

Austintown Local School District

Community Newsletter



A message from the Superintendent:

Dear Austintown Families:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you back to our wonderful school system for another year of growth, learning and experiences. We have made it through some challenging times and are eager to move forward to a new year, one that we are more familiar with than what we recently had to overcome.

As we continue to plan for the coming year, we regularly examine our curriculum to make wise educational choices that will enhance the growth of our students. This year we committed resources for financial literacy courses at the middle and high school levels in order to give our students a greater understanding of the financial world. Additionally, we revamped our Language Arts curriculum. We feel these changes will benefit all students and give them a firm base to their education.

Besides curriculum changes, we have made several updates throughout campus. In the stadium we have added safety rails and widened walkways, wrapped our press boxes and painted throughout. Both the high school and middle school gymnasiums have been painted from floor to ceiling. At the high school we have re-paved the walkway and fixed the rest of the roof. Many of our parking lots were re-paved and re-stripped as well. Our bus system has also been upgraded and our notifications should work better than ever.

We will always strive to do our best to serve you and our students. We intend to not only make the educational years the best possible, but to make the entire Austintown School District a wonderful experience for our Falcons!

Educationally Yours,

David Cappuzzello,
Superintendent

Looking for transportation information?

Use the QR Code or visit <https://bit.ly/atowntransport> to access Bus Routes, the My Stop App and important updates for the upcoming school year!



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Austintown Elementary School



- Our Falcon Fives Pre-Kindergarten Program earned a 5-Star Step Up to Quality rating from the Ohio Department of Education. This rating means that the Falcon Fives Pre-K Program engages in the highest quality education for all preschool students and their families.
- The Austintown Fire Department was invited by the AES PTA to teach fire safety. AFD spoke to the students and brought a fire truck for them to tour.
- Red Ribbon week was celebrated by students signing a drug free pledge. There were also activities completed in the classrooms and daily dress themes.
- AES welcomed our incoming Kindergartners for the 2021-2022 school year into the building with small group tours. Over 150 future Falcon families explored the building.
- The AES Art Department hosted their annual (virtual this year!) Art Show. Here, grades PK-2 students' artwork was displayed. Select students moved on to the district art show!
- AES celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Week with various reading activities, a collaboration with Food Services and daily themed dress up days!
- SMARTS Beats, a percussion-based learning program, was introduced for our K-2 students with developmental and behavioral challenges. SMARTS Beats uses hand drums and other percussion instruments to engage students.
- Our 2nd grade students participated in their annual Wax Museum project. This event culminates many 2nd grade standards.
- Grades PK-2 participated in Fun Days at the end of the year which included various stations, such as Little Drummers, Yoga and Let's Go Fishing. Our students had so much fun in the sun!



Austintown Intermediate School



- In August, AIS teachers made virtual welcome videos to help ease parents and families into the school year and welcome back students with familiar faces!
- AIS held a virtual Open House in September. Families were able to meet their child's teachers to help build the foundation for a successful school year.
- Despite our limitations, October proved to be a special month as we ended it with an indoor Halloween parade that we livestreamed. Students (and staff!) showed off their costumes and our yearly costume winners were chosen.
- For the 7th year in a row, our building was an official Toys For Tots collection location in partnership with the Mahoning Valley Marines to collect toys at Christmas. As a result of the generosity of our AIS families, several hundred toys were donated and we continued our streak as the TOP TOY COLLECTOR in the district!
- Students participated in a poster contest to honor our police officers with the Austintown Optimist Club. Our winners did a fantastic job representing how our officers keep us safe.
- We enjoyed having the 2nd graders come over for in-person tours and class visits. We hope they feel comfortable and prepared to start 3rd grade here at AIS in the fall! We also want to thank AMS for hosting a visit and tours for our 5th graders who will attend AMS in the fall. Good luck to our rising 6th graders!
- The absolute highlight of the year was having 5th grade students participate in their annual trip to Camp Fitch! A huge thank you to our high school camp counselors, our AIS staff members and everyone else involved for making this special event possible!
- PTA sponsored FUN DAYS took place for all three grade levels and it was by far the best one ever. It was held at Fitch stadium on the field and included many socially distant games. The finale was a kickball tournament! Our PTA is the best and we thank them for all they do!
- A big congratulations to our 5th grade students who participated in choir, orchestra or band for another successful year of concerts, some in person and some virtual. Our teachers and students put so much time and effort into preparing for these concerts and that is greatly appreciated.

