



Principal's Newsletter

A Nationally Ranked High School

A Message from the Principal...



We have had an outstanding first quarter due to the combined efforts of our students, parents, faculty and staff. Our students have been busy with a variety of activities including: fundraising activities; working; participating in sports and extracurricular activities; and for our freshmen class and new students, simply finding their way around Avon Lake High School and adjusting to a new school. Special thanks to our PTA for all their help with schedule pick-up day, picture day, and Open House. I have many fond memories from this fall which include (but are not limited to): the Spirit Assembly, including the contests amongst the grade levels; the "Blue Out," for Autism Speaks fundraiser sponsored by our National Honor Society, and the many extracurricular and fall sports activities.

We continue to educate our students on the harmful effects and negativity associated with Bullying and Cyberbullying. On Monday, November 7, Dr. Amy Klinger, Assistant Professor of Educational Administration at Ashland University, and her daughter Ms. Amanda Klinger will present on the topics of Bullying and Cyberbullying to our students. Dr. Klinger and Ms. Klinger will also do a presentation for our faculty on Tuesday, November 8. Please see enclosed flyer with more details on the

speaker as well as information on her presentation for parents on the evening of November 7, at Learwood Middle School.

Special congratulations to our National Merit Scholarship Competition Commended Scholars: Michael Foley, Ian Johnson, and Zachary Scott. These students scored in the top 5% of students tested.

We are proud of our Advanced Placement test data which includes: 39 AP Scholars (students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams); 25 AP Scholars with Honors (students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 or higher on all AP exams taken and scores a 3 or higher on four or more exams); 26 AP Scholars with Distinction (Students who receive an average of at least 3.5 or higher and scores a 3 or higher on five or more of these exams); 3 National AP Scholars (Students who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of the exams).

In addition to all of the successes both in the classroom and on the field, ALHS had several teams advancing deep into the state tournament competition. *Special congratulations* to Niki Schroeder and Brendan Aussem who represented the ALHS Golf Teams at the State Tournament. Our Boys Cross Country Team are district champs for the first time since 1994 and are advancing to regionals. Katie Link will be advancing to regionals representing our Girls Cross Country Team. Our Girls Volleyball Team, Boys Golf Team, Boys Cross Country Team, and Football Team are SWC Champions. In addition, please see the Spotlight section in this newsletter for other students'

accomplishments which also make us proud!

We continue to prepare our faculty and students for the Ohio Graduation Tests that will take place the week of March 12 – March 16, 2012. The Ohio Graduation Practice Tests are utilized as a teaching tool throughout the school year. We are utilizing the OGT practice test data that our current sophomores took last year in order to provide them with intervention strategies necessary so that they will be successful when they take the OGT tests this spring. Please note that Ohio Graduation Tests have been added to our Avon Lake High School website at

www.avonlakecityschools.org/highschool - scroll down and click on **OGT Preparation Tools**.

The purpose of these practice tests are to familiarize students and faculty with the process and format of the OGT. This high stakes test must be passed by all current freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors to be eligible for graduation. (Please see the enclosed information highlighting the OGT.)

Please reinforce good attendance habits with your son/daughter. Attendance and accuracy of attendance is extremely important in school. Excessive absences may result in: missing work which is difficult to make up, losing continuity in school work, and an irresponsible attitude toward daily obligations and failure in school.

Each newsletter includes a "SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS" section. If there is something your son/daughter is involved in (in or outside of school) that deserves recognition, please share your good news and mail it to the main office to the attention of Mrs. Liesa Wetzig or e-mail as an attachment to

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liesa.wetzig@avonlakecityschools.org with Student Spotlight as the subject, or have your student drop it off. The submission of articles deadline for the remainder of the school year are January 9, and March 12, 2012.

Please review the pertinent information listed below which is included in this newsletter with your student: Calendar of Events, Semester Exam Schedule, SAT and ACT websites, Financial Aid Night, College Application Process Reminders, and Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) information.

It is my desire along with the high school administrative team, counselors, faculty and staff, that this year be an excellent one for you. If you need to meet with a guidance counselor, grade level principal, or myself, please do not hesitate to contact us. *We suggest that parents call first to schedule an appointment before coming in so that you will not experience any delays.*

We at ALHS are very thankful for many things. We appreciate our wonderful student body, committed faculty and staff and our supportive community. All of us at Avon Lake High School wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a peaceful holiday season!

