



ATLANTIC COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter
Feb 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

Superintendents Message.....1
 High School.....2-3
 Middle School.....4
 Schuler Elementary.....5-6
 Washington Elementary.....7-8
 School Calendars.....9-10
 Lunch menus.....11-13

Superintendent's Message

The first semester of the 2016-17 school year seems to have flown by and now we find ourselves preparing for the 2nd semester. At this point in the year, the district has already begun the budget process for the 2017-18 school year, the winter sports programs are in full swing and the fine arts programs continue in competitions and performing for both our students and the community. As we move forward into the school year, it is important to thank everyone who have helped the Atlantic CSD to provide a quality education for students. Without the support of the community and the many donations to our programs, both financial and volunteering your time, our students would not have the many opportunities that they enjoy today and over the past years. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of you in the community that makes a contribution to our students' successes. Without your support, many of the opportunities that our students enjoy, would not be possible.

The district was able to host the fourth annual Heavy Equipment day at the high school and we were fortunate to have a good number of students participate along with several students from other school districts. Also, both the high school and the middle school held their annual programs on Veterans' Day to celebrate and say thank you to local veterans who have served our country with distinction and pride.

The district in cooperation with the Nishna Valley YMCA again, submitted a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to the Iowa DE to expand afterschool homework assistance and a comprehensive summer school program for students in grade K-8. Applications for this grant were submitted to the DE on December 16 and grant awards will be announced sometime in early March 2017. If the ACSD/YMCA application is approved, it will provide approximately \$190,000 over the next 5 years to support these programs.

As we approach the start of the second semester, the district will face numerous challenges which includes continuing to manage expenditures in the budget, increasing student achievement and continuing to provide a quality education for all students. As we progress through the semester, we will to continue to work in concert with the Atlantic community and together, we will develop the best and brightest students in Iowa. As we begin the new year, I hope that everyone has a safe and prosperous new year.

Go Trojans!

Dr. Michael K. Amstein
Atlantic CSD Superintendent

Atlantic Community
 School District
 1100 Linn. St.
 Atlantic, IA 50022
 712-243-4252
 Fax 712-243-8023
<http://atlanticiaschools.org>

Mission Statement

The mission of the Atlantic Community School District, in collaboration with home and community, is to prepare all learners to be creative, innovative and productive citizens and workers in a changing society, by providing diversified opportunities to learn and apply relevant skills and knowledge in a positive, disciplined and challenging environment.

Board Members
 Alison Bruckner-Pres.
 Jenny Williams-V-Pres.
 Dr. Keith Swanson
 Josh McLaren
 Kristy Pellett

Atlantic High School

Poet Leads Workshops at AHS



Poet Mary Swander

By [Charity Williams](#)

Drawing attention to the issues of the farming families in Iowa, a poet came to Atlantic to perform a one-woman show that is about the upcoming generations of farming. Mary Swander, who is an accomplished poet and playwright, has shone the spotlight on the critical issues of transferring land ownership between farmers and the family members who will be inheriting the responsibility.

Fifty percent of farmland in Iowa is owned by people who are of the age 65 or older. Thirty percent is owned by people who are 75 years of age or older. Swander's play portrays a lawyer and mediator who are disputing between land transitions. It explores the hardships and struggles of the farmers she has cooperated with and the family problems they have experienced in the one-hour drama, "*Map of My Kingdom*." This performance was held on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Memorial Building.

Atlantic High School

No fee was charged at this performance as it was sponsored by Atlantic's local businesses. Swander stayed after the show to answer questions or concerns anyone had. Those who attended also had the opportunity to be able to see the newly renovated Memorial Hall in the American Legion Memorial Building.

Monday, Jan. 30 Swander led two sessions of writing workshops for all Atlantic high schoolers who were willing to expand their poetry writing abilities.

Swander is the Poet Laureate of the State of Iowa with over 13 published books of poetry and other genres. Her works have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, National Public Radio, *The New Yorker* and *Poetry*. She is the executive director of AgArts, an organization whose sole purpose is to inspire and promote healthy food systems through the fine arts.

For more information you can visit her website www.maryswander.com

<http://ahsneedle.com/21247/school-news/stayin-alive-rocks-ahs-health-class/>

<http://ahsneedle.com/21239/school-news/javelin-earns-award-of-distinguished-merit-in-yearbook-contest/>



Atlantic Middle School

December 2015

Atlantic Chosen for STEM in Excellence

Atlantic is one of twelve schools in the state of Iowa chosen to be part of the STEM in Excellence Program. This is a program designed for students in grades 6-8 and provides University based support for math and science teachers. Atlantic will receive support from the Belin Blank Center at the University of Iowa along with funding from the Jack-Cooke Foundation.

