

ASHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

<http://www.ashlandcityschools.org/ms>



MESSAGE FROM MR. JIM LINDEMAN, PRINCIPAL

Arrow Families,

We hope that this newsletter finds all of you well and that the summer has been a great time so far for your family. We are looking forward to the upcoming school year and the potential it has for all of the students entering into our building.

As students enter into the building they will be welcomed into a place that has been meticulously cared for by our custodial staff's relentless efforts over the summer. Enough cannot be said for their attention to detail and pride in providing a wonderful learning environment for our teachers to teach in and our students to learn in.

With the new school year beginning we want to stress the importance of communication with our families throughout the course of the year. We are excited about the utilization of the platform called **BLOOMZ** for both text and phone communication out to families moving forward. With this in mind it is imperative that you complete filling out or updating **FINAL FORMS** as this will streamline communication using **BLOOMZ**. In addition student's are unable to pick up their schedules until **ALL FINAL FORMS have been completed** by the parent as well as the student.

We are excited to open the doors here at Ashland Middle School this year and provide a great year of learning and memories for all the students entering it. We will see you soon.

Go Arrows,

Jim Lindeman
Ashland Middle School, Principal



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' CORNER

We are excited to partner with you as we welcome your student back for an amazing 2024-2025 school year. As we start the year, we are asking for your full support to make sure your child is on time for the start of our school day, and that our lines of communication between each other are clear. Please remind your student to get plenty of rest and to give their best effort as they meet their teachers and are challenged to learn academically and emotionally.

With clear communication and support for our building expectations, our partnership to serve your child will result in a positive experience at AMS. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns as we start our school year, we will make sure they are addressed in a timely manner and look forward to working with you.

Ashley Pacholewski
Ashland Middle School, Assistant Principal



Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful and restful summer break filled with memorable experiences. As we embark on a new academic year, we are excited to welcome our returning students and extend a warm greeting to those who are joining us for the first time. We look forward to a year of learning, growth, and achievement together.

We believe that strong communication between parents and teachers is essential for student success. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns. We also encourage you to attend our upcoming Open House to learn more about your child's classrooms and teachers. Together, we can make this school year a successful and enjoyable one. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Go Arrows!

Wendy Packard
Ashland Middle School, Assistant Principal

Middle School Newsletters

Our newsletter will come out every other month throughout the course of the upcoming school year. We will post our newsletter on the middle school website at the beginning of October, December, February and April.

Newsletters will no longer be mailed home to all students. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter by email, please email me at rhcarey@goarrows.org and Mrs. Carey will add your email to our emailing list. If you do not have access to a computer and would still like to have a paper copy mailed to your home, Mrs. Carey would be more than happy to accommodate that request. Just call the A.M.S. office or email Mrs. Carey at the above and she will add you to the mailing list.

REMINDERS:

We continue to encourage students to advocate for themselves and to let adults help them in difficult situations rather than making choices that make situations worse.

- Please continue to monitor your child's social media use. There are a lot of APPS and chat groups available out there where unsavory things can be discussed between adolescents and others. Please keep your child safe and promote responsible use of their electronic devices.
- Continue to monitor your child's belongings as items pile up in our school's lost and found: if something comes up missing, remind your child to check our lost and found which is located in the AMS Clinic.
- Please remember if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or an administrator here at AMS.

First Day of Classes

- Monday, August 19th-6th Grade ONLY will report on this date. School hours will be 7:40 a.m.-2:35 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 20th -**ALL STUDENTS** will report on this date-School hours will be 7:40 a.m.-2:35 p.m.

Welcome New Arrows!

Let us introduce you to the new faces at Ashland Middle School. We would like to welcome and extend our best wishes to the newest members of our Arrows family:

Administration, Teaching and Classified Staff:

- Erin Miller joins us at the middle school teaching 7th grade Math.
- Rachael Schmidt joins us at the middle school teaching English.
- Patrick Brean joins us at the middle school as an Intervention Specialist .
- Chris Lawrence joins us at the middle school teaching Physical Education.
- Kurt Roberts joins us at the middle school teaching Physical Education.
- Britni Hull joins us at the middle school teaching English.
- Julie McDonnell joins us at the middle school as our Literacy Coach.
- Jackie Benner joins us at the middle school as the Asst. Head Cook.
- Debra Howard joins us at the middle school as a General Worker in the Cafe.

