



ALLIANCE CITY SCHOOLS

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Superintendent's Message



Dear Aviators,

The 2018-2019 academic year is passing in the blink of an eye; however, this school year is going to be one for the books. The successes we have had in academics, athletics and arts have been phenomenal this year. There is so much to be proud of so far this year and even more to come before the school year's end!

Recently, the district had three buildings recognized for their strong academics. At the beginning of the school year, Alliance High School was named a Bronze High School by U.S. News & World Report. Rockhill was recognized as a "High Progress School of Honor for 2018" by the Ohio Department of Education leading to a visit from the State Superintendent, Paolo DeMaria. Shortly after this recognition, Alliance Early Learning School received all A's on their state report card.

At Alliance Middle School, Jordan Schwartz won his third and final Geography Bee along with winning back-to-back Spelling Bees. The Alliance High School Academic Challenge team competed on the show "Academic Challenge" and defeated their two opposing teams. It's always amazing to see our students striving for academic success and succeeding.

The athletics have been strong this year with the varsity football team, varsity boys basketball team and the Boys' Bowling team winning EBC Championships. The AHS competition cheer squad went to state and continues to have an outstanding season. On the Boys' Swim Team, Will Rose, Tommy Gress, Ryan McKnight, Patrick Burse and Michael Shields made it to the state meet where Will earned two State Championships. These accomplishments are incredible, and I am proud of each and every athletic team we have in the district.

The arts have had their successes throughout the year, as well. The inaugural Royal Aviation Show Choir Competition took place in January. The amount of time it took and the dedication from the students, staff and volunteers to make this competition happen is astounding.

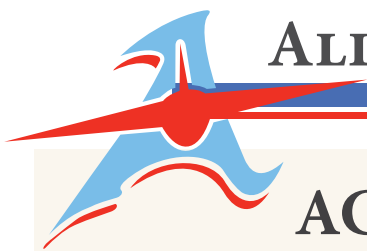
Jenna Heslop and Rylan Thomas from Alliance Middle School had their artwork chosen to be displayed at the 39th Annual Young People's Art Exhibition.

Here at Alliance, we encourage the students to grow in all three areas- academics, athletics and in the arts. Growing the whole student means we want them to have a variety of interests that will challenge them and push them to do better each and every day. The values and experiences they gain by taking part in all ACS has to offer will teach them valuable lessons they will carry with them long after graduation. We are preparing each student to be successful in life, college and career.

We would not be nearly as successful if we didn't have the constant support and encouragement from you, the parents and community. We encourage you to continue to show your Aviator Pride by attending academic, athletic and art related events as often as possible! Keep "Reppin' that A!"

Go Aviators!

Jeffery Talbert
Superintendent



ACS Takes Part in Strategic Planning

Alliance City Schools believes in always moving forward and the main way to do so is strategic planning. ACS is currently working towards a new strategic plan that will continue to benefit the district and provide a high quality education to each and every student.

During the 2013-2014 academic year, Superintendent Jeffery Talbert and the Alliance City School's Board of Education began the strategic planning process. He had three goals in mind when he set out to complete this plan: align systems and structures for high quality teaching and learning, improve academic achievement in reading and math and, lastly, to improve the culture and climate of the district.

In order to collect information about the district, focus groups were held that year with parents and teachers. A phone survey was also conducted within the community. From the information gathered, Talbert and the school board decided to restructure the school district to its current design.

This year, Superintendent Talbert decided to, once again, use the 2018-2019 academic year as a strategic planning year.

"I believe we are headed in the right direction," Talbert said. "This will allow us to check in to see what is going well, what needs to be tweaked and what should be added."

Focus groups are being held with parents, staff members and stu-

dents. An online survey is available for community members to provide their input.

Since the last strategic planning, the district enrollment has increased, the academic achievement is headed in the right direc-

tion, the culture and climate has improved immensely and the fund balance is the lowest it has been in the last 20 years.

The district's goal is to keep heading in the same direction it has been and to continue making Alli-

ance City Schools the strongest it has been in many years.

Watch on social media for dates, times and information for the upcoming focus groups ACS will be hosting.