Last spring nineteen 5th grade students took the Explore test, which is a test designed for 8th grade students. If students scored 50% or above they were eligible to participate in the 6th grade STEM program. Atlantic currently has 12 students participating in the program. The STEM in Excellence Program is taught outside of school hours. Students attend before and after school.

Students will test again in the spring and become part of a study by the University of Iowa to see if STEM programs increase test scores.



Schuler Elementary



Atlantic Community Schools Schuler Elementary School

501 East 11th Street

Atlantic, IA 50022

Phone: 243-1370

Fax: 243-2120

Schuler News

Schuler Elementary has been having a great year so far this year. I can't believe we're already done with the first half of the year already.

This year we've been able to encourage a lot of students to go the extra mile to do their best. Schuler has had two different incentives for students to work extra with math and reading. This October we challenged the students to answer math questions on Sumdog, an online program, and had over 10,000 questions answered in a week period outside of the school day. This December we challenged students to read 20 minutes outside of school each day. Those students who met the challenge had the chance to go to the YMCA for the afternoon.

Students going the extra mile also includes the many students that have been recognized as students of the month and Trojan Pride winners. The Trojan Pride award was added this year to go out to students every month for going the extra mile to be great students. We have had over 100 students awarded with the award so far and hope to be able to give more students the award. The student of the month awards go out to one student for each academic and citizenship in each grade.

The students in 4th grade had the chance to go to Living History Farms and the 5th grade had the chance to tour Milk Unlimited Dairy as a part of their learning this fall. We had the chance to celebrate Red Ribbon Week, work with the police department on a food drive, and had a pie eating contest as well.

Schuler Elementary



The students and staff have done a great job this fall with working on their number one thing at Schuler and that is learning. We have taken NWEA tests and other tests this fall which show us how well the students are doing as well as students that may need extra support. Our data team is excited about the growth that has been made this year so far as well as looking forward to taking our state tests this spring to see how much more our students will grow.

Thank you to parents for supporting your students and helping them. Your support is one of the the biggest factors in your students' success.

Washington Elementary



Washington Elementary School

Three times each school year, Washington students are assessed on a variety of skills that are essential to reading. Washington has been giving the The FAST (Formative Assessment System for Teachers) assessment as a universal screener on the following skills in Kindergarten:

- Reading letter names and identifying letter sounds
- Understanding concepts of print (eg. We read from left to right on a page.)
- Identifying individual sounds they hear in a word (eg. “at” has two sounds: /a/ and /t/)
- Reading commonly used words by sight (eg. “the”)
- Blending sounds together to read simple words

The FAST assessment screens on the following skills in first grade:

Reading simple sentences

Number of words read correctly in one minute-related to decoding, vocabulary and comprehension

Identifying individual sounds they hear in a word (eg. “at” has two sounds” /a/ and /t/)

Reading commonly used words by sight (eg. “the”)

Blending sounds together to read simple words

Students in grades 2 and 3 are given the CBM Reading test. This is an overall measure of reading skills where the student reads aloud a story for one minute. The teacher records the number of words the student reads correctly along with reading accuracy. CBM Reading provides an overall indication of how well the student is reading and is related to other reading skills like decoding, vocabulary, and comprehension. We are working hard to make sure that our regular classroom instruction meets the needs of all students so they have the potential to read on grade level. Students who score below benchmark may receive additional support in the area of reading.

Washington/Schuler PTO

Washington and Schuler Elementary Schools are lucky to have a wonderful PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) that supports our teachers and students each year. Our PTO has done two fundraisers this year which fund all field trip transportation and often also admission for all elementary school students.

Our PTO has funded transportation to and from the Science Center of Iowa, Living History Farms, The Omaha Symphony, The Henry Dorley Zoo, outdoor education programs including a Kindergarten trip to Springbrook State Park, and many more. Our PTO also has helped in buying library books at both

Washington Elementary



Washington and Schuler, and they also buy supplies for teachers including books for their classroom libraries.

If you would like to help support our PTO, we would love to have more people participate in meetings which are held at the Washington Art Room on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm, another way you can support our PTO is by collecting "Boxtops for Education" that can be dropped off at the Washington office. Also if you see one of our wonderful PTO board members, Tricia Brosam Steph Witzman, Mark Foegen, April Zarbano, Tiana Houser please tell them how much they are appreciated!

