AVON GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE THROUGH INGENUITY

Middle School Back to School Night

26-27

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Mission Statement

To inspire passion for lifelong learning, one student at a time.

Vision Statement

To be an accepting community that unlocks every students' ability to discover and reach their full potential.

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Middle School Office Staff

Mrs. Lambert - Middle School Principal

Mr. Miller - Upper School Assistant Principal

Ms. Griffith - Upper School Administrative Assistant

Ms. Eggers - Middle School Counselor

Ms. Jones - Mental Health Coordinator

Mr. Keith - School Social Worker

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Mrs. Lambert

MS Principal since 2020

Mr. Miller

Upper School Assistant Principal since 2021

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YOU BELONG

AVON GROVE
CHARTER SCHOOL

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AVON GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL

ADDRESSING A CONCERN AT THE SCHOOL

AGCS values efficient and transparent communication with its parents, guardians, students, staff, and community members. Please use the steps below to effectively resolve concerns with the school.

K-6	Teacher	Principal/ Assistant Principal	Director of Appropriate Department (Special Education, Student Services, Teaching and Learning)	Chief Academic Officer	Head of School
7-12	Teacher	Principal/ Assistant Principal	Director of Appropriate Department (Special Education, Student Services, Teaching and Learning)	Chief Academic Officer	Head of School
Transportation	District Transportation Department	State Road or ELC Front Office	Chief Academic Officer		
Athletics/Co-Curriculars	Teacher/Sponsor/ Coach	Athletic Director	Principal/ Assistant Principal	Chief Academic Officer	Head of School

*student bus conduct or discipline should be directed to the student's Principal

Title I Designation

- AGCS is designated as a **Title I School** (K-12)

- Title I schools receive federal funding to supplement schools' existing programs. This funding is used for...
  - Identifying students experiencing academic difficulties and providing timely assistance to help these students meet the State's challenging content standards.
  - Purchasing supplemental staff, programs, materials, and supplies
  - Conducting parent and family engagement meetings, trainings and activities

*Information regarding Title I and ways for families to get involved at AGCS will be provided through our Sunday Smore Communications.

Homeless Children and Youth

- Family who may become *temporarily displaced at any point during the school year may be eligible for additional supports through the McKinney Vento Act*.

- McKinney Vento Act Eligibility includes:
  - Sharing of housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship
  - Living in motels, hotels, due to lack of alternative living accommodations
  - Living in emergency or transitional shelters
  - Living in cards, parks, public places, etc.
  - Lacking a nighttime residence that is fixed, regular and adequate.

*Questions about eligibility or resources?

- Contact your principal, school counselor or Mrs. Weaver (jweaver@agcharter.org)

7th Grade

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7th Grade STEM

Units Taught:
OpenSciEd Curriculum

- Contact Forces

Project Lead the Way Curriculum

- Design & Modeling
- Automation & Robotics

Donated materials welcome!

- HW is occasional

OpenSciEd®

PA STEELS Standards

Ms. Salinas
jsalinas@agcharter.org

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7th Grade Science

Curriculum: OpenSciEd
Units Taught:

- Cells & Systems
- Matter Cycling & Photosynthesis
- Genetics
- Natural Selection & Common Ancestry
- Metabolic Reactions

Mr. Sabo
ksabo@agcharter.org

PA STEELS Standards

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Welcome to MS Back to School Night

Needed: Tissues are always needed in our classrooms. Having your student bring in a box for their 1A Homeroom would be appreciated.

What Can You Do To Help?

- Check Power School (weekly or bi-weekly)
- Look in Schoology
- Have your student help you access these if you don't know how to navigate them.

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Lanyards

Students are expected to wear their lanyard every day while at school. Lanyards must be worn on the student's body, either around the neck or securely attached to a belt loop.

A daily lanyard check will take place at 7:38 AM. If a student does not have their lanyard, they will be directed to the Upper School Office to receive a temporary/replacement lanyard.

- Replacement/Temporary Lanyard: $1 each
- Lost White Key Fob Card: $10 replacement fee
- Replacement fees will be billed at the end of each month.
- Key fobs are important because they are used by students to access school buildings throughout the day.

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Locker #: _____

Locker Code: _____

7th Grade:

Mr. Brown - Rm. 408

Ms. Conboy - Rm. 407

Ms. Horgan - Rm. 406

Mr. Hoffman - Rm. 405

Ms. Markee - Rm. 404

Mr. Sabo - Rm. 424

Ms. Salinas - Rm. 421

Specials

Ms. Bannon - Rm. 20

Mr. Braydman - Rm. 419

Ms. Cuzzolina - Rm. 326

Mr. Klink - Rm. 505

Mr. McGehean - Rm. 325

Dr. Roberts - Rm. 22

Ms. Strange - Rm. 21

Mr. Sechrist - Rm. 419

8th Grade:

Ms. Burns - Rm. 410

Ms. Hahs - Rm. 425

Ms. Hesse - Rm. 409

Ms. Guttman - Rm. 411

Ms. Markee - Rm. 404

Ms. Merola - Rm. 426

Mr. Mertz - Rm. 412

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RULES & PROCEDURES

STUDENT ID VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES

Student IDs must be on person and **visible** and can be worn on a lanyard or belt clip.

CLASS ID CHECKS

Teachers will start every class with a brief scan to ensure students IDs are visible.

PROCEDURE FOR FORGOTTEN OR LOST ID

LOST OR FORGOTTEN STUDENT ID

Students who forgot their Student ID must report to the closest main office **by 7:50** to retrieve a temporary daily badge. Students are not permitted on hall passes without ID visible.

