



Tiger Tracks

June 2023

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:

The end of a school year evokes many thoughts and feelings. First, we are excited to send off our 2023 graduates as they are well-prepared to close this chapter of their life and begin the next one. We also feel eager to begin to plan for the next school year for our underclassmen.

We continuously reflect on the growth of our students and celebrate all of their wins, both big and small. Our students always seem to amaze us with their ability to meet and exceed expectations both inside and outside of the classroom. I hope you are as amazed as we are to see the achievements of our students if you are able to attend one of our year-end assemblies, sporting events, or graduation.

This past month, members of our Student Council partnered with Hearts for the Homeless alongside students from Franklinville High School. Students worked in smaller groups to clean up some side streets, serve food to the homeless, and plant a community garden at the Boys Club. This particular service project was the culmination of the series of leadership workshops through The Leadership Academy. Additionally, we welcomed the Erie County Board of Elections into our Middle and High Schools. This collaboration provided an authentic voting experience for all of our students!

Finally, as we wrap up the 2022-2023 school year, we remind you of the previous correspondences shared with families referencing "End of Year Events," "Regents Week Exam schedules," and "Graduation Letter" (Class of 2023). Students are expected to clean their lockers out by the end of the day on June 9th. Textbooks can be returned to teachers before the start of Regents Week or directly to teachers on their exam day. Beginning June 12th, only students scheduled for an exam should be in the building during their specified exam time. Transportation will continue to be available at regular arrival time, in addition to regular dismissal time (2:35pm 3:30pm). If your child needs to be picked up from their home midday for an afternoon exam, [please sign up here](#) no later than June 9th. If students are taking a morning exam and need transportation home, they will report to the MPR immediately following the conclusion of that morning exam. Transportation will be available to take those students home. FYI- Summer school will be held on July 11th-August 15th and specific courses are to be determined. Nya:wëh and Go Tigers!

Important June Dates...

JUNE

- 5-22 Quiet Campus
- 6 Band Awards Concert (7:00 pm)
- 7 BOE Meeting
- 8 Academic/Athletic Awards Assy.
- 8 Senior Picnic
- 9 Last Full Day for HS
- 9 Mandatory Pre-Prom Presentation
- 9 Caps & Gowns Distributed
- 9 Senior Graduation Walk
- 9 Pre-Prom photos in Russel Park
- 9 Prom
- 12-22 Attendance only for an exam
- 12-13 Local Exams
- 13 End of MP4
- 14-22 Regents Exams
- 16 HB Mrs. Collis
- 19 Juneteenth (NO CLASSES)
- 21 BOE Meeting
- 23 Mandatory Grad Rehearsal (9:00 am)
- 23 Graduation (7:00 pm)



Please adhere to the expectations sent out in the graduation letter (5/22) when decorating your graduation cap. Failure to follow these expectations will result in the removal of the cap at the ceremony and may result in your senior not participating in Graduation. Students will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony without an Akron-issued cap and gown. Indigenous students may request to wear their complete traditional outfit to the building principal or assistant principal no later than June 2nd.

Gowns cannot be altered or decorated.

GRADUATION PHOTOS

Use the link below to purchase a digital download image of your graduate with their diploma. Images will be available on Saturday, June 24th.

<http://gretchendoktorphotography.gotphoto.com/>

Access code: akrongraduation

Digital Download Image is \$15.

Gretchen Doktor Photography
716-864-3285

Register now and be notified immediately when the gallery goes live!





Native American Office News

Lost in translation. Have you ever tried to explain beef on weck to a non-Western New Yorker? Or Aunt Rosies©? Or sponge candy? We all have foods that are culturally unique. One food that is hard for us to describe is cornbread. Most people think of the yellow, cake-like cornbread that is served at barbecue places. I like it with visible corn kernels and jalapenos - ooh and loaded with butter! But when Haudenosaune talk about cornbread, it is a much different fare! Belinda Patterson came to the Middle School to talk about our cornbread and helped students to make their own loaf!

First of all - we must keep in mind that all corn is indigenous to the Americas. Before contact, Europeans did not have any corn varieties. And our corn is much different than the popular corn on the cob corn. I know it as Tuscarora flour corn but is also known as Iroquois white corn or Indian corn. It is a useful variety because it dries very well. After harvest, the picked corn is husked and each ear is braided with maybe 20 other ears, creating a long braid that is hung to dry. The kernels become hard to protect the flesh, making it perfect for lengthy storage.

