

YOUR SCHOOLS

2017

Aurora City School District

From the Superintendent

By PAT R. CICCANTELLI
Superintendent of Schools



It's hard to believe we have completed the first quarter of school and the colder weather is setting in! It has been a great start to the school year with much to celebrate. I want to

thank our faculty, staff, the parents and students for everything they have done to help us to hit the ground running toward another successful year.

We began the school year with the excitement of experiencing a Solar Eclipse. Last month we held our annual Homecoming celebrations concluding with the Homecoming Dance that was attended by nearly 800 of our students. As a part of our Homecoming weekend we induct members into our three Hall of Fames. Congratulations to the Aurora Alumni Association's 2017 Hall of Fame honorees: Judie Byrum - Honored Educator, Drew Troy -Athletic Hall of Fame, and Dr. Jean Harris - Distinguished Alumni. At the end of October our entire 8th grade class traveled to Washington D.C. and our high school Service Learning class held their "Homeless Experience" spending the night outside our stadium and then attending school the next day; cold, tired and hungry!

There are several important changes as our 2017-18 school year begins. We have two new Board of Education Members to represent our community. The new

See Superintendent p. 5

AHS RANKED #1 IN NORTHEAST OHIO/#6 IN STATE OF OHIO

This year, *U.S. News and World Report* magazine analyzed over 22,000 public high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and then ranked the highest-scoring public high schools in the nation. Aurora High School was ranked by the publication at **#1** in Northeast Ohio, **#6** in the State of Ohio, and at **#202** in the nation for 2017.

The high schools were awarded gold, silver, or bronze medals based on state proficiency standards, college readiness, and teacher/student ratios. The Aurora High School rankings earned the school the distinction of being designated a Gold Medal winner which indicates

the greatest level of college readiness. There were a total of only 19 schools in Ohio that achieved the Gold Medal recognition.

Aurora School Board President Gerald Kohanski said, "Aurora has the best high school in Northeast Ohio, is ranked the sixth best of over 600 high schools in Ohio (top 1%) and has the lowest real estate tax rate of any of the fourteen excellent districts ranked below us in performance by U.S. News & World Report. The value proposition to the community is obvious."

See Best High Schools p. 2



AURORA SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ANNIE GROHE RESIGNS



The Aurora Board of Education announced the resignation of Board member Annie Grohe on August 16, 2017. Grohe has been a resident of Aurora for 18 years and has been an Aurora School Board

member since 2011. Grohe will be moving her residence out of the state.

Board President Gerald Kohanski said, "Annie Grohe has been a valued Board member for the last five and a half years. Her enthusiasm and dedication will

be difficult to replace and her positive attitude will be missed." Aurora Schools' Superintendent Pat Ciccantelli added, "I would like to thank her for her years of service on the Board and the dedication and support for our students and staff. She has been an active member of our school community, and a passionate supporter of our district."

Grohe told the current Board members, "It is with great sadness but much contemplation that I am resigning from the board effective immediately. It has been a pleasure to serve our great community with each of you."

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Dr. Paul Milcetic, Principal of Aurora High School, explained, "Anytime you are included in this type of recognition, it is an honor and a reflection of the quality of the students, staff, and community. The result of this environment and opportunity is that students perform at the highest levels on state and nationwide assessments and are also prepared for what comes next...college or a career. We are proud that we have earned this recognition and continue to move up the rankings, especially with so many excellent public schools in our region and state. It is an affirmation of the work we do with students and our community on a daily basis."

Superintendent Pat Ciccantelli said of the ranking, "We are very proud to have earned the recognition from U.S. News & World Report as the 6th best high school in the state, and #1 in northeast Ohio. This accomplishment is due to the outstanding students and families in our community and the excellent work of our board, administration, faculty and staff."

As an added accolade, Aurora High School has also been named #16 in the State of Ohio in *The Washington Post's* Most Challenging High Schools 2017 annual ranking. Aurora High School's national ranking has also moved up from #548 from #572 in the 2016 report.



