



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT



As we kick off another school year, I can't help but think back to this time last year when we were one of the few districts in Central Ohio that provided a face-to-face instruction option for families. We are fortunate at A-C to have a Board of Education who continues to put the needs of students, teachers, staff and the community at the forefront of every decision.

We knew last year's learning model would be challenging, and we were so overwhelmed by not only the support of our students and their families, but also the dedication of our teachers and staff to learn new ways of teaching and adapting at a moment's notice.

As we kicked off this school year, we knew face-to-face instruction was critical for our students. We also knew an online learning option was important for some of our older students and families, so the Aces Digital Academy has continued providing students in grades 9-12 the ability to access a quality A-C education at their fingertips.

We look forward to another great school year at A-C and are grateful for the ongoing support of our community!

J.B. Dick
Superintendent, Amanda-Clearcreek Local Schools

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

We've included information here to help you get to know some of our new team members. We'd love for you to get to know them all, so please sign up for our e-newsletter! We'll feature information about new (and existing) team members throughout the year to help you get to know the staff and teachers of A-C. Please help us welcome the following new teachers and staff members to our district!

- David Barnett, IS - Middle School Teacher
- Evie Bates, 3rd Grade Teacher
- Alisa Black, ASL Interpreter
- Sarah Bower, 2nd Grade Teacher
- Jourdan Carroll, Custodian
- Whitney Fiedler, 2nd Grade Teacher
- Anna Flint, Custodian
- Michelle Fraley, Primary School Principal
- Jennifer Goss, Preschool Aide
- Sarah Grossnickle, 1st Grade Teacher
- Amy Hines, Primary Secretary
- Kelly Hock, Network Administrator
- Rachelle Hultz, IS - Middle School Teacher
- Kaileigh Marsch, Preschool Teacher
- Angela McLean, Occupational Therapist
- Ashley Mount, Preschool Aide
- Lisa Ontiveros, Career Connections Teacher (Career Center)
- Kaz Pata, Athletic Director
- Lauren Ramsburg, IS - 3rd Grade Teacher
- Andrea Ray, 5th Grade Teacher
- Savannah Sahr, IS - 3rd Grade Teacher
- Lisa Sharp, Secretary - IS and PS
- Shana Snodgrass, IS - Elementary Resource Room
- Heather Spafford, Preschool Teacher
- William Stapleton, School Psychologist
- Lauren Wills, IS - 5th Grade Teacher
- Margaret Wood, Speech Pathologist
- Terri Young, 3rd Grade Teacher

MEET YOUR PRINCIPALS



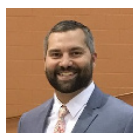
Michelle Fraley
New Primary Principal
mfraley@amanda.k12.oh.us
740-969-7254



Aimee Cochran
Middle School Principal
acochran@amanda.k12.oh.us
740-969-7252



Mike Brosovich
New Elementary Principal
mbrosovich@amanda.k12.oh.us
740-969-7253



Scott Hinton
High School Principal
shinton@amanda.k12.oh.us
740-969-7251

STAY CONNECTED!

TEXT ALERTS

Sign up for A-C text alerts: Text TEC to 64085.

E-NEWSLETTER

Sign up for the A-C e-newsletter on the district website under the Resources + Forms tab.

TWITTER

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: @amandaathletics
- A-C High School: @ACHS_Aces

FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/Amanda.Clearcreek.Schools.

WHAT'S NEW

RESET, RESTART PLAN

With the help of our Board of Education, we developed the Reset, Restart plan for the 2021-22 school year. For real-time information, please visit the district website.

VOLUNTEERING

We're excited to welcome volunteers back in the doors this year! If you're interested in volunteering, please contact the district office at 740-969-7250 – or your building's secretary – to obtain the volunteer form and handbook.

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.

CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG? WE CAN ... WITH



Constructively handling big emotions can be challenging for us all, especially children. Whether a child is innocently left out on the playground or encounters a full-fledged argument with a friend, conflicts can be damaging to one's outlook and friendships if not handled delicately.

