

ENCOURIER

Appleton East High School

BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

Appleton Area School District



Increment Weather Days &
Make-up Minutes

Plan updated as of March 2019

For April 2019 release

**NEW GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS**

PROM RELOCATED?

**GRADED FOR LEARNING
CHANGES, STAFF CONFUSED**

**SCHOOL BUDGET SHORTFALLS,
STUDENTS & STAFF AFFECTED**

**NEW CHANGES TO
MAKE UP MINUTES:
STUDENTS ENRAGED!**

NEW GRADING FOR LEARNING POLICIES FOR 2020

As we end the first year of Grading For Learning, the Appleton Area School District Board of Education is making some changes for the 2019-20 school year. Here is a list of the major changes you can expect for next school year so you will be prepared to succeed in your classes.

Start doing your homework, and start doing it well.

Although homework will continue to count for a small portion of class grades, students will be required to average above 90 percent on all formative assessments in order to retake summative assessments. The school felt that too many students did not give a sufficient effort with their homework this school year. This new rule hopes to eliminate the “retake loophole” by ensuring students understand the concepts they need to succeed.

Career and Life Skills scores will affect your class grades.

The new Career and Life Skills scores will be based on a 0-5 scale instead of a 1-3 scale:

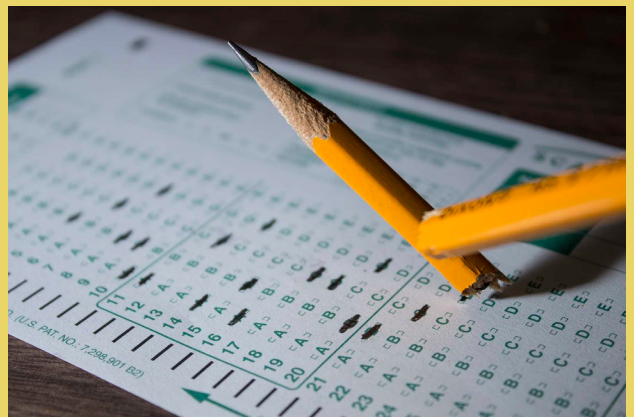
- 0 = never meets goal
- 1 = rarely meets goal
- 2 = usually does not meet goal
- 3 = sometimes meets goal
- 4 = usually meets goal
- 5 = always meets goal

WRITTEN BY CADEN DE VAN LOO

Each skill will be translated to an individual percentage score, then combined with other skills to form your overall Career and Life Skills grade. This grade will count for 30% of your overall academic grade. The school district reported that too many students paid no attention to these scores because they did not factor into class grades.

Expect a more detailed ticket to retake.

The standardized ticket to retake is being updated. Now, students will be required to write a minimum one-page essay about what concepts they did not understand, followed by an explanation of their mistakes. By doing this, schools hope to see the need to retake in the first place to drop.



Parent-teacher conferences will occur more often.

If you score a D or lower on a test and wish to retake, a parent-teacher conference will be necessary in order to be eligible. However, the District feels conferences will be necessary due to new homework rule.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENT MINUTES PLAN, EAST BY BRANDO KRA

The school day is about to change...again. The current high school school day starts at 7:30 a.m. and drags along until 3:25 p.m. The extra 20 minutes is built in to account for the snow and ice cancellations. Appleton East added these makeup minutes to the beginning and end of school. Each of Appleton's three area high schools implemented these minutes differently. West kept with its same start time at 7:45 a.m. and added makeup minutes to the end of the day, making the end time 3:40 p.m. North has done the opposite, adding 20 minutes to the start of the day, making it begin at 7:20 a.m.

The district received multiple complaints regarding the changes to the schedule. Some noted the bus schedule has not been updated making their commute difficult. Others cite the earlier start time as "inhumane." The Courier obtained sealed documents from the district showing some of the detailed complaints.