MEET NEW BOARD MEMBER MIRIAM CONNER



Meet the Aurora School Board's newest member, Miriam Conner. Conner has replaced outgoing Board member Annie Grohe. Grohe resigned her

position with the Board on August 16, 2017. After a careful applicant review and interview process was completed, the Board selected Miriam Conner to fill the seat previously held by Annie Grohe until the expiration of the current term. If Conner desires to continue serving on the Board, she must run in the November 2019 general election.

Conner, who has a background and experience in the Field of Education, is an Aurora resident and an Aurora High School alumni. She went on to earn a B.A. in Youth Leadership from Judson College, in Elgin, IL and an M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction from Ashland University, in Ashland, OH. She is currently an adjunct professor at Hiram University in Hiram, OH and is the host for the *Northeast Ohio Parenting Magazine's* podcast. She has also been very active as a volunteer in the Aurora City School District holding many leadership positions, several of which have included Elementary PTO Secretary

and Coordinator for the Aurora Reads program.

Aurora School Board President Gerald Kohanski said, "The Board of Education selected Ms. Conner from a group of very well qualified candidates. Her extensive background and training in the Education profession were major determining factors in naming her to succeed Annie Grohe. We believe she will add a needed dimension to the Board in relating to certified staff concerns and will also be a resource in future contract negotiations. Her passion and dedication to education and for children were very evident in the interview process."

Conner said of her new Aurora School Board position, "I am excited and honored to become a member of the school board. I love the Aurora City

Schools and I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve the community in this capacity."



Miriam Conner being sworn in as the newest Aurora Board of Education member



Leighton Student's Ice Cream Treats



YOUR SCHOOLS

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Your Schools is a publication of the Aurora City School District. Its purpose is to keep residents of Aurora informed of current events and progress in the Aurora City Schools and to foster pride and a continuous communication link between the schools and the community.

Your Schools has been awarded the "Mark of Excellence" and "Best of the Best" Awards by the Ohio Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association for service as a school district newsletter. *Your Schools* is a quarterly publication, mailed to all residents of Aurora. For information, comments, or story ideas, e-mail Editor Stacey DeAnna at: yourschools@aurora-schools.org.

JANATOVICH BEGINS YEAR AS NEW LEIGHTON SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



As many may have noticed, Leighton Elementary School has a new principal in town. Mike Janatovich, who was previously the assistant principal at Harmon Middle

School, has replaced Paul Goodwin as the principal at Leighton School.

Goodwin, who has returned to his assistant principal position at Harmon Middle School for the 2017-18 school year, explained over the summer that, "One of my new responsibilities is to help him [Janatovich] transition to the new position. He is an excellent educator and is eagerly looking forward to this new opportunity. It is a great move for Leighton and for the district."

Goodwin also said, "From my point of view, it has been both a privilege and an honor to serve this building and its students – to serve and work with the families that have entrusted their children to us. Working with this staff has been my pleasure. I have learned much from them and they have consistently taken wonderful care of me. Leaving is never easy – this is my fourth move in the district in my twelve years of being here. In leaving, important friendships and memories become part of you. What an opportunity it has been!"

Janatovich began his career as an 8th

grade Social Studies teacher in the Parma School District, moved on to the Cuyahoga Heights School District where he taught Science and Social Studies for nine years. After receiving his administrative license he then became the district's assistant principal and athletic director for grades 6-12.

Janatovich explained that, "When I saw that Harmon Middle School had an opportunity to truly be an instructional leader and work with kids on a daily basis, I knew that really was where I wanted to be. So I came to Aurora and I've had three great years as assistant principal at Harmon Middle School and I've grown a lot there in that time. I had an opportunity to come to Leighton and I'm truly excited for this opportunity as well."

In regard to his three years spent at Harmon, Janatovich said, "I think one of the best things about Harmon was that Principal Mark Abramovich was a great mentor in that he didn't want to just divide it into just principal and assistant principal roles. Some middle schools traditionally say 'you be in charge of discipline' and that's your responsibility. We really collaborated on a lot of different things. I had a lot of opportunity to work with kids and an opportunity to work with teachers."

