

Andover Middle School

December 1



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

MR. BRETT WHITE

Mr. Jones	2	How fortunate we are to be a part of Andover Middle School and USD 385! On behalf of the AMS staff, we want to thank you, our parents, for the incredible support that you provide to our school. You are an important reason that AMS is successful! Specifically, we wish to thank all the parents for your help with the following projects & activities this fall:
Music Dept. & Yearbook	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donations of AMS Teacher Wish List items – Thanks to those who purchased these items for teachers. All of the lists were taken care of. In financial times like these, this makes a huge difference!
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Nurse's Notes	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donations of cookies for Veteran's Day Celebration – This was an important and highly successful day, spent learning about the sacrifices others have made so we can enjoy the freedoms we have, and paying tribute to those who have given so much for our country. We thank you for providing the cookies for the end-of-the-day receptions in each pod with our veterans. In addition, we would love to have you join us for next year's Veteran's Day activities.
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- Donation of chili and food for the Geography Bee & purchase of raffle tickets for our basket fundraiser – We raised \$389 through the chili feed and basket fundraisers. This money will go towards Veteran's Day expenses and toward the Honor Flight & Wounded Warrior donations that AMS will make to these organizations.
- Donations of food and for making our staff feel so appreciated – Whether it is the Back-to-School breakfast, Parent-Teacher-Student conference meal, or desserts brought in at various times through the year, we thank you so much for all the treats and great food that you give our staff. As I tell our staff, this type of kindness and generosity simply does not happen in 99.9% of schools!

Our AMSPO (Andover Middle School Parent Organization) works behind-the-scenes to do so many incredible things for AMS. AMSPO coordinates the activities mentioned above. AMSO also funds classroom & equipment purchases for teachers, library purchases, special projects that benefit AMS students, student recognitions, and many other endeavors that help our kids. If you want to learn more about AMSPO, or how you can get involved, our Co-Presidents this year are Amy Windholz (amywindholz@cox.net) & JoAnn Wreath (jwreath@sbcglobal.net).

Thanks for all you do to make AMS great, and have a wonderful holiday season!

Mr. Jones, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director

AMS Activities

I first want to congratulate the 7th and 8th Grade Scholars' Bowl team on their second place finishes at the Division 2 Pioneer League championship on Thursday, November 17th. Both grades came down to tie-breaking procedures to determine placing. 7th Grade members were Trevor Bateman, Megan Kinnane, Seth Montgomery, Liana Tauke, Sophia Weidner and Colin Wreath. 8th Grade members were Caelan Dean, Alex Johnson, Samuel Pecinousky, Ryan Sargeant, C.J Schaffer and Grant Wilford. Mrs. Holtzinger was the sponsor and did a great job with the squads. I also want to give a HUGE thanks to the Scholars' Bowl parents for the great support that they provided the teams during the season.

The basketball season is upon us, and there are a couple of rules that I want to make you aware of so that there is no confusion during the season. I would like to explain the running clock rule that some of you will observe at basketball games. A few years ago the KSHSAA proposed a rule regarding the use of a running clock, and the Pioneer League has supported it. The rule supports the use of a running clock during any game in which there is a 30 point difference between the two teams. However, there are some stipulations to the rule. The 30-point difference rule is in effect only during the fourth quarter. Once a team gets 30 points ahead, the clock continues to run except for injuries or called time-outs. If the score dips below 30-points, the running clock remains in effect. Second, the Pioneer League has adopted the following procedure for overtime games in Basketball. The "A" games will play 3 minute overtimes until a winner is decided. The "B" games will play one 3 minute overtime. If the game is still tied, a "Sudden Victory" overtime will be used. Basically, "Sudden Victory" is the first team to score wins.

I would also like to remind parents and students about our eligibility policy. At Andover Middle School we determine the eligibility of our student/athletes at the end of every nine weeks. Students must pass five subjects of unit weight to be deemed eligible. By determining eligibility in this manner, students become eligible much quicker. In, addition, it stresses the importance of maintaining good grades. This is very critical for student/athletes that are participating in a sport that spans more than one nine week grading period.

Reminders:

- ◆ Wrestling practice officially begins January 3, 2012. The wrestling team is doing some conditioning during the month of December. Check with Coach Oyler if you have any questions.
- ◆ Winter Sports Pictures are Friday, January 6, 2012. Your student-athletes will bring home packets the first week in January.
- ◆ Wrestling will have its Red vs Blue Donation Dual on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the Gym. There will be a parent meeting after the dual. Please plan to attend.





AMS—Holiday Vocal Music Concert

The AMS Music Department
would like to invite you to our
Holiday Vocal Music Concert
on Tuesday, December 13, 2011.

Students should arrive for Warm Ups at 7:00 pm
and the Concert begins at 7:30 pm.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

AMS YEARBOOKS!