Austintown Middle School



- Throughout the year we were able to hold a some of our sporting events. Highlights were:

-AMS Wrestlers finished 4th at the EOWL Tournament.

-Boy's Blue track team won all meets and the AAC Championship.

-Rachel Spalding finished 1st and Liz Spalding finished 3rd in the AAC track championship. Rachel is also a back to back champion.

-Liz Spalding set the new school record for the 1,600m with a time of 5:26. The previous record was 5:33 set in 1995.

- Thanks to the help of Austintown Community Church, Beagley Oaks Nursing Home, Big Reach Center of Hope and the United Way, we were able to provide food and gift cards to over 100 families in need this past holiday season.
- Over 100 of our 6th graders went to Camp Fitch in May. They were unable to go their 5th grade year due to Covid-19. Arrangements were made so they could still have this great experience.
- Students in Mrs. Burnell's Family Consumer Science class made 72 pillow cases and donated them to Akron Children's Hospital in support of Nora Sabella and in honor of Melina Edenfield.
- Since our choir was unable to perform traditional concerts this year, our 6th-8th grade choirs, under the direction of Megan Keown, joined with the AIS 5th grade choir in an outdoor spring performance called "Just Sing".
- At the end of the school year, awards are given out to deserving 8th graders. Recipients included:

-Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award: Marcel Finkley, Rachel Spalding, Liz Spalding

-Fine & Performing Arts Award: Shawntaisa Alvarado, Rocco Ferreri

-Vinny Venturino Award (courage & determination in the face of adversity): Seth Bachochin, Katie Wilt

-Armand Detoro Award (willingness to improve & challenge themselves to do their best): Shelby Slate

-Lasky/Terlecki Award (one who is a rock & supports others): Samantha Severn

-Pay it Forward Award (PTA award, goes to a student(s) that give back to the community through volunteerism): Gianna Franklin, Jordan Corll, Madison Haynie



Austintown Fitch High School

- Fitch High School kicked off the year with our student run Link Crew. While Covid-19 made this different from years past, students still were able to participate in Link Crew activities and Link Crew members made video blogs about coming to Fitch.
- We began year one of our Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (JROTC) Program. Over 50 students learned about the basics of JROTC along with marching and leadership.
- Fall Spirit Week was held as a buildup to Homecoming. Students participated in pajama day, dress like a middle school student, career dress up day and pink out.
- A ceramics room was added to the Fitch Art Department.
- National Honors Society hosted a mittens and mask drive for needy students and their families in the community.
- We held our annual Veterans Day Assembly virtually this year. Social studies teachers played the event for their students along with other information about the history of Veterans Day.
- Our teachers learned to use new software programs like Kami and Edpuzzle, both interactive software applications to help students both in class and remote.
- We introduced new classes with great success! New classes were American Sign Language, Drones, JROTC, aerospace and social media.
- The Fitch Speech Team qualified 20 of its 22 members to the state competition. There were 4 national qualifiers and 1 alternate.
- The Fitch Drama Club performed Mamma Mia the musical in the Spring. 55 students made up the production's cast and crew.
- 170 juniors and seniors were inducted into the Austintown Fitch National Honor Society.



Valedictorian Spotlight



Samantha Bachochin



Emily Cappelli



Nathan Ferguson



Amira Hakeem



Alexander Hartsough



Willow Keller



Julia Marscio



Sophia Mellott



Michelle Orioha



Abigail Rader



Kyle Schubert



Kayla Segesto



Aleesia Soto



Haley Tarr



Senior Stats

What they have accomplished:

360 earned
their diploma



1 received a 
35 on the ACT
(a perfect ACT score is a 36)

5.2 million dollars in scholarships offered

3 enlisted and/or plan to
serve in the military



14 valedictorians

31
took Advanced
Placement (AP)
courses this year

45 graduated from
our online programs



22 students earned
athletic scholarships

93 National Honor Society members



95,000
dollars in local
scholarship money
was earned by the
class of **2021**

91 students
graduated with honors

110
were honored by the
PTSA for maintaining a
3.5 GPA or higher.



Food Service Update

Free School Meals

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has allowed schools to offer **FREE** school breakfast and lunch to all students throughout the entire 2021-2022 school year.

