



The Bagpiper

Argyle Central School Newsletter

Superintendent's Message

Dear Argyle Community Members:

As I am writing this message for our newsletter it is hard to believe that it is already mid-October. The first month and half of school has come and gone and it has been a busy start to the school year. We have had several events including open house, fire safety, several field trips many of which were to local farms and businesses and various athletic contests including the annual Jug Game with Hartford. Over the next several weeks we have several more events for our students and families to look forward to including the PTSA sponsored Trunk or Treat, the homecoming dance, the Spooky 5K Race, the fall sports pep rally, and the annual Elementary Halloween Parade. These events do not happen without the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff and the support of the Argyle community. Thank you to all who contribute to make these events possible for our students.

I would also like to take a moment and thank the faculty and staff, both at the elementary and secondary levels. I have had the opportunity to watch them teach and interact with our student body daily over the past five weeks and I am very impressed with the care and personal connections they make with students on a daily basis.

As we move towards November, I want to remind you that our annual Emergency Go-Home Drill will take place on Thursday, November 9th. Although this is a bit of an inconvenience for families, I encourage you to please allow your student to use the emergency plan that we have on file in the office, including riding the bus to their emergency drop off location. This allows students to be comfortable if we have to use the plan during the school year. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Finally, I want to thank the community members that I have met since starting here in July. Your support and well wishes have meant a great deal. This community cares deeply about this school and this has not gone unnoticed by me. As always, please communicate with the school when questions or concerns arise. We all want what is best for the students of Argyle. Thank you.

Sincerely,
James Bennefield
Superintendent



October/November 2023

ACS Indoor Walking Program

Adult district residents may use the building to walk November 6 - April 26. There will be designated hours before and after school when participants may walk the hallways of the schools.

Participants must pre-register in the Main Office to participate in this independent activity.

Community Fitness Center

The Fitness Center at Argyle Central School is open to residents of the District age 13 and up. No one under the age of 15 is permitted to use the fitness center without his/her parent/guardian present at all times.

Participants may register in the Main Office to receive an electronic swipe card. Forms can be found on our website at www.argylecsd.org.

Fitness Center days and hours are Monday-Thursday 5-8pm when school is in session.

Junior/Senior High Principal's Message

Dear Argyle Families:

The 2023-24 school year is off to a successful start! We have already reached the mid-way point of our first quarter of the school year. I have been impressed with our school climate. Students and staff have been working hard in the classroom while also creating opportunities for students to connect through activities, clubs, field trips, and athletics.

Open House on September 28th served as a great opportunity for staff and families to connect and learn about their child's school experience. Our teachers and staff were grateful to meet and visit with all families. It is our desire to have continuous communication with our families throughout the school year. In addition, I encourage all families to make use of the e-School Parent Portal. Parents have access to current grades, attendance data, along with any information regarding any discipline issues. I encourage parents to contact the office if we can be of assistance in helping you take advantage of this service.

Use this QR Code to go directly to Parent Portal Sign in:



The fall season is already winding down with our school pep rally, senior recognition nights, league championships, and sectional championship tournaments. The fall coaches and athletes have done an outstanding job preparing and competing throughout the season. In addition, our athletes have positively displayed attributes of an Argyle Scot.

Athletics and Extracurricular clubs provide positive learning experiences. I am hopeful that we can get more students involved in the winter and spring seasons. We will be using a new program to register for winter athletics called Family ID. Sign up through Family ID will begin on Friday, October 13 and continue until the start of the winter season November 13. Please refer to our school website, and Mr. Jensen, Athletic Director, for more information.

Use this QR Code to go directly to Family ID Sign in:



Thank you for the integral role you play in the success of our students. As always, please contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

John Galarneau

7-12 Principal

Galarneau_j@argylecsd.org

Argyle Thanksgiving

F.E.A.S.T.



Plans are underway for the 29th Annual Argyle F.E.A.S.T., to provide Thanksgiving meals to residents of Argyle and surrounding communities. Our committee is reaching out for volunteers and donations! Volunteers are needed for meal preparation and cleanup on Wednesday, November 22nd and meal preparation and deliveries on Thanksgiving, November 23rd. If you can volunteer, contact Linda LaRock at 518-638-8922.

