



Allendale Public Schools
High School | 10760 68th Ave | Allendale, MI 49401 | 616-892-5585

Greetings AHS Students and Families,

We hope this welcome back letter finds you relaxing and enjoying summer. We are very excited to see our high school students on August 29! Enclosed you will find important dates, times, and other relevant information regarding Allendale High School and the 2022-2023 school year.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (616)892-5585, or check the school website for a list of contacts (www.allendale.k12.mi.us/schools/highschool). The high school office will open on August 15.

The 2022 - 2023 school year brings some changes within our staff roster. Mr. Duane Watson retired from education, and Ms. Liz Pellegrom, Mr. Tom Sheppard, Mr. Matt Borst, Mr. Denton Grant, and Mrs. Heidi Mucha either made career changes or accepted positions with other school districts. Mr. Duane Watson served as a teacher and a coach for over three decades at APS. We are happy and excited for Mr. Watson to start this new chapter in his life. Ms. Liz Pellegrom left public education and is now a counselor in the private sector. She is also working on a business she started a few years ago. Mr. Tom Sheppard accepted an administrative position as a dean of students for Manistee Area Public Schools. He is excited about stepping into an administration role and is looking forward to being closer to his family living in northern Michigan. Mr. Matt Borst also accepted a position in administration as the athletic director for Hudsonville Christian Middle School. His children attend Hudsonville Christian School, and he is excited to take on an administrative role in his children's school. Mr. Denton Grant accepted a 6th-12th grade band director co-teacher position with Ionia Public Schools to be closer to his loved ones in Lansing. Mrs. Heidi Mucha accepted a position with Hudsonville Public Schools as the principal for Alward Elementary. She taught 3rd grade in the past, and her daughters also attend Alward Elementary, so this move allows her to return to the elementary level with her children. We wish them blessings and success as they begin new chapters in their lives.

I am pleased to announce new staff members at AHS! Please see the attached pictures and bios at the end of this letter showcasing our new staff members. Mr. Brendan Barrow will teach physics and chemistry. Mr. Ryan Broome is our new high school band director. Mr. David Brown will teach physical education and health. Ms. Halle Carpenter is replacing Mr. Jason Hubbs as our new special education teacher. Mr. Hubbs is transferring to teach special education at Allendale Middle School. Ms. Carpenter will support or special education students in math and science classes. Ms. Erin Dood will teach social studies classes. Mrs. Lindsay Harness will teach biology and health. Ms. Audra Murphy is our new assistant principal. Mrs. Liz Stalzer will teach Spanish. Mr. Behn Tubman will teach English and social studies classes. Mrs. Laura VanDyke is our new high school counselor. We welcome these staff members with excitement and support!



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The high school's daily class schedule starts with 1st period at 7:45 AM and ends with 6th period at 2:33 PM. The high school doors will open at 7:10 AM. We will run a six period school day within a two semester school year. Our first semester at the high school runs from August 29 to January 20, and the second semester runs from January 23 to June 9. Student schedules will be available on hard copies at the high school on August 17 and 18. Student schedules will be shared with students electronically via Infinite Campus' Student Portal on August 19.

Please pay special attention to the dates enclosed with this correspondence, especially the Open House date and times--Please bring your child's schedule with you to our high school Open House.

We will run a freshman orientation at the high school from 8:45 - 11:45 AM on August 18. This event is an opportunity for 9th grade students to become familiar with the building and hear some helpful tips without the stress of 600 other students in the building. Bus transportation and lunch will be provided on this day. I highly recommend your freshman son or daughter attend this event. The information shared will help reduce the anxiety and stress of joining AHS on the first day of school.

One final important reminder: **Please update your census verification report form, and please include a working, accurate email address.** Email is one of the most convenient and commonly used forms of communication between school and home. Thank you for taking the time to provide accurate information on this document. It helps us communicate with home more accurately and efficiently. We would also appreciate it if you would be willing to share your child's cell phone number and other email addresses with us.