In addition to the new staff there have been a few position changes within A.M.S.

- Trudi Tilton will be filling a position as the Library Specialist and will also be teaching Google Apps for 6th grade.
- Ryan Stackhouse will be filling a position as the Arrow Digital Academy Coordinator.
- Sara Fisher will be filling the Intervention Specialist position on the 6th grade floor.
- BillieJean Thiesse will be filling the Intervention Specialist position on the 7th grade floor.



2024 Upcoming Schedule of Events

August 5th	Annual Ashland County Back-2-School Bash-5:00-6:30-Ashland County Fairgrounds
August 13th	6th grade schedule pick-up-12:30-3:30 p.m.
August 13th	7th grade schedule pick-up-9:00-12:00 p.m.
August 13th	8th grade schedule pick-up-9:00-12:00 p.m.
August 14th	6th grade Open House-6:00-7:30 p.m.
August 15th	7th and 8th grade Open House-6:00-7:30 p.m.
August 12-13th	Free/Reduced lunch sign up at Central Office from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
August 19th	6th grade ONLY first day of school
August 20th	All students report on this day
August 29-Sept. 12	6th grade Butter Braid sales
September 2nd	Labor Day-No School
September 4th	School Pictures
September 15th-21st	Ashland County Fair Week
September 19th	Vision and Hearing Screening
September 20th	No school for Students (Fair Day)-Teacher In-Service
September 27th	Interims will be mailed home for D's and F's
October 1st	Butter Braid delivery
October 3rd	Parent/Teacher Conferences-3:30-7:00 p.m.
October 11th	Teacher Professional Development-No School
October 22nd	Fall Orchestra Concert 7-12 (Archer) 7:00 p.m.
October 7th and 8th	6th grade Outdoor Education school-(Ms. Michael's Class)
October 23rd	Picture Re-takes
October 25th	End of 1st 9 weeks
October 14th and 15th	6th grade Outdoor Education school (Mr. Harlan's class)
November 1st	1st 9 weeks grade cards will be distributed
November 11th	Veterans Day observance at buildings
November 21st	Parent/Teacher Conferences-3:30-7:00 p.m.
November 26th	Early Release Day (12:35)
November 27th	Teacher Exchange Day-No School
November 28-29	Thanksgiving Break



Schedule Pick-up and Open Houses

6th grade~ Schedule Pick-up- August 13th, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

6th grade~ Open House- August 14th from 6-7:30 p.m.

7th grade~ Schedule Pick-up- August 13th, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

7th grade~ Open House- August 15th-6:00-7:30 p.m.

8th grade~ Schedule Pick-up- August 13th, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

8th grade~ Open House- August 15th, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

(If you could not make it to schedule pick-up night they will be available during open house).

Reminder you must have ALL the FINAL FORMS updated for parent and student to be able to pick up your students schedule. Each grade level will be able to go to their locker to tryout their combinations.

Breakfast and Lunch

The 2024-2025 school year will once again be "**FULL PAY**". This is a reminder to parents/guardians that starting the first day of school you will need lunch money on your child's payschool account. Free/reduced Lunch forms will be available ONLINE (ashlandcityschools.org).

Lunch/breakfast prices are as follows:

- Middle/High School-\$3.50
- Breakfast is free for K-5
- Breakfast for HS/MS is \$1.60
- Menu will be posted on our website starting in August



Lunch Time:

Students will be sitting with their homerooms in designated areas in the cafeteria for the first TWO weeks of school. During these two weeks proper student behavior and etiquette will be established to ensure that lunchtime is a successful part of the student's day. After these initial two weeks students may be free to sit where they please at lunchtime.

AMS students are **NOT** allowed to receive any outside food deliveries during the academic day this includes deliveries from Door Dash, Uber Eats etc.

Pick Up and Drop off Zones

AMS has designated areas for those students who are being picked up and dropped off by car as well as those students riding the bus daily. Busses will be staggering their drop-offs to alleviate overcrowding. **CAR RIDER**-any parent or guardian who is dropping off or picking up their student **must use the King Ridge entrance or the Avalon entrance.** **Please be cognizant of drivers around you and pull forward as far as possible to let your child out. For safety please have your child use the curbside only. Car riders and walkers are not permitted to enter the building before 7:20 a.m. Bus riders will be released from the bus at 7:25 a.m.**

Arrival/Dismissal Times

The doors will open at 7:20 a.m. Tardy Bell rings at 7:40 a.m.

