

# Rivermen Register

Alma Area Schools District Monthly Publication



March 2021

## Notices

**VIRTUAL:**

**P-T Conferences:**

**March 4, 2021**

**3-8 PM**

**&**

**March 5, 2021**

**8-11 AM**

**End of the Quarter:  
March 25, 2021**

**Teacher Inservice:  
March 26, 2021-  
No School**

Find it on our website!

[www.alma.k12.wi.us](http://www.alma.k12.wi.us)

- Internet Resources
- College Information
- Parental Help
- Staff
- School Calendar
- Sports Schedules
- Family Access
- Area Pictures
- Academic Classes
- School Performance Report
- Rivermen Register (Monthly School Newsletter)

## **BUFFALO COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION SPEAKER & POSTER WINNERS**

### **CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!**

The following students in grades K-6 won the Buffalo County conservation poster contest:

K-1 division- Finleigh Kosik-1st, Shelby Reinhardt-2nd, Aubree Rolbiecki-3rd

2-3 division- Liam Kosik-1st, Addie Baker-2nd, Jemma Fernholz-3rd

4-6 division- Clare Jumbeck-1st, Nessa Noll-2nd, Alyssa Johnson-3rd

First place posters advanced to the WI Land + Water West Central Area Poster and Speaking Contest – held virtually via Google Meets at 10am on February 9th.



**K-1 Poster Winners**



**2-3 Poster Winners**



**4-6 Poster Winners**

Congratulations to the following sixth grade students for showing excellence in their written conservation speeches which were judged at the county level:

Alivia Elliott- 1st place

Anders Johansen- 2nd place

Bella Brouillard- 3rd place

Alivia's speech advanced to regional level competition.



**SPEECH WINNERS**

## Superintendent Rob Stewart

### Newsletter:

As I write this newsletter addition, it is hard to believe that we are already approaching the halfway point for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and parent teacher conferences are almost here. I hope that you are able to sign up for a timeslot to visit with some of our staff on March 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>. Although these conferences will be held virtually, they will provide an excellent opportunity for you to connect with our staff and discuss your child or children. In addition, this is a great time to share with our staff any information that can help us better support your child. If for some reason you are struggling to sign up, or you cannot make a designated time work on one of those two days, please do not hesitate to contact our offices or your child's teacher or teachers. We will help get you signed up or find an alternative time to meet and discuss things via zoom, phone, or email.



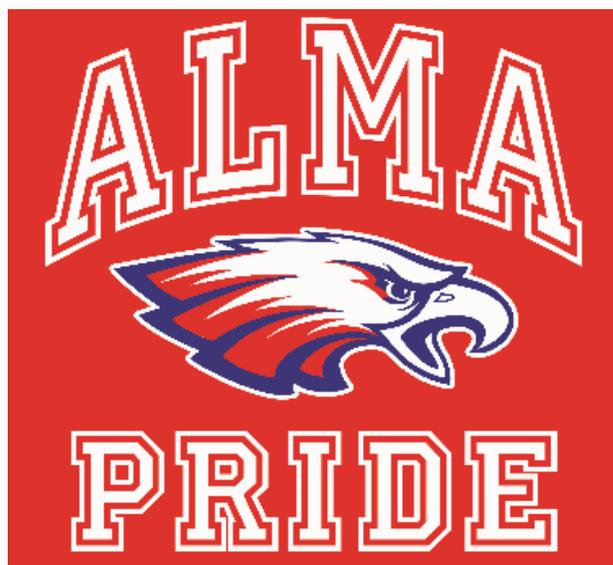
As for a little COVID update, our school numbers continue to be very promising. At the time of this writing, we have no staff out due to COVID protocols and we have only two students out in COVID protocol. We have zero positive cases at this point in time. Our students and staff have demonstrated a remarkable level of resiliency throughout this entire process. For over a year now, their educational lives have been flipped upside down. Together we have persevered! We have done our part, followed the necessary risk mitigating strategies, and most importantly done our absolute best to keep the educational journey heading in the right direction for all students, through multiple virtual experiences and by keeping our school doors open the entire time. In addition, we have been able to keep extra-curricular and co-curricular activities going, which is a vital component of the educational experience for all of our students. I could not be prouder of our students and staff.