LOST KEY CARD

Key Cards are electronically tied to students. If students **lost** their key card the office must be notified immediately to deactivate the card. Reports will be run monthly on card usage to monitor for any lost cards.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS

REPLACEMENT FEES

ID Badges will have a fee of **$1.00** after the first two weeks of school.
Key Cards will have a replacement fee of **$10.00**

ESCALATING CONSEQUENCES

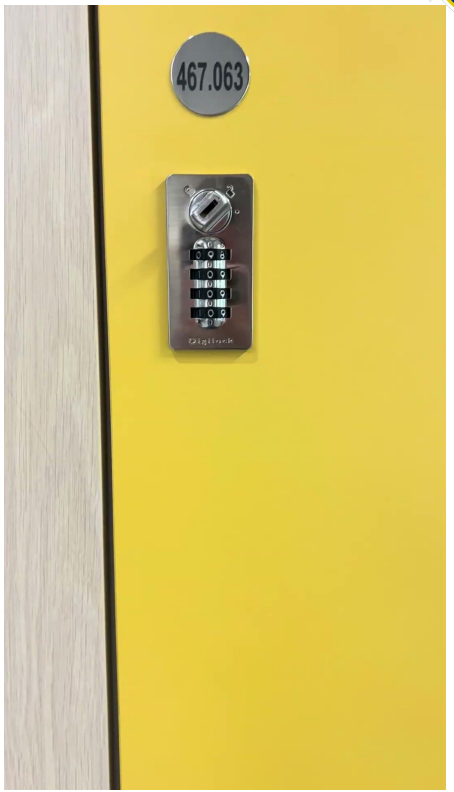
Ongoing need for replacement badges/key cards or failing to have badges may result in additional consequences such as:
Lunch Detention
After School Detention
Saturday Detention
Family Meeting and Contract

RESTRICTED PRIVILEGES

Ongoing need for replacement badges/ key cards or failing to serve consequences may result may result in additional restrictions:
Pass Limits
In School Event Restrictions
After School Event Restrictions
Senior Release Restrictions

Lockers

- Each student was assigned a locker on the 2nd floor
- Students can opt to lock their locker or not.
- **Students have 5 minutes in between classes, to access their locker.**
- If a student gets locked out of their locker, they should have their teacher email our administrative assistant.



If you student is confused about opening locker, they can rewatch this video.

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Cell Phones

- We are a bell to bell- no phone school.
- Phones are turned into their WPH/rALLy teacher in the morning by 7:38.
- If a student has a WPH/rALLy teacher in the LS or 500's building- they turn it into the Upper School Greeters desk.
- Field Trip Cell Phone Policy
  a. No phones on trips that are during the school day. If a trip arrives after dismissal, students are permitted to bring it on the trip.

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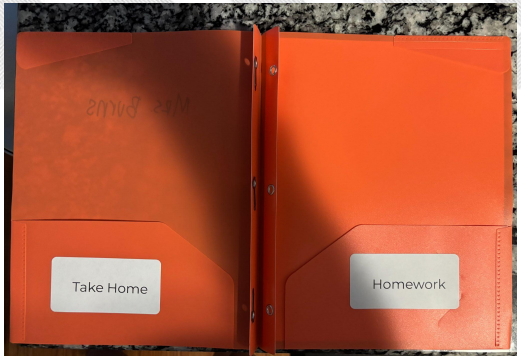
Take Home Folders



- In middle school, we are working to build students' independence and executive functioning skills. Take-home folders and calendars are important tools to help students stay organized, manage assignments and deadlines, and communicate important information between school and home.
- We encourage families to regularly review these tools with their child while gradually allowing students to take greater responsibility for keeping themselves organized and prepared.
- Each student was given a take home folder/calendar during their rALLy class.

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7th Grade History

Curriculum: McGraw Hill United States History: Voices and Perspectives

What we'll cover:

- Discovery of the New World
- American Revolution
- United States Government
- Early Expansion
- The Civil War

5 Years with AGCS

What I Teach:

- 7th Grade US History
- MS Newspaper Club

What I've Done:

- After School Book Club
- After School Drawing Club

Mr. Hoffman
thoffman@agcharter.org

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7th Grade ELA

Curriculum: HMV Into Literature

Units Taught:

- Reality Check
- Take Control
- Game On
- Change Agents

*All units involve reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar.

*Students will practice the required skills on formative assignments and demonstrate mastery on the performance tasks.

Mrs. Horgan
thorgan@agcharter.org

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ELA Interventionists

Mrs. Tellman
gtellman@agcharter.org

- Interventionist
  Grades 6th, 7th, and 8th
- Reading Intervention Groups
- In class push-in support for small groups

Ms. Oddo
joddo@agcharter.org

- MS Special Education Teacher
- Reading & Math Intervention Groups
- Push-in & pull-out support for small groups

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Foundations of Middle School Reading

Ms. Markee
ymarkee@agcharter.org

Course Description:

- This is a replacement ELA class taught by a Spec. Ed teacher that occurs daily for 80 minutes
- Emphasis on remedial reading skills paired with fluency and exposure to grade level content with small group instruction
- Students in this class do not take 7th or 8th Grade ELA or ELA Applications classes

Homework:

- Given every Monday and due every Friday
- Focus on practice-based review skills

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School Tardies

- Students are expected in homeroom by 7:38
  - 1st-4th- documented in PowerSchool for students/families to monitor
  - 5th-9th tardy - issued after school detention
  - 10th tardy - issued Saturday detention and requests parent/guardian meeting
  - 11th - Begin Truancy Process
  - Students arriving late from a bus will be given a pass (no consequences for this)

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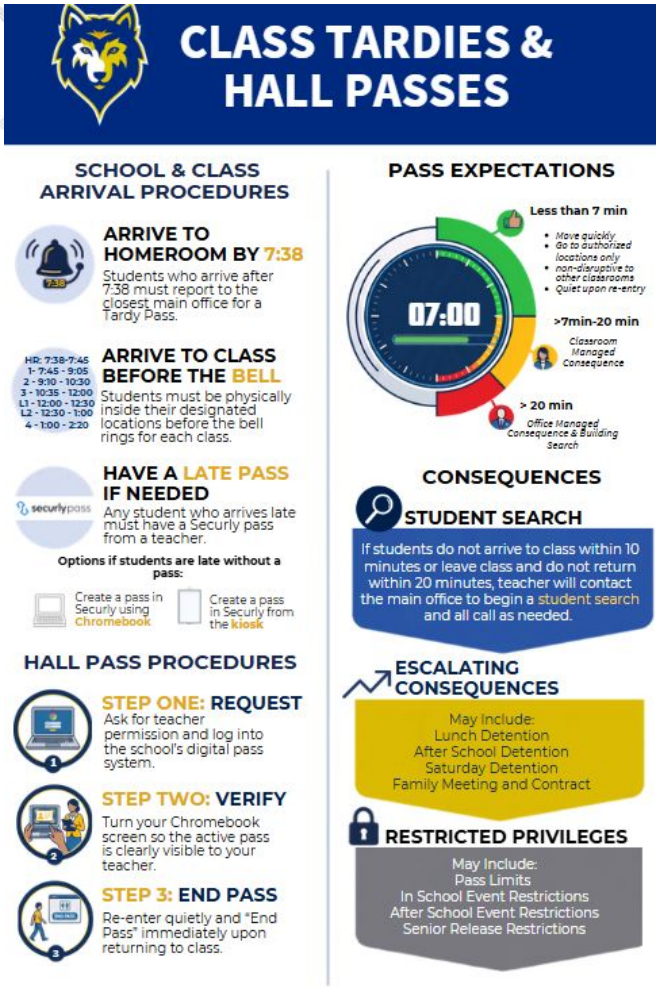
Class Tardiness & Hall Passes

