

# A.M.S. NEWSLETTER

April/May/June 2018

## Principal's Notes

It is hard to believe that the last grading period is underway and that we are in the home stretch of completing yet another successful school year. It is a critical time of the year as we head into the home stretch. Please help the A.M.S. staff reinforce with your child the importance of remaining focused on school work through June 1. Also, please help us in relaying the significance of performing his or her best on the upcoming state achievement tests. Although we don't want these tests to be end all to what we do here at A.M.S. we do believe that these test will help us determine how we compare to other schools throughout the state. Our Staff is excited to see how our students perform as they have worked very hard to close the achievement gap here at A.M.S.

This newsletter contains a large amount of information as we wrap-up the school year. Some major dates are as follows:

- May 4**            **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert**  
(A.H.S. Archer Auditorium,  
7:00 P.M.)
- May 18**          **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Night**  
(A.U. Rec. Center,  
6:30 – 9:30 P.M.)
- May 21**          **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert**  
(A.H.S. Archer Auditorium,  
7:00 P.M.)
- May 23**          **Academic Recognition Night (A.H.S. Archer Auditorium, 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade will begin at 6:00 P.M., 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will begin at 7:00 P.M.) There will be an intermission between 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade to alleviate overcrowding in Archer.**
- May 29**          **Memorial Day – No School**
- June 1**            **Last day for students**

Various classes and groups have planned other activities that will take place during and after school.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please call the school for additional information.

Matt White, Principal

## Message from Mr. Paramore

As we move into our last nine weeks we are asking for your full support as parents to make sure

students are in attendance as much as possible and that you are continuing to support their education.

Please remind them to get rest, and be ready to give the best effort possible as this will be a very important grading period for academic eligibility and for our teachers to see how well students have grown in class as we embark on State Testing as well. Please keep the following aspects of life here at A.M.S. in mind as we finish the year strong:

1. **Cell Phones** can be confiscated from students at any time they are out in class when permission is not given. If you as a parent are accustomed to texting or even trying to call your child at school during class time, please be respectful of class time and wait to do this at your child's respective lunch period. If it is an immediate emergency, do not hesitate to contact the main office.
2. **Bus Passes** If your child would like to ride the bus home with another student, the main office must receive a written parent note from both sets of individuals involved. This will be strictly enforced.
3. Our **building doors** are locked at all times at A.M.S. except from 7:10 a.m.- 7:40 a.m. to ensure safety and allow for student arrival.
4. If your child is **absent or sick**, please call the attendance office as soon as possible to let us know, we are having more and more unexcused absences due to parents not notifying A.M.S. in a timely manner.
5. When **dropping students off in the morning** at Kingridge Dr. or Avalon Dr. drop-off lines, please be courteous and drop your student off where you are in line. It may be a time saver for you to drop them off from further away and then always use the inside lane as a pull away lane obviously using caution. Please refrain from dropping students off on the opposite side of the median in both drop-off lines as this will make students have to walk through traffic that is exiting. Please understand your child does not have to wait in

your car until they get to the exact entrance location.

We look forward to a great last nine weeks, and go Arrows!!!

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Night**

It's that time of year again for our eighth graders to celebrate the end of their middle school years. We will mark this milestone with a Fun Night at Ashland University Recreation Center on Friday, May 18, from 6:30 – 9:30 P.M. Tickets will be sold the week of Fun Night for \$4.00 to eighth graders. Tickets will not be available at the door. **The following activities will be available for students: swimming (a movie will be playing while you swim), basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, corn hole, DJ, ping pong, pool, golf simulator, Wii, Xbox, racquetball, wallyball, and the rock climbing wall. Students should bring a swimsuit. (Towels will be provided). Please wear gym clothes and tennis shoes.** Eighth grade student council members hope to see all of the eighth graders there to have a great time together one last time. We will need quite a few chaperones for this event! **If you are interested in chaperoning or have questions, please call the middle school at 419-289-7966 or email Mrs. Nardo at [manardo@goarrows.org](mailto:manardo@goarrows.org). A waiver form for A.U. will be available on the forms table in the cafeteria or in the main office for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders.**

#### **Drop off procedures:**

All students should be dropped off for Fun Night using the entrance off Claremont Avenue. There is a drive which loops in front of the Rec. Center. Parents should pull in off Claremont Avenue and use the loop to drop off and exit using the same drive. Please do not drop off or have students arrive until 6:30 P.M.

#### **Pick up procedures:**

Student should be picked up at King Road. Parking is available in the parking lot behind Clayton Hall. Please pick up your child at 9:30 SHARP! Thank you.

