

Welcome to School Year 2024-25

The week before school starts is always a week filled with excitement and anticipation around the building. Our staff members are adding the final touches to their classrooms and workspaces as they prepare for our students' arrival next week on Monday. Today, our new teachers are receiving orientation training, and tomorrow, all staff will be back in the district participating in two days of professional development. Along with these activities, Evergreen's Open House is scheduled for tomorrow evening, Wednesday, August 21, from 5:30-6:30. Our staff will learn a lot this week, none more important than the learning that will take place at Open House when our teachers and staff meet their students and families for the first time.

We are so excited about the possibilities that this year holds and hope that this is true for your family as well. As we journey through this school year together, we desire to work in close partnership with you. Our students benefit immensely when their family members and the school staff have a shared goal to love, nurture, and educate them, together. We look forward to building this partnership with you this year!

Reminder: Evergreen Open House

On Wednesday, August 21 we will hold our annual open house. Evergreen's doors will open at 5:30 p.m. at which time you can come into the building to meet your child's teacher and visit classrooms. The evening will not run on a set schedule which means you may come to visit anytime between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. You are encouraged to attend the open house as information will be shared that will be valuable to you and your child.

Back by popular demand, the Kona Ice Truck will be parked in the Evergreen Bus Loop again this year. A portion of all purchases will go to support Allendale Public Schools' Amazing Reading Bus. The truck will be parked in the Evergreen bus loop and will be open from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Family C.A.R.E. Coordinator

APS is adding to the Family CARE program (formally OCSN) and we couldn't be more excited to start the 2024-2025 year with this growth and rebrand. Please see the Family C.A.R.E. Introduction Letter attached to this email to learn who the Coordinators are and how we can help our students and families!

School Start Time and End Time

Evergreen Elementary - daily schedule is 8:37 AM - 3:30 PM, half day is 8:37 AM - 12:01 PM.

Oakwood - daily schedule is 8:28 AM - 3:21 PM, half-day schedule is 8:28 AM - 11:52 AM.

ECC - daily schedule is 8:44 AM - 3:37 PM, half-day schedule is 8:44 AM - 12:10 PM.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Notes

- Maps of the Drop-off and Pick-up Loops will be available at Evergreen's Open House.
- We will use "pick-up slips" to record which students are picked up and by whom. Our Staff Supervisors will have packets with them as they monitor the loops. If you are ever in need of packets, they would be happy to provide you with one. We also have extra packets in the offices.
- Our Supervising Staff will use signs to communicate to our families when students should be released for breakfast and the playground. Until a staff member comes out with the "Breakfast" sign, please do not have your child exit your vehicle to go to breakfast. When our staff member comes out of the building with the "Playground" sign then you may have your child exit your vehicle and head to their playground entrance.

- If you need to enter the office before or after school, please park in the parking area so that our curbside traffic can continue to flow.
- Our system for drop-off and pick-up has been quite efficient for us and we have greatly appreciated our families' support with it. We encourage you to have patience and to be cautious when driving through our loops. Our number one priority during these times is student safety and you play a big part in helping us keep our children safe.

One Breakfast and One Lunch Program

One Breakfast and One Lunch will be free to all students this school year. Because APS' Food Service funding is still dependent on the district's free/reduced lunch rates, if you have qualified in the past or believe your family would qualify currently for free and reduced lunch service, it would be very helpful if you would fill out an application at allendale.familyportal.cloud. If you have any questions please contact Food Service at 616-892-5591

Lunchroom Supervision Aides

APS is accepting applications for Lunchroom Supervisors. If you have an interest in serving our schools in this capacity, please go to the district webpage and look for the application process: <https://www.applitrack.com/allendale/onlineapp/default.aspx?AppliTrackJobID=525&ref=> We are still in need of multiple lunchroom supervisors in our elementary buildings and would be very happy to receive your completed application.

Evergreen Administrative Team

I thought it may be helpful for you, our Evergreen family members, to connect the names to the faces of our Administrative Team. First, Mr. Andrew VanderWal will continue his dedicated service to Evergreen's students, staff, and families in the role of Assistant Principal. Mr. VanderWal's office is located inside of the Evergreen's East Office. He is starting his sixth year as an Evergreen administrator and is a great tremendous asset to the district. Our second administrator is Mr. Doug Bol and he serves as Evergreen's Principal. Mr. Bol is starting his twenty-second year in administration for APS and his 5th year as Evergreen's Principal. Both Mr. Bol and Mr. VanderWal anticipate an excellent year of learning and growth for our students! We have added our photos at the bottom of the email so you will know who we are when you visit the building or see us around campus.

Student Activities

Total Trek Quest

TTQ is a running club for boys in 3rd through 5th grade. It is a great opportunity for young boys to engage in physical activity and develop their running skills. The program will meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:20 - 5:00 pm. Third-grade students will meet a coach outside of the office and walk over to Oakwood with the team coach. TTQ starts on Monday, September 9, and will end on November 16. The cost to participate is \$50.00. If you have any questions or if you'd like assistance with something else, feel free to contact TTQ@arborcircle.org. A flyer with more information is attached to this email and the registration site is: <https://www.pinwheel.us/register/index/AOFall2024>