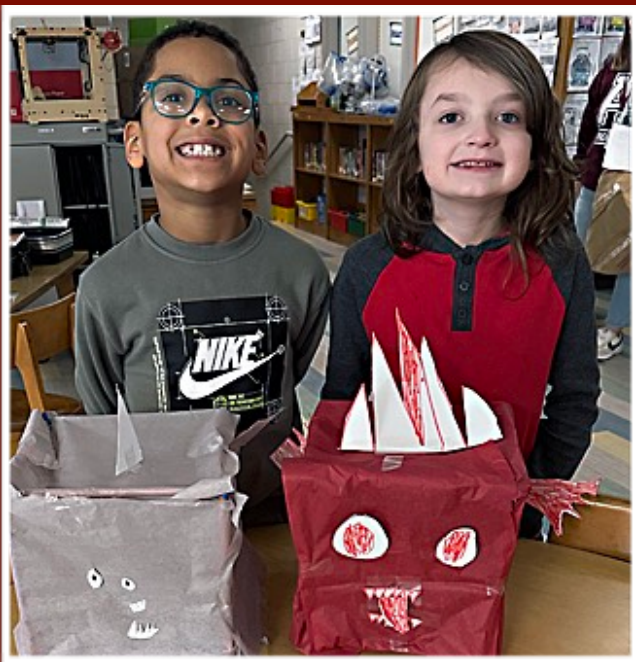




the
MAROON
monthly

AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 6



Second graders at Genesee learned about Lunar New Year

We learned that it was the year of the snake. We also learned about red envelopes, traditional dress, and even got to try some different foods. Students had a chance to sample dried seaweed, orange candy from Korea, and also strawberry candy from China. Students also learned that fireworks celebrations and lantern festivals can be a part of people's traditional celebration. We had so much fun learning about other cultures and traditions and even got a chance to make our own lanterns! May everyone have a healthy and prosperous new year!

Amanda Osborne



Digital Access Survey - New York State

Digital Access Survey

Collecting accurate data regarding digital resource access for our New York students will greatly help educators to better serve their students and families. In order to accomplish this, the **New York State Education Department** is asking parents and guardians to complete this Digital Access Survey (for each student in the family) in grades **Kindergarten – Grade 12**. This survey will provide information on student access to devices and internet access in their places of residence. To assist us in this process, please answer each question below and follow any additional instructions provided for submitting or returning the survey.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Casey Park sixth grader teaches first graders about MLK, dreams



Casey Park Elementary sixth grader Aria Leubner knows she wants to be a teacher and she's already taught her first lesson.

Leubner stood in front of Casey Park's first graders on Thursday, Jan. 16 to speak about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.

After she spoke about what the speech was about, the students wrote down their own dreams and put them in a "Dream Box" that Leubner constructed. The dreams will be attached to a poster that Leubner also created and will be displayed in the school.

Leubner said she got the idea to speak to the students and the poster when she saw a Martin Luther King Jr. display near the main office.

"I saw it and thought I could talk to the kids and put together (the poster) for the students' dreams," she said.

(To read more go to <https://aecsd.education/districtpage.cfm?pageid=4792>)



The first Auburn Broomball League game took place on January 12 at Casey Park

Four teams, made up of Auburn ECSD faculty, staff, and administration along with members of the Auburn community, participated. Spectators are more than welcome to come and watch! There are two more sessions scheduled at Casey Park Rink on 2/9, and 3/2. Games start at 1 PM and finish at 2:20 PM.

Thank you to the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation for providing such a fantastic opportunity!

Create your own Donut Contest

The students in Miss Minnoe and Miss Iversen's 4th grade class at Genesee completed a project-based learning writing assignment where they were tasked with creating their very own donut to enter into a flavor of the month contest. Each student was able to choose the flavor of their donut as well as what they wanted it to look like. They were able to really express their creative skills in the design of their donut while also showcasing their persuasive writing skills in order to persuade the readers (and contest judges) into picking their donut as the winner.

