



## Principal's Message

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Welcome to February 2019. I hope that the groundhog doesn't see its shadow and we have an early end to winter. Regardless of the weather outside, our students and staff continue to work very hard on a daily basis.

It's that time of year again where cold and flu seem to be present more than we all would like. It is important for your child to be diligent in washing their hands and covering their mouths with the inside of their arm when they sneeze or cough. We ask that you keep your child home from school for 24 hours after he/she vomits, has a fever of 100.0 or above, is coughing to the point of disruption as well as if red, itchy eyes are present. We want to try our best to keep our school a healthy place to learn! Thank you for your cooperation.

I would like to issue a big "THANK YOU" to our PTA parents and volunteers. "Dinner with Dad" was a huge success. I hope that everyone who attended had a great time. I remember attending similar events with my own children who are now 23, 19 and 17. It is hard to believe how fast time goes and how short of time that they are young. Take every opportunity to spend the time with them now.

February events include Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, February 14 from 2:00 to 9:00 pm. Our Valentine's Day parties will take place on February 13th. Our PTO will be coordinating those activities. We also have our mid-Winter break from February 15th through February 18th.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a great month!

Joe Maroni

## Important Dates

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February 4-8:

Jump Rope for Heart

February 8:

3rd Annual Chili Cookoff (Canfield High School)

February 13:

Valentine's Day parties (2:00 pm)

February 14:

Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:00-9:00 pm)

February 15-17:

Mid-Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)

February 20:

Kindergarten Informational Meeting @ CHC

March 1:

Dr. Seuss Day

March 7:

Scholastic Book Fair K.I.S.S. event (5:00-7:00 pm)

March 11-15:

Scholastic Book Fair

March 14:

Grandparents' Day (1st grade only)

March 20:

Homeroom Picture Day

March 21:

Parents & Principal (6:00 pm)

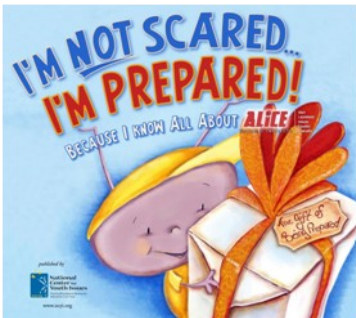
# Building Safety and Security

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Canfield Local Schools has adopted a strategy for lockdown procedures known as the A.L.I.C.E. plan. A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Prior to the A.L.I.C.E. plan, lockdown procedures involved the staff locking their doors, moving the students to a part of the room where they could not be seen, and quietly remaining there until an “all clear” announcement was given. The A.L.I.C.E. plan offers a different philosophy in light of recent school violence. The philosophy of A.L.I.C.E. is to use technology and information in a way so that staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide realistic training so that those involved in a crisis have a better chance of surviving.

Younger students need constant reminders of safe practices in order for them to make good decisions related to their personal safety. Parents can prepare their child(ren) for the A.L.I.C.E. plan by helping them understand the following objectives at home.

- There are people of all ages, color, and types who can be mean and may wish to harm them.
- Self-confidence comes from trying things that are hard and getting better each time.
- There are many solutions and options when faced with a problem.
- When your child is prepared for difficult situations, they can make informed decisions and will have more self-control.
- Your child is smart and capable if they have the knowledge.
- Help your child identify and assess possible crisis situations.
- Have your child demonstrate the ability to get away from someone who has their hands on them.
- Have your child explain the different safety drills and what they mean.
- Help your child name where they need to go in case of evacuation (different for each classroom).
- Discuss the importance of following the teacher’s directions without hesitation.



ALICE collaborated with ‘Award Winning’ children’s author Julia Cook to create an Age Appropriate instruction storybook that **teachers and parents** can use as a tool to teach the ALICE concepts to elementary aged school children. Cook’s books have been referenced in publications such as: **Parents Magazine; The New Yorker; Chicago Tribune; Yahoo.com; Dr. Laura.com and BabyZone.com**

The teacher at the Ant Hill School wants her students to be prepared—for everything! One day, she teaches her students what to do if a “dangerous someone” is in their school.