Please check the website frequently for updates regarding important dates and information. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter @AllendaleHigh for quick updates and communication. We are looking forward to another GREAT school year.

Thank you, and GO Falcons!

Troy VanderLaan
Principal



**-Please see a list of important
back-to-school dates and new staff
introductions below-**



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Mr. Brendan Barrow - *Physics and Chemistry*

I went to Iona College in NY where I majored in Physics and minored in Math. I then got my masters in Education at Concordia University Irvine. I have taught at a few different schools both public and private. First at Temescal Canyon High School, then Santa Margarita Catholic High School, followed by Sage Hill School and finally Costa Mesa Middle/High School. I'm excited to be a Falcon and will be teaching Physics and Chemistry. My family and I just moved to Sparta, MI from Irvine, CA. So we are new to the state and excited to

explore Michigan and meet new people. I have a lovely wife, Jennifer, and an adorable 1 year old son, Liam. I enjoy the outdoors, camping, hiking, swimming, fishing and boating with family and friends. I used to have a small sailboat and would sail to islands off the coast of California for spearfishing. I like to woodwork when I can find the time.



Mr. Ryan Broome - *Band Director*

My name is Ryan Broome, and I am the new High School Band Director at Allendale Public Schools. I attended college at Grand Valley State University, where I majored in Music Education and minored in Applied Trombone Performance. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my wife, and our newborn daughter.



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Mr. David Brown - *Physical Education and Health*

Hello my name is David Brown and I will be teaching Health and Physical Education. I graduated from Hope College in 2016 with a degree in PE and Health. While there I played football and met my wife Allie. We currently reside in Allendale with our one year old daughter, Marah. Allie works for GVSU in housing and residential life. In my free time I love to play golf, bike, or attend any sort of sporting event. I am entering into my 5th year of teaching and coaching, but have never been more excited to be a part of a community like Allendale!



Ms. Halle Carpenter - *Special Education*

Hello! My name is Halle Carpenter and I will be teaching special education at Allendale High School this fall! I recently graduated from Hope College with a degree in secondary special education and a minor in English education. I completed my student teaching at Allegan High School and can't wait to begin this new journey at Allendale. In my free time I enjoy going to the beach, cheering on the Flying Dutch and playing softball. If you see me in the hallway or outside of my classroom ask me about my love for reality tv, dogs or diet coke!



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Ms. Erin Dood - Social Studies

Hello! My name is Erin Dood, and I just recently graduated from Grand Valley State University. I majored in secondary education and group social studies, and I minored in English. I completed my student teaching at West Ottawa High School last semester where I taught World History. At Allendale High School, I will be teaching U.S. History, which I am very excited about! Some of my hobbies include hiking, reading, and running. One of my goals is to see all of the National Parks in the United States.

My younger sister and I went on a five week camping trip out to the Pacific Northwest this summer, and we went to 11 different National Parks! I am looking forward to my first year teaching at Allendale High School, and I cannot wait to start!



Mrs. Lindsay Harness - Biology and Health

I am originally from a small, rural town in northern MN (just 7 miles south of the Canadian border). I attended the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN before transferring to GVSU where I graduated with a degree in Health Science and a minor in Psychology. I continued my education at Calvin University where I completed my

teaching degree. I previously taught Biology at Grand River Preparatory High School in Kentwood, and this fall I will be teaching Biology and Health at Allendale.

I've been married to Weston for 20 years and we have four children. Our oldest, Griffin, is a sophomore at Michigan Technological University. Paxton is a senior, MacAllistair is a freshman and Lucia is in 5th grade. In the summer we enjoy spending time outdoors, hiking, camping and at the lake. During the school year we spend our time at soccer games, basketball games, wrestling meets, track meets, theater productions, band concerts and choir concerts.