~Dr. Joanie A. Walker

2011-2012 ALHS Calendar

Friday, October 28	End of the First Grading Period
Tuesday, November 8	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service
November 23, 24, 25	Thanksgiving Break (<i>School resumes Monday, November 28</i>)
December 21 thru January 3, 2012	Holiday Break (<i>School resumes Tuesday, January 3</i>)
January 11, 12, 13	Semester Exams
Friday, January 13	End of Second Grading Period/End of 1st Semester
Monday, January 16	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day
Friday, January 20	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service
Thursday, February 16	4:30-7:30 pm Parent Teacher Conferences
Monday, February 20	NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
March 12 - 16	OGT Testing
Wednesday, March 14	3-7 pm Parent/Teacher Conferences (<i>Early Release</i>)
Friday, March 23	End of Third Grading Period
April 6 thru April 13	Spring Break (<i>School resumes Monday, April 16</i>)
Saturday, May 19	Prom - Cleveland Brown's Stadium
May 23, 24, 25	Senior Final Exams
Monday, May 28	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
May 30, 31 and June 1	Final Exams for Grades 9, 10 and 11
Friday, June 1	Mandatory Commencement Practice for Seniors 8am-1pm
Friday, June 1	Last Day of School for Grades K - 11
Saturday, June 2	Commencement 6:30 pm

PTA Meetings are held in the Commons at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month.

2012 Semester Exam Schedule

	Wednesday, January 11	Thursday, January 12	Friday, January 13
Arrival 7:45			
Exam 8:00 - 9:20	12 th Period or Early Bird	2 nd Period	1 st Period
Break 9:20 – 9:35			
Exam 9:35 – 10:55	3 rd Period	11 th Period	10 th Period
Break 10:55 – 11:10			
Exam 11:10 – 12:30	8/9 th Period	6/7 th Period	4/5 th Period
Individual Student Time 12:45 – 2:53			

Guidance Department 440-933-8135

10th Grade, 9th Grade H-P
11th Grade, 9th Grade Q-Z
12th Grade, 9th Grade A-G

Lisa Lefèvre opt. 1 lisa.lefevre@avonlakecityschools.org
Mike Kaminski opt. 3 mike.kaminski@avonlakecityschools.org
Megan Sislowksi opt. 4 megan.sislowksi@avonlakecityschools.org

Ohio Graduation Test

9th Grade

If you are in the Class of 2015, you will need to pass the OGT as one requirement to graduate.

The OGT:

- ♦ Is based on the new academic content standards
- ♦ Includes multiple choice and written response questions
- ♦ Is made up of five test areas:
 - ⇒ Reading
 - ⇒ Writing
 - ⇒ Mathematics
 - ⇒ Science
 - ⇒ Social Studies

Your first opportunity to take all five of the test areas of the OGT for graduation will occur in March 2013.

Your teachers will be working with you over the next few years to be sure you are ready for these tests. Some students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) may be eligible to take an alternate OGT. If you have an IEP, please discuss the OGT with your teacher.

10th Grade

Your high school graduation is just two years away! In order to be prepared for it, you need to complete the required course work. In addition to taking the courses that you need to graduate; you must also pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) in all five areas:

- ⇒ Reading
- ⇒ Writing
- ⇒ Mathematics
- ⇒ Science
- ⇒ Social Studies

Your first chance to take the test is in March 2012.

If you feel that you need extra help to prepare for the OGT, talk with your teacher or counselor.

OGT!

Financial Aid Night

Wednesday –January 11, 2012
at **Avon** High School @ 7pm

8th Grade Parents Night

Thursday - January 19, 2012
at Avon Lake High School PAC @ 7pm

Save the Date!

'Tis the season!

No not that season - COLLEGE APPLICATION season! Just like that other season, it can get hectic and crazy. Do your “shopping” early and get ahead of the rush!

- * Be sure you have a Transcript Release Form on file with your guidance counselor. We cannot send out your transcript without it. Pick up a form in the guidance office if you need one.
- * If you need a letter of recommendation, ask your teacher *at least 10 school days* in advance of needing it. Your letter is not the only one they have to write!
- * We have paper applications for many colleges and universities available to you in the guidance office. Stop by!
- * Online applications are getting more and more popular. They're easy, and sometimes the application fee is reduced or waived if you apply online. Check with your college or university.
- * Are you planning to apply to several competitive colleges or universities? You can often save time by using the Common Application. Go to www.commonapp.org to find out which schools take the Common Application. If two or more of your schools are listed, the Common Application might be a valuable timesaver.
- * Whether you apply on paper, or online, **you must still send a transcript!** Bring your completed paperwork to the senior counselor along with a stamped (3 stamps, please), addressed envelope. We will sit down with you and make sure that your paperwork is complete and will arrive on time.
- * Check all application deadlines now!
- * Please get your applications to your guidance counselor *at least 2-3 weeks* in advance of their due dates. If your application is due anytime between January 1st and January 12th, please have it to us by December 1st.

