



# Tiger Tracks

December 2023

[www.akronschools.org](http://www.akronschools.org)

Akron Central School District acknowledges that we gather on the traditional lands of the Tonawanda Seneca Nation and honor the sovereignty of all of the members of the Haudenosaunee. We honor the contributions of the Indigenous Peoples and will make a commitment to honor the land of those who have walked before us.

## A message from the Principals:

Hello/ Nya:wëh sgë:nö' Tigers,

December is a month that radiates warmth and community spirit, and we will be fostering that atmosphere within our school. Some ways we'll be spreading warmth and building connections this December: District-wide Christmas tree mural, Holiday spirit week, and #ONEAkron Jolly Jubilee. We invite you to review the upcoming dates for information pertaining to our wonderful concerts scheduled for this month.

While the holiday season brings joy and celebrations, it's also a time to ensure that we continue to make progress academically. Here are some tips to help you stay on track with your learning and assignments this December:

- Set Clear Goals: Take a moment to identify your academic goals for the month. What do you want to achieve by the end of December? Setting clear, specific goals will give you a sense of purpose and motivation.
- Create a Schedule: Plan your study and assignment completion schedule. Allocate specific time slots for studying, completing assignments, and reviewing class materials. Stick to this schedule as closely as possible.
- Prioritize Tasks: Determine which assignments and subjects require more immediate attention. Prioritize your tasks based on due dates and complexity. Tackle the most important ones first.
- Stay Organized: Use a planner or digital tools to keep track of your assignments, tests, and deadlines. Being organized will help you manage your time effectively and reduce stress.
- Limit Distractions: Identify common distractions in your study environment and take steps to minimize them. Put away your phone or use apps that block distracting websites during study hours.
- Break Tasks into Smaller Steps: If a project or assignment seems overwhelming, break it down into smaller, manageable tasks. Completing smaller tasks will give you a sense of accomplishment and make the overall project less daunting.
- Ask for Help: If you're struggling with a particular subject or assignment, don't hesitate to reach out for help. Your teachers, classmates, or tutors are valuable resources.
- Stay Healthy: Remember to take care of your physical and mental health. Get enough rest, eat nutritious meals, and engage in regular physical activity. A healthy body and mind are essential for effective learning.
- Celebrate Small Wins: Acknowledge your achievements, no matter how small. Celebrating your progress can boost your motivation and help you stay committed to your goals.
- Plan for Breaks: It's important to take short breaks during your study sessions to recharge. Use techniques like the Pomodoro technique, which involves 25 minutes of focused work followed by a 5-minute break.
- Stay Informed: Keep up with any announcements or updates from your teachers regarding assignments, tests, or changes in the schedule. Stay informed to avoid any last-minute surprises.

Remember that staying on track with your learning and assignments is an investment in your future. By maintaining your focus and discipline during December, you'll not only finish the 2023 year strong but also set a positive tone for 2024.

We wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful, and heartwarming holiday season. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

With warmest regards,  
Nya:wëh and Go Tigers!  
Mr. Dimitroff and Mrs. Fial

---

## Important December Dates...

<b>DECEMBER</b>	1	Petition Sheets Due	18	Spirit Week- Wear PJ's
	4	NHS Applications Due	19	Spirit Week- Dress as Snowman/white
	4	Prism Assembly ( <i>Special Time Order</i> )	20	Spirit Week- Wear Holiday Socks
	5	Prism Concert	20	BOE Meeting
	6	BOE Meeting	21	Ineligible/Restricted Pass Lists Out
	9	PTA Vendor & Craft Fair	21	Spirit Week- Wear bright/sparkly items
	9	Santa Band Light Up Akron	22	Spirit Week- Wear Ugly Sweater
	14	SOM Luncheon	25-Jan. 2	Winter Break ( <i>NO CLASSES</i> )
	18	Progress Reports On-Line	28	Tiger Tracks Published



Effective December 1, 2023, all students enrolled at Akron Central School will receive one breakfast and lunch meal at no cost to your household. No further action is required of you. Please note that any second meal or ala carte items purchased are not covered by this CEP provision and remain the responsibility of each family.

### Mobile Menu App



We are pleased to announce a new Mobile Menu App that offers an easy way to view menus and nutrient



information for products right from your smart phone.

