



## ALMOND-BANCROFT SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

1336 ELM ST

ALMOND, WI 54909

PHONE 715-366-2941 FAX 715-366-2940

WWW.ABSCHOOLS.K12.WI.US

February 2025



### District Administrator Message

February is the month of



I hope over the last four years, I have made it clear how much I love this district, this family, this staff, these students and this community. I know it sometimes sounds corny, but I truly do enjoy being a part of the action at Almond-Bancroft - being around the students and staff during school hours, watching the students in their extra-curricular activities, attending community events, etc. Don't get me wrong, there are challenging days as there are in all districts but I know when I am faced with those days, we will get through them together.

This year we have focused on literacy in our district. We are required by a new state law to provide professional development to our 4K-grade 3 staff on the foundations of literacy. As a district, we chose to not stop there. We are providing a year-long training for every teacher in our district on the foundations of literacy and how to apply those foundational skills in the classroom and expand their reach into our middle school and high school. All of our teachers have been very engaged in this training, have been learning and applying new strategies, and have been doing everything they can to support students. That's how much they love teaching the students in this district.

Winter in Wisconsin is full of change. Last week it was brutally cold and this week it is warmer than it has been in awhile...only in Wisconsin! With this comes students who can become sick, times when we have to have indoor recess, students and staff who can't be in school, etc. During this time all of our administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, cooks, custodians, administrative assistants band together to ensure a safe, clean and secure environment. They do this work because they love the students and want to protect them and make sure that they are here in the building as much as possible.

I have always been impressed by the number of community members who come out to support our students at events. It could be a sporting event, a play or musical, or concert. A majority of the seats will be filled with people who love to be part of these students' lives and want to support our teachers and staff. Many people, businesses and organizations also donate their time and money to our district, hold fundraisers for families in need and support our district in ways that are not always seen. I love that and am amazed by the generosity of this community.

I am blessed to be part of the Almond-Bancroft School District and community. I hope that each and every one of you that comes into the building can feel the love that flows through each staff member. Thank you Almond-Bancroft staff and community for all of the wonderful things that you do to support our students in their learning and growth. I am very proud to be a part of it. O.K...now off to watch another basketball game! Go Eagles!

#### Almond-Bancroft Local Wellness Policy

An assessment of the Almond-Bancroft School District local wellness policy was recently completed in December. The Wisconsin Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report Card can be found on the school website or if you would like a printed copy of the assessment contact Trina Warzynski, 715-366-2941 ext. 422, [twarzynski@abschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:twarzynski@abschools.k12.wi.us).

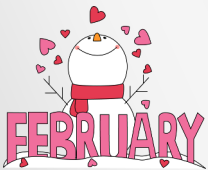
If you would like to be involved in future wellness policy development, implementation, reviews, and/or assessments, please contact Toni Schumacher, 715-366-2941 ext. 123, [tschumacher@abschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:tschumacher@abschools.k12.wi.us).

#### Dates To Remember

2/17-No School, Professional Development Day for Teachers

2/19-Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm, Boardroom

2/27-Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4:00-7:00 pm



#### Almond-Bancroft School District

Jodi Becker  
District Administrator

Toni Schumacher  
PK-12 Principal

Lyndsey Larkin  
Director of Pupil Services

#### School Board

President:  
Keith Dernbach  
Vice President:  
John Ruzicka  
Treasurer:  
Taylor Dernbach  
Clerk:

Debbie Bradley  
Directors:  
Eugene Fosmire  
Brad Garner  
Nicole Huntington

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### -November

Our sixth grade November student of the month is Michael Ceballos! Mikey is a student who takes care with the work that he does. He is easy to get along with and is a good friend to others. Mikey is a great student to have in class. He gets along with everyone. He works hard and takes part in class activities. Congratulations Mikey!

Our seventh grade November student of the month is Rihanna Barajas! Rihanna has a quiet way about her. She is diligent and hardworking. Rihanna is a quiet but steady force in her class. She leads by example with her great attentiveness and excellent work habits. Congratulations Rihanna!

Our eighth grade November student of the month is Rosalyn Knutson! Roz has an easy way about her. She is gracious and generous with her time and energy. Her morning greetings are always appreciated. Roz is a lot of fun to have in the room. She

has great insights and is always cheerful to be around. Congratulations Roz!