Dismissal will begin at 2:33 p.m.

Students will be dismissed in a slow release method. Walkers and car riders will be dismissed at 2:33 p.m. Bus riders will be dismissed at 2:35 p.m. It is our hope to have all students out of the building no later than 2:45 p.m. daily.

Bus Riders

If your child needs transportation either to or from school then an **Opt-In Transportation Form must be completed** for each student even if they rode in previous years. You can find this form within **FINAL FORMS** that are required to be filled out for your child. The deadline to be completed is August 3, 2024. Thank you for your cooperation! Mr. Doug Shipper, Transportation Supervisor. Questions? Email: doshippe@goarrows.org Office: 419-281-6961.

BUS TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY

We understand that emergencies do come up unfortunately, in order for your student to ride home on a different bus you must contact Doug Shipper at the bus garage. The number to contact Mr. Shipper is 419-281-6961. At this time the school can **NOT** take any bus notes from parent/guardian.

Procedures for Picking Students up for Appointment

In order to alleviate some confusions, we thought it might be helpful to review our attendance procedures on dropping off students or picking up students for appointments.

Although we will accept telephone calls for last-minute appointments for students, we would prefer the student **bring a note on the day of the appointment** if it has been scheduled in advance. The student is to bring the note to the main office **before school starts in the morning,** so we can issue a Permit to Leave Slip. The Student is then allowed to show this Permit to Leave to the teacher, leave class at the time designated on the note by the parent, and meet the parent at the door at the time recorded. This allows the parent to pick up the student without having to come into the building. **Please remind your son or daughter to be aware of the time he/she needs to leave class and where to meet you.** Parents do not need to check in or out of the office with the student unless we have **not** received a note or a phone call prior. When arriving back to school after the appointment, all students should check in at the main office with their Permit to Leave before reporting to class. This will help us keep accurate attendance records and not mistakenly mark the student absent for the remainder of the day.

Appointments that are made **after** the student has come to school may be called into the main office by the parent/guardian, and a Permit to Leave slip will be delivered to the student with the appropriate information (such as time leaving, type of appointment, and where to meet his/her ride). The student should then follow the same procedures as listed when we receive written permission for students to leave and return when necessary.

Cell Phone and Electronic Devices

Students may not use personal communication devices during school hours at Ashland Middle School. While at Ashland Middle School, personal communication devices must be on silent mode and stored within their locker*. Personal communication devices include but are not limited to cell phones, tablets, smart watches, and other web-enabled devices. Such devices will also not be permitted on off-campus field trips.

Students violating the cell phone/personal communication device policy will result in the following action (s):

First Offense: Confiscation, staff member who confiscated the phone will notify the parent. Student will be able to pick-up their cell phones in the main office at the end of the school day.

Second Offense: Confiscation, staff member who confiscated the phone will notify the parent. Staff members will bring the cell phone to the office for the PARENT to pick-up at the end of the day.

Third Offense: The staff member completes a Major Referral in PBIS. Administration will notify parents. Progressive disciplinary action will be issued.

An office phone will be available to students before school, after school, and during lunches with the permission of an Ashland Middle School staff member. Additionally, any parent messages will be promptly delivered to their student before 2:00 p.m., as our building prepares for dismissal. Personal, non-emergency calls are strongly discouraged.

****Students with medical conditions, at the discretion of a building administrator, may be allowed an exception based on individual circumstances. As directed by Administration.**

*****Students taking high school classes must keep their cell phones in their lockers and not carry them to the high school.**

Progress Book

Progress Book is the program we use to track and communicate grades. All students and parents may use their accounts from previous years. if you need help logging into your account, please call the AMS office at 419-289-7966.

Grade Cards and Interims

Progress reports/Interims for students receiving a D or an F will be mailed home each grading period. All report cards regardless of grades will be sent home with A.M.S. students this school year except for the final grade card which will be mailed the week June 2nd.

A.M.S. Lost and Found

We have a designated area on each floor with all the lost and found items. Anything remaining will be cleaned out at the end of EVERY month. Reminders will be given to students the week before they are donated and we are no longer responsible for them after they have been donated.

