

Message from Mr. Harrington

I would like to welcome all our new and returning families to the 2017-18 school year at Anacortes Middle School. We have had a great start to the school year with an additional 220 plus students filling our hallways! We are so grateful for the support of our AMS families. I want to express my appreciation to the AMS staff and PTSA for their excellent work for another great kickoff to a school year! As I am writing this, we are preparing to take our first 6th grade Camp Orkila trip as Anacortes Middle School. This is a great opportunity for students to meet new friends, gain leadership skills, and to have some fun at camp!

Our Open Houses were well attended which sends us a good message about our school community; our parents are involved in their student's academic future. It was a pleasure meeting parents and students and I look forward to getting to know more of you. We truly have great students at AMS! I look forward to the great accomplishments these three groups will bring to our school!

As we begin this school year, our staff will begin implementing the guiding principles that our Visioning Team developed: Culture, Educational Programs, and Transitions. Within Culture, we will look at the social and emotional development of middle school students and working on students finding a sense of belonging and developing positive relationships with staff and fellow students. The work our staff will concentrate on under educational programs will be on the district's digital conversion plan as well as developing strategies to incorporate the 6 C's of learning; critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, character, and citizenship.

We have received our SBA scores from the spring and we will be sending them out in the next week or so. We have much to celebrate as our scores throughout the district and especially our 8th grade scores are some of the highest in our area!

I hope the first month has brought an easy transition to your students here at AMS. Transitions to a new building and to the next grade level can be overwhelming. It is our hope that students feel welcomed and a part of the middle school family. Our staff is committed to making your student's middle school years a positive and enjoyable experience. If you have any concerns, please know that our teachers, counselors, and administration are here to help.

I would like to end this first edition of the newsletter with our school mission and beliefs. We have set very high standards here at the middle school and work hard to support all of our students.

MISSION

Anacortes Middle School provides a challenging, supportive, and safe environment to encourage academic and social success for all.

BELIEFS

- All students can learn
- Learning is our priority
- Students' basic needs must be met in order for learning to occur
- Staff, students, parents, and community members share the responsibility of supporting an effective learning environment
- Students grow intellectually in a nurturing environment

I am very excited about this year and look forward to meeting each of you at some point.

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

Patrick Harrington - AMS Principal

Hello and Welcome to AMS!

The year is in full swing now and we have noticed some great things! We are very proud of how our 8th graders have stepped up and been such a big help with all the new 6th and 7th graders. Having 6th graders around makes 8th graders see from whence they came. Speaking of 6th graders, where there was once an echoing in the upper horseshoe classrooms, there is now a happy excited buzz from them. The transition has been remarkably smooth and all have survived. Our thanks to everyone for their efforts.

Now that you are here and in the groove ... get involved in something! AMS is much more than just a great school during the day! We have incredibly high participation in many sports and clubs! Currently there are 40 girls out for Soccer, 50 boys and girls running in Cross Country, and 24 golfers. Coming up next is Boys' Basketball and Girls' Volleyball! Clubs are also open to all. You can join 6th grade Girls' or Boys' Intramurals, Art Club, Drama Club, HawkTV, Yearbook, Robotics, Playwriting, Fitness Center, or Builder's Club. You may be able to do more than one -- check the website for the days and times!

Parents and students, thank you for your support and efforts! As always, if you have any questions or concerns contact Mr. Harrington, Mr. Schwartz, or me!

Mr. Perkins

Go, Hawks!

PTSA NEWS

- Next AMS PTSA meeting is Wednesday, 10/4 at 7PM in the AMS library
- Interested in helping out with PTSA? Some positions even work well when shared with a friend! Please check out our Facebook Page [AMS Hawk Pride](#) for more information and a complete list.

For more information, like us on Facebook! [AMS Hawk Pride](#)

Students of the Month

The following list represents students who were chosen by AMS staff for their academic excellence or classroom performance.

