

# WOLF REVIEW

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## ALGOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT **COMMUNICATIONS**

### ***Superintendent's Note***

*Strategic Planning & Final Referendum Projects*

### ***Magic, Mischief and State-of-the-Art Tech:***

*Algoma Presents Disney's Descendants*

### ***Leveling Up:***

*Algoma Joins WISHEA and Launches New Esports Team*

### ***Turning Rain into Fun:***

*A Night with AES Families*

### ***Algoma Venture Academy***

*Youth Apprenticeship Nomination & Rediscovering AVA*

# SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTE



Hello Algoma Community!

The Algoma School District has begun the important process of developing a new five-year strategic plan, aiming to guide the future of education in the community through 2031. In partnership with local community members and Algoma families, we will develop new mission, vision, and core value statements to ensure that our schools continue to meet the evolving needs of students, families, and staff.

To support this work, the district has partnered with consultants Kathy Cooke and Michael Gallagher of KCMG International, LLC to help facilitate the planning process, analyze community feedback, and guide the development of a clear and actionable roadmap for the district's future.

Community engagement is a central part of the effort. A first community work session was held in late February, where community members, instructional leaders, school board members, and students shared initial thoughts on district strengths, challenges, and priorities. A second session is planned for mid-April, offering another opportunity for the group to contribute ideas and help shape the direction of the plan.

The Algoma School District's strategic plan will focus on key areas such as academic achievement, student well-being, staff support, and long-term financial stability. With education facing ongoing challenges—from changing workforce demands to student mental health needs—the district hopes to create a roadmap that is both forward-thinking and practical.

School board members have expressed enthusiasm about the process, noting that community involvement will be critical to its success. The final strategic plan is expected to be presented for approval this summer. Once adopted, it will serve as a guiding document for district decisions, budgeting, and program development over the next five years.

The Algoma School District will move forward this summer with the remaining facility improvement projects approved through the April 2024 referendum. Planned work at the middle/high school includes the next phase of adding two entrances to the middle/high school parking lot to improve traffic flow, replacing aging windows to increase energy efficiency and comfort, and renovating two sets of restrooms to meet ADA accessibility standards. At the elementary school, crews will rekey both interior and exterior doors to enhance building security.

Together, we are building a brighter future for Algoma.

**Jesse Brinkmann**  
Algoma School District  
Superintendent

2025-2026 ALGOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR	
<b>MARCH 30-APRIL 3</b>	Spring Break
<b>MAY 14</b>	Senior Awards Night
<b>MAY 22</b>	Graduation
<b>JUNE 2</b>	Last Day of School
<b>JUNE 8-26</b>	Summer School

**ADD YOURSELF TO THE  
ALGOMA ALUMNI DATABASE**  
Scan the QR code to submit your information!



## UPDATES FROM THE ALGOMA AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Algoma Area Education Foundation is looking forward to scholarship season. The Foundation will be awarding Algoma students over \$20,000 in scholarships this year thanks to the generous family scholarships and fundraising. Be sure to save the date for our AAEF Swing for Scholarships Golf Outing on Friday, July 24th at Northbrook. This event will help fund future scholarships for our local students. For more updates and information follow our Facebook page or check out our website at [www.algomaareaeducationfoundation.org/](http://www.algomaareaeducationfoundation.org/).

# ALGOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *In the Community*

### MAGIC, MISCHIEF, AND STATE-OF-THE-ART TECH: ALGOMA PRESENTS DISNEY'S DESCENDANTS

The Algoma Drama Department brought a little bit of magic—and a little bit of mischief—to the stage this past weekend with its production of Disney's Descendants. Based on the hit movies, the musical told the exciting tale of the teenage children of some of Disney's most famous heroes and villains, including Belle, the Beast, Maleficent, and Cruella de Vil. Audiences were treated to an energetic and entertaining performance filled with music, humor, and plenty of villainous fun.

#### A GROWING THEATER COMMUNITY

The musical is an annual tradition at Algoma, and this year marked an exciting expansion of the program. For the first time, students in grades 5 through 12 were invited to participate in the production. The addition of younger performers helped grow the program and created wonderful opportunities for mentorship among students of different ages. In total, 37 students participated across the cast, pit, and crew, supported by three adult pit band members and four dedicated directors. The teamwork, collaboration, and leadership displayed throughout rehearsals and performances were truly impressive.



#### ELEVATED BY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

This year's production was also special because it was the first musical to utilize the school's new state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems. These upgrades, made possible through community referendum support, enhanced the production and gave the student tech crew valuable hands-on experience operating professional-level equipment. The opportunity allowed students to build real-world skills while helping bring the show to life on stage.

