From the Principal

December

Dear AMS Families,

I hope everyone had a relaxing Thanksgiving break and was able to find time to recharge. The end of the second quarter is getting larger and larger on the horizon. We have completed our second round of MAP Testing and students and staff showed great flexibility and agility as we worked through some technical difficulties.

I was able to participate in the 6th Grade Band "Parent Day" in November and what a humbling experience it was. 6th grade band students invited their parents in for a day to experience what a lesson can be like while the students became the teacher. I stood in as a parent for one of the students. This young man demonstrated great patience as he tried to teach me how to play the flute. What I lacked in fine motor skill I made up for in my ability to process information quickly. My take away from that day: I have long forgotten how hard it is to learn something new and how overwhelming it can be. Thank you to our band instructors, Andy Weaver and Laura Conrad, for allowing us to remember a little bit of what it is like to be a middle schooler again.

Sincerely,
Dale Wren
Principal

Did You Know??? - Technology

Beavercreek City Schools is fortunate to have access to a great deal of technology that allows our teaching staff to provide a variety of different learning activities for students. With all Ankeney students receiving brand new Chromebooks this school year and the integrated use of the Google platform, teachers have been able to have students collaborate using the shared drive and documents. Students have also been able to communicate with teachers via e-mail when they have questions. Many classrooms have also utilized online websites such as Quizlet to provide an interactive, real-time experience for students to work on their content knowledge. Chromebooks also allow many assessments to be completed online.
Earlier in November, over 100 Ankeney students participated in a Walk-a-Thon to raise over $200 to help Ankeney’s chosen charity, Shoes 4 the Shoeless. In conjunction with the entire Beavercreek City School District and part of the Character Education Initiative this school year to UpLIFT: Serve, Support, and Celebrate, we look forward to more awesome ways to help. Thank you to all who contributed and participated. For more information about Shoes 4 the Shoeless, please visit: shoes4theshoeless.org.

October's Shine Award recipient is Brighton Henson. Brighton is a very respectful and responsible student. At school, he is always willing to help others, both teachers and his peers. We have witnessed Brighton show very good character in both a physical education setting and classroom setting. He always shows good sportsmanship and makes sure everyone feels included. Brighton is a deserving recipient of the Shine Award. Congratulations to Brighton and keep up the good work!

With the end of the quarter coming up in a few weeks, we encourage students and parents to be logging into ProgressBook to stay up-to-date with student assignments and grades. Remember that we do not send home paper report cards throughout the school year. If you have any questions about anything that is in ProgressBook, please contact the staff member who assigned the work. Grades will be due after we return from winter break and we will notify you via Sangha when grades have been posted. Please make sure that your email address is current in order to receive messages from the school.
Beavercreek City Schools recently partnered with The National Conference for Community and Justice of Greater Dayton (NCCJ) to present the "Changing in the Middle" Program with Ankeney 7th grade students. The goals were to help students understand stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, identify and confront biases and prejudices, appreciate and celebrate how people are alike and different, and build a respectful environment.

**December Dates to Remember**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 4</td>
<td>Holiday Choir Concert, 6:30 p.m. @ BHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Olweus Class Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>7th/8th Grade Band Concert, 7:00 p.m. @ BHS</td>
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<td>December 20</td>
<td>End of 2nd Quarter - 1-Hour Early Dismissal @ 2:45</td>
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<td>December 21</td>
<td>No School - Winter Break (Return January 3, 2019)</td>
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**Voice Messages**

If you receive a missed call from Ankeney, please take a few moments to check your voicemail. Most times, there is no emergency and someone has left you a message. The office does not know where to direct your call if you call the school back immediately without first checking for a message. To prevent any miscommunication, if you believe your child may contact you from school, please be sure your child understands the importance of leaving a clear and understandable message. Thank you for your help!

**Important Contacts**

Ankeney Absence Line: (937) 429-7567, option 1  
Transportation: (937) 429-7531, option 1  
Food Service: (937) 429-7531, option 3  
Board of Education: (937) 426-1522  
Lunch Menu: beavercreek.nutrislice.com/  
School Fees: spsezpay.com/Beavercreek/login.aspx  
Athletics: gocreek.org, scroll down to “Athletics”

**Want to know what's going on at Ankeney Middle School?** Check out our website @ Ankeney.gocreek.org

You can see what the students hear each morning by going to the “Daily Announcements” under the “Parents” tab on the homepage or by going to the calendar. We try to update information by noon daily.
Cold and flu season is here, so it is more important than ever that everyone follow some basic rules for preventing illness. It's a good idea to talk to all family members about these guidelines:

- Stay away from people known to be ill.
- Wash hands often. Proper technique in handwashing is important. Make sure that you work up a lather with the soap and scrub all areas of the hand for about 15 seconds. Kids can slowly sing the Happy Birthday song while scrubbing to know how long to wash.
- Cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. Either use a tissue or cover with the crook of your arm. Don’t cover mouth/nose with your bare hands.
- Alcohol-based hand wipes and hand sanitizers have been shown to be effective in helping to prevent illness when unable to wash hands with soap and water.

