ALMOND-BANCROFT SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER 1336 ELM St
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## Dates To Remember

3/1-High School Musical, Grease, 2:00 pm, Auditorium
3/3-Elementary Spring Picture Day
3/4-Secondary Spring Picture Day
3/9-Pre-Kindergarten Informational Meeting, 6:30 p.m., LMC
3/18-Board Of
Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Board Room
3/23-3/27-No School, Spring Break


> Almond-Bancroft School District

Penny Boileau District Administrator Jeff Rykal
PK-12 Principal
Sandra Ciula
PK-12 Dean of Students
Andria Bena
Special Ed Director/
Psychologist
School Board President:
Bonnie Warzynski
Vice President:
Debbie Bradley
Treasurer:
John Ruzicka Clerk:
Kim Weiss
Directors:
Keith Dernbach
Eugene Fosmire
Brad Garner


## Notes from the District Administrator

District Administrator's Report<br>Dr. Penny Boileau

As we close out February, our regular winter season of sports comes to an end and tournament March madness begins. I would like to recognize and thank all our wrestling and basketball athletes for respectfully representing our school. The effort of all our athletes is appreciated and I would also like to say THANK YOU to our coaches for the long days, late nights, and family time they sacrifice to work with our teams. We have enjoyed many victories this season and we have also watched our athletes grow in other areas by participating in sports. They have developed friendships, team work, achieved individual and team growth, and experienced the commitment needed for a successful season. This is also true for members of other clubs and activities such as our play, music events, FBLA, forensics, Quiz Bowl, and Student Council among others. Being a small school district, our students are fortunate to be able to participate in many sports and activities. Thanks to supportive parents and dedicated staff leaders, our students engaged in these opportunities become well rounded individuals.

There are many activities to keep us busy, but we still keep our focus on academics. Encourage your children to stay on top of homework and put in the effort to be successful with their classes. March begins testing season and we strive toward proficiency. Part of reaching proficiency is practice at home. The National Education Association's signature program, Read Across America, is in its $20^{\text {th }}$ year. It came in to existence to address the need for higher achievement in reading across our nation. Of all the children in the U.S., $34 \%$ of children entering kindergarten lack the basic skills needed to learn how to read, $63 \%$ of $4^{\text {th }}$ graders read below grade level, which contributes to 7,000 students dropping out of high school every day, and only $37 \%$ of students graduating from high school are demonstrating proficient skills in reading. The focus of this highly recognized program is to motivate children and teens to read, read, read. The best way to improve reading skills is to spend more time reading. Research proves that reading 20 minutes every night helps students steadily improve and maintain reading skills. Let's all do our part to keep Almond-Bancroft students learning and moving toward high levels of academic achievement.

Speaking of high levels of academic achievement, watch for summer school details and registration information. We are preparing a fun, active program to include keeping sharp with literacy and math skills. Please sign up your children to join us and prevent the summer slide!

## Happy St. Patrick's Day!

## 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 selfmotivated 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.

Pre-Kindergarten Programming Informational Meeting<br>March 9, 2020<br>6:30 P.M.<br>A-B Secondary Library

In order to increase academic consistency for our Pre-Kindergarten students, the Almond-Bancroft School District is currently looking into changing the Pre-Kindergarten program. However, we are seeking parental and community input before any decisions are made.

PROPOSED PROGRAMMING - 4 Half Days: Students would attend Monday through Thursday, with one group attending in the mornings and one group attending in the afternoons (exact times to be determined). Bussing would continue to be offered to all students for both morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off; however, mid-day bussing would NOT be offered. Parents would either have the option to pick-up/drop-off their child at that mid-day transition time OR take advantage of an Extended Learning Center (ELC), free of charge, housed within the school building. If using the ELC option, PreKindergarten students would be in the building the same times as K-12 students, but their time would be split between the Pre-Kindergarten Classroom and an Extended Learning Center. Furthermore, bussing would be available to them for the morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off times, with the other students. Fridays would continue to be a non-student day, however the ELC may or may not be available.
*With this change in programming, students would CONTINUE to follow the District calendar; they would not attend class or ELC on "No School" days. Additionally, there would be no class or ELC during breaks, including summer.
*The District's goal would be to offer the ELC at no cost to resident families. However, there would continue to be a cost for meals if students eat breakfast, lunch, and snack each day. The meals would be provided through the School Meal
Program.
**More specific details of the Extended Learning Center will be developed if the Pre-Kindergarten programming changes take place. The A-B School District will inform families of those details.