As far as his leadership style, Janatovich said, "Mr. J is a big kid. My wife always says I'm great at teaching kids because I'm a big kid myself. I'm really

passionate about education. A lot of the things I do in my free time are reading educational books. But I also like to really get to know the kids. That's my whole focus as an educator and as principal. I'm not going to be somebody sitting behind the desk and just standing around the hallways. I'm going to be engrossed in the culture of the building. I want to get to know what the kids are doing. I want to know what their interested in. You'll probably find me on the playground playing basketball...just having a good time with them so they know who I am as a person. So they can feel comfortable coming to me and they can feel safe if they have questions or they need something. They have that support system. I think building that culture with myself and the kids will really allow Leighton to become that place where they know it's a great place and they know they are going to learn and we're going to have fun doing it. It's just going to be something that's exciting for all of us."

Regarding his first few months on the new job, Janatovich explained, "The transition to Leighton has been a great one. Quickly, I have been able to see how awesome the kids here are on a daily basis. Their energy and excitement for learning is amazing and fun to be a part of. Each day brings something new, which is a rewarding challenge to be a part of." He added, "My biggest

Leighton p. 8

Congratulations to **AHS 2017 HOMECOMING KING HENRY REES** and **QUEEN SOFIA PALMA**.

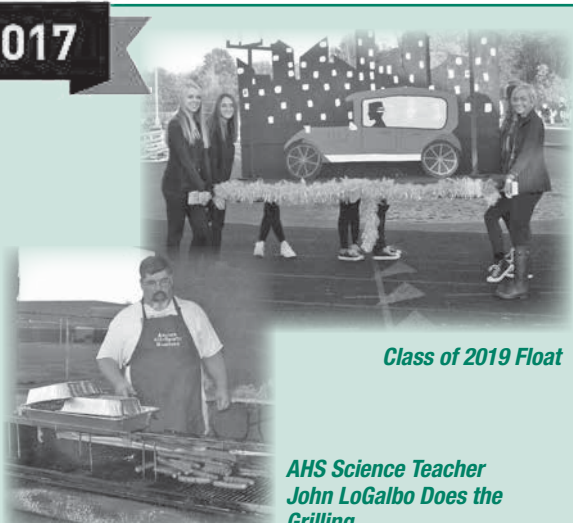


HOMECOMING 2017



AHS Homecoming Court 2017

Front (left to right) – Queen Sofia Palms, Ila Kerchenski, Olivia Cymanski, Mia Bizjak, Skyler Banbury, Krista Vidziunas, Kaleen Griman and Jane Puzder. Back (left to right) King Harry Rees, Ryan Stahl, Drew Albrecht, Jacob French, Brent Henderson, Bobby Dirda, Zach Gerber, and Nathan Harms.



Class of 2019 Float

AHS Science Teacher John LoGalbo Does the Grilling

Who's Who & What's New

If you haven't seen it yet, check out the **AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TESTIMONIAL VIDEO** that is available online. It can be found on the district website under Quick Links on the homepage entitled ACSD Testimonial Video.

Two new **LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES** have sprouted up in Aurora. The newest library additions can be found at Aurora High School (inside) and Leighton Elementary School. Little Free Library's encourage reading by offering a place where students can take a book or leave a book and enrich their reading experiences. The book selection is constantly changing with new treasures to explore. Other Little Free Libraries can be found at Kiwanis-Moore Park, Hawthorn Development, Craddock School Playground, Sunny Lake Park, Four Seasons Development, and at the New Life Assembly Church.

NEW ALUMNI SECTION ON HOMEPAGE

Located at the bottom of the Aurora City School District website homepage is a new section dedicated to alumni. The **AURORA ALUMNI** section contains photos and short biographies of past graduates who have gone on to accomplish a wide variety of notable achievements.

Congratulations to the **BACKSTAGE CREW** of the AHS drama production of "Anything Goes" who won a **DAZZLE AWARD** for technical execution. Local high schools (23) participated in the awards and this is the first year any Portage County school was allowed to participate. The Dazzle Awards are a local offshoot of the **JIMMY AWARDS** which celebrate high school musical theater productions. AHS was nominated for Best Musical, Best Scenic Design, Best Costume Design, and Technical Execution.