Attention 7th Grade Parents

All incoming seventh grade students must have had the meningococcal vaccine, They are also required to have the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis vaccine). All 7th grade students will need to have a copy of their updated immunizations or an immunization exemption form by **September 9th** or they could be exempt from coming to school starting on September 10th. Also, please remember that ALL medications must be brought in by a parent/guardian. Medications cannot come into the school with a student. All medication administer forms can be found on the Ashland City Schools website or can be picked up at the main office or the clinic office.

Obligations

Many students still owe school fees or other obligations from past school years. Payment may be made at the AMS school office. If you cannot pay the full amount, you may make a partial payment and make arrangements for a payment plan. Obligations follow the student through their school career and must be taken care of before graduation.

Fees and Fee Waivers

Parents are reminded the 2024-2025 school fees are due at your earliest convenience. Please note that school fees can be waived for families qualifying for the free lunch program. In order to obtain this waiver, permission for information to be shared with the school principal must be marked on Part 5, the sharing information sections, of the free lunch application form. This only applies to families qualifying for free lunch and not to those who qualify for reduced lunches. Contact the food service director, Nicole Elmore, at Central Office at 419-289-1117 ext. 2247 for more information.

Vacation Days

Pre-approved trips or activity must be with a custodial parent/legal guardian. The parent/guardian must request permission in writing to an administrator prior to the absence and arrange for the absence. A student may have no more than 10 days excused on this basis in any school year. Days absent in excess of 10 will be unexcused. Trips taken with persons other than the legal guardian will result in unexcused absences unless unique circumstances would justify excused absence credit.

Water Bottles

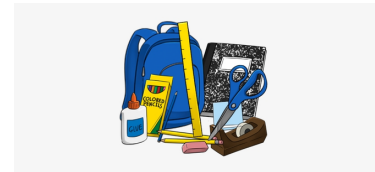
Students are encouraged to bring water bottles with them to school. Our drinking fountains are equipped with water bottle refillers.

Lockers

Students will be assigned a locker and a combination. You will find this information on the top of their schedules.

Middle School Basic Supply List

A copy of the basic supply list for Ashland Middle School are enclosed with this newsletter. These supply are also listed on our website at **<http://www.ashlandcityschools.org>** as well as at the Ashland Walmart



School Picture Day

School pictures for Ashland Middle School students will be Wednesday, September 4, 2024.

Ashland County Fair

Ashland County Fair is September 15-21st. Beginning the week of Sept. 1st fairs forms will be available for students to pick up if they are participating and or showing animals. Daily announcements will be made so students know when these forms will be available in the front office.



PTO NEWS

Dear Parents/Guardians,

My name is Heather Bahr and I am the point person for the Ashland School PTO and I'm looking forward to a great school year! Middle School can be challenging, I am here to work with parents that want to make the experience more enjoyable for our students and staff during these influential years.

Please accept YOUR personal invitation to join our Fun Squad! Simply use the QR code attached and fill out the Google form with your desired duties that fit your schedule and talents.

Our AMS PTO will be serving our students and staff throughout the year to boost the fun through Student Events, Staff Appreciation Meals, and more! I will be using text and SignUp Genius to communicate and put YOU and YOUR family time first. We all work and have busy lives, so let's put our efforts together!

Thank you so much and I look forward to serving alongside you to make school more FUN for our staff and students!



Join Ashland PTO

ASHLAND COUNTY BACK - 2 - SCHOOL CELEBRATION

New Location

August 5th
5:00 - 6:30p

Ashland County Fair Grounds
2042 Claremont Ave.
Ashland, Ohio

FREE Bookbags
with supplies

FREE Hair cuts
*sensory Friendly Available

LET'S CELEBRATE

A variety of activities will be available for students and families as they prepare for a successful school year!

SAVE THE DATE

ASHLAND CITY SCHOOLS FINAL FORMS™

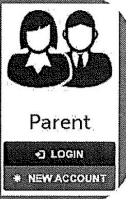
Ashland City Schools has transitioned to using digital forms. In order for you to update your child's information, complete their emergency medical forms, and more, please go to <https://goarrows-oh.finalforms.com/> and login as a parent. If you did not receive the email to setup your FinalForms account and have a child attending school at Ashland City Schools, please email bespield@goarrows.org. DO NOT create a new account unless you are enrolling your child for the first time into Ashland City Schools. Below are the directions for updating your child's information for the 24-25 school year.