### -December

Our sixth grade December student of the month is Kaydain Weber-Wilmot! Kaydain brings great energy to class. He is often first to share ideas and insights. Kaydain has very high expectations for himself. Kaydain is a great addition to class. He often has comments or asks questions that show that he is thinking beyond the basics of the lesson. Congratulations Kaydain!

Our seventh grade December student of the month is Sinthia Neumann! Sinthia is an eager learner. She puts forth great effort and meets challenges head on. Sinthia has a great smile and is a good friend. Sinthia puts an excellent effort into all her work. She pays attention and is always ready to contribute answers and ideas in discussions. Congratulations Sinthia!

Our eighth grade December student of the month is Makayla Peskie! Makayla pushes herself to excel. She sets high standards and works to meet them. Makayla is a leader in both social and academic situations. Makayla is the kind of

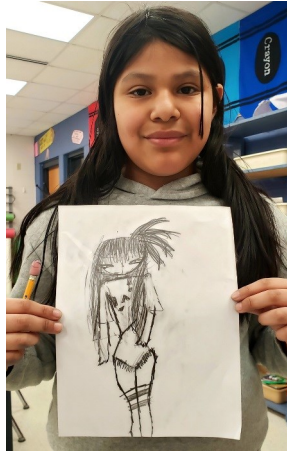
person who can be friends with everyone. She tends to be quiet in class, but is actually very clever and funny. Congratulations Makayla!



## Almond-Bancroft Artists of the Month



Shawn Kowalski  
1st Grade  
Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site



Aylin Gaspar Hernandez  
4th Grade  
Figure drawing study



Vincent Diaz and  
Hazen Garlow  
10th Grade  
Mixed Media

# Meet Our New Staff



Hello everyone! My name is Lillian Pratt, most know me as Lilly. I graduated last year (class of 2024) from Almond Bancroft. I am excited to be back in the school as a paraprofessional this year! I have always dreamed of becoming a teacher and am so excited to start my journey here at Almond Bancroft! Some things I enjoy are showing animals at the fair, helping out on our family farm, traveling, and spending time with my family! I am looking forward to building connections with the students and staff!

WELCOME!



Hello! My name is Jasmine Schnelle and I am so excited to be joining Almond Bancroft as the High School Social Studies Teacher! I grew up in Edgar, WI and recently graduated from UW-Stevens Point. In my free time, I love to read, be with my friends/family, be outdoors, and be active (I was a pole vaulter and threw javelin on the Track and Field team at UWSP). I am excited to meet everyone and start building relationships in this great community!



## ELEMENTARY POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PEP RALLY



Congratulations to the November and December Elementary positive behavior gift ticket winners!

At the December Elementary PBIS pep rally, students did an activity with crumbling paper and trying to straighten it to show how words can still hurt even after you say "I was just kidding" or "I'm sorry."

The entire elementary is going to spend January focusing on creating a blizzard of kindness, since acts of kindness can "snowball."

## Almond-Bancroft FFA Fundraiser

Almond-Bancroft FFA members are studying to compete in the winter and spring career development events (CDE's). CDE contests include livestock judging, wildlife, forestry, environmental science, dairy products, and floriculture. This year our high school members include: Valerie Banda, Shawn Carpenter, Charlie Hutkowski, Kylie Garner, Karson Garner, Delaney Omernick, Baden Ramirez, Tucker Stiles, Callie Warzynski, Blake Williams, and Aubree Wojcik. With your support our great team has been able to travel to learning opportunities such as land judging, water quality testing, soil testing, forest conservation events, and dairy and farm tours. We hope to keep up the fun, hands on learning the rest of the year. Thank you for your support, Almond-Bancroft community.

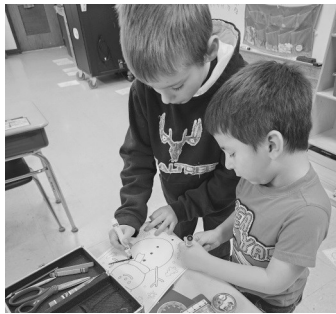
Almond-Bancroft FFA  
**STRAWBERRY SALE**  
Jan 30-  
Feb 12

Flat (8 Quarts) - \$32  
Half-Flat (4 Quarts) - \$18

If you are interested in supporting our strawberry sale, please contact a FFA member or Ms. Gordon., [egordon@abschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:egordon@abschools.k12.wi.us)

# Elementary Activities

The 4K and 2nd grade book buddies always enjoy their weekly time together. They decided to take a break from reading and work together to create some great coloring pieces.