"Anything Goes" Backstage Crew - FIRST ROW - David Reilly, Katie Cochran; SECOND ROW - Ben Lucal, Abby Toth, Amairani Chavez, Hannah Mohon, Sydney Prusha; THIRD ROW - Hannah Most, Courtney Barbour, Sophie Roberto



AURORA BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT GERALD KOHANSKI was recognized on March 22, 2017 by the **OHIO SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION** for his

20+ years of service and commitment to our school board.

The annual **AURORA SCHOOLS' QUALITY PROFILE** for 2016-17 is now available online under the Quick Links section of the district website. This profile helps to characterize the overall educational value of your school district in areas that matter most to our community.



AURORA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the Aurora Alumni Association's 2017 Hall of Fame honorees: **JUDIE BYRUM** - Honored Educator, **DR. JEAN HARRIS** - Distinguished Alumni, **DREW TROY** - Athletic Hall of Fame. They were honored with a dinner at the Aurora Inn and during Homecoming ceremonies on October 13, 2017 at Veterans Stadium.



Aurora Alumni Association's 2017 Hall of Fame Honorees: Judie Byrum (Front, left) and Dr. Jean Harris (Front, 2nd left). Drew Troy was not present.

CLASS ACTS



Congratulations to our Teaching Staff 2016-17 Award Winner **Rose Brown** (Center, left) and Classified Staff 2016-17 Award Winner **Carol Heiskell** (Center, right).

2017 Graduate **BOBBY ARNOLD** was named the **OUTSTANDING SENIOR** for the **Class of 2017**.

Congratulations to 2017 graduate **Ian Doemling**



who earned the prestigious honor of being named a **U.S. Department of Education 2017 Presidential Scholar**. He is the **first ever** recipient of this award from AHS and is one of only five recipients in the State of Ohio.



During their internship with AHS Art Instructor **Sean Berroddin**, seniors **Amairani Chavez**, **Sakurako Reed** and **Madi Smith** painted a new mural located in the stairwell leading from Mike Rubin/Jenna Schadle's room up to Rob Albrecht/George Snider's room at AHS. The mural expands on the

greenhouse roots theme.

Recent hurricane relief efforts were underway at our school buildings. The staff at **Harmon Middle School** used matching funds from WalMart to raise \$1,350 for the Houston Red Cross. At AHS, **Service Learning Class students** worked on organizing a needed items drive and **National Honor Society** sponsored a male staff bake sale fundraiser. The funds were to be split between the Houston and Florida area relief efforts.

Miller and Craddock Elementary Schools were matched with **Helms Elementary School** in Houston, Texas to lend a helping hand. The Aurora school buildings collected needed supplies for the 480 students that were affected by the hurricane. Craddock

AHS GREEN/WHITE FLEX BLOCK SCHEDULE PILOT PROGRAM



Aurora High School (AHS) has been piloting a new Green/White Block Flex Time class period this fall. Administrators are testing this different

schedule, which involves reducing every student's eight class periods by 7 minutes each to allow for a 45-minute class period during the day to be used at the student's discretion. This change allows for a "Green Block" on Tuesday mornings and a "White Block" on Thursday afternoons.

During this flex time period students use an app created by the technology department to sign in and out of classrooms and locations throughout the building where attendance is always

taken. Some of the options for students during this time period include, but are not limited to, collaborating with peers, making up assessments, organizing a student program, participating in a club or activity, attending a guest lecturer or speaker, working with a teacher, or pursuing learning in an area they have interest.

AHS Principal Paul Milcetic explained, "The goal of this schedule is to move in a direction where students are beginning to understand the way in which they learn and begin to take ownership. We realize the level of participation of our students and the restriction of our current schedule, so we have committed to a trial of this schedule until Thanksgiving to see how the time is utilized. We then plan to collect data on its effectiveness. The

goal is that students take ownership of this time and learn to manage their own learning, a skill which will serve them well going forward. This schedule could become permanent, based upon how the pilot progresses. Either way, no change would be made on an ongoing basis until the following school year."