Our teachers and staff try to prevent and mitigate confrontations whenever possible, but it's also important for children to be equipped with the tools to constructively and appropriately manage conflicts on their own. We've provided some tips and resources to help you prepare your child for the conflicts and confrontations he/she will inevitably face.

NAVIGATING CONFLICT & CONFRONTATION

ADDRESS FEELINGS FIRST.

To ensure children can think before they act, they must first identify the emotions they're feeling – embarrassment, anger, disappointment, frustration, hurt, jealousy, betrayal, etc. Identifying these emotions, and their intensity, can help kids determine if they're in a mental state to constructively react to the initial action, or if they need time to calm down first.

TOOL: The Stoplight



A red, yellow and green stoplight is a great visual tool to share with kids of all ages to help them identify the intensity of their emotions.

Red Intense emotions that will likely enflame the conflict; walk away for a moment to cool down before addressing the conflict.

Yellow Too emotional to constructively handle the conflict; take a few deep breaths before addressing the conflict.

Green Emotions are in an appropriate range to engage in effective conflict resolution skills.

Red Scenario: Sue takes a ball from Johnny. Johnny gets upset and yells, "I don't want to be your friend anymore!" Sue and Johnny are no longer friends (at least for the time being).

Green Scenario: Sue takes a ball from Johnny. Johnny feels upset and hurt, and recognizes his intense emotions are in the red zone. He walks away to allow his emotions to calm down. Johnny then says, "I feel hurt when people take things away from me. Can you please give the ball back to me?" Sue and Johnny remain friends; both Sue and Johnny leave the situation without lingering, unresolved conflict.

PINPOINT WHERE THE CONFLICT STARTED.

Once big emotions are controlled, a child can think clearly enough to identify the source of conflict. Sometimes, this is very simple; in the example above, Sue took the ball from Johnny. But it may not be that simple ... Sue may have made another close friend, leaving Johnny to feel left out (the true source of the big emotions). Sometimes, especially with younger children, adults can help work through conflicts to help identify the root of their emotions.

BRAINSTORM WAYS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

As adults, we are programmed to help solve problems. But, with children, the best long-term learning comes from them working through their own problem solving. We can certainly guide this process, but we must teach children to both clearly communicate his/her feelings and wishes, and also to listen to feelings and wishes of the other party. Together, both parties must work through a mutually beneficial solution.

TOOL: Practice Brainstorming Solutions



Encourage your child to share a recent conflict from his/her point of view and write down/share three potential solutions for the conflict.

Then, have the child repeat this process from the other person's point of view. Encourage your child to find a solution that works for both parties. Tip: Write down the solutions on small pieces of paper or popsicle sticks and store them in a jar. The next time your child can't identify a solution, use the jar as a starting point.

PROVIDE A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

The most important thing you can do to help your child handle conflict constructively is to be a safe space in their time of need. Oftentimes, children need to talk through a situation to fully process it, and parents/guardians should offer that safe space for children.

TOOL: "Tell Me About Your Day"



Having a daily conversation about each of your family members' day makes this process routine, and thus less threatening on a bad day. If you notice your child is not his/herself, indirectly ask about their day and ask non-probing questions – the key is to let your child open up to you without forcing the conversation. Talk about your day and how you handled challenges to encourage your child to share his/her struggles.

BULLYING HOTLINE

Amanda-Clearcreek is committed to the health, welfare, well-being and safety of all students. We provide an online and telephone incident reporting tool to report incidents of bullying, hazing, harassment and safety concerns.

CALL: 740-675-1970 (option 7) | VISIT: amanda.tipline.info

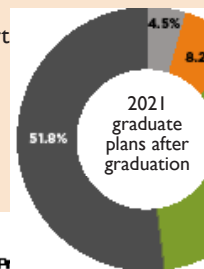
To learn more about our efforts to combat bullying in our district, go to www.amanda.k12.oh.us/ac-bullying.html.

STUDENT HAPPENINGS

ACHS CLASS OF 2021

Earlier this year, 110 students graduated as part of the ACHS Class of 2021. We are proud of our students' hard work and dedication, both inside and outside the classroom. We wish these graduates much success in the future. Congratulations on becoming an Aces Alum!