#### The new "Web Menu" mobile App includes:

Interactive Nutritional Menus, Daily menus, Menu item nutrient information, Menu item description, Menu item photos, Menu item allergens, PDF Documents, Link to Online Payment Provider, Link to Nutrition Services website, Info section "All About School Lunch"

This is just one more step we are making in an effort to continually improve the quality of the menus we offer our students and raise the bar on the standards of our school meals. Our focus is on enhancing the diet of students with more nutritious choices here at school and by providing nutrition education that will help students form healthy habits that last a lifetime!

Key nutritional improvements that we have made include offering a variety of more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and fat-free and low-fat fluid milk with our meals. We are also reducing in the levels of sodium, saturated fat and have eliminated added trans fat. We do not supersize our meals, but instead strive to meet the nutrition needs of students within their age specific calorie requirements.

The School Nutrition & Fitness Mobile "Web Menu" App is available in the App Stores!

### Social Worker Support Center



There's still time to grab an ornament or two from our Giving Tree in the HS Cafe! Each ornament on the Giving Tree has an item from a child's wish list. Items can be returned unwrapped, with the ornament attached to the Student Support Office by Friday, December 15th. Please contact Mrs. Bowen with any questions and thank you in advance for your support!



### Native American Office News

I need to send a huge nya:weh to our faculty and staff who donated Christmas cards. Last year our indigenous students in the high school sent cards and a small ornament to the Elders at the Tonawanda Nation - 50 in total! This year students will be doing cards again as well as tea and honey gifts. I had to send out an email for a donation of cards. Boy oh boy - did we get donations!! I am overwhelmed with the generosity from our faculty and staff! Thanks to everyone who will bring a smile to our elders during this holiday season!



The school year is in full swing with the end of the first marking period. Now is the time to improve on study skills and habits if you are failing any courses. Staying ninth periods and working in the Academic Learning Center are a few ways that can boost student performance.

Counselors are in the process of meeting with all freshmen during their individual student meetings. We are assisting them with their transition to high school and providing them with services available if they are in need. We are also completing a career plan with them to discuss future goals and aspirations.

Our Boces presentation takes place for all sophomores on November 28th. A representative from Boces will be here to provide information regarding the many vocational programs they have to offer. If students plan to attend Boces, they must be passing their courses and have good attendance. Information will be coming soon regarding the Boces registration process.

Graduation cap and gown measurements as well as payments were received from seniors in November. What an exciting time for our seniors!

### Community Outreach:

Parents and Guardians, looking for a quick and easy way to access supports and providers in Erie County? Download the Erie Path app!



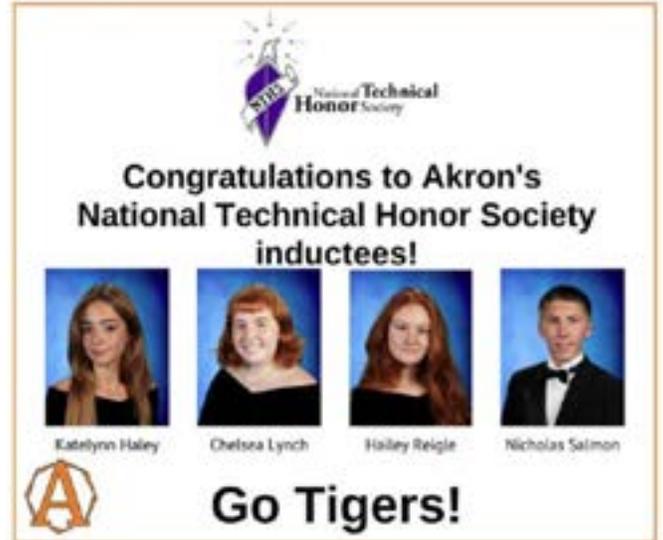


## October- Students of the Month

**ART-** Leo Muck  
**BAND-** Whitley Koopman  
**BUSINESS-** Isabella Cositore

**CHORUS-** Alyssa Jago  
**ENGLISH-** Aleander Schrock  
**BOCES-** Rosemary Mest  
**HEALTH-** Joseph Farinacci  
**MATH-** Olivia Novak  
**ORCHESTRA-** Hailey Reigle  
**PHYS. ED-** Alexis Salmon  
**SCIENCE-** Christopher Ginestre  
**SOCIAL-** Aron Gehl  
**SPANISH-** Averi Monkelbaan  
**TECH-** Cameron Stoldt

Congratulations to the following CTE students: Katelynn Haley, Chelsea Lynch, Hailey Reigle and Nicholas Salmon for being inducted into the National Technical Honor Society on Thursday, Nov. 2nd at Villa Maria College.