The ELC read a book called Elmer. A book about a patchwork elephant that gave his colors to the rainbow. The students had a wonderful time creating rainbows.



In Science the 2nd graders used M&M's, SMARTIES, and an eyedropper to show water erosion. It was fun to see the rapid and slow changes!



The 3rd graders in Mrs. Pagel's class enjoyed playing OuiSi, a game about making connections and seeing things from someone else's point of view!



4/5th graders had to make a 3D project to go along with their summary of a book for their Reader's Response projects in December. They were so creative!



The weather outside may be frightful, but in the music room is SO delightful!

General music students have been 'Skating' to practice movement and listening skills and having a snowball fight to practice rhythm essentials.

In December the third grade went to the Food and Farm Exploration Center and learned about agriculture and circuits. They explored irrigation, transportation and processing that brings our food from farm to table.



Mrs. Perzinski's second grade students and their 4K Reading Buddies made Valentines to send to veterans.



# Middle and High School Activities

Congratulations to Mrs. Behnke, Mr. Van Camp, and our middle school and high school choirs and bands on the wonderful winter concerts. Your talents put us all in the holiday spirit!



Before Winter Break, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies class went through the steps of mummification on an apple, which included laying their "mummy" to rest in Natron (Salt and Baking Soda).



Over the past month, the apples began to mummify, leaving the students to notice the changes. The students enjoyed this experiment!



Mrs. Omernik's cooking classes held their annual gingerbread house competition, voted on by the entire school! We had 8 fantastic entries this year.

The "Bat Cave" took 2nd place and was created by Karson Pavelski, Cohen Preissner, and Carson Lopez.

"Santa's Beach House" was our Grand Prize Winner and was created by Maddy Potts, Kerstyn Clark, McKenzie Kowalski, and Kylie Garner.



19 Middle School Students attended Adams Friendship in early December to participate in a World Geography Competition against other schools in the area. These students challenged themselves and had a great time! Congratulations to our 7th Grade Team who got 4th place out of around 9 teams!



The freshman class took a field trip to the Overture Center for the Arts in Madison. While there, they watched a production of Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol."

The high school students had the opportunity to zoom with an environmental engineer in Madison during Mrs. Erdmann's science classes. The presenter shared her education experience, job experience, different opportunities in engineering, and what she does day to day as an environmental engineer.



# MUSIC NEWS

## HIGH SCHOOL ALL STARS

Several students were selected to participate in the All Stars Festival in Wittenberg on January 18, 2025. Students from seventeen schools worked with clinicians from UW-Eau Claire practicing and preparing large group Choral and Concert Band music.



All Stars Students:  
Blake Williams, Rosemary Gaspar-Hernandez, Isabelle Behnke, Vivian Kramer,  
Lucy Behnke, Mason Sosin, Camryn Wade



6th Grade General Music Students Practicing Ukulele

## MUSIC DOJO

Our Elementary students are hard at work earning their colorful belts in the music dojo. The third grade classes are learning to play recorders and the sixth grade general music class is playing ukulele. These students are able to practice and learn specific songs to earn belts. Master musicians can earn all the way to their Black belt!



1st Grade students keeping the steady beat with balloons.



4th/5th Music Students performing the Folk Dance Sasha

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- District Solo and Ensemble (Wild Rose) - March 1
- Elementary Spring Concert - May 7
- MS/HS Choir Concert - May 13
- MS/HS Band Concert - May 15
- Musical Auditions to be held in the Spring!



