

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

What's Happening in the Ashwaubenon School District

FALL 2013

Superintendent Letter

We ASKED, You ANSWERED, We LISTENED...

As a result of the district's communication survey conducted last year, we are re-instating a district newsletter. We noted that 937 out of 1445 respondents indicated that they would read a printed newsletter. The new district newsletter will be published twice during the 2013-14 school year and will also be posted on our website.



As many of you know, the Village and School District are partnering to ask your opinion regarding the possibility of upgrading our Auditorium, Community Center and Pool. We ask you to carefully consider the needs we have with these facilities as they are over 45 years old and need attention. Ideas and options have been discussed for more than 20 years. We encourage you to provide your input in a survey that will be mailed in October.

As you can see from the information in this newsletter, we have a lot to be proud of in Ashwaubenon, and we will continue to work together to raise educational excellence. We are successful because of quality people and we thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,
Brian H. Hanes, PhD
Superintendent

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Report Card	2
Digital Evolution	3
STEM Pilot	3
2013 MVP	4
Community Survey	4
Staff Summer Learning	5
Year at a Glance	6

Volunteer in our Schools

Volunteers are vital to the success of our educational programs in the Ashwaubenon schools. The district would like to invite any community member interested in volunteering in the schools to contact us right away.

There are a wide variety of opportunities to volunteer within the district. Participating as a reading coach, math coach or helping with special programs or organizing a special activity within a classroom are just some examples of what is available. Please consider being part of this wonderful experience by calling Debbie Bodager, Coordinator of Community Volunteers, Ashwaubenon Schools, 492-2905, Ext. 2005 or email at dbodager@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

School District Report Card

“As we add new measures for student achievement in the coming years, Wisconsin will continue to improve its school report cards. And yet, these report cards cannot provide a full picture of the successes and challenges in each school and school district. The report cards are intended to be a door to community engagement and support in making sure our schools are preparing all students to graduate college and career ready.”

“Report cards offer a starting point for schools and districts to plan improvements. Additionally, they show how we can continue to refine Wisconsin’s accountability system to truly serve the education community, parents, policymakers, and the public.”

Tony Evers,
State Superintendent
of Schools

In reviewing the Ashwaubenon School District and our schools’ Report Cards, we have much to celebrate. Two of our buildings, Pioneer and Valley View, attained an overall accountability and rating that placed them in the “Exceeds Expectations” category. Parkview and the High School attained a rating of “Meets Expectations”. The district rating this year places us at “Meets Expectations”; we are just 0.9 points from “Exceeds Expectations”.

Areas of strength and areas to be addressed:

ASHWAUBENON HIGH SCHOOL

- The graduation rate and closing the gaps of subgroups showed an increase from last year.
- Student achievement in reading and math held steady.
- Attention needs to focus on closing the achievement gap of Students with Disabilities in the areas of reading and math. The data retreat findings also indicated this and goals were established to focus on this gap.

PARKVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

- The priority areas of Student Achievement, Closing Achievement Gaps and On-Track and Post-secondary Readiness all showed an increase from the previous year.
- Student growth in the areas of reading and math need to be studied to determine ways in which we can continue to improve.
- All subgroups showed an increase in reading with the exception of Hispanic students. In math, the subgroups American Indian, Black, not Hispanic, Students with Disabilities and Economically Disadvantages students all showed gains.

PIONEER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

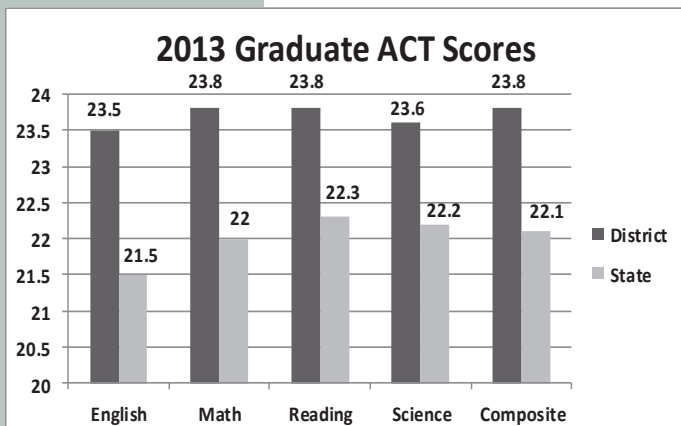
- All priority areas showed an increase: Student Growth, Closing Gaps, and On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness. The biggest gain was noticed in the area of closing gaps in reading and math. Work will continue to narrow the gaps within all subgroups.
- Pioneer moved from a school that “Meets Expectations” to a school that “Exceeds Expectations”.

VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Improvements in the priority areas of Student Growth, Closing the Gaps, and On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness were seen.
- An area to monitor is Student Growth. This area can and will be monitored through the use of building level assessments to continue to increase the number of students who reach grade level proficiency at mid-year and at the end of the year.

DISTRICT OVERALL

- We are 0.9 points from reaching the level of “Exceeds Expectations”.
- Our goal this year is to continue to support, at the building level, efforts to differentiate instruction for all students to ensure that all students are challenged. The use of multiple assessments; Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), running records and common assessments at the elementary level and common assessments along with EXPLORE and PLAN data at the secondary level will help us monitor all student academic growth.



The Digital Evolution Continues at Ashwaubenon High School

Gone are the days when a pencil, paper and notebook were all that was needed in high school! Ashwaubenon High School has begun its fourth year of a *1 to 1 Initiative*. A *1 to 1 Initiative* is a policy designed to put a computer in every student's hands.

This year the program has evolved to include additional options for all high school students. Students can choose to rent a computer from the school or bring their own computer to use from home. We have seen a huge variety of student owned devices including laptop computers, netbook computers, tablet computers (like iPads, Surface or Xoom) and Chromebooks. Approximately 40% of students have opted to bring their own computer to use from home.

Ashwaubenon has seen what a powerful learning tool a computer can be when a student has access to their own device to use in class every day. Students learn when they are engaged in the process of teaching and learning. Technology has the ability to engage students. When a computer is available every day for every student to use, the possibilities are endless!

The 1 to 1 Initiative will continue to evolve at Ashwaubenon High School as teachers and students learn more about how to best integrate new technologies. The journey continues!



STEM Pilot at Valley View Elementary

Valley View Elementary School is proud to announce its selection as one of just 44 schools in the United States invited to pilot the newest science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) program for students in grades K-5. The elementary STEM program is designed and developed by Project Lead The Way (PLTW), the nation's leading provider of STEM education curricular programs for middle and high school students. By offering this new elementary STEM program to its students, Valley View Elementary School is expanding its high-quality educational offerings for its students.

Through a series of topic-based modules, students will engage in design problems that encourage collaboration, analysis, problem solving, and computational thinking. The schools participating in the pilot program will test 12 STEM modules and play an integral role in the development of the final version of the curriculum by providing feedback on their experiences to the PLTW. This feedback will influence the development of engaging curriculum and balanced assessment for elementary students, and the creation of effective professional development for instructors. The final version of the elementary program will be available to all school districts in the United States for the 2014-15 school year.



2013 Most Valuable Partner

Our district mission focuses on “partnering with our community, to develop students who are high achieving lifelong learners and contributing world citizens”. Since 2009, our District has a tradition of recognizing a most valuable business partner.

District staff nominate businesses in our community that partner with our schools to positively impact students' educational experiences. This year the district awarded the 2013 Most Valuable Partner Award to the Pioneer Credit Union.



(left) Dr. Brian Hanes presents the MVP Award to Tom Young, President of Pioneer Credit Union.

JAGField



2013-14 Coffee with the Superintendent

7:30 am to 8:30 am

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| November 1st | Big Apple Bagels - Ashwaubenon |
| December 6th | Perkins - Ashwaubenon |
| January 3rd | Not By Bread Alone |
| February 7th | Panera Bread |
| March 14th | Denny's Restaurant |
| April 4th | Crystal Coffee |

Ashwaubenon Community Facilities Study



The Village of Ashwaubenon and the Ashwaubenon School District are partnering to explore the possibility of upgrading several well used facilities in our community. The specific facilities are the Ashwaubenon Community Center, the Ashwaubenon High School auditorium and the High School swimming pool.