ACS Upcoming Events

Mar. 15

Third Quarter Interims Distributed

Mar. 18

National Honor Society Induction Ceremony - 7-9 p.m.

Mar. 19

Board of Education Meeting @ Alliance Early Learning - 6 p.m.

Mar. 21

AHS Senior Blood Drive

Mar. 22

End of Third Quarter Early Dismissal

Mar. 23-29

Spring Break

Apr. 2

BOE Workshop @ The Castle - 5 p.m.

Apr. 5

Third Quarter Report Cards Distributed

Apr. 6

Jr High Solo & Ensemble Event

Apr. 11-13

AHS Musical "All Shook Up" - 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 14

AHS Musical "All Shook Up" - 3:30 p.m.

Apr. 16

Board of Education Meeting @ Success Academy - 6 p.m.

Apr. 19-22

No School

Apr. 25

AHS Band Spring Concert - 7 p.m.

Apr. 26

Fourth Quarter Interims Distributed

Apr. 27

Prom - 6-11 p.m.

Apr. 29

Senior Trade Day

Apr. 30

AHS Mark Wood Orchestra Concert - 7-10 p.m.

May 6

AMS Top 10% Dinner - 6 p.m.
Senior Scholarship Awards - 7-9 p.m.

May 7

No School - Election Day
BOE Workshop @ The Castle - 5 p.m.

May 8

Career Center Graduation - 6 p.m.

May 9

AMS Spring Arts Night - 6 p.m.

May 14

AHS Senior Capstone Fair - 1-5 p.m.

May 16

5th Grade Band & Orchestra Concert - 7 p.m.
Rockhill Student of the Month Dinner - 6 p.m.

May 17

AHS Senior Exams

May 18

Jetsetters Cabaret - 7:30-9 p.m.

May 20

AHS Senior Exams
AHS Choir Concert & Awards - 7 p.m.

May 21

AHS Senior Exams
Board of Education Meeting @ The Castle - 6 p.m.
AMS Spring Sports Awards - 6 p.m.

May 26

Commencement - 2-3:30 p.m.

May 27

Memorial Day - No School

May 28

AHS Second Semester Exams
Rockhill Field Day
Parkway Field Day

May 29

AHS Second Semester Exams
AMS 6th & 7th Grade Awards

May 30

Last Day for Students
End of Fourth Quarter
AHS Second Semester Exams
AMS 8th Grade Promotion
Northside Promotion Ceremony
Rockhill End of Year Carnival
Parkway End of Year Carnival

June 4

BOE Workshop & BAC @ The Castle - 5 p.m.

June 5

Fourth Quarter Report Cards Distributed

June 18

Board of Education Meeting @ The Castle - 6 p.m.

2019 Pathfinder Award Recipients

This year, six men and women were recognized as the 2019 Pathfinder Award recipients during assemblies held at the University of Mount Union, Alliance High School and Alliance Middle School on Feb. 7, Feb. 8 and Feb. 13 respectively.

The Pathfinder Award Assemblies recognize individuals who have been trailblazers to success. The awards are given during the month of February in conjunction with Black History month. There are five categories for the awards: Arts and Science, Education, Citizenship/Government, Business and Humanitarianism.

This year Dr. Gloria Malone, Mayor Alan Andreani, Lorenzo Scott, Greg King, Rev. Raymont Johnson and Brenda Johnson were recognized as the 2019 Pathfinder Award recipients.

During the assembly held at Mount Union, Malone was recognized with the Education Pathfinder Award and Andreani was recognized with the Education and Citizenship Pathfinder Award.

Malone, a graduate of AHS, received a Bachelor of Science degree from Central State University at Wilberforce, a Master of Education, Master of Arts and Doctorate of Philosophy from Kent State University. She began her teaching career at Franklin Elementary School in Alliance remained a teacher in the district until the time she became a professor at Mount Union College. She retired in 1990.

Andreani received a Bachelor of Science in Education and Comprehensive Science and a Master of Education from Kent State University. He received a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Youngstown State University. He began his teaching career at Marlinton Local Schools in 1972. He remained in the district, holding a number of positions including superintendent, until 2001. In 2004, Andreani was elected Council-At-Large for Alliance and served until 2011. In 2012, he was elected mayor and currently remains in the position.

