



ALLEGHANY COUNTY SCHOOLS

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

ALLEGHANY COUNTY SCHOOLS MISSION IS TO:
ASPIRE TO
CONNECT
SUPPORT AND
STRENGTHEN ALL STUDENTS

THE LEAVES ARE TURNING COLOR, THE TEMPERATURES ARE BEGINNING TO FALL, AND THE NIGHT SKY IS GETTING DARKER MORE QUICKLY EACH DAY. FALL IS HERE! WE HAVE SO MANY GREAT THINGS GOING ON AT ALLEGHANY COUNTY SCHOOLS AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL THAT YOU TRUST YOUR STUDENTS WITH US EVERY SINGLE DAY.



IMPORTANT DATES

RUN FOR GRACIE AT PCS – OCT 14

DISTRICT 6-8 ENVIROTHON – OCT 19

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK – OCT 16-20

RED RIBBON WEEK – OCT 23-26

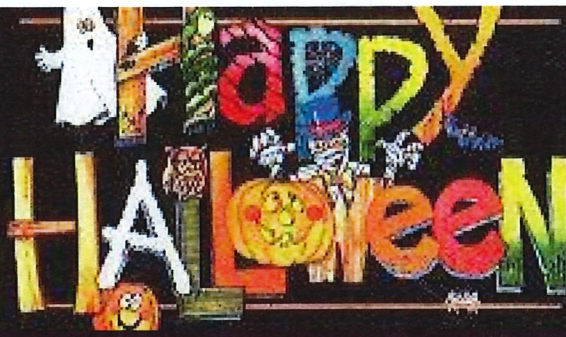
END OF 1ST 9 WEEKS – OCT. 26

REQUIRED TEACHER WORKDAY – OCT. 27

2ND ANNUAL SUPERHERO FUN RUN – OCT 28

HALLOWEEN – OCT 31





A message from Mrs. Weaver, Superintendent

The start of a new year brings with it a sense of renewal and endless possibilities. It is a time to reflect on past accomplishments, set new goals, and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, let us embark on this exciting educational journey, where we can learn, grow, and thrive as a unified community.

To our students, I encourage you to approach this year with an open mind and positive attitude. Believe in abilities, for you are capable of achieving greatness. Embrace challenges as opportunities for growth, and remember that mistakes are stepping stones to success. Each and every one of you has unique talents and strengths that can contribute to making this year a truly remarkable one.

To our parents, I want to assure you that we are committed to providing the best possible learning experience for your children. Our dedicated team of educators is ready to guide and support them every step of the way. We value your partnership and encourage open lines of communication so that, together, we can create an environment that nurtures growth, curiosity, and a love for learning.

As we embark on this adventure, let us remember that education is not solely about textbooks and assessments. It is about fostering a sense of friendships, community, promoting inclusivity, and instilling core values that will empower our students to become compassionate, responsible citizens. Let's make it the best school year yet!

MESSAGES FROM OUR SCHOOL LEADERS...

MR. STURGILL - AHS PRINCIPAL

AT ALLEGHANY HIGH SCHOOL, WE ARE PROUD OF THE PROGRAMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS THAT OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY HAS UNDERTAKEN. AT THE VERY HEART OF OUR SUCCESS IS A TALENTED AND HARD-WORKING FACULTY THAT PROVIDES OUTSTANDING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ON A DAILY BASIS. OUR GOAL IS TO PROVIDE A RIGOROUS CURRICULUM THAT HELPS OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL AS THEY FINISH THEIR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD. THIS VISION STATEMENT REPRESENTS OUR CORE VALUES AND OUR COMMITMENT TO BRING OUR BEST EFFORT EVERY DAY. OUR CULTURE OF HIGH EXPECTATIONS WILL PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO BE EMPOWERED, SUCCESSFUL, SELF-DIRECTED LEARNERS.



MRS. BRANNOCK - GCS PRINCIPAL

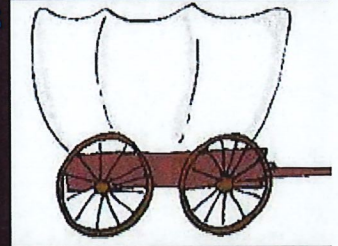
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT IS ALREADY OCTOBER. OCTOBER HAS COME WITH SOME CHANGES AT GLADE CREEK. I AM HEATHER BRANNOCK AND WILL BE SERVING AS THE INTERIM PRINCIPAL. IT HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE SO FAR. WE HAVE AN OUTSTANDING STAFF HERE AT GLADE THAT STRIVE DILIGENTLY TO PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE EDUCATION FOR OUR STUDENTS. WE HAVE CELEBRATED NATIONAL CUSTODIAN DAY BY HONORING CALVIN FRIESLAND AND JODIE BROWN. THEY DO AN EXTRAORDINARY JOB KEEPING OUR SCHOOL CLEAN. THERE ARE MANY FUN THINGS PLANNED FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER SUCH AS FIELD TRIPS AND OUR QUARTERLY CELEBRATION. IN CLOSING, THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARENTS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF GLADE CREEK SCHOOL.