2016-17 Atlantic Community Schools Calendar

Summary of Calendar

Days in classroom:
 First Semester 82
 Second Semester 94
 Total Calendar Days 176

Calendar Legend

1.5 hour early out *
 2.0 hour early out ^
 No School Students 7
 Holidays 5
 Teacher In-Service 23

Holidays:

Labor Day (9/5)
 Thanksgiving (11/24)
 Christmas (12/25)
 New Year's Day (1/1)
 Memorial Day (5/29)

Other:

Student Days 176
 Student Hours 1,106

	M	T	W	Th	F		Days	Wk	Date	Events
August										
7	8	9	10	11	12	13			Aug 16, 17, 18	New Teacher Days
14	15	16 ^N	17 ^N	18 ^N	19	20			Aug 19 & 22	Teacher Work Days
21	22	23 ^A	24 ^A	25 ^A	26	27			Aug 23	1 st Day of School
28	29	30	31*				7			
September										
4	5	6	7*	8	9	10			Sept 5	Labor Day No School
11	12	13	14*	15	16	17				
18	19	20	21*	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28*	29	30		28			
October										
2	3	4	5*	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12*	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19*	20	21	22			Oct 21 st	1 st Quarter Ends
23	24	25	26 ^A	27	28	29			Oct 26 and 27	P/T Conferences
30	31	November					47		Oct 27 and 28	No School
6	7	8	9*	10	11	12				
13	14	15	16*	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23 ^A	24	25	26			Nov 24 and 25	Thanksgiving Day No School
27	28	29	30*				67			
December										
4	5	6	7*	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14*	15	16	17			Dec 21 st	2 nd Quarter/1 st Semester Ends
18	19	20	21 ^A	22	23	24			Dec 22-Jan 3	No School Students
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	82		Dec 25	Christmas
January										
1	2	3	4*	5	6	7			Jan 1	New Year's Day
8	9	10	11*	12	13	14			Jan 3	No School Students (Staff PD)
15	16	17	18*	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25*	26	27	28				
29	30	31					102			
February										
5	6	7	8*	9	10	11			Feb 15 and 16	P/T Conferences
12	13	14	15 ^A	16	17	18			Feb 16 and 17	No School
19	20	21	22*	23	24	25				
26	27	28					120			
March										
5	6	7	8*	9	10	11			March 10	3 rd Quarter Ends
12	13	14	15*	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25			Mar 20-24	No School Spring Break
26	27	28	29*	30	31		138			
April										
2	3	4	5*	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12*	13	14	15			April 14	No School Students (Staff PD)
16	17	18	19*	20	21	22				
23	24	25	26*	27	28	29	157			
30	May									
7	8	9	10*	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17*	18	19	20			May 17	Senior's Last Day
21	22	23	24*	25 ^A	26	27	176		May 25	Last Day of School Students
28	29	30	31	1	2	3			May 29	Memorial Day

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 Christmas (12/25)
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Other:

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 Student Hours 1,106

	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Days	Wk	Date	Events
August										
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23 [^]	24 [^]	25 [^]	26	27				
28	29	30	31 [*]				7			
September				1	2	3				
4	5	6	7 [*]	8	9	10			Sept 6-9 C4K Testing and IEOC Testing	
11	12	13	14 [*]	15	16	17			Sept 12-23 NWEA Testing	
18	19	20	21 [*]	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28 [*]	29	30		28			
October						1				
2	3	4	5 [*]	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12 [*]	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19 [*]	20	21	22			October 21 1 st Quarter Ends	
23	24	25	26 [^]	27	28	29				
30	31	November					47			
		1	2 [*]	3	4	5				
6	7	8	9 [*]	10	11	12				
13	14	15	16 [*]	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23 [^]	24	25	26				
27	28	29	30 [*]				67			
December				1	2	3				
4	5	6	7 [*]	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14 [*]	15	16	17			Dec 12-16 NWEA Testing	
18	19	20	21 [^]	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	82			
January										
1	2	3	4 [*]	5	6	7				
8	9	10	11 [*]	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18 [*]	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25 [*]	26	27	28			Jan 23-27 C4K Testing	
29	30	31					102			
February			1 [*]	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8 [*]	9	10	11				
12	13	14	15 [^]	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22 [*]	23	24	25			Feb 20-24 Iowa Assessments	
26	27	28					120			
March			1 [*]	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8 [*]	9	10	11			March 10 3 rd Quarter Ends	
12	13	14	15 [*]	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
26	27	28	29 [*]	30	31		138		Mar 27-31 ELPA Testing	
April						1				
2	3	4	5 [*]	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12 [*]	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19 [*]	20	21	22			April 17-28 NWEA Testing	
23	24	25	26 [*]	27	28	29	157			
30	May									
	1	2	3 [*]	4	5	6				
7	8	9	10 [*]	11	12	13			May 8-12 C4K Testing and IEOC Testing	
14	15	16	17 [*]	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24 [*]	25 [^]	26	27	176			
28	29	30	31	1	2	3				

HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

FEBRUARY 2017

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
				1	1.5 hours early out	2	Omelet w/cheese	3	No salad Bar
		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Fajita Chicken wg/ Tortilla		Waffle, fruit,juice		Pop tart, yogurt,juice	
		** Shrimp Poppers		Refried beans		Mini Pancakes		Cheese Quesadilla	
		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese		Mixed Fruit		Sausage Links		Steamed Green Beans	
		Fresh kiwi		Fresh kiwi		Fresh Broccoli/Cauliflower		Fresh Carrots/Celery	
						100% Juice		Chilled Pears	
				Fresh Banana		Fresh Oranges			
				Dried Cranberries		HM Cookie			
6	Mostacholi	7	Hot Dog	8	1.5 hours early out	9	Teriyaki Chicken	10	No salad Bar
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Pancake on a stick,juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cherry Frudel, Juice, milk		Assorted Breakfast	
Scalloped Potatoes w/Ham		Chicken Patty/Bun		Walking Tacos/Nachos		Turkey Wrap		Cheese/ Pepperoni Pizza	
Fresh Broccoli		Crinkle Cut French Fries		Refried Beans		Seasoned Peas		Winter Mixed Vegetables	
Clementines		Carrots/celery		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese		Romaine Salad/cherry tomatoes	
Fruit Cocktail		Rosy Applesauce		Chilled Peaches		Cotton Candy Jello		Apricots	
Cranberries		Fresh Apples		Fresh Banana		Fresh Grapes		Fresh Fruit	
		Fruit Snack		Black bean & Corn Salsa		Baked Chips			
13		14		15	1.5 hours early out	16	Philly Steak Sand	17	No salad Bar
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cinnamon Rolls/fruit/juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Omelet, Sausage, juice		Cake Donut/fruit/juice	
Cooks Choice		Chicken Nuggets		Grilled Cheese Sandwich		BBQ Turkey Burger/WG Bun		Assorted Pizza	
Baked Beans		Mashed Potatoes/gravy		Tomato Soup		Tater tots		Mixed Vegetables	
Assorted Veggies		Fresh Carrots/Celery		Fresh Cucumbers		Cherry Tomatoes		Lettuce Salad	
Chilled Pears		Tropical Fruit		Fruit Cocktail		Fruit Cup		Peach slices	
Fresh Grapes		Apple Smiles		Banana		Fresh Oranges		Fresh Pineapple	
		Dinner Roll/Butter		Assorted Cake		Raisins			
20	Bratwurst	21		22	Lasagna Roll ups	23	Lasagna	24	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cinni Minis, fruit,juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Smoothie, Pop Tart, Juice		Breakfast Stick Fruit, Juice	
Cheeseburger on WG bun		Chicken Strips		BBQ shredded Pork / Bun		Chicken Alfredo		Hamburger Pizza	
French Fries		Mashed Potatoes/Gravy		Baked Beans		Steamed Peas		Green Beans	
Lettuce/Sliced Tomatoes		Cherry Tomatoes		Fresh Carrots		Fresh Vegetables		Fresh Cucumbers	
Chilled Pineapple		Chilled Peaches		Applesauce		Sour apple Jello		Blueberries	
Fresh Kiwi		Fresh Apples		Fresh Bananas		Fresh Oranges		Fresh Grapes	
		Dinner Roll		1.5 hours early out		Garlic Breadstick		Apple Crisp	
27	Grilled Chicken	28		1	Meatball Sub	2		3	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Bagel w Cream cheese, Juice, Milk		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice					
Sloppy Joe/ Bun		Trojan Chicken Wrap		Fish Sandwich					
Buttered Corn		Fajita Vegetables		French Fries		CONFERENCES			
Cherry Tomatoes		Shredded Lettuce and cheese		Fresh Carrots		NO SCHOOL		NO SCHOOL	
Applesauce		Diced Pears		Chilled Peaches					
Fresh Oranges		Fresh Apples		Fresh Grapes					
		CONFERENCES		1.5 hours early out					
NOTES:		PLEASE NOTE: Milk choices include: Non-Fat Skim or Chocolate and 1% White Milk.							
** If your account is in the negative \$10.00 your child(ren) will be given a peanut butter sandwich and milk for .50		Milk is offered as a part of every meal. Students DO NOT have to take milk if they choose not to.							
		HOWEVER, the student must take a MINIMUM of 3 items AND you have to have a fruit or vegetable							
		*Reduced fat dressings are served with all salads and fresh vegetables							
		Students can have their choice of Hot Lunch or Uncrustable PB&J, String Cheese, fruits/vegetables, Milk OR SALAD BAR							
		Breakfast: All meals include: 100% juice, fruit and milk. Breakfast item listed on top of each day's menu							