The assembly held at Alliance High School was held to recognize Scott with the Art and Humanitarianism Pathfinder Award and King with the Business and Education Pathfinder Award.

Scott was born in Wilmington, North Carolina. He moved to Alliance and began working for Alliance Manufacturing, which later became the Genie Company. He worked there of 44 years and retired as a senior production engineer. Over the years, Scott has coached the Little Aviators and Hot Stove League. He has always loved boxing and took his passion for it to create the United Karate and Boxing Club.

King received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management and Sports Management from Mount Union College and a Master of Education in Higher Education Administration from Kent State University. He began working at Mount Union in 1990 as an admissions counselor and worked his way up to director of admissions and later vice president of university advancement, which is his current position at Mount Union.

Alliance Middle School recognized Rev. Raymont and Brenda Johnson with Humanitarianism Pathfinder Awards.

The husband and wife team both graduated from AHS. They left Alliance in 1982 while Raymont served in the United States Air Force. They returned to Alliance in 2014. Raymont currently works as a Parent Engagement Coordinator for the Early Childhood Resource Center in Canton. Brenda, a former government employee and educator, is a certified community health worker and advocates for women and children. The Johnsons have added to the Alliance community over the past few years by creating organizations such as Sing for Your Supper youth group, Soul Food Sunday hot meal program and the AHS and AMS Lunch with a Leader youth and young adult mentoring program.

Congratulations to all of the recipients and thank you for all you have done!



Mayor Alan Andreani



Greg King



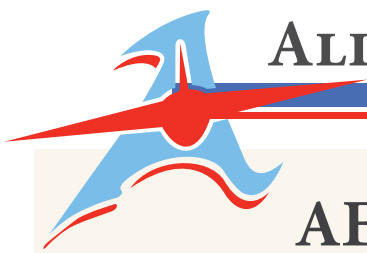
Lorenzo Scott



Dr. Gloria Malone



Rev. Raymont and Brenda Johnson



AELS Received All A's



Alliance Early Learning School received all A's on its state report card for the very first time.

"It's a great honor to receive this award," said AELS Principal, Timothy Calfee. "We are one of only 57 schools in the entire state of Ohio that was recognized as an All A School."

In order to be recognized as an all A school, Ohio's State Board of Education recognizes the school with an A grade in every

has different criteria on which they can be graded.

The school credits much of this success to the decrease in chronic absenteeism over the last year. When a student is listed as chronically absent, it means they miss ten percent or more of the school year. To decrease the number of students listed as such, means the students are receiving a better education and learning more each year.

"It's a great honor to receive this award. We are one of only 57 schools in the entire state of Ohio that was recognized as an All A School."

Timothy Calfee, AELS Principal

criteria they are eligible to be graded. Every academic level

"We're proud that the State Board of Education has recog-

nized us as an All A School," Calfee said. "They have found out what we already know, AELS is a great place to learn and grow."

Helping the students to grow and encouraging their passion for learning at a young age is critical to helping them succeed throughout their time in the Alli-

ance City School District.

"This award shows we are committed to our students' success by providing a high-quality education for students of every background and ability," Calfee said.

Well done, AELS!

Preschool & Kindergarten Registration

It's time for Alliance Early Learning School's preschool and kindergarten registration. Registration will take place at Glamorgan Castle March 18-22 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

To register a child for Kindergarten, the child must be 5 years-old by Aug. 1. The following is required for registration:

- *Birth Certificate from the Health Department*
- *Immunization Records*
- *Parent or Guardian Photo Identification*
- *Proof of Address*
- *Custody Documents if necessary*

To register a child for Preschool, the child must be 3 years-old by Aug. 1. The following is required for registration:

- *Birth Certificate from the Health Department*
- *Immunization Records*
- *Parent or Guardian Photo Identification*
- *Proof of Address*
- *Custody Documents if necessary*
- *Parent or Guardian Proof of Income*

Packets to register a child at Alliance Early Learning School can be found at each school building in the district. Children currently enrolled in preschool at AELS do not have to be re-registered for preschool or kindergarten at AELS for the 2019-2020 school year.

