
AKFCS September Recap 2021

Get Involved

Cori Checks

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) checks are part of a general background check for volunteer work. If you plan on volunteering in the school for any reason, such as for WatchDOGS, to help with the book fair, to be a chaperone, etc..., please see Dely Hippert at the Front Desk. You will need to bring a valid form of identification with you. Thank you for volunteering your time!

PTO

Welcome to all our families! We are looking forward to getting to know you and having some fun together this year. We will have our first PTO Meeting of the school year on **Monday, October 4th at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom**. We hope you can join us!

Meeting Link:

<https://akfcs-org.zoom.us/j/96641276466?pwd=cXdQa3cvQTNteGRVVjVJWnJURGFxZz09>

Meeting ID: 966 4127 6466

Passcode: 840276

To Join by phone:

Dial 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 966 4127 6466

Principal's Page

It has been a wonderful first month of school for our students! They have been able to enjoy some nice weather outside at recess, a classical music concert, and most importantly being back together with their friends and teachers. Families were able to meet each other at *Popsicles on the Playground*, and learn more about instruction during our *Back to School Night*.

Instruction is well under way in all of our classrooms. Students have almost finished their diagnostics, which we will use to identify any unfinished learning and move forward. This year we will be focusing on academic recovery and the well-being of our community.

Please look for letters coming home explaining what students are learning in math, as well as completed work in all areas. Ask students what they are learning about in science, or what book they are reading in class. Traditional homework is not assigned, however students should be reading or being read to every night. Sight word and math fact practice is also encouraged!

Always Learning

Kindergarten

It has been an exciting month welcoming our new kindergarten students! We have been working hard on learning new routines in and out of our classrooms. It has been fun to learn about our new students and watch our students start to make new friends. We are beginning to work on counting and recognizing numbers in math. In ELA, we have started learning letters and sight words; we are also working on writing our names. In social studies, we have learned about rules, and about being respectful and being responsible at school and home. We look forward to lots of learning in the months to come!

Grade 1

It has been an amazing start to the school year! All of the first graders are working hard at mastering classroom routines and expectations! In math, we have been adding using the counting on strategy and have just begun learning doubles and near doubles facts! In ELA, we have been working on letters and their sounds as well as sight words. We have also been working hard at writing complete sentences using proper capitalization and punctuation! In social studies we have been talking about community and what it means to be a part of a community. Lastly in science, we have been discussing plants and animals and just planted our ryegrass and alfalfa seeds! We love to see how much they grow every day. First grade has been hard at work!

Grade 2

The month of September has been a blast! It has been a pleasure getting to know students and see them so excited about learning. In math, we have been learning about adding and subtracting within 20 using mental math strategies. In ELA, we have been working on mastering blends and digraphs, as well as writing complete sentences with proper punctuation. In social studies, we have been learning about maps. As you can see, students are working hard in Grade 2!

Grade 3

Third graders are off to a great start this school year! Students have settled into their classroom routines and expectations. It feels great to be back in the classroom with our students! In math, third graders have been learning how to round three digit numbers to the nearest ten and hundred, as well as adding and subtracting three digit numbers with regrouping. In ELA, we have been reading fiction and nonfiction texts to answer questions, find the main idea and key details, and learn how to respond to prompts correctly. Social studies has been focused on our hometowns in Massachusetts, local history and local government. In science, third graders have been learning all about weather in our water and climate unit. Students have enjoyed being back in school and we look forward to a great school year!

In the know

Wellness Policy

Due to the increase in food allergies, the School will no longer accept cupcakes, cakes, or food items for students' birthdays. Please be informed and understand that any food items brought into the building, other than for individual consumption, will be sent home immediately or donated for the safety and well-being of all children in our care. Please do not send birthday invitations to distribute during school hours; this should be done outside of school hours. The School provides a "Birthday Book" to all of our students in Grades K-3 on each student's birthday.

Arrival & Dismissal

We would like to remind parents of our school hours and dismissal times for the 2021-2022 school year. The elementary school doors open at 8:30 a.m., and students are marked tardy beginning at 8:46 a.m. Please plan accordingly.

The dismissal time for elementary school parent pick-ups on half days is 11:40 a.m., and dismissal time for parent pick-ups on regular full days is 3:15 p.m. The busses will leave the elementary school at 11:55 a.m. on half days and at 3:30 p.m. on regular full days.

