

## ACS COMMUNITY UPDATE

Last week as I looked through the daily newspaper, I was trying to remember the last time that I have read a positive article about education. It seems as if the negativity that is swirling around public schools is contagious. I refuse to look at things through this same lens. We have so many good people that are involved here at ACS; from the students that attend, to the teachers that instruct, to the community members that support us. We have the strong foundation to make positive strides in education.

With spring upon us, the Algonac Community Schools has many exciting things happening. In education, spring means State testing time. Throughout April and into May, students in grades 3-11 will be participating in the annual State and National assessments. These assessments allow the district to track student growth and gauge areas of strengths and weaknesses within our district.

Outside of the classroom, some Muskrats made us very proud athletically. After a very successful season for the Algonac Wrestling Team, six team members qualified for the State Finals held at Ford Field. Michael Nykoriak, Jack Jewell, Mark Langewicz, Anderson Strunk, Zach Randall and Joe Ahles were all State Finals Qualifiers. Of the group Nykoriak (3<sup>rd</sup> overall), Jewell (5<sup>th</sup> overall), and Langewicz (6<sup>th</sup> overall) all placed at the State level. Meanwhile, Shelby Kapanowski and Brett Leuffgen both were State qualifiers for bowling. Shelby went on to win the State Championship and became the first Algonac bowler ever to accomplish this feat. Congrats to all of our athletes on a great winter season!!

More positive news for the Muskrats came this month with the AHS Band earning an overall score of 1 (the highest possible score) at the District Band Festival held at Anchor Bay High School. We are very proud of our band for continuing to perform at a high level. Great job!

Another very exciting thing that is happening at ACS is the addition of a Police Resource Officer. Officer Dave Fajardo will be onsite at Algonac Jr./Sr. High School on a full-time basis starting next week. ACS has partnered with the Clay Township Police in order to provide this very important position. Officer Fajardo will be a very welcomed addition to the district, as we strive to heighten security and provide our students with a safe environment. He will also work with the elementary schools to provide awareness programs on important topics for students.

With the May 8<sup>th</sup> election quickly approaching, I have been answering questions from many community members regarding the Sinking Fund that will be on the ballot. I strongly encourage everyone to check out the ACS website, where many informational documents can be found regarding the Sinking Fund. I also am available by phone, email or in person, if anyone has other questions.

**\*\* In the May 2017 election, the Sinking Fund failed by only 30 votes. Of the total vote count, only 18% of the votes were cast by ACS parents.**

Alan Latosz, Superintendent  
Algonac Community Schools