HAWK PRIDE AWARD

The Hawk Pride Award recognizes students' positive choices and actions. These students were nominated by AMS staff for displaying some type of good citizenship and behavior. Way to go!

Sarafina Dunlap	7th	Pruiett	Mollie Mayhew	8th	Pruiett
Reese Morgenthaler	6th	Guzik	Aaliyah Hargrove	7th	Huggins
Faye Lopez	6th	Guzik	AJ Schemmer	7th	Huggins
Lucio Alessandra	6th	Bickley	Azreila Demet	7th	McChesney
Suzie Kim	6th	Bickley	Rhiannon Phillips	8th	Swapp
Genevieve Kochel	8th	Swapp	Lahni Allen	8th	Cooper
			Shane Hilbert	8th	Cooper
			Ryan Horr	8th	Kudlacek
			Diogo Nunez-Sanchez	8th	Kudlacek
			Jacob Schuh	7th	Perkins
			Chloe Chambers	8th	Perkins

ANACORTES SERVICE CLUBS HONOR AMS STUDENTS

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



**Soroptimist
Student of the Month
Abbie Goodwin**

Hello AMS Families,

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to everyone. I am Officer Travis Dotzauer and I work full-time as your School Resource Officer at Anacortes High School and Anacortes Middle School. I split my time between both schools, so I have the great fortune of meeting and getting to know your students for their entire secondary careers.



The School Resource Officer, or SRO, is part of a nationally recognized program involving the placement of a commissioned law enforcement officer within the schools. It allows the SRO to work closely with the school administration and students to help provide a safe learning environment.

My role as an SRO is multi-faceted and has a variety of functions at the high school and middle school including being a visible, active presence on campus dealing with legal issues, such as drugs, alcohol and thefts; conferencing with students, parents and staff members to assist with problems; and conferring with school administrators to develop strategies to prevent or minimize dangerous situations on or near campus. The most important part of my position is getting to know the students and being an additional resource for them at the schools.

Please feel free to contact me at (360) 503-1317.

Looking forward to a great school year! Go Hawks!

Ofc. Travis Dotzauer

Band News

A warm welcome to Mr. Dyel!

**The AMS & AHS bands are performing their first concert
on Oct 19th in Brodniak Hall, 7pm**

Builders Club meets Tuesdays during lunches and late start Wednesdays before school in room 107. Come help us organize Community Service events. No fees and you can drop in anytime!

Counselor's Corner

AMS Counselors

Shawn Flynn (students with last names A-L)

Renae Newall (students with last names M-Z)

Getting to know the Counselors

All 6th and 7th grade students recently visited the Counseling Center. Renae Newall and Shawn Flynn spoke to students about how to access services, what we offer, and introduced the adults working in the Counseling Center. The Counseling Center Orientation enables students to know how to seek support. We enjoyed getting to meet all of the new middle school students!

Choosing Connections

Friendship issues for parents and their children sometimes increase and become more intense during the middle grades. Your student may bring home a friend that you don't particularly like. Do you speak up and perhaps get into a big fight--or keep quiet? As you may know, it depends.

Making a big deal about some matters, like friends' clothing or hairstyles can distance you from your child when you want to be close and keep that communication coming. But if you think a relationship with a friend is truly harmful, you can influence your child with these tips.

Check out why your child has chosen this particular friend. Ask your son or daughter such questions as, "What do you like about Adam?" "What kinds of things does he like to do?" There may be a common interest which they share, one that you don't know about and would like to.

Also, it's important to be straightforward and honest with your child about your concerns. You might ask, "You said Susan puts people down. If she were my friend I'd wonder what she is saying about me behind my back."

It's important to set limits on problem friendships. You might say, "Justin can come to our house one time this week when I'm home from work."

Friendship issues will come; we can count on that as part of the middle school student's development. Keeping the lines of communication open through listening, giving guidance and clear expectations can assist your children greatly as they make decisions about those friendships.