Their writing is showcased above their lockers and the students wanted the opportunity to have a true contest and have asked the staff of Genesee Elementary to cast their votes in hopes to find out which donut would truly win!



Nicole Iversen and Claire Minnoe, 4th Grade Genesee Elementary

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

- February is Black History Month, and we will be educating and celebrating in various ways throughout our seven buildings.
- During the month of January, students at AHS voted on a district slogan.
- On January 6, the DEI Task Force met. Students from AHS presented on microaggressions and stereotypes.
- On January 13, Michelle Kolceski, Director of Early Learning and ENL presented to new teachers and their mentors on Working with English Language Learners.
- On January 20, the district was closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. All of our buildings engaged students in learning opportunities about Martin Luther King, Jr. leading up to this day.
- On January 30, Dr. Renee Burgess and ENL Teacher, Brandon Keysor launched a three-part DEI Workshop Series on Understanding Cultural Values.
- The Seymour Library has Conscious Child Kits to celebrate diverse voices and help facilitate family discussions about racial equity, identity, and justice. Topics include identity & belonging, immigration & refugees, joy & self-love, justice & systemic racism, and solidarity & activism. Kits are geared towards ages four to seven or eight to eleven. Each kit features a variety of books, discussion questions for engagement with the books and topic, and lists of further recommended readings. Conscious Child Kits are available with your Seymour Library card. Explore more fun, hands-on resources at seymourlibrary.org/library-of-things/.



Dr. Renee Burgess, DEI Executive Director



What are your Dreams?

In class, we focused on the profound impact of Martin Luther King Jr. by watching both a BrainPOP Jr. video and his “I Have a Dream” speech. This led to an enlightening discussion among my students about color, race, and equality. As we reflected on what we can learn and how to apply MLK’s vision, I encouraged them to think about their own dreams for a better world.

*Ms. Love, 2nd Grade Teacher
Casey Park Elementary*

News from Genesee Elementary



Ms. Martens third graders at Genesee visited the Schweinfurth Art Center. They completed a scavenger hunt to learn about the quilts and then they got to create their own mini quilt!

Mackensy Martens, 3rd Grade Teacher



National Fourth Graders Day at Genesee

With laughter, teamwork, and creativity in the air, it was a great day at Genesee Elementary as we celebrated our amazing fourth graders!

Claire Minnoe, Beth Robinson and Nicole Iversen, 4th Grade Teachers

On Jan. 13 the fourth-grade classes at Genesee celebrated National Fourth Graders Day in style!



Students kicked off the day by creating colorful crowns, which they wore proudly throughout the day. The excitement continued with a thrilling grade-level Connect Four tournament — congratulations to Mara Lisano for claiming the championship title! In addition to the game, the students worked through a fun packet of activities that celebrated what it means to be a fabulous fourth grader.

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 February Artwork Left: Loveah Garlow, Gr. 8 Right: Temperance Kramer Gr. 4		UPK NOW OPEN! Open Enrollment for AECSD 2025-2026 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program	January 2025 S M T W T F S 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 31	 For updated events please check the online calendar at our website: www.aecsd.education	1 Sr. High Area All State
2 Groundhog Day	3 District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman National School Counseling Week	4	 5 District Cup Stacking Contest @ Seward 3:30PM Music Teachers Recital @ AHS 7:00PM	6	7 Elementary Report Cards	8  ACT Test 7:45AM @ AHS
9 National African American History Month	10	11 Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	 12 Snow Moon	13 Family Engagement Night @ Herman Ave National PTA Founders Day	14  Valentine's Day	15
16 	17 NO SCHOOL Winter Break Week  Presidents' Day	18 NO SCHOOL 	19 NO SCHOOL 	20  NO SCHOOL 	21 NO SCHOOL 	22 
23 National Children's Dental Health Month	24	25 Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 6:00PM	26	 27	28	March 2025 S M T W T F S 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 31

Update: The AHS Drama Club Show has been postponed to April 24 - 26th, 7:00PM for all dates at APT.