- 1**

Go to the FinalForms website.
Access it at <https://goarrows-oh.finalforms.com/> or scan the QR code on this page.
- 2**


Click "Parent" login.
Log in using your email address and the password you create(d).


- 3**


Click the 24-25 registration button.


- 4**

Click "OK, Let's Get Started."


- 5**

Click the "Incomplete Forms" button.
Look for this button beside your child's name:


- 6**

Skip the sport forms. (grades 5-12 only)
The athletic forms will open later in the spring or early summer. Simply skip these for now.
- 7**

Complete and sign forms.
Be sure to complete and sign each form until all forms are green in color.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we utilize this new digital resource. Go Arrows!

Reminder:

Any changes to the following must be updated in FINAL FORMS!!

Address-will need to bring in prove of residency (utility bill/lease etc. in your name)

Phone Number

Medical changes

Custody-Will need a hard copy for student file

Marital Status (divorce/separated)-will need a hard copy for student file



BLOOMZ IS HERE!

Ashland City Schools no longer uses Remind and has moved to **Bloomz** for communication. All district, building, classroom, club and sports communication will now come through Bloomz. Click on the QR code to download the free app.



Middle School Athletics

Athletic Physicals

Please be sure to get your physicals scheduled with your family doctor, or you can try Samaritan Q-Care or Urgent Care. Physicals, and the activity fee form, are the only paper forms that get turned into the middle school athletic office. Please have these turned in, along with the fee, at least one week before the first scheduled practice. Everything else is done through Final Forms (See Below).

FINAL FORMS

All athletic forms, except for Physical and Athletic fee form and fee, will be completed ON FINAL FORMS. If you are going to be an 8th grader, and completed Physical last year, you do not have to re-do it. You will however, need to go into Final Forms and update anything that needs updated, and re-sign all documents. You will also want to make sure you have chosen to join any sports teams that you think you might want to participate in for the entire school year. If you decide not to do a sport later, no problem, the AD will be able to remove you from that roster. For all 6th graders that are going to be 7th graders, you will need to register on Final Forms through the A.M.S. website. Helpful information for completing Final Forms can be picked up at A.M.S. Reminder: The Physical and Athletic Fee form will be in proper format. These can be picked up at the Middle School Office or printed from the Middle School website. The activity fee and form can either be dropped off at the AMS office or it can be paid online through Hometown Tickets via the Ashland Middle School website. Once the athlete has had a physical that form can then be uploaded to Final Forms or turned into the AMS Office.

Below are the sports to choose from in Final Forms that A.M.S. offers:

Fall

7th Girls Cross Country
7th Boys Cross Country
8th Girls Cross Country
8th Boys Cross Country
7th Girls Football Cheerleading
8th Girls Football Cheerleading
7th Girls Volleyball
8th Girls Volleyball
7th Boys Football
8th Boys Football

Spring

7th Girls Track and Field
7th Boys Track and Field
8th Girls Track and Field
8th Boys Track and Field

Winter

7th Girls Basketball
7th Boys Basketball
8th Girls Basketball
8th Boys Basketball
7th Boys Wrestling
8th Boys Wrestling
7th Girls Basketball Cheerleading
8th Girls Basketball Cheerleading
7th/8th Swimming



Eligibility

Please keep grades a top priority. Remind your student/athlete that if his/her grades falter, he/she could be either sitting out or ineligible to participate (meaning it carries over from one sport to another). Please refer to the [Activity Fee Information Sheet](#) that you will receive, or did receive, with your payment form. Pay particular attention to #3 and #4: "Fees are non-refundable with the following exception. Letter "E" states..."If the student becomes academically ineligible before the first contest". In other words, if your athlete becomes ineligible after the first contest, your fees will NOT be refunded. So, stay on top of your child's work nightly. Ask to see their homework, stay in touch with the teachers and make yourself available at home as much as possible to see that all work is done correctly and is ready to hand in on time. But, we all need to remember, in the end, it is the student's responsibility to keep their grades in line. Support and encouragement is always a good thing, but the student must take ownership and be responsible for his/her own grades.

Schedules

Anytime you need an event schedule or directions to a game/meet, either stop by the athletic office and pick one up, call, or instruct your athlete to bring one home. Coaches will pass out copies at the team meetings. Also check out the Ashland Middle School Website. Hopefully, if all goes well, the schedules to all sports, and directions to away games will be posted. Just go to the [sports](#) link.