Superintendent’s Message: Mental Wellness

Good mental health is not just a trend – it is an ongoing and integral component in our lives. Avon Schools is working hard to build a stronger mental wellness network to ensure we are providing students with a positive environment where they can express themselves and feel supported.

Last year our school corporation was one of three school districts chosen to participate in the Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience Education) grant. Thanks to this $1.9 million grant, we are building a team and collaborating with local mental health agencies to establish a community approach to supporting the whole child. The school corporation now has a Mental Health Coordinator who leads the efforts for services, advocacy and partnerships. We have created the Avon Mental Wellness Team that consists of four licensed social workers who circulate among the school buildings.

Through the Referendum and the Lilly Comprehensive Counseling Initiative, our school counseling team has increased to better serve students.

The emotional well-being of a child is equally important as his/her physical health. With the collaboration of these two teams in place, sound mental health will become an ingrained and seamless stream in a child’s school environment.

If you feel you need help, there is a Mental Health Guidance flowchart on our website (www.avon-schools.org).

Sincerely,
Dr. Maggie Hoernemann, Superintendent

AHS Teacher Named ACSC Teacher of the Year

Avon Community School Corporation’s Andy Mohr Teacher of the Year is Avon High School Teacher Stephanie Chenoweth. She was selected by a committee comprised of local community members.

Mrs. Chenoweth has taught Geography, U.S. History and History of the World at AHS for 15 years. The Butler University graduate received the Golden Apple Award in 2018, Seniors’ Choice Award in 2010 and the Rising Star Award in 2009. Mrs. Chenoweth mentioned that one of her goals as a teacher and coach is, “To cultivate positive relationships with students and colleagues giving clear expectations to create an active learning environment for all students.”

In addition to a generous cash gift and crystal award, Mrs. Chenoweth will receive a cash award from the Sharon Pinnick Educational Fund, (Hendricks County Community Foundation), a floral arrangement and a membership at the Hendricks Regional Health YMCA.

The other candidates (who were previously selected as their schools’ Teachers of the Year) included: Brian Richards (Avon Middle School North); Chris Gullion (Avon Middle School South); Hilary Barkley (Avon Intermediate School East); Lori Rosemeyer (Avon Intermediate School West); Mallory Jurkash (Cedar Elementary); Madeline Maish (Hickory Elementary); Julie Stevens (Maple Elementary); Bonnie Booher (Pine Tree Elementary); Kali Wheeler (River Birch Elementary); Charlsie Rader (Sycamore Elementary); and Haylee Green (White Oak Elementary).
Six AHS Students Named National Merit Semifinalists

Avon High School Principal Matthew Shockley announced that six students have been named Semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Competition. These academically talented high school seniors will continue in the competition for 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than $31 million.

Congratulations to Emily Elliott, Ethan Maharas, Connor O’Neill, Jazmine Susana, Elijah Teipen and Gideon Thomas. Mr. Shockley also noted that this matches the highest number (6) of students named as Semifinalists in recent years. These students are among 332 students from 98 Indiana high schools to receive this recognition.

More than 1.5 million juniors in approximately 21,000 high schools entered the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT™), which served as an initial screen. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state.

In addition, eight Avon High School students were commended for their efforts in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Matthew Spinazze, Jalynn Lai, Jui Desai, Theron Verburg, Maggie Stall, Noah Schenk, Nathan Miller (not photographed) and Trinity Le (not photographed) each received a Letter of Commendation for their exceptional academic promise.

Proper Use of Recycling Dumpsters

Green & Yellow Dumpsters: Paper Only!
Load only PAPER into these dumpsters (visibly located on all school building properties). No cardbard is allowed.

Orange & Green Dumpsters: Not Available for Public Use!
These dumpsters (usually located behind school buildings) are for school corporation use only.

Not Allowed!
Do not place any personal trash or items such as tires, bottles, sinks, flooring, furniture, etc., in or near the dumpsters on ACSC property.

We are dedicated to improving our environment through recycling. But we need your help to make sure it’s done properly. Please do not dump items that are not approved for the recycle bins. The school corporation is charged fees for those items to be removed. Contact our Maintenance Staff at 317-544-6182 with any questions.
Live the Golden Life—Get Your Gold Card Today!

All Avon/Washington Township residents (65 years and older) are eligible to receive the ACSC Gold Card. This special card is your golden ticket to attend most home school events free of charge (some restrictions may apply). Call the Administration Center at 317-544-6000 for details.

Mary Lee Maier Community Pantry Dedication

A special ceremony was held to celebrate the permanent home of the Mary Lee Maier Community Pantry. It is now located at Avon Intermediate School East. Many community members and donors including Mike and Mindy Cunningham and Performance Services, Inc., joined in the grand opening.

The MLM Community Pantry is powered by volunteers and in-kind donations. It is open to ACSC families and staff on Thursdays (when school is in session) from 5-6 p.m. The pantry serves approximately 50 families a week.

Referendum Progress Report Updated

ACSC is committed to transparency with the funds generated from the May referendum. The Referendum Progress Report was recently updated.

You can find it on the ACSC website: www.avon-schools.org.

Avon Education Foundation Adds AHS Alumni to Wall of Excellence

The Avon Education Foundation, in partnership with the Avon Alumni Association inducted Mr. Wendell Trent into the Wall of Excellence. Mr. Trent, his wife Joyce and his family visited Avon High School to view his plaque on display. The couple shared the important role of Avon Schools in their lives by telling the story of starting school together in 1st grade in 1931 and graduating together from Avon High School in 1943. Mr. Trent is recognized for his heroic actions in WWII as a Medic in the Marines during the battle of Iwo Jima. At 94 years old, Mr. Trent is among the last 3% of US WWII Veterans still living.
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Sincerely,
Dr. Maggie Hoernemann, Superintendent

**Superintendent’s Message:**

**Mental Wellness**

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**Junior Day of Caring**

AHS Juniors participated in the 6th Annual Day of Caring. Learning took place outside of school walls into our community. In order to help foster a spirit of integrity, empathy, and civic responsibility, students worked with their peers and teachers to serve the Hendricks County community. Groups of students and chaperones volunteered at various locations such as assisted living facilities, elementary schools, town libraries, nonprofit organizations, and community parks.

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**IHSAA Sportsmanship Award**

Avon High School received the IHSAA (Indiana High School Athletic Association) Sportsmanship Award. AHS was among 17 eligible high schools in the state (out of 410) to be honored with this prestigious award for the 2018-19 school year. The school was recognized for fostering good sportsmanship, citizenship and character with students, patrons and the community.

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**First Merchants Bank**

Thank you to First Merchants Bank for underwriting the cost of this publication.