



# Atomic News

## Alexander II Math & Science Magnet School "Home of the Ensteins"

Dream

1156 College Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 478-779-2700

October

### The Principal's Corner

Greetings Alexander II Families,

I hope you enjoyed Fall Break!

On behalf of the Alex II staff, I take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Kinross for organizing and planning lunch for us on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. I want to also thank all the parents who helped make it a success. The food was great!

As we move into the second quarter, I think we have set the right goals for our school to ensure the vision: Each student demonstrates strength of character and is college or career ready.

During the last quarter we implemented several action steps to involve parents and families in their child's education. Educating our children is a partnership. On August, 22, we held our first Open House on Saturday combined with our Title I Annual Meeting and Grade Level Meetings. During the months of August and September, each grade level teacher team held Parent Academies. They are created to help families understand what students are expected to know to be ready for the next grade with a special focus on Math. We are now choosing dates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Parent Academies. Mark your calendars as soon as the dates are released. This is part of your parental obligation as acceptance into the Magnet Program.

We realize that some of you have not received notification that you have completed the Background Check process. The city of Bibb has had a backlog which caused delays in notifications. For that reason, we will count the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters together. We realize you cannot volunteer until you have been approved. We apologize for any issues this may have caused.

Our Cookie Dough fundraiser did not do as well as expected. We did not reach our goal. Our original goal was to generate enough profit to pay for the blow ups for Spring Fling. We're considering an additional Cookie Dough fundraiser later in the year before Spring Fling.

One of the district's priority goals is to "Increase the Number of Students in School Each Day." The Alexander II goal is to "Increase the number of students in school all day every day." This means reducing the number of tardies to school and early dismissals. See policy regarding attendance below. This is taken from the Parent Student Handbook that is posted on the school website.

**Bertha Engram Caldwell, Principal**

School [478-779-2700](tel:478-779-2700)

Direct [478-779-2671](tel:478-779-2671)

October 10th – 14th  
**Write Score Assessments Grades 3-5**  
**Custodian Appreciation Week**

October 24th – 28th  
**Red Ribbon Week**

**Tea Collection Sale** October 12-19th  
Shop for adorable, quality children's clothing!  
Go to [TeaSchoolDays.com](http://TeaSchoolDays.com) and use the code:  
**SDF16ALEXANDERII**  
You will get 15% off your purchase and free shipping- our school will get 15% of the total sales!

Thank you for supporting the Alexander II PTA!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Fall Break No School</b>				
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> PTA 6 PM	<b>12</b> Tea Collection Sale	<b>13</b> Tea Collection Sale	<b>14</b> Tea Collection Sale
<b>Write Score Assessment 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
<b>17</b> Boss's Day Tea Collection Sale	<b>18</b> Tea Collection Sale Happy Birthday Angellisa SPears	<b>19</b> Tea Collection Sale Picture Retake Day	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>24</b> Red Ribbon Week	<b>25</b> Red Ribbon Week	<b>26</b> ½ Day for Students / Professional Learning	<b>27</b> Red Ribbon Week	<b>28</b> Red Ribbon Week Happy Birthday Fay Boie
<b>31</b> Happy Birthday Mr. Ellington				



**Red Ribbon Week**  
**Custodian Appreciation Week**  
**Happy Boss's Day**  
**Bus Driver Appreciation Week**

is an alcohol, tobacco and other **drug** and violence prevention awareness campaign.  
10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> *Thank you for making our school sparkle!* Timothy Scott, Bernadette Hughes, and Mary Ogbeho  
17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>  
17<sup>th</sup>

**ATTENDANCE**

Parents who choose Alexander II choose to provide their child with an exciting educational opportunity. Regular attendance and punctuality are vital if students are to receive the most our accelerated program has to offer. Registration of the student indicates that parents or guardians have accepted this responsibility. Students are expected to attend school every day, to arrive promptly, and remain throughout the scheduled hours. Excessive absences are one key factor considered in any retention decisions due to lack of instruction time. Students are expected to complete all class work and homework missed due to absences. Regular and punctual attendance is a key factor of academic achievement. When students are absent from school they are missing instruction.

