



ATLANTIC

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter
June 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

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

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

The 2015-16 school year has ended and there are a number of indicators that point to another successful year for the students and staff in the district. During the second semester, there have been a number of accomplishments within the district. The hard work by students, teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators have paid dividends this year and we look forward to next school year to improve on all of the work that has been done this year.

The students in the district took the Iowa Assessments in mid-April this past spring. Based on the achievement data, Atlantic students did very well. Overall, the district continues to raise student achievement in Reading, Math and Science. I would like to congratulate the students, teachers and administrators for their hard work in preparing for the tests and for their work in the classroom during the school year. As with each year's assessment data, the district will review the achievement data and make the necessary adjustments to the curriculum. Below is a summary of the achievement data for the district. You can also find more information regarding this year's Iowa Assessments on the district website at www.atlanticiaschools.org.

Washington	2016	Atlantic Middle	2016
3rd Grade		6th Grade	
Reading	79%	Reading	75%
Math	88%	Math	81%
Science	89%	Science	85%
Schuler	2016	7th Grade	
4th Grade		Reading	84%
Reading	84%	Math	89%
Math	86%	Science	85%
Science	91%	8th Grade	
5th Grade		Reading	81%
Reading	75%	Math	87%
Math	82%	Science	86%
Science	84%		

Atlantic High 2016

9th Grade
Reading 85%
Math 77%
Science 80%

10th Grade
Reading 88%
Math 83%
Science 82%

11th Grade
Reading 87%
Math 86%
Science 79%

District Average

Reading 82%

Math 85%

Science 86%

Earlier this spring the Iowa Department of Education released the graduation rates and drop-out rates for the 2014-15 school year. The graduation rate at Atlantic High School is 94.30% which is significantly above the state average of 90.80%. The dropout rate at the high school is 2.20% which continues to be lower than the state average of 2.48%. The ACT results for the district continues to show that Atlantic CSD students continue to score well on the college entrance exam with a composite score of 22.40% while the state average stands at 22.20%. Atlantic students continue to demonstrate a strength in academics. Thank you for a job well done!

Boys and girls track teams sent a number of athletes to the state meet and put forth strong performances and an impressive number of medal winners. The district also had a boys' doubles team qualify for the state tennis tournament and represented the district well. The boys golf team earned a 5th place finish in the state golf tournament this year, while the girls golf team captured another state championship, making a run in the past three years with two state titles and a second place finish. In our fine arts, our band, choral and drama departments continued to exhibit the many talents found at the high school through the many entertaining events that were scheduled this spring. Atlantic students have demonstrated their talents both in and out of the classroom and have shown that they can compete on any stage or venue throughout the state.

I am proud of the many accomplishments that students and teachers achieved this past year and I hope everyone has an opportunity to celebrate those successes. For the upcoming school year in the fall of 2016, we will be working over the summer to create better opportunities for students to become the best and brightest in Iowa. Please have a safe summer to spend with family and friends and I look forward to another successful school year in the fall. Go Trojans!

Sincerely,

Michael K. Amstein, Ed.D.
Atlantic CSD School Superintendent

Atlantic High School

Iowa's high school graduation rate continues to climb

DES MOINES - Iowa's high school graduation rate has increased for the fifth year in a row while dropout rates continue to fall, according to figures released **today** by the Iowa Department of Education.

State data show 90.8 percent of students in Iowa's Class of 2015 graduated within four years. Graduation rates increased for all but two subgroups of students in the Class of 2015.

Iowa has led the nation in recent years in high school graduation rates and last year became the first state with a graduation rate above 90 percent. U.S. Department of Education data for the Class of 2015 are not yet available.

"Iowans should be proud that our state leads in high school graduation rates, and I know this accomplishment isn't by chance," Iowa Department of Education Director Ryan Wise said. "As I've traveled to classrooms across the state this past school year, I've seen countless examples of educators taking an individualized approach to meeting the needs of their students. While graduation is a critical step, we cannot rest until all kids graduate with the skills they need to succeed beyond high school."

Iowa's statewide graduation rate has increased 2.5 percent over a five-year period, from 88.3 percent for the Class of 2011 to 90.8 percent for the Class of 2015. Four-year

graduation rate

Iowa graduation rates are calculated with a formula established by the U.S. Department of Education. Unique student identification numbers allow school districts to carefully account for all ninth-grade students as they move through high school. At the state level, the method helps determine when a student graduates, even if the student has switched districts in Iowa during high school.