Milcetic added, "We are fully aware this philosophy is not engrained in our students and this type of freedom has not been a part of the typical school experience. That being said, we also know that the ideal scenario is that students are prepared to make productive choices about their learning in our school and upon leaving AHS. After all, the ultimate goal is to prepare our young people for the rest of their lives."

Superintendent — Continued from p. 1

members are Miriam Conner and Steve Sabulsky. Miriam replaced Annie Grohe, who resigned this fall due to her change of residency out of state.

Steve will be replacing Beverly Kuch who will finish her term at the end of the year. A big thank you to Annie and Beverly for their service and their commitment to our students and district! We also have a new principal in the district. Mike Janatovich moved from his role as assistant principal at Harmon to his new role at Leighton Elementary. We are excited to have such an outstanding administrator to take over the reins from Paul Goodwin.

The report card from the Ohio Department of Education was released in September. Our students achieved at some of the highest levels in the state! You can see the details on the Ohio Department of Education website. Our high school students also achieved at record levels this past year on the ACT and the Advanced Placement (AP) tests. Our mean composite score for the ACT this past year was a remarkable 25.1; the highest mark in school history! On the AP tests, we had an 85% passing rate on over 900 total tests. The national average for passing on these difficult tests is 60%. Congratulations to our students and staff! The Ohio School Boards Association also recognized Aurora High School for earning the "Momentum Award." In order to earn this award the

school must earn straight A's on all of the value added measures! Speaking of strong academic accomplishments; we have one National Merit Semi-Finalist (Maddie Brandes) and one National Merit Commended student (Justin Voyzey) this year to represent AHS. Congratulations to both.

Our students continue to shine in our extracurricular activities. Our Boys' Soccer team has had a great season winning the Suburban League title and an OHSAA Regional Championship as well. They played in the state semi-finals against Bay Village High School, but lost with a score of 2-1. The team had an outstanding season! Our football team earned a 13th consecutive trip to the playoffs. They finished strong winning six of their final seven games to earn this spot. Congratulations to boys' cross country runner Robbie Taylor who earned a trip to the state meet. The marching band hosted several local bands in our annual "Thunder Over Aurora" show.

School Safety is a priority and we have several programs and initiatives to help keep our students safe. Our School Resource Officer provides safety through her supervision, relationships with our students and staff, and through the many educational programs she provides in our district. We continue to use drug dog searches at the high school as a part of our program that we use to

deter the possession (and use) of drugs in our buildings. We use breathalyzers at dances as another preventative measure. We also work proactively by educating our students about drugs and alcohol. We have drug education embedded in our curriculum in grades 6-12 as well as school wide assemblies each year.

Want to find out more about all of the great things our students have accomplished? Our district produced a Quality Profile again this year. You can access it on our website at www.aurora-schools.org. It highlights many of the qualities and achievements that make our district so special. It includes the academic achievements of our students, their success in the fine arts and athletic programs and more. Also each month I host various members of our school community on the Cable 9 "Spotlight on the Aurora Schools" show. Check the listings as this show is run several times each month.

Now, and throughout the year, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. My goal as superintendent is to move the district forward in our quest to not only continue, but to exceed our current excellence. I am looking forward to a terrific year!

Pat Ciccantelli
Superintendent

SPORT REPORT

PAUL POWERS NAMED 2017-18 OHSA BOARD PRESIDENT

Aurora High School Athletic Administrator, **PAUL POWERS**, has been selected as the **2017-2018 OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (OHSA) BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S PRESIDENT**.

Powers began his one year term as president on August 10, 2017. Powers, who has been with the Aurora Schools' for the last nine years said, "I am honored to represent the Aurora City School District in my new role as President of the OHSA Board of Directors. I look forward to positively impacting interscholastic athletics as I work with other athletic administrators and school officials from across Ohio. Through these collaborative efforts, I hope to support our student athletes and to continue to assist them in building the important life characteristics of sportsmanship, teamwork, respect and responsibility."

Congratulations to AHS Senior **GAVIN BLUNT** who was featured on the **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS INSIDER'S** episode of **SPECTRUM SPORTS GAME BREAKER**. To

view Gavin's episode from 9/27/2017, go to Spectrum Game Breaker.



