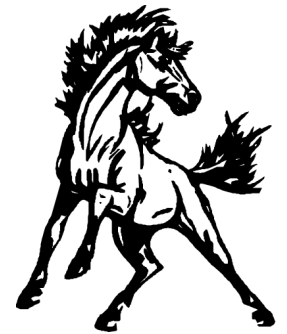


# ALLEN EAST LOCAL SCHOOLS

## 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

MEL RENTSCHLER, SUPERINTENDENT



### **Welcome Back!**

Everyone at Allen East truly hopes you had a relaxing summer. There are no major changes for the 2024-2025 school year. School will start after Labor Day with the school start times remaining the same as last year. Students will be permitted to enter the building at 7:55 am with classes beginning at 8:15 am for all buildings. Elementary students will be dismissed at 2:50 pm with middle school and high school students dismissed at 3:00 pm. The biggest change is to the use of Personal Communication Devices which includes cell phones, smart watches, etc. at school. The cell phone policy is provided below.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

The Governor of Ohio and the Ohio General Assembly recently passed legislation requiring schools to restrict the use of cell phones by students at school. For the 2024-2025 school year, Allen East is placing restrictions on all Personal Communication Devices (PCD). Personal Communication Devices include cell phones, smart watches, head phones, ear buds, air pods, etc. When students enter the building in the morning, they must place their PCDs in their assigned locker. Over the summer, locks were placed on all lockers. Once the school day is over, students can once again have access to their PCDs. At the discretion of the bus driver, PCDs will be permitted on buses. Also, at the discretion of staff, students will be permitted to have their PCDs on field trips and at extra-curricular events. If parents need to get in touch with their children during school hours, please call the office associated with your child's grade level.



### **Open House & Professional Development Days for Staff**

***Open house will be held on Wednesday, August 28 from 4:00pm - 7:00pm for Grades PreK-4th and 4:00pm - 6:30pm for grades 5th-12th.***

All teachers, administrators, and the transportation supervisor will be available to answer questions.

There will be no school on Tuesday, November 5th for all students. For grades PreK-4th grade *only* there will be no school March 17th for another professional development day.

### **Mustang Breakfast**

Allen East holds a breakfast for residents 55+ during the months of October, November, December, January and February. The meal is free to participants thanks to our generous sponsors. A huge thank you goes out to last year's sponsors, Lost Creek (Lance Nickles), RD Jones Excavating (Dana Jones), Rightway Foods (Dirk Rummel) and LifeWise Academy. The meal will be held in the Allen East cafeteria at 9:00 am on the following dates: October 3, November 7, December 5, January 9 and February 6. Allen East students of all ages provide the entertainment during the meal.

### **Veterans Day**

Allen East will once again hold a Veterans Day assembly to honor the men and women in our community who serve or have served in the military. The event will take place on Friday, November 8th at 1:00 pm in the cafeteria. An invite will go home in the month of October with students. Veterans can also register by using the school website or emailing Mel Rentschler at [rentschlerm@alleneastschools.org](mailto:rentschlerm@alleneastschools.org). A thank you goes out to Lance Nickles for sponsoring last year's event.



### **Substitutes Needed**

Allen East is in need of substitutes for all positions for the 2024-2025 school year.

Rates for substitutes are the following:

Teacher \$110 a day. (Qualifications: high school diploma and background check.)

Bus Driver \$22.10 an hour

Cook \$15.22 an hour

Custodian \$18.17 an hour

Secretary \$15.54 an hour

Aide \$16.00 an hour

Please contact Shannon Ackerman, board secretary, at 419 648-3333 extension 1009 or via email at [ackermans@alleneastschools.org](mailto:ackermans@alleneastschools.org) for information on how to apply.