- New Hall Pass System- Securely
- Class Tardiness
  - If a student is tardy to class they must create a late to pass on Securely prior to entering the classroom. If a student's chromebook is dead, they are to report to US greeters desk to use the kiosk for a late pass.



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Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-urgent related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your student healthy. If you are concerned about about a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

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Chromebooks

- Please make sure students charge computers at night
- Each student has been provided a charger and is responsible for this charger. If a replacement charger is needed, a fee will be assessed to student account.
- Students are expected to handle their device with care. If we feel damages are due to improper care or deliberate negligence, fees will be assessed.

CLASS PREPARATION (MS)

ARRIVE PREPARED

CHARGED CHROMEBOOK

Ensure that Chromebooks are charged.

Forgot Chromebook? Submit an IT ticket for a loaner device.

WRITING UTENSIL & REQUIRED TEXTS

Double check the course syllabus for all required texts.

PUT AWAY SCHOOL PROHIBITED ITEMS (HOMEROOM ONLY)

All electronics must be turned in.

PUT AWAY CLASSROOM-PROHIBITED ITEMS

Check with your teacher on whether snacks, food, or drinks are allowable.

GET STARTED

DO THE WARM-UP

Check the board and get started on the warm-up. Need help? Ask a friend or the teacher.

EXTRA TIME?

CHECK SCHOOLOGY & POWERSCHOOL

Check due dates in Schoology to-do list & calendar. Check grades in Powerschool and make a plan for any missing assignments

CHECK E-MAIL

Check your e-mail for any messages and make a plan to respond. Be sure to adjust your format based on your audience.

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Social Media

- Please encourage your child to keep all sites private and only share information with people they know and have developed friendships with.
- Please monitor your child's social media accounts. There are many safety measures you can put in place. Parents have the ability to control apps, inappropriate content/pictures, usage, and who can or can not be contacted. Please consider putting these measures in place to protect your child from online predators and the negative impacts of social media.
- Please make sure your child is old enough to have access to the apps on their devices. <u>All of these sites require you to be 13 years old:</u>
    - SnapChat, Pinterest, Discord, Tik Tok

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7th Grade Applications

Course Description: Project and Problem based learning utilizing the skills learned in both ELA and Math.

Homework: 2 Exact Path Trophies per week. 1 ELA+1 Math

Unfinished projects.

Projects to Look Forward to:
-Golden Record Analysis
-Poetry Therapy
-Olympic Box and Whisker Plots
-Poetry Mood Boards
-Socratic Circles
- Novel Reads
    -Rhyme Schemer
-Blackout Poetry
-And More!

Mr. Brown
sbrown@agcharter.org

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7th Grade Math

Curriculum: HMH Into Math

Grades: Quick Checks, Module assessments, Common assessments

Homework:

- Practice Plus book assigned nightly
- will be posted on Schoology

Resources:

- EduFriend Learning App
- Edmentum

Materials needed:

- Binder with Spring Math packet
- Pencils
- charged Chromebook
- agenda

Mrs. Conboy
vconboy@agcharter.org

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Foundations of Middle School Mathematics

Ms. Markee
ymarkee@agcharter.org

Course Description:

- This is a replacement math class taught by a Spec. Ed teacher that occurs daily for 80 minutes
- There are 12 students in this class (both 7th and 8th graders)
- Emphasis on remedial math skills paired with fact fluency and exposure to grade level content with small group instruction

Homework:

- Given every Monday and due every Friday
- Focus on practice-based review skills

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Math Interventionists

Mrs. Jennings
kjennings@agcharter.org

MS Special Education
7th Grade Team Lead
MS Yearbook Advisor

We are a PBIS School!

POSITIVITY	SEEING THE GOOD IN **MYSELF** AND BEING **SELF-AWARE**
ACCOUNTABILITY	CONSTRUCTIVE & INTENTIONAL CHOICES ABOUT **MY ACTIONS**
CONFIDENCE	**PROBLEM SOLVING** & PLANNING FOR **MY FUTURE**
KINDNESS	ESTABLISHING & MAINTAINING HEALTHY **RELATIONSHIPS**

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Field Trips

7th Grade Trips:	8th Grade Trips:
Top Golf - November 4th	Washington DC- October 22nd
Museum of American Rev - March 4th	People's Light Theater - February 17th
Camp Arrowhead - May 17th	**Hershey Park - June 1st**

PBIS Trips (Both Grades)

Main Event - October 16th (75 students per grade)

Sonic the Hedgehog Movies - March 19th (75 students per grade)

To: 7th and 8th Grade Students and Parents

From: AGCS MS Teaching Team

Re: 2026-2027 Field Trips

We are pleased to announce that the middle school team has planned several fantastic field trip opportunities for this school year. There will be many chances for students to make connections to what they will be studying across the curriculum this year, gain some cultural exposure, and have a little fun!