Congratulations to the following students who have been accepted into college:

**Alec Boyer**- ECC

**Madelyn Monkelbaan**- SUNY Brockport

**Lilly Pietrowski**- St. Bonaventure

**Alanna Daniel**- Roberts Wesleyan, Nazareth

**Isabella Bratek**- NCCC

**Payton Palizay**- Buffalo State

**Teagan Ground**- GCC



Five Akron High School musicians were selected for this year's NYSSMA Area All State Festival held at SUNY Fredonia. This past Spring they auditioned and were chosen out of hundreds of applicants from Erie, Niagara, and Chautauqua Counties. We are so incredibly proud of this accomplishment and for representing the Akron Music Department. Bravo!

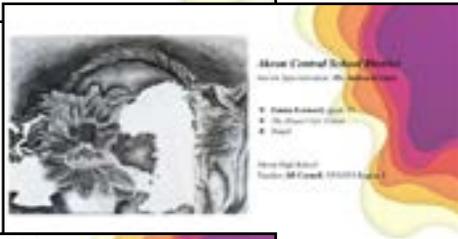
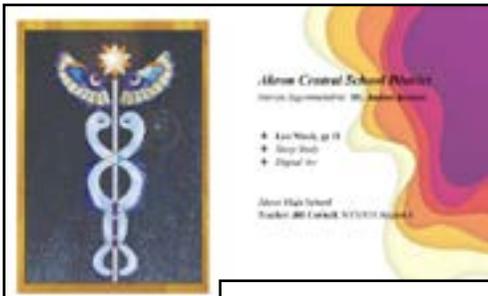
**Landon Polkowski, 10th grade cellist**

**Katerina Ryska, 11th grade vocalist**

**Ava Lombard, 10th grade violinist**

**Emma Leonard, 10th grade violinist**

**Whitley Koopman, 10th grade percussionist**



Congratulations to our students' participation in the New York State School Board Association Annual art show hosted by NYSATA (New York State Art Teachers' Association). We have 3 student entries this year. Our celebrated students include Emma Leonard, Leo Muck, and Rosemary VanEvery. Further information can be found below, and at this [LINK](#).

In addition, several HS students' artworks were selected for display in our community at Guy's Subs. Our new works are from Emily Raybon, Kaylee Marble, Kia LaFromboise, Kayla Roberts, Isabella Remsen, and Rosemary VanEvery

Akron Schools once again hosted the New York State School Music Association's Junior High Area All-State Music Festival on November 3rd and 4th. Over 500 musicians were selected for this festival, representing 50 schools from WNY. Akron High School student, Alyssa Jago (9th grade), who auditioned was selected to be a vocalist in SSA Chorus.





Happy Holidays! Who are you shopping for this holiday season? Whoever that special someone is, we have an abundance of goodies to choose from to suit your holiday needs! We have Olivers and Henry's chocolates, Akron

apparel, freeze dried candy, candles and much more. Did you know that the Tigers Den has gift cards?

In addition to all your holiday shopping needs, the Tigers Den will have select apparel 20% off this month at both the Tigers Den and Market on Main.

Visit us on 12/5 outside the elementary school gym for our annual Holiday Pop-Up store and on 12/19 in the Middle school foyer next to the main office. There will be giveaways at each event and lots of gift and stocking stuffer ideas.

We appreciate all of your support throughout the course of this school year! Your support will help us reward two Class of 2024 seniors with \$1000 scholarships pursuing a business related field.

The Tiger's Den school store takes debit/credit cards and Apple Pay!

Follow us @akronschoolstore on Instagram and Twitter! We post updates on promotions, sampling, and everything the school store has to offer.



