

Andover Board of Education Notes
May 12, 2025

Good News: The Board recognized the following individuals and groups for outstanding accomplishments:

- Ryan Byun, junior at Andover Central High School, for earning a spot in the National Youth Orchestra.
- Emilie Thurman of ACHS and Gavin Klassen of Andover eCademy for receiving Board of Education scholarships.
- The AHS Science Olympiad team for winning the small school category at state competition. The following teams won their events: Chemistry Lab (Nic Sporleder and Luke Osburn); Ecology (Erica High and Audrey Eastman); Forensics (Maverick Hurt and Nic Sporleder); Geological Mapping (Colin Friend and Audrey Eastman); and Helicopter (Colin Friend and Jack Friend). In addition, Andover Middle School took first place in these events: Crime Busters (Sophia Skibba and Cavell Aston); Metric Mastery (Arjun Waghmode and Tanner Pease); and Scrambler (AJ Roberts and Logan Draney). Andover Central High School's team took first in one event, Disease Detectives (Abigail Doyle and Sadie Dyson-Smith).
- Several students for placing first in their events at Science Olympiad:
 - Andover High School
 - Ian Pierce - Agribusiness
 - Jack Schuster - Business Law
 - Vinny Nguyen, Baul Lee, and Jason Zheng - Business Plan
 - Cameron Windish - Coding and Programming
 - Eric Witt, Liyah Yi, and Vinny Nguyen - Digital Animation
 - Nic Sporleder - Financial Math
 - Nic Sporleder - Human Resource Management
 - Keaton Rupp - Impromptu Speaking
 - Sophia Mandanis and Nadia Kaewsai - Mobile Application Development
 - Tisha Nguyen, Nadia Kaewsai, and Sophia Mandanis - Visual Design
 - Andover Central High School
 - Abby Engle and Micah Payne - Business Ethics
 - Abby Doyle and An Duong - Computer Programming

Spotlight on Learning: Jill Lachenmayr, assistant superintendent of academic affairs, and Joel Schaefer, AHS social studies teacher, presented about the Saturday Academy, which allows middle school and high school students to explore topics from U.S. history. The Academy is sponsored by The Foundation for Andover Schools and is open to students from Andover and other area schools.

Zero Reasons Why: Brent Riedy, principal at AHS, student Kate Burdette and others presented about the [Zero Reasons Why](#) campaign, a suicide prevention and mental wellness advocacy campaign. The title refers to zero reasons why someone should struggle alone.

Summer Tutoring: Traci Holder, director of instruction and intervention, presented about the [summer tutoring program](#) that will focus on reading for students in kindergarten through second grade. The program is expected to cost \$50,000-\$80,000 depending on participation.

Transportation update: Richard Bell, executive director of operations, presented an update on [transportation services](#) as the district closes its second year with First Student. He said staffing levels have been solid this year, and current on-time percentage for daily routes is 98.6%. There are 2,488 total bus riders.

Budget: Sherame Kneisel, chief financial officer, presented an [update on the 2024-25 budget and a preview of the 2025-26 budget](#).

Goals: Members of the District Leadership Team presented on [district goals and initiatives](#) for the 2025-26 year.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Brett White commented on the Board of Education Outstanding Service Awards and Retiree Recognition. He reminded Board members about upcoming graduation ceremonies and the Center for Advanced Professional Studies presentations.