

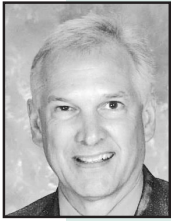
# YOUR SCHOOLS

2016

Aurora City School District

## From the Superintendent

By PAT R. CICCANTELLI  
Superintendent of Schools



I am happy and grateful that we have successfully finished another school year. It has been a pleasure and a great opportunity to serve as superintendent of this outstanding

district. I want to thank our board of education, faculty, staff and the parents and students for everything they have done to make it another fantastic year!

Our district has earned many great distinctions in the past and this school year was no exception. Leighton Elementary was nominated for a prestigious Blue Ribbon Award by the ODE and will hopefully join Aurora High School (AHS) and Harmon Middle School as national Blue Ribbon schools! AHS was recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of the finest high schools in the state of Ohio and in the entire nation. AHS was ranked 11th in the state and 348th in the nation out of more than 23,000 high schools. Both of those rankings put us in the top 2% of all schools!

We have 252 new AHS alumni! Thirty-seven of our students graduated Summa Cum Laude, meaning they had a 4.0 GPA or higher for all four years! Also, nearly 900 completed Advanced Placement courses and the corresponding exam. The graduation ceremony was a special evening for the

*See Superintendent p. 4*

## AURORA HIGH SCHOOL RANKS AMONG THE BEST HIGH SCHOOLS 2016 IN NATION BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT



Aurora High School (AHS) has been ranked among the Best High Schools by U.S. News & World Report for 2016. Earning this Gold Medal distinction (indicating the greatest level of college readiness) places AHS at #348 in the country among 2,673 schools evaluated in the rankings report. This positions AHS in the top 13% of the nation's top performing high schools. The gold medal rating is given to only 500 schools nationwide calculated by using College Readiness Index student performance results. The report is derived from data submitted by more than 21,500 public high schools nationally.

AHS was also ranked at #11 in the State with only 18 districts in Ohio receiving a Gold Medal. Of the 28,561 U.S. public high schools, 398 in Ohio made the U.S. News & World Report list. As for Northeast Ohio schools on the list, Hudson High School came in 9th in the state and 268th nationally. Aurora High School came in at No. 11 in the state and 348 nationally, and right behind it was Solon High School at No. 12 in the state and 369 nationally. The complete AHS overview results can be viewed on the U.S. News and World Report website under Education.

Aurora School Board President, Gerald Kohanski, said, "The Board of Education congratulates Aurora High School's students, parents, teachers, staff, and

administrators on another outstanding achievement. The high school has achieved high national rankings for several consecutive years, which indicates a sustained level of excellence in preparing our children for their futures. It is especially gratifying to see our high ranking in the critical STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) category which is a specific, positive reflection on our excellent science, technology and mathematics faculty. We recognize that we are very fortunate to have a strong family culture in Aurora that contributes greatly to our students' success."

Pat Ciccantelli, Superintendent of Aurora City Schools, stated, "Congratulations to the students, faculty, staff and administration at AHS for earning the outstanding rankings from U.S. News & World Report! We are very proud of the ongoing academic success of the students at Aurora High School. Our partnership with our parents and greater community, the support of the board of education and the outstanding faculty and staff has made this tremendous achievement possible. We are all very proud of the great success of our students!"

Of 28,561 U.S. public high schools, 398 in Ohio made the list.

Most of the Ohio schools that made the *See Best High Schools p. 3*

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## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



BETH BRYANT

(pictured with Lila Bultrowicz)

Craddock School First Grade Teacher Beth Bryant has just finished her 17th year as a teacher in the Aurora City School District. Her past teaching experience includes having had “an amazing student teaching experience in Australia.” Prior to that, Bryant worked at Merrill Lynch for seven years. She explained, “I live in Aurora with my husband Doug, my two daughters, Mia (6th grade) and Kylie (5th grade) and our two mix lab dogs, Koda and Jackson. I love to exercise, travel and hang out with my family!”

## KERI STOYLE EARNS MASTER TEACHER AWARD

Keri Stoye, 5th Grade math teacher at Leighton Elementary School, has been bestowed with the 2016 Master Teacher Award by the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation “recognizes and awards a group of Ohio’s most effective educators by presenting four individuals with top educator awards.” Stoye earned the Master Teacher Award which is an outstanding accomplishment and extreme honor recognizing the great work she does in her classroom. The award comes with a \$7,500 stipend.