Finally, on behalf of our entire staff, we simply want to say THANK YOU! Thank you for all of your continued support during these difficult times. We have certainly asked a lot from our students, our parents, and our communities while navigating this pandemic. All stakeholders have stepped up and done an absolute amazing job and together we have provided multiple avenues of success for our students.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Thanks and make it a great day!

~ GO EAGLES ~

Rob Stewart  
Superintendent of Alma Schools  
608-685-4416  
stewartr@alma.k12.wi.us



# ALMA AREA SCHOOLS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## ALMA BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES January 18, 2021

Board President, Dennis Hetrick, called the regular meeting of the Alma Board of Education to order at 5:02 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2021, in the school library.

No public comment was made.

Minutes from the December 14, 2020 regular and closed session meetings were presented and approved by consensus of the board.

Vouchers in the amount of \$322,636.24 for the district and \$13,560.64 for activities were presented and approved by consensus of the board.

Ms. Bremer gave the Elementary Principal Report. Ms. Bremer stated they are still working on teacher summary year evaluations. Ms. Bremer has been checking in with students that have been home because of COVID and are not engaged in learning. Ms. Bremer is reviewing STAR testing information. Ms. Bremer and Mr. Reed listened to a webinar on district preview reports. There will be changes to the school report card that has been used in the past by DPI. The district spelling bee will be held tomorrow. There will be no spectators, but we will send out a live stream link. Mr. Reed gave the MS/HS Principal Report. Mr. Reed stated the end of the semester is this Friday so he has been looking at grades and attendance. With the second semester coming Mr. Reed has also been working on schedule adjustments. Mr. Reed has also been reaching out to the on-line students to make sure they are doing well and if they have any needs.

Mr. Stewart asked the board if they had any questions on the audit report that was handed out at the December board meeting. A motion was made by Corey Hanson and seconded by Sarah Danzinger to approve the audit report from the 2019-20 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart presented the new hire of Amanda Hund for Paraprofessional aide. Ms. Hund will be working with a student attending Durand. A motion was made by Todd Myren and seconded by Corey Hanson to approve the hire of Amanda Hund for Paraprofessional aide. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart presented the Open Enrollment Designations for Regular Education Spaces and Special Education Spaces. Mr. Stewart recommended that we make the determination that the Alma School District does not intend to deny applicants due to space and the Alma School District will follow the guidelines outlined in our Open Enrollment Program Policy 5113 if space or programming availability issues arise. A motion was made by Sarah Danzinger and seconded by Doug Kane to approve the Open Enrollment Designations as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart presented the 2019-20 Annual Pupil Nondiscrimination and Educational Equity Report. This report is due in February every year. The Alma School made revisions with the adoption of Neola Board Policies, but we had no verbal or written complaints. A motion was made by Corey Hanson and seconded by Todd Myren to approve the 2019-20 Annual Pupil Nondiscrimination and Educational Equity Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart presented the Neola Policy Update Vol. 30, No. 1-December 2020. During the first week of January, Mr. Stewart met with Chris Patritto, our Neola representative and went through all of the policies in Updated Vol. 30, No.1-December 2020. Most of the changes were technical changes. All of the updates can be found by logging into your Neola account, going under drafts and looking at the Vol. 30, No. 1-December 2020 update. A motion was made by Corey Hanson and seconded by Sarah Danzinger to approve the Neola policy updates. The

motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart presented an HRA reimbursement plan for some of our staff members that would meet certain criteria with our change in insurance and meeting their deductibles from September 2020-December 2020, and then again from January 2021 to September 2021. A motion was made by Todd Myren and seconded by Doug Kane to approve the HRA reimbursement plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Stewart discussed COVID updates with the board. Mr. Stewart emailed out our current numbers earlier today. Staff will be included in the 1B vaccination group. There is not a date set yet to when this will be happening. Mr. Stewart reviewed with the board a COVID expense worksheet. The COVID relief package is still being analyzed. The initial allocations indicate the amount will be four times what was awarded under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. The Alma School received just over \$40,000 in the first round. Discussion held.