"Why is it our problem that YOU decided to cancel school? I bet you don't stay at the office longer, yet we have to stay at school longer. What a Joke!" -West Student, Grade 10

"I don't really know if y'all know, but high schoolers have jobs and LIVES. How am I supposed to get to my 3:30 shift if school now ends at 3:40! STUPID!" - North Student, Grade 12

"You know, I did A paper on this situation in school before. The paper was about how teens or high schoolers get so little sleep it creates health problems for them. I remember reading that early school start times were a big reason for this. How about stop making us sick and do some research before making changes?" - East Student, Grade 9

The Courier received exclusive notice for the new changes. (Take that, Post-Crescent!) Schools will return to their normal schedules. On April 8, 2019, the District will make up lost time by implementing the following measures:

ACES NEW MAKE-UP SCHEDULE LIVESTON-ZEPLIN

- All Late Starts are canceled for the remainder of the year.
- Flex period will be eliminated. A homeroom period will continue to held on Mondays and Fridays.
- Schools will hold two online learning days. These will take place on previously scheduled days off. These days are April 19, Good Friday, and May 27, Memorial Day. AND three days of school will be added, making the last day of the 2018-19 school year June 11. (See the next article for more information about graduation.)

The online learning days, according to the plan, will use Canvas to connect students to teachers. Within this program, teachers will carry out lesson plans and assign homework as usual. The schools will monitor attendance and teachers will report absences. Students without access to wifi will be excused from these days.

AASD Superintendent Judy Baseman addressed these changes. "Hello kids! Don't worry we have heard your concerns loud and clear. Some were louder than need be and included expletives, but nevertheless we have finally taken action...again. We do hope you find our new solution to be in your favor. We worked hard to make sure this new change was ideal for the students we serve." Dr. Baseman also detailed that any comments/questions/concerns can be shared with her by visiting <https://bit.ly/2HO04Bh>.



GRADUATION MOVED TO JUNE 10 DUE TO SNOW DAY DILEMMA

By Aaron Gret-Zinger

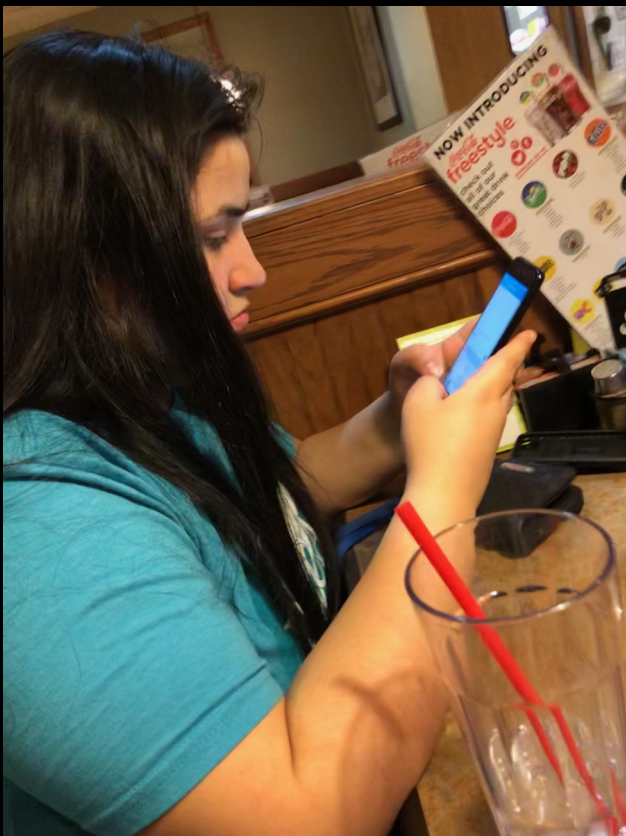
The Appleton Area School District plans to move graduation to June 10 to make up for two days of instructional minutes lost to snow days. This will also result in finals week being pushed back two days, so the final day of school for underclassmen is now Tuesday, June 11. While the original plan of adding 20 minutes was thought to have solved the problems that arose from snow days, new calculations and new guidelines implemented by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) required a new response to this year's "snowpocalypse."

