



# ALLIANCE CITY SCHOOLS

VOLUME 5: ISSUE 2 • JUNE 2018

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## Superintendent's Message



I hope as you're reading this edition of our newsletter you are enjoying or planning to enjoy the great weather that comes with summer in Northeast Ohio. Each year, as we enter the month of June, we take time to reflectively pause on the year that was. This process is used to recognize success as well as to identify opportunities for growth. The 2017/2018 school year has proven to be better than most.

### 2018 in Review

Congratulations to 199 graduates of the class of 2018 who received more than \$2 million in scholarships for both academics and athletics. I would like to wish them the best of luck as they transition into the next phase of their lives. Based on the positive impact they have collectively had on Alliance High School, I feel confident that their futures will be bright.

Alliance Middle School has received national recognition for its involvement in MakerMinded, a STEM initiative designed to expose middle school students to the concept of Advanced Manufacturing. In the inaugural year of this STEM-based competition, AMS placed in the top three in the state. The AMS boys and girls track teams had a record-breaking season, which led to 17 students qualifying for the state meet and a state championship for the boys' team. Our middle school arts programs also continue to excel with over half of each grade level enrolling in band, orchestra, and choir.

Our district Positive Behavior Support Initiative (PBIS) has taken off in all buildings, especially at the elementary level with a large number of students reaching the highest level of Top Gun or Ace. Students have been focused on demonstrating the appropriate behaviors in classrooms and all areas. This, combined with our teachers' efforts to solicit students' voice on their level of engagement, has led to an overall decrease in student discipline referrals.

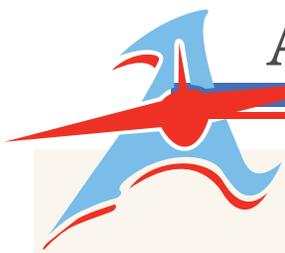
I am also proud of the community partnerships we have been

able to build with local organizations and businesses. These partnerships include mentors meeting with students for lunch, full tuition scholarships to Stark State and the University of Mount Union, jobs with a local businesses, community members reading to students, businesses providing incentive rewards for students who demonstrate positive growths in behavior and performance, and our newest collaboration at the Alliance Community Center. Without these strong partnerships, it would be nearly impossible for our district to meet our goal of preparing all students for life, college and careers.

In closing, I would like to thank our community for the passage of our recent tax levy renewal. As always, we will continue to use the funds entrusted to us in a fiscally responsible manner.

*Have a safe and enjoyable summer.*

Jeffery Talbert  
Superintendent



# THANK YOU!

*Thank you to the Alliance Community for passing the 7.7 mill operating levy renewal on May 8. Ten years ago, the levy was passed as an emergency levy to keep the district running. Now it is a fund the district relies on for everyday operations. By passing this levy, the district will continue to be able to provide the services essential to educating our students in a way that best prepares them for college, life and a career.*

*“We want to thank the community for their support of this essential levy for the school district,” said Superintendent Jeffery Talbert. “We will continue to spend these funds with fiscal responsibility.”*

## Congratulations to Alliance City Schools’ Teacher and Rookie of the Year!

### Teacher of the Year:



Lucinda Owens teaches Language Arts, social studies, life skills and pre-vocational skills to multiple disabilities students. She has been with ACS for 32 years! Principal Shawn Jackson nominated Lucinda and sums up her involvement in the school: “Lucinda

holds high expectations (behaviorally and academically) for her students because she wants to prepare them for life outside of school. She cares very deeply for her kids and puts in a lot of hours outside of the school day making sure they get opportunities to grow in her classroom, the school, and in the community. Her work is admired and respected by the entire staff at AHS!”

### Rookie of the Year:



Chelsea Minnich is in her second year teaching at Parkway. She is a third-grade teacher and is often in the spotlight for her special projects and lessons she initiates with her students. Her principal, Cory Muller, said “Chelsea is the definition of what it means

to be a team player. She is willing to do anything for her students and for the staff at Parkway. In just her second year, she has molded into a leader in the building in the way that she carries herself. She also has taken on the responsibility of getting her master’s degree, running the Navigators program, and teaching all at the same time. She has a great sense of humor and relates to her students extremely well!”

