



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

October 30, 2020

Dear Akron Central School Community,

I want to begin this update by thanking you for your support. We know that these are challenging times for everyone. I especially want to thank our parents and students for their effort and diligence in completing learning tasks and assignments while working from home. Learning is a social interaction, especially for school-aged students. The interplay between teachers and students is invaluable and difficult to fully replicate in a virtual modality. Thus, it takes a special commitment on the part of students and families to remain motivated and engage on days where home-based learning is required. Please continue to stay involved, keep regular routines, and monitor assignments for timely completion. We firmly believe that in-person instruction is the best way to help our kids achieve, and until the day comes (and it will come) we thank you for making education a priority for your child.

Second Marking Period: Over 90 students will be moving from fully remote to a hybrid model of instruction for the second marking period. We are pleased to welcome these students back into the classroom and have made arrangements to ensure that all of our safety protocols, including social distancing, will be fully implemented. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 24 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and November 25 from 8:00-11:30 a.m. As part of our on-going effort to minimize exposure to our students and staff, conferences will be held virtually. Each building will provide more information to parents in the coming days.

Daily Health Screening: Our success can and will be measured in many ways. Your diligent administration of the **Frontline Health Portal** daily health screening app, willingness to keep children home when they aren't feeling well, and encouragement of handwashing and masks have been tremendously helpful and effective steps in controlling the spread of illness here at school. We understand that some families have had difficulty downloading and using the health portal app. If you need assistance registering, logging in, or using the app, please send an email to akronitdept@akronk12.org. We are here to help.

News Articles on COVID-19: New information and research on the coronavirus is being released often. We are learning more each day. Please click on the links below to read recent articles/studies that focus on the new and emerging science and data of the COVID-19 virus as it relates to schools. buffalonews.com/news/local/education/no-covid-spread-within-schools-in-erie-and-niagara
[What Health Data Says About Safely Reopening Schools](#)

Cluster Action Initiative: As you may know, Governor Cuomo shared his plan to combat rising rates of COVID-19 in parts of the state that are experiencing increased levels of positive infection rates. This micro-cluster strategy places certain restrictions on geographic area depending on the rates of infection. Please see the chart below:

Type of Activity	RED	ORANGE (BUFFER & WARNING)	YELLOW (BUFFER & PRECAUTIONARY)
Worship	25% capacity 10 people maximum	33% capacity 25 people maximum	50% capacity
Mass Gathering	Prohibited	10 people maximum, indoor and outdoor	25 people maximum, indoors and outdoors
Businesses	Only essential businesses open	Closing high-risk non-essential business (gyms, personal care, etc.)	Open
Dining	Takeout/delivery only	Outdoor dining only, 4 person maximum per table	Indoor and outdoor dining, 4 person maximum per table
Schools	CLOSED Remote-only		Open Mandatory 20% weekly testing of students and teachers/staff for in-person settings.

Please note that schools in a yellow zone can continue with in-person instruction, but are required to test 20% of in-person students, teachers and staff at least once a week for as long as the school remains in a designated yellow zone. The New York State Department of Health will provide rapid testing kits to local health departments, hospitals, pharmacies, and other health care providers. Schools may also serve a role in the administration of these tests. We are working with the Erie 1 BOCES and the ECDOH to develop a plan for rapid testing should that ever become necessary in Akron.

Cause for Celebration: Congratulations to our Akron Tiger student athletes for all of their success thus far this fall. Please enjoy reading a brief update on each team below.

- Varsity Boys Soccer - The team is playing exceptional soccer with a record of 6-2-1 and looking to finish the season in first place in the N-O League. The team is ranked 6th in the WNY Small School polls.
- Varsity Girls Soccer - The team continues to improve after losing several close battles within the league. The team is looking to finish strong with upcoming games with Barker and Newfane in their quest to make sectional playoffs.
- JV Girls Soccer - The season will be complete after games with Medina and Wilson.
- Varsity Field Hockey - Outstanding start of the season. The team has not allowed a goal against them this year and look to lock up first place in the N-O League with the completion of their season with games against Wilson, Barker and Kenmore. Team is currently enjoying a 9-0 record.
- JV Field Hockey - The JV Field Hockey team continues to improve each week.
- Modified Field Hockey - The team also continues to improve each week with a record of 4-1-2 with 2 games to play. Excellent job, coach and team.
- Varsity Golf - Coach Bryan Bellis' team claimed the N-O League Tournament title at Willowbrook Country Club and completed the season with a record of 11-1 to earn them 1st place in the N-O League - the first time in 30 years! Andrew Romesser and Jack Klodzinski finished in the top 20 at the tournament to earn a spot at Sectionals in spring 2021. Congratulations Coach and team on an outstanding season.
- Varsity Girls Cross Country - The team is in 2th place in the N-O league with a record of 5-1. The team travels to Barker for their All League meet on Saturday, October 31st.
- Varsity Boys Cross Country - The team is in 4th place with a record of 3-3. They will also compete in Barker at the All League meet on Saturday, October 31st.
- Modified Cross Country - The modified cross country team led by first-year coach and ACS alumnus Ellie Leeds, has completed their season. They showed improvement at each meet and had a fun experience.
- Tiger Athlete Of the Week - For the months of September and October the following athletes were chosen as AOW: Drew Romesser(golf), Jack Klodzinski (golf), Madison Brege (field hockey), Ashley Reiner (field hockey), Kara Seguin (soccer) and Dawson Stone (cross country). Go Tigers!

Thank you for reading this information and remaining Akron Strong!

Sincerely,
Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

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