



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT



It is with both gratitude and sadness that I announce my departure from the Amanda-Clearcreek Local School District. I am sad to leave my role working directly with so many incredible students, parents, teachers, staff members and this great community.

I am grateful for the time during which I've been fortunate enough to serve this district as the superintendent (2001-2008 and 2017-current), as the Primary principal (2008-2012) and as the Elementary principal (1994-2001).

I take heart knowing our students will continue being led into the future by our incredible group of teachers and staff.

I will continue working as the A-C superintendent through July 31, 2022. The A-C Board of Education will be sharing more information with the community about a superintendent search in the coming months; please direct any questions to Lana Fairchild, A-C treasurer, at 740-969-7262 or lfairchild@amanda.k12.oh.us.

Thank you again for your support throughout the decades! It has been a pleasure working alongside each of you to support our students, past and present.

With much gratitude,
J.B. Dick, Superintendent, Amanda-Clearcreek Local Schools

WHAT'S NEW

NEW CAREER-READINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Digital Content Development

You have likely seen the new digital scoreboard at the outdoor stadium, but did you know this technology has given our students a new opportunity to learn real-world job skills? High school students can enroll in the interactive media class, where they learn how to build digital content for the scoreboard (among other things). We are grateful for our community sponsors who funded this scoreboard and provided new career-readiness opportunities for our students!

The Spade Nation Sporting News

Students in the new sports marketing class work together to create "The Spade Nation Sporting News," a new electronic publication that covers A-C Athletics news and events. This new resource allows students to develop real-world job skills in the areas of graphic design, journalism and photography.

VOLUNTEERING

If you're interested in volunteering, and haven't already submitted a volunteer application, please contact the district office at 740-969-7250 – or your building's secretary – to obtain the volunteer form and handbook.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT A-C

Like so many in our area right now, we're short-staffed in several areas. If you or anyone you know may be interested in joining our district team, please submit an application through the district website. Recent openings include substitute teachers, bus drivers, aides, custodians and cooks.

ELEMENTARY RECYCLING PROGRAM



We have partnered with Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency to bring recycling back to our schools. Our fourth graders have taken on the responsibility of collecting and emptying the bins for the elementary side of the building. They take time out of the beginning of their recess each Friday to empty the contents of the bins.

STAY  CONNECTED!

If you are on Twitter and would like to hear about more A-C happenings, please follow:

- Mr. Dick: @acaces_supt
- A-C District: @amandaacesk12
- A-C Athletics: @AC_Athletics1
- A-C High School: @ACHS_Aces
- **NEW:** Elementary: ac_elementary

 **FIND US ON FACEBOOK!**

AMANDA-CLEARCREEK CORE VALUES ...

We believe our success as a school district is the shared responsibility of students, home, staff and community.

We believe each of our students will graduate prepared to enter society as critical, independent thinkers.

We believe all our students can learn when provided with a safe environment that values and respects them as individuals.

A-C PRIDE: COMMUNITY & GIVING BACK

WE WANT TO HIGHLIGHT OUR ACES WHO ARE GIVING BACK IN MEANINGFUL WAYS. WE'RE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO STRIVE FOR GREATNESS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM!



NEW COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASS

Our new community service class, designed to give back to those in need, is made up of 30 students in seventh and eighth grades. Earlier this year, the class was asked to whom they wanted to write letters of encouragement and they overwhelmingly chose the Critical Care staff at Fairfield Medical Center.

Each student hand-wrote an individual letter to several FMC Critical Care employees, and together, distributed a total of 256 letters. The students wrote about personal experiences at FMC, offered words of encouragement and thanked employees for their resilience during a difficult time in health care.

They also invited the employees to a home football game, where the students grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for those who were able to attend. Prior to the game, the students held a car wash to raise money to purchase food and drinks for the dinner.

HOPE SQUAD

The high school and middle school have launched the HOPE Squad, a peer-to-peer suicide prevention program. HOPE stands for "Hold On. Persuade. Empower."