The purpose of this advanced notice is to allow you to **plan and budget** accordingly in the coming months. The first of the field trips will be here before we know it! Below is a schedule of **TENTATIVE** dates, times, contacts, and **estimated** prices (based on minimum participation). **Please stick this on the fridge at home; the teachers will be sure to send reminders with more details as the deadlines approach**. *Field trips are not mandatory, but will offer intangible enrichment opportunities. If a student opts not to attend one of the trips, we kindly ask that you respond accordingly by the deadline so that we can leave work for them at school that day.* Not attending a field trip does not excuse a student from school for the day.

Grade	Date	Location	Est. Cost	Times	Contact	Due Date
7 & 8 (75 per grade)	Friday Oct 16th	PBIS Trip- Main Event	$40	9:00am-2:00pm	Mrs. Burns nburns@agcharter.org	Sept. 25th
8	Thurs. Oct 22nd	Washington, D.C. American History Museum & others!	$60	**6:15am – ~8:00pm**	Mrs. Burns nburns@agcharter.org	Sept. 18th
7	Wed. Nov 4th	Top Golf	$40.00	9:00am-2:00pm	Mrs. Jennings kjennings@agcharter.org	Oct 16th

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Grades

- Please monitor **PowerSchool** for up to date grades
  - Our goal is to have grades updated by every Wednesday.
- If you have any questions please reach out the specific teacher
- Grades are made up of performance assessments that account for 90% of grade and formative assessments that account for 10% of grade.
- Students must be passing all classes (including WPH, and specials) to be eligible for field trips.
- Helpful hint
  - Schoology = students (where work can be found)
  - PowerSchool = parents (where guardians can find information about grades)

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MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADING & REPORTING ONE PAGER

Grades

90% of overall grade comes from **performance assignments** - tests, quizzes, projects. Will have at least 4 in a marking period.

10% of overall grade comes from **formative assignments** - classwork, homework, practice, and review activities

Grades will be updated weekly by Tuesday @ 11:59pm.

Late Work Policy

Performance - Students will have **one week (5 days) after due date** to make up a performance assessment.

Formative - Students can submit formative assignments **up to the date of the culminating performance assignment.**

Communication

Marking Periods are *approximately* 10 weeks long. **Teachers will reach out mid marking period to communicate IF a student is failing.**

Performance Assessments will be announced in agenda books, on Schoology, Talking Points and/or email.

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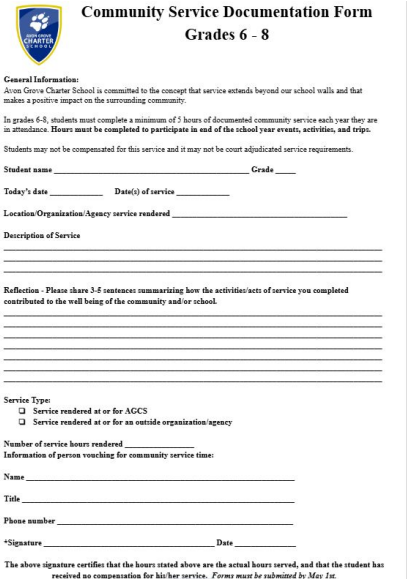
Community Service

- All Middle School students are expected to complete a total of 15 hours of community service by the end of 8th grade
  - 5 hours in 6th, 7th and 8th grade
- Service hours must be completed outside of school hours
- Students must submit form explaining the hours of service, with signatures to verify, and reflection of the experience
  - Form is available on our website
  - Forms are due by May 1st, 2027
- Students who do not complete the required hours will not be eligible for end of year activities.



Community Service Documentation Form
Grades 6 - 8

General Information:
Avon Grove Charter School is committed to the concept that service extends beyond our school walls and that makes a positive impact on the surrounding community.

In grades 6-8, students must complete a minimum of 5 hours of documented community service each year they are in attendance. **Hours must be completed to participate in end of the school year events, activities, and trips.**

Students may not be compensated for this service and it may not be court adjudicated service requirements.

Student name _____ **Grade** ____

Today's date _____ **Date(s) of service** _____

Location/Organization/Agency service rendered _____

Description of Service

_____
_____
_____

Reflection - Please share 3-5 sentences summarizing how the activities/acts of service you completed contributed to the well being of the community and/or school.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Service Type:
- ❑ **Service rendered at or for AGCS**
- ❑ **Service rendered at or for an outside organization/agency**

Number of service hours rendered _____
Information of person vouching for community service time:

Name _____

Title _____

Phone number _____

***Signature** _____ **Date** _____

The above signature certifies that the hours stated above are the actual hours served, and that the student has received no compensation for his/her service. ***Forms must be submitted by May 1st.***

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8th Grade

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I'M SORRY,
I CAN'T HEAR YOU
OVER THE SOUND OF HOW
AWESOME SCIENCE IS
GIFSec.com

8th Grade Earth & Space

Curriculum: OpenSciEd
Units Taught:

- Physical Earth (inside Earth, tectonic plates, and Earth's surfaces)
- Natural Disasters
- Earth's Resources and Human Impact
- Earth in Space

Note: A Daily Agenda can be found in Schoology for what we did in class. Feel free to reach out anytime.

*Students will need their binder for both 8th Grade Science & Earth/Space Science and possibly History too each day for class

Ms. Hahs
Year 14 at AGCS
ahahs@agcharter.org
MS Green Team Advisor

OpenSciEd®

PA STEELS Standards

8th Grade Science

Curriculum: OpenSciEd

Units Taught:

- Chemical Reactions and Matter
- Chemical Reactions and Energy
- Forces at a Distance
- Cells & Systems

Mrs. Merola
kmerola@agcharter.org

OpenSciEd®

PA STEELS Standards

Welcome to MS Back to School Night

Needed: Tissues and Clorox Wipes are always needed in our classrooms. Having your student bring in each of these to their 1A Homeroom would be appreciated.