Senior **GAVIN BLUNT**

Congratulations to **JASON BIBZA**, the **COACHING STAFF**, and **PLAYERS** of the **BOYS' SOCCER TEAM** who earned the **SUBURBAN LEAGUE AMERICAN DIVISION TITLE**. They finished 5-0-1 in the league beating state power Revere and tying with another tough opponent, Copley. The team advanced to the **SEMIFINALS** facing the Bay Rockets, but lost with a score of 2-1. Making it to the **FINAL FOUR** is quite an impressive accomplishment!



Boys' Soccer Coach **JASON BIBZA** and his **TEAM** brought home **THE SUBURBAN LEAGUE AMERICAN DIVISION TITLE**.



In support of the month of October as **BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**, the **GIRLS' VARSITY** and **JV SOCCER TEAMS** joined together with team members from Avon Lake on the field to form the **PINK BREAST CANCER RIBBON**.



Senior girls' soccer team members (left to right) **KALEEN GIRMAN, OLIVIA CONCES, MORGAN RIEDEL** and **KAILYN FLEMING** supported Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



LADY GREENMEN SOCCER TEAM 9/11 Opening Flag Ceremony

The **LADY GREENMEN SOCCER TEAM** paid tribute to those who serve in the police, fire and EMS departments during their opening game ceremony on September 11, 2017. A flag was carried onto the field and the team personally thanked Aurora Police Chief, **BRIAN BYARD**, Aurora Fire Chief, **DAVID BARNES**, and American Legion Commander, **EARL COUNT**. The **HARMON SCHOOL CHOIR** performed the National Anthem.



Congratulations to the **GREENMEN FOOTBALL TEAM** that has qualified for the **PLAYOFFS FOR THE 13TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**.

Boys' Cross Country runner **ROBBIE TAYLOR** qualified for the **STATE MEET** and headed to Hebron, OH. His 23rd place finish earned him the trip. Congratulations!



Parents can take many important steps to help prevent and address bullying, intimidation or harassment among students at their children's schools. In conjunction with the month of October being designated as national Bullying Prevention Month, the Ohio Department of Education has compiled a website containing anti-bullying resources for parents. Go to the Ohio Department of Education EDCONNECTION Newsletter link under the Media tab at the top of the webpage for more information and resource links to help parents support their children.

School Counselor **Tammy Mazzella** thanked the staff for their support saying, "because of your generosity, I just ordered 288 primary composition notebooks which will be delivered to the school on September 26th."

Ms. McArthur's class had a visit from **Officer Rob** of the Aurora Police Department. The class made thank you notes for the Aurora Fire & Police Department's in honor of Patriot's Day 2017.



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION SEMI-FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

This year's AHS National Merit Scholarship Competition Semi-Finalist and Commended students have been announced. **Maddie Brandes** has been named a National Merit Semi-Finalist while **Justin Voyzey** was named a National Merit Commended student. The competition begins with over 1.6 million students taking the PSAT in more than 22,000 high schools with only 16,000 students being included in this prestigious honor, representing less than 1% of each state's graduating seniors!

Lauren Skonieczny's 2nd grade classroom entered a photo in a Purell "Hands on Learning" photo contest. The photo was voted one of the top 25 photos and won lots of Purell products for the classroom students.



Purell Photo Contest Entry



In honor of **National Make A Difference Day** (4th Saturday in October), 1st Grade Teacher **Katie McArthur's Class** collected canned goods for the **Aurora Food Pantry**.

CITY OF AURORA 4TH OF JULY GRAND MARSHAL 2017 ~ GERALD KOHANSKI

Congratulations to Aurora School Board President Gerald Kohanski who was chosen



as the Grand Marshal for the City of Aurora's 4th of July Parade. Kohanski has served on the Aurora School Board for 20 years while serving 18 years in the role of President. Kohanski is a tireless advocate for educational excellence. He has been instrumental in leading the Aurora district to national and local recognition.