DPI has not officially released the new guidelines, but leaks from the meeting have been confirmed by representatives of the National Teacher Federation (NTF) and National Education Association (NEA). Anonymous sources from the DPI verify the report. The government employees responsible for the leak allegedly came forward due to what they described as "the unfair judgment of the DPI towards teachers and the education system." The sources implied that the DPI's reasoning for the new instruction day requirement was in response to many schools' demands for snow days to be voided due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Evers. Union organizers who received the news ahead of the public have reached out to their respective unions and associations with the intent to rally against the decision.

This news quickly reached school boards who are now left scrambling to make adjustments to meet the requirements. Although, AASD released a statement that while they had heard of the rumors, they have only drawn up the plan of action to pursue if the additional instruction days, listed in a proposal as *Instruction Day Amendment 18.0422*, are implemented. They declined to comment on the DPI's new proposal. The official announcement and passage of the new instruction days from the DPI will be set in stone shortly after April 1. If neither the teacher's unions are successful nor the DPI has a change in heart, seniors can expect graduation to be moved back until June 10 and students will have to wait a few more days for the sweet taste of summer.

LAST STRAW FOR SAVE THE TURTLES CLUB PRESIDENT?

By Grin Eretzinger



Save the Turtles Club has emerged this school year as an up-and-coming club at East, but their leaders may not be as devoted to the cause as previously thought. Co-President Jenny Martinez was caught red-handed using **a plastic straw** at Perkins over spring break. Three sources captured an explicit photo of the incident. “Martinez was just sitting there, sipping on the plastic straw without a care in the world. I couldn’t believe what I was seeing.” One of the sources who witnessed the crime said, “I would have never suspected she was a turtle killer.” The sources who saw Martinez opted to remain anonymous to protect their wellbeing and safety. “Now we know what Martinez is capable of, we cannot reveal our identities,” one source exclaimed. “We fear that if we do so, our lives will be in danger.”

Club members were shocked at this development, saying they never suspected Jenny had anything but love for their four-legged friends. This event has caused members of the club to launch a full-scale investigation against Martinez, whose motives and contributions to the club are now under examination. “Jenny was in charge of all the money,” Co-President Lauren Gilmeister stated frantically. “I hope the investigation finds no fault in her dedication to this club or the turtles. Anything other than a clean audit would be disastrous for the organization!” The Courier reached out to Martinez, who declined to comment on the incident at this time. Hopefully Jenny Martinez is brought to justice for her irreparable actions against saving the turtles she once vowed to protect.



CLEAN UP... OR ELSE

BY LAURIE
GILLMEISTER



Beginning Monday April 8, a new policy will be implemented regarding lunchroom manners. If a supervisor sees a lunch tray or any type of garbage left on your table, you are may be assigned up to five detentions.

Last month, a District health inspector visited East and walked through the lunchroom as part. Because of excessive trash and food items left on tables, Appleton East was placed on "cleanliness probation." The germ exposure from partially eaten food is classified as a hazard for students in other lunch hours, and this violates vital sections of the health code. Additionally, this does not only place an unnecessary burden on staff who wipe down tables at the end of the day, but also shines a negative light on Appleton East High School.

The current "cleanliness probation" will require a minimum of five extra staff supervisors to constantly survey the lunch area during all lunch hours. Detentions will be dispensed as seen necessary. This probation will not be lifted until students clean up their act. If supervisors don't notice a change within the next month, disciplinary measures will be taken against the school, including but not limited to: increased staff supervision, reduction of meal portions, reduction of allotted lunch time, assigned lunchroom seating, and a silent lunchroom policy.

Please take this notice into consideration while going about your lunch routine.



EAST OVERSPENDS; NOW WE ALL PAY

BY HOGAN 'STACHE

Throughout the past few years, Appleton East High School has been experiencing budget problems. It all started when the school spent three times the allotted Math Team budget in 2014, then overspent again on the Flat Earth club this year. In response to the tight budget, administration has taken steps to lower the cost of operating the school.