## Safety & Security Zone

School is in full swing, the second marking period has started, and winter activities have begun! With the Holiday season fast approaching (how is it December already?!), and the snow falling is imminent, here are some things to keep in mind:

Know how your kiddo is doing in school with grades, activities, and social life. Be their biggest supporter and cheerleader!

Make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather. With the colder months here, make sure they have the proper outdoor wear to keep them warm and protected.

To the new drivers out there on the road for their first winter, BE CAUTIOUS! Make sure you have the minimum essentials in your vehicle (snow brush, snacks, a blanket, phone charger), check your tires for the proper tread amount, give extra space on the road, and go slow on snow covered, and/or icy roads.

Getting somewhere late and safe is better than not getting there at all!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from your SRO's!



The class of 2024 would like to thank everyone who made this year's Homecoming possible, Mrs. Bowen and Ms. Johnson for their hard work and dedication to the senior class, as well as those who supported concessions during the football season. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as we continue to plan Prom on June 21st, 2024 at Templeton Landing. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



The Class of 2025 is preparing for the semi-formal dance on February 3rd. They will be working the basketball game concessions this month and next month. Make sure to stop over to the concession stand to support the class of 2025! Go Tigers!



Come support the sophomore class on December 6th when they run the concession stand for the boys basketball game

**Holiday Tigers Den Stores**

**WE HAVE TWO POP UP STORES THAT WILL BE HAPPENING THIS SEASON!**

<b>OUTSIDE ELEMENTARY GYM</b>	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL FOYER</b>
<b>TUESDAY DECEMBER 5TH</b>	<b>TUESDAY DECEMBER 19TH</b>
<b>2:35-3:18</b>	<b>2:35-3:18</b>

**CHOCOLATES, AKRON APPAREL, CANDY, HOLIDAY GIFTS AND MUCH MORE**

## Athletic Director's Clipboard



## WINTER SPORTS

The Winter Sports season has been under way for right around three weeks now. The competition part of the season is just getting going for most teams! Our teams look strong and they are ready for the challenges that lie ahead. Look for the January edition of Tiger Tracks to get an update on our JV and Varsity Teams as they approach the middle of their seasons.

Be sure to come out and show your support for our Swimming, Wrestling, Unified Bowling, Cheer, and Basketball teams! For the most up to date athletics game schedule, please visit: <https://www.akronschools.org/athletics>

Follow us on x/twitter: @AkronHSSports

Go Tigers!



## HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK DRESS UP DAYS

Mon., Dec. 18th- Long Winter Nap (Wear PJ's)

Tues., Dec. 19th- Feelin' Frosty  
(Dress as Snowman/wear white)

Wed., Dec. 20th- Jingle Toes (Holiday Socks)

Thurs., Dec. 21st- Holiday Glow Up (wear bright/sparkly)

Fri., Dec. 22nd- Sweater Weather- (Ugly Sweater)



## Seal of Civic Readiness

A few years ago, New York State created the Seal of Civic Readiness (SCR) distinction. The Seal of Civic Readiness is a formal recognition that a student has attained a high level of proficiency in terms of civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences. The Seal of Civic Readiness distinction on a high school transcript and diploma:

- shows the student's understanding of a commitment to participatory government; civic responsibility and civic values;
- demonstrates to universities, colleges, and future employers that the student has completed an action project in civics or social justice; and
- recognizes the value of civic engagement and scholarship.

Over the past year, we, along with our Seal of Civic Readiness facilitators and school counselors, have researched SCR, communicated and collaborated with multiple local school districts, and continue to attend professional development and consortium meetings centered around the Seal of Civic Readiness. We are pleased to share that Akron has submitted an application to NYS to begin to offer the Seal of Civic Readiness distinction to students who demonstrate proficiency as outlined by New York State. Although we have not received formal acceptance, we have spoken to all students about the Seal. We plan to gauge student interest through a brief Google form. At that point, our SCR facilitators will begin to meet with students to review the criteria, prioritizing our seniors first.

We are thrilled at the possibility to recognize the hard work and civic engagement of our students through the Seal of CR and await approval from the state. As implementation begins, individual pathways and specifics will be communicated. In the meantime, please visit: <https://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/seal-civic-readiness>. Please continue to read our monthly Tiger Tracks for SCR updates on application and implementation. Go Tigers!