

MESSAGE FROM MR. HARRINGTON

This will be the last edition of the newsletter for the 2017-18 school year! It has been a great year of transition at the middle school. I want to thank the staff, the parents, and especially the students for an amazing year as we added 200+ students and new staff. We have done a lot of learning this first year and we will make necessary adjustments to make AMS an even better experience for all involved.

I'm not sure where the time has gone but school will be out Thursday, June 14. I would like to thank the Anacortes Middle School PTSA and all they have done for our students, staff, and community. We are truly grateful for the wonderful work and time commitment they have shown our school. Our school community is very lucky to have our PTSA!!! I also want to give a huge thank you to all of our AMS staff. They are one of the hardest, most dedicated staff I have worked with. They really make AMS a great place! Thank you!!!

I want to give a special shout out to our head custodian, Barbara Ellis. She will be retiring at the end of this year. She has been at the forefront of keeping AMS looking great. Her work and dedication to our school has allowed a clean and safe environment for students to learn in and staff to work at! Thank you, Barbara, for your service over the past 38 years in the Anacortes School District!

We will be finishing our standardized test for the year in June when we complete the 8th grade science test. We have completed our SBA and MAPS testing. We will also be receiving SBA results in the next month and will be communicating the outcomes to our parents once we have them in our hands. I also want to commend your students for the effort they showed

during the SBA test this year. Students were serious about taking the test and putting forth their best effort.

As we roll into the last month of school, we still have a lot of work and materials to cover. It is not a time for students to feel that school does not count. Please remind your sons and daughters to keep working hard and focusing until the last day of school. Students should be arranging with teachers to stay after school to get caught up with missing assignments or tests.

Just a few calendar reminders for June and next year:

- **June 5-8** Yearbook handout
- **June 5-7** –Laptop, library book, and textbook turn in June 5th for 6th grade, June 6th for 7th grade, June 7th for 8th grade.
- **June 11-** 5th grade tours of Anacortes Middle School. The AMS Leadership class will help facilitate this tour.
- **June 12** is 8th grade Moving-Up Ceremony on Rice Field at Seahawk Stadium, 6:30 pm. 8th grade dance will immediately follow at AHS Commons and will end at 10:00 pm.
- **June 13-** 8th graders to Birch Bay Waterslides
- **June 14** is the last day of school. Students are released at 10:45
- **June 29** is the last day the middle school office will be open. It will reopen in mid August.
- **August 28-30** will be the dates for Open House. Specific grade level dates have not been decided but the time will be from 6-9 pm. The first day of school is Thursday, September 6, 2018.

If you have any questions, please call me at 293-1230.

Patrick Harrington
AMS principal

PTSA NEWS

8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony & Dance

This year, the ceremony will take place on Rice Field at Seahawk Stadium. Students can assemble in the plaza at Veterans Memorial Plaza before the ceremony. The ceremony starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Please have your student there no later than 6:15. Student attire should be clean, neat, and appropriate for the ceremony. The ceremony should conclude between 7:30 and 8:00. Students who do not participate in the ceremony **will not** be able to attend the Moving Up Party. Only AMS 8th grade students will be allowed to go to the party.



Immediately following the ceremony, the 8th grade dance will be held in the Anacortes High School Commons. This event is sponsored by the PTSA and there will be no cost for the dance. The party is over at 10:00 p.m. Please pick up your students promptly.

We are still looking for chaperones to help with the dance, so please contact Kristin Lujan at kris10lujan@gmail.com if you are able to help. Please remember that in order to volunteer at a school sponsored event you MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE VOLUNTEER FORMS AND BEEN GIVEN THE ALL CLEAR. These events do not happen without parent help!

Thank you!
Kristen Lujan

YOUR 2018/20 PTSA BOARD

Here are your new PTSA board members:

President - Jeanine Dickison
Vice President - Heather Monkman
Secretary - Rachel Kretchmer
Treasurer - Romany Kerr

NEW WAYS TO CONNECT:

We are on Social Media - like us for news on AMS and your PTSA (click icons or links below)



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AMSHawkPride/>

Like us on Instagram at:

https://www.instagram.com/anacortes_middle_school_ptsa/

Students of the Month

These students were chosen by AMS staff for their academic excellence or classroom performance

Hawk Pride Award

These students were nominated by AMS staff for displaying some type of good citizenship and behavior

Kaleb Lamphier	7th	Cooper	Gessica Oliver	7th	Cooper
Kiera Hines	6th	Cooper	Rowan Tull	7th	Cooper
Zachary Weaver	6th	Dylan	Amy Hanson	6th	Dylan
Micah Apple	8th	Dunham	Oren Goodin	8th	Dunham

ANACORTES SERVICE CLUBS HONOR AMS STUDENTS

Kiwanis looks for students who show strong progress in citizenship, community involvement, and academic improvement, but may not necessarily get public recognition commensurate with their achievements.

