Dear AMS Families,

We are wrapping up the 3rd quarter this week. The rest of March will be busy with NWEA MAP Testing occurring next week followed up by our last week before spring break (March 26-April 2). When we return from Spring Break, we will begin state AIR Testing on Wednesday, April 4. I will be sending home information regarding our test schedule and bell schedule during the test window soon.

Please take a moment to read our newsletter and learn about the many positive student accomplishments happening at Ankeney. Also, nominations for the district Outstanding Educator Award and Outstanding Classified Support Staff Award are being accepted until March 9. Just travel to the district homepage and click the link labeled “More” under “Outstanding Educator Award” to tell us about a staff member who has made a positive impact on your child.

Sincerely,

Dale Wren

From the Principal

March

Ankeney provides great academic programs during the school day, but there are also plenty of ways for students to get involved outside of school. In addition to the many sports offered, students can participate in MATHCOUNTS, Power of the Pen, Science Fair, Student Council, Art Club, Character Club, National Junior Honor Society, and Muse Machine. During the school day, students also have the opportunity to participate in the Geography Bee, History Bee, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs), and serve as Student Aides. Ankeney staff encourage and support students to join in activities that fit their talents and are of interest to them.
Congratulations to the Ankeney MATHCOUNTS team (made up of Ethan Todd, Ken Thomson, Alan Xie, and Reese Nelson) for taking 2nd place at the Dayton Chapter Competition. They will compete at the state competition on March 10. A special shout out to Alan Xie who placed 1st overall and took 1st in the countdown round.

Our Shine Award recipient for the month of January is Brennan Lasson. Brennan is a very friendly and caring 8th grade student with an unbelievable attitude. There is never a time that he passes a fellow student or staff member without saying hello with a smile. He always takes the time to ask others how their day is going. Brennan goes out of his way to show others that he cares. Brennan is very polite and uses great manners. If someone drops something, he would be the first to help them or to hold the door and always says please and thank you. Brennan has empathy towards others. Brennan “makes a difference” by always helping students in need and is happy to celebrate the successes of others.

Brennan, first of all, has respect for himself. He always deals with daily challenges bravely and faces any problem with a positive attitude. Brennan “makes a difference” every day by keeping such a positive attitude while dealing with adversity. Can’t is not in his vocabulary. Brennan shows respect for his education by working very hard in his classes. Brennan respects his peers by encouraging and complementing them. Brennan always shows respect for staff members with his manners and hard work and his friendly smile.
Students in Mrs. Brown’s Honors English Language Arts class participated in the Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest sponsored by the VFW. This year’s theme was “America’s Gift to My Generation.” Congratulations to seventh graders Ashleigh Sincock and Keegan Dang, who were both chosen as finalists in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade division. The students were honored at a dinner in January where the finalists shared their essays with the attendees. As finalists, Ashleigh and Keegan received a United States flag, a plaque, an engraved medal, and a check.

March Dates to Remember

March 9  End of 3rd Quarter - 1-Hour Early Dismissal @ 2:45
March 13  ELA MAP Testing
March 14 & 15  Math MAP Testing
March 19-23  Celebrate Reading Week
March 20  PTO Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
March 21  Olweus Class Meetings
March 26-April 2  No School - Spring Break (Return April 3)

Outstanding Educator and Classified Support Staff Awards

Nominations are being accepted until Friday, March 9 for outstanding educator and outstanding classified support staff. All nominations can be made using the forms on the District website. Detailed explanations about the awards and nomination criteria can also be found online.

Important Contacts

Ankeney Absence Line: 429-7567, option 1
Transportation: 429-7531, option 1
Food Service: 429-7531, option 3
Board of Education: 426-1522
Lunch Menu: www.beavercreek.k12.oh.us/menus
School Fees: www.beavercreek.k12.oh.us/Page/10943
Athletics: www.beavercreekathletics.com

Want to know what’s going on at Ankeney Middle School? Check out our website @ www.beavercreek.k12.oh.us/ams

You can see what the students hear each morning by going to the “Daily Announcements” under the Quicklinks on the homepage or by going to the calendar. We try to update information by noon daily.
Ankeney’s Power of the Pen teams had an intradistrict competition with Coy on February 28. Seventh graders Elia Hendrixson, Rosie Lockwood, Emme Claire McCormack, Ashleigh Sincock, and Rachael Whittridge, along with eighth graders Lily Chen, Marissa Mailes, Corinna Ress, Katherine Ress, and Ethan Todd participated in two rounds of writing, and teachers from both schools served as the judges. All students received specialized advice for improvement and commendation for their efforts. The top three writers at each grade level won ribbons and leather bound journals. The event ended with pizza and awards.