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PROCEDURE FOR FORGOTTEN OR LOST ID

LOST OR FORGOTTEN STUDENT ID

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LOST KEY CARD

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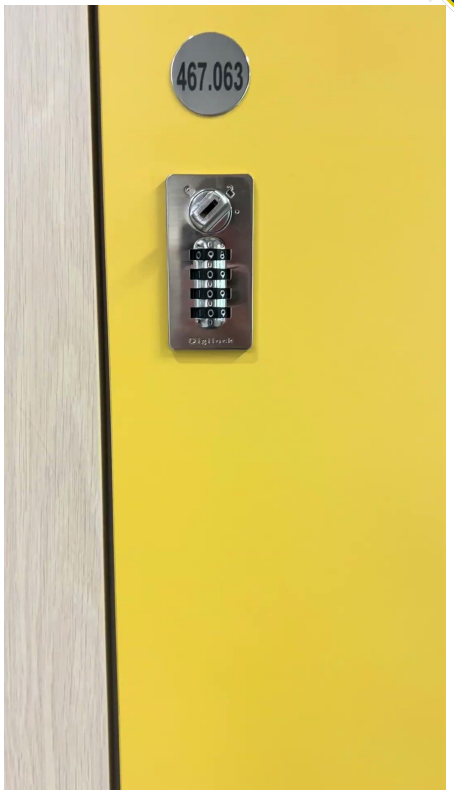

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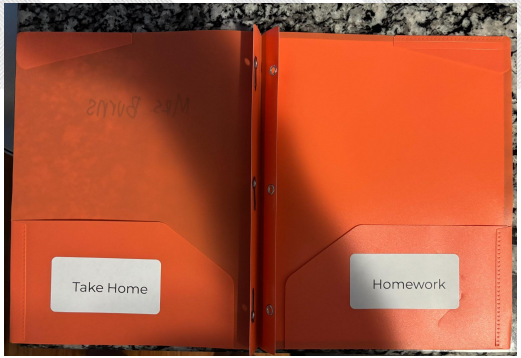
Take Home Folders



- In middle school, we are working to build students' independence and executive functioning skills. Take-home folders and calendars are important tools to help students stay organized, manage assignments and deadlines, and communicate important information between school and home.
- We encourage families to regularly review these tools with their child while gradually allowing students to take greater responsibility for keeping themselves organized and prepared.
- Each student was given a take home folder/calendar during their rALLy class.

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8th Grade History

Hello ACGS Families, I am Michael Mertz, the 8th grade History Teacher. I am a 20 year veteran of the Educational field., and have worked in a variety of school settings over the course of my career. I have been a behavioral specialist, a paraprofessional, a teacher, and an Administrator I have worked in a variety of educational settings and could not be happier about joining the ACGS team. I believe in hard work, repeated effort, and developing resilience and self reliance in my students.

”success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.”

Curriculum: HMH Social Studies; United States Civil war to Present

This year we will cover the following:
Reconstruction
The Gilded Age of America
World War I
The Roaring 20’s/Great Depression
WW II
The Cold War
The Civil Rights Movement

This year we will work through some of the most important and influential periods of American History. We will use a combination of lecture, tests, and projects as we work through US HIstory over the course of the school year

Mr. Mertz
mmertz@agcharter.org

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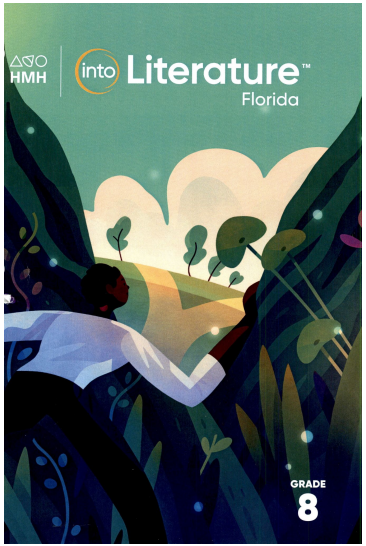
8th Grade ELA

We will use the Into Literature curriculum to create a strong foundation for the study of literature. Students receive whole group and small group instruction during each ELA block.

Units are designed around themes and texts are paired with an Essential Question of interest to 8th grade students.

Students will explore a variety of elements of literature. As a result they will develop critical thinking skills and learn to support their arguments with evidence from the text.

Homework: Any unfinished work from small group, grammar practice and weekly Exact Path trophy.



Mrs. Guttman
WEB Advisor

I look forward to working with you to ensure your child's success in 8th grade ELA. Please reach out to me at jguttman@agcharter.org with any questions, insights or concerns.

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Foundations of Middle School Reading

Ms. Markee
ymarkee@agcharter.org

Course Description:

- This is a replacement ELA class taught by a Spec. Ed teacher that occurs daily for 80 minutes
- Emphasis on remedial reading skills paired with fluency and exposure to grade level content with small group instruction
- Students in this class do not take 7th or 8th Grade ELA or ELA Applications classes

Homework:

- Given every Monday and due every Friday
- Focus on practice-based review skills

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ELA Interventionists

Mrs. Tellman
gtellman@agcharter.org

- Interventionist
  Grades 6th, 7th, and 8th
- Reading Intervention Groups
- In class push-in support for small groups

Ms. Oddo
joddo@agcharter.org

- MS Special Education Teacher
- Reading & Math Intervention Groups
- Push-in & pull-out support for small groups

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School Tardies

- Students are expected in homeroom by 7:38
  - 1st-4th- documented in PowerSchool for students/families to monitor
  - 5th-9th tardy - issued after school detention
  - 10th tardy - issued Saturday detention and requests parent/guardian meeting
  - 11th - Begin Truancy Process
  - Students arriving late from a bus will be given a pass (no consequences for this)