# Making the Right Call When Your Child Is Sick: Should I keep my child home or send him or her to school?



A student should **stay home** if he or she:

- ◆ Has a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher.
- ◆ Has been vomiting or has diarrhea
- ◆ Has symptoms that keep him or her from participating in school, such as:
  - **Very tired or lack of appetite**, (for no known reason).
  - **Cough that he or she cannot control**, sneezing often; *Pertussis* (whooping cough), *RSV*, and *influenza* are in our community or nearby communities; consult your physician for testing with cough or cold symptoms.
  - **Headache, body aches, or earache.**
  - **Sore Throat**—a minor sore throat is ok for school, but a severe sore throat could be **strep throat**, even if there is no fever. Other symptoms of strep throat in children are headache and stomach upset, or rash. Call your doctor if your child has these symptoms. A special test is needed to know if it is strep throat.
- ◆ **Keep your child home until his or her fever has been gone for 24 hours without medicine.** Colds can be contagious for at least 48 hours. Returning to school too soon may slow recovery and expose other people unnecessarily to illness.
- ◆ **Keep your child home until 24 hours after last vomiting or diarrhea episode.**

**\*\*\*Be aware that with Norovirus, hand sanitizers are not effective. Norovirus is very contagious and is spread by droplets from the ill person. Hand washing with soap and water and sanitizing surfaces is the best method of prevention\*\*\***

*Please talk with your child(ren) about cough etiquette and good hand washing.*

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact the School Nurse:

**Rita Hart, BSN, RN**  
Almond Bancroft School Nurse  
715-345-5764

## Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot



### Core Prevention Strategies

<b>Immunizations</b> 	<b>Hygiene</b> 	<b>Steps for Cleaner Air</b> 	<b>Treatment</b> 	<b>Stay Home and Prevent Spread*</b> 
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### Additional Prevention Strategies

<b>Masks</b> 	<b>Distancing</b> 	<b>Tests</b> 
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\*Stay home and away from others until,



and



Your symptoms are getting better

You are fever-free (without meds)

**for 24 hrs**



Then take added precaution for the next 5 days



Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:

- ✓ Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community
- ✓ You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness
- ✓ You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering

## Eagles Athletic Events

- 2/3-MS girls basketball home vs. Tri-County, 5:00 pm
- 2/4-MS girls basketball home vs. Adams-Friendship, 4:30 pm
  - HS boys basketball home vs. Port Edwards, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/6-MS girls basketball at Port Edwards, 4:30 pm
  - HS girls basketball at Pacelli, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/7-MS girls basketball home vs. Rosholt, 4:30 pm
  - HS boys basketball home vs. Pacelli, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/10-MS girls basketball home vs. Pittsville, 5:00 pm
- 2/11-MS girls basketball home vs. Westfield, 5:00 pm
  - HS girls basketball home vs. Shiocton, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
  - HS boys basketball at Manawa, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/13-MS girls basketball at Rosholt, 5:00 pm
  - HS boys basketball at Wild Rose, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/14-HS girls basketball home vs. Wild Rose, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/17-MS girls basketball home vs. Wild Rose, 5:00 pm
  - HS girls basketball home vs. Loyal, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/18-HS boys basketball home vs. Pacelli, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/20-MS girls basketball at St. Peter MS, 5:00 pm
  - HS girls basketball at Rosholt, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/21-HS boys basketball home vs. Rosholt, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm
- 2/24-HS boys basketball home vs. Gresham, JV 5:45 pm, varsity 7:00 pm

*The athletic schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date information go to the Almond-Bancroft School website.*

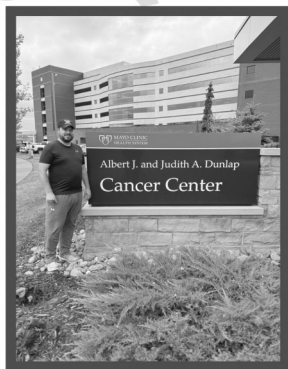
### A-B Senior Ayden Phillips reaches 2,000 career points!

On January 13, 2025, during the boys basketball game at Westfield, Ayden hit a historic mark and scored his 2,000 career point and become the 50th player in WIAA history to accomplish that feat.

Congratulations Ayden!



Congratulations to Mya Dernbach and Aliyah Newby on their Sentry Classic all tournament team selection and congratulations to the A-B girls basketball team on going 2-0 in the Sentry Classic defeating Amherst and Lomira.