At Herman Ave Elementary Ms. Marginski's class worked with Mrs. Crosby to create and race Indy cars.



Owasco Elementary students grades 4-6 have begun piano instruction!

We received a classroom set of MIDI keyboards, a grant graciously approved by the Auburn Education Foundation. Every student in the music classroom is able to strengthen their music literacy skills and learn songs by connecting these portable pianos to their Chromebooks. The website "Chrome Music Lab" allows kids to compose and perform songs in a variety of instruments and sound settings. Thank you Auburn Education Foundation for this wonderful opportunity and enrichment for music class!
Shannon Stoddard, Music Teacher



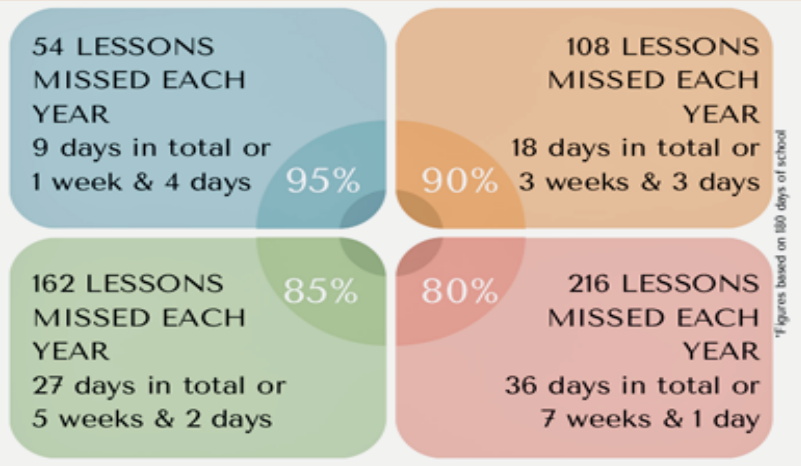
Casey Park Elementary students learned all about baking!

Casey Park 6th Graders helped to assemble 143 Bread Baking Kits from King Arthur's Baking Company. The 6th graders set up an assembly line to place several items into each of the student's bags for 4th through 6th graders. Liam, a 4th-grade Casey Park student, and Jordell, a 5th-grade Casey Park student, shared photos of items they baked after the Bake for Good presentation they had in January. *Mrs. DelloStritto, 6th Grade Teacher*



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

A daily absence percentage of 90% or less, or missing 18 or more days of school for any reason including excused absences and suspensions, is considered chronic absenteeism. When students are chronically absent, it can translate into having difficulty reading by the third grade, difficulty achieving in middle school, and difficulty graduating from high school. What does your attendance figure actually mean?



Seymour Library

Seymour Library | 176-178 Genesee Street | Auburn, NY | 315.252.2571

February is Library Lovers' Month and Seymour Library invites you to join us for programs all month long, including STEAM Saturday and Winter Break activities! Visit www.seymourlibrary.org to view the complete list of library events. No registration is required for these free programs and events!

STEAM Saturday: Snowpeople Science Saturday, February 8 at 11 am

Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and/or Math at this monthly program. This month explore *Snowpeople Science*. Designed for ages 6-12, but all ages are welcome.

LEGO Club: History Challenge

Monday, February 10 at 4 pm

Explore your creativity with LEGO challenges and games during the library's LEGO Club! The library will provide all the LEGO bricks. Designed for ages 6 and up, but all ages are welcome.

Family Fun Night: Library Camp-IN Friday, February 14 from 4 pm- 5:30 pm



Who says we can't enjoy camping activities in February? Join us for a special indoor library camp-IN!

We will read not-so-scary stories around the "campfire", make a campfire craft and enjoy a special s'mores treat! Allergies will be considered and the library will provide allergen free alternatives. **Pajamas are welcomed and encouraged!**

Winter Break in the Family Space!