Congratulations to eighth graders Corinna Ress and Katherine Ress, who placed second and third in the eighth grade category. All kids had a great time and enjoyed showcasing their writing abilities. A huge thank you to our PTO for supporting this event and teachers Katy Hargrove, Kristine Montague, Megan Tomlin, and Stephanie Mercer for serving as judges. A great time was had by students and teachers!

National History Bee

Twenty-seven students from Ankeney Middle School have qualified to participate in the regional competition of the National History Bee. The National History Bee is an academic competition during which students are quizzed on a range of historical topics. The competition is broken into three stages. First, students participate in a school wide intramural bee. The top thirty students then compete in an online qualifying exam. The top students of the qualifying exam then compete in one of the 39 regional finals. The regional finals’ top finishers then advance to nationals to compete for the championship title. Regional Finals will be held in Columbus on Monday, April 9.

May

4 (Friday) - Staff Appreciation Luncheon
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

15 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC (Election Meeting)
**3rd Tuesday

22 (Tuesday) - 8th Grade Farewell 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

April

20 (Friday) - Spring Dance, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

24 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC (Nominations for Board)

change War is underway to raise money for the electronic sign. Turn in change on Friday and Monday mornings in the front lobby. The contest will go into April with the winner being announced at the Spring Dance on April 20. The grade that collects the most will get an ice cream sundae bar during their lunch period.
Staff Highlights

Name: Andrew Weaver  
Grade Level or Position: Band Director at Ankeney Middle School  
Years in District: This is year 4 in Beavercreek. I taught for 2 years in Indiana before this.  
Family: I have 2 younger sisters and a younger brother who is a Band Director out in Colorado.  
Favorite Food: I’ll never pass up a chimichanga.  
Hobbies: River kayaking, hiking, skiing and exploring nature.  
Favorite Thing about Education or Working with Students: Seeing students go from not knowing which end of the instrument to blow through in 6th grade to becoming masters of their instrument in 8th grade.  
Unknown Fact about you: I’m an eagle scout from Troop 43 in Mason, OH.

Name: Molly Christian  
Grade Level or Position: Art teacher for 6th and 8th grade. (Also teach ceramics grades 10-12 at BHS)  
Years in District: 2  
Family: 2 Dogs, Sophie and Fred  
Favorite Food: French fries!  
Hobbies: Ceramics, painting in oils and acrylics.  
Favorite Thing about Education or Working with Students: I love that I get to share my favorite and most exciting aspects of art with my students.  
Unknown Fact about you: I started college as an interior design/architecture major. Rulers were my downfall.  
Other Info. you want to share: I am so grateful to spend half of my day here at Ankeney, and I hope I will be here for many more to come.

Name: Melissa Clark  
Grade Level or Position: 7th and 8th grade Art  
Years in District: 17  
Family: husband Bobby and our “fur kids” Mazey and Wrigley  
Favorite Food: tie between Mexican and Indian  
Hobbies: making Art (of course), backpacking, doing puzzles, and traveling  
Favorite Thing about Education or Working with Students: No two days are ever the same when working with middle school students. I love getting to be part of this formative time in our students’ lives. Each unit/project we create in Art is an opportunity for students to see that there is more than one solution to a problem. There’s nothing better than watching that “ah-ha” moment when a technique clicks, or they recognize that their attention to detail and patience with the process has unfolded in remarkable ways.  
Unknown Fact about you: My husband and I recently thru-hiked 220 miles on the John Muir Trail in a record snow year! It was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of my life.  
Other Info. you want to share: I am forever grateful for my Main Elementary art teacher Ms. Jill Cooper for fostering a love of art in me from a very young age, and ultimately inspiring me to become an art educator myself.

Name: Justine Haynes  
Grade Level or Position: Choir  
Years in District: 3  
Family: husband, Jared; 2 girls – Ryleigh (9) and Savannah (5)  
Favorite Food: chocolate  
Hobbies: Reading, singing, and playing violin  
Favorite Thing about Education or Working with Students: Helping students discover their potential.  
Unknown Fact about you: I was an instrumentalist before I was a vocalist. I began playing violin at age 9.  
Other Info. you want to share: I appreciate all of the wonderful staff here at Ankeney.
BYC Presents
Shamrock-N-Roll
Middle School Dance
Open to any Beavercreek resident grades 6-8
Friday, March 16
7-9pm @ Fire House Station 61
(851 Orchard Ct)
$7 Advance/ $10 Door
Casual Clothing—due to drainage grates, ABSOLUTELY NO HEELS!
CMS and AMS ticket sales at lunch
Limited sales at door
Listen to announcements for information on additional ticket sale times.
Wear Your Green!!!
PARENT NIGHT
SAFETY

Monday, March 12 - 6:00

Alumni Auditorium at Beavercreek High School

District administrators and school resource officers will talk about ALICE training, safety procedures, and answer your questions.