The Algoma drama department is incredibly proud of the hard work, talent, and dedication of all the students and staff who made this year's musical such a memorable success.

### CAREER CAFÉS INSPIRE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR FOURTH GRADERS

This winter, fourth grade students explored their futures through Career Cafés, held during lunch periods on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout January, February, and March. Now in its second year, the program allows students to sign up for sessions that spark their interest while building awareness of the many career opportunities available—especially those within their own community. Through these experiences, students are encouraged to dream about their futures, connect classroom learning to real-world applications, and reflect on their own strengths and interests.

Students learned from a diverse group of presenters representing a wide range of fields, including banking and human resources, international education, travel, precision machining, healthcare, restaurant ownership, agriculture, education, and public service. Careers highlighted included roles such as a flight nurse, EMT, school psychologist, rural mail carrier, and school resource officer. In addition to benefiting students, Career Cafés provide local businesses and organizations the opportunity to connect with future generations, share insights about their work, and build meaningful community relationships—making the program a powerful example of collaboration that inspires curiosity and opens doors for the future.



# ALGOMA MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

IGNITE. ENGAGE. CONNECT.



## LEVELING UP: ALGOMA JOINS WISHEA AND LAUNCHES NEW ESPORTS TEAM

We are thrilled to announce the newest addition to our extracurricular lineup: the Algoma Esports team! Led by Coach Chris Robinson, with assistance from Jesse Duerst, the team has officially joined the Wisconsin High School Esports Association (WISHEA) for the spring season. The team is currently competing in Valorant on Tuesdays and Mario Kart 8 Deluxe on Wednesdays. The regular season runs through April 30, with qualifying teams advancing to the playoffs in early May and the State Championship on May 15-16.

### EYES ON THE PLAYOFFS

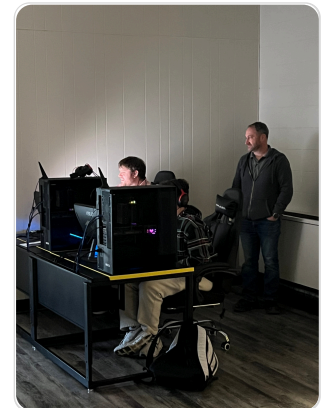
Fellow player Dakota Smith brings prior competitive experience to the roster and embraces the challenge of building a new program: "There are a couple obstacles we have to overcome as a team, but I'm sure we can do it." Smith's baseline goal for the inaugural season is clear: "At the very least, playoffs." Meanwhile, Duerst's ambitions stretch even further, hoping for a shot at the state title. Ultimately, the team hopes their launch will encourage others in the student body to find their niche. "Video games are for everyone and you can start at any scale," shares Duerst. "Games come in so many categories you never know when you will find something you enjoy!"

### BUILDING NEXT-GEN EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

While traditional sports have long been a staple at Algoma, esports offers the exact same invaluable life skills. Coach Robinson notes that competitive gaming provides a critical space for collaboration, strategic planning, and leadership. "Students of different backgrounds learn to work together and support each other," Robinson explains. By functioning as a cohesive unit, students are actively building the interpersonal and communication skills essential for next-generation employability, all while exploring a booming, rapidly growing industry.

### STUDENT CHEMISTRY AND CONNECTION

The program is already bridging the gap between Algoma Venture Academy (AVA) and the High School, giving students a shared space to connect. The players are feeling that camaraderie firsthand. "The team has already grown close and we often play together outside of school," says team member Dakota Duerst. "We have been getting really good team chemistry which really shows and translates into our games." "For many students, representing the school through gaming is a dream realized. "Growing up with video games, it's something I've always wanted to play," Duerst adds. "Now, we get a chance to showcase our skills and do something that I love to do daily."



## DRONES TAKE FLIGHT IN ALGOMA'S AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Algoma's Agriculture Program is taking flight with drones. Mr Neuser is showing his Precision Agriculture and Drones class how to operate drones. Students are taking a break from their FAA Part 107 class and learning how to operate a drone and have the opportunity to fly themselves. Did you know that the legal maximum height you can fly a drone is 400 feet above the ground? After successfully passing the FAA Part 107 students will obtain their drone's pilot license allowing them to operate drones commercially for hire.