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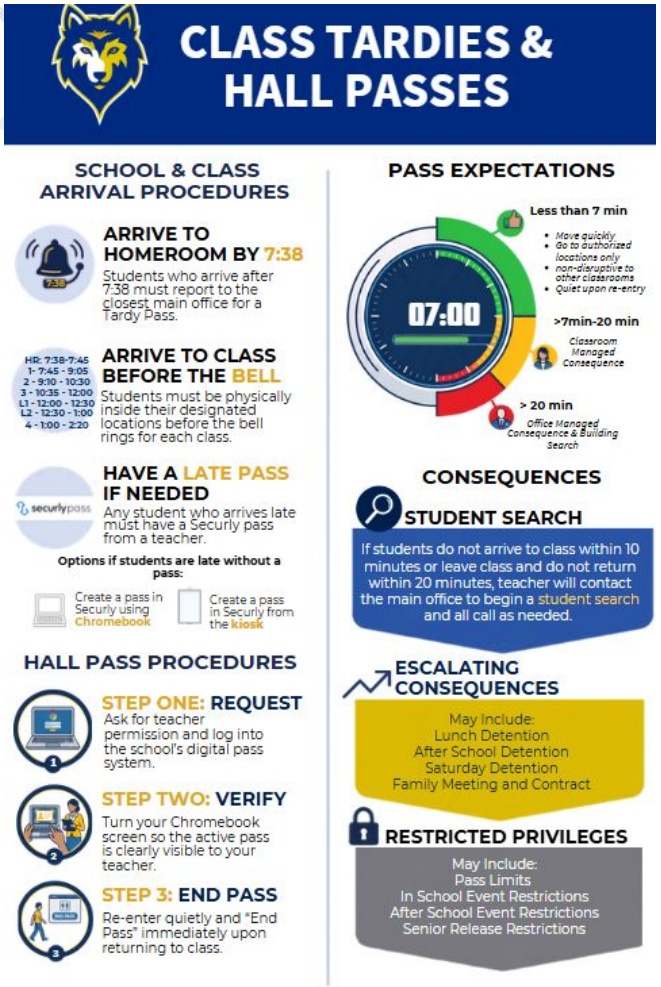
Class Tardiness & Hall Passes

- New Hall Pass System- Securely
- Class Tardiness
  - If a student is tardy to class they must create a late to pass on Securely prior to entering the classroom. If a student's chromebook is dead, they are to report to US greeters desk to use the kiosk for a late pass.



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Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-urgent related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your student healthy. If you are concerned about about a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

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Chromebooks

- Please make sure students charge computers at night
- Each student has been provided a charger and is responsible for this charger. If a replacement charger is needed, a fee will be assessed to student account.
- Students are expected to handle their device with care. If we feel damages are due to improper care or deliberate negligence, fees will be assessed.

CLASS PREPARATION (MS)

ARRIVE PREPARED

CHARGED CHROMEBOOK

Ensure that Chromebooks are charged.

Forgot Chromebook? Submit an IT ticket for a loaner device.

WRITING UTENSIL & REQUIRED TEXTS

Double check the course syllabus for all required texts.

PUT AWAY SCHOOL PROHIBITED ITEMS (HOMEROOM ONLY)

All electronics must be turned in.

PUT AWAY CLASSROOM-PROHIBITED ITEMS

Check with your teacher on whether snacks, food, or drinks are allowable.

GET STARTED

DO THE WARM-UP

Check the board and get started on the warm-up. Need help? Ask a friend or the teacher.

EXTRA TIME?

CHECK SCHOOLOGY & POWERSCHOOL

Check due dates in Schoology to-do list & calendar. Check grades in Powerschool and make a plan for any missing assignments

CHECK E-MAIL

Check your e-mail for any messages and make a plan to respond. Be sure to adjust your format based on your audience.

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Social Media

- Please encourage your child to keep all sites private and only share information with people they know and have developed friendships with.
- Please monitor your child's social media accounts. There are many safety measures you can put in place. Parents have the ability to control apps, inappropriate content/pictures, usage, and who can or can not be contacted. Please consider putting these measures in place to protect your child from online predators and the negative impacts of social media.
- Please make sure your child is old enough to have access to the apps on their devices. <u>All of these sites require you to be 13 years old:</u>
    - SnapChat, Pinterest, Discord, Tik Tok

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8th Grade Math

HMH Into Math

Incorporates whole group, small group and digital learning support that focuses on having students build conceptual understanding (the why), prior to learning procedures (the how).

Skills taught in 8th grade are in preparation for Algebra 1

Homework

- Assigned beginning of week- due Mon of following week.
- Max 25 questions of spiral review skills.
- 1 Exact Path Trophy- starting 1st week of October
- Anything not completed during independent time in class.

Ms. Hesse
whesse@agcharter.org

3rd Year at AGCS

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8th Grade Math

Class Breakdown	
15 minutes	Spring Math
20 minutes	Whole Group
40 minutes	Stations 2 (20 min)

Independent- Practice Plus Pages

Independent- Waggle/Edmentum

Collaborative- Game (haven't gotten there yet)

Interventionists- Intervention Group

Interventionist- Grade Level Group

Teacher Group- w/ teacher

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Modules of Study

MODULE 1	Congruence & Similarity
MODULE 2	The Number System and Properties of Exponents
MODULE 3	Linear Equations
MODULES 4/5/6	Functions/ Geometry / Statistics
COURSE OBJECTIVE	At the successful completion of this course, students will have mastered the skills to be prepared to enter Algebra in ninth grade

Materials Needed

- Math binder EVERYDAY
- Pencil & Calculator
- Agenda Folder
- Charged Chromebook

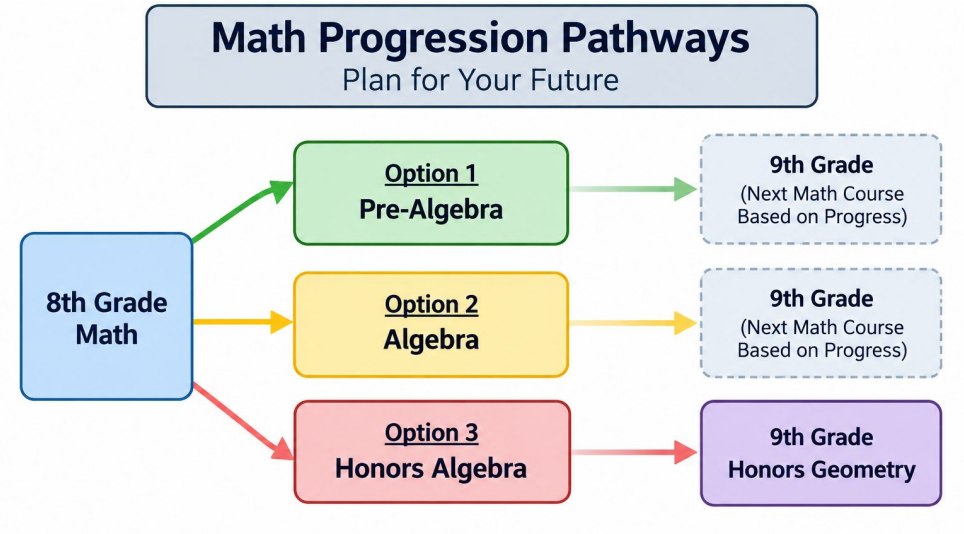
RESOURCES

- Into Math- Located in Student Resources Ed Your Friend Learning Appp
- Varsity Tutors - live tutoring available on student devices
- Edmentum- Learning Path
- Your math binder