The program kicked off with students watching a video together about the HOPE Squad's purpose. Students then completed a nomination form and voted for Hope Squad members who they believe are friendly and trustworthy.

Once elected, HOPE Squad members go through intensive training with approved HOPE Squad organization curriculum, covering topics like suicide warnings, bullying, depression and other social emotional needs of students. Through education, training and peer intervention, the purpose of the HOPE Squad is to prevent youth suicide and build peer-to-peer trusting relationships.

The HOPE Squad is comprised of students in each grade level and is overseen by Mrs. Gina Neff at the high school and Mrs. Robin Pfouts at the middle school.



A-C MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The A-C Mentorship Program was developed to assist students at A-C Primary and A-C Elementary with their academic and social needs. Currently, 23 A-C High School students volunteer to serve as mentors.

Mentors help students in grades K-5 with academic work including spelling, reading, math facts and homework. The mentors also develop employability and leadership skills, and are rewarded in seeing the academic and social progress of the students they mentor.

CHELSEA HEDRICK'S CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

The Chelsea Hedrick's Christmas for Kids coin drive was a huge success! Together, our K-8 students and staff donated **\$7,351.21** – just shy of the \$7,380.94 record set in 2011. We are so grateful for the community's support of this wonderful cause. Coins are weighed by class, and the top two classes in each building win a pizza party to celebrate.

Primary Total: 1,028 lbs. and 12 oz.

Top two classes: Ms. Pugh's kindergarten class and Mrs. Smith's first grade class

Elementary Total: 1,472 lbs. and 8 oz.

Top two classes: Mrs. Meyer's fourth grade class and Ms. Patton's fourth grade class

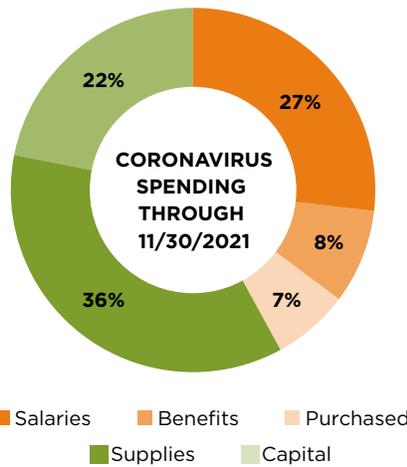
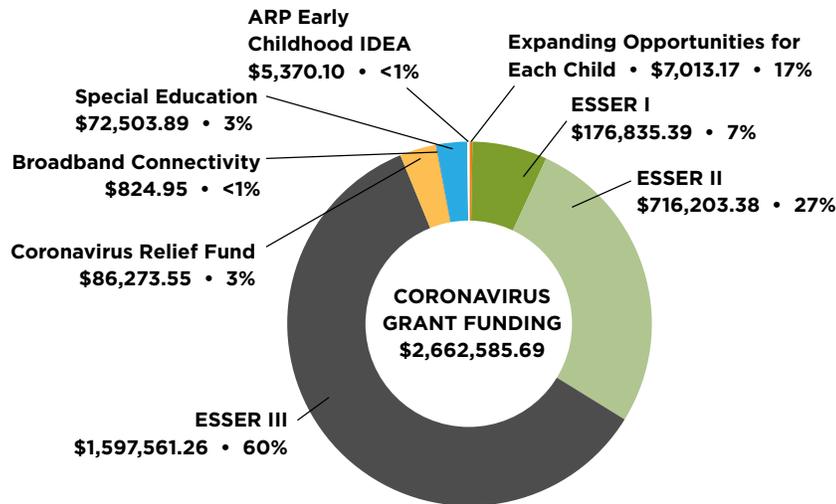
Middle School Total: 756 lbs. and 1 oz.

Top two classes: Mr. Leist's (orange day) sixth grade class and Mrs. Fyffe's class

Great job Aces! A special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Hedrick and their elves who put in the time and effort to collect, weigh and sort the money.

FINANCES IN A FLASH

Schools received federal funding to help cover costs related to COVID-19. Safety protocols and procedures required our district to purchase additional goods and services to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We have included a breakdown of this funding, and related expenditures, so you can see how COVID-19 affected our district this year.



