

Dear APS Community,

I just wanted to mention a great new event that has been happening in Adrian's Historic Eastside over the last few months. **Second Friday's is a partnership between The Daily Bread, Habitat for Humanity, and the Neighborhood Coalition to provide great opportunities for residents to come together and build community.** Each Second Friday of the month starting at 6:30 The Daily Bread opens its doors with refreshments, snacks, and plenty of opportunities for entertainment through an open-mic night type setting. Come sing a song, read a poem, play your guitar, or simply sit back and enjoy the talents of others. I was fortunate to be joined with APS Homeless Coordinator and Head Start Assistant Director last Friday. Big thank you to **DeAngelo Boone from Habitat for all his efforts leading this great event.** Come next month 6:30 on the second Friday.



Last week started the first of many meetings over the next few months focusing on all the amazing opportunities we have here at APS in the area of the Arts. Building on the success of the Athletic Game Plan, **we are now working on the development of a 3 year plan for the arts known as the Playbill.** Thank you to the large group of committed individuals that kicked off the planning process last week. This all-star cast will complete their work and present their recommendations to the Board of Education on March 23rd.



Adrian Public Schools is partnering with Lenawee Now to provide new opportunities for students and parents when it comes to career planning. **Our first big kick-off event will be coming up on March 24th from 6:30-8:00pm in the AHS Performing Arts Center.** Thanks to funding from the State of Michigan Marshall Plan, Career Expert Chris Czarnik will be sharing with parents and students from all grades what it takes to be successful in career planning while still in middle and high school. See the event flyer below.



Parents and students who are interested in finding the right career paths to a successful future.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO AFTER YOU GRADUATE?

College? Military? Skilled Trades? Mom's Basement? The options seem endless (but that last one is probably not the best one.) What if there was a better way to figure out the answer to that question that all students get asked? At this event you will:

- Receive a free step-by-step guide to help discover your ideal career path.
- Talk to employers about on-the-job training, apprenticeships, tuition reimbursements, and job opportunities available before and after graduation.

LenaweeNow.org/CareerCon

MARCH 24, 2020
ADRIAN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
6:30 - 8:00 PM



Career expert Chris Czarnik has the answer for the new decade of career and job seekers. He has toured the U.S. and Canada sharing his unique blend of in-your-face humor and truth about the new world of work.

Event sponsored by Marshall Plan/MICA Grant/LISD



Much conversation has been taking place related to **the Third Grade Reading Law** that will go into effect this school year. While media reports have hyped many of the possible outcomes for mandatory retention and that it could impact many kids, I am happy to report that based on last year's data this would of only impacted six students across all of Adrian Public Schools. Of those, half were receiving special education services and the others already had interventions and supports in place.

The District's commitment to literacy over the past 3 years, along with the amazing instruction and interventions provided by APS teachers and staff has shown we are making great strides towards ensuring our students are learning to read and grasping essential literacy skills.

Thanks for all that you do to support and build literacy at home with your children.

Below is a link to resources related to the Third Grade Reading Law.

https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_74161-498394--,00.html



As always, if you want additional resources to help your child improve their literacy skills please talk with your child's teacher, principal, or the building Parent-Community Coordinators.

The **Alexander Elementary Student Council** has chosen to open a **Comfort Closet** for students who are **in need of personal care items**. Any student in the school can visit the Comfort Closet to get items they do not have at home, such as shampoo, deodorant, and toothbrushes/paste. The closet is the idea of Student Council president Cooper Howard, a 5th grader, and was unanimously agreed on by the Student Council as their first project. Donations from Alexander families are coming in, and money was raised at a bake sale during conferences to purchase items. Anyone wishing to donate to the Comfort Closet may do so by contacting Erin Watson at Alexander.



As a reminder there will be a half day on Friday and then no school in session on Monday in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. **Students at Alexander read their own “I have a Dream...” speeches to their PTO on Tuesday night.** Adrian High School students will be participating in the Lenawee County MLK Jr. Celebration at Siena Heights on Monday evening.



Are you looking to help support a great project within Adrian Public Schools? **Consider supporting the Michener Musical Aladdin.** Building on the success of last year’s production of Disney’s The Lion King, students are preparing for another great production thanks to the Disney Grant provided to Michener. Kudo’s to Michener for being one of six school in Michigan to receive this grant. **Disney will match up to \$1,000 as part of this fund raising campaign.**

https://www.donorschoose.org/project/micheners-sustainable-theater-program/4693763/?fbclid=IwAR1GTxfH-w6x_xr9wBaVxuiVBO67EvuyOpa4WJslttvc4YUa6HLoMtXD4



Reminder that Parent Teacher Conferences will be taking place in the evening of January 22nd and 23rd for grades 6-12.

Please take a moment and check out some of the great happenings across the district in the news stories below.

Go Maples!!!

Bob Behnke

Superintendent

APS In the News:

Maples Boys Basketball Success:

<https://www.lenconnect.com/sports/20200110/prep-sports-adrian-boys-hoops-tops-monroe>

<https://www.lenconnect.com/sports/20200107/prep-sports-francis-leads-adrian-boys-basketball-past-manchester>

Second Fridays in Adrian:

<https://www.lenconnect.com/news/20200112/second-fridays-in-adrian-aiming-to-be-year-round>

Students Participate in Community Service:

<https://www.monroenews.com/news/20191220/students-make-blankets-for-community>

Exotic Zoo comes to Michener:

<https://www.lenconnect.com/photogallery/MI/20191220/NEWS/122009990/PH/1>

Lunch Buddy Orientation:

<https://www.wlen.com/2020/01/14/adrian-morning-rotary-to-host-orientation-for-lunch-buddies-program-and-play-it-forward-game-drive/>

Garfield Property Plan:

<https://www.hillsdale.net/news/20200115/garfield-property-reuse-falls-short-again>

The History of Jefferson School:

<https://www.lenconnect.com/news/20200107/when-jefferson-school-closed-it-found-new-life-then-death>