# ALLEN EAST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

## AUGUST, 2024

Aug. 26,27, & 28 - Professional Development

Aug. 28 - OPEN HOUSE

Grades 5-12 4:00 PM - 6:30PM

Grades Pk-4 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Aug. 29 & 30 - Professional Development

## SEPTEMBER

Sept. 2 - NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

Sept. 3 - Students 1st day

## OCTOBER

## NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 - End of First Quarter

Nov. 5 - NO SCHOOL, Professional Development

Nov. 11 -Parent Teacher Conferences 11:30 AM - 7 PM\*

\*NO SCHOOL for students Pk-4

Nov. 12 -Parent-Teacher Conf. 3:30 - 8:00 PM

Nov. 27, 28, & 29 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

## DECEMBER

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 - NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

## JANUARY, 2025

Jan. 6 - School Resumes

Jan. 20 - NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 24 - End of 2nd Quarter

## FEBRUARY

Feb. 17 - NO SCHOOL - President's Day

## MARCH

Mar. 17 - Prof. Development (NO SCHOOL Pk-4 ONLY)

Mar. 28 - End of Third Quarter

## APRIL

Apr. 14-18 - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

Apr. 21 - School resumes

## MAY

May 23 - Seniors Last Day

May 25 - Graduation

May 26 - Memorial Day

May 30 - Students Last Day (early dismissalal 1:00 PM)

May 30 - End of 4th Quarter

**Start Time: K-12 - 8:15 AM**

**Dismissal: ELEM 2:50 PM**

**Dismissal: MS & HS 3:00 PM**

Preschool Hours: (Morning) 8 -11 AM

Preschool Hours: (Afternoon) 12 - 3 PM

Aug-24						
Su	M	Tu	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

Sep-24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	
15	16	17	18	19	20	
22	23	24	25	26	27	
29	30					

Oct-24						
Su	M	Tu	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		

Nov-24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	
17	18	19	20	21	22	
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Dec-24						
Su	M	Tu	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				

Jan-25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	
12	13	14	15	16	17	
19	20	21	22	23	24	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Feb-25						
Su	M	Tu	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

Mar-25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	
9	10	11	12	13	14	
16	17	18	19	20	21	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
30	31					

Apr-25						
Su	M	Tu	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			

May-25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	
4	5	6	7	8	9	
11	12	13	14	15	16	
18	19	20	21	22	23	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

1st/Last Days
  No School
  Graduation
  Parent-Teacher Conf.

**DAVID PRYER, NURSE**

**Ohio Immunization Summary for School Attendance**

Vaccine/Grade	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
<b>DTaP</b> Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	4 or more doses												
<b>Hep B</b> Hepatitis B	3 or more doses												
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, Rubella	2 doses												
<b>Polio</b>	3 or more doses												
<b>Varicella (Chickenpox)</b>	2 doses												
<b>Tdap</b> Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis													1 dose
<b>MCV4</b> Meningococcal ACWY													1st dose
													2nd dose

**Important Notes:**

- Vaccine should be administered according to the most recent version of the Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger or the Catch-up immunization schedule for persons aged four months-18 years who start late or who are more than one month behind, as published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
- Vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four days before the minimum interval or age are valid (grace period). Doses administered greater than or equal to five days earlier than the minimum interval or age are not valid doses and should be repeated when age appropriate.
- If MMR and varicella are not given on the same day, the doses must be separated by at least 28 days with no grace period.
- For additional information, please refer to the Ohio Revised Code 3313.67 and 3313.671 and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director’s Journal Entry regarding school immunization requirements, recommended vaccines, and exemptions to immunizations.

- Please contact the Ohio Department of Health Immunization Program at 800-282-0546 or 614-466-4643 with questions.



**AMANDA FETTER,  
SPECIAL ED DIRECTOR/  
PRESCHOOL SUPERVISOR**

I am so excited for another great school year! Our special education program has once again expanded. I am so pleased to announce that we have added a secretary to our team. Miss Sara Harrod will be the preschool, special education and nursing secretary. She was a part of the team last year but not in time to make the newsletter. Sara has two students that have attended/attend Allen East, one has graduated and one will be in 7th grade. She is very familiar with the preschool and special education processes. Her contact information is: 416-648-3333 (ext. 3018) harrods@alleneastschools.org.