Looking for some activities to do together as a family over winter break? No registration is required for these drop in programs. All ages are welcome!

Build Day

Monday, February 17 from 10 am to 2 pm

Join us for a day of building at the library! You will be able to choose from LEGO bricks, LEGO DUPLO building bricks, KEVA Planks, Wooden blocks and more!

Craft Day

Tuesday, February 18 from 10 am to 2 pm

Choose from a variety of creative activities including painting, collaging and crafting.

Pokémon Day

Wednesday, February 19 from 10 am to 2 pm

During this special drop-in event, we will complete different Pokémon activities.

February Scavenger Hunt



Stop by during the month for our newest scavenger hunt! Find all the love monsters to win a prize!

National Suicide Prevention
Call or text 988

988

24/7 Free and confidential support
for people in distress
<https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/crisis/988.html>

Beginning February 1, 2025

Open Enrollment for Auburn Enlarged City School District's 2025-2026 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program

The Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program is an integral component of our district and includes a UPK program for our 4-year-old learners and a 3PK program for 3-year-olds. Together, these programs offer comprehensive educational services to Auburn School District residents who will be 3 or 4 years of age on or before December 1, 2025, and are available at no cost for eligible children.



Site	Program	Full/Half Day	Contact
Cayuga Community College-81 Wall Street	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-294-8603
Cayuga Onondaga BOCES-1879 W. Genesee St. Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0075
Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency-89 York St. and sites at several AECSD schools	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-0038
Early Childhood Center-1110 Corporate Dr.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0233
E. John Gavras Center-182 North St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-2746
Montessori School of the Finger Lakes-6734 Pine Ridge Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-2225
YMCA- 27 William St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-253-5304

A list of our Universal Pre-Kindergarten program locations (sites) below contains information regarding which sites offer 3PK and/or UPK full-day programs. Parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to visit any of these participating sites before completing your child's registration. Kindly contact the site to arrange a visit. **Spaces are limited. Parents/guardians can register their child online and upload the supporting documentation on/after February 1st.**

The 3PK and UPK 2024-2025 online student registration will be open beginning February 1, 2025. Please register your student using the online enrollment form located at the link on the Auburn Enlarged City School District website, www.AESCD.education, under Student Registration.

Parents/guardians who prefer to submit their student's registration in person may pick up a 2025-2026 registration packet at any of the UPK sites listed above and also at any Auburn Elementary School or our Administrative Offices. **Registration packets will be available for pick up the week of January 20th.**

Completed applications should be submitted to your child's current Pre-Kindergarten site or to the Harriet Tubman Administrative Offices at 78 Thornton Ave.

REMINDER: We cannot accept any completed registration packets prior to February 1st



**Need more information about the 2025-2026 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program?
Please contact Mary White at 315-255-8825 or Michelle Kolceski at 315-255-8613**



Talk to your teen about VAPING

Click below to read the US Surgeon General's Tip Sheet for Parents:

https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/SGR_ECig_ParentTipSheet_508.pdf



Follow us on Facebook!



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- <https://www.facebook.com/OwascoElementary>
- <https://www.facebook.com/HermanAveElementary>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sewardelementary>

#FixAndFundIt

The Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee has put this website together as a way to get information out to the community regarding the Foundation Aid issues affecting the district.

For more information please visit:

fixandfundit.org



Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)

Students who are applying to colleges, please be aware that procedures for the confidentiality of student records within the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) have recently changed. FERPA permits school officials to disclose all education records, including disciplinary records, to another institution at which the student seeks or intends to enroll. This now also applies to post-secondary institutions (colleges), upon request.

NEW YORK STATE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

You can go online to find out if any sexual offenders live near you. The New York State Sex Offender Registry is available at www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm whereby you can search for Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders.



