

A LETTER FROM MR. HARRINGTON

As you are reading this, we have just finished our first month of the school year. The pace of school is starting to pick up and before we know it, the end of the first quarter will be complete!

All 6th graders will change their elective classes at the quarter, except band students. We will also be providing 6th grade students who we have identified as needing extra support in reading/writing, based on data that was collected this fall.

I want to thank all the parents for the hard work they have put in this school year to have their students ready for the middle school. The first month has been an enjoyable one for our staff.

Our 2nd Annual 6th Grade Camp Orkila trip was a success. Students had the opportunity to set goals, meet new friends, and push their comfort level with outdoor activities! If you have not liked our Facebook Page, please do and you'll see photos from their trip! Also, it's another way to know what going on at AMS.

We have finished distributing laptops to 645 students! It is very crucial to check in with your students to look over the conditions of their devices. Students have been asked to carry their laptops in their cases at all times and not placed in their backpacks. We found that most damage to them happened while in their backpacks.



Also, continued monitoring of how your students are using their laptops is important to help develop digitally responsible citizens. We will be providing digital citizenship throughout the first part of the school year for all students at the middle school.

All of you should have received your student's SBA scores from last spring along with your parent access information. If you have any questions regarding this information, please let myself or one of our counselors know.

We have our district professional learning day on Friday, October 26, which means no school for students.

Lastly, the PTSA will be holding our fall evening bash on Friday, November 2nd from 6:30-9:00 pm in the Commons. Only Anacortes Middle School students will be able to attend. More details to come later about this event!

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 293-1230

Patrick Harrington

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

A MESSAGE FROM MR. PERKINS

Hello AMS families,

It's been a great start to the year. Lots of activities are now up and kicking with athletics, activities, and clubs! Get involved! Try something new! Branch out!

Parents, thank you for your efforts with your student, and please let us know how we can help you.

In my message last month, it partly dealt with the issue of bullying and harassment. I stated the vast majority of incidents happen at home, late into the evening so it bears repeating: Please take away technology at bedtime! It is difficult to teach disengaged, sleepy, and grumpy kids...who are otherwise quite pleasant!

As always, feel free to contact us if you have questions.

Go Hawks!

Mark Perkins



HOUSEKEEPING NOTE:

Please pick up your lost items!

We have put a barrel of clothing out in the Gym Lobby. Small items such as glasses, keys, water bottles, and lunch boxes are in the Main Office. We will keep items until after the November conferences, so parents have a chance to look through it. After that, **all items** will be donated to charity at the end of every month.



A LETTER FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT

Fall is such a busy and exciting season! It's time to pack up the shorts, bring out the sweaters, and see how many ways there are to enjoy Pumpkin Spice-or not!

Fall is a busy time for the PTSA, too. We just kicked off our Fall Fundraiser and the students are super excited about the prizes! This year the big reward is a field trip to Arena Sports in Mill Creek, where kids will get to enjoy two-story laser tag, indoor soccer, mini-bowling, an arcade, and much more! But in order to earn a seat on the bus, each student must sell a minimum of 14 items. Have you looked through the catalogs? So many yummy goodies and my favorite – wrapping paper!! There are even more items available online. The Fall Fundraiser **ends October 10**, so please encourage your student to sell, sell, sell! If your student did not bring home a packet or needs a new order form, they can pick one up at in the main office. This is our main fundraiser of the year to help support many of the programs and activities within the school.

Speaking of activities – The Fall Bash is scheduled for Friday, November 2nd. There will be two escape rooms, a haunted library, a dance, concessions, and fun activities in the gym. Also, students will be allowed to



wear costumes to school that day, as well as the Bash. This isn't just a dance-there's something for everyone! Encourage your student to attend. More details to come. If you signed up to volunteer as a dance chaperone, you must have a volunteer application on file with the school district. Please make sure this is taken care of beforehand! We will email those of you who signed up during orientation, to help chaperone, as we get closer to the date. If you didn't get a chance to sign up, contact us and we'll make sure to add you!

Please join us at our monthly meeting – **the 2nd Wednesday of every month** in the AMS library & it's never too late to join our PTSA.

Just go to our website, you can even pay with a credit card!

www.AnacortesPTSA.com

Jeanine Dickison

PTSA PRESIDENT

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

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

HAWK PRIDE AWARD

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

Josh Johnson	7th	Cooper	Rowan Tull	8th	Cooper
Riley Hyland	7th	Cooper	Ian Lujan	8th	Chase-Stapleton
Hayden Stevens	8th	Chase-Stapleton	Macey Bethke	8th	Chase-Stapleton
Sarafina Dunlap	8th	Chase-Stapleton	Adrian Castro-Kyger	8th	Graham
Kellen Murphy	8th	Graham	Grace Johnston	6th	Tiland
Aileen Kim	7th	Biederman	Brock Beaner	6th	Tiland

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER:

- October 10th-Final day to turn in Fundraiser Packets
- October 26th-No school!
- November 2nd- PTSA sponsored Fall Evening Bash/6:30-9:00pm for AMS students



GRAB YOUR FALL BASH TICKETS!

Tickets for the Fall Bash will be on sale the week of October 29th-November 2nd, during all lunches. Grab your tickets early, as the price goes up at the door! This is a great way for students to hang out in a safe, friendly environment for the evening!

