

Administration Team



Ms. Robin Vickers (*Building Principal*)

Ms. Robin Vickers is a graduate of Austintown Fitch High School. Because of the caring and supportive teachers she had in school, Robin decided to pursue a career in education. She went on to Youngstown State University and earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Fine and Performing Arts. She started work at Austintown Middle School in 1999 as a

special education tutor. In 2003, she began teaching 8th grade science. She has also taught 7th grade Language Arts and 7th grade Science during her career. She returned to YSU and earned a Master's degree in Elementary and Middle School Science and later a second Master's degree in Education Administration. After 17 years in the classroom, she moved to Austintown Elementary as an assistant principal for a year. She returned to Austintown Middle School as an assistant principal for two years and then building principal for four years. She is starting her 26th year in Austintown as principal of Austintown Intermediate School. Outside of work, you can find Robin working on home improvement projects, hiking trails at Mill Creek Park or most likely shopping. She has one child, Samantha, who is also an alumni of Austintown. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Early Education at Youngstown State University.



Dr. Dorothy Reppy (*Asst. Principal*) is a graduate of Ursuline High School, Youngstown State University, and Marygrove beginning her 18th year in education.. After high school, Dr. Reppy went to YSU and earned a degree in middle school education. She continued at Marygrove with her master's in Curriculum and Instruction, then back to YSU with a certificate in K-12 reading, and finishing with an administration license and a doctorate in Educational Leadership. Currently, Dr. Reppy is an assistant principal at AIS but taught 7th grade science and 6th/ 8th grade language arts.

Loving sports, Dr. Reppy coached basketball and volleyball; she also officiated volleyball and track. She loves educating because there is nothing better than seeing children grow while developing internal pride and motivation to become the best version of themselves. When not working, Dr. Reppy loves being with her two daughters (Sophia, a 1st grader at AES, & Olivia) and her husband, Jim. She can be found working out, watching sports, and reading!



Mr. Chris Berni (*Asst. Principal*), his wife Debbie and their four adult children are all graduates of Fitch High School. Chris earned his Bachelor's degree at Westminster College and his Masters degree at Ashland University. Chris is beginning his 34th year in education. He has been an administrator in all four buildings on campus in different roles. Chris and his wife are transitioning to the empty nest phase of life while preparing to become first time grandparents.

Guidance Counselors



Mrs. Jeanne Senchak (*Guidance Counselor*)

is a YSU graduate in her 35th year of education! Mrs. Senchak loves spending time with her children and granddaughter as well as reading and cooking. Working with students is driven by her love of "connecting with students." Anyone who

knows Mrs. Senchak knows her love of helping by offering an empathetic ear overflows into students, staff, families, and all who need it.



Mrs. Lisa Fitzgerald (*Guidance Counselor*) is a graduate of Slippery Rock University where she earned both an undergraduate and master's degree. Currently, Lisa is one of our amazing guidance counselors. She loves her job because she works with an outstanding partner, Jeanne Senchak, our entire teaching staff, and administrative team. She

loves connecting and building relationships with students and families. In addition, she loves having her therapy dog, Cooper, come to work with her. Together, they make the perfect team. When not working, Lisa can be found at football or soccer games cheering on her children.

PBIS Specialist of Student Success



Mr. Mike Polder is a 1994 Austintown Fitch graduate! In 1995 Mr. Polder began working at General Motors and coaching football at AMS. His coaching career in Austintown continues today, but at the varsity level where he is an assistant. After 23 years at GM, Mr. Polder returned to YSU in 2019; he graduated in 2021 with a focus in Special Education. He states his “passion for education stems from the tremendous teachers and coaches that I had growing up in Austintown and I would like to pay it forward. I consider myself extremely fortunate with the schooling I had in Austintown.” The Austintown roots run deep with his family because his wife is also a Fitch graduate ('95), and she is an administrator in Warren City Schools. When he is not working he loves traveling to NYC and Myrtle Beach, visiting different baseball stadiums with his daughter, canning peppers, and attempting to ride his Peloton bike! This summer you may have seen Coach Polder and his team in the Little League World Series! WOW!

Support Staff



Mrs. Joanie Mitchell is in her 16th year with Austintown Schools! If you have walked into our office asking questions about student records, you probably have had the pleasure of interacting with Ms. Joanie. Her kindness, work ethic, and ability to think on her toes enable the school to function on a daily basis.

Cheering on the Browns and eating cheese curds with her husband Carl, their sons, and their dog Miles is one of her favorite things to do in the fall. She loves working with the AIS family because “[her] day is never the same.”



Mrs. Deb Fuller is a fellow Fitch graduate in her 12th year as a member of the Austintown family! Anyone who has been in our building has probably heard her infectious laugh and found her with her signature Coke can every morning! Mrs. Fuller says, “I love the family atmosphere at AIS,” and one of her biggest strengths is her unwavering patience to help the students believe in themselves!



Megan Rust is a graduate of Boardman High School, The Ohio State University, and Youngstown State University and is in her 22nd year of teaching! Currently, Megan is the Assistant Director of Special Education and Teacher of the Visually Impaired. She loves her job because she loves working with both new and veteran teachers and loves the challenge of never

having the same day twice along with working with students with visual impairments. In education, there are always new challenges and opportunities to learn new things. When not working, Megan can be found traveling to new places and spending time with her family and dog.



Mrs. Bethany Martinez is in her 7th year with the Austintown district as the K-5 nurse. Previously, Mrs. Martinez worked in intensive care units for 16 years! When she is not working, you can find her at multiple Austintown activities cheering on her four Falcons! Mrs. Martinez feels her “patience and organization” help her to be effective as a district nurse. We could not agree more, especially these past years!



Katie Corbett is a graduate of Poland High School and John Carroll University. She is in her 11th year of teaching! Currently, Katie is a Third Grade Title 1 Teacher. She loves her job because she gets to work with all different people and loves making new friends. She loves helping everyone and will do whatever she can to be there for whoever needs her. Also, she loves being able to build relationships with students from different classes and grade levels. When not working, Katie can be found browsing the

aisles of Target and TJ Maxx. She loves spending time with her family and friends, reading, crafting, baking and traveling whenever she can.



Mrs. Linda Ankerman is a graduate of The Ohio State University and has been in the Austintown School District as an Occupational Therapist for over fifteen years! We are fortunate to have Mrs. Ankerman's experience and knowledge for our students and staff. Her favorite part about being a therapist is “guiding the students’ progress towards their independence in not only school but their futures.” When Mrs. Ankerman is not working, she loves to spend time with her family, ski, hike, run, and travel!