As a result of this additional funding, we have been able to make infrastructure improvements across the district. We have:

- Increased WiFi technology throughout the entire campus.
- Enhanced our HVAC systems to increase indoor air quality and build energy savings.
- Trained two emotional support dogs.
- Added new lunchroom seating to allow for more distance between students while eating.
- Added staff members to address COVID-19-related learning gaps and to shrink class sizes for more individualized learning.
- Enhanced our ability to care for students on a greater level by adding support staff, school psychologists, social workers and onsite counseling.
- Enhanced online curriculum to streamline online and in-person options, ensuring all students are learning at the same pace.
- Provided Chromebooks to all students, K-12, to enhance learning opportunities – both in school and at home.
- Replaced drinking fountains with water bottle filling stations.
- Purchased new equipment for the fitness weight room in the 3-12 building.

VETERANS DAY RECAP



PRIMARY BUILDING

Primary students and staff joined with veterans and community members on the front lawn. They said the Pledge of Allegiance together, listened to the High School Choir sing "God Bless America" and had a moment of silence while Mr. Reed West played TAPS.



ELEMENTARY BUILDING

Elementary students talked with local veterans, and enjoyed a Walk of Honor and a Veterans Day Game. It was a great day learning from those who have made tremendous sacrifices for our country.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

To celebrate Veterans Day this year, the Social Studies Department, National Honor Society and A Community Cares teamed up to send care packages to troops. A-C received 629 items, allowing us to send 12 care packages to currently serving troops.

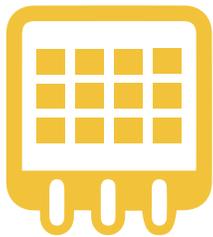
ACHS/MS also collected monetary donations to send a local veteran on an Honor Flight. The Primary raised \$772.69 and the HS/MS raised \$1,059.69. The HS/MS teachers raised \$270 through "Jeans for Troops" with proceeds going to the GI Go Fund.

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You asked
 for more communication ...
& we listened!

OPEN TO SEE
ACES GIVING BACK,
FINANCIAL UPDATES
& MORE

SIGN UP
FOR OUR A-C
E-NEWSLETTERS
 bit.ly/2DXWUEJ
 or go to Resources on the A-C website.



DISTRICT CALENDAR

- FEB. 21 - NO SCHOOL**
 Presidents Day
 - FEB. 22 - NO SCHOOL**
 Parent Teacher Conferences
 - FEB. 23 - Two-Hour Late Arrival**
 - MARCH 30 - Two-Hour Late Arrival**
 - APRIL 15-18 - NO SCHOOL**
 Spring Break
 - APRIL 19 - NO SCHOOL**
 Teacher In-Service
- For a full 2021-22 school calendar, please visit the district website.*

Sign up for AC text Alerts!
 Text TEC to 64085
 to sign up for
 text alerts.

- Message from Your Superintendent
- What's New
- A-C Employment Opportunities
- Aces Giving Back
- Finances in A Flash
- Student Happenings

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STUDENT HAPPENINGS



A-C FFA MEMBER EXCELS IN CONTEST

Please join us in congratulating A-C Graduate Morgan Anderson, who represented the Amanda-Clearcreek FFA Chapter and Ohio at this fall's National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Morgan placed second in the nation in her public speaking contest! This is an incredible accomplishment and we're so proud of her. She was able to compete at the national level because she won the Ohio FFA Public Speaking contest this past spring during her senior year at ACHS.

ACESWAY VIDEOS

Have you seen the AcesWay video series on social media? A-C staff wanted to find a way to teach different parts of the handbook to students through videos, and the AcesWay video idea was born! The series has expanded to cover a wide range of topics, and the impact of these videos on school culture has been immeasurable. Mr. Grubb, Mr. Langermeier and Mr. Daulton have created an audience eager for our AcesWay Wednesdays.

If you haven't seen the AcesWay videos yet, go to youtube.com and type "#acesway" into the search bar.