Atlantic's Class of 2015 graduation rates:

4-year cohort 94.34%

5-year cohort 92.45% Dropout
rate 2.22%

<chrome-extension://gbkeegbaijgmenfmjflcdgdpimamgkj/views/app.html>



Atlantic High School

Senator Grassley visits with students in May

Senator Grassley spent an hour with students from Tony Wiley's government classes and Allison Berryhill's journalism classes. Students were able to ask the senator any questions they liked. This was the first time Sen. Grassley was able to visit AHS in 10 years.



Don't want to lose skills over the summer months? Take advantage of free resource

Homework Help

Free Homework Help and Online Tutoring available to students with library card HelpNow is an online tutoring service available to anyone with a library card account with the Atlantic Public Library to use while at school or at home with a variety of questions and help. This is available for free thanks to the Atlantic Community Schools Foundation.

HelpNow includes:

1. Online tutoring - this is live and available from 2:00-11:00 pm every day of the week (Sunday-Saturday)
2. Skill Building - students can go in and practice different skills sets, all separated by grade level and subject. This is also where the ACT, SAT, ASVAB, and more tests are.
3. Writing Lab - students can turn in papers, reports, any writing sample really, and get critiques on making it better. There is also an Adult Learners area, where resumes can be submitted to the writing lab.
4. Flash cards - students can make their own, or use others already created. The only problem with the flash cards area is they are not examined to make sure they are correct.
5. Meet - students can set up an online meeting area with other students to go over projects or group papers.

HelpNow doesn't require microphones or speakers. It's all Java based, and should work on a variety of computers. There are also apps for Apple and Android devices.

Please find that video at <https://youtu.be/EgNoDQD4zks>

Atlantic Middle School

Chris Norton, Motivational Speaker, Visits Atlantic Middle School



April 12, 2016- Chris Norton has experienced the essence of adversity. He was knocked down. Hard.

In October 2010, a debilitating spinal cord injury left him with a 3 percent chance to regain feeling below his neck. Chris' football career was over, and the injury threatened to take much more than his ability to move. It could

have defined him. But Chris isn't shaped by circumstance. Chris stood up. With his unshakeable conviction, Chris walked again, and works tirelessly every day to regain his movement.

But Chris' greatest feat of perseverance isn't the physical act of standing; it's his attitude, his determination to shape himself in the face of adversity. That strength defines him (www.nortonmotivation.com, 2016).

Chris gave the student of Atlantic Middle School (AMS) an example of the power of motivation, staying positive, and determination. Chris' message touched all of the students and faculty of AMS, giving them hope that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. Chris' message also taught us the power of staying positive through the toughest situations can help you persevere through anything.

Chris' powerful message was good for everyone to hear, giving all in attendance a chance to reflect on the attitude and effort we come to school with everyday. If you would like to learn more about Chris Norton, please visit www.nortonmotivation.com.

Schuler Elementary



June 2016 Newsletter

Happy Summer! It was a great end of the year at Schuler this year. We enjoyed some end of the year field trips, were happy with results from testing, and worked hard to the end of the school year.

Students in 4th grade were able to go to the Hitchcock House. They learned a lot about the underground railroad. Then they were given the opportunity to try different activities in the barn like making butter, pressing apples, making a candle, and making rope. They learned a lot and had a great time.

The 5th grade also went out at the end of the year to Cold Springs County Park for conservation day. They learned about trees, raptors, erosion, swans, fish and had the chance to catch a fish as well. Many did catch a fish and some for the first time. Please thank anyone you know at Cass County Conservation for putting this together. They have been very helpful in setting up the this event and the Hitchcock House in May for the students.

The students finished up their Iowa Assessment testing in April. Schuler students received the data back and should be happy with the results. The district as a whole moved up in all areas and at Schuler we jumped up pretty well in reading and science and went down a little in math. We also celebrated our good Iowa Assessment scores by taping me up to the wall in the gym for lunch on the 9th of May.

Our final activity as a school was to have a class competition on the last day that involved creative thinking, map skills, word skills, and fun. The class competed in what we called a field day with 5 academic and 5 more athletic events. Ms. McCunn and Ms. McLaren's classes won their grade levels and have their traveling trophies for the year.

Parents and community members, I want to say a huge thank you for all the support you have given the students, school and staff. Your support for your student's learning has been very important and will continue to be throughout their schooling.

Have a great summer, and I look forward to when the students come back next Fall.