SAT

Go to: www.collegeboard.com for:

- ⇒ SAT Test Dates
- ⇒ Test Fees
- ⇒ Online Registration

ACT

Go to: www.actstudent.org for ACT Test Dates, Test Fees & Online Registration.

Some notes about testing:

- * The Guidance Office has a limited number of paper test registration forms.
- * The optimum time to take a college test is in the spring of the junior year.
- * ALHS is a test site for the February and June ACT tests. We recommend that students opt to take the ACT PLUS writing.
ALHS Code: 360 285



INFOhio...a free resource

INFOhio, the state's "virtual" library and information network for all preK-12 Ohio schools, is a FREE resource available to all Ohio students and their parents. These electronic resources are age-appropriate, curriculum-related and fully tested and supported by Ohio teachers and librarians. The 14 available databases include newspapers from Ohio and around the world, thousands of full-text magazines geared to the curriculum, as well as magazines you might enjoy, biographies, language arts, math, science, technology, social studies, foreign languages and more. You can access this collection from your home or school computer, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

This is the time of year,

when college-bound students begin preparing for their college admissions exams, such as the SAT and ACT. To help your child gain a competitive edge on the SAT, and meet the challenges presented by the new essay section, we are pleased to be able to offer all students **free, unlimited access to online practice tests, courses, and essay writing practice with instant scoring** from Learning Express. With the Learning Express program, students receive.....

- * Writing practice with instant essay scoring
- * Full-length practice tests that are just like the real SAT
- * Complete interactive courses
- * Detailed feedback with each answer
- * Instant score reports that identify those skills that need

the most improvement
To access Learning Express Library, or any of the other INFOhio databases, follow these instructions:

Visit www.infohio.org. Select any of the three grade-level resource buttons or *Core Collection*. Select the *Learning Express Library* button. Enter the current school year's username/password, if requested. You can get this information from our Media Specialist if you do not have it. The first time you use **Learning Express Library**, select the *New User* link from the site; keep track of your username/password. After your first session, select *Returning User* and use your username/password.

Learning Express Library is not just for college entrance exams; it is a compendium of

numerous tests, including Civil Service practice exams, and math and writing skills practice for several age levels. An added bonus is a collection of over 150 e-book titles in a wide range of areas, including resume building, test preparation, and grammar and math skills. This library is definitely worth a look, whether you are in elementary school, high school, or an adult preparing for a job change. For more information, please contact the high school Media Specialist, Paul Mitchell, at 440-933-6290 x1540 or send him an e-mail at paul.mitchell@avonlakecityschools.org.



Graphic Calculator Lease Program

Instead of purchasing a graphing calculator, students may opt to lease a Texas TI-84 through the ALHS Math Department. The cost (\$20 a school year) will simply be added to the student's school fees. In the event of loss or damage to the calculator, the student will be responsible for the replacement cost of \$100. To obtain a leased calculator, see Mr. Aloi in the Math Department (room 245). Be sure to bring your school ID.



School Closing Information

When it becomes necessary to close schools due to inclement weather or other causes, the CodeRED system will be used whenever possible. Please continue to monitor the local radio and television stations as they are also contacted requesting they include Avon Lake City Schools on their school closing lists.

School closings are also posted on our district website: www.avonlakecityschools.org. Parents and students are reminded not to call school or school officials with questions about school closings. Normally, the decision to close school is made between 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.



Band on Demand

LOCAL COUPLE WINS THE MARCHING SHOREMEN!

Mike and Cynthia Brittain of Legacy Pointe Parkway bought the winning "Band-on-Demand" ticket and as a result, the entire Avon Lake High School Marching Shoremen showed up to play for a half hour on October 7th. The band performed an array of songs and snippets including Lady GaGa's "Bad Romance" under the direction of band leader Dave Eddleman and Field Commander Alexander Riley.

Neighbors and vehicles pulled over to watch as buses rolled down the street, unloaded band members. The band then marched down the street to the Brittains.

"It's a dream come true," Mike Brittain said before he and his wife posed for a photo with the band's section leaders.



ALHS ART Students

ARTISTS UNITED in Mrs. Frey's Art Room for a presentation from the **NEW YORK School of Visual Art.**

Miss Quinn Dukes (right) flew out from our nation's Art Center to share a presentation



of university level art work with our ALHS students. Leigha O'Farrell (left), grade 12, learns about scholarship opportunities and careers in Art including Advertising, Animation, Illustration and Interior Design.