Last year, our district provided services to over 170 students with disabilities. We provide both tier 2 and tier 3 interventions, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy and more. We also service over 25 students with 504 plans. Serving our students is our number one priority no matter what ability level.

Our preschool program is once again completely full for the upcoming school year. If you are interested in getting your child on the waitlist for the following school year, please get a hold of Miss Sara. We do preschool screenings every spring, but you are also welcome to call at any time with a developmental concern about your child.

Please welcome our new staff: Brittany Reffitt (PK-2 Intervention), Summer McCloskey (3rd Grade Intervention), Jordan Reffitt (8th Grade Intervention), Melissa Reffitt (HS Cross Categorical Unit) and numerous educational aides.



## JEFF AMSPOKER, HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Greetings Mustang Nation! I hope you are all enjoying your summer vacation because school will be back in session before we know it! The students had a very successful 2023-2024 school year. There were 81 students that received their high school diplomas. One student enlisted in the United States Army, and we had a State Champion in FFA. There were also gains made in almost every extra-curricular and co-curricular activity at the school. We had students get admitted to Pharmacy school, received academic scholarships, signed to continue their athletic career in college, and start their full time careers. The pride that the current students, alumni, and community members have for the school is something that makes Allen East unique.

This year I would like to welcome two new teachers that will serve both Middle and High School. Mr. Nate Homan is the new instrumental music director. He is a graduate of Ohio University where he was a member of numerous ensembles including the Marching 110. He is looking forward to working with our students and getting to know the community. Ms. Gabby Baker will be the new vocal music director. She is a graduate of Wittenberg University where she performed in all of their ensembles. She is looking forward to introducing the students to a wide range of music that will showcase their talent. Welcome to Allen East!

This year will be a year of adjustment. Students will be adjusting to new teachers, a new personal communication device policy, and using lockers. Every student will be assigned a locker with a lock. Students will no longer be able to take book bags, lunch bags, purses, etc., from class to class. This will be an adjustment and will require students to get used to using a lock. You will receive your locker assignment and locker combination when you pick your schedules up at Open House.

Attendance issues such as chronic absenteeism continues to be a problem. Although our rate improved from 21% to 17%, we still had 42 students become chronically absent. Chronic absenteeism is defined as students missing 10% or more of school hours due to absence of any reason. This can increase a student's risk factors of not graduating, performing poorly in class, as well as decrease their opportunity at scholarships. It is important that parents and students read the handbook to understand attendance policy and procedures.

I am really looking forward to seeing what level of success we can achieve this year. I want to provide every student the opportunity to **Belong, Lead, Uplift, and Engage** this school year. Enjoy the rest of your summer vacation and I will see you at Open House on August 28th from 4-6:30 pm. **Let's Go, BLUE!**



## NIKKI RETTIG, MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Warm summer wishes to all of our Mustang families! Thank you for making me feel welcome during my first year as middle school principal. I truly enjoyed getting to know each of the staff and students this year and look forward to heading into year 2 in Mustang Country.

### General Updates:

- Doors open at 8:00 am and the tardy bell rings at 8:15 am
- Students who are being picked up at the **Elementary Entrance only** will be dismissed at 2:50 pm; all other students will be dismissed at 3:00 pm
- Please pay attention to the new cell phone policy outlined by Mr. Rentschler - the use of cell phones will not be permitted during the school day
- Drinks during the school day:
  - ◇ **Clear** water bottles/cups only with a lid that closes to avoid spills
  - ◇ Water only (flavored water is acceptable as long as it is clear in color)
  - ◇ No outside drinks, such as coffee drinks, etc., will be permitted in the classrooms
- **Open House on August 28 from 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm**
  - ◇ Meet your teachers, pick up schedules, drop off supplies
  - ◇ Students can practice using the new locks on their lockers



## State Assessment Accolades

- Congratulations to Jacoby Massie and Mason Johnson on achieving perfect scores on the 5th grade math state assessment this year. Way to go boys!