### **Unpaid Fees and Obligations**

Grade cards were not held for unpaid fees or obligations during this school year. However, if fees or any obligations are not paid by the end of this year, you will receive a letter explaining what is owed in the mail in place of a final grade card. Please remember that unpaid student fees and obligations

accumulate each year and will need to be paid before graduation from high school. Schedules are held at the start of the next school year if old obligations are owed.

If you have any questions regarding school fees, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Hardesty in the Principal's Office at 419-289-7966, Ext. 4146. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Lunch Information**

No students will be permitted to charge their lunch starting May 21. Reminder: any cafeteria charges need to be taken care of by June 1.

### **Attention All 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students/Parents**

All incoming seventh grade students must have had the meningococcal vaccine. They are also required to have the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis vaccine). We need to have a copy of the record of these immunizations at the beginning of the school year.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade News**

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Checkbook Incentive Auction**

Donations welcome! Please help us add to our exciting assortment of auction items ready for the annual Seventh Grade Checkbook Auction. We have been rewarding great student behavior, strong leadership skills, and all-around great students for years by giving "checkbook money" through the school year. Students then enjoy the thrill of bidding on REAL donated items, while using their "pretend" checkbook money to make the final purchase. To support this reward activity, we have used Box Tops for Education, Coke Caps funds, and many donations from local businesses. Over the years, great Ashland businesses such as Hedstrom, Archway, Wendy's, Wal-Mart, Dor-Lo, Donna D's, Pizza Hut, and Subway have all donated items to help us fill our auction tables. If you know of a local business that would like to help us out, or you would be willing to work on our donation committee, please contact Mr. Vance ([javance@goarrows.org](mailto:javance@goarrows.org)) or Ms. Jordan ([lajordan@goarrows.org](mailto:lajordan@goarrows.org)) through their school email!

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Medieval Day**

As the year winds down, the seventh grade is gearing up for the annual Medieval Festival planned for Wednesday, May 16, to be held at the Ashland County Fairgrounds. The seventh grade students will

have the opportunity to attend this one-day event, provided their behavior and grades earn them this privilege. This is the culminating event of their interdisciplinary unit focusing on Medieval history, culture, and Arthurian legend. Special events planned include Medieval armor displays, archery, and peasant competitions. We are very happy to announce the return this year of Combatant's Keep, a Medieval jousting organization. Check out the jousters at [www.combatantskeep.com](http://www.combatantskeep.com). Thanks to the generosity and support of our P.T.O., we are able to have the jousters, as well as a professional juggler as our "Royal Court Jester." Mark and Marlo Angelo are professional entertainers and exceptionally talented master jugglers. Students can also expect to see artists and re-enactors from a living history organization called the Society for Creative Anachronism. An informational letter and permission slip will be sent home with the students during the month of April.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mrs. Millhouse's and Mrs. Blackley's students in periods 1-2 have been independently reading a novel. In April, each student will create one of three projects: (1) a children's book based on their novel; (2) a vocabulary scrapbook of unfamiliar and interesting words from their novel; or (3) a 3-D model depicting a scene from their novel. Book project presentations will begin Monday, April 23. After state testing, this class will start a new novel together--The Night Tourist. This modern-day version of the Greek myth, Orpheus and Eurydice, will be like a treasure hunt as students find all the connections and allusions to Greek mythology that the author has laced through this novel.

Mrs. Millhouse's advanced language arts students have successfully tackled the novella, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Robert Louis Stevenson. At first glance, this 54-page story seemed like "a walk in the park." However, in conjunction with the reading, students were given a glossary containing over 500 unfamiliar vocabulary words! Reading this novella, and understanding it, gave students a great sense of accomplishment. One of the prominent themes of Jekyll and Hyde is this question: Can science go too far? Therefore, students will now turn their attention to a website posted by Notre Dame University—"2018 List of Ethical Dilemmas and Policy Issues in Science and Technology." Students will choose one of these "Top 10" hot-button issues

as the subject of their argumentative essay. The third and final classic novel book project is due Monday, April 23. After state testing, these students will be reading Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe. This will be a challenging and timely read for them as they concurrently study the Civil War in American Studies. Their exposure to the sophisticated vocabulary in Jekyll and Hyde and Uncle Tom's Cabin will serve them well when they delve into additional classic novels in high school courses such as American Literature and British Literature.

### A.M.S. Choir News

April 20	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choir to Ashland University Choir Festival 10:45 – 2:00 P.M.
May 4	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert Archer Auditorium 7:00 P.M.
May 21	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert Archer Auditorium 7:00 P.M.