K-5 LUNCH MENU FEBRUARY 2017

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
				1	1.5 hours early out	2		3	
		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Fajita Chicken w/ Tortilla		Waffle, fruit, juice		Pop tart, yogurt, juice	
		Scalloped Potatoes w/Ham		Refried beans		Mini Pancakes		Cheese Quesadilla	
		Fresh Broccoli		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese		Sausage Links		Steamed Green Beans	
		Fruit Cocktail		Mixed Fruit		Fresh Broccoli/Cauliflower		Fresh Carrots/Celery	
						Fresh Banana		Fresh Oranges	
						Dried Cranberries		HM Cookie	
6		7		8		9		10	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Pancake on a stick, juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cherry Frudel, Juice, milk		Assorted Breakfast	
Cranberries		Chicken Patty/Bun		Walking Tacos		Turkey Wrap		Cheese Pizza	
		Crinkle Cut French Fries		Refried Beans		Seasoned Peas		Winter Mixed Vegetables	
		Carrots/celery		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese		Broccoli/Cauliflower		Romaine Salad/cherry tomatoes	
		Rosy Applesauce		Chilled Peaches		Cotton Candy Jello		Apricots	
		Fruit Snack		Black bean & Corn Salsa		Baked Chips			
13		14		15		16		17	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cinnamon Rolls/fruit/juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Omelet, Sausage, juice		Cake Donut/fruit/juice	
Cooks Choice		Heart Shaped Chicken Nuggets		Grilled Cheese Sandwich		BBQ Turkey Burger/WG Bun		Pepperoni Pizza	
Baked Beans		Mashed Potatoes/gravy		Tomato Soup		Tater tots		Mixed Vegetables	
Assorted Veggies		Fresh Carrots/Celery		Fresh Cucumbers		Cherry Tomatoes		Lettuce Salad	
Chilled Pears		Apple Smiles		Fruit Cocktail		Fruit Cup		Peach slices	
		Dinner Roll/Butter		Assorted Cake		Raisins			
20		21		22		23		24	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Cinni Minis, fruit, juice		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Smoothie, Pop Tart, Juice		Breakfast Stick Fruit, Juice	
Cheeseburger on WG bun		Chicken Strips		BBQ shredded Pork / Bun		Chicken Alfredo		Hamburger Pizza	
French Fries		Mashed Potatoes/Gravy		Baked Beans		Steamed Peas		Green Beans	
Lettuce/Sliced Tomatoes		Cherry Tomatoes		Fresh Carrots		Fresh Vegetables		Fresh Cucumbers	
Chilled Pineapple		Fresh Apples		Applesauce		Sour apple Jello		Blueberries	
		Dinner Roll				Garlic Breadstick		Apple Crisp	
27		28		1		2		3	
Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice		Bagel w Cream cheese, Juice, Milk		Asst cereal/toast/fruit/juice					
Sloppy Joe/ Bun		Trojan Chicken Wrap		Fish Sandwich					
Buttered Corn		Fajita Vegetables		French Fries		CONFERENCES			
Cherry Tomatoes		Shredded Lettuce and cheese		Fresh Carrots		NO SCHOOL		NO SCHOOL	
Applesauce		Fresh Apples		Chilled Peaches					

NOTES:
 PLEASE NOTE: Milk choices include: Non-Fat Skim or Chocolate and 1% White Milk.
 ** If your account is in the negative \$10.00 your child(ren) will be given a peanut butter sandwich milk for .50
 HOWEVER, the student must take a MINIMUM of 3 items AND you have to have a fruit or vegetable
 *Reduced fat dressings are served with all salads and fresh vegetables
 Students can have their choice of Hot Lunch or Uncrustable PB&J, String Cheese, fruits/vegetables, Milk OR SALAD BAR
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We are an equal opportunity Employer