ACS Takes Part in National Reading Day

On Jan. 23, the students at Alliance City Schools took part in National Reading Day in various ways. From having guest readers, fun activities and more planned, the students enjoyed their celebrations.

At Rockhill Elementary, the Men Making A Difference Readers visited to read in the classrooms. Every month, a group of men visit the school to read to the students in first, second and third grade. It was fun for the students who already enjoy the monthly reading day to also celebrate National Reading Day at the same time.

Volunteers from the communi-

ty visited Parkway Elementary and Alliance Early Learning School to take part in the celebrations. They read books of various reading levels to the classrooms and spread their love of reading to the students.

At Northside Intermediate School, three Alliance High School students in the 99th Squadron volunteered to read to the students in fourth and fifth grade.

Reading is an important part of the curriculum at ACS and it is always great to see the community and older students teaching the young Aviators the importance and love of reading.

Rockhill Recognized

Ohio's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Paolo DeMaria, visited Rockhill Elementary on Jan. 8 after the school was named a "High Progress School of Honor for 2018" by the Department of Education.

"I would like to thank our state superintendent for visiting Rockhill," said Superintendent Jeffery Talbert. "The staff in this building works very hard. I spend a lot of time here and I get to see first-hand that they really do care about helping the whole child, and that is why they have been so successful."

DeMaria was led on a tour of the school by Principal Michelle Balderson, Alliance Board of Education President Elayne Dunlap and Talbert. He visited four classrooms during his visit to Rockhill and was impressed with the students and the skills they were using in the classrooms.

Following his tour, a reception was held to allow him to meet members of the Alliance City School District's administration team, the Alliance Board of Education as well as staff members from Rockhill.

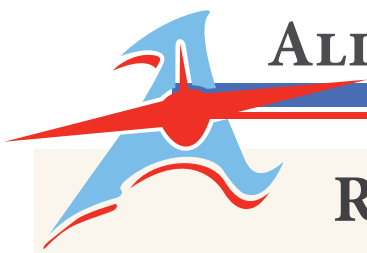
Balderson spoke on behalf of Rockhill and expressed her gratitude for her staff and the culture they create for the students every single day.

"I just want to compliment the Rockhill staff in its entirety and the job that they do every day," she said. "They put relentless effort into raising student achievement and the success of the whole child of all of our students. I want to commend them. They are a wonderful staff. We call ourselves a family, and we are here at Rockhill."

DeMaria commended the school's efforts to meet the needs of the whole child, a concept that is stressed in each of the schools in the Alliance City School District.

"I salute you for the great work you are doing," DeMaria said. "One of the reasons I am here is that the state has recognized you with the School of Honor award, which is our way of saying- wow, there are things happening here. We want to commend you. We want to encourage you."





Royal Aviation was a Major Success



The Alliance City School District hosted the very first Royal Aviation Show Choir Competition on Jan. 12. The competition featured nine schools with Buckeye Valley being named the Grand Champions at the end of the day-long competition.

The schools showed up with colorful outfits, lively music and well-rehearsed routines, all hoping to be the first Grand Champions of the Royal Aviation Show Choir Competition. The auditorium at Alliance High School was filled with people-

both community members and supporters of the competing choirs - wanting to see what the competition was all about.

"It was overwhelming to see the community embrace the event," said Carrie Chumat, the choir director at AHS. "So many people didn't have any idea what show choir was really about. Everything went so smoothly, I couldn't have asked for a better first year."

Chumat has grown the competition show choir immensely in her time as a teacher at AHS. She is the one that first introduced the Jetsetters to show choir competitions during the 2012-2013 academic school year. It was only a matter of time until ACS hosted its very own.

Being the host choir, the Jetsetters were unable to compete; however, they were able to perform for the audience before the evening part of the competition took place.

The first competition was a major success and there are al-



ready plans for the second annual Royal Aviation Show Choir Competition to take place in January 2020. The event would not have been possible without the volunteers and the Jetsetter alumni who helped with the competition every step of the

way.

"A huge thank you to all the volunteers and alumni that supported the cause," Chumat said. "It was amazing to see the people that show choir has impacted over the years."