Mr. Stewart has started working on the 2021-22 master calendar. Mr. Stewart asked the board if they heard any feedback from students or parents. Sarah Danzinger stated she heard good things about the two week break at Christmas. Discussion held. Mr. Stewart will work on a couple of different options for the calendar and email options out to the board.

Donations were received from Marie Bentz toward P.I.E., Rivermen Club House, the music department, and for chromebooks. A donation was also received from Marie Marquart of a used laptop to give to a student in need.

The Policy Committee has not met since the last board meeting. No new meeting date has been set at this time.

The Buildings/Grounds and Transportation Committee has not met since the last board meeting. No new meeting date has been set at this time.

The Community Relations Committee has not met since the last board meeting. No new meeting date has been set at this time. Mr. Stewart would like to set something up after the first of the year.

The Personnel Committee has not met since the last board meeting. No new meeting date has been set at this time.

The closed session noted on the agenda was postponed until the February board meeting.

A motion was made by Todd Myren and seconded by Sarah Danzinger to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ approved 2/15/21 \_\_\_\_\_ Sarah Danzinger, Secretary

# ALMA HIGH SCHOOL & JR HIGH HONOR ROLL

## Alma High School & Jr. High Honor Roll

Alma Area Schools would like to congratulate the following students on their academic achievement for the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year which ended January 22, 2020. A designation of High Honors is awarded to those students who have achieved a Semester Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.66 or better on a 4.0 grading scale. A designation of Honors is awarded to those student who have achieved a Semester GPA of 3.333-3.665, and a designation of Honorable Mention is awarded to those student who have achieved a Semester GPA of 3.0 -3.332.

### High Honors

#### Seniors

Maxwell Benish  
Khloe Carothers  
Hailey Johnson  
Mason Johnson  
Zoe LaDuke  
Nick Loesel  
Jessica Meier  
Jordan Pearson  
Julia Rud  
Briana Smolek  
Joshua Sobotta  
Avery Wald  
Lane Wiczorek

#### Juniors

Lydia Alme  
Alexys Bauer  
Elijah Graner  
Ethan Graner  
Isaac Mikelson  
Riley Stiehl  
Olivia Wiczorek

#### Sophomores

Ryan Brevick  
Lauren Brunner  
Emma Myren  
Jacob Peterson  
Brooke Priefert  
Ryann Rieck

#### Freshman

Ashley Bartelt  
Zoey Danzinger  
Madox Stewart  
Keegan Stiehl

#### 8th Grade

Leah Green  
Kainen Heller  
Addison Johnson  
Devon Larson  
Allidah Luff  
Finley Noll  
Chloe Reed  
Mya Stewart

#### 7th Grade

Tori Creighton  
Tessa Danzinger  
Braiden Graner  
Elizabeth Graner  
Trenton Krzoska  
Kali Schalinske  
Nicole Walker

### Honors

#### Seniors

Maycee Kummer  
Nick Loesel  
Gabe Mann

#### Juniors

Morgan Goeldner  
Axel Noll  
Tyler Radatz  
Willem Smith  
Cody Tucker  
Caleb Walstrom

#### Sophomores

Gavin Barton  
Katrina Heller  
Scarlett Pawlak  
Alexa Ramey  
Karysa Schalinske

#### Freshman

Dakotah Gleiter  
Logan Krause  
Cainnin Mann  
Ashton Radatz

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Alexis Danzinger  
Clayton Kegel  
Ridge Lodermeier  
Aspyn Pawlak  
Madalyn Wick

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Maven Coey  
Cole McQuiston

### Honorable Mention

#### Seniors

Cayden Hanson

#### Juniors

Paige Danzinger  
Jacobie Radatz

#### Sophomores

Roclin Engstrand

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Kemper Armstrong  
Alyssa Danzinger  
Hailee McQuiston

#### 7th Grade

Asher Blank  
Christian Langhorst  
Liam Midtovne  
Bo Schams  
Gavin Weaver

# ACT INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Guardians-

The state of Wisconsin has adopted new state-wide testing. The ACT suite is now being used to test our students throughout the state.