Kiwanis
Student of the Month
April-Maureen Mack
May-Lance Hammel



Soroptimists search for the positive character traits of responsibility, justice, honesty, courage, respect, love, loyalty, and hope.

Soroptimist
Student of the Month
April-Riley Pirkle
May-Caitlin Brar



Counselor's Corner

Your AMS Counselors:

Shawn Flynn (students with last names A-L)

Renae Newall (students with last names M-Z)



2018 Summer Session at the Academy.

A great way to gain specialized training and earn high school credit. Summer Session is tuition-free!!

Summer Session is open to incoming 9th graders through non-graduated seniors.

Students earn a semester credit of Occupational Education (or HS Health) which applies towards your graduation requirements! Multiple Locations, including Anacortes!!

Visit the website for more information

<http://www.nwtech.k12.wa.us>

TIPS FOR AVOIDING THE ACADEMIC SUMMER SLIDE

Keep them reading

Studies have shown that kids can lose up to 25 percent of their reading skills over the summer months, which can have a significant impact on their ability to get back into the school swing in the fall.

Hang on to math facts

Let teens get in on the trip-planning action, by setting a budget, calculating fuel needs or figuring the distance between destinations.

Research places you will be visiting

From discovering silly laws to exploring the geography and culture of the area, this activity encourages students to read and learn while getting them excited about upcoming trips.

Set aside time for academic skills

Give your family one-half hour every day to read, work math problems or indulge in fun activities like brain teasers or crossword puzzles. If the whole family gets involved, the children may not mind the thinking part of the activity quite as much.



FROM THE DESK OF BAND DIRECTOR, MR DYEL & FROM CHOIR DIRECTOR, CAROL LEANDER

Dear AMS students and families,
We would like to let you know about the musical opportunities that are available at Anacortes Middle School. Music is a natural, important, and FUN part of all of our lives and we are thrilled to be able to teach it! Intrigued? We thought so!

I, Carole Leander, have been teaching in Anacortes since 2001 and teach Choir at both AMS and AHS. I love it! We have large numbers in Choir, successful concerts, community events, league contest and other field trips. At the high school, we have a thriving program with a Mixed Choir, Treble Choir, Concert Choir and Jazz Choir. Singing at AMS is a great way to get prepared for high school music, or even to guarantee having a class with many of your friends. This coming year, AMS choir will be meeting on the AMS campus! I am excited for the tradition of excellence at AMS to continue with many of your new faces next year! We would love to have you!

I, Christopher Dyel, am entering my second year as the Band Director in Anacortes. This past year AMS (including 100 band students) was the only school in the San Juan region to have three bands score the highest rating of "Superior", and we would love to have you join our award winning program. AMS offers Beginning Band for first-time band students in grades 6-8, and two more levels of band based on experience. When you get to the high school, there are numerous exciting ensembles to join including Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Pep Bands at athletic events. It all starts right here at AMS!

Being part of a successful band or choir helps you develop musical skills, but also teaches you to cooperate with others, achieve common goals and builds confidence through performance. Music also helps to develop creativity, reflection, craftsmanship, and collaboration. Anacortes music ensembles are highly respected, and supported by the community.



Studies show that students in the arts are more cooperative with teachers and peers, have higher self-confidence and are better able to express their ideas. Please talk to us or your counselor about how to schedule time for music – we would love the chance to make music with you! We hope that you will accept this invitation to join us.

If you have any questions about the AMS music program, please contact us. If you are interested in having Band or Choir as your elective, email or call Monique Starkovich at (360) 293-1230, AMS registrar at or mstarkovich@asd103.org

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to see you as a music student in the fall of 2018!
Sincerely,

Carole Leander & Christopher Dyel
AMS/AHS Choir AMS/AHS Band
cleander@asd103.org cdyel@asd103.org
360-503-1379

OUR STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY:



CONGRATS!!

Several teams of sixth-graders from Anacortes Middle School qualified for nationals either this year or next year because of their **KidWind projects**. The kids created wind turbines as well as tri-fold displays, competed in instant challenges and faced the judges to earn their top spots.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 5th:

→ 6th Grade: Laptop, library book & textbook turn in

June 6th:

→ 7th Grade: Laptop, library book & textbook turn in

June 7th:

→ 8th Grade: Laptop, library book & textbook turn in

June 12th:

→ 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony, 6:30 PM

→ 8th Grade Dance till 10PM following ceremony

June 13th:

→ 8th Grade Birch Bay Waterslides

June 14th: Last Day Of School!!! - school is out at 10:45

www.AnacortesPTSA.com

www.ams.asd103.org



Newsletter for the Anacortes Middle School and the AMS PTSA 8.2.60

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Mark Perkins - **Vice Principal**

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Rebecca Carroll-Secretary
Kate Metcalf-Treasurer

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Romany Kerr &
Heather Monkman