### Guidance News

Kym Irwin, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor  
Wendy Packard, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

### Statewide Tests

We will be wrapping up our State assessments in April. Please try to schedule appointments around these testing dates if at all possible. These tests will be in the morning unless noted below:

April 11 - 7th grade ELA part 2  
 April 16 & 17 - 6th grade ELA  
 April 18 & 19 - 8th grade ELA  
 April 25 - 6th grade Math part 1, Geometry (2 parts morning and afternoon)  
 April 26 - 8th grade Pre-Algebra including 7th gr Honors Pre-Algebra (2 parts morning and afternoon), Algebra I (2 parts morning and afternoon)  
 April 27 - 6th grade Math part 2  
 May 1 & 2 - 7th grade Math  
 May 3 - 8th grade Science (2 parts morning and afternoon)

What can you do to help with test preparation? **Make sure your child has plenty of rest and goes to bed at an appropriate time the evenings before testing. PLEASE provide a nourishing breakfast for your child.** Give your child lots of encouragement and ask your child to give his/her best effort.

### 6<sup>th</sup> into 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Scheduling

Mrs. Irwin has concluded with individual student meetings regarding scheduling for next year. She has verified students' encore class choices. As mentioned on the scheduling form, placement into advanced level courses is determined by Terra Nova Scores, TDP Designation, Teacher Recommendations and in class assessments such as SRI and Star Math. Letters for those students who had taken the Algebra Prognostic placement test for consideration of enrollment into Honors Pre-Algebra have recently been mailed home. This letter will inform students of the recommendation of the math committee. Feel free to contact Mrs. Packard at 419-289-7966, Ext 4150 if you have any questions or concerns.

### 8<sup>th</sup> into 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Scheduling

Mrs. Packard has completed scheduling freshman courses for all students in eighth grade. Should you have any questions or concerns at this point, please call the Ashland High School Guidance Office at (419) 289-7968. The students are assigned a counselor based upon the alphabet.

A-F: Mr. Court

G-M: Mrs. Steward

N-Z: Mrs. Hartman

### 7<sup>th</sup> Into 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Scheduling

Mrs. Packard has concluded individual meetings with students to discuss teacher recommendations for academic core subjects and to verify selections of electives. Tryouts for Show Choir and Stage Band (Jazz Band) will be completed later this spring.

Several students are still being monitored for progress toward meeting all criteria in order to be eligible to enroll in world language classes as requirements have not been satisfied in order to justify placement. Students in question were told during their individual meeting with Mrs. Packard which criteria still needed to be satisfied in order to be eligible to enroll in either French or Spanish. In addition to monitoring final SRI (lexile level), Mrs. Packard will check Grade Point Averages for each of the four core academic classes, as it has been determined the student should maintain a 2.5 GPA in each of the courses to demonstrate achievement and work ethic necessary to be successful in a high school course. ***Please remind your son or daughter that the final nine weeks has just begun and there is still time to demonstrate capabilities by achieving the***

***required GPA and/or SRI results. Student enrollment in French or Spanish may depend upon those factors.***

Please contact Mrs. Packard at 419-289-7966, Extension 4150, if you have any concerns.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer School Options

Ashland High School is in the process of finalizing summer school course options for incoming ninth grade students. Courses will ***likely*** be offered ***if minimum enrollment numbers are met for each class.***

The high school administration ***anticipates*** offering online health and a physical education class. Cost for these courses has yet to be determined, but has typically been \$100 for each semester equivalent. Generally, P.E. runs for four hours per day for three weeks. Tentative start date is Monday, June 4 with final session tentatively set for Friday, June 22nd. If your child is interested in this opportunity, please have your child listen to announcements for details regarding when registration packets will be available in the A.M.S. Guidance Office. **Completed registration forms MUST BE TAKEN or MAILED to Ashland High School in order for your child to be admitted to these courses.** Deadline for application is May 18th. Acceptance is on a first-come, first-served basis as space is limited.

### Career Day for 8th grade

Our 8th grade students will have another opportunity to see a variety of careers in action on Wednesday, May 16th. We will be touring local businesses such as Spring Meadow Veterinary Clinic, ODOT, Bookmasters, and many more. Students will be learning more about what jobs our community has to offer. Our students will also have outside speakers in to discuss occupations ranging from nurse practitioner, engineering, IT, and many more. Students will have an opportunity to visit places and speakers of their interest based off of career activities we have done throughout the year. Please ask your son/daughter what they have viewed after this trip and how it has impacted/changed their future educational path.

### Cheerleading

Cheerleading tryouts for the 2018-2019 athletic season will take place May 21, 22 & 23.

