

The Altoona Atlas



January Calendar of Events

- 4 School resumes
- 12 PTA Restaurant Night @ Culver's
- 14 AEA Hearing Screenings
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- 15 End of the 1st semester of school (92 days)
- 18 No School-District-Wide Staff Development Day
- 25 FAST Winter Reading Assessments begin thru February 5
- 28 100th Day of School

Note: Due to COVID-19, the PTA's annual "Golf in the Halls" event is cancelled for this school year. We are very sorry about this, but need to do our part to keep everyone safe and healthy!

Important Dates in February

- 4 & 5 Hearing Retests
- 12 2:45pm-Valentine's Day Classroom Parties
- 26 End of the 2nd Trimester

SCHOOL HOURS

- 8:15-8:35 Buses arrive
- 8:25 Breakfast students enter
- 8:30 Doors open for all students
- 8:45 Tardy bell rings
- 8:50-8:55 AM Announcements

Lunch Schedule:

- 10:50-11:15 Kindergarten
- 11:15-11:40 First Grade
- 11:40-12:05 Second Grade
- 12:05-12:30 Third Grade
- 12:3-12:55 Fourth Grade
- 12:55-1:20 Fifth Grade

- 3:25-3:35 Dismissal: See information below to help with social distancing

Use of Entry/Exit Doors

- PreK & 2nd Grade use East Doors
- K & 1st Grade use Main Office Doors
- 3rd & 4th Grade use SE Doors
- 5th Grade use South Service Doors
- Bus riders use NW Doors

Staggered Pick-Up Times

- 3:15-PreK 3:25-Kindergarten
- 3:30-3rd Grade 3:35-Everyone Else

~Creating Pathways for Academic Excellence and Student Leadership~
A Communication Newsletter for Our School Families & the Community
Volume 09, Number 05 January 2021 School Phone 515-967-3771

Out with 2020 & In with a New, Exciting Year!

We all know that 2020 has been a very challenging year for everyone. At Altoona Elementary we are looking forward to a fresh, new start as we bring in 2021. While the challenges continued to mount last year, I do want you to know that our Altoona staff remained "True to the Moment" in supporting your children. Change is very difficult for many of us, but the constant change made us stronger and more flexible in dealing with anything that was thrown our way. Many, many hours were spent preparing for the next change in learning pathways. Social distancing stickers were placed on the floor, wiping down the desks became an hourly event, and face masks continued to melt on our faces, but the smiles continued to be evident and their dedication to doing the job (to the best of their ability) never wavered. It is truly a privilege to serve all students at Altoona Elementary and our staff members realize this every single day. "All means all" and we will continue to do whatever it takes to help "all" students be successful at Altoona Elementary. Altoona Elementary was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2020 and we will continue to deliver blue ribbon services to you and your family in 2021. It will be a great year!

Sincerely, Mr. Stotts ☺

Safe & Healthy Every Day

Bundle your children up for those chilly winter days. Make sure they get their rest to prepare for the day ahead. Keep their face masks clean and encourage frequent washing of their hands. Cover those coughs and keep your child home if they are not feeling well.... & the list goes on & on. Thanks for your help in trying to keep everyone healthy. We do appreciate it!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

When the holiday season rolls around, many volunteers gather to help our families at Altoona Elementary. This year was no different! From the "Season of Sharing" to the "Dove Family PJ Drive", so many of you donated to the cause in some way to support these worthwhile events. From the bottom of our heart, we thank you for making this holiday season a little merrier for our school families.

We feel very blessed to have your support!

Math-A-Thon Reminder

Just a reminder that if your child participated in the PTA's Math-A-Thon fundraiser in early December, please be sure to return their pledge envelopes to the main office by no later than January 8th. We realize that the timing of the event conflicted with the changing of learning pathways so we wanted to extend the timeline to collect the envelopes. We will be getting prizes out to the students in mid-January. Thanks again for supporting our Altoona Elementary PTA!

~Season's Greetings from the Altoona Elementary Staff~
We hope you have a safe & healthy holiday!