MESSAGES FROM OUR SCHOOL LEADERS...

MRS. DIXON - PCS PRINCIPAL

DURING THE PAST MONTH, OUR FOCUS HAS BEEN ATTENDANCE AWARENESS! WE HAVE CELEBRATED EACH WEEK THE GRADE LEVELS WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE RATES. WE ARE SO PROUD TO SAY THAT ALL GRADE LEVEL RATES HAVE STAYED ABOUT 90% IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER! THANK YOU TO OUR FAMILIES THAT UNDERSTAND MISSED DAYS OF SCHOOL ARE MISSED OPPORTUNITIES FOR INSTRUCTION. THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR WE WILL CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE EACH MONTH THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT. ANOTHER AREA OF FOCUS FOR PINEY CREEK THIS YEAR WILL BE PBIS! ALL STAFF ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO CELEBRATE POSITIVE BEHAVIORS TO INCREASE OUR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT. EACH MONTH, STUDENTS WILL "CASH IN" THEIR EARNED POINTS FOR EXCITING ACTIVITIES! PBIS IS A KEY TOOL IN OUR SCHOOL FOR INCREASING STUDENT MOTIVATION WHILE ENCOURAGING OUTSTANDING BEHAVIOR!



DR. MILLER - SES PRINCIPAL

WE PLAN TO HAVE MANY GOOD DAYS AT SPARTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SES) THIS MONTH. AS THE NEW LEADER, I AM BEGINNING TO BUILD THE PARTNERSHIPS NEEDED TO MOVE THE SCHOOL FORWARD. WE WILL BE MEETING WITH ALL OUR READING AND MATH TEACHERS AS SOON AS NEXT WEEK TO WORK ON BEST PRACTICE FOR THEIR CLASSROOMS. I KNOW THAT WE CAN ASK YOUR STUDENTS TO DO MORE, MAKE CORRECTIONS; AND GET MORE GOOD ANSWERS! WE WILL HAVE AN EMPHASIS ON USING THE "I DO." "WE DO." "YOU DO" TEACHING METHOD. THIS STRATEGY IS A PROVEN WINNER! EVERY STAFF MEMBER IS HELPING THEIR SES STUDENTS REACH THEIR POTENTIAL THIS MONTH.





6 REASONS TO READ EVERY NIGHT

1. IT ENRICHES THEIR LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT ON MULTIPLE LEVELS.
2. IT GROWS THEIR IMAGINATION AND APPRECIATION FOR STORIES.
3. IT GIVES THEM AN OUTLET FOR EMPATHY.
4. IT BUILDS THEIR VOCABULARY SO THEY CAN BE WELL-SPOKEN.
5. IT ENCOURAGES ENGAGEMENT AND CONVERSATION.
6. IT OFFERS A CHANCE TO BE SILLY WITH YOUR LITTLE ONE.

FIRE SAFETY MONTH

**OCTOBER IS FIRE PREVENTION MONTH!
THE GOAL OF FIRE PREVENTION MONTH
(WEEK OF OCTOBER 8 - 14) IS TO RAISE
FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS AND HELP
PROTECT HOMES AND FAMILIES.**



15TH ANNUAL **FINAL YEAR**
RUN FOR

**SATURDAY
OCT. 14TH**



Registration forms will be sent home this week!

GRACIE 5K
 RUN & WALK
 FUN RUN FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER

PINEY CREEK SCHOOL – OCT 14 AT 9:00

RED RIBBON WEEK **OCTOBER 23-26, 2023**

MON 23RD RED DAY
 Come to school "Reddy" to learn!
 Wear red to kick off Red Ribbon Week!

SPORTS DAY **TUES 24TH**
 Team up against drugs!
 Wear your favorite sports t-shirts/ gear

WED 25 TIE DYE DAY
 Say "PEACE-OUT" to Drugs!
 Wear neon or tie-dyed colored clothing

CAMO DAY **THUR 26**
 Drugs can't find me!
 Wear camo

⬇ Dress Code Must be Followed

**RED RIBBON WEEK AT GRADE SCHOOL
 OCT 23-26**



AMH FOUNDATION FUN RUN – OCT 28



REQUIRED WORKDAY – OCT 27



TEN TIPS FOR FIRE SAFETY

1

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.



