

January 8, 2023

Good Evening, Oakwood Families:

We had a great first week back. The students did a good job of reviewing and remembering our 3 Rs - Respectful, Responsible and Ready to Learn. We always look forward to this time of year when we have an extended period of uninterrupted learning time in the classroom. It is the time of year when we really see our students flourish as young learners. Please take the time each evening to encourage reading, good homework habits, and sharing about what they did at school each day. These are very formative years for your child and we truly appreciate partnering with you to help them grow academically, socially, emotionally and physically. Here is a bit of information about upcoming events:

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

A reminder that **tomorrow, Monday, January 9**, is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Allendale Public Schools is encouraging all staff & students in the district to wear **blue** on Monday, in honor of this day. We will honor all law enforcement personnel, but especially our own Deputy John Ortman and all he does to help keep our students, staff and buildings safe. Not only does he protect our students and staff, he also teaches and role models for our students on a daily basis. He encourages good behavior and has developed positive relationships with many of our students. ***We truly appreciate all he does for our Oakwood students and the district.***

Pre-School Registration and Open House

On January 19, the Allendale Early Childhood Center will hold their Preschool Open House from 6:00-7:30pm. At this time, families have an opportunity to explore the engaging and child-centered classrooms, meet our experienced preschool staff, and learn about the program and associated costs. Registration packets will be available at the Open House event. Registration opens online at 8:00pm on January 19, 2023.

Records Days and Report Cards

Next week Thursday, January 19 and Friday, January 20, are half-days for our students and are designated as "Records Days" which give our teaching staff additional time to finalize students' grades and report cards. Report cards will be sent home with students on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 24. The release times for our students on half-days are 11:52am for Oakwood, 12:01pm for Evergreen, and 12:10pm for the ECC.

As a follow-up to the report card information, over the next few weeks our students will be taking online iReady assessments in the areas of math and reading. These assessments will be one of the tools used to determine report card grades for your child. This information will also help our staff to determine the appropriate amount and type of support your child needs in reading and math. Please encourage your child to do their very best on these assessments. We want them to know what they know so we can help them to be the best they can.

5th Annual Oakwood Talent Show - Tuesday, January 31

The 5th Annual Oakwood Talent Show is almost here! With our talented students, our Singing Falcons Choir and our 4th grade DRUMSTIX all performing, it will surely be a great night of music and entertainment suited for every member of your family. Please consider joining us at 7:00pm on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. The talent show will be held at the Ceglarek Fine Arts Center on the APS High School campus. We hope to see you there!

Personal Electronic Devices: Cell Phones, Smartwatches, Tablets, etc.

Many students have shared their excitement about receiving some new form of technology for Christmas. I just wanted to take a moment to remind our families and students about the APS policy on the use of personal electronic devices while at school. The following paragraph is taken from the student handbook, which has been approved by the APS Board of Education. If you have questions or need further clarification, please feel free to contact me.

* Oakwood students will not be permitted to have personal electronic devices out during the school day, including cell phones, smartwatches, electronic games, and tablets, among others. Preferably, these items would remain at home however, if a student brings a device, it should be turned off and left in their backpack during school hours. If personal electronic devices are observed by staff they may be confiscated and turned into the office. Parents will then be asked to make arrangements with the office to pick up the device.

Proud to Be Your Child's Principal,
Gwen