Some changes include using candles instead of lights in select classrooms, and removing all smart boards. In addition, students will no longer be allowed to use outlets to charge their devices. If a student does use an outlet, they will receive a bill for charges. However, there will be solar charging stations in both of the East classrooms with windows.

All drinking fountains will be turned off for the remainder of the school. Administration recommends that all students bring a water bottle to avoid dehydration. Also, there will be no more hot food sold for lunch, only cold food.

In addition to cutting utility costs, many clubs will receive cuts as well. The use of balls in any spring sport, such as Tennis or Baseball, has been deemed an unnecessary expense, so teams will have to make do without them. All music programs will be cutting costs as well.

Administration hopes the measures will only be necessary for the next seven years. West and North made no changes.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CHANGES GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

By Izabell BeDruin



The Appleton Area School District Board of Education recently announced a change to graduation requirements for the students of Appleton East High School. (These changes do not affect North or West.)

In order to fully implement the state safety grant, math classes will be replaced by a semester-long safety class. East will also introduce a new department: Social Media Awareness. A full list of the new requirements can be found to the right.

***This class is now required due to the state safety grant**

****Courses that count toward the Social Media Awareness credit include: History of Memes taught by Mr. Miller, The Perfect Selfie 101 taught by Ms. Fude, and Television Studies (a course focused on "The Office.")**



| Graduating Class of 2019 | Graduating Class of 2020+ |
|---|---|
| English Language Arts (ELA) - 4.0 Credits | English Language Arts (ELA) - 8.0 Credits |
| 1.0 ELA 9 or *ELA 9 | 2.0 ELA 9 and *ELA 9 |
| 1.0 ELA 10 or *ELA 10 | 2.0 ELA 10 and *ELA 10 |
| 1.0 ELA 11 course option | 2.0 ELA 11 course option |
| 1.0 ELA 12 course option | 2.0 ELA 12 course option |
| | |
| Science - 3.0 Credits | Science - 3.0 Credits |
| 1.0 Physical Science | 1.0 Physical Science |
| 1.0 Life Science | 1.0 Life Science |
| 1.0 Science Course Elective | 1.0 Flat Earth Geology |
| | |
| Social Studies - 3.0 Credits | Social Studies - 3.0 Credits |
| 1.0 Civics | 1.0 Civics |
| 1.0 World Studies | 1.0 World Studies |
| 1.0 U.S. History | 1.0 U.S. History |
| | |
| Mathematics - 3.0 Credits | *Introduction to Safety - 1.0 Credits |
| | |
| Health - .5 Credit | Health - 1.0 Credit |
| 0.5 Health | 1.0 Health |
| | |
| Fine Arts - 1.0 Credit | Fine Arts - 2.0 Credit |
| (to include: art, music, theater, or humanities when not used for social studies) | (to include: art, music, theater, or humanities when not used for social studies) |
| | 1.0 Theater Seminar |
| | |
| Physical Education - 1.5 Credits | Physical Education - 7.0 Credits |
| 0.5 Freshmen Physical Education | 0.5 Freshmen Physical Education |
| | |
| Financial Literacy - 0.5 Credit | Financial Literacy - 0.5 Credit |
| | |
| Elective - 6.5 Credits | **Social Media Awareness - 1.0 Credit |
| | |

PACKERS LOSE AASD PROM

BY JACK 'THE ICE MAKER' PINGEL

Bears fans, rejoice: Appleton's 2019 Senior Prom has been moved to Soldier Field in Chicago. The change comes after three years of prom at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, the home of the Bears' NFC North rival, the Green Bay Packers. The District cited the primary reasons for this sudden shift as a necessary change of scenery and the idea of having prom in a city as big as Chicago as being extra special. Due to the estimated four-hour drive from Appleton to Chicago, the District has adjusted the start times for the various events accordingly: dinner at Soldier Field will begin at 9:30 p.m. on April 20, with the dance itself beginning at 12:30 a.m. The AfterBash will then take place at nearby Jane Addams High School from 3:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. Transportation plans have been modified to accommodate for the 200-mile trek, though school buses will continue to be provided, much like previous years. The District encourages the use of these buses as a quick and effective way to get to and from Chicago and to "strengthen the common bond of being a part of the Class of 2019." Remember, It's always a great day to be a Patriot, Class of 2019.



