

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

What's Happening in the Ashwaubenon School District

FALL 2014

Saluting Volunteers!

We have successfully rolled into another school year, and I continue to be impressed by numerous volunteers that reach out to work with students. This newsletter salutes some of our volunteers and highlights ways you can help us meet our mission “to develop students who are high achieving lifelong learners and contributing world citizens”. James Comer said that “no significant learning can take place without significant relationships”. I invite you to carefully consider volunteering to get involved with our students. We have a number of opportunities for you to consider that can make a difference in the life of a child!



Another frequent question I hear is “when will the building projects begin?”. We have had numerous committee meetings the past several months to discuss design details for the auditorium, aquatic center and community center. Everything is on schedule. A project timeline can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of our schools. Let us know if we can be of assistance as we work together.

Sincerely,
Brian H. Hanes, PhD
Superintendent

State Report Card

In Wisconsin, students aren't the only ones who receive report cards; school districts and schools also receive report cards indicating student growth and achievement. As part of the state accountability system, reflected in Wisconsin's approved ESEA Flexibility Request, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has produced report cards for every district and school in Wisconsin. These report cards provide data on multiple indicators for the following four Priority Areas:

- Student Achievement – statewide assessments in reading and mathematics
- Student Growth – in the assessed areas of reading and mathematics
- Closing Gaps – in reading and mathematics performance and/or graduation rates.
- On-track and Postsecondary Readiness – performance on three student engagement indicators (test participation; student absenteeism; and the dropout rate).

A district's (or school's) Overall Accountability Score places the district (or school) into one of five Overall Accountability Ratings:

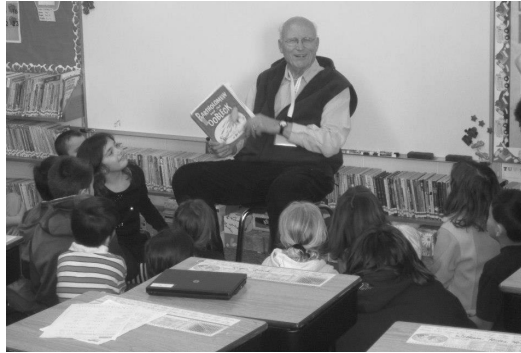
- Significantly Exceeds Expectations
- Exceeds Expectations
- Meets Expectations
- Meets Few Expectations
- Fails to Meet Expectations

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Volunteer Program

Volunteering can be one of the most rewarding decisions that you make in your life, and the life of the Ashwaubenon Schools. We would be pleased to have you join over 100 community members already participating as Community Volunteers. Volunteers are creating a positive change in communities in and around Brown County. By becoming a Community Volunteer you will be taking a first step toward strengthening our community and our schools.



Once you have been assigned to a classroom, you and your teacher or supervisor set up a schedule that accommodates everyone's needs.

Please read the following frequently asked questions.



We are here to help connect you with the volunteer opportunities that will make a difference for you and our students. In this article we hope to explain to you how you go about taking those important first steps in becoming a volunteer.

Ashwaubenon has 5 schools in our district. There is one early learning center, which is called

Cormier, two elementary schools Pioneer and Valley View, Parkview which is the middle school and one high school (Ashwaubenon High School or better known as AHS). Volunteer opportunities exist in all the schools and we do our best to match your interest with opportunities.

Participating as a reading coach, math coach or helping with special programs and activities are just a few examples of areas where volunteers have a beneficial effect. Schedules are very flexible and volunteers are matched with classrooms and/or projects.

Who volunteers in the Ashwaubenon School?

People of all ages volunteer at the Ashwaubenon Schools. The volunteers come from different backgrounds and most of the volunteers do not have special training. We, of course, welcome all skill sets and are very happy when former teachers decide to participate in our program.

What do the volunteers do?

Volunteers reinforce what has been taught in the classroom by doing things such as coaching reading and math skills. The volunteers are not expected to create lessons or direct any teaching sessions. Volunteers work in conjunction with the teacher to help accomplish specific goals for individual students. In addition, some volunteers work on special projects that need to be accomplished by the schools. The extra hands can be so helpful and the volunteers really make a difference.



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Jaguar Backers Need Your Help

Jaguar Backers is a group of volunteers comprised largely of parents of Ashwaubenon High School students. The mission of the organization is to raise money for the support of co-curricular activities sponsored and supported by Ashwaubenon High School. All AHS parents are automatically members of Jaguar Backers.

