



Superintendent Information Letter



December 9, 2021
Stacey Criner, Superintendent

Dear Panther Parents,

Our hearts go out to the families of Oxford Community Schools as they endure the pain of such tragedy. In the aftermath of the shooting, Alma Public Schools shared several letters containing important information. If you have not already read them, please do so. I have attached all three as links and outlined a few key points for quick reference. I encourage you to email me your questions scriner@almaschools.net.

Key points from each letter;

[Letter from Tim Throne](#), Superintendent of Oxford Community Schools

- The district's emergency protocols and procedures were followed
- An initial review by an independent security consultant shows appropriate and efficient responses
- Detailed facts from the school's perspective preceding the events are stated

[GI-RES](#), Superintendents of Gratiot-Isabella County Public Schools

- Strong partnerships and collaboration across the two counties
- Call for action, know the warning signs
- Parent resource from The National Association of School Psychologists; [Talking to Children about Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#).

[Alma Public Schools School Safety Letter](#), Alma Administration & Alma Police Department

- ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) protocols
- Alma Police Department partnership including a Community Liaison Officer
- False threats are a crime with serious consequences

Musical Events



If you missed the Choir Concert, there is still time to plan on attending the band concerts. Mark your calendar

High School Band Concert

Wednesday, Dec. 15th, 7:00 p.m.

Middle School Band Concert

Thursday, Dec. 16th

6th Grade 6:30 p.m. & 7th-8th Grade 7:15 p.m.



Alma Public Schools App

Please make sure you have downloaded the Alma Public School App from the Apple Store or Google. It is the best way to see our Panther Pride.

Communication Icons

There are times in which parents need information directly from the school related to a topic that could create widespread inaccurate information. In our attempt to remain transparent, we will use the following two icons consistently from this point forward. They have two very different meanings. The blue triangle is not critical but informative. The orange EMERGENCY means you need to read carefully and immediately. These icons will be used on our app, emails, and soon-to-be-released new website.



APS Alert

Alert is used when something has occurred and needs to be shared but **IS NOT** an active concern/crisis.



Alma Public Schools

EMERGENCY is used when we have an active crisis and information needs to go out during the crisis to inform parents.

Remote Instruction

As referenced several times in previous communications, APS is not offering a virtual option this year. Remote instruction has occurred at times as a mitigation strategy response to outbreaks. When we are in a remote instruction period, students **MUST** attend all scheduled classes. Students are still responsible for completing work as usual. Staff members are “on” and available according to their regular school schedule. Instruction is simply occurring over a digital format in contrast to face-to-face. Please think about your needs if remote instruction became a reality and contact your building principals with questions.

Vaccinations

Keep in mind that winter break might be the perfect time to get vaccinated. We have many local vaccination locations. Schedule in advance as the slots are filling quickly. <https://www.vaccines.gov/>

Happy Holidays!

How can it possibly be December already? It feels like yesterday that I accepted this position, moved my family, and started a new life as Superintendent of Alma Public Schools. I have had the privilege of meeting so many wonderful community members, Panther parents, and students. My relationship with the administration has developed into a strong high functioning team. We have made difficult decisions and navigated a world still quite unsettled. Students have connected with amazing teachers and expanded their skills and content knowledge through our 1:1 Chromebook initiative, Panther Math Period, social-emotional Second Steps' lessons and so much more. My focus for the second half of the year includes the development of leadership teams, community input forums, establishing future school improvement plans as well as improving the overall Panther experience. As always, please contact me at anytime sciner@almaschools.net. I wish you all a happy holiday season.

Stay Safe,
Stacey Criner

