

A Message from Superintendent Hoernemann



Eighteen Ministers Walked into the Avon Administration Center...

It sounds like the start of a silly joke, but this was actually a quarterly collaboration meeting. Do you know there are more than 24 churches/places of worship right here in Avon? I didn't until we decided to invite local religious leaders to meet with us quarterly.

The goal of inviting these very busy folks to quarterly meetings is to exchange ideas about how we all support our community. This is in line with one of our Strategic Plan Goals which is "To enhance communications at all levels to build stronger, richer and more authentic relationships."

What a pleasure it has been to get to know the religious leaders and to learn about their challenges and successes! Likewise, each quarter we provide an update about our schools. Typically about 15 religious leaders join me for a one hour meeting.

The original goal was strictly communication, but so many other unexpected benefits have resulted. Two churches have volunteered to assist with mulching, painting, washing windows, and other tasks that are tough given our reduced staff. Seven churches have provided food for food-insecure families. Some have even "adopted" a school and support the staff and students in myriad ways. We are grateful.

However, it wasn't our intention to ask these fine people to "do more." They already do plenty. So we continue to simply encourage the religious leaders to join us for a conversation four times a year.

Is your religious leader part of our group? If not, feel free to encourage him/her to contact me and join us in early December. Meanwhile, we are thankful for all the religious leaders in our community.

As always, I welcome your feedback. Feel free to email me at mehoernemann@avon-schools.org.

Sincerely,

Margaret Hoernemann
Superintendent

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