## WE KNEW IT ~ CRADDOCK SCHOOL REALLY IS COOL!

Congratulations to Craddock Elementary School for winning the FOX 8 “Cool School” on-line contest with 4,185 votes. Craddock School was featured on the FOX 8 morning and afternoon newscasts on Thursday, on April 14, 2016. It can now be viewed on the FOX 8 website by searching under Craddock Is a Cool School. Congratulations to “Cool School” Craddock Elementary. We are very proud of you.



## AURORA CITY SCHOOLS' REPORT CARD RELEASED BY ODE

### District Ranked #3 in Northeast Ohio; #7 in State PI Score

Congratulations to the staff, students and administrators of the Aurora City Schools for their accomplishments on the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) 2014-15 State Report Card. The scores reflect achievement levels and student growth levels that are in the top 1-2% in the state. Our Performance Index score of 107.467 ranked us at #3 in Northeast Ohio and at #7 in the State of Ohio out of approximately 613 Ohio school districts. While these 2014-15 Report Card scores were released by the ODE this past February (which is later than the typical release time period of August), the 2015-16 scores are expected to be released in August 2016.

Superintendent Pat Ciccantelli explained that, “We are very proud of the academic accomplishments of our students. This year, the report card scores around the state reflected a significant downturn in the overall grades; our grades are a little bit lower than last year as well. That being said, our scores still reflect achievement levels and student growth levels that are in the top 1-2% in the state. Additionally, If you factor out the impact of students who opted out of the test, we would have earned 8A’s

out of 9 total grades. (There is further explanation on this topic below.) The state report card results are just one set of data that we use to measure our student’s learning. As has been mentioned in the past, we also look at our ACT & SAT scores, our Advanced Placement scores and other district data such as our own summative assessments. The outstanding scores on these assessments help confirm that our students and staff are doing an incredible job!

This past year our district experienced a change in testing participation that was different from any other year; several of our families made a decision to “opt-out” their students from state testing. This does significantly impact our accountability results from the state. **Our official State Report Card results have been diminished due to the fact that any student who does not participate is given a zero for the assessment on the district accountability measures.** Also, any student who does not take a test counts against our participation rate, which also affects our results. Parents opting their

*See Report Card p. 3*



## YOUR SCHOOLS

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Editor: Stacey DeAnna

*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](mailto:yourschools@aurora-schools.org).



# AHS EARNS ALL A AWARD FROM OHIO STATE BOE

Thomas Gunlock, President of the Ohio State Board of Education, has informed the Aurora City School District that Aurora High School has been awarded the 2015 All A Award. This is the first annual All A Awards that have been granted and they “recognize schools that have received A’s on every aspect of school performance measured on Ohio’s School Report Cards.”

Gunlock’s announcement explained that, “As one of the first winners of this award, you are part of an elite group of schools that are demonstrating high-quality teaching and leadership that result in high academic performance

for every type of student.” Gunlock stated, “Members of the State Board greatly appreciate your leadership and conscientious work of your teaching and support staff to bring about this great success. Please convey our thanks to your staff and parents for believing that every child can succeed and committing to make sure that every child does. Your school is a wonderful example for all Ohio schools.”

Aurora Schools’ Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Mike Roberto, said, “We are always grateful and proud of the recognition of the good work taking place at Aurora High School. The students, teachers, and administrators put in a lot of time

together to reach this level of success. The “All A Award” is a natural by-product of student learning (collaboration, problem solving, critical thinking, etc., which we call our student’s “roots”) which is really the driving force of the work being done at AHS.”

Aurora Schools’ Superintendent, Pat Ciccantelli, said, “We are very proud to be acknowledged for our student success and performance by the State Board of Education. It is a collaborative effort that has given us such outstanding results. I want to thank everyone at the high school and throughout the district for their efforts in making this level of success for our students possible.”

*Report Card - Continued from p. 2*

children out of taking the state tests does affect our report card grades and this changes the validity of the state’s accountability system.