This spring, ALL Juniors within the state will be required to complete the ACT plus Writing test on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. This test will ask questions in the areas of English, math, reading, science and writing. This test will be provided to the students at Alma High School at NO cost.

The ACT has historically been used in the Midwest as an admissions test to four year colleges and institutions and to some two-year technical schools. Due to COVID-19, many post-secondary institutions, including the four year campuses in the University of Wisconsin system, will NOT be requiring the students to provide their test results for an admission decision. However, many four year institutions may base scholarship awards on student's composite score, and many technical schools will use the ACT scores to place students in appropriate level courses and for admission to specific programs. Thus, it is advantageous that our students strive to do their best and perform well on the test.

There are many resources on-line at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to help students prepare for this test. Also, staff members in the content areas will be providing reviews for ALL Juniors.

If Juniors or Seniors, who have previously completed the ACT, choose to re-test after the March test, they must register on-line at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and test in a remote location.

Students who have received accommodations for testing in the past, as documented in an IEP or 504 Plan, will be granted accommodations acceptable to the State of WI and ACT.

Tuesday, March 23, will serve as make-up day for this assessment as EVERY Junior is mandated to complete these tests.

Please assist the Alma School District in preparing each student to be college or career ready.

Sincerely,

Jane Bremer  
District Assessment Coordinator

Lana Rieck  
School Assessment Coordinator

## **ACT plus Writing**

- Date – Tuesday, March 9, 2021
- ***ALL Juniors State-wide***
- ***NO Charge***
- College Admission/Scholarships
- Resources-
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.powerscore.com](http://www.powerscore.com)
- <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/act/practice-test>
- [www.uniontestprep.com](http://www.uniontestprep.com)

# PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE NOTICE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

One of the most important components of your child's elementary and secondary education is your participation in parent/student/teacher conferences. By meeting with your child's teachers, you are able to find out "first-hand" as to what your child is learning in the classroom and how well your child is learning what is expected of them. In addition to academic achievement, you have the opportunity to discuss social and citizenship issues, all of which build a foundation for future success. All conferences will be scheduled ahead of time and will be held virtually via zoom as they were in the fall. If the utilization of zoom does not work for you, just let our teacher(s) know and they will set up a conference via phone. Spring Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences, are scheduled for **Thursday, March 4, from 3:00 – 8:00 pm** and on **Friday, March 5, from 8:00 - 11:00 am**. **School will be released at the normal 2:30 PM time on Thursday, March 4 and there is no school for students on Friday, March 5.**

As mentioned above, all conferences will be scheduled in advance. Accompanying this letter is a document that contains a digital sign-up process called "Sign-Up Genius." Sign-Up Genius is an online platform that all of our teachers will be using to schedule conferences. As parents, we simply ask that you go to this document and click on the link(s) for the teachers you would like to conference with and select a time that works for you. Once you select an available timeslot, you will click submit and sign up at the bottom of the page and then you will be directed to add your child's name. The sign-up genius app will then automatically lock you into that time and allow teachers to see in real time who has signed up for what time slots. In addition, the sign-up genius app will send you a confirmation email of your scheduled conference(s).

All time slots will be 15 minutes in length and our teachers will keep conferences to about 12 minutes total to respect everyone's time. This will also help ensure that teachers can get to their next scheduled conference and parents/guardians with multiple children can get to their next scheduled conference on time. If you find that you need more time to discuss things with a specific teacher, please let that teacher know and they will schedule an additional conference with you. Also, if for some reason all of the available timeslots are taken for a particular teacher, just let us know and we will schedule additional times. To recap, please open the sign-up document and schedule your timeslots for each child and teachers(s) by the end of this week (Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>). If you are having any issues with this process, please do not hesitate to contact our offices and we can schedule times for you.