## Career Tech Students Sign with Future Employers

This May, six Career Tech students from Alliance High School signed commitment letters of employment at the school's hosted signing events. Upon graduation, the students will start their careers in their fields of study with their intended employers.

Alex Kurpil, Korryn Jackson, Cole George and Marvin Napier were among four of the six student signees that accepted positions with MAC Trailer, a successful manufacturing company.

Alex Kurpil will become a member of the MAC welding department, where he will assist with building trailers. He is a current member of the Ohio Army National Guard and hopes to later pursue a career as an underwater welder.

Korryn Jackson is the recipient of an AllianceWorks scholarship, which will pay for her tuition to continue her education at Stark State College. At MAC Trailer, Korryn will assist with building trailers.

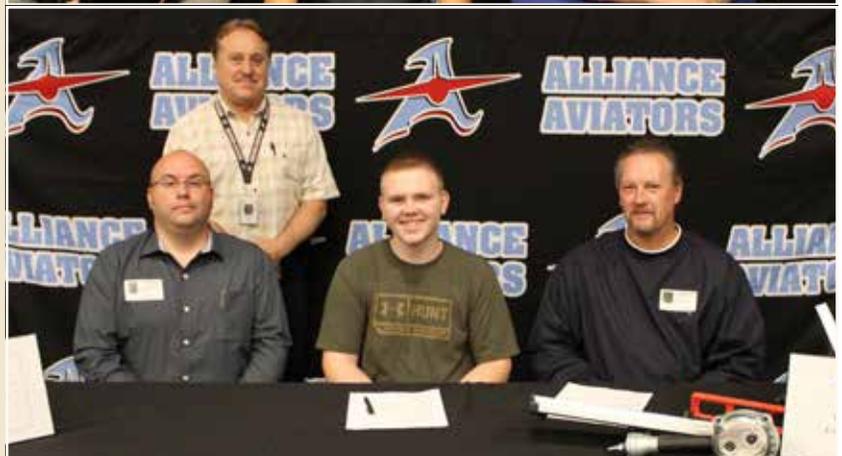
Cole George has been a previous employee of MAC Trailer and earned April 2018 employee of the month. He will continue his work welding and fabricating at MAC and hopes to achieve higher certifications.

Ohio National Guard member, Marvin Napier, hopes to stay employed at MAC Trailer for as long as possible, where he will work framing. He also plans to attend Stark State College to study welding and is currently focusing on completing his Associate Degree in Information Technology this summer.

Anthony Windle, an Auto Technology student, signed his continued commitment of employment with Spitzer Ford located in Hartsville. Anthony will continue his work as a technician and will soon become Ford Certified.

Residential Construction student, Kalob Wilson, signed a commitment of employment with Keller Construction. Kalob was the Construction Trades Student of the Year both his junior and senior years. He hopes to one day work his way up in the construction field and build his own house.

Much like the students who sign to colleges to participate in athletics after high school, Career Tech signing events will be a new tradition at the high school to celebrate students who receive jobs in their chosen field upon graduation.





## Class of 2018 Receives More Than \$2.3 million in Scholarships and Awards

The Alliance High School class of 2018 broke school records on May 7 as they received more than \$2.3 million in awards and scholarships at the Senior Awards Night.

More than \$105,000 of the awards were from the Alliance High School Foundation.

Several of the scholarships were full-tuition scholarships including the Elvin Wilson/Duke University Scholarship awarded to Brendan McGeehan and The Investment Alliance Scholarship (University of Mount Union) awarded to nine students, Kiara Bennett, Natalie Bert, Mara Cvelbar, Madalyn Waggoner, Madison Gasparik, Cortaise Rogers, Alexis Kelley, Alexis Orzo and Andrew McMillen. The AllianceWorks Scholarship also was awarded to five seniors and pays for all tuition to Stark State College. Those recipients include Korryn Jackson, Morgan Davis, Tyler Phillips, Carolyn Garrison and Jazmine Johnson.