## New Staff:

- Daley Benetis will be joining us as our new 7th grade ELA teacher
- Brandi Kerby will be joining the team as our new School Social Worker

Please help me welcome both of these amazing staff members to our community and our team!

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments or concerns. We value and welcome your feedback. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Nikki Rettig  
MS Principal



## TIFFINI FLUGGA, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mustang Families,

Once again, this year has proven how great it is to be a Mustang! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with each and every one of our students and staff and look forward to the new school year. With that being said, there are few important items I would like to share with you in preparation.

### General Information and Updates

#### Drop off and pick up procedures:

- **Drop off:** This year we will continue to use the same drop off routine as last year. All students will need to exit the car as soon as it reaches the sidewalk rather than waiting until it approaches the doors to the building. Doing so has allowed all students to be able to get into the building before the 8:15 tardy bell rings.
- **Pick up:** We will also continue to use the same pick up routine as last year. Elementary students will be dismissed to the pick up line at 2:50 and will walk with a teacher around the pick up loop. Students that remain will walk around the loop with another staff member until all students are picked up. If you are late picking up your elementary student(s), they will be waiting in the elementary office until you arrive. In addition, we ask that you stay in the pick up line and please do not cut through the parking lot for any reason. Once you have your child(ren) safely in your car, you may carefully pull out of the line and exit the parking lot slowly.

#### Student Homeroom Assignments:

We will use the same process we used last year to share the name of the homeroom teacher your child(ren) will have this year. Names will be shared electronically in a text message alert at the beginning of August so that you will know what homeroom teacher your child(ren) will have. **If you are new to the district or currently do not receive the message alerts, please be sure to text “Yes” to 67587 so that you will receive such notifications.** Class lists will also be posted during Open House on August 28, 2024 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

#### First Day of School:

We ask that all parents/guardians drop their students off and **NOT** enter the building on the first day of school as it creates more stress/anxiety on the students. We have plenty of staff available to assist any students that need support and greatly appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

Please help us congratulate and welcome our new staff members, Kelly Jameson, who will be joining the first grade team, Branden Nickles joining our second grade team, Natalie Winegardner will be joining our third grade team & Heidi Fuller, our new guidance counselor.

Go Mustangs!



## ALLAN KING, JR. ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

With the fall sports season quickly approaching, Allen East sports fans have a lot to look forward to this year! This fall the boys golf team looks to defend their NWC title from a year ago, our girls soccer looks to add to the record breaking win total, boasting the returning Player of the Year, Rilynn Jones. Last school year 19 school records were broken, including win totals by our girls soccer and girls basketball teams. We return 4 state placers in wrestling and track combined and welcome 3 new varsity head coaches in cheer, volleyball and boys basketball. Our football team returns the core of a young playoff team and our league welcomes 2 new members, LCC and Fort Loramie (football only). Those accomplishments are a testament to the hardworking and talented community we have here at AE! I am very excited about the future and what it holds for our student athletes and the community! I look forward to seeing you all at games cheering on our teams and enjoying the success and lessons learned throughout the athletic seasons. If you want to get involved, please contact me and we have numerous opportunities for you to volunteer your time and become a part of our team, helping our students realize their dreams and build a solid foundation for them now and in the future!



If you just want to watch and support AE athletics, our ticket prices have not changed this year, however our season pass went up slightly to help cover increasing officiating costs. A family pass is now \$275, single adult \$125 and student pass remains the same at \$50. We will also offer a cash option at the door at EVERY event! If you can't make the game in person, we start year two with NFHS, streaming every game at Goodwin Field (with the exception of track) and every game in the high school gym this season! Visit our Athletics page to find the link and learn more about this option!

Just a reminder that the OHSAA has changed its scheduling partner from Arbiter to Dragonfly. Starting last year, all Allen East athletics have moved to DragonFly, so for accurate schedules, please use that resource that can also be found on our athletic webpage.