Here is one specific example. Forty-eight of our students opted out this past year and this caused our Performance Index (PI) score to decrease significantly since each test counted as a zero. Without these zeros, our district PI score would have been well over the benchmark to receive an “A” (108). With these zeros factored in, we received a PI score of 107.5 which will reflect as a “B” on our report card. Only six districts in Ohio earned an “A” on their report card in the Performance Index category. Without the 48 opt outs we would have been a seventh district to earn that distinction.

Also, we received 1,600 out of 1,600 potential points for our District Gap Closing score. This score is a measure of how each subgroup performed as

compared to the entire district. This would then translate to a 100% or “A” score since we earned every potential point. There is one final measure that is evaluated before the state releases the final grade in this area and that is the overall passage rate for each subgroup. Due to an error by Pearson, seven of our students from one of our subgroups did not receive scores. This caused our passage rate for this subgroup to fall slightly below the benchmark. Under the current law, that requires the state to give us a one grade demotion. Therefore, we will receive a “B” as our final grade in this area despite the fact we earned every point.

As mentioned earlier, the State Report Card is just one measure and it is important to emphasize that it is only one piece of information among many that we use to inform our instruction. We are committed to student learning and will continue to provide support and guidance using rigorous curricula

that will help our students to develop as learners through their journey at the Aurora City Schools.”

## ACSD Performance Index Score 2014-15

**#7 in State of Ohio** (613 school districts statewide); **#3 in Northeast Ohio**

Solon City	Cuyahoga	111.007	A
Ottawa Hills Local	Lucas	109.906	A
Beachwood City	Cuyahoga	109.220	A
Oakwood City	Montgomery	108.103	A
Indian Hill Exempted Village	Hamilton	108.044	A
Wyoming City	Hamilton	107.959	A
Aurora City	Portage	107.467	B

*Best High Schools - Continued from p. 1*

list are in the Columbus or Cincinnati areas.

As for Northeast Ohio schools on the list, Hudson High School came in 9th in the state and 268th nationally. Aurora High School came in at No. 11 in the state and 348 nationally, and right behind it was Solon High School at No. 12 in the state and 369 nationally.

To be eligible for a state ranking, a school must be awarded a national gold or silver medals. Of those listed in Ohio, 18 were given gold medals, 137 silver medals and 243 bronze medals.

## GOODYEAR STEM DAY 2016

A group of Harmon School students accompanied Harmon Counselor Janice Biales and Media Services Director Mary Beckstrom to the Goodyear STEM Day held at Akron University on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The students listened to professionals, saw demonstrations and participated in hands on activities that exposed them to **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)** careers.



## Who's Who & What's New



A team of students representing

AHS recently won high honors in this year's **WORDWRIGHT CHALLENGE**, a national competition for high school students requiring close reading and analysis of many different kinds of prose and poetry (supervised by Mrs. **BROWN** and Ms. **HILSTON**). Participating with 631 school teams from all across the country, the school's seniors tied for eleventh (11th) place in the nation. Students at the school who achieved outstanding individual results in the meet included, **NATALIE BRIGGS** and **SAMANTHA MAROTTA** and **NICK MALINOWSKI**.



*Ian Doemling with his parents*



Congratulations to AHS Junior **IAN DOEMLING** who was recently awarded a certificate as one of 6 winners of the 14th District of the **AMERICAN LEGION AMERICANISM AND GOVERNMENT TESTING PROGRAM** for the 2015-16 school year. The winners represent the top 1% of those 850 exams that were given in Summit and Portage counties. Doemling was sponsored by **AMERICAN LEGION POST/UNIT 802** in Aurora.

The **FIRST LEGO LEAGUE JR. TEAM, NEON THINKERS**, won the **OUTSTANDING TEAMWORK AWARD** during the **FLL JR. WORLD EXPO** held in St. Louis.



**NEON THINKERS:** Left to Right - **MANISHA GIRN, ARMAANI SETH, LAURA RODRIGUEZ, ARABELLA RODI, CLARA BULTROWICZ, EMMA ROBB**

Three AHS students participated in the **ROTARY CLUB OF AURORA 4 WAY SPEECH CONTEST** on March 2,

2016. **ABIGAIL ANGRAM** (Dangers of Sleep Deprivation), **ANNASHA DESOUZA** (Understanding Gender Differences) and **GARIELLA YONERS** (Fear) represented Aurora in the contest. The contest chair was **AURORA SCHOOL BOARD VICE PRESIDENT PAM MEHALLIS**.