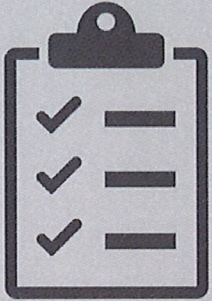
2

Test smoke alarms monthly. Replace batteries at least once a year.



3

Have a family fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.



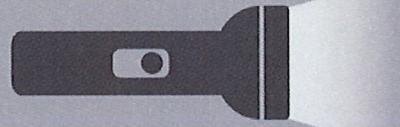
4

If there's a fire in your home, get out, dial 911 and don't go back inside.



5

Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.



6

Use flashlights during power outages, not candles.

7

Never leave a burning candle unattended.



8

Turn off space heaters when you leave the room and don't leave them unattended.



9

Only use smoking materials outside.



10

Keep flammable items away from anything that can get hot, such as space heaters.





School bus transportation plays a critical role in the education of our nation's students, and is the direct link between a neighborhood and the classroom. More than 25 million children ride the yellow bus every school day, and National School Bus Safety Week serves as a reminder for students, parents, teachers, and the community to keep school bus safety in the forefront. Here are tips to keep our children safe at the bus stop.

Getting Ready for School

- Have your children put everything they carry in a backpack or school bag so that they won't drop things along the way.
- Encourage them to wear bright, contrasting colors so they will be more easily seen by drivers.
- Make sure children leave home on time so they can arrive at the bus stop before it is due, ideally at least five minutes early. Running after or in front of a bus is dangerous.

Walking to the Bus Stop

- Walk young children to the bus stop or encourage children to walk in groups. There is safety in numbers; groups are easier for drivers to see.
- Practice good pedestrian behavior: walk on the sidewalk, and if there is no sidewalk stay out of the street. If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.
- Stop and look left, right and then left again if you must cross the street. Do the same thing at drive -ways and alleys. Exaggerate your head turns and narrate your actions so your child knows you are looking left, right and left.

At the Bus Stop

- Have children wait in a location where the driver can see them while driving down the street. Try to avoid waiting in a house or car.
- Do not let children play in the street. Playing with balls or other toys that could roll into the street is also dangerous.

Getting On and Off the Bus

- Warn children that if they drop something getting on and off the bus, they should never pick it up. Instead, they should tell the driver and follow the driver's instructions.
- Remind children to look to the right before they step off the bus. If you meet your child at the bus stop after school, wait on the side where the child will be dropped off, not across the street. Children can be so excited to see you after school that they dash across the street and forget the safety rules.

Mobile Devices


Cell phones and other electronic devices are often permitted on the school bus as long as:

- They are in backpacks or other holders, keeping hands free to use handrails while boarding and departing the bus.
- Sound is muted or headphones, ear buds or similar devices are used.
- Content does not violate the law or school district policy and procedures.
- Use does not create a distraction for the driver.


School Safety Updates

In an effort to be proactive, Alleghany County Schools is implementing the use of the Rave Panic Button across our campuses. With this feature, administrators, teachers, and staff can communicate quickly and quietly with one another in certain emergency situations. The goal of Alleghany County Schools is to return your children home to you safely at the end of each day. In an ever changing world, ACS is constantly looking for ways to help us achieve this goal.


KEY FEATURES




NOTIFY KEY PERSONNEL
Key on-site personnel are notified of an emergency immediately when a Panic Call is made to 9-1-1. These users will continue to be notified with situational updates in real time so that they can take appropriate action.




CRITICAL DATA TO 9-1-1
Immediately, 9-1-1 receives critical data about the campus from which a Panic Call is placed – key situational items like caller location, building floor plans, campus contacts and access info – and is given the ability to rapidly message campus employees and first responders.





EMERGENCY CALL BUTTONS
A call from the Rave Panic Button app notifies designated on-site personnel and 9-1-1 of the emergency based on the caller's location and emergency type. 9-1-1 will receive both the emergency type and critical emergency information about the campus, such as floor plans.



STAFF ASSIST
Used often for non-emergency internal communications, authorized employees and on-site groups can quickly communicate without initiating an emergency call to 9-1-1. Internal groups and message templates are predetermined to enable fast communication and reduce the duration of disruptions.



Alleghany County Schools Central Office 336-372-4345
Alleghany High School 336-372-4554
Glade Creek School 336-657-3388
Piney Creek School 336-359-2988
Sparta Elementary School 336-372-8546