Making cornbread is incredibly labor-intensive as well as time-consuming. So when there is an opportunity to eat cornbread - it is such a treat! Students were hands-on during the whole process. They shucked the corn kernels off the cob. They boiled it, with ashes, to remove the hull. Then they rinsed it like crazy to remove the eyes. They did not wait to dry it because it is an overnight process so Belinda had pre-dried corn available. Students pounded the corn in a hollowed-out log and a heavy pounder (think giant mortar and pestle!). Once the corn was pounded into flour, the cooking began! Boiling water was added to the corn flour along with kidney beans. Once the perfect consistency was achieved, students shaped it into mini-wheels. Those loaves were then gently boiled until ready, about 20 minutes.

Plant, harvest, husk, braid, dry, shuck, boil, wash, dry, pound, mix, boil, eat. After a morning of labor, students ate their mini-loaf with loads of butter and salt. It was a delicious time!



April- Students of the Month

- ART-** Skye Smoke
- BAND-** Will Akin
- BUSINESS-** Haley Aquino
- CHORUS-** Madison Hall
- ENGLISH-** Dallas Adkins
- BOCES-** Mark Dean
- HEALTH-** Katherine Mento
- MATH-** Conlan Luck
- ORCHESTRA-** Emma Leonard



- PHYS. ED-** Braley Abrams
- SCIENCE-** Anthony Conti
- SOCIAL STUDIES-**
Sarah Gulczewski
- SPANISH-** WakinyanWin
LaFromboise
- TECHNOLOGY-**
Rachel Dugan



In accordance with Board Policy 5660, positive balances left on student meal accounts for exiting students (whether transfers or graduates) will be reimbursed to the parent of record by July 31 if a written request is received by June 30, 2023, of the student's exit year. Those requests should be sent to Kathleen Rybarczyk, Cook Manager.

Social Worker Support Center



Tiger Talk, our peer mentorship program between middle school and high school girls, will have our End of the Year Party on Wednesday, June 7th from 3:30-4:30 pm in C-120. Come join us in celebrating our first year as a group, planning future events and meetings, and getting to know our group and its members.



We just received a new order of joggers! We have both youth and adult black joggers available at the Tigers Den School Store and Market on Main.

The final 9th period school store for the school year will be on Thursday, June 2. 9th period school stores may be coming to an end for the school year but look for us on June 23 in the Aud Foyer for graduation and all of our school apparel and merchandise can be bought at Market on Main, 57 Main Street, during the summer months.

The Tigers Den appreciates your support throughout the 2022-2023 school year! Your support this year has helped us award \$500 scholarships to two students who are pursuing a career in a business-related field. We will announce the winners at the awards ceremony on June 8.

Look forward to the following products being offered in the fall:

- * Orange Shirt Day t-shirts (we will be ordering more of the shirts from last year)
- * A new fall apparel design
- * School Supplies
- * Stickers for water bottles and notebooks

The Tigers Den school store takes debit/credit cards and Apple Pay!

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





Congratulations to the following Harkness Students who have been chosen by their CTE instructors as Students of the Month.

April

Canyon Sundown- Health Careers I
Emma Olszewski- Health Careers II



Seniors, be sure to check your emails! There will be Google Forms sent to vote for Prom king and queen, as well as to sign up to donate items or volunteer to help at the picnic. Also, if you haven't bought your Prom tickets yet, be sure to do that today so you don't miss out on all the fun! Contact Mrs. Heimiller with any questions!



The Class of 2024 would like to thank everyone who has supported our efforts throughout the year! Currently we are in the process of planning and will keep you updated with our upcoming fundraisers, as well as the initial plans for Prom next year! Congrats to our new class government representatives!



Class of 2025 would like to congratulate our election winners: Your Class President: Ella Liss, Vice President: Aubri Baltzley, Secretary: James Bower, Treasurer: Kayleigh Carey and our Indigenous Runner: Kai LaFromboise. With high hopes for a very successful next school year, we are sure all of these people will represent the Class of 2025 to the best of their abilities. Any student who didn't run but is willing to help out with homecoming and semi-formal next year, feel free to get involved.