Congratulations to recent graduate **GABRIELLA YONKERS** who won 2nd place in the competition.

Good luck to our most recent

**DISTRICT RETIREES:**

**BETH CERVENY** (Bus Driver)  
**BILL SIEBENTHAL** (Bus Driver)  
**PETE KNISPEL** (AHS Head Custodian)

A new **CHROMEBOOK QUICK LINK** has been added to the district website homepage. It features links and videos with information that is pertinent to Chromebook care and usage.



**MARIO S.** and **BELLA S.** (center) joined FOX8 News anchors **KRISTI CAPEL & WAYNE DAWSON** for their **COFFEE BREAK MORNING**

**SEGMENT** in conjunction with the FOX8 Craddock Cool School airing.

Congratulations to Harmon School students on the Robotics Team **ROBOBACON 9494** for winning the 1st place research award for their Aluminum Saltcake project at the **FIRST LEGO LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT** in Arkansas. The global competition featured 72 teams from 16 different countries. Congratulations to **MIA BRYANT, AVERY HENDL, GRACIE KULAWIAK, JOSEPH LIANG, SAM LOGALBO, TOMMY LOGALBO, SAM NABRING, MICHAEL STOYCOS** and **THOMAS STOYCOS**.

The AHS Aurora Robotics Team **TBD** competed at the **FIRST TECH CHALLENGE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP** and returned from St. Louis as the new **WORLD CHAMPIONS!** Along with taking the title of World Champions, they also won the **CONTROL AWARD** which recognizes excellence in programming. Congratulations to our Aurora team member champions: **TYLER**

**THIEDING, IAN DEOMLING** and **KAMERON FRY**.

Congratulations to the AHS **DESTINATION IMAGINATION (DI)** team **CASUALLY EXAGGERATED** for moving on in competitions to compete in the **DI GLOBAL FINALS** held May 25-29, 2016 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Team members include: **GAVAN BAKER, JULIA CYRONEK, MADISON SMITH** and **ANDREW WELLS**.



In response to the growing drug abuse epidemic nationwide, the ACSD and Harmon/High PTO

offered a **DRUG AWARENESS & PREVENTION PROGRAM** on the adverse effects and impact of drug use on communities for parents, students and community members. You can now find the resources made available to attendees linked on the Aurora Schools' website homepage.

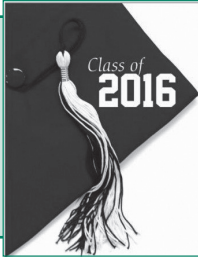
*Superintendent - Continued from p. 1*

graduates and their families. The class of 2016 earned \$8 million in scholarships and accepted a total of \$1.7 million in scholarships, including over \$120,000 in local scholarship money. Thank you to the numerous organizations that support our students as they move on to higher education. Our graduates will be attending schools from Ole Miss to Montana State with two colleges, Kent State University and The Ohio State University, becoming home to the greatest number of our students.

One final share about our district; the amount of community service and support that is provided by our students, staff and community is truly amazing. From our "Aurora for Others" fundraising, to our AHS Service Learning course and NHS service club, there are literally too many examples to mention here, but I am moved and touched by the generosity and compassion of our students and staff.

Our success is due to the tremendous support from the community and we appreciate the great partnership we have with our many stakeholders. Now, and throughout the year, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. My door is always open and I encourage feedback

*See Superintendent p. 7*



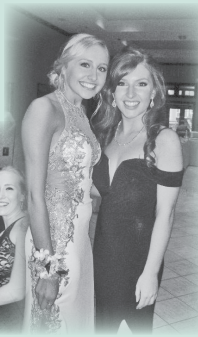
**Students Graduated:** 252  
**Class Colors:** Green and Silver  
**Class Flower:** White Rose  
**Outstanding Senior:**  
 Cal DiJulius

**Class Motto:**

*"What lies behind you and what lies before you is solely reliant on what lies within you."*  
 ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

*The Class of 2016 earned 8 million in scholarships and accepted approximately 1.7 million in scholarship money from universities across the nation.*