A MESSAGE FROM OFFICER DOTZAUER

Hello Hawks and Hawk Families,

This month I want to talk a little about e-cigarettes and “vaping”. I have noticed that e-cigarettes and vaping seem to be the new “it” item for young adults, including teens. I must admit that I did not know a lot about the subject, so in my exploitation of the subject I found a recent article by Harvard University.



A VAPING DEVICE CAN LOOK JUST LIKE A USB

Harvard Scientists are calling for “urgent action” after their federally funded study confirmed dangerous, lung-destroying chemicals are commonly found in the liquids used in electronic cigarettes and other vaping devices. The chemicals destroy the lungs tiniest airways, leading to scar tissue buildup that blocks airflow. It can result in a permanent, sometimes fatal, lung condition known as bronchiolitis obliterans.

The number of young people using e-cigarettes **tripled** last year, according to Center for Disease Control and Prevention. It’s the first time since 2011, when the survey started collecting data on e-cigarettes, that use among youths has surpassed use of every other tobacco product, including conventional cigarettes.

This is just a small fraction of information that can be found on the subject and I encourage you to do your own research for more information. I feel it is best to be proactive and speak with your kids about the subject.

Take Care and Go Hawks!

Ofc. Travis Dotzauer
School Resource Officer

Counselor's Corner

Shawn Flynn (A-K)

Renaë Newall (L-Z)

Monique Starkovich - Registrar Secretary

Heather Malone - School Psychologist

Kara Fox - Counseling Intern

Welcome Ms. Fox!

Counseling Intern 2018-19: Kara Fox - Counseling Intern

The Counseling Center will have a Counseling Intern this school year. Kara Fox is finishing a School Counseling Program through City University and doing her Internship at Anacortes Middle School. She will work with Mr. Flynn and Mrs. Newall to assist students, parents, and teachers. Ms. Fox is at the Middle School on Mondays and on Tuesday mornings.

Healthy Youth Survey

Our district is participating in the Washington State 2018 Healthy Youth Survey during fall 2018.

The Healthy Youth survey includes questions related to physical activity and diet, unintentional and intentional injury, substance use, risk and protective factors, access to school-based services, and sexual behaviors, abuse and

orientation. Survey results are used by schools, communities and state agencies to plan programs to support our youth and reduce their risks.

Participation in the survey is voluntary and the students' answers are anonymous.

Please read the Parent Letter on the AMS website for more information about the Healthy Youth Survey.



NEWS FROM CAREER & COLLEGE OUTREACH

Recruiters are here and they are looking for **YOU!** This is a very busy time for colleges, and it's not just for seniors.

Attention Middle Schoolers: Did you know that 50% of financial aid from private schools is already targeted by the time students are in 10th grade? And did you know that half of colleges and universities care about whether you've shown interest in them or not? Not showing interest may hurt your chances of admission.

You can learn about "How to Demonstrate Your Interest" at our next ACCO meeting (see below), including preparing to visit a College Fair. It's all about getting your student on their radar screen! We'll also look at how to put together that list of colleges you're wanting to look into.

- The Seattle Fall College Fair <https://www.nacacfairs.org/attend/national-college-fairs/seattle-national-college-fair/> is Nov 2 - 3 at the Seattle Convention Center and is a great place to meet recruiters and start developing relationships. This is the largest college fair in the area, don't miss it.
- **ACCO** next meets on October 11 from 6:30-8 pm in the high school library featuring guest speaker from Pomona College (pomona.edu) which is part of a 7 college consortium, the 7Cs (claremont.edu). The colleges range from liberal arts, to engineering and math, to an all-women's school. This is a fantastic opportunity to ask whatever you'd really like to know about the admissions process from someone who can give you straight answers.
- In December, we will be completely focused on Financial Aid. It's super helpful to get an early start on this. Middle school is not too early.
- January's meeting will be devoted to other educational pathways after high school, like community and technical, trades and apprenticeships.
- Deadline to sign up for the PSAT is around the corner, and unless you're a 10th grader, you need to sign up. It's good practice for a 9th grader, and if you want to qualify for National Merit Scholarship and other scholarships you must take it in the 11th grade.

Have you taken the SAT/ACT and want to improve your scores?

Test prep will be coming to the district soon, watch out for an announcement. Like to study online? Check out the free Khan Academy. Test prep works!

Seniors: FAFSA applications can be submitted starting October 1. Be aware that some financial aid is first come first served, and that schools have priority deadlines after which your place in line for \$\$ gets lower. Submit that FAFSA as soon as you can. Lots of help available if you have questions.



Questions? Comments? Don't hesitate to get in touch.

Shay Schual-Berke

Anacortes College and Career Outreach Coordinator

anacortescollegeoutreach@asd103.or

WE JUST STARTED OUR BIG FUNDRAISER!

Students are taking orders for chocolates and other yummy treats, magazines, and wrapping paper. Visit bit.ly/amsptsa or help your student sell items from the catalogs in the packet.



If a student sells 14 items, they earn a field trip to Arena Sports in Mill Creek! Students will have access to an indoor soccer field, mini-bowling, two-story laser tag, and unlimited arcade and game play!! **HURRY! The Fundraising orders are due on October 10th, 2018**

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& THE AMS PTSA 8.2.60

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