## KENNETH STRONG

### BOYS BASKETBALL GAME

**START AT 4:30 PM** | ALMOND-BANCROFT HIGH SCHOOL

**FEBRUARY 7TH, 2025**

**BBQ MEAL DEAL  
BASKET RAFFLES  
CAKEWALK**

**BRACELET SALE  
T-SHIRT SALE  
FLING A FISH**

Please join us in supporting Kenneth Smith, son of Gary & Gina Smith and ABHS Class of 2010 Alumni, in his fight against Malignant Peripheral Nerve Sheath Cancer Stage III

**FOR DONATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:  
JENNIFER 715-366-2941 (EXT 112)  
MARIA 715-366-2941 (EXT 416)  
NICKY 715-340-3389**

### NEW SCHOOL RECORDS

Mya Dernbach set a new girls basketball school scoring record for most points in one game at 36.  
Ayden Phillips set two new boys basketball school records, most points in one game at 46 and most rebounds in a game at 30.

Congratulations Mya and Ayden!

## EAGLE BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for anyone interested in being a member! Several of our members are "retiring" after this school year and we are in danger of having to disband.

If you have children involved in sports at A-B at any level, please consider getting involved!

**Our next meeting is February 16th @7pm in the school auditorium.**

If you have any questions feel free to contact April Stiles, astiles123@gmail.com, or Nicky Dernbach, 715-340-3389.

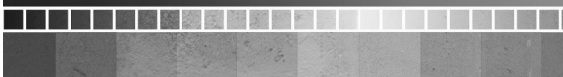




**2024-2025 ALMOND-BANCROFT JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL**

JV  
 Front row (R-L):  
 #10  
 Laney Carlton  
 #5  
 Lexi Carlton  
 #33  
 Tia Dernbach  
 #34  
 Valerie Banda  
 #23  
 Sophia Chapa

Back row:  
 #15  
 Lacie Bradley  
 #20  
 Mckenze Kowalski  
 #3  
 Aubree Wojcik  
 #45  
 Delaney Omernick  
 Coach  
 Andrew Bradley

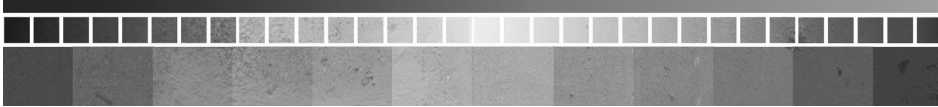


Varsity  
 Front row (R-L):  
 #10  
 Laney Carlton  
 #4  
 Mya Dernbach  
 #20  
 Mckenze Kowalski  
 #21  
 Madalyn Potts  
 #42  
 Kerstyn Clark  
 #23  
 Sophia Chapa  
 #5  
 Lexi Carlton

Back row:  
 Coach  
 Chad Newby  
 #35  
 Riya Ceballos  
 #32  
 Aubree Phillips  
 #15  
 Lacie Bradley  
 #11  
 Aaliyah Newby  
 #33  
 Tia Dernbach  
 #1  
 Emalee Petrick  
 #12  
 Oakley Omernik  
 Coach  
 Andrew Bradley



**2024-2025 ALMOND-BANCROFT VARSITY BASKETBALL**

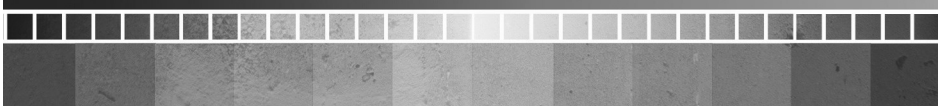


Varsity  
 Front row (R-L):  
 #10  
 Davis Dernbach  
 #20  
 Cohen Priessner  
 #15  
 Ayden Phillips  
 #22  
 Emmitt Stiles  
 #3  
 Clarence Pratt  
 # 2  
 Brody Dernbach

Back row:  
 Coach  
 Greg Otto  
 #25  
 Blake Williams  
 #30  
 Malachi Ramirez  
 #5  
 Karson Garner  
 #21  
 Tucker Stiles  
 Coach  
 Keith Dernbach