*Prom*



**SENIOR picnic** at Sunny Lake Park



**Katie McArthur's 1st Grade Senior Class 2016 Reunion**



*McArthur Class Reunion Selfie - Left to Right: Ava Julia Valley, Reece DeAnna, Brody Miller, Mitch Evans, Josh Nutting, Emily Keller, Sam Iammarino, Nathan Smith, Macy Pleveich, Tatiana Behringer, Katie McArthur and Becca Sagaris; Middle: Cal DiJulius*

**COMMENCEMENT**

*"don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." ~ dr. seuss*



*and so the adventure begins*



**SENIOR BREAKFAST**



**AHS 2016 OUTSTANDING GREENMEN AWARD WINNERS**



*Front Row: Charlene Westfall, Allison Hickey, Rachel Willis, Kayla French, Gabby Yonkers, Hannah Jones, Daniela Munoz, Caroline Lukehart. Second Row: Phuoc-Hanh Le, Melissa Foster, Dave Munson, Toni Taylor, Jay Price, Monika Biro, Nancy Tyrrell, Sam Iammarino, Melissa Lindley, April Nenadal, Chris Radtke, Craig Conley, Gayle Lewis, Conni Hilston, Cal DiJulius. Not pictured: Josh Rakow*

Congratulations to this year's Aurora High School Outstanding Greenmen Award winners. The Outstanding Greenmen Award is given to only 12 deserving seniors who are chosen based on their strong Academics, Service/Work, School Participation, Leadership & Character. The educators were chosen by each student for having had a strong influence on them.

## CLASS ACTS

Congratulations to **Alex Pigat** who was an **AHS 2016 Excel TECC National Technical Honor Society Inductee**. Students who receive this honor have maintained a 3.5 overall GPA and an 'A' in their career technical course.



**Excel TECC students, Dakota Gray (left) & Josh Friedler (right), received scholarships from the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association.**

Aurora Excel TECC Environmental Education senior **Josh Friedler** won the **Director's Award Scholarship** and was awarded \$3,000. Friedler will be attending West Virginia University.

AHS Senior and Excel TECC Construction Trade student, **Austin Biggs**, earned a Silver Medal and \$1,000 Scholarship from **Lincoln Technical College** at the **North Central Ohio Regional SkillsUSA Competition**.

A big "**THANK YOU**" goes to retired Craddock/Miller School Principal **Patty Minrovic** for filling in for Paul Goodwin as Leighton School Principal while he was on a short medical leave of absence this past spring.

Fourth Grade student **Philip Case** won a gold medal from the **Zaner-Bloser Cursive writing contest**.

Occupational Therapist **Alisa Deininger** helped him with his entry.



**Alisa Deininger (left) and Philip Case (right)**



**Aurora A "Canstruction"**

Harmon School's Computer Technology Instructor **Shawn Reilly's** class once again created their "**Canstruction**" projects. They raised over \$910 which bought over 1,600 cans to work with and then donated them to the local **Volunteers of America Aurora Food Bank**.



**PUBLIC SCHOOL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

*There is no "I" in Team, but we sure are glad there is "u" in our volunteers!*

In honor of **National Public School Volunteer Week** the Aurora City

School District would like to thank all of our volunteers who give so generously of their time to help make our district and students so successful. Our volunteers truly make a difference in the lives of our staff and students.

Portage County student honorees enjoyed a recognition breakfast in Kent on May 16, 2016. AHS students **Sam Iammarino** and **Phuoc-Hanh Le** attended as honored guests.



**Mariann Munn** (AHS Health Instructional Assistant) - **Excellence in Classified Service Winner**

**Jessika Gonzalez** (Craddock 1st Grade Teacher) - **Excellence in Teaching Service Winner**

AHS students **Henry Young, Samantha Miller, Lily Farr** and **Claire Sharpnack** participated in the **Beachwood Arts Council's (BAC) 21st Annual Juried Regional High School Student Art Show** in February 2016.



**Munn (middle, left) and Gonzalez (middle, right) were recognized at an Aurora BOE meeting**

U.S. Marshall **Pete Elliott** (right) spoke to students in each grade level (6th-8th) who attended the **Harmon School Straight A Luncheon**.



Congratulations to **Annie Walker** and the AHS QuizBowl Team for winning the annual **Portage County Quiz Bowl Tournament**. This is at least the 20th win in a row and possibly more!



Miller School students raised over \$2,000 and Craddock jumpers brought in over \$7,000 to the American Heart Association! Great job jumpers and thank you to **Mrs. Barnes** and **Gretchen Jessel** for coordinating!