**ANACORTES SCHOOL DISTRICT
AFTER SCHOOL ARTS PROGRAM**

LET'S BAKE II



6 WEEK CLASS ON TUESDAYS FOR 6TH, 7TH + 8TH GRADERS

OCTOBER 10TH-NOVEMBER 14TH

2:15-3:45 P.M.

ANACORTES MIDDLE SCHOOL, ROOM 101

INSTRUCTOR: JACKIE DAVISON

\$75

This 6x series is a continuation of Let's Bake I, offering all new recipes like Refrigerator Cookies, Hand Pies, and more. It is open to all students who enjoy baking fun snacks from scratch. Kids will follow a new recipe each time using the proper equipment, measuring techniques and cooking methods. Teamwork is strongly encouraged as they practice safety and kitchen cleanup. At the end of class, kids will get to enjoy and take home what they created.

Anacortes School District After School Arts Program REGISTRATION FORM

Mail registration & payment to Anacortes School District: [2200 M Avenue, Anacortes, WA 98221](https://www.anacortes.wa.us/2200-M-Avenue)

Registrations & payments must be received by Friday, September 29th.

Student _____ Email _____

School _____

Attending _____ Grade _____

Name _____ of _____ ASAP

Class _____

Payment form (cash/check) _____ Check Number _____ Amount Paid _____

Address _____

Parent Guardian _____ Home # _____ Cell # _____

College Outreach News

College Outreach meets the second Thursday of the month, from 6-7 pm for AMS (classroom TBD) and 7:30-8:30 for AHS (library). All are welcome to this series of four meetings, this program is aimed at 7-11th graders and their families.

Thursday, October 12

- How to make a list of colleges of interest
- How to make yourself stand out to those colleges
- Bring your resource book to the meeting if you have one. We use Barron's Profiles of American Colleges for our discussions, but any similar resource (Princeton Review, etc) will do. Several copies are in the AHS library.
- This same evening, astronaut Wendy Lawrence will be speaking from 7-8; if you are a high school student or parent going to that, feel free to join College Outreach during the 6-7 AMS meeting. There will be a late ferry to accommodate both events.

Thursday, November 9

- Special guest Jennifer Borge, Associate Director, Regional Admissions Officer for Embry-Riddle University will talk about Embry-Riddle specifically, but also answer any and all questions related to college applications and admissions. This is a golden opportunity to ask anything you want! Please RSVP to anacortescollegeoutreach@asd103.org if you are interested in attending.

SPECIAL TIME/PLACE *** This meeting only will be a joint session for middle and high school, 7-8 pm. Financial Aid 101 to follow, Location TBD

What's happening Right Now?

- College recruiting season and several college fairs are around the corner: Oak Harbor School District on October 2 from 5:30-7 pm, the Seattle Fall College fair on October 28, and Seattle Performing and Visual Arts College Fair Sunday, October 15.
- Out of state recruiters are also around looking for YOU! You don't have to be a senior to make contact; find out if a school you are interested in will be local by looking at their website ("College On the Road") or calling their admissions office.

For example,

- Carnegie Mellon Oct 8 (information session)
- Whitman College (senior interviews only) Oct 10 Woods Coffee B'ham
- USC October 7 Seattle 3-5 pm
- October 3rd, 6:30, Bellevue Art Museum (interviews)

I hope to see you on October 12th. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Shay Schual-Berke

Anacortes College Outreach Coordinator

anacortescollegeoutreach@asd103.org

**Newsletter for the
Anacortes Middle School &
the AMS PTSA 8.2.60**

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**Patrick Harrington, Principal
Mark Perkins, Ass't Principal**

**PTSA Board Members
Kristen Lujan, President
Stacy Pierce, Secretary
Kate Metcalf, Treasurer
Aimee Rudge, Newsletter Editor**

IMPORTANT DATES!

October 4th	No Late Start
October 19th	Band Concert at Brodniak
October 27th	No School