Jaguar Backers raise over \$50,000 on an annual basis, through concession stand sales, JagWear merchandise sales, the Taste of Ashwaubenon event, Packer Game give-a-ways and various other fundraisers. All dollars raised are turned back to student activities, clubs and athletics, for the benefit of our students.

Do you want a rewarding experience with this vibrant, giving and fun organization? Positions that are opening in the near-future are President and Vice President. If you are interested, please come to a meeting, contact an officer, or contact AHS.

Volunteer Program

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Where do the volunteers work and how do they accomplish their assignments?

The volunteers work at all the schools, in the classrooms and in a variety of other settings. Many of the teachers have the volunteers working in the back of the classrooms on special assignments with individual students. Still others will have the volunteers take the students to other areas outside the classroom. The teacher typically selects the setting for the volunteer.

When would I volunteer and for how long?

Many of our volunteers have been in the program for 4-5 years while some prefer to commit on a yearly basis. It is our hope that each volunteer would be able to commit to the school year, but we are very flexible. Some volunteers are snowbirds who leave for part of the winter, and we welcome them back in the spring.

Our typical volunteer commits to twice a week, but some for longer periods depending on their availability. Once you have your teacher and classroom assignment you work the schedule out with your particular teacher.

What if I am a parent of a student and I want to volunteer?

Parent volunteers need to work through their child's current teacher. The teacher will be able to direct the parent as to how to effectively get involved in both the classroom and at the school. Our Community Volunteer program was designed to reach out



to persons in the community who want to make a difference in the schools and that may or may not have a connection to the schools. All are welcome to volunteer, and it does not matter if you live in the village or in a neighboring community.



How do I get started with volunteering?

Step 1 – Contact

Debbie Bodager
Coordinator of Community Volunteers
Ashwaubenon Schools
Phone number: 920-492-2905, Ext. 2005
Email: dbodager@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Step 2 - Participate in an Orientation Session

An orientation meeting will be set up with you where you will be introduced to information pertaining to the schools and your specific assignment. You will receive a tour of the school and have a brief meeting with the teacher or staff person to set up a schedule. Please keep in mind that all the teachers you will be working with have expressed an interest in working with a volunteer.

Step 3 – Agree to a brief background check

Step 4 – Start Volunteering!

AHS Alumni Association

• **ASHWAUBENON HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

A group of AHS alumni, with help from the Ashwaubenon School District, have established an AHS Alumni Association. Connect with them on their Facebook group page by searching for 'Ashwaubenon High School Alumni Association'. The Association has volunteer opportunities, especially in the area of planning and organization of the upcoming AHS 50th Anniversary Celebration.



• **AHS 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Sat, Aug. 15, 2015**

The 2015-16 school year marks the 50th anniversary of Ashwaubenon High School. To celebrate this milestone and to kick-off a series of anniversary events, the Ashwaubenon High School Alumni Association and Ashwaubenon High School, in conjunction with the Ashwaubenon School District and Village of Ashwaubenon, are hosting a 50th Anniversary Celebration. This event takes place on Saturday, August 15th, 2015, at Ashwaubomay Park.

World Language Audit

During curriculum reviews or for information to support continuous improvement, it is common practice to conduct a program audit or program study. The audit can be conducted internally or by using external sources; the determination is oftentimes based on program needs.

This year, we are conducting an audit of our grades 1-12 world language program with the intent of:

- studying our program strengths and areas upon which to improve
- gathering parent, student, staff and community beliefs and expectations regarding world language
- determining what our program should look like in the future

Our committee is comprised of parents, teachers, administrators, a school board representative, and members of the community. Our findings will be gathered together and a recommendation presented to the Board of Education regarding the future direction of the world language program in Ashwaubenon.

To help us with this endeavor, we have contacted Mr. Paul Sandrock, the retired Department of Public Instruction World Language Specialist, and now the Director of Education for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Mr. Sandrock is highly regarded in the field of world language and will bring with him a wealth of knowledge. The Ashwaubenon School District has a longstanding relationship with Mr. Sandrock, and he is well aware of the strength and “specialness” of the Ashwaubenon World Language Program.