**Monday May 21:** All girls will meet at the A.M.S. gym for instruction and practice from 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

**Tuesday, May 22:** Tryouts for candidates in seventh grade going into eighth grade in A.M.S. gym from 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

**Wednesday, May 23:** Tryouts for candidates in sixth grade going into seventh grade in A.M.S. gym from 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Tryout packets will be available at A.M.S. starting Monday, April 30.

### **Ashland Middle School Athletics Track**

The track season has been underway now for a few weeks. During this time, all involved have experienced a little bit of all seasons, sunny and warm, rain, sleet, high winds, and snow. Welcome to Ohio in the spring! We haven't had any meets at the time of this submission, but the athletes and coaches are continuing to work hard to get ready for when the competitive schedule begins. The season may not be real long, but there is a lot of action jammed into it.

Our first home meet will be Wednesday 4/18 vs. Madison, Wooster, and St. Ed's. We have only two home meets this year. The second and final home meet is also the final meet of the season. It is the *Ashland County Invitational* on Saturday, May 5 at Community Stadium. Hopefully the sun will be shining, and temperatures high. The action begins at 10:00 A.M.

### **Athletic Physicals**

Please be sure to get your physicals scheduled with your family doctor, or maybe try Samaritan QCare or Urgent Care. Physicals, and the activity fee form, are the only paper forms that get turned into the middle school athletic office. Please have these turned in, along with the fee, at least one week before the first scheduled practice. Everything else is done through Privit (See Below).

### **Athletic Privit**

All athletic forms, except for the Physical and Athletic Fee form & fee, will be completed on "Privit". If you are going to be an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, and

completed Privit last year, you do not have to re-do it. You will want to go into your account and update anything that needs updated and resign all documents. You will also want to make sure you have chosen to join any sports teams that you think you might want to participate in for the entire school year. If you decide not to do a sport later, no problem, Mr. Weisenstein will be able to remove you from that roster if you decide later not to participate in a particular sport.

For all 6<sup>th</sup> graders that are going to be 7<sup>th</sup> graders, you will need to register on Privit through the A.M.S. website. WARNING- Privit can be a bit confusing and frustrating. Because of this, Mr. Weisenstein will be having a **PRIVIT HELP SESSION** on **Tuesday, May 29, at 6:00 P.M. in the A.M.S. Cafetorium**. Please bring your laptop or other device to be able to get on the Privit site.

Reminder, the Physical and Athletic Fee Form will still be in paper form. These can be picked up at A.M.S. The Physical form can also be printed from the A.M.S. website.

Below are the middle school sports to choose from in Privit

#### **Fall**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls Cross Country
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Cross Country
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls Cross Country
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Cross Country
- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls FB Cheerleading
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls FB Cheerleading
- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls Volleyball
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls Volleyball
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Football
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Football

#### **Winter**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls Basketball
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls Basketball
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Wrestling
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Wrestling
- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls BB Cheerleading
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls BB Cheerleading

#### **Spring**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Girls Track and Field
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Track and Field
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls Track and Field
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Track and Field

## *Upcoming Events*

March 30 - April 6      Spring Break

April 9            School Resumes

Testing:

April 11          ELA 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Part 2

April 16          ELA 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 17          ELA 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 18          ELA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 19          ELA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 25          Geometry and Math 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Part 1

April 26          Algebra I and Math 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 27          Math 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Part w

May 1            Math 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Part 1

May 2            Math 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Part 2

May 3            Science 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 3            A.M.S. Spring Orchestra Concert  
7:00 P.M. Archer Auditorium

May 4            6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert  
Archer Auditorium A.H.S.  
7:00 P.M.

May 6            All Band Concert - Art Show  
1:30 P.M. Archer Auditorium A.H.S.

May 16          Medieval Day 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ashland County Fairgrounds

May 18          Eighth Grade Fun Night,  
6:30-9:30 P.M., A.U. Rec. Center

May 21          A.M.S. Cheer Instruction and  
Practice 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

May 21          7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Concert  
Archer Auditorium  
7:00 P.M.

May 22          A.M.S. Cheer Tryouts  
7<sup>th</sup> into 8<sup>th</sup> 3:00 - 6:30 P.M

May 23          A.M.S. Cheer Tryouts  
6<sup>th</sup> into 7<sup>th</sup> 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

May 23          8<sup>th</sup> Grade Incentive Day

May 23          A.M.S. Academic Recognition Night  
6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 6:00 P.M.  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade 7:00 P.M.  
A.H.S. Archer Auditorium

May 28          Memorial Day - No School

May 29          Privity Help  
A.M.S. Cafeteria  
6:00 P.M.

June 1          Last Day of School for Students

Week of June 11 Grade Cards Will Be Mailed Home