



Alexander Elementary School

January 2021 Newsletter



A Letter From Mrs. Henline



2020 will always be a year that is etched in all of our hearts and a year that will go down in history. We welcome 2021 with open arms. And as a new year begins, we set new goals, and we create new opportunities. I have found that healthy reflection can be a great exercise to have gratitude for how far we've come and to appreciate all of life's lessons and experiences—both the “positive” and seemingly “negative”.

As both face-to-face and virtual instruction continues in the district for our students I urge you to be extremely diligent in monitoring your student(s) for potential COVID-19 symptoms. Our instructional delivery model was created in a way that students can stay up-to-date with their instruction from home remotely or in the district building. We are relying on partnerships with our families to reduce the risk of positive cases in our building and so far only 3 classrooms have shut down for a short period of time at Alexander. This is awesome considering we have been in school for 16 weeks. Also, if your student was around someone that may be COVID-19 positive, please keep your student home. We thank you for your continued support to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Virtual parent teacher conferences are January 20-21.

With the winter months and its snow upon us, we offer a few reminders. Have your child dressed for the weather every day. Our students will be outside for recess (mask breaks) unless the temperature is below a real feel temperature of ten degrees. Make sure to send your child with hats, mittens, boots, snow pants, and winter coats and take the time to label all items.

Please continue using extra caution when dropping off and picking up your child. The sidewalk can be slippery. Please make sure to slow down, look, and take a few extra minutes for the safety of all. As a courtesy to others, please stay in your vehicles when dropping off and or picking up. The safety of all of our children is of utmost importance. Thank you for your cooperation!

-Mrs. Henline

Should APS need to close, the announcement will be made by 5:30 am (earlier if possible). Closings will be announced through the school alert system (Blackboard), WLEN 103.9 FM, WQTE 95.3 FM and WABJ 1490 AM, WTOL Channel 11, WTVG Channel 13 and WNWO Channel 24. Please make sure your phone number and email are up to date to receive Blackboard notifications.

What's Happening in January

January 4
School Resumes

January 18
No school
MLK Day

January 20-21
Parent Teacher
Conferences

January 22
1/2 Day
12:10 pm dismissal

January 25
6:00 pm Virtual Math Night



Math Night is Coming!

Mark your calendars for Monday, January 25, at 6:00 pm. This year's Math Night will feature a number of our Alexander teachers sharing math strategies they use in the classroom along with resources and activities that you can do at home. Have your questions ready, and watch for more information to come home soon. This event will take place on Google Meet.



Family Engagement Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the Family Engagement Survey that was shared via Blackboard and Facebook. We received over 70 responses, and have reached out to everyone who requested follow-up. We will share information about the results as well as how parent feedback will be implemented in our programming as soon as we've finished reviewing the results. If you'd still like to talk to someone about the survey, please email Amy Baker at abaker@adrian.k12.mi.us.

January Reading Tip

Reading and writing skills are linked, and each improves the other. Find opportunities for your child to practice their writing at home. Ask them to write a grocery list or thank you cards. Or fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book that you can write and illustrate together.

Adrian Public Schools Elementary Attendance Procedures

Welcome back from break! As we start out the new year, we want to give you a quick reminder of our attendance policy and encourage you to make sure your child is in school when they are healthy.

Each day classroom teachers enter attendance and the office verifies the teacher entries. The office updates information to excuse absences. In alignment with the Lenawee Intermediate School District's Truancy Officer's recommendations, the elementary attendance procedures are as follows:

- At five full day or equivalent unexcused absences within a semester, a letter or a phone call will be made to notify the parent.
- At nine full day or equivalent unexcused absences within a semester, the school administrator should, if appropriate, request a meeting with the student and parent. The goal of the meeting should be to address the root cause of the absences.
- If the attendance expectations from the meeting are not being met, a referral form **will be** sent to the Truancy Prevention Specialist.

Opening bell when doors open at the elementary buildings starting at 8:25 AM.

Students are expected to be in their classroom at or before 8:35 AM.

Students who arrive between 8:36 and 9:00 AM will be marked tardy.

Morning absence begins at 9:01 AM.

Afternoon absence begins at 12:01 PM.

Students signed out after 1:30 PM will be marked S.O.E. (Signed Out Early). This is equivalent to a student being marked tardy.