When a student is enrolled in the district a meal account is automatically created for them. All students are welcome to come to the cafeteria and eat breakfast and lunch with us, each school day, for **FREE**!

Free and Reduced Price Meal Benefit Applications

Completing a free and reduced priced meal benefit application this year is still very important for families to ensure eligibility for other programs, such as eligibility to waive academic school fees. Breakfast and lunch is still free for all students each school day regardless of the F/R application result.

We understand filling out an application may sound confusing when meals are free for all students, but families can only benefit by submitting an application. We encourage parents to fill out the application electronically at family.titank12.com/.

How can I apply for free/reduced meals online?



1. Apply

Go to family.titank12.com and click on **Apply for Meal Today** and complete the process.



2. Login

If you have already registered for a TITAN account and have logged in, you can click on **Meal Application** and **+ New Meal Application**.

Introducing....



Titan School Solutions

New this year – The Food Service Department is switching our electronic platform to Titan. Parents will be able to view breakfast and lunch menus, add money to their student's meal account, monitor cafeteria transactions, set-up low balance alerts and pay academic school fees through Titan.

Extras will be available for sale to students. Parents are encouraged to use Titan to add funds to their student's meal account. Create a free account at family.titank12.com/.

How do I get started? Getting started is as easy as 1, 2, 3.



1. Register

Register at family.titank12.com by clicking on **Sign up today!**



2. Confirm Email

Confirm your email address by clicking on the email verification link sent to your email address.



3. Sign In

Now you can sign in at family.titank12.com using your email and password.

Titan Family Connect App

Parents can also download the Titan Family Connect App to access the system on their phone. Search "Titan School Solutions" in your app store.



Food Service Contact Information:

Food Service Director: Alexis Weber, RDN, SNS
Food Service Office Coordinator: Cindy Todd
Address: 700 S. Racoon Road
Phone: 330-797-3900 x1315
Email: AFFoodServices@austintownschools.org

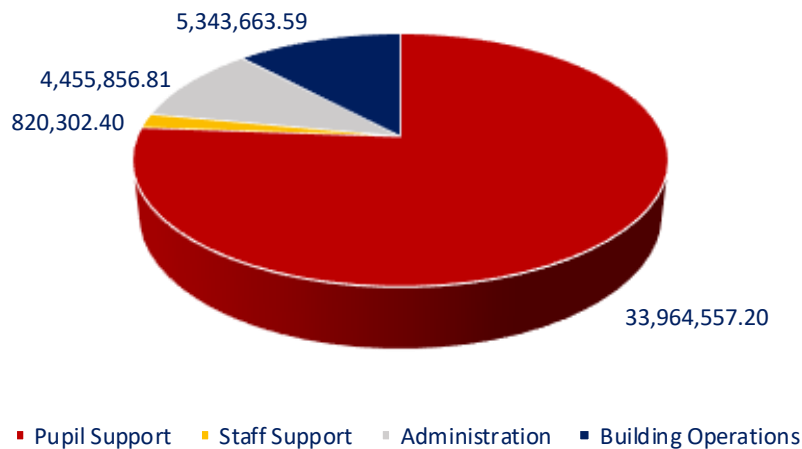
To stay up to date on all the happenings in your student's cafeteria. Visit our website AFFoodServices.com or follow us on Facebook



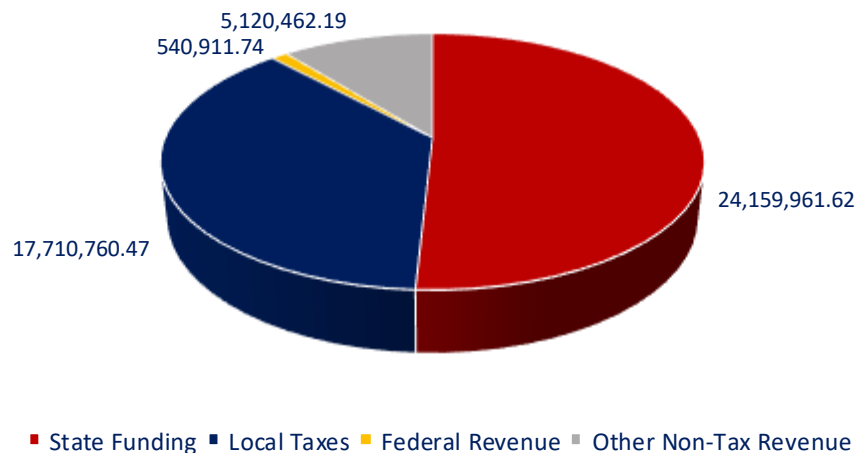
@AFFoodServices

Financial Information Fiscal Year 2021

WHERE THE MONEY GOES



WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



Ohio Auditor of State Award with Distinction was presented to the Austintown Local Schools for excellence in financial reporting related to the Annual Financial Report and compliance with applicable laws for the previous fiscal year.