Attend College/University
Enter the Workforce
Enter the Military
Attend a Technical/Trade Program



HERE ARE THESE HELPFUL TIPS!

PREVENTING CONFLICT

Conflict is unavoidable in life, but the ultimate goal we should teach our children is to prevent conflict when possible. We've shared some tips below to help.

INCLUDE OTHERS. Teach your child to be an includer. If your child sees another student playing alone, encourage him/her to invite the other student to join friends in their activity.

BE SUPPORTIVE. Encourage your child to be supportive of his/her peers, both in good times and in bad. Being another child's cheerleader during times of success and a pick-me-up encourager during times of challenge are important leadership skills to learn from a young age.

USE THE "KIND, TRUE, NECESSARY" MODEL. Teach your child to always ask if something is kind, true and necessary before speaking.

BE A GOOD LISTENER. One of life's greatest skills is being a good listener, so teach your child this valuable trait from a young age.

BE A CLEAR COMMUNICATOR. This life skill can prevent a lot of heartache, misunderstanding and frustration for children and adults alike.



FINANCES IN A FLASH

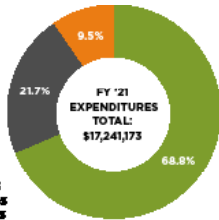
We are excited to share that our financial outlook is better than we projected through the five-year forecast. This is due to several factors, most notably: controlling costs; avoiding large, unanticipated variances; and accruing local funding through the recent tax levy. The forecast's financial landscape helps our Board of Education make sound financial decisions.

As you likely know, our buildings are aging and are approaching the 20-year mark, requiring maintenance for parking lot surfaces, windows, doors, heating/cooling systems and more. The five-year forecast enables the district to develop a detailed capital plan to prioritize and responsibly fund these critical infrastructure projects.

A few notes from this year compared to the previous year:

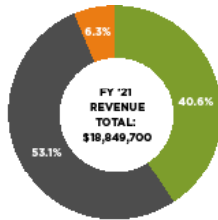
- The large increase in local funding is due to the new income tax levy accrual.
- The increase in state funding is due to the governor's restoration of the spring 2020 budget cuts.
- Other revenue (including funding from open enrollment, classroom fees, etc.) is slightly down.
- Expenditures are slightly up, largely due to increased salary and healthcare costs for employees.

NOTE:
Expenditures are \$352,567 lower than forecasted.



■ Salaries & Benefits
■ Purchased Services
■ All Other Expenditures

NOTE:
Revenue is \$69,190 lower than forecasted.



■ Local Tax Revenue
■ State Revenue
■ All Other Revenue

FFA - A LOOK BACK ON SPRING & SUMMER

A-C FFA STUDENTS STAY ACTIVE OVER SUMMER

As you can imagine, summer is generally a slow time for our students. However, the members of the A-C FFA Chapter have been active throughout the summer.

- Four students attended Ohio Leadership Camp
- 43 students attended Ohio FFA Camp
- 12 students attended the chapter officer retreat in Kentucky
- 14 students attended the top spring fundraiser's trip to Kentucky
- Morgan Anderson, a 2021 ACHS graduate, spent her summer fulfilling her duties as the Ohio FFA Vice President. She represented A-C and Ohio in Washington D.C., and worked at Ohio FFA Camp.



A-C PRIDE: A COMMUNITY CARES

KICKIN' IT TO CANCER

Aces Against Cancer and Aces everywhere are Kickin' It To Cancer in 2021. Join us during the week of Sept. 13-18 as we honor and remember our loved ones impacted by cancer and raise funds for cancer research and patient care.