**2024-2025 ALMOND-BANCROFT VARSITY BASKETBALL**



Team Photos Provided By:  
**MLE Photo Art**  
 mlephotoart@gmail.com

# Almond-Bancroft Menus: February 2025

## Breakfast Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Pancake Wrapped Sausage	4 Cereal Muffin	5 Cereal Breakfast Kit	6 Waffles	7 Cinnamon Roll Yogurt
10 Frudel Yogurt	11 Cereal Breakfast Kit	12 Breakfast Pizza	13 Cereal Muffin	14 Donut Yogurt
17 No School	18 Cereal Breakfast Kit	19 Breakfast Calzone	20 Pancake Wrapped Sausage	21 Bagel Yogurt
24 Breakfast Pizza	25 Breakfast Sandwich	26 Cereal Breakfast Kit	27 Frudel Yogurt	28 Cinnamon Roll Yogurt

### Breakfast Prices:

Reduced: No Charge

4K (M-Th): 15 days @ \$1.70 = \$25.50

K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade: 19 days @ \$1.70 = \$32.30

### Juice Included with Breakfast

#### Choices:

- Fruit Punch
- Apple
- Grape
- Orange

### Milk Included with Breakfast and Lunch

#### Choices:

- Skim
- 1% White
- F/F Chocolate

### 4K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Milk Break:

\$0.40 a day or free with an approved free/reduced application

## Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Hamburger Gravy Mashed Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Green Beans Fruit of the Day	4 Popcorn Chicken French Fries Baked Beans Fruit of the Day	5 Scalloped Potatoes & Ham Whole Grain Bread Carrots Fruit of the Day	6 Chicken Fajita Corn Fruit of the Day	7 Pizza Salad Bar Fruit of the Day
10 Beefy Nachos Corn Fruit of the Day	11 Mostaccioli Whole Grain Bread Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	12 Chicken Gravy Mashed Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Carrots Fruit of the Day	13 Chicken Quesadilla Cauliflower Fruit of the Day	14 Hamburger on Bun French Fries Baked Beans Fruit of the Day
17 No School	18 Chicken Patty on Bun Tater Tots Green Beans Fruit of the Day	19 Corn Dogs Potato Wedges Peas Fruit of the Day	20 Salisbury Steak Noodles Whole Grain Bread Carrots Fruit of the Day	21 Taco Hard or Soft Shell Corn Fruit of the Day
24 Chicken Nuggets Potato Smiles Baked Beans Fruit of the Day	25 Chicken Alfredo Corn Whole Grain Bread Fruit of the Day	26 Pancakes Sausage Hashbrowns Fruit of the Day	27 Cheese Fries Salad Bar Fruit of the Day	28 Sub Sandwich Green Beans Fruit of the Day

### Lunch Prices:

Reduced 4K (M-Th): 15 days @ \$0.40 = \$6.00

Reduced K-12: 19 days @ \$0.40 = \$7.60

4K (M-Th): 15 days @ \$2.45 = \$36.75

K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 19 days @ \$2.45 = \$46.55

6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: 19 days @ \$2.70 = \$51.30

Fresh fruit may be served as an additional option with breakfast and lunch.

Menu is subject to change.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Dear Friends of the Community,

Our Almond-Bancroft Post Prom Committee is here with an excited group of parents ready to plan our next post prom. We are happy to report that this event is becoming a welcome tradition that the students, especially the new juniors, look forward to. We are so grateful for you and our community, who every year step up and help us plan this safe event for our kids at Almond-Bancroft School.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one in three alcohol-related teen traffic fatalities occurred during the prom season, from April to June. Two out of three teens surveyed through MADD said they felt pressured to drink during prom. Thanks to generous donations from our community, we are going on our sixth year of providing a safe and exciting night of events as an alternative for these kids to attend after prom. Last year's post prom included a giant bag toss, pool tables, karaoke, lots of delicious food, and every student who attended went home with a prize! Without your help, none of this would have been possible!

Our Post Prom Committee would like to ask for your support again this year. If you are interested in donating, please make checks payable to AB Post Prom and send them to: Almond-Bancroft School, % Candace Beggs, 1336 Elm St, Almond, WI 54909

If you have any items you would like to donate that need to be picked up, please email [cbeggs@abschools.k12.wi.us](mailto:cbeggs@abschools.k12.wi.us). If possible, we would like to receive donations by March 14, 2025.