If you can not attend the meeting and would like more information, please call Penny Boileau at (715) 366-2941 ext. 418.

## January-Middle School Students of the Month



6th grade student of the month - Devin Gumney

- Devin is a sweet student. He is curious and loves to be involved in class discussion.
- Devin is positive with himself and with others. He doesn't give up when facing a challenge.
- Devin is kind, hardworking, and artistic.


## 7th grade student of the month - Clarence Pratt

- Clarence is a hard-working student. He is fun and friendly.
- He has great self-awareness and is very responsible
- He gets along with his classmates and always has a fun story to tell.
- Clarence is hard-working and respectful.


## 8th grade student of the month - Garald Baird (not pictured)

- Garald is a very reliable student. He participates very well in class and always has something insightful to say.
- Garald is a joy to have in class, is always very respectful and kind.
- Garald is respectful, funny, and willing to help.


## Swing Into Spring Fundraiser

# Dance-A-Thon <br> - Games - Music - Fun - Prizes - Snacks - Dancing - 

Partners in Education (PIE) is sponsoring a dance-a-thon fundraiser for all elementary and middle school students for the afternoon of Friday, March $20^{\text {th }}$. Elementary students will participate from 12:00-1:30 pm and middle school students from 1:45-3:00 pm.

Beginning on Monday, March $2^{\text {nd }}$ and continuing through Friday, March $13^{\text {th }}$, students will collect pledges from friends and family. Each dollar pledged will earn that student one ticket that they can use to enter the raffle for the prize of their choice. We'll have lots of fun prizes up for grabs!

Proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards helping to enrich student learning experiences through events like class trips and assemblies, as well as helping to launch a new backpack food program.

If you'd like to contribute a prize, prize basket, or give a monetary donation to be used for prizes, please fill out the form below and return the form along with items to the Almond-Bancroft office on or before Friday, March $13^{\text {th }}$. If you know of an organization or business that would like to contribute they can also drop off prizes or monetary donations in the office.

Any extra help is always appreciated!

Name: $\qquad$
$\qquad$ I'd like to donate a prize or prize basket and will drop it off in the office on or before Friday, March $13^{\text {th }}$.
$\qquad$ I'd like to contribute money towards prizes. My donation is included with this form.


## Middle School Students Recognizing Activists

A few of our middle school students wrote articles about activists that stand up for children's rights after studying and reading about these amazing people. They wrote about Kesz Valdez, who works to decrease child homelessness; Malala Yousafai, who advocates for girls' education; and James Kofi Annan, who helps release child slaves. Here are a few samples of their writing.


Chris Kesz Valdez
Lilly Pratt
Kesz Valdez is a strong advocate for homeless children because he was homeless himself in the Philippines. He helped many children internationally by starting an organization to help those children that he believed needed help. He became a courageous activist for children's rights.
Kesz was a homeless person by the age of 4 . He lived in the garbage. He had no shelter. He knew that what he went through was not easy, and he was rescued.
So he did something about it, and helped those children that are homeless. He didn't have many friends or family. He was just homeless all by himself on the side of the streets.

He started an organization called Championing Community Children. He helped more than 10,000 homeless children. He asked his adoptive family and others to help him with this cause. He wanted to change their life and help the homeless children.

He won the International Children's Peace Prize for his work with homeless children. He earned this award from his work in helping the children.