2021 Aces Against Cancer Schedule

- 9/13, 7 p.m. – Boys Soccer vs. New Hope
- 9/14, 5/6/7:30 p.m. – Girls Volleyball vs. Bloom Carroll
- 9/15, 5-9 p.m. – Chipotle Night (E. Main St., Lancaster)
- 9/15, 7 p.m. – NEW Community "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes" at the A-C track along with a prayer service in honor/memory of those impacted by cancer. FREE event.
- 9/17, 7 p.m. (events start at 6:15 p.m.) – Football vs. Bloom Carroll. Football team and cheerleaders will wear jerseys in honor or memory of someone impacted by cancer; Survivors Event, new "Boot Corral", 50/50 and more.
- 9/18, 6:30-10:30 p.m. – NEW adult (21 and up) event: Kickin' It To Cancer. The evening includes a BBQ dinner, square dancing, reverse raffle, silent auction and more at Jem View Farm. Tickets are \$50 (price includes one ticket for reverse raffle) and may be purchased at acomunitycares.org.

Aces Against Cancer was started in 2015 to raise funds for cancer research, to honor/remember those impacted by cancer, and to encourage our students to get involved and pay it forward. To date, AAC has raised over \$91,570 for cancer research and cancer patient care. AAC is put on by A Community Cares with assistance from the A-C Athletic Department.

KINDNESS CLOSET

The Kindness Closet was developed in 2018 to support A-C school families in need. The Closet offers personal hygiene items such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, socks, underwear, sheets, washcloths, towels, etc. Families can go to the website and fill out a form to request items; all requests are handled in a confidential manner.

To help, you can make a monetary donation to A Community Cares (memo: Kindness Closet) or donate gift cards to purchase needed items.

A COMMUNITY CARES

This non-profit was created in January 2020 as an umbrella for philanthropic initiatives in the community, including Aces Against Cancer and Kindness Closet.

LEARN MORE:
WWW.ACOMMUNITYCARES.ORG

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Lancaster, Ohio 43130
 Permit No. 1024

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

OPEN TO SEE
TIPS FOR MANAGING &
PREVENTING CONFLICT,
NEW A-C TEAM MEMBERS
& MORE

FOR A FULL
 2021-22
 SCHOOL
 CALENDAR,
 PLEASE VISIT
 THE DISTRICT
 WEBSITE.



- NOV. 25-29: NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving
- NOV. 24: NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day
- NOV. 17: Two-Hour Late Arrival
- NOV. 2: NO SCHOOL, Parent Teacher Conferences
- OCT. 27: Two-Hour Late Arrival
- OCT. 22: NO SCHOOL
- OCT. 11-15: NO SCHOOL, Fair Break
- OCT. 8: End of First Nine Weeks
- SEPT. 29: Two-Hour Late Arrival
- SEPT. 27: NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day
- SEPT. 6: NO SCHOOL, Labor Day

- A Community Cares
- Student Happenings
- Finances in A Flash
- New A-C Team Members
- Volunteering at A-C
- Navigating Conflict & Confrontation
- What's New
- Message From Your Superintendent

DISTRICT CALENDAR

IN THIS ISSUE:

MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

MIKE BROSOVICH – NEW ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Mr. Brosovich is entering his eighth year at A-C. Prior to becoming the new elementary principal, he taught 8th grade science, where he loved learning new things along with the students. As he shared, "I learn from them as much as they learn from me."

MICHELLE FRALEY, NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Ms. Fraley has been in education for 18 years as both a teacher and Dean of Students, most recently at Logan Elm School District. She has a passion for primary education and helping students meet their full potential. "I believe in making decisions that put students first," she shared. She enjoys travelling, cheering on the Buckeyes and spending time with her family – especially her newest addition, Fynn, who is six months old.

KAZ PATA, NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Mr. Pata is entering his sixth year in education, after serving five years as a physical education teacher at the elementary, middle and high school levels. He's spent the last two years as the assistant athletic director at Chillicothe High School and has coached football, basketball, and track and field. "I'm excited to be working in a role that allows me to provide the best possible educational opportunities through the enjoyable experience that is Interscholastic Athletics," he shared. Mr. Pata and his fiancé, Kayla, have a six-month-old daughter, Scarlett, and two golden retrievers. He enjoys spending time with family and friends, golfing, and playing or watching other sports.

Get to know all A-C team members – sign up for the e-newsletter at amanda.k12.oh.us under the Resources + Forms tab.