Aurora's "From the Mayor" city newsletter stated, "He has led the school district to great heights in achievement and scholarship and has been instrumental in gaining the district national recognition in the top 1% of Ohio schools."

Kohanski stated, "I very much enjoyed seeing everyone on the parade route

and truly felt I was riding for everyone in the school district and the city. It was nice to join the ranks of the wonderful people who have served as past parade marshals. It was very special."

He explained, "We moved to Aurora thirty-one years ago and it has been a wonderful place to live and raise a family. All three of my children graduated from Aurora schools and they all have settled here, so my wife and I are lucky to have our three grandchildren living within five minutes of us and also attend the

Aurora schools as second-generation students."



Kohanski Led the Aurora 4th of July Parade 2017 as Grand Marshal

GERALD KOHANSKI RECEIVES KEY TO THE CITY



Aurora School Board President Gerald Kohanski was presented with the Key to the City of Aurora during the city's 4th of July ceremonies. Aurora Mayor Ann Womer Benjamin bestowed the honor to Kohanski during the city's 4th of July festivities. Kohanski also presided as the Grand Marshal for the City of Aurora's July 4th parade.

The Key to the City honor is bestowed upon esteemed residents and visitors of a city. The practice of honoring someone with a Key to the City originated from the Freedom of the City tradition in medieval times when the walled cities had gates that were guarded by day and locked at night. Having the key to the city symbolizes that the recipient has the freedom to enter and leave the city at will and is a trusted friend of the city.

Womer Benjamin said of the honor, "Jerry has been an incomparable leader for our school system and we have all reaped the benefits through schools that are second to none in Northeast Ohio."

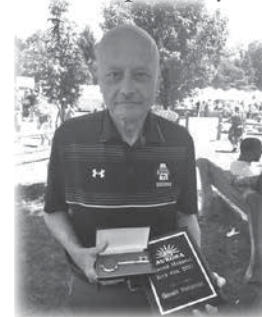
Kohanski said of the honors, "I was very grateful and honored to be selected

by Mayor Ann Womer Benjamin as Grand Marshall of the Aurora Fourth of July Parade and to receive a Key to the City from her. Mayor Benjamin has always been a strong supporter of our schools and I believe she was not only recognizing my contributions but also the outstanding performance of the schools and their positive impact on the community. We have an excellent, synergistic relationship with the City that is made possible by Ann's cooperative leadership style."

Kohanski presently serves on the city's

Tax Incentive Review Committee and has also served at one time on city planning and service committees.

Kohanski Received the Key to the City of Aurora



Dated Material

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Gerald P. Kohanski, President
Pam Mehallis, Vice President
Beverly Kuch
Zena Elliott
Miriam Conner

ADMINISTRATION

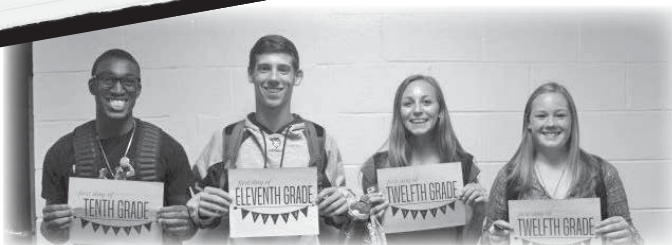
Pat Ciccantelli, Superintendent of Schools
William Volosin, Treasurer
Mike Roberto, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

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— November 2017

Your Schools



Leighton - Continued from p. 3

excitement is how invested the teachers and parents are in our students education. Each day, teachers are providing great learning opportunities for our students here at Leighton. It is awesome to also see parents involved daily in their student's education.

Janatovich said, "Being new to Leighton, my goal is to get to know and understand the school. Seeing the big picture of Leighton will allow me to best understand and utilize our resources appropriately. One thing that I am trying to do is build community between all grades. By pulling the school together for a giant pep rally, our Fall Festival parade, and in the winter, our WinterFest, it will allow us to come together as a building."

Janatovich also stressed his desire to make communication between parents, students and teachers' one of his top goals as Leighton principal, saying, "I'm really big into collaboration. I love talking to parents and working with parents." Janatovich can be followed on his Twitter account @mjanatovich.