More than 81 organizations were represented with 56 students receiving awards or scholarships. Many received multiple awards and scholarships.

**Congratulations to the class of 2018!**



## Academics:

- 18 students had a 4.0 or higher GPA and 58 students had a GPA of 3.5 or higher
- 56 students were inducted into the National Honor Society, which was a school record
- Career-Tech Auto-Tech and Sports Medicine programs had 100% passage rates on certification tests.
- Academic Challenge won the regional competition at the university of Mount Union back to back years.

## Athletics:

- The varsity football team were the NBC Champions and State Playoff Qualifiers. Duce Johnson was named the NBC and Stark County Player of the Year, played for the 1st Team All-Ohio, and set a county record.
- Howard Frazier was named NEO National Football Foundation Scholar athlete award.
- Dylan Bailey received NBC Runner of the Year and advanced to the Regionals.
- The wrestling team received second place in the NBC, with several seniors competing at the state level.
- Competition Cheer Squad placed third at State, which was the best finish ever with seniors Olivia Hart and Nyla Stewart
- The boys swim team were NBC Champions
- The tennis team had a 17-4 season

## Arts:

- The Orchestra and Band earned excellent ratings at the State OMEA events.
- Jetsetters were champions of the Ada Music Fest and Char'Metria Threats was named Outstanding Performer

## Military:

- Caleb Monk, Marvin Napier, Noah Gehret, Caleb Huff, and Alex Kurpil finished basic training before senior year
- Seven other students already enlisted in the military: Julian Heards, Nathan Apodaca, Ellarose Lashley, Lena DeLeon, Ralene Valdez-Torres, Victor Barnes, and Shawn Grubb

# Athletic Signings

The following students signed letters of intent to participate in athletics at a college or university.



Mackenzie Kohl - Muskingum University to play softball.  
 Caleb Wade - Walsh University to play soccer.  
 Jack Recchiuti - Bowdoin College in Maine to play football.  
 Howard Frazier - John Carroll University to play football.  
 Sam Denny - the University of Mount Union to play football and tennis.  
 Mallory McCreedy - the University of Mount Union to play soccer.  
 Tyler Williams - Lackawana College in Scranton, PA, to play football.  
 Duce Johnson - University of Findlay to play football.  
 Madi Gasparik - the University of Mount Union to play golf.



Dylan Bailey - University of Mount Union to run on the track and cross country teams.  
 Anthony Young - the University of Mount Union to play football.  
 Marcus Davis - Walsh University to play football.  
 Abby Moore - Walsh University as a member of the bowling team.  
 Skyler Curry - Mercyhurst North East as a member of the wrestling team.  
 Alex Leasure - Ashland University as a member of the wrestling team.



Phillip Romeo - Fairleigh Dickinson University to play Division 1 baseball.

# Academic Recognition Banquet Features Speakers Allison And Amanda Lansell

The 18 students that make up the top 10 percent of the graduating class of 2018 were honored, along with their honored educator of choice and their parents, at the annual Academic Recognition Banquet.

The purpose of the Academic Recognition Day is to publicly honor the academic top 10 percent of Alliance's graduating senior class, their parents/guardians, and the educators who the students feel have most influenced their lives. The dinners have been an annual tradition for 31 years.

This year's featured speakers were Allison and Amanda Lansell. The twins graduated from the Alliance High School class of 2005 and are now a lawyer and doctor, respectively.

Each student at the dinner re-

ceived a \$200 scholarship check from the Alliance High School Foundation. Howard Frazier also received a \$500 scholarship from the John and Roene Klusch Foundation for earning the top ACT score in the group.

The event is sponsored each year by the John and Roene Klusch Foundation.