Below is a table of instructional time missed based on days absent:

	Absent 1 day	Absent 3 days	Absent 5 days	Absent 7 days	Absent 10 days	Absent 20 days
Minutes of instruction missed	360	1107	1845	2583	3690	7380
Hours of instruction missed	6.15	18.45	30.75	43.05	61.5	123

Georgia law places the responsibility of daily student attendance on the parent or guardian. Frequent absences and/or tardies for any reason may adversely affect a student's school work. Each student is expected to be in school every day except during illness, injury or if a providential condition beyond his/her control prevents attendance. Tardiness creates a major disruption. After three (3) tardies, parents will be contacted by school officials to determine the best course of action to remedy the situation.

**Alexander II Magnet School will adhere to the attendance policy adopted by the Bibb County School District. A copy of the complete policy is included in the Bibb County School District Student Guidelines for Success.**

**ALEXANDER II ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**Excused absences** – All absences will be reported unexcused unless the school receives one of the following forms of documentation:

A note of explanation written and signed by the student's parent or guardian, **if presented within three (3) days**, will provide sufficient documentation to excuse up to 5 absences.

Additional absences will require official documentation: a doctor's note, a court document, note/form verifying religious holidays, parent note indicating there is a family funeral-the student will be excused up to (3) days unless extenuating circumstances apply.

NOTE: If a student is absent more than three (3) consecutive days, official documentation will be required. Determinations regarding excused/unexcused absences are at the discretion of the principal or designee, and are considered final.

**Automated phone calls will go out to parents/guardians in the data system each time a student is absent.** Attendance letters will be sent by the School Counselor after 3 unexcused and 5 unexcused absences as a courtesy. If no improvement is made, a referral will be sent to the School Social Worker. **NOTE: Ten (10) unexcused absences violate the State of Georgia Compulsory Attendance Law and a referral to State Court and/or Juvenile Court will be filed by the School Social Worker.** If convicted of such violation, parent/guardian may be subject to a fine or imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the Court. **Tardiness** – Student tardiness is a disruption to the instructional day. Please help us establish a good work ethic for your children.

A student is tardy if he/she: is not present in the classroom before the 8:20 A.M. bell; leaves during the day and returns later the same day; or leaves school before the 3:20 P.M. dismissal bell.



*Principal: Bertha Caldwell*

*Assistant Principal: Walsetta Miller*

You always give your best  
And inspire others to do likewise

That you are appreciated  
Should come as no surprise

Your kind of leadership skills Is a talent, that's true...

One that's appreciated and valued It's good working for, and with, you.

**Happy Boss's Day 10.17.16**



## **CHECK OUT PROCEDURE/POLICY**

If a student has a medical or dental appointment requiring parent or guardian to come to school requesting an early dismissal, please write a note to the teacher ahead of time. NOTE: All early dismissals must occur before 2:45 pm.

Parents are required to sign out students from the office. **The person checking out the child must be designated on the child's emergency form in the office and must have a valid ID to show school personnel at the time of checkout.**

**There are times when checking your child out of school is absolutely necessary. To better facilitate a timely and safe dismissal for all students, please plan to pick up your child before 2:45 pm. The office will close between 2:45 to 3:30 to allow staff time to wrap up the final activities, and focus on a safe and orderly dismissal. Again, early checkouts must occur before 2:45 pm.**

Please arrange appointments after school hours whenever possible.

## **AWARDS**

Perfect Attendance – Awarded to students who have no absences, tardies, or early dismissals during the first two nine week periods.

## **REUSABLE GARBAGE**

Below is a list of some of the things we can use in the lab for STEM and Science Olympiad. We need a lot of the items as soon as we can get it. Please send all items to Mr. Friar. Thanks for your help.

1 and 2 liter plastic bottles (straight sides are best)  
20 ounce Gatorade/Powerade/juice bottles  
plastic bottle tops  
old tennis balls  
ping pong balls  
plastic and rubber balls  
coffee cans and plastic coffee containers  
cereal boxes  
shoe boxes  
bubble wrap  
glass jars and bottles with straight sides with or without lids  
chop sticks/bamboo skewers  
Toilet paper and towel rolls



October 2016 National Bullying Prevention Month National School Lunch Week – October 10-14, 2016  
National Character Counts Week – October 17-21, 2016 Red Ribbon Week – October 23-31, 2016  
National School Bus Safety Week – October 17-21, 2016