*I’m Not Scared...I’m Prepared!* enhances the concepts taught by the ALICE Training Institute, and make them applicable to children of all ages in a **non-fearful** way. By using this book, children can develop a better understanding of what needs to be done if they ever encounter a “dangerous someone.” Lessons in the book include:

***Listen to the teacher and the announcements***

***There are ways to help the teacher barricade the door***

***There may be a time to go to a rally point with or without the teacher***

This is a great resource that we have provided to our staff to use with our young students. There are several YouTube videos of the book being read available online.

We have also purchased the companion, *I’m Not Scared, I’m Prepared Activity and Idea Book*, which will provide our teachers with ways to protect their students and classroom.

## The Pantry at Hilltop

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Thank you to everyone who has donated food and supplies to make our Hilltop Pantry a reality. We are now able to distribute food to those in need.

If you are willing to help provide supplies, here is a list of some of the items that we collect and distribute:

Applesauce	Crackers	Peanut Butter
Canned Pasta Sauce	Fruit (Canned or Dried)	Rice
Canned Chicken	Granola Bars	Juice Boxes
Canned Fish (Tuna/Salmon)	Instant Mashed Potatoes	Soup/Stew/Chili
Canned Meat (SPAM/Ham)	Meals in a Box	Whole Grain Cereal
Canned Vegetables	Pasta	Macaroni and Cheese

**Items we are currently in need of include: canned soup, canned fruit, cereal, juice boxes, pasta sauce, and graham crackers.**

Try to avoid:

- junk food
- items with glass or cellophane packaging, which can be broken in transit
- things that need can openers or special equipment (pop-top cans—whether for veggies, meat or fruit—are a plus)

If you need assistance, please contact the Hilltop office to let us know how we can assist you.

All information will be kept strictly confidential.

You can reach the Hilltop office at 330.533.9806 or email me at [jmaroni@canfieldschools.net](mailto:jmaroni@canfieldschools.net)


## Before-School, After-School Care

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Canfield Local Schools has partnered with Zion Christian Early Learning Center to offer before-care and after-care to our students. The program will be held at Hilltop Elementary School for students from both C. H. Campbell and Hilltop. C. H. Campbell students will be transported to and from Hilltop each day utilizing our shuttle bus. The program runs from 6:30 a.m. until the start of school each day and from the end of school until 5:30 p.m. The cost of the program is \$5.20/hour for the 1st child in a family and \$4.00/hr for additional family members. If you are interested in the program, please contact Zion Christian Early Learning Center at (330) 792-4066.

## Statewide Testing

All students in grades 3-4 will be administered standardized testing in English Language Arts and Mathematics through the American Institutes for Research (AIR) testing platform. Testing dates for the 2018-2019 school year are listed below. Please try to avoid these dates when scheduling appointments and vacations. Thank you.

<u>English/Language Arts</u>	
Grade 3: October 23-24, 2018	
Grade 3: April 3-4, 2019	Grade 4: April 1-2, 2019
<u>Mathematics</u>	
Grades 3: April 10-11, 2019	Grade 4: April 8-9, 2019

## Lunches

The price for a school lunch is \$2.40, with extra milk costing \$0.40. Please make checks out to Hilltop Cafeteria. We encourage all families to utilize our computer-based prepaid system. This system allows the cafeteria to keep track of food allergies and other student needs in the cafeteria. To learn more about our prepaid system or to view the current menu, please go to: [www.canfieldlocalschoolsfoodservice.com](http://www.canfieldlocalschoolsfoodservice.com). We are asking parents to view the website and check the menu each day. We will not be sending home monthly menus as we have done in the past. Students received their lunch number in their teacher assignment letter. Parents are welcome to come and enjoy lunch with their children, however we ask that you only eat with your child and sit at one of the small tables closest to the entrance. **Parents are not permitted to stay for recess. Parents will be provided with two lunch tickets each year to allow them, or another special person, to eat lunch with their child. Lunch tickets must be handed in upon signing in at the main office and may not be duplicated. Student friends are not permitted to accompany your child to the designated parent lunch area. Parents will always be permitted to take their child out to lunch during the child's assigned lunch/recess times. During the first and last two weeks of school parents will not be permitted to eat lunch with their child so that lunchroom routines may be established. Parents may begin having lunch with their children on Monday, September 17, 2018. The last day to have lunch with your child will be on Friday, May 24, 2019.**

### Lunch Times for 2018-2019:

Kindergarten:	10:45-11:15	Grade 3:	11:45-12:15
Grade 1:	11:15-11:45	Grade 4:	12:45-1:15
Grade 2:	12:15-12:45		

## Helping our School

We collect Box Tops, Tyson labels, and Sunny Delight labels. Please drop off your labels and box tops in the main lobby. You can also register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card under the Apples for the Students Program at [www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students](http://www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students). Registering your Advantage Card will allow us to get a percentage of everything that registered users purchase. These are some easy ways to help our schools provide the best education to our students.