John and Roene Klusch were lifelong residents of Alliance Ohio and members of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Alliance. John was the founder of East Ohio Machinery Company, which still operates in Alliance. The couple established the Foundation to support Alliance and Marshallville, Ohio, where Roene was raised. In addition to the Foundation, the Klusch's were strong supporters of the Alliance High School Scholarship Fund.

## Top 10%

*Kiara Bennett*

*Natalie Bert*

*Mara Cvelbar*

*Zaviona Fountain*

*Howard Frazier*

*Madison Gasparik*

*Phoebe Jackson*

*Alix Kelley*

*Joseph Marazza*

*Brendan McGeehen*

*Andrew McMillen*

*Abby Moore*

*Maggie Novak*

*Lexi Orzo*

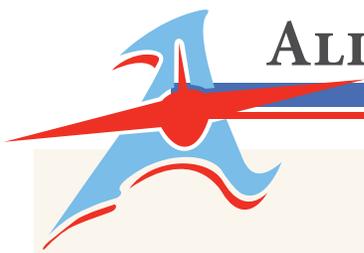
*Cortaise Rogers*

*Maria Sams*

*Erika Shi*

*Maddie Waggoner*





## Staff Spotlight

### Athletic Department

The Athletic Department, which serves between 700 and 800 students per year, is the largest extra-curricular department in the district.

The two-person administration team, Kelci Yeager and Mike Schott, are new to working together. Mike, the athletic director, has been with the district since 2009, but Kelci is new this year as the athletic secretary.

The philosophy of the department is to provide all student athletes with the most positive experience possible during their years at Alliance City Schools.

"If we do our jobs, they can take these characteristics they develop in athletics to be successful in their lives," Schott said.

ACS offers 22 varsity sports programs and 14 middle school sports programs. With that much going on, it is crucial that the department constantly communicates with parents and the public about what's happening.

That's where Kelci comes in. She has developed and improved the Athletic Department's social media and website presence so that parents and students can easily find what they need when they need it.

The Athletic Department's teamwork helps to make ACS the best place it can be for students!



## Team Spotlight

### Sherry Watson

Sherry Watson has been a teacher's aide since 2005 at Alliance City Schools. After wanting to be a teacher all her life, she took the opportunity to volunteer at the schools when her son was in preschool. The next year she became a teacher's aide and has been working the job ever since. She has had the same students since she started and is certified as an aide for children on the Autism spectrum.

Through the years working with the same students, she said she "feels like they have become family." Sherry is an added link of support between the parents and teachers that help these students to succeed.

Thank you, Sherry, for your love and passion for ACS students!

## Teacher Spotlight

### Jason Dotson



Jason Dotson is an inspiration to his students, something he wasn't fortunate to have as a student with special needs himself. Dotson is an Intervention Specialist at Parkway Elementary in the Flight Program for students with special needs.

He said he knows first-hand the power of an ineffective teacher and he wanted to become a more effective teacher than what he had growing up. His favorite part about teaching is the "unconditional love" offered by his students.

Dotson believes in teaching in a way that considers the student as a whole, not just their academics.

"If they aren't happy, they won't be able to be the courageous risk takers we want to help them turn into," he said.

Thank you for all you do, Jason. Alliance City Schools is a better place because of you!

## 2018 Alliance City Schools' Retirees

The following individuals retired from the Alliance City Schools at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Each one of them has brought so much to our district and the students we serve. Thank you for your years of service and congratulations on your retirement!

### Barbara Mudrak

High School Language Arts teacher and Advisor of the Red and Blue, the student newspaper.

### Andrea Offenbecher

Elementary Teacher at Rockhill Elementary School.



# Alliance Career Center Graduation

The Alliance Career Center graduated 28 students on Thursday, May 16, into four different fields: cosmetology, welding, diversified health technology and medical assisting.

The commencement speech was given by Dennis Postiy, corporate vice president of MAC Trailer. MAC Trailer is headquartered in Alliance and has locations in Ohio, Oklahoma and Montana and employs more than 1,100.