Take a night off from cooking! Come out and support your freshman class by purchasing a Chiavetta's Chicken dinner! Pre-sale tickets will be available for purchase. This will be taking place on Tuesday, June 6th from 4:00pm-6:30pm at the lower concession stand. If you are interested in purchasing a dinner please see a freshman class officer, Mrs. Greiner, or Mr. Carberry!



Excitement is always in the air as we make it to the end of another school year. Congratulations go out to the Class of 2023! We wish you much success in your future endeavors. Seniors are reminded to enjoy all the fun events while balancing academics to finish on a strong note.

Students are reminded to continue to work hard until the school year is over. Final exams are an important part of your grade. Please take the time to study and do all that you can to ensure successful completion. Your course selections have been processed for the upcoming school year. Further scheduling information will be forthcoming.

Stay safe and have a wonderful summer!



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

Trent Lotz- GCC

Sophia Janik- Edinboro



Safety & Security Zone

We made it! To the final few weeks before summer break.

This month has so much happening, from finals, dances, graduations, to kiddos being home for the summer. Things to keep in mind to help make this hectic month a bit easier include:

Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!

Final tests: Make sure your kids are on track to finish the school year to the best of their ability.

Dances: Have a solid plan, know times of events, who your kids are going to be with, how they are getting to their destination, and what the plan is after. Be aware of illegal substances that may be present.

Set a curfew. If they are staying the night somewhere, have the address and contact information of the guardian there. Stay in contact with that guardian and your child.

Be available if there is an emergency or unforeseen change in plans.

Parties: Know where the party is, who will be there, and if you aren't staying, what adult(s) will be there. Learn if there may be access to illegal substances.

Enjoy the summer and stay safe!



Technology News

Senior Chromebooks and chargers are due to be turned in no later than Friday, June 9, 2023. For your convenience, a table will be set up to collect both Chromebooks and chargers outside the MPR prior to the Pre-Prom Presentation/Grad Walk on Friday, June 9th. Any Chromebooks or chargers not turned in will be billed to students at \$100 per Chromebook or \$20 per charger. Seniors may opt to turn their Chromebook and charger in prior to June 9th if they choose by visiting the Technology Office, Room M212.



The Scholastic Achievement Recognition Dinner was held on Thursday, May 18th. Alexis Hoffman, Natalie Ginestre and Emily Poeller were honored as the Top 3 for Akron Class of 2023. Mr. McCabe, Mr. Dimitroff and Mr. Polkowski joined them for the evening event.



Senior Banners being placed by the Village of Akron.

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected as Student Government Officers for the 2023-2024 School Year.



Student Council

*President: Emily Fox Vice President: Ava Fox
Secretary: Lilly Pietrowski Treasurer: Gary Baehr
Indigenous Runner: Elexis Mitten*

Class of 2024

*Pres.: Canyon Sundown Vice-Pres.: Emma Gerstung
Secretary: Dawson Stone Treasurer: Autumn Hall
Indigenous Runner: Michael Bentley*

Class of 2025

*Pres.: Ella Liss Vice-Pres.: Aubri Baltzley
Secretary: James Bower Treasurer: Kayleigh Carey
Indigenous Runner: Kia LaFromboise
Member-at-large: Tiana Kabangira Kipendo*

Class of 2026

*Pres.: Chris Ginestre Vice-Pres.: Marissa Brege
Secretary: Shelby Ceratt Treasurer: Bruce Karmazyn
Indigenous Runner: Jackson Pragle
Members-at-large: Cara Swader, Whitley Koopman, Ava Lombard, Eva Sage, Grace Caprio*

Class of 2027

*Pres.: Luke Piscitelli Vice-Pres.: Alex Brandl
Secretary: Madilyn Jelson Treasurer: Dan Blask
Indigenous Runner: Samantha Crooks*



Thank you Erie County Board of Elections for coming to AHS and AMS and providing our students an authentic voting experience! Voting took place on May 5th and 19th.



Akron's Student Government Day of Caring at Hearts for the Homeless in Riverside with our friends from Franklinville HS on May 24th.