# Attendance

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All the Canfield Schools will be following the Attendance Policy written in the Parent Handbook. Please become familiar with this policy. If your child is absent, please call the school on the day of the absence. When your child returns to school, please remember to send a note with your child. The note should be dated, list the reason for the absence, and be signed by the parent. If you take your child to the doctor, please send a doctor's note to the school office containing the date of the appointment. Notes from parents and medical excuses must be received in the office within 24 hours of the student's return to school in order for the absence to be verified.

Students who arrive after 8:45 are considered tardy and must come to the office and sign in accompanied by a parent. Please do not drop your student off after 8:45 without bringing them to the office.

# School Safety

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We all want our students to be safe at school and you can help us by following the directions below.

1. When visiting the school, ring the buzzer and identify yourself to school staff.
2. Upon entering the building, go directly to the office, sign in, and get a visitor badge to wear.
3. If you come into the school to pick up your child, please wait in the office while we call your child down.
4. If your child is to go home in a different way than usual, please send a note with your child in the morning. Please do not call after 12:00 p.m. Each unanticipated request to have a student dismissed from class requires a call or visit to the classroom. Our goal is to keep the disruptions to the educational environment to a minimum.
5. Please do not drive into the busing lanes from 8:15-8:45a.m. or 3:00-3:35 p.m.

We want the entire community to feel welcomed in our school and want all of our students and staff to be safe. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

# Transportation

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If you ride the school bus, you will need to be at the bus stop by 7:55 a.m. until the bus route times are established. It is very important for parents to be home each day. Our buses leave Hilltop Elementary School at approximately 3:30 p.m. each day.

## Morning Drop-off Information

1. Parents who plan on driving their children to school should not drop off students prior to 8:30 am. Due to a lack of supervisory personnel, students will not be permitted into the building until 8:30 am.
2. The area in front of the school must be kept clear of traffic so that buses can safely drop off children. Cars should not park or drop off their children using the busing lanes in front of the school. Students can be dropped off at the 3rd and 4th grade entrance on the west side of the building.

## After School Car Riders

Parents who plan on picking students up at the conclusion of the day should follow our Loop Pick-Up Procedures.

1. Car riders will be dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Parents planning on picking up their children from school should contact the office before 12:00 p.m.
2. All children must be supervised as they are released to their parents and/or pick-up designee. Parents should pull up to the fourth grade doors. Please put your child's pass in the window so the adults can see the name. ALL children must get in the sidewalk side of the car. Please help your child buckle up quickly so we can keep traffic moving. We will have three teachers on duty to help the process go faster. Please wait until you are given the signal to exit the lot. Children MUST be safely in the cars before the group of cars can exit. We ask that you exit the lot ASAP so we can eliminate wait time.

## Kindergarten Update

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February is an exciting time for kindergarten! We are well on our way to becoming readers. We have recently started sounding out three-letter, short vowel words and are finishing up writing capital letters. We continue to read our sight words in isolation and in our guided reading books. In math, we are completing our work with 2D and 3D shapes, comparing numbers, and exploring pennies and nickels. One aspect of our Number Corner this month will also focus on money, reinforcing skills from the previous unit. We will continue to write and identify numbers in the teens as well. This month we will also celebrate the 100th day of school, Valentine's Day and President's Day.

## 1st Grade Update

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The First Grade classes have recently finished reading *Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown. In the story a bulletin board falls on Stanley and makes him flat, allowing him to do things a normal sized child could not do. As a part of our Social Studies and Language Arts curriculum, we have made our flat selves and mailed them to friends and relatives. We are anxiously awaiting their return so we can hear about all our wonderful adventures.