To learn more about each project and express your opinions, a Village-wide survey of all residents is being conducted in October. The results of the survey will determine whether these projects proceed forward to a potential April referendum. Ashwaubenon residents can expect the paper survey to arrive in the mail around mid-October. In addition to *the* paper copy, an option to complete the survey online will be available.

A series of community information meetings took place on September 18th, 25th and October 2nd to provide information on the condition of these facilities and to gather feedback from our residents.

For more information visit the School District and Village websites at:
www.ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us/projects

Staff Participate in Summer Learning

Vision

To achieve world class excellence in education so each child can reach his or her full potential



Mission

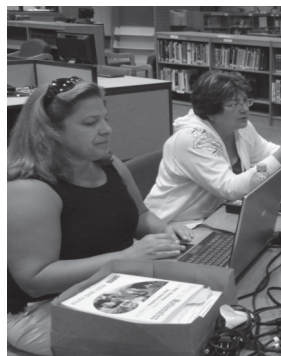
Partnering with our community, to develop students who are high achieving life-long learners and contributing world citizens.

It seemed as if we'd never been off for the summer. Building and classroom visits showed "business as usual". It was especially exciting to see writing happening in classrooms (it's one of our goals) and first graders jumped in with a vengeance.

Staff at all levels are applying summer learning in the area of literacy to daily learning in the classroom. Art classes were writing about works of art and describing the picture and the emotions that came through in the work. All disciplines are talking about the vocabulary of their content. It's so exciting to see the transfer of learning into daily practice.

Staff development opportunities will be offered during the school year and staff will have a "menu" to choose from by the end of the October. We will replicate some of the learning from the summer and expand into deep conversations about the common core, research around best practices and with regards to student learning.

We continue to model that learning in Ashwaubenon is for everyone! If you have any questions regarding writing or staff development, contact Jill Kieslich, Director of Curriculum and Instruction.





1055 Griffiths Lane
Green Bay, WI 54304

Phone: 920-492-2900

www.ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Special Points of Interest

School District Report Card Results • Most Valuable Partner •
Facilities Study • STEM Pilot • Digital Evolution

Year at a Glance

NOVEMBER—2013

Nov. 1	Gr. 6-12: End of Quarter 1
Nov. 14	Gr. K-12: Early Release (no 4K classes)
Nov. 14	Gr. 4K-8: conferences Noon–8pm
Nov. 19	Gr. 4K-5: conferences 4–8pm
Nov. 20	Gr. 6-8: conferences 4–8pm
*Nov. 22	Full Day K-8; Early Release Gr. 9-12
Nov. 27-29	4K-12 No school: Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER—2013

Dec. 5	Gr. 9-12: conferences 4–8pm
Dec 23- Jan 1	4K-12 No school: Winter Break

JANUARY—2014

Jan. 2	School resumes
*Jan. 16	Full Day K-8; Early Release Gr. 9-12
Jan. 17	K-12 Early Release (no 4K classes)
Jan. 17	End of Semester 1

FEBRUARY—2014

Feb. 13	Gr. K-12: Early Release (no 4K classes)
Feb. 13	Gr. 4K-8: conferences Noon–8pm
Feb. 18	Gr. 4K-5: conferences 4–8pm
Feb. 19	Gr. 6-8: conferences 4–8pm

MARCH—2014

March 4	Gr. 9-12: conferences 4–8pm
March 12	Gr. 9-12: conferences 4–8pm
March 21	Gr. 6-12: End of Quarter 3
March 24-28	4K-12 no school : Spring Break

APRIL—2014

April 18-21	4K-12 No school
-------------	-----------------

MAY—2014

May 2	K-12 Early Release (no 4K classes)
May 7	Gr. 9-12: conferences 4–8pm
May 26	4K-12 no school: Memorial Day

JUNE—2014

*June 9	Full Day K-8; Early Release Gr. 9-12
June 10	K-12 Early Release (no 4K classes)
June 10	Last day of school; End of Semester 2

EARLY RELEASE DISMISSAL TIMES

Grades 4K-5	11:00 am (no lunch)
Grades 6-8	11:27 am (no lunch)
Grades 9-12	11:30 am (no lunch)