Congratulations to all of the AHS music students who participated in the **OMEA Adjudicated event**. For a complete listing of students and their ratings, please go to the Aurora City Schools' website homepage.

## AHS NEW COURSE OFFERINGS 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

- AP World History
- Drama II
- Independent Learning Experience
- Yoga/Pilates, Stress Management, Relaxation



Congratulations to **Sean Berrodin** and **Brian Caponi** and their students as the AHS Art Department had yet another outstanding showing at the 2016 **Northeast Central Ohio Scholastic Art Competition** and the **Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition**. The Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition had 23 Aurora High School students with over 70 pieces of artwork moving on to the state judging competition **The Scholastic National Silver Key Award winners** this year are **Karlie Hirter** and **Rekha Bhupatiraju**. For a complete listing of student recognitions, please find the story on the Aurora Schools' homepage.

The **Science Olympiad Team** placed 5th in Regionals and came away with a 4th place State finish in Columbus by **Brock Nelson** and **Phuoc-Hanh Le** in Chemistry Lab.



The AHS annual **Academic Signing Day** took place on May 13, 2016. The honored students pictured from left to right are: **Tatiana Behringer** - Elizabethtown College; **April Burton** - Brandeis University; **Jaret Lieberth** - University of Mississippi (Ole Miss); **Caroline Lukehart** - Kent State University; **Emma Pollock** - Westminster College and **Aanya Samarasinghe** - Cornell University.

## AOA SOLO COMPETITION WINNERS 2016

Congratulations to the **Aurora Orchestra Association (AOA) Solo Competition Winners**. The 17th annual AOA competition took place on March 4, 2016 with orchestra students in grades 6-12 participating. For a complete listing of overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners from each grade level, please go to the Aurora Schools' website.

*See Class Acts p. 7*

## SPORT REPORT

### NCAA National Letter of Intent Day – February 3, 2016



Congratulations to **JOSH BURGER** (Wofford College), **A. J. KIMES** (University of Dayton), **NICK MALINOWSKI** (George Mason College), **JAKE MARTELL** (Malone University), and **VINNY VERBIAR** (Ohio Dominican) who are pictured (left to right) at their **NCAA NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT DAY SIGNING CEREMONY**.

Five of our athletic teams earned Suburban League championships this year. Congratulations to **GIRLS' SOCCER, BOYS' and GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY, FOOTBALL,** and **WRESTLING** for earning titles in our first year in the new **SUBURBAN LEAGUE**.

The AHS track teams qualified three individuals and one relay team for the Division 1 Regional Meet in Austintown. **DOMINIC ROBERTO** and **JOHNNY JACOB** both advanced to regionals. **ROBERTO** won the pole vault at 14'1" while **JACOB** placed fourth. **LEAH ANGELO** qualified in the girls' high jump (5') coming in at 3rd place. The girls' 4x800 relay team consisting of **SHELBY ADLER, OLIVIA GROHE, MADELINE SCHMITT** and **MARISSA SESNY** also qualified at 9:49.63 placing 3rd.

Update: **DOMINIC ROBERTO** headed to **OHSAA COMPETITION** in the Division 1 boys' pole vault and returned with a 13th place finish. He was the only Aurora Schools' track member to reach State competition this season. Great job Dominic!

### AHS NEW SCHOOL TRACK RECORDS:

**Girls Track: OLIVIA GROHE** set **TWO AHS GIRLS' TRACK RECORDS** for distance running in the 3200M (11:31.00) and 1600M (5:17.00).

**Boys' Track: DOMINIC ROBERTO-** Pole Vault 14' 1"  
**COLLIN GARNEK & VINNY VERBIAR** – Discus Relay 259'1"

**DOMINIC ROBERTO & JONATHAN JACOB-** Pole Vault Relay 25'0"

**HARMON SCHOOL ATHLETES** also set new school records: **GRANT HUFFMAN** placed first in the boys' 200 yard dash (24.18) with a previous record of 24.3. **ALEX BIBZA** went 17-11 in the league meet boys' long jump, taking 2nd place and erasing the 2009 record.