Enchanted Garden

Senior Prom
Soldier Field
April 20th, 2019
Dinner: 9:30 pm
Dance: 12:30 am

AfterBash
Jane Addams High School
3:30am-6:30am
No admittance after 5:00 am

Tickets on Sale:
April 3rd, 4th, 9th, 11th
Must be under 21 years to enter
& photo I.D. required

SCHAEFER STREET SINKHOLE

By Dizzy BeDruid

Editors' Note: We at the EnCourier take our jobs seriously, and we stand by our reporting (unlike those dingbats at The Courier).

If you have any concerns regarding the content of this issue, please provide us feedback at our website: TheEnCourier@East.com.

Attention Appleton East staff and students:
After Friday, April 5, the Schaefer Street parking lot will close for the remainder of the school year.

Due to excessive snowfall and rapid melting, thousands of gallons of water have pooled in a natural cavern located beneath the parking lot. This created a highly dangerous situation: the parking lot is above a humongous sinkhole that could cave in at any moment.

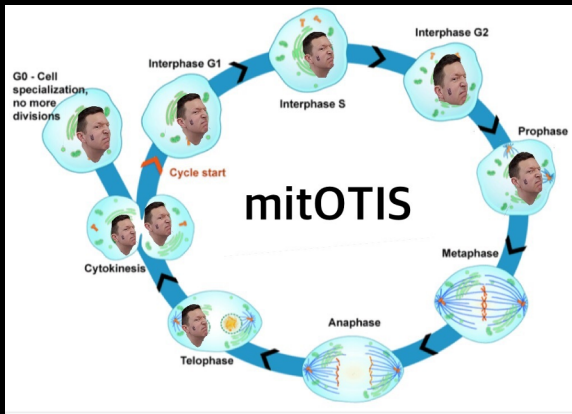
Administration says the parking lot must be closed in order to remove the pavement and clear away the water. The school district will not reimburse students for disappearing cars after Friday. Administration apologizes for any inconvenience.

If this will affect your routine, please plan accordingly. It is important to note that you may need to park farther away, and therefore you will need more time to walk to the building. Tardies will *probably* result in detentions. And if you do decide to park in the Schaefer St. lot, exit through the exit and enter through the entrance. Thank you for your understanding.



MR. OTIS WILL RETIRE IN JUNE

By Grins Retzinger &
Gaffaw Lilimeister



English teacher Corey Otis, 44, recently announced his early retirement. "Kids these days just don't care enough," he stated. Respect is important to Mr. Otis, and in recent years, he has noticed a significant difference in the respect levels of his students, especially when it came to important rules like the District's nutrition policy. "A few years ago, I had a class with students who collectively sang songs just about every day. That really wore me out, and all the memes have really put me over my limit," he said. "My teaching days are **over**." Mr. Otis's last day is June 10.

Although Mr. Otis enjoyed his time at East, he is ecstatic to be cutting it short. "I. am. done." He will be finishing out this year with his current classes, but after that, he is off to do bigger and better things. Next year, he plans to pursue his extravagant bucket list, which includes skydiving, singing karaoke, swimming with sharks, writing Star Trek fan-fiction, joining a band, and possibly even exploring the moons of Endor. "I can do anything once I'm rid of those rotten kids who are rotten singers who eat rotten food," he said.

Leaving won't be easy. "There are a few students I will miss, specifically the senior stars of my Courier staff, **Erin Gretzinger, Lauren Gilmeister, and Brandon Salveson-Krepline**. Their honest work and stellar reporting and incredible writing skills... I will miss them with all my heart." When asked if Otis would miss his redheaded stepson, he curtly said, "No."

To Otis, this seemed like the right time to exit. "Since the senior editors are leaving, I figured it was time for me to go, too." Say good-bye to Mr. Otis at his [FAREWELL PAGE](#).