## Malala <br> Evan Stuczynski

Malala is a strong advocate for girls' education because she didn't get education when she was younger, just because she was a girl. She also values education for girls and she gives speeches today all around the world.
She could not get education when she was younger because the Taliban shut all girls' schools down. She supported education for girls by speaking out and trying to get the government to shut down the Taliban. Sadly she got shot by the Taliban, she was in deep pain and almost died, but she would not give up.
She did not give up on fighting for education. She continues to help girls, and today she still gives speeches. She won the Nobel Peace Prize 2014.


## James Kofi Annan <br> Jon Takacs

James is a strong advocate for helping child slaves because he was a slave himself. James has been nominated to be the World's Children Peace Prize Decade Child Rights Hero in 2020. He won this award for his work to fight against child slavery in the fishing industry on Lake Volta in Ghana.

He had a very difficult life. His life was hard because he was a slave and worked on a boat. He was a fishing slave for seven years doing hard work. While on the boat he could go hungry all day. James was not treated well.

Today he is helping children get out of slavery. James has the Challenging Heights Charity. This charity helps children learn.

He has won eight awards for helping children get out of slavery everyday. He managed to escape and get an education later to become a bank manager. Six years ago he left the bank and began helping other slaves.

## Elementary Book Trivia Contest

On Friday, March 13th, the Almond-Bancroft Elementary will be hosting their first book trivia contest. One hundred six students are currently reading the books in preparation for the big day. They have been divided into ten teams, and are as follows:

1. The Very Hungry Caterpillars
2. Book Wizards
3. The Book Thieves
4. Bad Kitty Club
5. Cats in Hats
6. The Guardians of Childhood
7. The Goosebumps
8. The Wild Things are Here
9. The Garfields
10. Readers from the Black Lagoon

Check out their pictures near the main office.


## Elementary Book Trivia <br> <br> Volunteers Needed

 <br> <br> Volunteers Needed}On Friday, March 13th, the Almond-Bancroft Elementary will be hosting their first book trivia contest. To help make our contest a success, we are looking for volunteers to help during the contest.
We can't hold the contest without your help! And students love to see your faces! A volunteer sign-up form was sent home with your student, contact Mrs. Negro if you are interested in volunteering.


We're trying something new this year. Our district is putting on a spring book fair AND it is a Buy One, Get One Free*.

Reading for pleasure has real and long-lasting benefits. It unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps kids discover who they are. Help your child develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading by:

Setting the example. Let your kids see you read!
Having a collection of books in the home. Update this collection routinely to keep pace with changing tastes and reading skills.
Supporting our school's Scholastic Book Fair. Allow your kids to choose their own books they'll love.
Our Buy One, Get One Free* Book Fair is a reading event that brings books to your child's school that they want to read. For every book purchased, the second is free! It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and help shape your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates: April 13-17
Open During Parent-Teacher Conference Nights.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair!

## Quick Guide

## Phonological Awareness

## What Is Phonological Awareness?

Phonological awareness is the ability to hear and identify the various sounds in spoken words.

Kids who have strong phonological awareness can do things like rhyme, count syllables, and blend sounds into words. Strong phonological awareness helps kids learn to read much more easily.

Phonological awareness develops gradually over time. Kids start with the easiest skills-understanding that spoken language contains words-and then move on to skills like rhyming. Eventually they develop the more advanced skills such as manipulating sounds.


## Quick Check for Phonological Awareness

Your child is able to rhyme. If you say the word bat, your child can respond with a rhyming word like hat.Your child understands word boundaries. If you say the sentence Don't let the cat out, your child is able to separate the sentence into five individual words.Your child can clap syllables. If you say dog, your child knows to clap once. If you say umbrella, your child knows to clap three times.Your child can blend sounds to make a word. If you say the sounds sh...eep, your child can say the word sheep.Your child can identify the beginning sound in a word. If you ask your child to say the first sound in pig, he will be able to respond with the sound $/ p /$.Your child can identify the ending sound in a word. If you ask him to say the last sound in the word jam, your child is able to respond with the sound $/ \mathrm{m} /$.