Keep Your Child on Track With Schoolwork

Supporting Children's Learning: Children who are struggling with schoolwork can become frustrated and look for ways to avoid going to school and participating in school. Our goal is to provide them with the support they need so they feel good about learning and good about themselves. Parents and teachers need to work together to help children succeed in school and feel connected. Find out more at:

www.everystudentpresent.org/parents

Check out #EveryStudentPresentAECSD on social media.

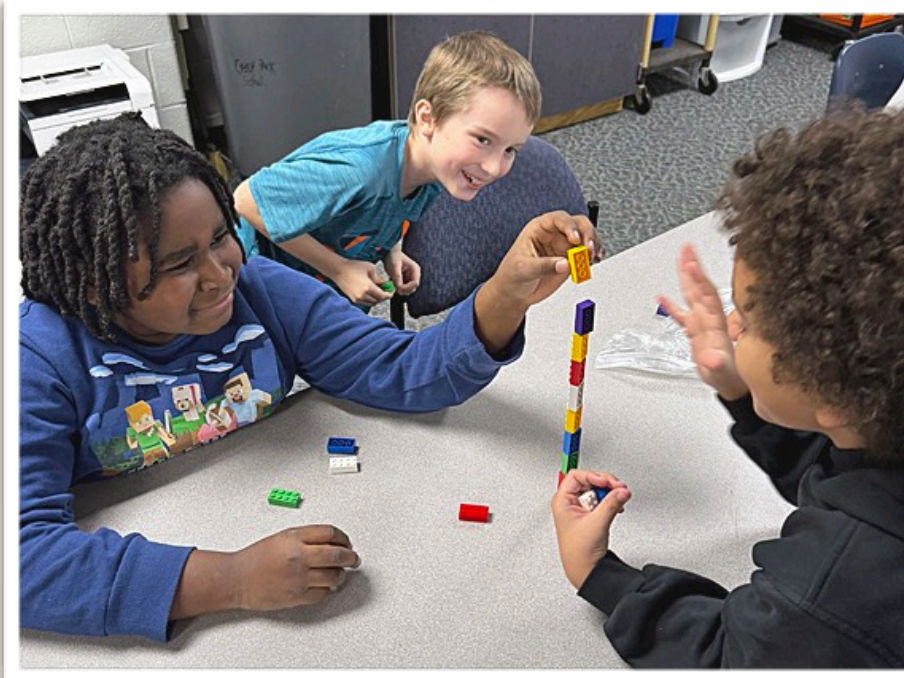
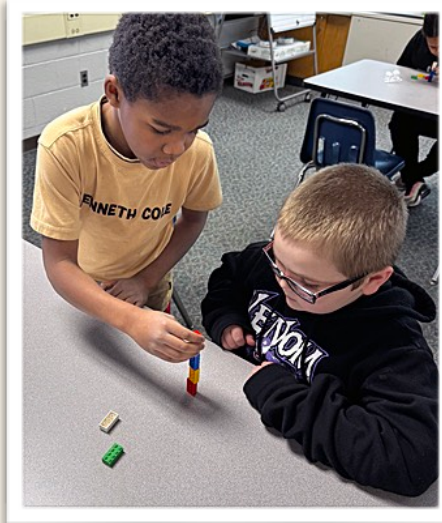


News from Casey Park

What can you do with six LEGO bricks?

Casey Park third graders found out. They each received a baggie with six bricks and were challenged to complete a variety of activities. The activity pictured is “Tricky Tower.” Students developed their fine motor skills by stacking bricks from short end to short end with one hand. They then tried the other hand. After some practice, students combined bricks to make the tallest tower they could. That day the winners stacked twelve bricks!

Ms. Pitman, Casey Park



GO MAROONS!

All events and activities are subject to change. Please check the website for the latest updates:

www.aecsd.education



February 2025

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the
AUBURN ENLARGED CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.aecsd.education

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To report Child Abuse call the Statewide Toll Free Telephone Number:

1-800-342-3720 or visit: <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps/>

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services

We Make a Difference!