and 3rd Lieutenant Doug Curwen. These three spent time this last year taking of-ficer training to advance their selves within the department.

Lastly, it was announced that the Departments new Tender Truck was going to be picked up and delivered to the department on December 22^{nd} , see picture. This has been a year and a half of work for the committee and boards alike to retire some older equipment and put newer equipment into service. The New Tender will be coming from Rosenbauer in South Dakota and should be in the station house sometime on the 22^{nd} . Our hope is to have a public showing in the spring when the warm weather comes back!

Thanks to all who worked on this project for the village and township alike.

Dear friends of the community,

Our Almond-Bancroft post prom committee is here with an excited group of parents ready to plan our next post prom. We are happy to report that this event is becoming a welcome tradition that the students, especially the new juniors, look forward to. We are so grateful for you and our community, who every year step up and help us plan this safe event for our kids at Almond-Bancroft School.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one in three alcohol related teen traffic fatalities occurred during the prom season, from April to June. Two out of three teens surveyed through MADD. said they felt pressured to drink during prom. Thanks to generous donations from our community, we are going on our fourth year of providing a safe and exciting night of events as an alternative for these kids to attend after prom. Last year's post prom included a photo booth, pool tables, bow and arrow tag, a caricature artist, lots of delicious food and every student who attended went home with a prize! Without your help, none of this would have been possible!

Our Post Prom Committee would like to ask for your support again this year. If you are interested in donating, please make checks payable to AB Post Prom and send them to:

Almond- Bancroft School -Candace Beggs 1336 Elm St. Almond, WI 54909

If you have any items you would like to donate that need to be picked up please email cbeggs@abschools.k12.wi.us

We appreciate any and all donations but if you are looking for some ideas please consider the following: Silver donation- \$25-\$150 Bronze donation \$151-\$250 Gold donation-\$251-\$499 Diamond donations-\$500 plus!

If possible we would like to receive donations by March 1, 2022. We will be announcing our appreciation of all donations in our school newsletter.

If you would like to donate items we can take the total cost of items and put you into the appropriate category.

Thank you in advance for your support and for helping to make a difference in our community,

Almond-Bancroft Post Prom Committee

AIIIIUIIu-Dali	croft Menus: Fe	2022		Breakfast Menu
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Breakfast Bar	2 Pancake Wrapped Sausage on Stick	3 Oatmeal Toast	4 Cinnamon Roll Yogurt
7 Breakfast Kit	8 Breakfast Sandwich	9 Cereal Muffin	10 Breakfast Pizza	11 Bagel and Cream Cheese Yogurt
14 No School	15 French Toast Sticks	16 Breakfast Kit	17 Frudel Yogurt	18 Cinnamon Roll Yogurt
21 Pancake Wrapped Sausage on Stick	22 Breakfast Kit	23 Waffles	24 Breakfast Pizza	25 Bagel and Cream Cheese Yogurt
28 Cereal Muffin		Juice s daily breakfa	with	Milk served daily with breakfast
mplete breakfast meals a enrolled stu y a single menu item is ta	leals for Students and complete lunch meals are f dents this school year! ken, there is a charge for that sin	ree for Juice Choices: • Apple Cherry	Milk Choices: • Skim • 1% White • F/F Chocolate Single item pric	
	assroom Milk Break: pproved free/reduced applicatio	Single item pric	e \$0.50	Lunch Menu
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Pizza Burger on Bun Mac & Cheese Green Beans Fruit of the Day	2 Scalloped Potatoes & Har Whole Grain Bread Peas Fruit of the Day	Carrots Fruit of the Day	4 Beefy Nachos Corn Fruit of the Day
7 Hamburger Gravy Mashed Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Broccoli Fruit of the Day	8 Hamburger on Bun Tater Barrels Baked Beans Fruit of the Day	9 Chicken Alfredo Green Beans Fruit of the Day	10 BBQ Pork on Bun French Fries Corn Fruit of the Day	11 Pizza Salad Bar Fruit of the Day
14 No School	15 Taco Hard or Soft Shell Corn Fruit of the Day	16 Chili Veggies & Dip Fruit of the Day	17 Chicken Gravy Mashed Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Peas Fruit of the Day	18 Garlic Cheese Bread Salad Bar Fruit of the Day
21 Beefy Nachos Corn Fruit of the Day	22 Chicken Quesadilla Green Beans Fruit of the Day	23 Chicken Patty on Bun Wedges Baked Beans Fruit of the Day	24 Cheeseburger Hot Dish Peas Fruit of the Day	25 Pizza Dippers Salad Bar Fruit of the Day
28 Popcorn Chicken Buttered Noodles Broccoli Fruit of the Day				enu is subject to change.
Eroch fru	iit may be served as an			_



SCHOOL BREAKFAST IS FREE FOR STUDENTS THIS YEAR.

YOUR STUDENT MUST TAKE THE COMPLETE BREAKFAST FOR IT TO BE FREE. THERE WILL BE A CHARGE FOR INDIVIDUAL MILK AND OR JUICE. SCHOOL BREAKFAST IS SERVED FROM 7:45 -8:15 A.M.

HOW DOES SCHOOL BREAKFAST HELP FAMILIES?



Kids and teens can concentrate

on their schoolwork better when

they're not hungry. Studies show

that kids do better in school when they eat breakfast.

Fuels learning



Provides better nutrition

Studies show that people who eat breakfast have higher intakes of dietary fiber, B vitamins, calcium, iron, and other nutrients.



Saves time

School breakfast can simplify mornings for families by offering kids and teens healthy options that fit into their schedule.

HOW CAN FAMILIES HELP THEIR CHILD EAT A HEALTHY BREAKFAST?

Read the menu with your child to make sure your student knows about all the foods that are included in their school breakfast.



- Small class sizes
- All schools meet or exceed expectations
- Academic and extracurricular activities
- AP and dual credit courses
- Music, band and art programs
- Dedicated staff

For more information about Open Enrollment, contact Jodi Becker, District Administrator. jbecker@abschools.k12.wi.us; 715-366-2941

Almond-Bancroft School 1336 Elm St Almond, WI 54909 Parents Start every day the wholegrain way. Serve whole-grain versions of cereal, bread, tortillas, or pancakes at breakfast. Whole grains give your kids B vitamins, minerals, and fiber to help them feel full longer so they stay alert to concentrate at school.

Almond-Bancroft High School Musical Announced as Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella!

The musical for Spring 2022 has been announced as Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella! Based on the fairy tale of the same name, Cinderella is about a young woman who is forced to serve her stepmother and stepsisters. She dreams of a better life and finds one through the help of her Fairy Godmother. In this classic tale, Cinderella goes from poor servant to Princess overnight. Musical practices will start next week and performances are scheduled for March 12-13.



May 2014 • FNS-471C • USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. http://teamnutrition.usda.gov



Substitute Teachers, Substitute Classroom Aides, Substitute Kitchen Assistants, and Substitute Custodians

The Almond-Bancroft application can be found on the District website, hover over the District tab and click on Employment Opportunities.

Return application to: Almond-Bancroft Schools, Mrs. Jodi Becker 1336 Elm Street Almond, WI 54909

> Non-Profit Org. US Postage Paid Almond, WI 54909 Permit #1 "PRSRTD." "ECRWSS"

BOXHOLDER