

Trailblazers Today

Notes from Principal McAuliffe

October 2025

Dear Families,

I am proud to announce that Ardis Ann Middle School earned an **A** on the Arkansas School Report Card for the 2024-2025 school year. This is the highest grade possible and it is based on student achievement and student growth on ELA, Math, and Science ATLAS assessments.

Our school's overall growth percentile was 96, which puts us in the top 4% of all state schools. Our overall achievement percentile was 94, putting us in the top 6% of all state schools. Our success is a testament to the hard work of staff, students, and supportive families.

We carried this momentum through to the start of this school year, and we are already(!) nearing the end of the first quarter. Parent-Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, 10/23 and Tuesday, 10/28. Your student's teachers will contact you about scheduling a time to meet.

I hope that it has been a good start to the year for your family.

Wishing you all the best,

Kevin McAuliffe, Principal
kmcauliffe@bentonvillek12.org
(479) 254-5521

Brand Refresh

In May, we were excited to share this new logo with you for the first time.



2.7K



In it, a middle school student is blazing a trail. The star in the distance guides the student and refers to our STAR qualities: safe, tenacious, accountable, respectful. The scene evokes The Natural State and our community's enthusiasm for the outdoors.

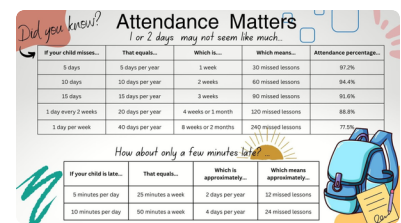
Coffee & Conversation

We had a great turnout at my first Coffee & Conversation in September. You are welcome and encouraged to join me at the next one on Tuesday, October 14th at 8:15 a.m. Click on the image to see future Coffee & Conversation dates, too.



Attendance

We continue to promote and celebrate attendance. This infographic shows the statistically significant impact that attendance has on learning. We aim to achieve a 94.5% school-wide attendance rate this year. As of today, we're at 96.21%.



If your student has an appointment at the doctor or dentist during the school day, it still helps them if they come to school for even half the day. That way they only have to catch up on half of the class periods they missed!

Reminders

Dates:

- PTO meeting at 9:00 a.m. on 10/10
- 2nd quarter begins on Monday, 10/13
- Coffee & Conversation at 8:15 a.m. on 10/14
- Fall Break Thursday, 10/16 and Friday, 10/17
- Parent-Teacher Conferences on 10/23 and 10/28

Look out for a flyer for the PTO's annual Monster Blazer Bash, a party for students after school on Thursday, October 30th! It is a favorite event for students every year.

Also:

- Breakfast is free for all students. [Click here](#) to add funds to your student's lunch account and/or apply for free/reduced lunch benefits.
- [Click here](#) if you cannot access your student's ATLAS exam results from Spring 2025. (A code is required to sign in to the portal where the results are stored.)

**Kevin McAuliffe**

Kevin is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

Created with  **smore****Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.**

Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

[Create a newsletter](#)← *It's awesome and free!*