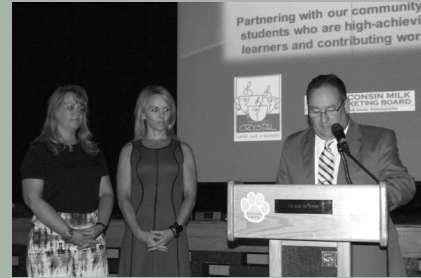
We are excited about the audit and the opportunity to study our world language program from various vantage points. The committee is a diverse group bringing together many skills, viewpoints and ideas to this process. If you have further questions or would like to share your thoughts regarding the world language program, please contact Jill Kieslich (920) 492-2905, ext 1019.

Estimated Referendum Project Timeline

Design Phase	April - November 2014
Final Village/District Review & Bray Quality Control Review	December 2014
Bidding	January 2015
Award Bids	January 2015
Commence Construction (dependent on spring thaw)	March/April 2015
Project Completion	
Community Center	February/March 2016
Aquatic Center	March/April 2016
Auditorium	March/April 2016

2014 Most Valuable Partners

School district staff nominate businesses in our community that partner with our schools to positively impact students’ educational experiences.



Crystal Coffee and Beanery



Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board



Frame Of Mind

2014-15 Coffee with the Superintendent

7:30 am to 8:30 am
Crystal Coffee - 2625 Packerland Dr.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Fri., November 14 | Fri., February 13 |
| Fri., December 12 | Fri., March 13 |
| Fri., January 9 | Fri., April 10 |

In the Spotlight

- **Bench Buddy Grant** - The Greater Green Bay Community Foundation and the Crime Prevention Foundation awarded Pioneer Elementary School with a \$1,200 grant to be used for the Bench Buddy and Family Gym Night.
- **Homeless Grant** - The District was awarded the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grant of \$25,000. Thank you to Andrea Pasqualucci and Tammy Lampereur for their work in obtaining this grant.
- **Autism Grant** - The district receive a DPI Autism Evidence Based Grant for \$8,000. The goal of the grant is to improve the functional and adaptive skill levels of students with autism in the areas of academics, social and emotional skills.
- **STEP Safety** - Pioneer Elementary 5th graders will once again be participating in the STEP Curriculum (Student Tools for Emergency Planning). This state program teaches 5th grade students how to prepare for natural disasters and other emergencies.
- **Fuel Up to Play 60** - The district Fuel Up to Play 60 program has been awarded a \$500 and \$350 grant through WMMB. Thank you to Lois Ludwig and the FUTP 60 team for working to obtain these grants.
- **Valley View PBIS** - Congratulations to Valley View Administrators and staff on being recognized by the Wisconsin PBIS Network as a School of Merit for their work accomplished with the implementation of PBIS.
- **Principal of the Year Finalist** - Congratulations to Kurt Weyers, Principal of Valley View for being named as a finalist for the State Elementary School Principal recognition!
- **Teacher of the Year** - Congratulations to Andrea Pasqualucci for being named one of Wisconsin's 2014 Teachers of the Year
- **Meemic Foundation Grant** - Patti Christensen, music teacher at Cormier and Valley View Schools, recently received a grant from the Meemic Foundation for the implementation of a recorder program at Valley View. The money will be used to purchase recorders for 4th and 5th grade music classes.
- **Career Pathmaker-Tech Education Award** - Congratulations to Tom Barnhart for receiving the Career Pathmaker-Tech Ed Award through NEW Manufacturing Alliance Excellence in Manufacturing K-12 Partnership.
- **Big Brother/Big Sister Program** - Ashwaubenon School District received the BBBS Community-Based Match of the Year and Site-Based Match of the Year. Congratulations to Leanne Snell, Valley View Guidance Counselor, for receiving the BBBS Partner of the Year.
- **UW-Oshkosh Literacy Licensure** - The District is working with UW-Oshkosh for the 316 Reading Teacher Licensure. We have 19 teachers ranging from 4K–grade 8 as well as special education teachers participating in this program.
- **Strengthen Families Program** - The Social Work Department has been awarded a grant through the Crime Prevention Foundation. The grant will be used for the Strengthen Families Program. Thank you to Amy Dillenberg for working to secure this grant.
- **Weyers Foundation Grant** - The Weyers Foundation award a \$5,000 grant to the high school band program. The grant is to be used to sponsor individual band students to preform in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York.