Once all of our conferences have been scheduled, we will then send out a second document that will have a zoom meeting link for every one of our teachers. We will wait to send this document out as our two conference dates (Mar. 4th & 5th) get closer. On the day of your conference, we ask that you bring up the link about 5 minutes before your conference start time. You will immediately be placed in an online waiting room and the teacher will admit you into the virtual conference when they are ready and have completely finished the conference prior. We certainly highly encourage students to attend their conferences as well.

Through these zoom meetings; all of our teachers will have the ability to admit only designated individuals and to remove previous participants to ensure that you are having a one-on-one confidential conference with the teacher. Again, we want to reiterate that if you are not comfortable using the zoom platform, we can certainly do a phone conference. All we ask is that you coordinate that phone conference with the teacher ahead of time.

Please note that we will be dismissing at our normal 2:30 PM time on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. The original master schedule that was approved last spring prior to COVID-19 had a 1:00 PM dismissal on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Again, conferences will be held on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-8:00 PM and Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-11:00 AM, and we will dismiss at our normal 2:30 PM time on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> and there will be NO SCHOOL on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to seeing you virtually for the Spring Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences. Please remember to sign up for your virtual conference time by Friday, February 19.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of our staff. Thanks for all of your support and make it a great day!

Sincerely,

Rob Stewart  
Superintendent

Jane Bremer  
Elementary Principal

# PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE NOTICE

## 2021 Virtual Spring Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

☐ Thursday, March 4th from 3:00 - 8:00 PM ☐ Friday, March 5th from 8:00 - 11:00 AM

### Find your Teachers:

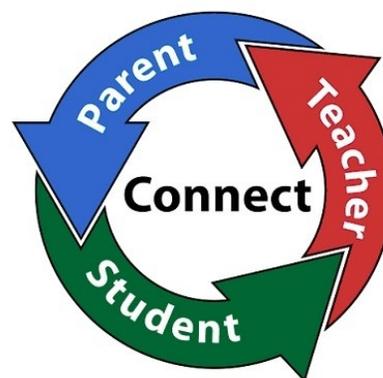
- ◆ Parents & Guardians ~ Simply click on the link(s) for the teachers you would like to conference with and select a time that works for you. Once you select an available time slot, you will click submit and sign up at the bottom of the page and then you will be directed to add your child's name. The sign-up genius app will then automatically lock you into that time and allow teachers to see in real time who has signed up for each 15 minute time slot. In addition, the sign-up genius app will send you a confirmation email of your scheduled conference(s).

### Due Date:

- Parents & Guardians ~ Please sign up for your conference time slots by Tuesday, February 23rd. This is the only step needed at this time. As our conference dates get closer, we will send out another email similar to this one that will have a zoom meeting link for each teacher. You will then use that link to access your conference times on Thursday, March 4th and/or Friday, March 5th.

### Questions:

- As always, please let us know if you have any questions. If you are having any difficulties signing up for conferences, just contact our offices. Thanks!



### Elementary Teachers:

Samantha Rolbiecki: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2EA6FEC61-rolbiecki1>

Kaydence Ruff: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE2EABFEC16-ruff1>

Kandi Steinke: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABA92EA3F5C07-steinke1>

Lynn Brecka: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAA92AA3FDCE9-brecka1>

Sydney Sylvester: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE28A4F8CF8-sylvester1>

Tim Ruff: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2CAAF9C34-ruff1>

Sherry Brevick: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAA2BAAFDC52-mrs>

Betty Glander: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAB2AA4FBC07-glander1>

Julie Goeldner: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAD2FA1FACE9-goeldner1>

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE NOTICE

### Junior High & High School Teachers:

Carolyn Grisen: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0448AAAF23A7F58-grisen1>

Loren Mueller: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2DA2F9C52-mueller1>

Keith Oie: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAD2EA2FEC34-oiemarch>

Isaac Mezera: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A4A62CAAFAC16-mezera1>

Bryan Kilian: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF22A5FDC43-kilian1>

Daren Edwards: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2CA0FBC43-edwards1>

Melissa Krzoska: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE2BA4FBC07-krzoska1>