# Almond-Bancroft Annual Dodgeball Tournament 

 Even if you don't play, everyone's welcome to come watch the fun!
## Friday, March 13 Almond School West Gym 6:00 pm

Admission to the gym is $\$ 2$ adults and $\$ 1$ students (including players). Concessions will be available (pizza, pretzels, popcorn, candy, etc). Proceeds go to the AAEA scholarship fund.

Rosters are due no later than March 10th Middle School turn in your rosters to Mrs. Huebner (room 205) High School and Adult teams turn in your rosters to Mrs. Huebner (room 317)

## Elementary Permission slip

Yes, please sign my elementary child up for a dodgeball team. I will bring the admission fees to the tournament.

Child's name: $\qquad$ Grade: $\qquad$
(grade 1 - 5 students only)
Parent signature: $\qquad$
*Parents are expected to supervise their own children.*
Grade 1-5 students please return your slip to your teachers by March 10th.
Sorry, no late slips will be accepted.
We need time to organize the teams, make the brackets, and purchase prizes.

3/3-HS Boys Basketball Regional, home vs. Tri-County, 7:00 pm
3/6-HS Boys Basketball Regional, TBD
3/7-HS Boys Basketball Regional, TBD
3/31-HS Softball, home vs.
Bowler, 4:30 p.m.
-HS Baseball, home vs.
Bowler, 4:30 p.m.



Jon Curtin, Azrael Reisner, Kaden Martinez, Coach Anderson


Back (L to R): Coach Wiernik, Valerie Banda, Cecelia Rykal, Madalyn Potts, Messina Meddaugh, Courtney Curtin, Lexie Dernbach, Riya Ceballos, Oakley Omernik, manager Lilly Pratt, Coach Newby Duchow
Front: Aubree Phillips, Destiny Kiefer, Laney Carlton, Kerstyn Clark, Mya Dernbach, Aaliyah Newby, Lydia Lemanski, Emalee Petrick


Back (L to R): Coach Suchocki, Gavin Lowery, Connor Newby, Brian Garcia, Gilberto Banda, David Curtin, David Trevino, Derek Lockhart, Kenny Gaspar-Diaz, Coach Wagner.
Front: Adolfo Castillo, Jaymason Mayek, Tyler Hutkowski, Brandon Hall, Derek Clark, Ariel Castillo.

## PLOVER WHITING YOUTH ATHLETICS-Summer League Registration Information

PWYA summer league registration for Tee Ball, Boys Baseball and Girls Softball is now open!
PWYA continues to be a strong community based organization that strives to provide a safe, fun learning environment for the games of baseball and softball. We have coaches trained in instructional drills and background tested for your child's safety. We also have a wide range of age divisions and accept players of all abilities and skill levels. Visit www.pwya.org or click the following link to register your player: https://pwya.sportngin.com/register/form/667572113

## PLAINFIELD LITTLE LEAGUE-Summer League Registration Information

T-ball, coach pitch, baseball, and softball summer league registration for $4 K-6$ th grade is now open!
Visit www.plainfieldll.com to download a 2020 registration form.
Or contact Bree Kotolski, Amanda Mills, Tiffany Roberts, or Sara Friebel for more information.

## ABHS STUDENT COUNCIL SINGING BIRTHDAY GRAMS

ABHS Student Council will deliver a singing birthday gram to your favorite Student/Staff member on their birthday by the end of the day. PLEASE ALLOW 24 HOUR NOTICE BEFORE DELIVERY ON BIRTHDAY.
PRE-PAYMENT IS REQUIRED. Orders can be turned into the main office or directly to Mr. Nowinski.