Mrs. Burns
nburns@agcharter.org

Year 15
Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
PBIS Advisor
Leo Club Advisor

Honors Algebra 1



Mr. McNichol
lmcnichol@agcharter.org

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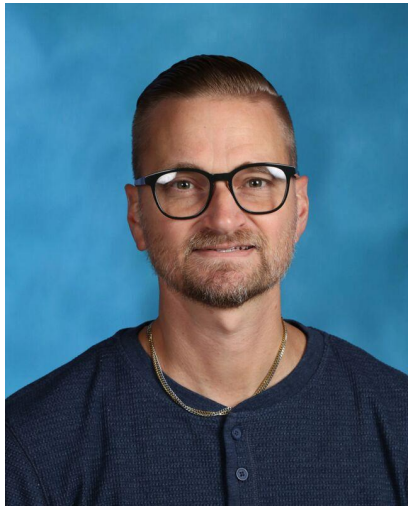
Math Interventionists

Mrs. Goundry
lgoundry@agcharter.org
Interventionist



Mr. Ham
kham@agcharter.org
Interventionist

Mrs. Jennings
kjennings@agcharter.org
MS Special Ed. Teacher

Ms. Oddo
joddo@agcharter.org
MS Special Ed. Teacher

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Foundations of Middle School Mathematics

Ms. Markee
ymarkee@agcharter.org

Course Description:

- This is a replacement math class taught by a Spec. Ed teacher that occurs daily for 80 minutes
- There are 12 students in this class (both 7th and 8th graders)
- Emphasis on remedial math skills paired with fact fluency and exposure to grade level content with small group instruction

Homework:

- Given every Monday and due every Friday
- Focus on practice-based review skills

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We are a PBIS School!

POSITIVITY	SEEING THE GOOD IN **MYSELF** AND BEING **SELF-AWARE**
ACCOUNTABILITY	CONSTRUCTIVE & INTENTIONAL CHOICES ABOUT **MY ACTIONS**
CONFIDENCE	**PROBLEM SOLVING** & PLANNING FOR **MY FUTURE**
KINDNESS	ESTABLISHING & MAINTAINING HEALTHY **RELATIONSHIPS**

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Field Trips

7th Grade Trips:	8th Grade Trips:
Top Golf - November 4th	Washington DC- October 22nd
Museum of American Rev - March 4th	People's Light Theater - February 17th
Camp Arrowhead - May 17th	**Hershey Park - June 1st**

PBIS Trips (Both Grades)

Main Event - October 16th (75 students per grade)

Sonic the Hedgehog Movies - March 19th (75 students per grade)

To: 7th and 8th Grade Students and Parents

From: AGCS MS Teaching Team

Re: 2026-2027 Field Trips

We are pleased to announce that the middle school team has planned several fantastic field trip opportunities for this school year. There will be many chances for students to make connections to what they will be studying across the curriculum this year, gain some cultural exposure, and have a little fun!

The purpose of this advanced notice is to allow you to **plan and budget** accordingly in the coming months. The first of the field trips will be here before we know it! Below is a schedule of **TENTATIVE** dates, times, contacts, and **estimated** prices (based on minimum participation). **Please stick this on the fridge at home; the teachers will be sure to send reminders with more details as the deadlines approach**. *Field trips are not mandatory, but will offer intangible enrichment opportunities. If a student opts not to attend one of the trips, we kindly ask that you respond accordingly by the deadline so that we can leave work for them at school that day.* Not attending a field trip does not excuse a student from school for the day.

Grade	Date	Location	Est. Cost	Times	Contact	Due Date
7 & 8 (75 per grade)	Friday Oct 16th	PBIS Trip- Main Event	$40	9:00am-2:00pm	Mrs. Burns nburns@agcharter.org	Sept. 25th
8	Thurs. Oct 22nd	Washington, D.C. American History Museum & others!	$60	**6:15am – ~8:00pm**	Mrs. Burns nburns@agcharter.org	Sept. 18th
7	Wed. Nov 4th	Top Golf	$40.00	9:00am-2:00pm	Mrs. Jennings kjennings@agcharter.org	Oct 16th

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Grades

- Please monitor **PowerSchool** for up to date grades
  - Our goal is to have grades updated by every Wednesday.
- If you have any questions please reach out the specific teacher
- Grades are made up of performance assessments that account for 90% of grade and formative assessments that account for 10% of grade.
- Students must be passing all classes (including WPH, and specials) to be eligible for field trips.
- Helpful hint
  - Schoology = students (where work can be found)
  - PowerSchool = parents (where guardians can find information about grades)

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MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADING & REPORTING ONE PAGER

Grades

90% of overall grade comes from **performance assignments** - tests, quizzes, projects. Will have at least 4 in a marking period.

10% of overall grade comes from **formative assignments** - classwork, homework, practice, and review activities

Grades will be updated weekly by Tuesday @ 11:59pm.

Late Work Policy

Performance - Students will have **one week (5 days) after due date** to make up a performance assessment.

Formative - Students can submit formative assignments **up to the date of the culminating performance assignment.**

Communication

Marking Periods are *approximately* 10 weeks long. **Teachers will reach out mid marking period to communicate IF a student is failing.**

Performance Assessments will be announced in agenda books, on Schoology, Talking Points and/or email.