Athletic Director's Clipboard



Congratulations to our Winter 2022-23 All-WNY Scholar-Athlete Winner: Andrew Romesser (Boys Basketball)

The following seniors were selected as
Winter 2022 -23

All-WNY Scholar Athlete Honorable Mention

- Steven Doktor- Boys Basketball
- Rachel Dugan- Girls Basketball
- Megan Gates- Girls Swimming
- Mayah Harris- Girl Swimming
- Mary Koziej- Competition Cheerleading
- Donny Kreher- Boys Basketball
- Emma Orr- Girls Basketball
- Kaylee Orr- Girls Basketball
- Kaila Szczygielski- Girls Swimming

The Varsity Softball team finished the season with an overall record of 15-3, a Niagara-Orleans league record of 11-1, and are the N-O League champions! The girls advanced all the way to the Section 6 Class B championship game! Their highest achievement, however, is ranking in the top 3 for league sportsmanship again this season. Congrats to the following seniors: Mary Diggs, Natalie Ginestre, Megan Gates, Melanie Holtz, Elsie Logan, Macie Matusek and Katie Mento.

The Akron JV Softball team had a great 2023 season! The girls fought hard to end the season with a 9-2-1 record. This group of girls never gave up which led to such a successful run! Go Tigers!

The Varsity Baseball season was an historic one. In addition to winning their first Niagara-Orleans League Championship since 1975 with an 11-1 record, they also won an overall 16 games, setting a program record. Other highlights included senior pitcher Andrew Romesser's no-hitter at Wilson, the team's first since 2013, and only the program's fourth in the last 50 years. Thank you to seniors Steven Doktor, Alex Wik, Jeff Owen, and Andrew Romesser.

The JV Baseball team just finished a fantastic season. The team had a nice combination of experience in Conlan Luck and Collin Miller who led the team on the mound and at the plate, and youth in Jackson Schlabach and Hunter Haist who were key players in the field and the plate. The future is bright!

The 2023 Varsity Lacrosse team achieved the Scholar-Athlete Team Award this year, the programs' first in 23 years! The boys finished second in league play this season. They defeated Eden by a score of 15-12 in the quarter-finals. The boys advanced to the Class D Sec. Championship game (June 1st) by defeating Salamanca 17-12.

JV Lacrosse finished a great season going undefeated in league play 7-0 and an overall record of 8-3. A great TEAM effort!

The Akron Tennis team had a great year finishing first in the N-O League for the fifth year in a row going 12-0 in league play, 13-1 on the year. They finished off the year by advancing to the second round of team sectionals losing to Southwestern 2-3. Senior Caleb Suckow advanced to the quarter-finals in singles sectional play.

The Akron Girls Flag Football team had an exciting inaugural season! The team opened their season with a big win at home and ended the season with another big win on their home field. Every game was very competitive and was decided by a touchdown or a few extra points. Next season is sure to be just as exciting!

Girls Track & Field are N-O League Champions! They have strength all across the board - sprints, hurdles, pole vault, distance, throws, jumps, and relays all pitched in to go undefeated this year. The boys had a good year focused on the continued development of young student-athletes. At the N-O All-League meet, Jack Holland became League champion in discus with a sectional qualifying mark and personal record of 122-0. Teammate Logan McClaine took 2nd in the same event with a personal record of 114-9. Holland went on to take 3rd place in discus at the Section 6 Class B Meet.

The Unified Basketball season was a big success. Our Unified Hoopers brought big-time energy to the gym every time they played. This was a great group of student-athletes. They were a fun group to watch and a very difficult team to defeat. They started their playoffs on Tuesday, May 30th against Tonawanda!



Scholastic Recognition Breakfast

On Wednesday, May 31st a Scholastic Recognition Breakfast was served to 151 high school students. These students received this recognition for maintaining a 90 or above average for each of the first 3 marking periods of the 2022-2023 school year.



A random drawing was held and the 10 students pictured below received a gift card.



36th Annual Scholastic Recognition Ceremony

The Edward Allen Auditorium was host to the 36th Annual Scholastic Recognition Ceremony on May 31st. The pictured students were honored for maintaining a 90 or above average for each of the first 3 marking periods of the 2022-2023 school year. Students with an (*) have maintained a high honor average for each of the three marking periods and students with a (!) have maintained an overall high honor average for each of the four years.