Flu season is here, and good personal hygiene of oral and nasal secretions as well as frequent hand washing may help your family avoid it. True influenza is an acute viral disease of the respiratory tract with symptoms that include: temperature of 101 or greater, headaches, chills, sudden onset of illness, fatigue, watery eyes, sore throat, and a cough. These symptoms can last from 5-10 days with a general run-down feeling that can last for several weeks. The flu is often confused with but is not the same as other viral infections that include nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting. Treatment of the flu includes rest and increased fluids. It is also recommended that everyone get a flu vaccine. Contrary to popular opinion, the flu shot does not cause the flu or any other viral illness.

**7th Grade Immunizations**

6th Grade Parents: Your student will be receiving a letter about the 7th grade immunizations just before break. We like to give you the opportunity to take advantage of Winter break to get the immunizations for next year. Your child will need to have these prior to entry into 7th grade. If you have any questions, please call the clinic at 937-458-2533.

Please take note of some important reminders:

- Please send in a note when a student is going to have an early dismissal. State the student's name (first & last), reason, time, and provide a parent signature. Students give notes to their first period teachers. Please remember to bring back a school excuse for all medical appointments.
- A parent/guardian, or whoever is picking up the student, should always bring in their photo ID. With over 700 students in our building, we don’t always remember if we have seen you previously.
- Items dropped off for students can only be delivered the last 10 minutes of a class period.
- Only emergency messages are taken and delivered to students. We cannot pull students out of class to talk on the phone.
February
26 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC

March
8 (Friday) - End of Grading Period - Student Treats at lunchtime
15 (Friday) - Spring Dance, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
19 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC (Form Nominating Committee) **3rd Tuesday

April
23 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC (Nominations for Board)

May
10 (Friday) - Staff Appreciation Luncheon 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
14 (Tuesday) - PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the IMC (Election Meeting)
23 (Thursday) - 8th Grade Farewell 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Continuing this month, we will be highlighting different classrooms throughout the school year. There are always many exciting activities taking place around Ankeney and we want to show you some of the “awesome” things our teachers are doing! Our 6th graders invited their parents to class for a day and taught them how to play their instruments. The kids taught them how to make a sound, how to hold the instrument, and the first 5 notes we learned. It was a good chance for the kids to show off everything they’ve learned in just a couple months and for parents to see that playing an instrument isn’t as easy as it seems.

You Are Invited!
Beavercreek City Schools Redistricting Public Information Session #1
Redistricting Options for Community Feedback
Location: Beavercreek High School, Alumni Auditorium
Date: Tuesday, December 18
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
For more information, visit: gocreek.org/redistrict/
ANKENNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome back to the 2018-2019 school year! Now is the time to order your Ankeney Yearbook. There are two ways to order a yearbook. You can fill this form out and return it with payment to the folder outside Mrs. Nevarez’s room, room 222, or you can order your yearbook online. **Deadline to order your yearbook is January 18, 2019!**

Follow this link for online orders: [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com)

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**YOUR BOOK**

The cost of your yearbook is **$35.00**. Your book will be full color with a hard cover.

**If you wish to order ONLINE, you have different packages to choose from:**

- The **PERSONALIZE IT PACKAGE**, which includes your yearbook and one line of personalization.
- The **SIGNATURE PACKAGE**, which includes your yearbook, one line of personalization, a color autograph section and eight multicolor signing markers. You can also add icons to the front of your book. The icons are visible below.

*THESE ICONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE ORDERS ONLY!*

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**YOUR ORDER**

Student’s Name

Student’s Grade

Student’s Flex Teacher

Parent Phone Number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019 Yearbook</td>
<td></td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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**Payment Method**

☐ Cash

☐ Check *(PLEASE do not staple checks to the order form)*

*Check # __________________ \[make checks payable to Ankeney Middle School PTO]*

Yearbooks will be delivered to students during the last week of school. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the yearbook advisor, Kathryn.Nevarez@beavercreek.k12.oh.us.

**DEADLINE TO ORDER: JANUARY 18, 2019**
Bears4Childrens

Join us for our 11th year on **Saturday, December 22nd**
at **Build-A-Bear, Fairfield Commons**, anytime between
8:00am and 11:00am to make a bear for a child that will spend the holidays at
**Dayton Children's Hospital**. We will take them to Children's to be given to a
child that is admitted through the Emergency Room over the holidays. Over 10
years, we have taken almost 1200 bears!

- Please **RSVP by Dec 20th** if you plan to attend (we have to let them know
  ahead of time the approx. number of bears we are building).
- Bears range $12-$35 and sometimes you can find coupons or go online for
  coupons for $5-$10 off. **If you can’t attend, consider forwarding to this
  project any coupons you may receive.**
- We are also in need of non-denominational “Season’s Greetings” cards for the
  bears.
- Additionally, you or a group may **SPONSOR a bear** and simply fill out a Get
  Well or Holiday card that will go in the bear’s box. We will then have a child
  stuff the bear at Build-A-Bear for you. We will provide the cards or you can
  send one of your own at the time you donate.
- Keep informed by joining our **Remind 101**. Text @bearhugs to **81010**

“When my son was three, we ended up unexpectedly spending four days at Children’s. A
middle school group donated a stuffed monkey that was given to my son. He held it tightly
during blood draws, and for the next two years. Help us ‘Pay It Forward’ and have the fun of
building a bear and the joy of giving to someone that will unexpectedly spend Christmas in
the hospital.”

RSVP or questions: Bears4Childrens@yahoo.com
937-971-8051
937-239-3185

Bears4childrens.weebly.com

Visit our Facebook or Instagram
page: Bears4Childrens

**Merry Christmas!**

*The Hess Family*