Thank you in advance for your support and for helping to make a difference in our community!

Almond-Bancroft School Post Prom Committee

### Task force seeks to Build Social Connection in Almond



[Almond, WI] – This winter, the Rural Community Connections Taskforce is hosting a series of events designed to bring residents together, promote social connection, and foster a sense of belonging for individuals of all ages and abilities. These celebrations will take place across multiple communities throughout the county, with transportation options available through Central Transportation to ensure accessibility for all attendees. One of the events will take place in Almond.

#### Why Social Connection Matters

Research shows that social connection is a key factor in overall health and well-being. According to studies, people with strong social networks are less likely to experience chronic illness, depression, and cognitive decline. People of all ages benefit greatly from engaging in community events that reduce social isolation and build meaningful relationships.

"Our goal is to create a welcoming space where everyone – whether they're older adults, adults with disabilities, or families – can come together, have fun, and feel supported," said Dana Lawson, Health Promotion Coordinator.

#### Event Highlights

Interactive partner activities: Local Clubs and groups will host creative, hands-on activities that encourage engagement.

Live entertainment: Enjoy local musicians to celebrate the season.

Local and County Resources: Access information and support from community partners.

Winter crafts and games: participate in crafts, games, and other fun activities for all ages

Refreshments: Free Hot beverages and food will be provided while supplies last.

#### When & Where

Saturday, February 22, 2025 (12 - 4 p.m.) Almond-Bancroft School District, 1336 Elm St. Almond, WI 54909

Lunch by **Liberation Farms @ Noon**  
*while supplies last*

**Puzzle Palooza (Puzzle Race) @ 1:00 p.m.**

*Bring a team of 4 to race to be the first to finish a 500 piece puzzle*

**Tom Pease performance 2 p.m.**

community resources, local clubs, volunteer opportunities and much more!



Call 715-346-1401 or visit [www.co.portage.wi.gov/RCCT](http://www.co.portage.wi.gov/RCCT) for more information.

#### Get Involved!

Local organizations and groups are encouraged to participate. For those interested in hosting an activity or offering information at the event, please contact Kate Giblin the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Portage County. This is a great opportunity to showcase your organization while contributing to a meaningful community experience.

"Social connection isn't just about feeling seen, valued, and supported," added Dana. "These celebrations remind us all that community is one the greatest resources for health and happiness."

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Call Central Transportation at 715-341-4490 to coordinate a ride if needed. For more information, please visit [www.co.portage.wi.gov/RCCT](http://www.co.portage.wi.gov/RCCT) or call 715-346-1401, or toll-free, at 1-866-920-2525.

## The A-B Partners in Education (PIE) group sponsored a Winter Family Night!

Families had an opportunity to do crafts, make forts, listen to and read books, eat snacks, and so much more!

Thank you to everyone who came and all of the volunteers that helped to make the night fun!



Please consider joining us, the next PIE meeting on February 19 at 3:30 pm in the AB LMC.



## Announcing the Junior Class Plant Sale

When: February 13th - 27th

Many varieties of plants  
Begonias, Petunias, Impatiens, Pansies,  
Marigolds, Geraniums, and more!

We even have Green Peppers, Jalapeno Peppers, and Tomatoes!

Flower Options come in 12" hanging baskets, 4.5" pots, and 4 packs

Veggies come in 6 packs

NHS will be selling 12" hanging baskets  
Designer Shade or Designer Sun

Delivery will be the week of May 6th - 9th



## 4K Registration 2025-2026

Almond-Bancroft offers a full day of programming 4 days a week, Monday - Thursday, at no cost to parents.

Attend our half-day 4K program and our optional half-day Early Learning Center (ELC) program.

*Our program is designed to give our youngest student a strong foundation for life-long learning skills.*

Children who will be 4 years of age by September 1, 2025, are eligible for full or half day 4K programming for the 2025-2026 school year. **To register your child, call Sandy Barden at 715-366-2941 x 108.**

### How do we get added to the census?

If you, or someone you know, have young children not on the census, please call/have them call Sandy Barden at 715-366-2941 x108 and provide her with the child's name, birthdate, and address. Please note: children can be added to the school census at any age!

Almond-Bancroft School  
1336 Elm St  
Almond, WI 54909

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