Meals will be served at the JA Barkley Hose Fire Dept., also can be picked up there or delivered. To reserve meals, make a donation or have questions, please contact Patty Hamond at 518-638-8362 by November 15th.

Elementary Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The 2023-2024 school year is off to a successful start! Everyone is excited to be back at school to begin another year of learning. Our students and teachers are doing great things. Our hallways are filled with displays of student work. It makes me proud to see their hard work and effort. Thank you to all our families who attended our annual Open House. Be sure to check out our Facebook page to see some awesome family photos.

The October character word of the month is RESPECT. A big THANK YOU to our 6th grade students who introduced the word to our elementary students last week. On Friday, October 27th, we will be celebrating our monthly Student of the Month assembly. We will recognize those students who have been respectful. The November word of the month will be GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Below are some highlights and important information:

- **New Curriculum:** This year students in Grades K-4 have been introduced to a new Reading Curriculum entitled Magnetic Reading. We are working hard to help our students building confidence and improve their reading skills. Take some time to read with your child every night. It can make a big difference.
- A big thank you to our Argyle Fire Department! On October 10th and 11th our K-6 students visited the Argyle firehouse to learn about fire safety. On Friday, October 13th, the Argyle firemen brought their fire truck to school for our Pre-K students to explore.
- On October 31st we will host our annual Halloween Parade. We have planned an outdoor event, weather permitting. More information will be sent home soon.
- In November, we will honor and celebrate our veterans. This year's event will be an indoor assembly. We hope to see you there!
- Mark your calendars for November 13th and December 1st. Our classroom teachers will be sending home information regarding our fall parent conferences. We look forward to talking with you about your child's progress.
- Remember ATTENDANCE MATTERS! We miss your students when they are not here. Please make an effort to get your child to school on time everyday.

Please know my door is always open. You can contact me anytime and I will do my best to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you again for continued support. I look forward to seeing you at our family events.

Sincerely,
Dawn Wood
Elementary Principal



Grade 2 Field Trip to Farms

Grade 2 went on a field trip to two farms in early October. They visited Pleasant Valley farm in Argyle for a tour and picked carrots. Then they drove to Alleged Farm in Easton, picnicked and met up with Comfort Foods Community. While there they cleaned over 500 pounds of potatoes which were then donated through Comfort Foods to Farm-2-Library programs sites in our area.



Argyle Central School
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Operation SANTA

Can you believe it is time to start thinking about Christmas? ACS will once again participate in the OSC program. If you know of a family that would qualify for this assistance (clothing, food, and toys), please notify Kim Humiston at 518-638-8243, ext. 504 for an application. Applications are also available on the school website (www.argylecsd.org). Even if you received this service previously, you must still apply each year. Applications are due November 9, 2023 and will be reviewed carefully.

Other options for assistance include the Salvation Army and Family Services for food, clothing, and toys, and the Marine Corps for toys. **You cannot apply to more than one agency for the same service.** For example, you can apply for toys from Marine Corps and for clothing from OSC.

Fundraisers for this program include:

- On Sunday, November 5, 2023, the Community Choir will present a concert at the Argyle Presbyterian Church at 3:00 pm.
- Our annual "Pool Your Pennies" event on November 9th. Please be saving your coins. Bills are also joyfully accepted!

In the past, we have had individual families and organizations anonymously "adopt" a family by purchasing food, clothing, and/or toys. If you would be interested in adopting one of the OSC families this year, please contact Kim Humiston at 518-638-8243, ext. 504 or email her at humiston_k@argylecsd.org by November 3, 2023.

Thank you to all who generously give to help make Christmas merry for those less fortunate.

Argyle Students Visit Firehouse

During Fire Prevention Week

Our elementary students got an invaluable lesson in fire safety and had the chance to engage with firefighters during their recent visit to the Argyle Fire Rescue station.

The heart of the visit was a lesson in fire safety. Firefighters demonstrated the importance of smoke detectors and how they save lives. Students practiced the "stop, drop, and roll" technique in case their clothing caught fire. They learned to escape their bedroom in case of a fire and the vital role of having a designated meeting point.

For many students, the highlight of the visit was seeing the fire trucks up close. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and see firsthand the tools the firefighters rely on when they respond to fires, medical emergencies, and rescues. They learned about the gear that firefighters wear to be safe while fighting a fire.