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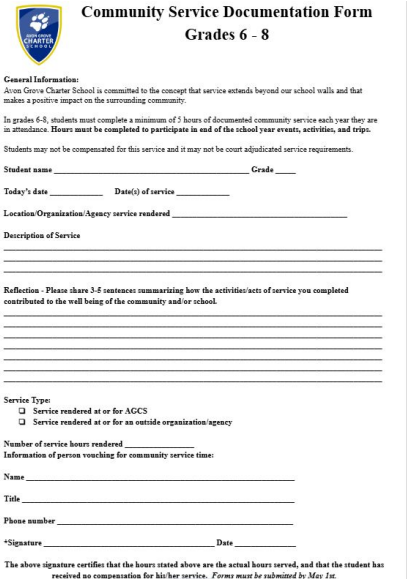
Community Service

- All Middle School students are expected to complete a total of 15 hours of community service by the end of 8th grade
  - 5 hours in 6th, 7th and 8th grade
- Service hours must be completed outside of school hours
- Students must submit form explaining the hours of service, with signatures to verify, and reflection of the experience
  - Form is available on our website
  - Forms are due by May 1st, 2027
- Students who do not complete the required hours will not be eligible for end of year activities.



Community Service Documentation Form
Grades 6 - 8

General Information:
Avon Grove Charter School is committed to the concept that service extends beyond our school walls and that makes a positive impact on the surrounding community.

In grades 6-8, students must complete a minimum of 5 hours of documented community service each year they are in attendance. **Hours must be completed to participate in end of the school year events, activities, and trips.**

Students may not be compensated for this service and it may not be court adjudicated service requirements.

Student name _____ **Grade** ____

Today's date _____ **Date(s) of service** _____

Location/Organization/Agency service rendered _____

Description of Service

_____
_____
_____

Reflection - Please share 3-5 sentences summarizing how the activities/acts of service you completed contributed to the well being of the community and/or school.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Service Type:
- ❑ **Service rendered at or for AGCS**
- ❑ **Service rendered at or for an outside organization/agency**

Number of service hours rendered _____
Information of person vouching for community service time:

Name _____

Title _____

Phone number _____

***Signature** _____ **Date** _____

The above signature certifies that the hours stated above are the actual hours served, and that the student has received no compensation for his/her service. ***Forms must be submitted by May 1st.***

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Specialists

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7th Grade Specialists

Art
Ms. Bannon
sbannon@agcharter.org

This year's class will focus on a discipline based art education highlighting the 7 elements of art. Line, Space, Texture, Value, Form, Color, and Shape.

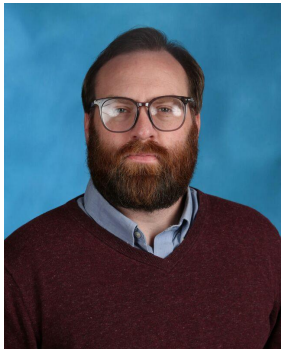
Music
Dr. Roberts
aroberts@agcharter.org
Musical elements: Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, Form, Timbre, Expressive Qualities and Form are explored through activities, compositions and regular jam sessions.

PE
Mr. Kellie
dkellie@agcharter.org

Students will be participating in fitness activities, large group games and a variety of team sports.

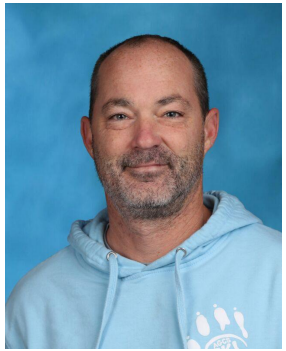
Computer Tech.
Mr. Klink
iklink@agchcarter.org

In computer Technology students will learn the foundations for Adobe Programs and proper online safety



CORE
Mr. Sechrist
psechrist@agcharter.org

I will be working with students on various topics such as bullying prevention, digital citizenship, vaping prevention, college and career readiness, and much more.



French
Mrs. Pauly-Nguyen
mpaulynguyen@agcharter.org

In a nutshell, French speaking countries' culture, a little bit of geography, French language basic concepts and greetings, a dash of pronunciation ... and French movies!

8th Grade Specialists

Art
Ms. Bannon
sbannon@agcharter.org

This year's class will highlight a variety of artists and art media. We will continue expanding our knowledge of the 7 elements of art.

Music
Dr. Roberts
aroberts@agcharter.org

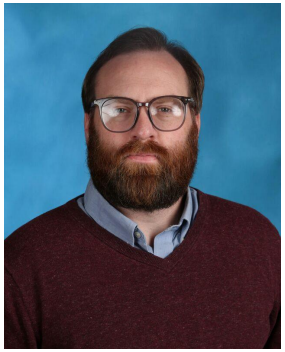
Musical elements: Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, Form, Timbre, Expressive Qualities and Form are explored through activities, compositions and regular jam sessions.

PE
Mr. Kellie
dkellie@agcharter.org

In PE students are introduced to a variety of new team building activities, fitness assessment, and team sports.

Computer Tech.
Mr. Klink
iklink@agchcarter.org

In computer Technology students will learn the foundations for Adobe Programs and proper online safety



STEM
Mr. Braydman
abraydman@agcharter.org

In STEM, we learn how to take vitals, explore the human brain, and determine the culprit of a mysterious neurotoxin outbreak.

Dance
Mrs. Strange
dstrange@agcharter.org

In dance students will be introduced to various genres of dance including ballet, jazz and lyrical. Students will participate in the January 28, 2027 Winter Show

Wolf Pack Hour/ rALLy

- Students picked between 22 different clubs and were given top priorities for each MP as possible. It is every other day each marking period for a total of 22-23 sessions.
- WPH is a pass/fail course. The students have been given the expectations for the project/expectation for each club. Students who do not pass will not be eligible for field trips.
- Rally is held on the opposite day of WPH and runs all year long. Students will will participate in lessons related to building SEL competencies, organization skills, check grades, check emails, and work on learning pathways in Edmentum.
- Please reach out to rALLy teacher for any questions or concerns your student might be experiencing.

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Parent Support Opportunities

- PTO/Boosters
- Establish routines at home, including homework and studying.
- Read monthly Newsletters and Smores
- Participate in Raise Craze/Fundraising
- Enforce Social Media expectations- age restrictions, keep accounts private, follow/accept people students know/like
- Set parental controls to restrict student phone usage during the day. Do not hesitate to take their cell phone if you receive communication from staff that they are misusing their personal device.

*If you would like to help support the Microfarm and volunteer for upcoming weekend animal care support please contact Kate Mrakovich at kmrakovich@agcharter.org

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