As exciting as 23-24 was for the Mustang's and our community, I believe there is even more in store for our student athletes in the future! Thank you again for the part you, our community, parents and AE supporters, all play in making AE a great place to live, play and dream big! - Go Mustangs! See you at the game soon!!



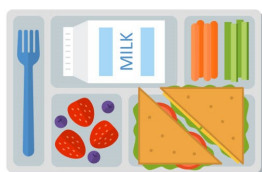
## HEATHER BURDEN, CAFETERIA SUPERVISOR

### Welcome Back!

As we head into a new school year, there are a few important Food Service topics to highlight.

### 2024-2025 Cafeteria Prices

K-12 Breakfast	\$2.00	<i>This school year (2024-2025) all</i>
Adult Breakfast	\$2.25	<i>reduced meals will be free to the</i>
K-4 Lunch	\$3.25	<i>students that qualify for reduced</i>
5-12 Lunch	\$3.50	<i>meals.</i>
Mustang Meal*	\$4.25	
Adult Lunch	\$4.25	<i>* Mustang Meal Lunch available only to fifth grade and up.</i>



***Our Food Service Department follows the State Guidelines/Standards to provide the children of Allen East a healthy and nourishing meal.***

## Free and Reduced Meal Applications

We encourage you to fill out the Free and Reduced Meal Benefit application. The application is available on the Allen East website under the Payschools/Free & Reduced icon. Reminder that a Free & Reduced application **must be filled out yearly** to qualify for the next school year. Applications do not roll over year to year.

## Low Balance Notifications

There are several ways parents can stay updated on their child(ren)'s account balance. Parents and students can log into their Payschool account and view purchases and balances. Families may also choose to receive a low balance email and/or text alerts when the account balance gets low. You can also set up their account to auto-replenish. This will help prevent your child(ren) from having a negative balance.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Burden [burdenh@alleneastschools.org](mailto:burdenh@alleneastschools.org) or 419-648-3333 Ext. 1505.



### **JIM HUNSAKER, TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR**

Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the entire Transportation Department, I'd like to extend a warm welcome back to the Allen East community! I will be the new Transportation Supervisor, replacing Perry Heise who recently retired with 30 years of dedicated service to our great school district!

We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. As we gear up for another exciting school year, the Transportation Department is committed to providing safe and reliable transportation for all our students.

Here are a few reminders for a successful year:

- Review bus rules and safety: Student safety is our top priority. Please take a moment to review bus safety procedures with your child. This includes proper behavior on the bus, safe waiting practices at bus stops, and the importance of following the driver's instructions. This information can be found on the transportation page of our website.
- Bus routes and schedules: Pickup and drop-off times should remain close to the same as last school year. The only bus route changes this school year will be the Apollo & Learning Tree shuttle bus. That bus will now be bus #19.
- Text alerts: If you would like to receive text alerts for school delays and closings, text "Yes" to 67587 to be automatically enrolled. More information is available on our website under Alert Notifications.

**We understand that the first few days might involve some adjustments.** New students may be unfamiliar with their routes, and there might be minor delays as everyone settles back into the routine. Please be patient with us as we work to ensure a smooth transition.





**Allen East Local Schools**  
9105 Harding Highway  
Harrod, OH 45850



**OPEN HOUSE:**  
**Wed., August 28, 2024**  
 Pre-K thru 4th: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
 5th thru 12th: 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

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School Based Health Center

# MUSTANG HEALTH CENTER

We are excited to announce the opening of the Mustang Health Center.

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

Mustang Health Center will be open daily from 7:30am – 4:00pm

**We will provide the following services at the Mustang Health Center:**



- ✓ Sports & Work Physicals
- ✓ Sick Visits
- ✓ Age Appropriate Screenings
- ✓ Disease Management
- ✓ Immunizations
- ✓ Behavioral Health
- ✓ Wellness Visits
- ✓ And so much more....



We accept all Allen East students, their families, and staff. All insurances, no insurance or underinsured are accepted. We will never turn anyone away for an inability to pay.

**We look forward to serving you at Allen East Schools!**

