

# What's UP at AMS



Mr. Peggs and Mrs. Hanson with Mr. Thiel.

All of AMS congratulates Mr. Thiel on becoming a 2019 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellow!



Caroline, pictured here with Evan from CCF Bank, is a Student Saver Bank prize drawing winner!



Dear Middle School Parents and Students,

There is a saying that it must snow three times on the robin's tail before spring is really here. I am not sure about you, but I have lost count of these snowfalls. However, it is starting to feel more like spring. This is a great feeling, even though our school calendar will be creeping into summer with the amount of snow days and late starts.

I am also happy to be spending the rest of the school year with the middle school staff and students as Acting Principal. For those of you who are not familiar with me, I have had many roles in the school district. I have taught 2nd grade, 7th grade social studies, been an instructional coach and am currently the curriculum coordinator. In this interim position, I will support and guide the middle school through to the end of the year. AMS is a great place to work and to learn, so this is an easy transition.

One goal that the middle school has focused on is community involvement. As we finish the year, these opportunities for our students will continue to demonstrate their talents and abilities. In multiple settings. Check out the bird and toad houses at River Prairie. The Maker Fair is next Thursday, April 25th and National History Day Projects will be highlighted there as well. The Color Run is May 17th. And once again, 7th grade students will present their Nature's Fury. These are just a few of events coming your way.

This year the middle school staff has dedicated their time and effort to standards-based grading. While teaching and learning according to state content standards is not new for the staff, evaluating student achievement by their performance on grade level standards is. Here are descriptors to help understand what the 4,3,2, and 1 mean with standards-based grading.

**4: The student is:**

- able to apply the learning to a new situation
- able to meet the content standard of the next grade level
- able to demonstrate their understanding at a much deeper level of understanding and complexity

**3: The student is:**

- meeting the grade level content standard
- doing what is expected for students of that grade level
- able to demonstrate the content or process independently  
(This was the 100%. This was the A.)

**2: The student is:**

- progressing or working to the level that they need to be at
- taking feedback and actively learning
- close to meeting the level of expectation, but may need some support

**1: The student is:**

- demonstrating minimal understanding or growth to meet the standard
- unable to meet the standard with assistance
- not using feedback and redo opportunities to demonstrate learning

**NE:** (No Evidence) The student:

- did not complete the work
- did not demonstrate enough learning to determine the level of understanding

The end of the school year is a busy time for everyone. Keep checking the calendars for field trips and other special events. Most importantly, let's help our students and children finish the year strong and confidence to carry into the next school year!

Terri Hanson  
Acting Middle School Principal

# Good Things to Know

April 19—No School

April 22— Regular School Day (snow make up day)

April 23—25: Wisconsin Forward State Testing, All Grades

April 25: Maker Fair 4:00—5:30 PM

May 14: AMS Band Concert at 7 PM in the HS Auditorium

May 21: AMS Choir Concert at 6:30 PM in the HS Auditorium

May 27: No School/Memorial Day

June 7: 8th grade Farewell, 2:00 PM in the HS gymnasium

June 12: Last day of school, students released at 12:35 PM

**School begins at 8:20 and ends at 3:35**

**Students who eat school breakfast may arrive no earlier than 7:55.**

**Students not participating in the school breakfast program should arrive no earlier than 8:05 am. Students will not be allowed in the building before these times.**

AMS Main Number: 715-839-6030

AMS Fax: 715-839-6099

AMS Absentee Hotline: 715-839-6095

If your child has an appointment during the school day and will need to leave school early, please send a note with your child in the morning.

Food Service: 715-839-6056

Student Transit: 715-839-5116



# Good Things to Know

8th grade Farewell

Friday, June 7th

2:00 pm

High School Gymnasium

Doors will open at 1:45

Parents are invited to attend.

8th grade dance to follow

3:30—5:00 pm

Middle School Commons

The last day of school is June 12th!

This will be an Early Release Day .

Students will be released at 12:35 pm.

\*\*\*Subject to change\*\*\* If we have another weather day the last day of school will change.

Good Things are Happening

## Project for River Prairie



The 8th Grade Advanced Tech Ed class made birdhouses which will be painted and placed at River Prairie.



Mr. B's Art Class painted the birdhouses.



# Good Things are Happening

## What's UP in PE

### WHERE ARE YOU SPRING?

The middle school students have just completed their Team Handball units and Basketball units.

We will now starting our Omnikin unit, Invasion games unit, and LaCrosse units. These units

are some of the kids favorites for the school year.

We said goodbye to Daniel Gengengbach, he was Mr. Emerson's student teacher. He is headed

over to Menomonie High School to finish out his student teaching experience.

Mr. Gengengbach

would love to find a job in this area because he loved teaching here in Altoona □

We would like to welcome Eric Zake, as he has started with us on April 1 st .

Eric is from the

Appleton area and he is a big football fan. Please welcome Mr. Zake when you see him.

