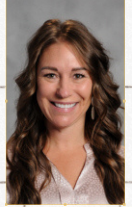




Badger Business

VOLUME 8 - MARCH EDITION



A Note from the Principal-
Emily Clark

Happy March, Families!

As we welcome a new month and the excitement of spring, we're proud of the growth our students continue to show each day. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in supporting their learning and well-being. Please note these important upcoming dates:

- March 9 at 6:00 PM - PTA Meeting in the Library
- March 12 - Fine Arts Night
- March 27-April 6 - Spring Break

We look forward to a month filled with curiosity, kindness, and meaningful learning. Wishing everyone a wonderful start to March!



Grateful-

Emily Clark

Counselor's Corner

Counselor Kristi Hill, hillkristi@asds.k12.wi.us, 920-852-5440 x20115

Let's Celebrate International SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING DAY!

 March 2nd 2026 

WHAT IS SEL?

Social-Emotional Learning, often called SEL, is the process of helping students develop the skills they need to understand and manage their emotions, build healthy relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle challenges effectively. SEL supports students in areas such as self-awareness, self-control, empathy, communication, problem-solving, and resilience. These skills help children succeed not only academically, but also socially and emotionally, both in school and in everyday life. Social-Emotional Learning works alongside academics to support the whole child.

© Music City Counselor

WHY IS SEL IMPORTANT?

SEL is important because it helps children develop the life skills they need to succeed both in school and beyond. While academics teach students what to think, SEL helps them learn *how* to think, how to manage emotions, and how to interact with others in healthy ways. SEL skills directly impact classroom behavior, focus, peer relationships, learning, academic achievement, and overall wellbeing. Children who can manage frustration, resolve conflicts respectfully, and cope with stress are better prepared to engage in learning and navigate challenges.

LET'S CONNECT!



Kristi Hill, School Counselor
hillkristi@asds.k12.wi.us

TIPS FOR TEACHING SEL AT HOME

1. **Model healthy emotional expression.** Talk openly about your own feelings in age-appropriate ways and show how you manage them.
2. **Create space for conversations.** Set aside time to ask open-ended questions such as, "What was the best and hardest part of your day?" Regular conversations build self-awareness and trust.
3. **Teach problem-solving skills.** When conflicts arise, help your child identify the problem and brainstorm solutions.
4. **Practice empathy.** Encourage your child to consider others' perspectives, opinions, cultures, backgrounds, and feelings.



Social Work Scoop



Please reach out to Sara Allison, School Social Worker if you need assistance with any of the following:



Housing



920-852-5440 ext 20110



Food Resources



allisonsara@aasd.k12.wi.us



Clothing Resources



Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday



Counseling Resources


Help for the Homeless
HYGIENE DRIVE™

The Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive is underway! The drive began February 22nd and ends March 15th! The donation box is located in the main office. If you would like to make a donation the most urgent needs include: Soaps: laundry, dish, softner, shower gel, 2-in-1 shampoo, Trash bags, Diapers (sizes 3-6 and pull-ups), Deodorant (unscented), Wet wipes, toliet paper, paper towels, disposable razors, and tampons/maxi pads.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Learning Through Play Playgroups (April)

*Please see additional details below



Learning Through Play - (Thursdays - April ONLY)

Registration opens: Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026

Monthly registration required

April 9th- Happy Trails

April 16th - The Very Hungry Caterpillar

April 23rd- Little Cloud

Priority Registration:

First 2 weeks: Families living within the Appleton Area School District (AASD) will have priority registration for playgroups

After 2 weeks: Registration opens to families living outside the AASD

To register:

Contact Danielle Tzakais

☎ (920) 832-6470 #1

✉ tzakaisdaniell@aad.k12.wi.us

*All calls and emails are time-stamped, and our secretary will return your message within three business days.

Please include:

Child's name and date of birth

Parent or Caregiver's name

Phone number

Address

Email address

Preferred session: 9:00-10:00 AM or 10:30-11:30 AM

Our March family event, Roar & Explore with the Dinosaurs, is back and it's always a favorite! Join us March 12th at 6pm for an exciting evening of hands-on fun as we dig into all things dinosaur.

To register:

Contact Danielle Tzakais

☎ (920) 832-6470 #1

✉ tzakaisdaniell@aad.k12.wi.us

Please include:

Child's name and date of birth

Parent or Caregiver's name

Phone number

Address

Email address



Did you know? The AASD Board of Education has approved placing an operational referendum on the April 7, 2026, ballot.



In this [5-minute video](#), Superintendent Hartjes explains how the proposed \$15 million per year, four-year operational referendum funds would be used. He outlines the financial realities behind the district's \$13 million budget deficit, clarifies the estimated cost to property owners, and details how additional funds would strengthen student services, including:

- A school counselor in every neighborhood school, every day,
- A 50% increase in access to social workers,
- supports for students learning English as a second language, and students who are credit-deficient.

The estimated tax rate impact for the four-year Operational Referendum is about \$15 per year on a \$100,000 home, or \$45 per year on the average Appleton-area home (\$300,000).

Ways to Learn About the April 7 Operational Referendum

- [Join us at a Referendum Information Session](#): Open to all community members, our next in-person session is Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. at Wilson Middle School in the Multipurpose Room
- Visit the Referendum Webpage: Access more videos, FAQs, and submit your questions

