

#### Hello AASD Families!

Next week is the last week of school for the 2021-2022 school year! There is no school on Monday, May 30 in honor of Memorial Day. We hope you enjoy the long weekend!

The last day of K-12 school in the AASD will be Friday, June 3. This will be a half-day, with elementary schools dismissing at 11:27 a.m., middle schools at 11:50 a.m., and high schools at 11:10 a.m. Charter schools and Appleton Community 4K/Early Childhood may have varying dismissal times.

The first day of school for the 2022-23 school year is September 1, 2022, for our neighborhood schools. Best wishes for a safe, healthy summer break!

### **COVID-19 Mitigation: Summer 2022**

Beginning June 6, 2022, we will discontinue the use of the COVID protocols as laid out in our current Mitigation Protocols. Given the limited amount of cases within our school buildings as well as out in the community, we will no longer track COVID-specific cases and will not maintain a COVID dashboard on our website.

With summer school being at a time in which more ventilation can be leveraged as well as outdoor learning spaces utilized, it is an appropriate time to resume our more traditional approach to student illness and injury care. Masks will continue to be optional and we will honor those students, staff, and families that wish to wear their masks while on AASD property.

As recommended by Dr. Chuck Sepers, our City of Appleton Public Health Officer, we will encourage families to stay updated on the City of Appleton's <u>website</u> as it relates to testing locations, our community level, and COVID-19 prevention steps.

#### **Meal Account Balances of Graduating Seniors**

Please review your 12th-grade student's lunch account. If the account is negative, the balance needs to be paid by the end of the school year. If you have a positive balance and you qualify for free or reduced meals, your account balance will either be returned or transferred to a younger sibling in the district. For all other accounts with a positive balance, families should request a refund or a transfer to a sibling by **Friday**, **June 3**. Families that would like to donate their positive balances to help other students can do so by emailing Food Service their request at <u>foodservice@aasd.k12.wi.us</u>. If you have any questions, please call (920) 832-1719.

# **Summer Food Program Open To All Students**

All students 18 years and under are eligible to receive FREE meals this summer. There is no need to sign up or apply for the program. Students can arrive at our participating sites during posted times and receive free meals for breakfast and lunch. Meals are served Monday through Friday from June 13 through July 8, 2022. No meals will be served on July 4. Find more information and participating sites here.

## Family Survey Results - Calendar

We received over 600 responses to last month's calendar survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your input with us. Your feedback will be used to develop the calendar for the **2023-2024 school year**, which will be finalized this fall.

We heard from families that they'd prefer the one available non-school day during the fall semester to be scheduled for December 23. The votes were very close for the one available non-school day during the spring semester to be scheduled for either a Friday in February or the Friday before Easter. We also heard that periodic full days or monthly half-days are preferred by families for "teacher training time" in future calendars.

Only 23% of families responded that they would support ending our school year during the second week of June to allow for additional non-school days to be scheduled during the school year.

We really appreciate this feedback, and while it will not impact our 2022-23 school calendar, it will be helpful in the development of the 2023-24 school year calendar and for future school year planning.

# Family Survey Results - SRO

As part of our contract renewal with the Appleton Police Department and the Grand Chute Police Department, the Board of Education asked that we collect feedback on the program from our students and families. We received over 300 responses to the survey we shared with you last month, which were reported to the Board of Education at their May 23, 2022 board meeting.

We were heartened to see the results:

- Nearly 81% of families believe that we are meeting the mission of our SRO program, which is to promote school safety by building a positive school climate in which all students, staff, families, and community members feel safe and welcome in our schools.
- 87% of families feel having a School Resource Officer positively contributes to safety and security at their student's school.
- Over 84% of families feel it is extremely important or important to have an SRO in their student's school.

# **Family Engagement Survey - Studer Education Group**

As part of our overall school improvement scorecard process, we have offered a Family Engagement Survey three times since 2019. It uses a 5-point scale with 5 being high. Thank you to those of you who took the time to share your input. We continue to use the results to set goals for improvement and have seen steady improvement when analyzing the results. The following key points were noted in the Spring 2022 results:

- In 2019 the mean was 3.95 and this year (2022) it was 4.01. It's great to see the mean move up particularly in a challenging COVID school year.
- What is concerning is that participation in our family survey is going down. We need your input on what we can do to encourage more family members and caregivers to offer their feedback. Principals and staff members will also be asked to give input and ideas to boost participation in the future.
- Overall, families want more feedback about how their child is learning and desire more positive communication from schools.
- On the positive side, our #1 scoring item is "My family is treated with respect at this school." This item scored a
  4.10 last year and is our highest scoring item at 4.25 this year. With our district's focus on inclusion, this is a point of pride!

The Board of Education will receive a report on the Family Engagement Survey results at their June 30th Work Session and principals will share site-specific results with their school communities in the fall of the 2022-23 school year.

## **Community Opportunities for Students**

Each month the Appleton Area School District shares local, community opportunities for students. These community opportunities for students include upcoming events and activities such as art and music camps, youth athletics, cultural events, enrichment programs, and more. We encourage our families to review these opportunities for students of all ages.

New flyers that were added to the Community Opportunity for Students page in May:

- Appleton Children's Week Events ~ July 24-30
- Appleton East Girls Volleyball Youth Camp
- Appleton Music Academy Summer Classes
- Appleton Parks & Rec ~ Playground Program
- Appleton Public Library Summer Program
- Breakfast on the Farm ~ June 12th
- Brigade Summer Activities and Program Guide
- Camp Hope YMCA Day Camp for Children Ages 6-13 with Physical and Cognitive Disabilities ~ July 18-29
- Camp Hope YMCA Day Camp for Children Ages 14-18 with Physical and Cognitive Disabilities ~ July 11-15
- CrossCourt Youth Volleyball Camp ~ Students in Grades 6-12
- Family Movie and BBQ Night ~ June 4th
- Fox Valley Tennis ~ Summer Youth Team Tennis
- History Museum at the Castle ~ DaVinci the Exhibition
- Lawrence University ~ Boys Basketball Camps
- Lawrence University ~ Girls Basketball Camps
- Learn to Skate ~ Summer Opportunities
- Una Noche de Pelicula Para la Familia ~ 4 de Junio

Check out this page any time for a current list of opportunities.

# **Required Annual Registration**

Required annual registration for the 2022-2023 school year will be open in EARLY JULY via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Look for more information via email at the beginning of July.

# **Feedback Requested on Instructional Materials**

The Board of Education, as the governing body of the District, is legally responsible for all educational materials utilized within the instructional program of the Appleton Area School District. The selection of educational materials is delegated to the professionally trained and certified personnel employed by the school system. The responsibility for coordinating and maintaining qualitative standards in the selection process rests with the Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction (ACI) department.

We are currently soliciting feedback on the instructional materials for three courses:

- AP Biology #4180
- Elementary ELA
- High School ELA

As part of the adoption process, AASD staff members, students, parents, and residents are provided with the opportunity to examine and contribute feedback on the recommended instructional materials. The feedback collected will be taken into consideration by the committee to determine the final list of instructional materials that will be recommended to the AASD Board of Education. <u>Learn more about Materials Review in the AASD.</u>