Our Fuel Up To Play 60 group has been hard at work on their daily challenges, contests, and

promotions on dairy products. Their hard work has paid off. AIS and AMS were just chosen to

attend the Wisconsin Student Ambassador Reward Summit in Green Bay on May 1 st . 7 AIS

students and 3 middle school students will be chosen to represent our school district. There are

only 27 schools chosen throughout the state and we have two of them. These kids will get to

work alongside with some of the Green Bay Packers. The students will go through a series of

stations that the Packers have put together, try their hand at creating a healthy snack, and have a

chance to win Packer gear. We are all very excited!!!

Here is one of the pictures we got last year when we went to this Summit. This picture was

chosen to represent the State of WI for this year's Summit.

Until next time, this is the PE department saying; Get Active, Get Smart, and Get Going!





On Friday, April 5, a group of 35 sixth grade advanced learners traveled to Stevens Point to take part in UWSP’s annual College Days for Kids program. This is the second year that our sixth graders were fortunate enough to attend. The program has been in existence since 1985, and has had more than 16,000 participants. The goals of the program are to introduce sixth graders to a university setting and thereby encourage them to set appropriate educational goals, provide higher level enrichment through exposure to a variety of topics, and promote healthy, effective development through interactions with high-ability peers from other schools.

AMS sixth graders pre registered for enrichment classes taught by faculty and academic staff. Some of the students’ favorite classes included chemistry magic, a breakout box competition, and smoothie power (using a human power blender). Robbie Wajda, an AMS sixth grade student stated, “College Days for Kids was a really fun experience with lots of interesting classes. I enjoyed the campus a lot, and it makes me look forward to going to college someday. I would totally recommend this experience to anyone who has the chance to go in the future.”



### How Does a Raw Egg Show Inertia?

In science the 7th graders have been learning about Newton’s 3 Laws of Motion. They did an activity to see how a raw egg demonstrates inertia. After making their observations and hypothesis, they had to find out which egg was hard boiled and which one was the raw egg. To make it more “eggciting” volunteers cracked them on their foreheads at the same

Congratulations to all students who competed in the Regional National History Day competition on March 7. All of these students chose to partake in this challenge as part of their enrichment PIE. Everyone did extremely well, especially in the interview portion.



Back Row: Ryan Stanislawski, Isaiah Prince, Jacob Koehler, Henry Pecha, Raven Moore, Olivia Chalker, Leah Saeger, Lydia Dillaman, Kennedy Tripler, Sophia Gonstead, Emily Lanphere, Keliana Desantis, Ella Elliott

Front Row: Danielle Loesel, Sam Peterson, Ben Bain, Jon Sabani, Nathan Hansen, Kara Fredrick, Emily Lieberg, Michelle Laporte

We would like to recognize the following students for qualifying for the State NHD competition in Madison on April 13.

Henry Pecha and Sam Peterson for their documentary entitled: *Game Over: The Video Industry Crash of 1983*.

Michelle Laporte for her documentary entitled: *The Mass Execution of the Dakota 38*.

Ben Bain for his historical paper entitled: *From Diplomacy to Destruction: The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand*.

Sophia Gonstead and Danielle Loesel for their performance: *Remember the Alamo!*

Leah Saeger and Kennedy Tripler for being alternates with their documentary entitled: *Clara Barton: Angel of the Battlefield*.



## Color Run 2019 Info

The Color Run is sponsored by the AIS & AMS PTO, and is free for all AIS & AMS students and staff members as a celebration of another successful school year. The community is welcome to participate by completing the registration form and paying a \$10 fee. You may also order an official Color Run t-shirt. A limited number of t-shirts will be available for \$10 on the day of the run.

### **DATES**

The Color Run is on Friday, May 17th 2019, from 1-3:30pm at AIS & AMS.  
Rain date is Tuesday, May 28th.

### **LOCATION**

The run will start and finish on the soccer/baseball field located beside the AIS & AMS car park on the corner of Bartlett Avenue and 7th street West. The run is approximately 2 miles long.

### **T-SHIRTS**

Your child's color run shirt (if you ordered one, or if your child earned a free t-shirt) should be sent home by Monday, May 13th. Please check your child's backpack. A very limited number of t-shirts will be available to purchase for \$10 on the day of the run.

### **REGISTRATION**

The community/family members are welcome to participate if they pay the \$10 fee to register. If you pre registered to run please visit our registration table, located near the electronic marquee on Bartlett Avenue, when you arrive and check in on the day of the run. The table opens at 12 noon. Please plan to run with your children at their assigned heat time. You may also register on the day of the event between 12-1pm. The cost to run is \$10.

### **WHAT TO BRING**

Your color run t-shirt!

Eye wear/protection for the run/walk.

A change of clothing for the ride home, or a towel to cover car/bus seat.

A ziploc bag to protect phones/cameras.

Money for concessions (color packets, crazy socks & sunglasses, fruit, snacks, snow cones, etc)

### **TIMES**

1:00pm 4th grade runs

1:15pm 5th grade runs

1:30pm 6th grade runs

1:45pm 7th grade runs

2:00pm 8th grade runs

3pm Color Blast on field for all participants

### **PRIZES!**

The more you raise, the more entries you will have in the prize drawing!

Sincerely,

Brenda Gilmartin

715-838-7111 or [bgilmartin@altoona.k12.wi.us](mailto:bgilmartin@altoona.k12.wi.us)

Altoona Intermediate and Middle School PTO Sponsorship Coordinator