In other final track events, the ACSD boys' 4x800 relay team of **SOLOMON BIBZA, CRAIG CONLEY, KYLE DELROSA** and **DAVID BRANDON HOWARD** placed sixth; **BRANDON HOWARD** placed fifth in the long jump; **COLLIN GARNEK** was seventh in the discus; and **CHAYANNE CONLEY** and **SARAH HOLT** placed 12th and 13th, respectively, in the shotput.


Congratulations to the **GREENMEN HOCKEY TEAM**. Our team qualified for the Baron Cup tournament (first time in 7 years) and advanced to the 2nd round of the State playoffs. **JOE CAPRETTA** finished with 69 total goals and set the school record for most goals in a season. **TOMI PIRINEN** also broke the season assist record with 54 assists.

### Robbie Taylor

As an AHS freshman varsity runner last fall, **ROBBIE TAYLOR** earned the title of the **SUBURBAN LEAGUE'S "RUNNER OF THE YEAR" FIRST TEAM CROSS COUNTRY**. Taylor's first place finishing time of 17.29 won him the individual championship for the Suburban League American Conference held at Akron's Goodyear Metropark last fall.



The AHS Greenmen wrestling team won the **SUBURBAN LEAGUE AMERICAN CONFERENCE TITLE**. Aurora had 9 individual champions that cemented the title: **BUBBA ARSALANIAN, CONNOR BIZJAK, JARRON BREZOVEC, JOSH BURGER, ANDY GARR, COLE GAVIN, JACK GORMAN, COLIN MCNAMARA, TREVOR MITCH**. Congratulations to **BUBBA ARSALANIAN** who took 3rd place at Division I State competition. **JARROD BREZOVEC** placed 6th while **JACK GORMAN** took 8th place for great showings.

 **Citybeat-TV**, local web based television, produced a video interview of the **AHS BASEBALL TEAM** as a part of the **THOMAS MOORE COLLEGE TEAM OF THE WEEK** episode. To see the final airing, go to: <http://www.citybeat-tv.com/?page=watch&show=4&id=1026>

Congratulations to our **Spring Sports Athletes** who attained a 3.44 GPA average based on the 2015-16 3rd quarter grades. A breakdown sheet can be found on the district website.

### Class Acts – Continued from p. 6

We had the privilege of having **Shulamit Bastacky** come and speak to the Freshman class. Bastacky is a Holocaust Survivor who has dedicated herself to educating others in an effort to raise awareness of the dangers of ethnic persecution, prejudice, and hate. Thank you to **Charlene Westfall** for arranging the visit.



**Shulamit Bastacky (left) and Charlene Westfall (right)**

The **Harmon School Mock Congress** gave students the chance to present their House and Senate bills for consideration and gain feedback from **Congressman Dave Joyce** who attended the event. In his newsletter Joyce said, "For the 2nd time, I was able to participate in a Mock Congress at Harmon Middle School in Aurora. What an amazing event! I had the chance to listen to impressive students in their House and Senate present bills for consideration, and offer my feedback on them."

**AHS Principal Paul Milcetic** collaborated with **AHS Art Instructor Brian**



**Caponi** on a new banner design for the main entry hallway at AHS. Caponi used the banner design concept as a final project with his Computer Art 1 Class. Senior **Logan Kocianic** created the winning design and was awarded a \$50 gift card. The banners are now a welcomed addition in the AHS entryway.

### Superintendent - Continued from p. 4

and ideas. 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 another terrific year in 2016-17!

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Our Kindergarten students showed that they were 100 days smarter!



**PRINCESS PROM WAS "MAGICAL"**



The Aurora High School National Honor Society cordially invited all pre-K through 5th grade princesses to attend a Princess Prom, accompanied by their King or Queen, on March 5, 2016. This year's ball was proudly sponsored in part by Integrity Insurance Agency, Aurora Rose Dance Academy, Aurora Children's Early Learning Center, Doogan's, and the Aurora Parks and Recreation Department.



**ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM TAKES 2ND PLACE**

Congratulations to our Quiz Bowl team contestants that participated on the News Channel 5 game show Academic Challenge. They beat Brunswick in playoff competition to advance to the Championship round. Our Aurora team took on Solon and Wooster for the championship title and came away with a 2nd place finish earning them \$3,000.



*The AHS team consisted of front row, left to right: James Kristell, Colin Heath, Sarah Zhang, team advisor Annie Walker, and game show host Jason Nicholas*