If you would like to order your guaranteed copy of the 2011-12 yearbook, there is still time! Not sure if you have already purchased one at enrollment?! Please have your student check with Debbie Thompson in the AMS Office or contact her by phone at 316.218.4610 and/or e-mail address thompsod@usd385.org.



Yearbooks are \$35. Payment can be made online by credit/debit card on the www.usd385.org website or send a check payable to AMS, or cash with your student.

Hurry—the cut off date will be after Christmas break!



Holiday Poinsettias!

It's a "win-win" fundraiser! The Andover High School Choirs would like to invite you to help decorate the Holiday Concert stage and your home with beautiful poinsettias.

These plants will first dress up our stage for the Holiday Concert. After the concert, your order can be picked up and taken home to enjoy throughout the season.

These 6 ½ pots contain high quality plants. Examples can be viewed at www.stutzmans.com. They will be wrapped in holiday foil and they sell for \$15.00 each (tax included). Payment is to be made in advance and checks may be written to the AHS Choir.

The deadline for orders is Tuesday, December 6th.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR CONCERT!

MANY THANKS!





OFFICE NEWS

Tuesday, 12/6

Scholars' Bowl 7:30—7:45 a.m.

Wednesday, 12/7

Celebration 2:50—3:20 p.m.

Locker Decorating Contest 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri., 12/8-9

Vocal Music Concert @AHS By 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/13

Locker Decorations
Removed 11:15 a.m.—12:50 p.m.

Friday, 12/16

Conduct Card Party 12:50 p.m.
Early Dismissal

Wednesday, 12/21

End of 2nd Quarter

Holiday Break

12/22 through 1/2

6:30 p.m.

6th Band Concert @AHS

3:00—4:00 p.m.





School Meal Account Balance Policy

*Andover School District policy states that for middle and high school students when account balances fall to **-\$5.00** & greater, meals only may be charged. At **-\$10.00**, charges are not allowed. Students may pay cash for a meal or bring a lunch from home. The student may ask for his/her current balance from the lunchroom cashier. It is the student's responsibility to monitor his/her meal account balance.*

*Our lunch system also sends email notification each Thursday for each account with a balance of **+\$30.00** and below. This email is sent to the Power School parent email address.*

Students who qualify free meal benefits and have negative lunch account balances cannot be denied a school meal, as established by USDA.

Please contact the Food Service Office with any questions.

Ann Katt,

Food Service Director

(316) 218-4603

Katta@usd385.org

Nurse's News Items:

We again want to thank all of the wonderful AMS families that have sent supplies to the health office this year. We appreciate your kindness and generosity.

I have sent **2nd notice** letters to the parents of all students that need immunizations. Students in 7th grade at this time need a Tdap (tetanus) and 2 Varicella (chicken pox). If we have a confirmed case of a disease for which your student is not adequately immunized against, they will be excluded from school for the incubation and contagious period, which could be up to 30 days. If your student received immunizations, please provide written documentation from the doctor with these dates. If your student has had the chicken pox disease, I need written documentation from your doctor of this. This is a new regulation from the health department.

We are finishing up hearing and vision screenings. All 6th and 8th graders had their vision checked, and all 7th graders had their hearing checked. If you do not receive written notice of a problem, your student passed.

Remember, no medications may be given without a signed medication sheet from the parent and doctor. Please do not send medication to school with your student to take without this document. If you think your student will need over-the-counter medication this year, please have them stop in the nurse's office to pick up a form. You may have the doctor's office fax it back to us with a signature to 733-4165.

Please remember to keep your student home until 24 hours after starting an antibiotic for an infection. They also must stay home until they are fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea-free for 24 hours without medication.

The best defense against getting sick is frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds. It is important to do all we can to stay healthy. This includes eating a proper diet with plenty of water and getting enough sleep, both of which are a challenge for middle-school students.

Please have your student eat breakfast every day to help avoid mid-morning headaches and stomachaches. Also, please do not send energy drinks to school with your student. We have started allowing healthy snacks during class this year, which I think will help.

I do not give excuses for sports practices or PE. If your student has an issue (and doesn't have a fever or vomiting etc.), I will have them call you and you can decide if they should go to practice or not. It is then the student's responsibility to contact their coach. You may write a PE excuse for 1 day. If your student needs to miss more than 1 PE class, a doctor's note is required. They will need to make up the missed class before or after school.

Call the office if you have any contact information changes. Also check to make sure we have current emergency notification information in case we are unable to reach parents.

Have a safe and healthy holiday season, and please call the health office if you have any questions or concerns.

Your AMS health office staff,

Tami Cairns RN

Barb Trekell RN

Lisa Henneke Health Clerk



THE WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

THE HONOR FLIGHT NETWORK

WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

Thanks to the following supporters...

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ANDOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT ORGANIZATION

ANDOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

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