

## **Welcome Back to School**

**August 21, 2024**

Good evening A-C Valley,

I am calling to welcome the A-C Valley Community back to the start of the “new” school year. The district staff have worked diligently over the summer to have the campus ready for the first day of school, which will be next Wednesday, August 21, 2024.

Please note that if you have any questions about this message or the start of the school year, be sure to contact the Elementary School Office at 724-659-3555, Jr/Sr HS office at 724-659-4661 and/or the district office at 724-659-5820.

- **A-CV School Calendar**

The 2024-2025 school calendar is posted to the [acvsd.org](http://acvsd.org) website, located in the student handbooks, and available for pick-up at both schools. To ensure a successful start to the school year be aware of a few important dates: 7th grade and new student orientation is Monday, August 19, 2024 from 5:00 – 6:30 PM at the Jr/Sr High School, Students’ first day of school is on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, the district is closed on September 2nd for Labor Day, students will be off school on October 3, 2024 and October 4, 2024 for an Act 80 day and ALF day. Just note that October 3, 2024 will be used for Parent Teacher Conferences, and an evening Open House, so please plan accordingly. We will also have a 45 minute early dismissal prior to Thanksgiving break on November 27, 2024 and a 45 minute early dismissal prior to Christmas Break on December 20, 2024 and the last student day on May 28, 2025, dismissal will be at 11:15 for the Elementary School and 11:30 for the Jr/Sr High School

- **A-CV Transportation**

There is a transportation tab at [acvsd.org](http://acvsd.org) website that you can access for additional transportation information. Alternatively, you can call and speak to Mrs. Sherman any time with questions and concerns, she is located at the Elementary Office.

Just know that we do our best to keep everyone safe and ask that students stay 5 feet from the road while waiting for the school bus to arrive and wait until the RED flashing lights are on display before walking onto the road.

Students who plan to drive to school, we ask that you drive slowly and schedule a time to leave your house early enough so that you do not need to rush. In addition, the student drivers will need to have their driver’s license and insurance card to obtain a parking permit from the HS office to park on campus in the student parking lot only.

- **Day-to-day Operations**

The Elementary School will start at 8:00 AM and Jr/Sr High School will start at 7:50 AM and we will have staff on duty at 7:30 AM for morning arrival and free student breakfast at this time. If you plan to drop off your children off in the morning, please do so after 7:30 AM.

During the school year, if your child is absent from school you will need to submit an excuse within 3 days of the absence. In addition, if you are planning to take an educational trip, you will need to complete the education trip form prior to leaving for the trip. This form is available in the office and please do your best to avoid PSSA/Keystone testing dates from April 21 to May 23, 2025.

Finally, communication is the key to the success in educating our students. If your child is struggling academically, your first call or email should be to your child's teacher, we have highly qualified teachers who are experts in their field. If it is a behavioral or mental health concern, the school counselors or principals will help support your family and be able to provide resources.

- **School Safety**

The school board and staff take great pride in providing a safe and secure learning environment for our students and staff. Dr. McDeavitt is the Safety and Security Coordinator and works closely with the A-CV School Police Officer, Dave Sitler. Dave has many years of experience as a police officer in Pennsylvania and in serving as school police officer here at A-CV.

Officer Sitler carries a firearm and is well equipped to provide the highest level of security on campus. In addition to Officer Sitler, we also have an MOU with the Clarion State Police to provide additional support when needed. We have also made several safety related upgrades to the campus this summer, and will continue to do so with additional financial support from the state to enhance mental supports and physical safety. However, to ensure our safety at school we need help from our community while on campus. If you "See something, you say something."

Please help us keep our students safe by reporting anything that is concerning (See something, say something), you can do so by calling 911 or contacting a school official. The district will do our part as well, and will be conducting security drills throughout the year, the first drill will be conducted during the first month of school.

**Outside Guest:** The safety and security of our students and staff is of utmost concern during the school day. Parents, adult residents, and other guest will be welcomed to the Elementary and Jr/Sr HS buildings between the hours of 8:00 AM-3:05 PM and may only enter through the secure entrance, at which point you will need to provide state issued identification before gaining access to the building.

- **Health and Safety Plan**

Just like in the past, if students and staff are sick, we ask that you stay home. We will continue to promote hand washing; fresh air circulation, and do our best to keep sickness out of the district.

- **Communication**

The district will continue to use the schoolmessenger phone system and the acvsd.org website for our primary means of communication. If you have questions that you cannot find on the website, please contact the office.

- **Athletics**

In order to provide our students with appropriate extra-curricular offerings, A-CV continues to add cooperative agreements with Union School District (USD).

As we prepare for football season, all our home varsity games at the Union School District until we are able to renovate our football field. We have the A-CV Foundation created to accept tax write off donations, if you would like to make a donation please find the URL code at acvsd.org and donate: A-CV Foundation [https://bbcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit\\_id=2089](https://bbcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=2089)

Students who are in need of accident insurance there is information about (CHIP) insurance posted on the districts webpage @ acvsd.org. CHIP provides quality comprehensive health insurance to uninsured students who are eligible. And, keep in mind that all students who participate in extracurricular athletics are required to carry insurance.

- **Other Relevant Items**

The A-C Valley school district policies are located at acvsd.org website under the district tab. On this website, you will see information about the districts non-discrimination process and a full list of policies by simply clicking on ACVSD Board Policies.

