

The Altoona Atlas



October Calendar of Events

- 1 Black and Gold Day
- 1 School Board Meeting @ 5:30pm
- 2 Black and Gold Day
- 15 School Dismissal @ 11:30am
- 15 Parent-Teacher Conferences (12:30-7:30pm)
- 20 Parent-Teacher Conferences (4:00-8:00pm)
- 26-30 Blue Ribbon Week @ Altoona Elementary
- 27 PTA Restaurant Night @ Panda Express in Altoona
- 29 & 30 Fall Parties

Important Dates in November

- 13 End of the first trimester
- 19-20 School Picture retakes
- 20 PTA Math-a-Thon Kickoff Assembly
- 24 Report cards sent home with students
- 25-27 No School-Thanksgiving Break
- 30 Math-a-Thon Testing Day

Note: Student council election details will be shared with our 5th grade students in November. We are waiting to see what hybrid option will be adopted.

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
- 11:20-11:45 First Grade
- 11:50-12:15 Second Grade
- 12:15-12:35 Third Grade
- 12:35-12:55 Fourth Grade
- 12:55-1:15 Fifth Grade

- 3:25-3:35 Dismissal: Time depends on grade level to maintain social distancing.

~Helpful Hints~

***Students will be required to wear masks and they should also bring a water bottle that can be refilled.**

***Continue to frequently wash your hands and use hand sanitizer to keep the germs away.**

**~Creating Pathways for Academic Excellence and Student Leadership~
A Communication Newsletter for Our School Families & the Community
Volume 09, Number 02 October 2020 School Phone 515-967-3771**

Altoona Elementary is Recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School

On Thursday, September 24th, Altoona Elementary received official word that it had been selected as a National Blue Ribbon School. Altoona Elementary was one of 367 schools across the United States that received this prestigious award. The Iowa Department of Education nominated our school in December, 2019, and the application process was completed in April, 2020. Altoona Elementary was recognized as an "Exemplary High Performing School" and was the third district school that has received this award. Runnells Elementary was recognized in 2008 and Mitchellville Elementary received the award in 2012.

A very special and sincere thank you goes out to our students, staff members, the Altoona PTA, and our parents. This award affirms the true commitment that our staff members provide in the learning process. They deeply care for all of our students and it shows on a daily basis. Our students are simply the "best"! They come to school ready to learn and they understand the importance of being respectful and responsible. School is very important to them. Our Altoona PTA is always there when needed. They volunteer endless hours to make things happen at our school and they do it with a smile on their faces. We are so lucky to have their support! Our Altoona parents also receive a pat on the back for their efforts. They work hard to get their children to school each day and also provide extra instructional support to contribute to the success of their child. We are so very proud of each and every one of you! We sure couldn't have done it without you!

"We Love Altoona Elementary!"

Blue Ribbon Week is set for October 26-30 at Altoona Elementary
Our annual Red Ribbon Week has been changed to "Blue Ribbon" Week for this year to recognize the many fine efforts of all of our students and staff members at Altoona Elementary. During the week, we will be celebrating by having some dress up days and also hosting some fun building-wide activities to show our appreciation for their accomplishments. On Thursday, October 29th & Friday, October 30th, we will also have our fall classroom parties for our hybrid A and B groups. More information will be shared at a later date regarding these special events.

Preparing for the Cold Temperatures!

Just a reminder to send your child to school with some extra layers of clothing so that they can adjust to the cooler temps. Don't forget to send them with stocking hats and gloves too! With cold and flu season approaching, it is equally important to make sure your child is getting plenty of rest and eating well-balanced, nutritious meals. We will also continue to do our part to keep the school environment clean and sanitized to prevent illness. If your child is not feeling well and they are going to stay home, please be sure to call the school office at 967-3771 to let us know. Wear your mask and wash your hands frequently! Stay healthy!!!

Altoona Elementary Thanks You for Supporting Us

We truly appreciate your patience and support during these challenging times. The pandemic has changed the way we do business, but we are still committed to delivering the best instruction to your child in a safe and caring environment. We love our students and will do our very best to help them!

**Don't forget to virtually attend your child's Parent-Teacher Conference on October 15th or October 20th.
The Altoona PTA is also holding a virtual "Book Fair" during the conference period.**