### PreK-12 Special & Elective Teachers:

Lana Rieck: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2EA1FCCE9-rieck1>

Josh Reed: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE22A7FBC52-reed2>

Katie Dierauer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAD29A1F4C52-dierauer1>

Scott Noll: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054DA4AC29A2FB6-noll1>

Amanda Burrow: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE2BAAFAC52-burrow1>

Joan Draxler-Ruff: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAF2EA7FAC16-draxlerruff1>

Melissa Graff: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABAA29A4FECF8-graff1>

Andy Graff: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AAAE22A5FBC52-graff1>

# Wisconsin Forward Exam-Testing window open from March 22-May 14.

An online assessment for Wisconsin students in **grades 3-8 and grade 10**.



Wisconsin students in grades 3-8 and 10, will be participating in the Forward Exam during the March 22-May 14 testing window. State assessments, including the Forward Exam, are required by both State (Wis. Stat 118.30) and Federal ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) Law. Participation in State assessments can help determine the impact the pandemic has had on academic achievement and equity.

In-person assessment is the only viable method for these state assessments. The company who produces the test has no remote (virtual) testing option available. **All students in grades 3-8 and 10 will need to take this exam at school during the scheduled times.** The district will take every precaution to ensure a safe testing environment. We are following procedures recommended by the CDC and DHS including social distancing, flexible schedules, and frequent sanitization of student spaces and equipment. Live stream students will test in a different classroom than their peers. **Families will be notified by the middle of March of the classroom testing schedules and information will also be sent home with students.**

The Forward Exam tests students in the areas of English language arts, (ELA), mathematics in grades 3-8, and science in grades 4 and 8, and social studies in grades 4, 8, and 10. One or more subtests may be administered daily during our selected time frame. Please make sure students are healthy before sending them to school. Keep students home who are ill or have been exposed to COVID-19. Students not in school on testing days will be scheduled for a make-up test prior to the close of the testing window.

More information about this exam can be found in the brochure that was printed in the school newsletter and/or sent home with your child. The Forward Exam measures the knowledge and skill students should have for their grade level. Their performance on the assessment will not affect their grades. Please encourage students to take the test seriously and do the best they can. The results of these tests will be used to help school staff make determinations regarding curriculum and services to best support students.

If you have any questions about this online test, do not hesitate to contact Jane Bremer-District Assessment Coordinator or Lana Rieck-School Assessment Coordinator-Grades 7-10.

# GRADES 3-8 & GRADES 10 WI FORWARD EXAM NEWS

## Wisconsin Forward Exam: Information for Families 2020-21

### When does the Forward Exam take place?

The Forward Exam will be given in schools between **March 22 and May 14, 2021**. Schools are permitted to select their own testing dates within this window.

### What type of scores will be provided?

The Forward Exam is a summative assessment that provides information about what students know and can do in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. Students receive a score based on their performance in each content area. Each score will fall in one of four levels:

- **Advanced** – Student demonstrates **thorough** understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Proficient** – Student demonstrates **adequate** understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Basic** – Student demonstrates **partial** understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Below Basic** – Student demonstrates **minimal** understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.

Where can I find sample or practice test questions?

### What is the Wisconsin Forward Exam?

The Wisconsin Forward Exam is designed to gauge how well students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready. The Forward Exam is administered online in the spring of each school year at:

- ◆ grades 3-8 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics,

- ◆ grades 4 and 8 in science and,
- ◆ grades 4, 8, and 10 in social studies.

### The Forward Exam includes several question types:

#### • Multiple-Choice (MC)

Question that has four answer choices, including three distractors and one correct answer.

#### • Enhanced Selected Response (ESR)

Question which may contain combinations of MC, short-answer, and technology enhanced.

#### • Evidence-Based Selected Response (EBSR)

Question which has two parts. The student answers Part A, then provides evidence in Part B to support answer in Part A.