Postiy encouraged the students that their careers will be what they make of them.

“It is up to you where that career goes. How hard you work will determine your success,” he said.

He urged students to always work on their professionalism, to put in volunteer effort at their job and to celebrate the good things when they happen.

“In closing, find what works for you and work your tail off,” he said.

Debbie McKee, coordinator of special programs at the Career Center, Rob Gress, director, Robin McHenry, office manager and the Career Center instructors issued each graduate a Career Passport.

The center is now enrolling for full-time fall classes. Information on those classes can be found at [www.acctw.org](http://www.acctw.org) or by calling 330-829-2267.



## 2018 Graduates include:

### Cosmetology program:

Abigail Aberegg, Brittany Bryant, Aphdin Cadile, Zachary Carli, Kassie Chestnut, Angelica Cuevas

### Welding program:

Tyler Drummond, Joseph Fast,

Seth Hamby, Brandon Riggs, Dustin Stine, Xavier Terrell, Mason Thomas, Alante Thornton

### Diversified Health Technology program:

Chantel Fox, Alicia Lab, Fay Long, Kelli Skelding, Jennifer Taylor, Misty Yoho

### Medical Assisting program:

Misty Hamblen, Tracina Hancock-Moore, Megan McIlvain, Ladina Hancock, Valerie Nicholson, Lyndsey Thomas, Jessica Leonard, Samantha Poteet,

## Download the Official Alliance City School's Mobile App!

The app is free to download in the Apple App Store and the Google Play store; to find it, search for 'Alliance City Schools.'

The app gives users the ability to access a feed of important district news and information, breakfast and lunch menus and information about athletics, such as game score updates and schedules. Users can also report bullying incidents, which administrators can review and address appropriately.

Download the app today to have all district information at your fingertips!





## 2018-2019 Start and End Times

Building	Student Drop Off Time	Student Start Time	Student End Time
Alliance High School (AHS)	Breakfast - 7:20 a.m. Lobby Open - 7:33 a.m.	7:48 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Alliance Middle School (AMS)	7:05 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	2:20 p.m.
Northside Intermediate School (NIS)	7:50 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
Parkway Elementary (PKW)	8:25 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:20 p.m.
Rockhill Elementary (RH)	8:25 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:20 p.m.
Alliance Early Learning School (AELS) - Kindergarten	9:05 a.m.	9:05 a.m.	3:45 p.m.
Alliance Early Learning School (AELS) - Morning Pre-School	9:05 a.m.	9:05 a.m.	11:50 a.m.
Alliance Early Learning School (AELS) - Afternoon Pre-School	1:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	3:45 p.m.
Neighborhood Center Success Academy	Gr 4-12 8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
Neighborhood Center Alliance Altitude Academy	Student Breakfast - 9:15 a.m.	See student schedule	See student schedule

## Alliance Career Center Introduces Pipe Welding Course

100 hours

Evening: Starting June 11, 2018 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. M-TH

May 20, 2019 4 p.m.-9 p.m. M-TH

July 8, 2019 4 p.m.-9 p.m. M-TH

Admission prerequisite: High school diploma/GED, entrance exam. The student entering the program should have background knowledge or experience in shop math, blueprint reading, metalworking/technology, general shop safety skills, basic knowledge of welding and proficient in basic MIG and TIG welding. The pipe welding program will teach the fundamentals of pipe welding, the most common way

of permanently joining metal parts. The student will receive training in basic concepts of open-root SMAW of pipe and how to prepare for welding, identify and describe the four pipe welding positions and acceptable weld profiles, SMAW techniques for root and fill passes on pipe, how to prepare the area, materials and equipment for SMAW of pipe, and identify common welding safety practices. Students will be required to purchase safety glasses, gloves and steel-toed boots. This program includes OSHA 10 Certification.

For more information or to register, visit [www.acctrw.org](http://www.acctrw.org) or call 330.829.2261.