## Student Staff Name:

$\qquad$
Birthday: Teacher @ 2pm: $\qquad$
Special Message: $\qquad$

These are the packages to choose from:
STANDARD: $\qquad$ (\$5) Happy Birthday balloon on party stick decorated with ribbon, card, and a round Iollipop Green \& White Pom-Pom (\$2) Smencil (50ф) Birthday Tiara or Hat (\$2) Extra Round Lollipop (\$.50) Chocolate Rose (\$1) Beads ( $\$ 1.00$ for 3 beads) Beads ( $\$ 1.00$ for 3 beads)

## The Disc Golf Course Seeks 10 More Basket Sponsors

The logging is in full swing, and that means the disc golf fairways are in the initial stages of taking shape. When the weather warms up it will be time to grind stumps and clear the fairways with hard work and wood chips. Currently, we have 10 basket sponsors and we are in need of 10 more so that this disc golf course can be one of the greatest destinations to learn and play disc golf in Central Wisconsin.

The cost to become a basket sponsor is $\$ 500$. Families and community members can certainly put their names together, and all the proceeds from your donation help establish a legacy. Your names will be displayed near the basket, and you will join a team of current basket sponsors who believe this project will make a positive impact on the community. The current basket donors are...

Bancroft Lions Club
Almond Lions Club
Almond Snow Eagles
Wisconsin Disc Sports Association
Stevens Point Area Disc Association
Keith Glodowski in memory of Frank and Geri Glodowski
Stevens Point Junior Women's Club
FFA Grants for Growing
Senior Class of 2019
The family of Harland and Janice Newby dedicated to Harland and Janice


If you are able to become a basket sponsor, please contact Tom Collins at 715-366-2941 Ext. 412 or via email at tcollins@abschools.k12.wi.us. Your donation goes to a good cause!

## Disc Golf Matching Funds Opportunity

Adelante (123 Main Street, Almond) will be holding a fundraiser for the AB Disc Golf Course during March. Adelante will match any donations made up to $\$ 500$ total.

Adelante hours:
Taco Tuesdays 5:00-8:00 pm, dine in and take out Mexican cuisine.
Thursdays 10:00 am-5:00 pm, shop fresh bakery, eggs, meats, freshly roasted coffee, and more.
Thursday (Learn and Love It Dance) 3:00-7:00 pm, dance and pilates. Friday dinner events, to be announced (outdoor pizza oven coming soon). For more information check @liberationfarmers on social media, or contact John Sheffy 715-366-2656.


# Official Ballot <br> Almond-Bancroft Public Schools <br> Nonpartisan Office 

April 7, 2020
Notice to Voters: If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials. (See back of ballot for initials.)

## Instructions to Voters

If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help. (Absentee Voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)

To vote for a name on the ballot, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to the name, like this: $\mathbb{}$ To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in."

| School Board Member At Large <br> Vote for 1 | School Board Member At Large <br> Vote for 1 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square \quad$ Keith J. Dernbach | $\square \quad$ Eugene Fosmire |
| write-in: | write-in: |
| School Board Member from Towns of <br> Belmont, Rose, and Oasis <br> Vote for 1 |  |
| write-in: |  |

EL-227 2020 | Paper Spring Election Ballot for School District Office - Area represented seats
(Rev. 2019-10)
The opportunity is available to run as a registered write in candidate for the open Almond-Bancroft School Board Member seat for the Towns of Belmont, Rose, and Oasis.

To be a registered write-in candidate for an election, you must file a Campaign Registration Statement with the Almond-Bancroft Public Schools clerk by 12:00 p.m. (noon), April 3, 2020, the Friday before the election. The Campaign Registration Statement can be filed in the Almond-Bancroft Public Schools District Office, 1336 Elm Street, Almond, WI.

Visit the Wisconsin Ethics Commission website to download a PDF version of the Campaign Registration Statement and return to the filing officer. Direct link to form on the Ethics Commission website: https:// ethics.wi.gov/Resources/CF-1_Registration_Statement.pdf. Or obtain a hard copy of the Campaign Registration Statement in the Ālmond-Bancroft Public Schools District Office, 1336 Elm Street Almond, WI.

Almond-Bancroft School
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