ALHS Fall Play

The Avon Lake Performin' Shoremen present ***Night at the Wax Museum*** on November 17 through 20, 2011. A blast from the past filled with pirates, outlaws, and royalty is entertaining for the whole family. When "historically challenged" students travel with their teacher to help at the Cultully Wax Museum, none of them could ever imagine what surprises were to come. After Cleopatra's magical bracelet awakens all the wax figures, chaos ensues and old rivals cause trouble for the aging museum owners. Blackbeard and his lady pirates, Butch Cassidy and his outlaws, along with the museum landlord are all in search of a great treasure that is supposedly hidden in the museum. Audiences of all ages will enjoy this humorous story which contains sword fights, rope tricks, a love story, and a surprise ending.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



Thomas R. Barone, CAA
Director of Athletics
Avon Lake City Schools



Tom.Barone@avonlakecityschools.org

440.933.5164 ~ Office Hours Monday-Friday 8:30 - 4:30

Athletics continues to play an integral part of the educational process at Avon Lake High School.

SWC Champions!



- ◆ **Boys Golf Team**
- ◆ **Volleyball Team**
- ◆ **Boys Cross Country Team**
- ◆ **Football Team**

Congratulations

LOOK AHEAD

Nov 20 or Dec 4- Fall Sports Awards
Assembly 6:30 p.m. in PAC.
Nov 15 & 17 - Winter Sports Picture Days
Dec 2 & 3 - 31st Annual Knights of Columbus
Wrestling Tournament

Winter Sports

Home Openers

Girls Basketball	-	Nov. 28 vs. Brunswick
Ice Hockey	-	Dec. 3 vs. Parma
Boys Basketball	-	Dec. 6 vs. North Ridgeville
Wrestling	-	Dec. 9 vs. Midpark & Marshall
Swim & Dive	-	Jan. 14 vs. Olmsted Falls

Niki Schroeder and **Brendan Aussem** represented the ALHS girls and boys golf teams at the State Tournament the weekend of October 21 with scores of 82/75 and 75/89 respectively. Niki was named to the 2nd Team All Ohio! Congratulations to both of these amazing athletes!



Have a QUESTION?

Contact Tom Barone at 440.933.5164 *or* email at Tom.Barone@avonlakecityschools.org *or* check us out on the Web at www.avonlakecityschools.org .





Spotlight on Students

Congratulations to Seniors:

Michael Foley, Ian Johnson and Zachary Scott on being named Commended Scholars in the National Merit Scholarship Competition.



Michael Foley



Ian Johnson



Zachary Scott

Congratulations to Senior:

Dontez Smith Marine Corps Elite Warrior of the Week.



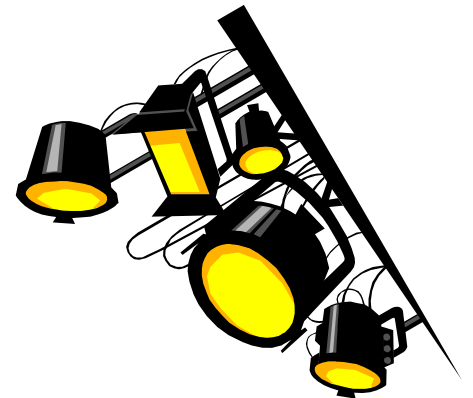
Spotlight on Teachers

Congratulations to:

Christian Fredriksen, Art Teacher, for receiving an Outstanding Teacher Award from the Graphic Design Area of the School of Art in the College of Fine Arts at Ohio University.

Congratulations to:

Krystine Shea, Language Arts Teacher, on receiving the Teacher of Honor Award from Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education.





Avon Lake City Schools Presents: "Building Resiliency in Your Child"

When: Monday, November 7th at 7:00 PM

Where: Learwood Middle School Auditorium

Who: All parents in the Avon Lake School District (*No children due to the nature of the content*)

What: Dr. Amy Klinger and Ms. Amanda Klinger will speak to parents about cyberbullying, bullying and also share strategies for parents on how to assist you in building resiliency in your child(ren).

Dr. Amy Klinger

- Assistant Professor of Educational Administration at Ashland University
- Executive Director of the Prae Group
- Facilitates training & course development in school safety for the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA through the Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium
- Conducted extensive research in the area of school safety
- Authored *In Search of Safer Schools*, along with other articles on school safety

Ms. Amanda Klinger

- Works at the unique intersection of school safety, the law and technology
- Worked as an advocate for youth charged with crimes in the North Carolina Juvenile Justice System
- Appointed to the board of directors for SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) a national nonprofit striving to decrease the potential for violence in our schools and communities by promoting meaningful student involvement, education and service opportunities in efforts to provide safer environments for learning.

***This presentation promises to be engaging as well as informative
and you will have time available to ask questions.***