

A LETTER FROM MR. HARRINGTON

As you are reading this, we have just finished our first month of the 2020 on-line school year. I know this is not the sort of school year I thought I would be writing my first PTSA Newsletter about, but here we are. We have much to celebrate during this first month of school, though! Students have given us great feedback about our new ways of learning and here are some samples of their responses.

What have you enjoyed the most during the start of this school year?

- Teachers are so nice, teachers are welcoming
- Independence with school work
- Having Wednesdays to complete work, to catch up and to study
- Being home with family
- Able to eat whatever I want at lunchtime

Have you experienced difficulties so far this year? If so, please explain.

- WiFi cuts out
- Knowing Schoology
- Trying to organize homework and keeping track of assignments

As we scrolled through the **LARGE** amount of positive responses, we have realized that even though the first two weeks have been crazy, we have all given the best of ourselves to our students. And they noticed!

We are really hoping we can transition to the hybrid model and have students back in classrooms sometime soon! We will continue to keep you updated on the school districts next steps.

Attendance - Attendance is crucial and required in all the scheduled Zoom meetings! **Parents, please get your students to log into their Zoom meetings!**

As we start the month of October, we will be following up with absences and accumulated absences will trigger truancy calls. Students need to be in their scheduled classes and engaged in their learning.

HAWKS NEST - We have created a time in our day to make some strong connections with our students through HAWKS NEST. **I want to make sure students and families know that this time is not optional.** We are required to take attendance each day, and our Wednesday's HAWKS NEST is the only time we take attendance on Wednesday. Please make sure your students are logging into their Zoom meetings on that day! We will be covering a number of items in our HAWKS NEST each Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Here are just a few of them:

- RULER
- I-READY Assessments(Math and Reading)
- Academics and organizational Support
- Digital Citizenship

RULER Grade Level Charter - Each one of our grades will begin and review their grade level charter. A charter is a list of words that describe how they want to feel while at Anacortes Middle School. 7th and 8th graders have already created a school charter and they will be reviewing and updating as they see fit. Our 6th grade students will be working in their advisory class on the creation of the grade level charter. We will continue to work on the charter in the month of October and will be sharing that with you in our next newsletter.

Thank you all for your patience as we continue to work through this remote environment. Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your teacher or Mr. Harrington. Go Hawks!!

Patrick Harrington - AMS Principal

PTSA NEWS

We invite you to join the AMS PTSA and help support the students, teachers, staff, and parents in the Anacortes Middle School community!



What is PTSA? PTSA stands for Parent

Teacher Student Association. We are part of the Washington PTA and National PTA. For over 120 years, the PTA's goal has been to advocate on behalf of children and youth.

These are just a few of the activities the AMS PTSA's has funded:

- 8th grade Moving Up Ceremony
- School dances
- Band and Choir programs
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Cookie Fridays
- Snack drive
- Monthly birthday cupcakes
- Think before you Throw campaign
- Advanced Science composting program
- Various enrichment programs
- **And so much more!**

Your membership helps fund many of the events listed above and gives you a voice on how those funds are used! **Becoming a member is super easy!** Please visit our website at www.AnacortesPTSA.com and quickly sign up with a credit card!



First General PTSA Meeting!

Our first general meeting is Wednesday, October 7th at 6:30pm. A Zoom link will be sent out to all PTSA members. If you would like to attend the meeting to find out more, please email us at anacortesms.ptsa@gmail.com to get on the list! We will be voting in the new board members and answering any questions.

You must be a PTSA member in order to vote.

Counselor's Corner

Shawn Flynn (A-K)

Renae Newall (L-Z)

Monique Starkovich, Registrar Secretary

Dr. Westbeld, School Psychologist

Getting to know the Counselors!

Mr. Flynn and Mrs. Newall introduced themselves to all of the students in a recent Hawks Nest session. They spoke about how they can help students and how to access

services. In addition to Mr. Flynn and Mrs. Newall, the

other members of the Counseling Center are Mrs. Starkovich and Dr. Westbeld. We have enjoyed getting to meet all of the new middle school students virtually! If you have any

questions or concerns, please email either Shawn or Renae at sflynn@asd103.org or rnewall@asd103.org



ANACORTES FOOD TO GO PROGRAM

The Food to Go Anacortes Program is a nonprofit organization that offers free food bags to AMS students for delivery to an address you provide. The food bags are available during the school year. Bags include milk, chocolate milk, cereal, cup o'noodles, easy mac and cheese, granola bars, trail mix, pretzels, and nuts. Signup through the following link!

[Food To Go - Anacortes](#)

AMS DAILY SCHEDULE FOR HYBRID MODEL

Daily Schedule for AMS Hawks/Hybrid Model					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 - 8:30	Hawks Nest	Work time or teacher check in	---	Hawks Nest	Work time or teacher check in
8:35 - 10:00	1st Period	2nd Period	Hawks Nest	1st Period	2nd Period
10:00 - 10:15	Student Break				
10:15 - 11:35	3rd Period	4th Period	Flex time	3rd Period	4th Period
11:35 - 12:20	Lunch				
12:20 - 1:40	5th Period	6th Period	Flex time	5th Period	6th Period



HAVING COMPUTER ISSUES??

Please contact the Technology Help Desk Hotline at 360-503-1220 with any technology issues.

AMS SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

AMS Fall sports and activities have been canceled until further notice!

When sports do start back up, the schedules will be posted on Northwest Athletics Conference at www.nwathletics.com/index

Rice Field is open for community use during the week!

Hours of use are Monday-Friday 5am-8am and 3pm-8pm.
Please wear a mask and use social distance!



AMS STUDENT OF THE MONTH AND HAWK PRIDE

Student of the Month and Hawk Pride are on hold until students are back in the building. Until then, keep attending Zoom meetings, turning in your assignments, and being good classmates!

KIWANIS AND SOROPTIMIST STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The Kiwanis and Soroptimist Students of the Month will be recognized once students are in the building.

- Kiwanis looks for students who show strong progress in citizenship, community involvement and academic improvement but may not get public recognition with their achievements.
- Soroptimists search for the positive character traits of responsibility, justice, honesty, courage, respect, love, loyalty and hope.





Newsletter for the Anacortes Middle School and the AMS PTSA 8.2.6

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Patrick Harrington - **Principal**

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