#### • Technology-Enhanced (TE)

TE questions allow for a more engaging, interactive assessment. A wide variety of TE questions are present on the Forward Exam including:

- Clock Input
- Angle Draw
- Short Input
- Bar Graph
- Number Line
- ◆ Coordinate Graph
- ◆ Line Plot
- ◆ List
- ◆ Drag and Drop
- ◆ Drop-Down List
- ◆ Pictograph using Drag and Paste
- ◆ Circle Graph
- ◆ Matching
- ◆ Highlighting Text

Accommodations and supports for students with disabilities and/or English learners are built into the system so that the progress of students can be accurately measured.

### What does this mean for my child?

The Forward Exam is a summative assessment that gauges your child's achievement in the content areas tested compared to other students in the state. Along with local measures such as report cards, school-wide assessments, and other information about your child's pro-

gress in school, the results from the Forward Exam provide insight into how well your child is doing on a broad measure of achievement.

### What are the test times?

The estimated time for test administration in each grade is approximately:

- 70 minutes for ELA, • 80-105 minutes for mathematics, • 90 minutes for science, and • 70 minutes for social studies.
- These are estimated times, for the purpose of scheduling, as the Forward Exam is not a timed test.

### An Online Tools Training (OTT) and practice items are available for students at:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/sample-items>.

The OTT gives students the opportunity to practice using the tools available on the Forward Exam, as well as allow them to familiarize themselves with the testing platform. The Item Samplers include a sample of the type of content and items students will encounter on the exam. The OTT and Item Samplers are not scored, and do not cover the full range of content on the exam. These are intended to provide examples of items and give students practice taking an online test.

For more information contact the Office of Educational Accountability at:

[osamail@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:osamail@dpi.wi.gov)

[dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward](http://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward)

**August 2020** : The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

## JUNIOR HIGH BAND SOLO FESTIVAL & DONATIONS

### Junior High Band Solo Festival

Every year in January the Alma Junior High Band students participate in the solo and ensemble festival at Whitehall. Due to the restrictions this year, the festival in Whitehall was cancelled. However, that did not stop the Alma Band students. Every student in grades 7 & 8 learned a new solo for our “in school” festival that was held on February 2 & 3. Lou Ann Ruff, retired music educator for Alma and Pepin, was our clinician and spent time with the students praising them for their talents and efforts and offering encouraging advice to them on how to keep improving on their instrument. She did a fabulous job with the students and I know they all felt good about their performance.

If the student could not perform for Mrs. Ruff on their scheduled day, they performed for Mrs. Draxler-Ruff the following week.

*Congratulations to everyone on an outstanding job!*



# THANK YOU

- ◆ The Dan Meier Family—for winter gear
- ◆ The Klevgard Family—for winter gear
- ◆ Ye Old School House—for winter gear
- ◆ Alma PIE— Treating the Alma Staff to lunch from Nelson Cheese Factory
- ◆ The Schalinske Family— for winter gear
- ◆ Cheryl & Dennis Youngbauer— School Donation
- ◆ Alma Area School Staff — For your dedication to our school/ students

# RIGHT START & CHILD DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

## Right Start For children 0-4 years of age

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to meet in person, at school right now for the Right Start program. However, I still want to extend an invitation for Moms, Dads, Grandparents, and children 0-4 years of age to register for Right Start fun through monthly theme packets that can be picked up or mailed to you from school.

The purpose of Right Start is to provide activities that enhance early childhood brain development through play, crafts, games, music, and reading. Each month, activities will be planned around a specific theme. Families who register for the packet will receive a "My Big World" Scholastic magazine, a free book, and activities to do with your child at home.

If COVID-19 ever starts to diminish, we would try and meet at school once again. For now, activities will be offered off-site for our Right Start families to complete in the comfort of their own home.

The following themes are planned for this school year. Please let me know if you would like to register your child for this experience.

### 2020-2021 RIGHT START THEMES

MONTH/PACKET READY DATE	THEME
March- Packet ready by March 16th	Changing Weather and Baby Animals
April- Packet ready by April 19th	Plants, Caterpillars and Butterflies
May- Plans to be determined	Summer Safety and Fish

To register your family for this offering please contact Jane Bremer-Elementary Principal at [bremerj@alma.k12.wi.us](mailto:bremerj@alma.k12.wi.us) or call me at 608-685-4417/306. I am looking forward to working with all of you and meeting our newest and youngest children of our school family.