## 2nd Grade Update

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The second grade students are looking forward to working on research projects this month. They will be finding information either in books or on the internet about a certain topic. The projects combine a variety of second grade Common Core Standards across the curriculum including science, social studies, writing, and planning. The students end their projects by sharing the new information they have learned with the class.

## 3rd Grade Update

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Third graders are gearing up for the second half of the year! In English/Language Arts students will be continuing with Guided Reading and working to improve reading responses by adding details. We will explore the elements of Informational Text. In Math, our topics will include measurement of time, mass, and volume and fractions as fair shares. We will continue to build multiplication fact fluency and use skills and strategies to solve problems. In Social Studies we will explore land forms around our world. The Science focus for the month will be renewable and nonrenewable energy sources.

## 4th Grade Update

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Fourth graders continue to strive to be better learners. We are looking forward to Jump Rope for Heart coming up. In language arts, the students continue to work on necessary skills in their guided reading groups and improve their writing skills. In social studies, the students are learning about Ohio becoming a state. In science, the discussions are centered on animals and adaptations to their environments. In math, we will be working on our geometry unit. Continue to practice facts with your child at home.

## Art

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Our focus in the Art Room during January will be upon the *"Foundations of Art"* or *The Elements of Art* and *The Principles of Design*. In this unit, we will be observing the Masters and the ways in which they used the basic elements, like line, shape, color, form, space, texture and value in their works of art. We will be using those same elements and principles, as we create our own masterpieces!

## Music

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Over the past month, all grades have been learning about (or reviewing) the four families of musical instruments, which are: Strings, Woodwinds (single and double reeds), Brass, and Percussion. We have been primarily focused on visually identifying the instruments, and this month we will be learning how to identify instruments by their sound.

In February, third and fourth Graders will begin playing the recorders. Students will be notified as to when to begin bringing their instruments to class.

## Library

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What is 31 hours long, lasts for one week, and puts approximately 2,824 books into the hands of the students? None other than our book fair! We need moms and dads to set-up, work during the sale, and to tear down. Please consider being a part of this amazing team! For more information contact Patti Hockensmith or Steph Kelly by email at [ifindthem@gmail.com](mailto:ifindthem@gmail.com). Book Fair is scheduled for the week of March 7 - 15. Looking forward to working with you!

## Physical Education

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February 4-8 is our Kids Heart Challenge for the American Heart Association. All Physical education classes will be participating. All types of jumping activities are planned for students to help build strength and increase cardio-respiratory endurance. Students should bring their sponsor envelopes to school the day they jump rope during their gym period. The fundraiser helps raise money to fight stroke and heart disease. We will finish up our basketball unit and then move into volleyball and badminton. Younger students will learn to use rhythmic sticks and ribbon wands as they coordinate movement patterns to music.

## Birthday Treats

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Birthday celebrations are so important and we appreciate that you want to help your child celebrate their special day with their classmates, however with all the childhood allergies that are prevalent in elementary schools today it is very important that we take every precaution. Please let your teacher know in advance that you are planning to send in a birthday treat. This will help the teacher plan for children who may not be able to eat that special treat. It is very important that ALL treats come into the office and remain there until lunch time. Food treats must be distributed and eaten inside the cafeteria. Students should notify the lunch room aides if they have a birthday treat in the cafeteria BEFORE passing it out due to allergy concerns. Only students in the child's class are permitted to have a treat. Please do not pass extras out to students in other classrooms. Students are not permitted to take extra treats around to teacher classrooms due to allergy concerns. If at all possible, you could include nutritional information on the treat; it would be helpful and appreciated.

**HILLTOP ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL**

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Canfield, Ohio 44406

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<http://www.canfield.access-k12.org/hilltop>

**Canfield Local Schools Vision Statement**

*We will create an educational environment which challenges each student to achieve at their highest potential, leading to top 10 rankings in Ohio by 2022.*

**Canfield Local Schools Mission Statement**

*As a community, we educate, motivate, and innovate for individual lifelong success.*

**Canfield Local Schools on Twitter:  
@CLS\_Cardinals**

**Quotes of the Month**

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*“An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't.”* -Anatole France

*“Originality is the fine art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it.”* - Laurence J. Peter