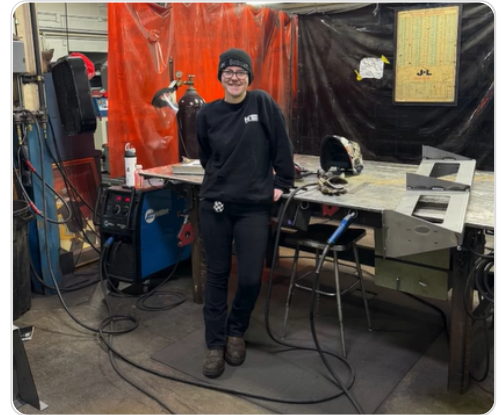




# ALGOMA VENTURE ACADEMY

## FORGING THE FUTURE: STUDENT EARNS YOUTH APPRENTICE NOMINATION

AVA is so proud of our very own Jasmine Wery, who has been nominated for Youth Apprentice of the Year in recognition of her outstanding work in welding. Through long hours, hands-on learning, and a commitment to mastering her craft, she has distinguished herself as both a skilled apprentice and a resilient individual. Jasmine is currently doing her apprenticeship at Hi-Tech Fabrications in Sturgeon Bay. Jasmine's journey hasn't always been easy, but her grit and perseverance have carried her through every challenge. While facing personal obstacles, she has remained focused, determined, and driven to succeed. Her story is a powerful reminder that with hard work and resilience, it's possible to overcome whatever life throws your way.



## REDISCOVER ALGOMA VENTURE ACADEMY: A FRESH APPROACH TO LEARNING

What makes AVA a unique pathway of learning? Instead of relying heavily on lectures and textbooks, we use project-based, personalized, and community-based learning. Students design projects around their interests, often working with local organizations to solve real-world problems. Learning in AVA is highly individualized—students help shape their own education based on their strengths and passions. They typically complete several major projects each year, and their progress is evaluated based on skill development rather than traditional grading alone. Overall, Algoma Venture Academy operates as a hands-on, student-driven school that emphasizes critical thinking, collaboration, and real-world experience, preparing students for college, careers, and active roles in their community.

# PATHFINDER

Pathfinder students are looking forward to several outdoor field experiences this April, including visits to the Kewaunee Fish Hatchery and Fonferek Glen. In recent weeks, students have engaged in a variety of elective opportunities such as crocheting, painting, and cooking, allowing them to explore new skills and interests. Our three seniors are diligently working to complete their remaining credits as they approach graduation. Additionally, two students have enthusiastically participated in the Pathfinder Reading Challenge, focusing on graphic novels as they work to surpass Ms. G's reading progress.



# TURNING RAIN INTO FUN: A NIGHT WITH AES FAMILIES

Sometimes the best memories are made when things don't go exactly as planned, and that was certainly the case at our recent AES Family Sledding Night at Winter Park.

Planned by one of our teachers with the help of our school's family engagement group, the event brought together nearly 170 students, parents, siblings, and staff members for an evening of tubing, laughter, and community connection. While the weather decided to keep things interesting with warm temperatures and rain falling for most of the evening, the sledding hill stayed open. That was all our AES families needed to make it a night full of fun.

Students raced down the hill with friends and enjoyed spending time together outside of the classroom. Despite the rainy conditions, the energy and excitement never slowed down. It was wonderful to see so many families bundled up and embracing the adventure together.

Events like Family Sledding Night are about more than just fun, they're about building relationships. When families, students, and staff come together in relaxed settings, it helps create stronger connections, a greater sense of belonging, and a supportive environment for our students. When families are engaged in school communities, students feel more connected and confident in their learning.

After such a great turnout and so many smiling faces (even in the rain!), we're hopeful that Family Sledding Night will become an annual AES tradition.



## REGISTRATION OPENING SOON

2026-2027

4-YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN &  
LITTLE STARS LEARNING PROGRAM

Our school district offers two early learning programs to help young children thrive. Our full-day 4K program runs five days a week in an inclusive, hands-on learning environment and includes caregiver outreach events to connect home and school. Our Little Stars Learning Program for 3- and 4-year-olds (must be 3 by September 1, 2026, and potty trained) runs Monday through Thursday, 8:00-11:00 a.m., with each child guaranteed two days per week. Registration details will be shared soon via our school website, school newsletters, social media, and direct mail. We can't wait for you to join us!

### QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

**4K** - Emily Krueger, [ekrueger@algomaschools.org](mailto:ekrueger@algomaschools.org)

**Little Stars** - Karen Bishop, [kbishop@algomaschools.org](mailto:kbishop@algomaschools.org)



# ALGOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Golden Apple Award Nominees



Shanna Anders  
Interventionist



Courtney Granus  
Kindergarten



Katie Horn  
AVA Principal



Alexa Jenerjohn  
1st Grade



Jenna Jorgensen  
3rd Grade



Tina Madson  
4K



Jennifer Massey  
Band Director



Eric Nelson  
High School Science



Tom Plagenz  
Middle School Math



Avery Robinson  
Social Worker



Jackie Robinson  
2nd Grade



Jaime Robinson  
Elementary STEAM



Danielle Schultz  
Reading Specialist



Rachel Vandermause  
4K

## CONGRATULATIONS



**EMILY KRUEGER**  
4K/KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

**2026  
Educator of  
Distinction**



*Congratulations to our 2026 Golden Apple Award nominees and to Emily Krueger for being named a 2026 Educator of Distinction. What an outstanding recognition of dedication and excellence!*



### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Algoma School District alumnus Lee Haasch, a 1977 graduate, has built a diverse and successful career rooted in both business and community involvement. After graduating, he attended University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, where he earned a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing. Haasch began his professional career as marketing director for Whitney Cable in Michigan before returning to Algoma to work in the accounting department at the Hardwoods. He later became a sales representative for Casco Telephone Systems and went on to work with A&E Building Systems constructing custom-built homes. Combining his entrepreneurial spirit with his passion for fishing, Haasch purchased Pier 42 Marina and launched Haasch Guide Service, which now offers approximately 170 charter fishing trips each year. He also owns and operates Four Sail Realty. During his time in high school, Haasch was active in football, basketball, and baseball, experiences he credits with teaching him time management and a strong work ethic. He also points to teachers such as Mr. Schmitz, Mr. Guth, and Mr. Kroll for helping connect classroom learning to real-world applications. Beyond his career, Haasch has been a dedicated member of the Algoma Lions Club for nearly 40 years and remains active in fishing advisory groups at the state, regional, and international levels. He is also a proud father of five children and grandfather to 13 grandchildren, and values the strong family and community ties that have defined his life.

## LEE HAASCH

Class of 1977





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ALGOMA, WI  
PERMIT #14

### ALGOMA SCHOOL BOARD

Amy Johnson, *President*  
Lonnie Fenendael, *Vice President*  
Chrissy O'Connell, *Treasurer*  
Chris Benes, *Clerk*  
Jeremy Paszczak, *Member*  
Shannon Larson, *Member*  
Michael Swoboda, *Member*

### ADMINISTRATION

Jesse Brinkmann, *Superintendent*  
Katie Servi, *Elementary Principal*  
David Robertson, *Middle/High School Principal*  
Marie Ott, *Director of Special Education & Pupil Services*  
Katie Horn, *Algoma Venture Academy Principal, Pathfinder Principal, Pack of Pups Child Care Director*  
Jesse Duerst, *Director of Technology*  
Amber Shallow, *Finance Director*

### CONCEALED CARRY AND SCHOOLS

The laws allow for the legal carrying of weapons for self protection within certain parameters. The laws DID NOT change for school properties. It continues to be a FELONY to carry weapons onto school properties. This includes all school buildings, playgrounds, and athletic fields, even if the school does not own the property. In Algoma's case, the primary properties that Algoma uses and does not own are Peterson Park and Perry Field.

PLEASE take this note as a reminder that CONCEALED CARRY LAWS DO NOT ALLOW ANY WEAPONS TO BE ON SCHOOL PROPERTIES. POSTINGS TO THAT AFFECT ARE NOT REQUIRED. Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe by keeping all weapons off school property.

It is the policy of the School District of Algoma that no person, on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin (including LEP), ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation or physical disability, mental disability, emotional disability or learning disability/handicap or homeless status, may be denied admission to any school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program.

It is the mission of the School District of Algoma to strive for excellence in education for all students, to help students develop to their fullest potential, and to promote personal integrity, so that they may become contributing members of society. The district will commit to achieve this mission by using the talents, assets, and resources available and will encourage a partnership of community, students, family and school.

### NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

The Board of the Algoma School District prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to the Title IX Coordinator. The full notice of nondiscrimination is located at In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to <https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/algoma/Board.nsf/Public> and search for Title IX (policies 2266 or 2264). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

OCR's regional office in Chicago can be reached at:

Chicago Office  
Office for Civil Rights  
U.S. Department of Education  
John C. Kluczynski Federal Building  
230 S. Dearborn Street, 37th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60604  
Telephone: 312-730-1560  
FAX: 312-730-1576; TDD: 800-877-8339  
Email: [OCR.Chicago@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Chicago@ed.gov)