### CHILD DEVELOPMENT DAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Annually, the School District of Alma hosts a Child Development Day screening for children who will be 4 years of age by September 1, 2021. This developmental screening is also open to any three-year old child whose parent is interested in having them screened. The goals of Child Development Day are:

1. To find children in need of further assessment for possible special services
2. To promote community awareness of resources and information available in education, childcare, health, and family support services.
3. To provide education regarding normal child growth and development.

Due to COVID-19, this screening will be held in April or May this year- time to be determined. Please watch for more information about this day in future newsletters and mailings. If you are new to the district or if your child will be four years of age by September 1, 2021 and you do not receive any information, please contact Jane Bremer at Alma Schools-608-685-4417 or [bremerj@alma.k12.wi.us](mailto:bremerj@alma.k12.wi.us). If you have any questions about your child's development at any time, contact Jane Bremer, Elementary Principal or Rob Stewart, Superintendent at the School District of Alma.

# MARCH 2021

## MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1. Breakfast: Muffin, banana, juice Lunch: California Chicken Sandwich, baked beans, & peaches	2. Breakfast: Bagel with peanut butter, applesauce Lunch: Soft shell tacos, fixings, corn, fruit cocktail	3. Breakfast: French toast sticks, sausage, orange slices Lunch: Italian pasta bake, peas, pears	4. Breakfast: Scone, banana, juice Lunch: Tater tot hot-dish, green beans, apple crisp	5. NO SCHOOL *Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences 8-11 AM
8. Breakfast: Muffin, banana, juice Lunch: Eagle burger, french fries, baked beans, applesauce	9. Breakfast: Donuts, juice, applesauce Lunch: Nacho Supreme, fixings, peaches	10. Breakfast: Pancake stick, apple, juice Lunch: Spaghetti, garlic toast, broccoli, mandarin oranges	11. Breakfast: Hot pocket, with English muffin, banana Lunch: Roast pork, mashed potato, corn, pineapple	12. Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, banana, juice Lunch: Fish sandwich, j-o's, peas
15. Breakfast: Muffin, banana, juice Lunch: BBQ pork sandwich, coleslaw, baked beans, peaches	16. Breakfast: Grab & go, clementine's Lunch: Taco, fixings, pineapple	17. Breakfast: Breakfast sandwich, orange slices Lunch: Chicken alfredo, breadstick, broccoli, strawberries	18. Breakfast: Pop tart, banana, juice Lunch: Cheesy broccoli soup, baked apples	19. Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, apple, juice Lunch: Cheese pizza, veggies and dip, fresh fruit
22. Breakfast: Muffin, banana, juice Lunch: Pancakes, sausage, applesauce	23. Breakfast: Bagel with cream cheese, juice Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, baked beans, applesauce	24. Breakfast: French toast, orange slices, juice Lunch: Pizza hot-dish, green beans, pears	25. Breakfast: Scone, apple, juice Lunch: Bacon cheese-burger, french fries, baked beans, mandarin oranges	26. No School In-Service
29. Breakfast: Muffin, banana, juice Lunch: Grill cheese, tomato soup, veggies and dip, applesauce	30. Breakfast: Donut, banana, juice Lunch: Walking taco, fixings, pears	31. Breakfast: Yogurt parfait, with fruit, juice Lunch: Chicken strips, j-o's, peaches		

\*\*\*Offered Daily-Breakfast: Choice of Cereal, WG Toast, Fresh Fruit/ Juice\*\*\*

\*\*\* Daily-Lunch: Single Serve Salad \*\*\*

\*\*\*Offered Daily-Milk: FF White, 1% White, FF Chocolate\*\*\*

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."



**ALMA AREA SCHOOL**



**"Home of the Rivermen"**

S1618 State Rd 35, Alma WI 54610

*We're on the web!*

*[www.alma.k12.wi.us](http://www.alma.k12.wi.us)*

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