



# ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009



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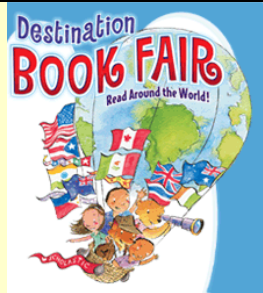
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**Scholastic  
Book Fair  
Sept. 21-25**

**Contact Information:**

**Mrs. Jane Hower  
Principal**

**Mrs. Susan Troy  
Secretary**

**Mrs. Kathy Gigantiello  
Nurse**

**Mrs. Valerie Meslin  
Guidance**

**School Phone:  
609-654-4203**

<b>If you know your party's ext.</b>	<b>Press 1</b>
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<b>Office</b>	<b>Press 2</b>
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<b>Nurse</b>	<b>Press 3</b>
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<b>Guidance</b>	<b>Press 4</b>
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<b>Media Ctr.</b>	<b>Press 5</b>
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<b>Absence Line</b>	<b>Press 6</b>
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<b>Allen Info.</b>	<b>Press 7</b>
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<b>District Office</b>	<b>609-654- 6416</b>
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## Principal's Message

Since I have been a little girl I have always looked forward to the start of each new school year. I loved the smell of our new pencils, that brand new box of pointy crayons, the anticipation of meeting my teachers and new friends, and that sense of excitement for all that the new school year would bring. My sense of excitement is still present, perhaps stronger than ever this year. We have been busy all summer preparing for the upcoming school year. Staff members have worked with our Curriculum Office as we continue to bring our new writing initiative forward and focus on instruction. Materials are arriving daily, our building is cleaned and polished and we are ready to begin. I have certainly missed the students and am filled with that old familiar feeling of anticipation again, finding myself anxiously awaiting the children's arrival as we look forward to all the energy and spirit they bring to Allen School, once again filling our classrooms, hallways and cafeteria with all the excitement, joy, and love of learning that they are sure to bring. It is a special time of the year and Allen School is certainly a wonderful place to learn, grow and have fun.

As we begin this new school year I would like to share the following important information with you:

1. We know the Opening Day Packet and all of the information contained can be quite overwhelming, if you have questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We are hoping you will consider signing up on the volunteer form contained in the packet. We are always in need of parents to assist us with the Recess Running program on Tuesdays and Thursdays and several of our upcoming evening school events.
2. We encourage all of our parents to become involved in our school by joining the Home and School Association, we welcome your involvement as parents as we work together to provide the very best for the students of Allen School.
3. Watch for upcoming notices and information regarding the Allen School Book Fair which will be held the week of September 21<sup>st</sup>.
4. Information regarding the Allen School Spiritwear and our Pretzels for Promethean fundraiser information will also be arriving home soon!

My door is always open to you; I encourage you to contact school if you have questions or concerns. We are posed for Awesome, Alligator Adventures in the year ahead! On behalf of the entire Allen School staff we welcome you and your family to the 2009-2010 school year!



**P** is for PARENT INVOLVEMENT.

Research shows that students with parents who are involved in their education have higher achievement. You can get involved in your child's education by...

- reading with your child each night. Regular reading improves many skills. It reinforces that reading is a valuable and pleasurable activity.
- volunteering at school. Call your child's teacher for ideas about how you can help at school or from home.
- attending school activities. Be your child's number one fan!

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*Mrs. Jane Hower*  
*Principal*

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## Getting Involved in Your Child's Education

When parents are involved in their child's education kids do better in school. Parental involvement can mean reading a book to your child, checking their homework, discussing your child's progress with their teacher, limiting TV on school nights, or simply just asking your child, "How was school today?" You must ask them everyday and become involved in your child's education to send the message that schoolwork is important and you expect them to learn. Here are some sites that will help you to make a difference in your child's educational life:

[Disclaimer.](#)

### [Family Education](#)

This is a great site that offers families advice on a wide range of topics for all ages. The greatest part of the site is when they break down children by grade level and list skill builders by subject, milestones to expect, a section called you and the school, and school safety. It is such a wonderful resource that each grade level web page has a link going to this resource.

[Your Kindergartner](#)

[Your Third Grader](#)

[Your First Grader](#)

[Your Fourth Grader](#)

[Your Second Grader](#)

[Your Fifth Grader](#)

### [KidsHealth](#)

This very comprehensive site is broken down into sections for parents, kids, and teens. It contains numerous articles on a whole range of topics from infections to emotions and behaviors. The articles are written so they are easily understood, up to date, and accurate. This site will help you to talk to your child about health related issues and/or their fears and anxieties. It is a great resource.

### [Scholastic Families](#)

Scholastic has this great section of their website dedicated to families! They feature great articles on various subjects and have excellent sections called "Your School Age Child" and "Your Early Learner". In each of the areas they feature great activities to do with your child and some "five minute fun". Check out this wonderful site!

### [Teachers and Families](#)

This is another great site with tons of articles on many topics. Most of the site is free to use however there are certain areas that are available to members only, so just be aware. They offer daily parenting tips, monthly features, and sections for parents of gifted and talented, special education, and preschool students.

[For a complete listing of resources in All Areas, click here!](#)

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## September Events at Allen School

Our calendar is full of so many great happenings at Allen! Here are just a few that are coming up!

### **MONTHLY CORE VALUE:** **RESPECT**

- *September 21-25: Book Fair*
- *September 22<sup>nd</sup>: Family Pizza Night 5-8pm*
- *September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Grandparents Night at Book Fair 4-7pm*
- *September 24<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Storytime 11-12pm and 1-2 pm*
- *September 28: No School*

## Upcoming October Events

*Mark your calendars for these upcoming exciting events!*

- *October 5-9: Fire Prevention Week*
- *October 8: First Grade Curriculum Night*
- *October 9: Alligator Day*
- *October 15: Homework Holiday Night*
- *October 19-23: Anti-Violence and Anti- Vandalism Week*
- *October 27: Class Pictures*
- *October 30: Halloween Parade and Party*

**[Check out the Allen School Calendar for a complete listing of all activities throughout the year!](#)**

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## New Technology at Allen School

The children are being exposed to new technology at Allen School—the Promethean Activboard! During Back to School night many parents came into the computer lab to try out this great new interactive technology and many more saw the boards in use for teacher's presentations. Here are some sites to help you learn more about the Activboard:

- **[About Promethean](#)** *Learn about the company called Promethean who is the leader in interactive learning technology.*
- **[The Research](#)** *"Here you can find details of a number of collaborative research projects that Promethean is involved in, working with specialist researchers to explore the impact of our Activboard technology in the classroom*

*around the globe.”*

- **[Case Studies](#)** *Read testimonials from schools around the country who are using the Activboard technology*
- **[Give it a Try!](#)** *See how the Activboard works and how it can be used in the classroom!*

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