Please Note: As specified in our Parent/Student Handbook, which is available on the school website at www.akfcs.org, students who are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. on a full day and by 12:30 p.m. on a half day are considered a late pick-up. **Parents who are tardy in picking up their child(ren) after school will be charged a \$25 fee (per child).** In addition, students who are returned to the school more than three times because a parent (or other responsible party) is not at the stop to meet them will lose their bus privileges until the fees have been paid. **Parents will be charged a \$25 fee (per child) when they are late to pick up their student from the bus stop, and the child is brought back to the school on the school bus.**

Nurse News

A reminder from the nurse that students with ANY of these symptoms do not meet school protocols MUST remain at home and your primary care physician should be contacted for further instruction. Please notify your student's nurse or teacher by email or call the front desk at your student's school when your student will be absent and the reason for absence.

COVID-19 symptoms list:

- Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher)
- Chills, or shaking chills
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Sore throat, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea when in combination with other symptoms
- Headache when in combination with other symptoms
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms

School Counselor's Corner

As a school counseling department we are hoping to have a lot of new and familiar programs to share with you this year. We started the year off with our annual BOO-HOO breakfast for Kindergarten parents. The attendance was wonderful and we hope everyone left feeling a little more informed and secure that their children were having a great day. Additionally, we had the WatchDOGS kick-off on Thursday September 30th. Thank you to everyone who attended on Zoom! If you are interested in volunteering during the school year and could not make our information night please feel free to reach out to the guidance department.

We know it is not always easy to get your child to share about their school day. You might often hear the answer "nothing" when asking what happened at school that day. Below are a list of creative questions that might help start off a conversation that gives you a few more details.

Questions to ask your child after school to get a conversation starting:

- What was your favorite thing that happened at school today?
- What was a hard thing that happened at school today?
- What was something interesting you did today?
- Tell me something that made you laugh today
- Tell me about what you read in class today. What did your teacher read to you today?

- What is the biggest difference between last year and this year?
- Can you show me something you learned today?
- What class rules does your teacher say are important?
- Tell me one interesting fact about your teacher.
- What is your favorite time of day at school? Why?
- What are you looking forward to at school tomorrow?

Celebrations

Character Counts

September kicks off our weekly Character Counts celebrations. Each week teachers will nominate a member of their class who has exemplified the character virtue of that month. In September the character virtue is **responsibility** and listed below are the first week winners. Students are recognized in their homeroom and also have an extra recess block on the Thursday of their nomination week.

A simple definition of **Responsibility** is doing the things we are supposed to do, and accepting the positive or negative outcomes of our actions.

Week One nominations are:

Kindergarten

Uriella Nkansah - KJ

Amelia Hendricks - KM

Pearl Hiraldo - KT

Ethan Mwangi - KS

Naomi-Grace Annan - KC

Mylah Woodard - KP

First Grade

Selma Boateng - 1W

Makai Ayantola - 1F

Bobby Kigamba - 1M

Cyrus Acquista - 1H

Ariela Souza Monteiro - 1A

Kendric Richard Jr. - 1D

Second Grade

Jerome Ofori - 2W

Chris-Joy Mulbah - 2K

Rahnaya Madison - 2C
Xavier Saldana - 2M
Jerald Owusu-Ansah - 2S
Hala Makroum - 2O

Third Grade

Zoey Kigo - 3B
Stella Bram - 3G
Karim Kong - 3Hayes
Aida Ankomanyi - 3M
Gianfranco Espina - 3Harms
Vianna Norford - 3L

Week Two nominations are:

Kindergarten

Samuel Dos Santos - KJ
Nehemiah Ayala - KM
Ariya Charette - KG
Tessa Cravedi - KS
Kingsley Boachie - KC
Elijah Lockhart - KP

First Grade

Sefon DeVone - 1W
Anna Bosompem - 1F
Rhema Fawel - 1M
Raelynn Kariuki - 1H
Shelley Escobar - 1A
Nariah Madison - 1D

Second Grade

Vannyah Owusu-Danso- 2W
Adwin Kroma - 2K
Kai Cravedi - 2C
Ann-Britt Kanjia- 2M
Riley Hernandez - 2O

Third Grade

Chief Asafo-Boakye - 3B
Samantha Norford - 3G
Queen Addy - 3Hayes
Raelyn Jedeon - 3M
Kofi Addo Gyapong - 3Harms
Sara Ojen - 3L

Congratulations to these students, and to all of our
students who demonstrate responsibility!