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Ms. Audra Murphy - Assistant Principal

Hello all, Audra Murphy here! I've been with APS since 2008 teaching math at the Middle and High School, working as our 6-12 Academic Coach, and coaching in our Volleyball program. I am a proud graduate of Hillsdale College where I earned a BS in Mathematics as well as played on their NCAA DII volleyball team. When I'm not grinding away working for our amazing students, you can find me reading and enjoying some fresh air and sunshine. I am an avid health enthusiast and am continually learning about nutrition, physical fitness, and positive mindset. My most favorite things to do are anything with my family and 9-year-old son Kirk, who is a 3rd grader at APS. I look forward to working together and serving as the HS Assistant Principal to make this year great!!!



Mrs. Liz Stalzer - Spanish

I am so excited to become a Falcon at Allendale Public Schools! I graduated from Grand Valley State University with a major in Spanish and a minor in Psychology. I am looking forward to getting back to the wonderful community of Allendale. I taught for three years at Pennfield Middle School in Battle Creek. After marrying my husband Brad, and wanting to move back closer to family in West Michigan, I moved back to Spring Lake where I currently reside. I taught six years at Muskegon Catholic Central, Spanish 1-4 and more. I have two beautiful children, Maya, one years old, and Nico, three years old. I have a ridiculous obsession with reading, but I also love cooking, traveling abroad, and spending time with family and friends.



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Mr. Behn Tubman - Social Studies and English

My name is Behn Tubman, I am originally from Bay City, but I have spent a lot of time in Allendale as a student at Grand Valley State University. I was a walk-on football player from 1999-2000 and served as a student assistant coach in 2001-02 while I was at GVSU. I graduated in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in history and now serve on the Alumni Board. In 2006 I left Michigan to start my teaching career in Orlando, Florida where I taught social studies for 3 years at Freedom High School and 4 years at Southwest Middle School. I met my beautiful wife Nicole while living in Florida, we were married in 2010. I also worked in the summers as a lifeguard at Blizzard Beach at Disney

World. My wife and I moved to Athens, Tennessee in 2013, and our daughter London was born there in 2015. The last 9 years I have been teaching at McMinn County High School, where I have taught English, World History, AP European History, and served as the yearbook advisor, sports information director, and assistant athletic director. In my spare time I love being at my family's cabin near Tawas, going to Disney World, watching sports, and barbecuing. I am very excited to be teaching World History and English 9 at AHS which are 2 subjects I have taught in the past. After 16 years away from Michigan I can't tell you how excited I am to be coming home to Allendale. Soar Falcons!!



Mrs. Laura VanDyke - School Counselor

Hello, AHS families! My name is Laura VanDyke and I am excited to be joining the counseling team at Allendale High School this fall. I live in Marne with my husband and two daughters. I attended Lee University, earning a B.A. in psychology. I also earned a master's degree in school counseling from Grand Valley State University. Before coming to AHS, I worked for Godwin Heights Public Schools and Grand Rapids Christian Schools. I love camping, biking, and boating with my family. I'm looking forward to partnering with students, families, and staff at AHS this year!



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Important Back-To-School Dates

High School Pictures, Schedule, and Chromebook Pick Up:

Wednesday, August 17 & Thursday, August 18

9th Graders: 9:00 - 10:30 AM

10th Graders: 10:30 - 12:00 noon

11th Graders: 1:00 - 2:00 PM

12th Graders: 2:00 - 3:00 PM

★ *Please enter through the Athletic Entrance to pick up your schedules. You will then be directed to the CEAC for pictures and the media center for chromebook pick up.*

School Picture Make-Up Day:

Monday, September 26, 2022

9th – 12th grade High School Open House:

★ **Parents of all AHS grades -**

- Monday, August 29 at 6:30 PM
- Begins in the Ceglarek Fine Arts Center
- Please bring your child's schedule

★ **9th grade Parent Meeting -**

Mr. VanderLaan hosts an optional pre Open House meeting for 9th grade parents on Monday, August 29 at 6:00 PM in the Ceglarek Fine Arts Center.

Census Verification:

Parents/Guardians please make any changes necessary and fill out and sign the bottom portion. This **MUST** be returned the first week of school.