Enroll Now!

Alliance Career Center Programs

Alliance Career Center is now enrolling for fall courses including cosmetology, licensed practical nursing, medical assisting, STNA, welding and pipe welding. There are scholarships available to help you reach your next career goal in life.

Call 330-829-2267 for more information or to schedule a tour!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram for up-to-date information!



Classified Spotlight

Connie Stanley

Connie Stanley has worked for 12 years in the district as a custodian. While it's not always an easy job, she continuously out does herself and takes great pride in her work.

"A favorite part of working in the district is the satisfaction of doing a good job and being part of a team that keeps our city's schools clean and safe," Stanley said. "I also enjoy working with the wonderful staff that I've had the privilege to know and love, and also to become a part of the team. Most of all, I have enjoyed getting to know the children and seeing that our hard work allows them to grow and flourish in the Alliance City School district."

ACS is thankful to have Mrs. Stanley on the job!



Team Spotlight

Bus Drivers

ACS would like to recognize the hard work of our district bus drivers. The safety and security of our students is our top priority at Alliance City Schools and each of these individuals is entrusted with that responsibility. Thank you for everything you do every day to make sure our students arrive to and from school safely. The following are the bus drivers for the Alliance City School District: Letha Acierni, Richard Anderson, Josette Armstead, Susan Bailey, Paula Bezon, Tracy Boord, Dale Brown, Phillip Burris, Julie Cross, Kimberly Gang, Tina Gear, Jeff Hines, Mary Ann Holbrook, Yvonne Hoover, Mary Loy, Sarah McDonald, Beverly Mummert, Jenny Petkash, Cindy Rusu, Brittany Shields, Suzanne Stutler and John Thorpe.



Teacher Spotlight

Natalie Kern

Natalie Kern has worked for six years as a teacher in the Alliance City School District. She teaches fourth-grade Reading and Language Arts at Northside Intermediate School.

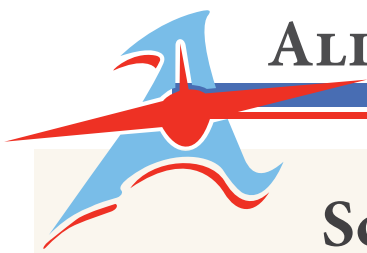
Kern enjoys getting to know the students each year and watching as each student grows in the short time she is able to be a part of their lives

"I hope, in a small way, I am able to make a difference in the lives of the kids I see every day," she said.

Kern is a hardworking teacher who cares greatly for her students and wants each one to succeed. She shares her love of reading and telling stories with her students through her job and helps to encourage their love of reading and story telling.

ACS is lucky to have a teacher like Mrs. Kern teaching our young students!





Schwartz Wins Geography Bee and Spelling Bee



Alliance Middle School student, Jordan Schwartz, won the annual YWCA Geography Bee and the Alliance City Spelling Bee for the second year in a row.

The geography bee, held on Jan. 8, saw a familiar winner when Schwartz won for the third year in a row. Andrew

Chunat came in a close second with both receiving a cash prize and \$1000 scholarship.

The competition was tough, with more questions being asked at the geography bee than in year's past.

"I was really happy with how many people were still in it with as many rounds as we had gone through." said David Reith, host of the geography bee. "I was really happy and excited for them."

Many of the contestants in the geography bee take part in the geography club after school during the Navigators program at AMS.

The Alliance City Spelling Bee



"I was really happy with how many people were still in it with as many rounds as we had gone through. I was really happy and excited for them."

- David Reith, host of the geography bee

took place on Feb. 12 with 18 contestants taking turns spelling words such as "knockabout" and "leeway." The final round came down to Schwartz and Xiyonne McCullough who both misspelled "nicety." After a few rounds, Schwartz was named the champion with McCullough coming in second place.

Schwartz has enjoyed taking part in both the Geography Bee

and the Spelling Bee during his time at Alliance Middle School and he will miss the competitions as he moves on to the high school next year.

All of the students who took part in both competitions worked hard to be able show off their spelling and geography skills at the school-wide competitions this year. They have a lot to be proud of!

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Official Hashtag: #RepthatA

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