Class of 2026 Honorees: Marissa Brege*, Grace Caprio*, Shelby Ceratt*, Aron Gehl, Nathan Geiger, Benjamin Gerstung, Christopher Ginestre*, Joseph Higgins, Carly Hoffman*, Cooper Holland, Bruce Karmazyn, Whitley Koopman*, Muira Kreher, Emma Leonard*, Ava Lombard*, Sarah Lumberg, Alexander Mest, Collin Miller, Mark Molitor, Averil Monkelbaan*, Alexander Parisi*, Landon Polkowski, Jackson Pragle, Eva Sage*, Hunter Sommers, Cara Swader*, Morgan Tomporowski, Evie Vohwinkel, Kristine Wall, Dylan Whiting-Popielski.



Class of 2024 Honorees: Gary Baehr, Andrew Bedford*, Ava Blochwitz*, Zackary Borton*, Jazmine Borynski, Dylan Crockford*, Jordan Durick*, Nathan Felski*, Cole Fleming, Emma-Marie Forrestel*, Emily Fox, Emma Gerstung, Liam Haak, Katelynn Haley*, Autumn Hall*, Ashlee Henning*, Trace Hill, Katherine Leeds, Chelsea Lynch, Kaylee Marble*, Logan McClaine*, Margaret Middaugh*, Lilly Pietrowski, Hailey Reigle, Emily Snyder, Jonathan Steen*, Dawson Stone*, Canyon Sundown



Class of 2025 Honorees: Dallas Adkins, Aubrienne Baltzley*, Alexa Bauer, Andrew Bergman*, Jamie Bower, Kayleigh Carey, Anthony Consiglio, Noah Crockford*, Cheyanne Ellis, Ava Fox*, Nicholas Fry, Payten Haley, Madilyn Halicki, Madison Hillman, Kaleb Hucker, John Julicher III, Tiana Kabangira Kipendo, Matthew Kalinowski*, Julia Klodzinski, WakinyanWin LaFromboise*, Gracie Leiker*, Connor Lucia, Elexis Mitten, Samantha Niescier, Mason Odachowski, Aiden Parker*, Lorelei Priebe, Cooper Rebmann, Devin Rodriguez*, Aiden Romesser, Alexander Schrock*, Hunter Sears, Peter Sokolofsky*, Tyler Stahl, Aleyna Susfolk*, Clarise Wawrzyniec, Hayden Wight*, Brianna Wilber, Avery Wolfe*



Class of 2023 Honorees: Molly Adkins*!, Cole Akin, Will Akin*!, Haley Aquino, Lacey Berghorn*, Christopher Bergman*, Zander Borton, Cydney Brandl*!, Madison Brege*!, Mary Diggs, Steven Doktor*!, Rachel Dugan*!, Emma Esposito, Hannah Felski, Grady Fleming*, Megan Gates, Natalie Ginestre*!, Sarah Gulczewski*!, Mayah Harris, Rebecca Higgins*!, Alexis Hoffman*!, Melanie Holtz*, Sophia Janik*!, Tyler Johnson, Sophia Jones, Olivia Julicher*!, Mary Koziej*, Donald Kreher, Hailey Martin*, Hannah Martin*, Trevor Martin*, Ethan Melcher, Katherine Mento*, Martha Miller-Salsbury*, Emma Orr, Kaylee Orr, Jeffrey Owen, Jack Pazderski*, Sydney Peters*, Emily Poeller*!, Aiden Polkowski, Kiernan Regan, Collin Rehwaldt, Juliana Rodriguez*, Andrew Romesser*!, Ethan Rosenberg*, Nicholas Sanford, Audrey Smith*, Caleb Suckow, Sly Sundown, Kaila Szczygielski*!, Andrew Warren, Carter Wiechec, Alexander Wik.



Pictured to the left are seniors who have maintained an overall high honor average for each of the four years. They are Molly Adkins, Will Akin, Cydney Brandl, Madison Brege, Steven Doktor, Rachel Dugan, Natalie Ginestre, Sarah Gulczewski, Rebecca Higgins, Alexis Hoffman, Sophia Janik, Olivia Julicher, Emily Poeller, Andrew Romesser (absent) and Kaila Szczygielski.