State Report Card

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How is the “Accountability Score” calculated? Each district and school receives an Overall Accountability Score from 0 to 100. This score is calculated by combining a weighed average of all of the data in the priority areas listed above. It is important to note that the weighted score is not simple averaging. Wisconsin schools are diverse in size, grade spans, and student populations—and not all schools have data in all four Priority Areas. All of this is taken into account when determining the final rating.

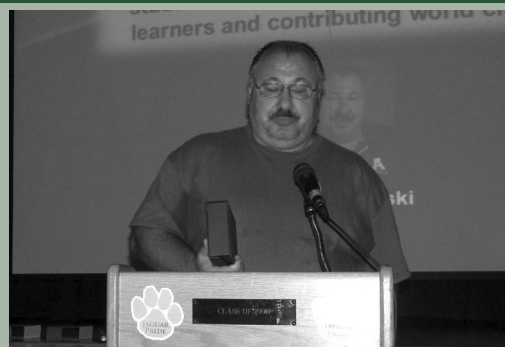
This year the Ashwaubenon School District received a rating of “Exceeds Expectations”. Ashwaubenon High School and Parkview Middle School each received a rating of “Meets Expectations” and Pioneer and Valley View Schools both received “Exceeds Expectations”. (Cormier is not rated as currently the statewide assessments are only in place for students in grades 3-8 and 10.)

While we are pleased with these ratings, we know that there are areas that we need to focus on. Ongoing staff development in literacy and instructional practice are in place. Buildings have enrichment and intervention time built into the school day to support the learning of ALL students.

Tony Evers, the State Superintendent of Schools states, “These report cards are a good communication device to focus discussion among parents, schools, and communities on how our schools and school districts are doing and how they can continue to improve.” We utilize the information from the District and School Report Card as just one “snapshot” of student learning and growth. Multiple assessments are used in our schools to provide an even more complete picture of student growth and achievement. Just as a collection of “snapshots” in a photo album provides a much more complete picture than just one by itself, we can get a much better understanding of the overall educational picture when we consider all of the parts together.

If you have any questions about the District Report Card or the progress of any of our schools, please contact Jill Kieslich, Director of Instruction (920) 492-2905, ext. 1019.

2014 Child Advocacy Award Recipient



Francis Mrozinski



ASHWAUBENON
SCHOOL DISTRICT

1055 Griffiths Lane
Green Bay, WI 54304
Phone: 920-492-2900

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Special Points of Interest

Volunteer Program • Most Valuable Partners • Referendum Project Timeline
World Language Audit • Report Card • Alumni Committee • Jaguar Backers

Year at a Glance

NOVEMBER - 2014

Nov. 5 Gr. 6-12: End of Quarter 1
Nov. 13 Gr. K-12: Early Release (no 4K classes)
Nov. 13 Gr. 4K-8: conferences Noon-8pm
Nov. 18 Gr. 4K-5: conferences 4-8pm
Nov. 19 Gr. 6-8: conferences 4-8pm
*Nov. 21 Full Day K-8; Early Release Gr. 9-12
Nov. 26-28 4K-12 No school: Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER - 2014

Dec. 4, Gr. 9-12: conferences 4-8pm
Dec. 22- Jan. 2 4K-12 No school: Winter Break

JANUARY - 2015

Jan. 5 School resumes
*Jan. 22 Full Day K-8; Early Release Gr. 9-12
Jan. 23 K-12 Early Release (no 4K classes)
Jan. 23 End of Semester 1

FEBRUARY - 2015

Feb. 13 4K-12 No School

MARCH - 2015

March 3 Gr. 9-12: conferences 4-8pm
March 4 Gr. K-12: Early Release (no 4K classes)
March 4 Gr. 4K-8: conferences Noon-8pm
March 10 Gr. 4K-5: conferences 4-8pm
March 11 Gr. 9-12: conferences 4-8pm
March 12 Gr. 6-8: conferences 4-8pm
March 27 Gr. 6-12: End of Quarter 3
Mar 30-Apr 3 4K-12 no school : Spring Break

MAY - 2015

May 6 Gr. 9-12: conferences 4-8pm
May 25 4K-12 no school: Memorial Day

JUNE - 2015

*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

SUMMER SCHOOL 6/15/15 – 7/10/15

EARLY RELEASE DISMISSAL TIMES

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