James Northwick
Schuler Elementary Principal

Washington Elementary

Preventing the Summer Slide Washington Elementary School

Reading in the summer is just as important as it is during the school year. The "summer slide," describes what happens when young minds sit idle for three months. As parents approach summer break, many are thinking about family vacation, trips to the pool, how to keep children engaged in activities at home, the abrupt changes to everyone's schedule—and how to juggle it all. What they might not be focusing on is how much educational ground their children could lose during the three-month break from school, particularly when it comes to reading.

Summer slide affects millions of children each year in this country—but it doesn't have to. Set aside 15 minutes each day for your child to read, or be read to and this can make a huge difference. Ask your children to help create the grocery list, read street signs, ask them to count the change in your pocket at the end of the day.. Little things can make a big difference when it comes to the summer slide..

The Value of Reading Five or More Books During the Summer (from the California Library Association)

- The White House has reported that reading just five books over the summer prevents learning loss.
- This statement is backed up by research by Harvard professor Jimmy Kim. With the caveat

that his research shows "promising yet preliminary findings," Kim states: "Similar to prior research on summer learning... I found that the volume of summer book reading was positively related to fall reading achievement independent of prior reading and writing skills and student background characteristics.... The benefits of reading books during summer vacation were also consistent for all ethnic groups. In particular, reading four to five books had significantly larger effects than reading three or fewer books." (2004) |

2016-17 Atlantic Community Schools Calendar

Summary of Calendar

Days in classroom: 176
 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 Z
 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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 New Year's Day (1/1)
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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				

SUMMER LUNCH MENU

JUNE 2016

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
6		7		8		9		10	
Hot Dog WG Bun		Mr Rib WG Bun		Trojan Chicken Wrap		Crispitos/ lettuce cheese		Cheese Quesadilla	
French Fries		Baked beans		Shredded lettuce/Cheese		Refried Beans		Sun Chips	
Chilled Apricots		Chilled Peaches		Seasoned Corn		Applesauce		Seasoned Peas	
Fresh Veggies		Fresh Carrots		Fruit Cocktail		Fresh Veggies		Chilled Pears	
Milk		Milk		<i>Milk</i>		Milk		Milk	
		* Pudding							
Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Cinnamon Roll, juice,fruit		Cereal, toast,juice,milk		French Toast, Fruit,Juice,Milk		Pop Tart, fruit, Juice Milk	
13		14		15		16		17	
Fish Sticks		Goulash		Mandarin Orange Chicken		Chicken Tetrizzini		Chicken Patty wg bun	
Tater Tots		Seasoned Broccoli w/cheese& Black Bean		Steamed Rice		Seasoned Peas		Green Beans	
Fresh Veggies		Fresh Carrots/celery		Fresh Broccoli		Fresh Veggies		Fresh Carrots	
Pineapple Rings		Chilled Peaches		Fruit Cocktail		Fresh Apples		Fruit Cup & Blueberries	
Milk		Milk		Milk		Milk		Milk	
Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Egg Patty, Toast,Juice Milk		Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Frudel, Fruit, juice milk		Pop Tart, Fruit,juice milk	
20		21		22		23		24	
Chicken Nuggets		Corn Dog		Cheese Pizza		Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce		Walking Tacos	
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy		Glazed Carrots		Buttered Corn		Garlic Breadstick		Shredded Lettuce/Cheese	
Gn/Red Peppers		Spinach Salad		Cherry Tomatoes		Lettuce Salad		Fresh Apple Slices	
Rosy Applesauce		Tropical Fruit		Fresh Orange Slices		Chilled Fruit Cup		Black Beans	
Milk		Milk		Milk		Milk		Milk	
								HM Cookie	
Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Omelet,sausage Juice, Milk		Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Sausage Biscuit, juice, milk		Breakfast Cookie, fruit juic	
27		28		29		30			
Lemon Chicken		Breaded Pork Chop		Hamburger/WG Bun		Max Cheese Sticks			
Steamed Rice		Mashed Potatoes/gravy		French Fries		California Blend			
Celery/Red Peppers		Fresh Carrots		Fresh Broccoli		Fresh Carrots			
Chilled Pear Halves		Rosy Applesauce		Chilled Peaches		Fruit Cocktail			
Milk		Milk		Milk		3 bean salad			
Jello						Milk			
Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Mini Pancakes,Fruit,Juice,Milk		Cereal, toast,juice,milk		Mini french toast,fruit,juice			
		We are an Equal Opportunity Employer							
		Breakfast 9-10 am							
NEED a Ride		Lunch 11-12:30							
CALL SWITA									
Awesome deal \$40 month		Milk choices daily: Skim, 1% and chocolate							
unlimited rides anywhere		* Need to take 3 items							