District 2021-2022 Calendar

18 NEOEA Trade Day
25 PD Day for staff
26 Opening day for staff
30 First day of school

AUGUST '21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

14 End of semester 1/
End of 2nd nine weeks
17 ML King Day
21 No school - PD for staff

2 No school - PD for staff
13 Open House

SEPTEMBER '21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

FEBRUARY '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

7- Conference week
21- Presidents' Day

8-NEOEA
29- End of 1st nine weeks

OCTOBER '21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

MARCH '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

14- ELA Testing begins
18 No school/
End of 3rd nine weeks
28 Testing Math/SC/SS (3-12)

22-23 Conference week
24 No school
25-26 Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER '21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

APRIL '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

15-22 - Spring Break

22-31 Holiday Break

DECEMBER '21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

MAY '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

22-Graduation
27-Last day (1/2 day)/
End of semester 2/
End of 4th nine weeks

Austintown Local School District Directory

Superintendent

David Cappuzzello
330-797-3900, ext. 1510

Treasurer

Blaise Karlovic
330-797-3900, ext. 1515

Assistant Treasurer

Andrea Apisa
330-797-3900, ext. 1502

Human Resources Director

Stephanie Brown
330-797-3900, ext. 1520

K-12 Curriculum Director

Dr. William Young
330-797-3900, ext. 1519

FPO/HOPE Academy Programs Director

Janet Polish
330-797-3900, ext. 1514

Special Education Director

Sandra Thorndike
330-797-3900, ext. 2126

Food Service Director

Alexis Weber
330-797-3900, ext. 1314

EMIS Coordinator

Rory Tiedemann
330-797-3900, ext. 2233

Registration

Amy Murray
330-797-3900 ext. 1521

Athletic Director

Russell Houser
330-797-3900, ext. 1080

Transportation Supervisor

Angie Mraz
330-797-3900, ext. 1083

Grounds & Facilities Supervisor

Matthew Bostian
330-797-3900, ext. 1632

School Operations Manager

Jim Penk
330-797-3900, ext. 1029

Technology Supervisor

Tom Ventresco
330-797-3900

Marketing & Public Relations Specialist

Brittany Morell
330-797-3900, ext. 1517

Austintown Fitch High School

Principal: Timothy Kelty- Grade 12
330-797-3900, ext. 1003

Assistant Principal: Jeff Swavel- Grade 11
330-797-3900, ext. 1048

Assistant Principal: Salvatore Maiorana- Grade 10
330-797-3900, ext. 1031

Assistant Principal: Dominick Daltorio - Grade 9
330-797-3900, ext. 1064

Austintown Middle School

Principal: Robin Vickers- Grade 8
330-797-3900, ext. 2002

Assistant Principal: Emily Guarnieri- Grade 7
330-797-3900, ext. 2011

Assistant Principal: Angela Kopp- Grade 6
330-797-3900, ext. 2003

Austintown Intermediate School

Principal: Angel Owens
330-797-3901, ext. 6010

Assistant Principal: Timothy Pappagallo
330-797-3901, ext. 6012

Assistant Principal: Dr. Dorothy Reppy
330-797-3901, ext. 6011

Austintown Elementary School

Principal: Catherine Dorbish
330-797-3901, ext. 5006

Assistant Principal: Holly Welch
330-797-3901, ext. 5008

Assistant Principal: Christopher Berni
330-797-3901, ext. 5007

Austintown Local School District

700 S. Raccoon Road

Austintown, OH 44515

"We provide an inspiring education that strengthens and prepares our students for unlimited future opportunities."



Follow us on social media to stay up to date on the latest school news and event information.

Facebook: @austintownlocalschools

Twitter: @AFalconFacts