Other policies that should be noted are as followed: Immunization Policy #203, School Wellness #246, Unlawful Harassment #248, Bullying # 249. Homeless Youth # 251, Special Education #113, and Computer Acceptable Use policy #815.

All of our federal programs information can be located at acvsd.org under the federal programs tab, please review or contact Kristin Thurber at 724-659-3555.

The district will continue to test our water at various locations throughout the school year and we will continue to use our filtered water fountains in both buildings to help purify our water.

Breakfast will be free this year and the student lunch cost will be \$2.75 per lunch.

In closing, I would like to ask all our parents/guardians to be involved in your child's education - be sure to contact your child's teacher or the school principal if you have any questions or concerns Have a great evening and I will see you all next Wednesday!

Sincerely,

Dr. David McDeavitt

## **Policy Notice Requirements**

Below, please find a list of the policies that are required or recommend to be shared as a notification for students, staff, and parents/guardians. The list is based on PSBA's policy guide language, and our own board policies. You can access the full list of policies @ [acvsd.org](http://acvsd.org).

### **PSBA Policy Notice Requirements**

Here is a list of PSBA policy guides that require or recommend notification. Not all of these policies require "annual" notification; some recommend periodic notification or notice through posting, as indicated below.

#### **Policies Requiring/Recommending Annual Notice:**

- 006. Meetings
- 103. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
- 103.1. Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students With Disabilities
- 104. Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff
- 105.1. Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students
- 113. Special Education
- 114. Gifted Education
- 123. Interscholastic Athletics
- 123.1. Concussion Management
- 123.2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- 138. Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners
- 142. Migrant Students
- 143. Standards for Persistently Dangerous Schools
- 144. Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes
- 146. Student Services
- 200. Enrollment of Students
- 203. Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
- 204. Attendance
- 209. Health Examinations/Screenings
- 209.1. Food Allergy Management
- 209.2. Diabetes Management
- 210. Medications
- 210.1. Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- 216. Student Records
- 218. Student Discipline
- 218.1. Weapons
- 222. and 323. Tobacco and Vaping Products – Students and Employees
- 226. Searches
- 235. Student Rights and Responsibilities
- 235.1. Surveys

- 237. Electronic Devices
- 246. School Wellness
- 247. Hazing
- 249. Bullying/Cyberbullying
- 250. Student Recruitment
- 312. Performance Assessment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
- 604. Budget Adoption
- 619. District Audit
- 621. Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights
- 705. Facilities and Workplace Safety
- 707 Use of School Facilities (Boy Scouts Act)
- 716. Integrated Pest Management
- 805. Emergency Preparedness and Response
- 806. Child Abuse
- 808. Food Services
- 810.2. Transportation – Video/Audio Recording
- 823. Naloxone
- 824. Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries
- 904. Public Attendance at School Events
- 906. Public Complaint Procedures
- 918. Title I Parent and Family Engagement

**Policies Requiring/Recommending Notice (based on “posting,” for specific reasons, or specific time frame not given):**

- 100. Comprehensive Planning (plans must be made available for inspection for 28 days)
- 105. Curriculum
- 108. Adoption of Textbooks
- 109. Resource Materials
- 113.4. Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information
- 115. Career and Technical Education
- 122. Extracurricular Activities
- 127. Assessment System
- 137.1. Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- 140.1. Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students
- 203.1. and 314.1. HIV Infection – Students and Employees
- 217. Graduation
- 218.2. Terroristic Threats
- 218.3. Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault
- 220. Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials
- 227. Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
- 233. Suspension and Expulsion
- 236.1. Threat Assessment
- 251. Homeless Students
- 252. Dating Violence
- 302. Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent

309.1. Telework  
332. Working Periods  
333. Professional Development  
335. Family and Medical Leaves  
340. Responsibility for Student Welfare  
351. Drug and Substance Abuse  
610. Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation  
626. Federal Fiscal Compliance  
718. Service Animals in Schools  
801. Public Records  
810. Transportation  
810.1. School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers  
810.3. School Vehicle Drivers  
815. Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources  
816. District Social Media  
819. Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response  
827. Conflict of Interest  
830. Breach of Computerized Personal Information  
901. Public Relations Objectives  
916. Volunteers

## **TITLE IX NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District (“District”) does not discriminate on the basis of sex, and prohibits sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§1681 *et seq.*, and its regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, including in admission and employment.

Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the District’s Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (“OCR”), or both.

The District’s Title IX Coordinator is:

Dr. Bill Jordan, Jr/Sr High School Principal  
Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District  
776 Route 58  
Box 100  
Foxburg, PA 16036  
Email: [bill.jordan@acvsd.org](mailto:bill.jordan@acvsd.org)  
Telephone Number: 724-659-4661

The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights may be contacted at:

U.S. Department of Education  
Office for Civil Rights  
Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Bldg  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-1100

Telephone: 800-421-3481  
FAX: 202-453-6012; TDD: 800-877-8339  
Email: [OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov)

<https://ocr cas.ed.gov/contact-ocr>

To report information about conduct that may constitute Title IX sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, or make a complaint of Title IX sex discrimination, please refer to the District’s Nondiscrimination Policies and Grievance Procedures, which can be located on the District’s website under Board Policies, Policy 103 (Students) and Policy 104 (Employees): [ww.acvsd.org](http://ww.acvsd.org) or contact the District’s Title IX Coordinator.