★ **PLEASE make certain to provide a working email address!**

9th Grade Orientation - 9th grade students only:

Thursday, August 18 from 8:45 - 11:45 AM

- Class schedules, chromebooks, school pictures
- Presentations from administrators/staff
- High school tour and lunch

School Day Start and End Times:

School day begins at 7:45 AM and ends at 2:33 PM

School Day Schedule:

1st period: 7:45 - 8:43

2nd period: 8:48 - 9:51 (daily announcements)

3rd period: 9:56 - 10:54

1st Lunch (A): 10:54 - 11:24

4th period (A): 11:29 - 12:27

4th period (B): 10:59 - 11:57

2nd Lunch (B): 11:57 - 12:27

5th period: 12:32 - 1:30

6th period: 1:35 - 2:33

½ Day Class Schedule:

1st period: 7:45 - 8:15

2nd period: 8:20 - 8:50

3rd period: 8:55 - 9:25

4th period: 9:30 - 10:00

5th period: 10:05 - 10:35

6th period: 10:40 - 11:10

***AM & PM Tech are required.**

***Transportation will be provided, except from school to home for PM Tech.**

The first home football game of the year is Thursday, August 25, 2022 at 7 PM vs. Greenville High School at Allendale.

HOMECOMING 2022

Homecoming Football Game: 10/14/2022

Homecoming Dance: 10/15/2022



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Allendale Public Schools Student Calendar
2022-2023

Aug 24	Wed.	Evergreen Open House 5:30-7:00 PM Oakwood Open House 7:00-8:30 PM
Aug 25	Thurs.	Early Childhood Center Open House 5:30-7:00 PM
Aug 29	Mon.	First Day of School High School Open House 6:30-8:00 PM New Options Open House 6:30-8:00 PM
Aug 31	Wed.	Middle School Open House 6:30-8:00 PM
Sept 2-5	Fri./Mon.	Labor Day Break – No School
Sept 6	Tues.	School Resumes
Sept 30	Fri.	Y5-12 Half day AM
Oct 18	Tues.	Y5-12 Half day AM, Parent Teacher Conferences Y5-12
Oct 20	Thurs.	Y5-12 Half day AM, Parent Teacher Conferences Y5-12
Oct 21	Fri.	Y5-12 No School
Nov 23-25	Wed.-Fri.	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Nov 28	Mon.	School Resumes
Dec 19-Jan 2	Mon.-Mon.	Christmas Break – No School
Jan 3	Tues.	School Resumes
Jan 19	Thurs.	Y5-12 Half day AM
Jan 20	Fri.	Y5-12 Half day AM; End of 1st Semester
Feb 14	Tues.	Y5-12 Half day AM, Parent Teacher Conferences Y5-12
Feb 16	Thurs.	Y5-12 Half day AM, Parent Teacher Conferences Y5-12
Feb 17	Fri.	Y5-12 No School
Mar 17	Fri.	Y5-12 No School
Mar 31-Apr 7	Fri.-Fri.	Spring Break – No School
Apr 10	Mon.	School Resumes
Apr 28	Fri.	Y5-12 Half day AM
May 29	Mon.	Memorial Day – No School
June 8	Thurs.	Y5-12 Half day AM
June 9	Fri.	Y5-12 Half day AM; End of 2nd Semester

School Start and End Times

Allendale High School
Full Day: 7:45 AM to 2:33 PM
Half Day: 7:45 AM to 11:10 AM

New Options High School
Full Day: 7:45 AM to 2:33 PM
Half Day: 7:45 AM to 11:10 AM

Allendale Middle School
Full Day: 7:28 AM to 2:21 PM
Half Day: 7:28 AM to 10:55 AM

Oakwood Intermediate
Full Day: 8:28 AM to 3:21 PM
Half Day: 8:28 AM to 11:52 AM

Evergreen Elementary School
Full Day: 8:37 AM to 3:30 PM
Half Day: 8:37 AM to 12:01 PM

Allendale Early Childhood Center
Full Day: 8:44 AM to 3:37 PM
Half Day: 8:44 AM to 12:10 PM