



August 7, 2024

AMS Families:

As we prepare for the opening of school on Thursday, September 5, we would like to share some updates and reminders with you.

This summer has been a busy one so far at AMS with capital project improvements taking place in many classrooms, in addition to the building hosting many camps and summer school. Meanwhile many of our teachers have been involved in professional development, curriculum writing and teaching our school's summer program.

We hope that your family is having an enjoyable summer and that as your child starts thinking about September, that they are excited to be at AMS with their friends and teachers.

Sincerely,
Robert Messia, Principal
Brian Rhode, Assistant Principal
Algonquin Middle School

THEME FOR 2024-25: GO FOR GOLD!

Each year our school establishes a theme that is reflected in a banner above the front entrance of the school. This year's theme is "Go for Gold!" This theme was selected for multiple reasons.

First it draws on the recent Olympics and the unifying spirit of the games across the world. Closer to home, here in Averill Park, it is a prelude to our switch to the new mascot of The Golden Knights!

Above all, this theme draws on the goal of achieving our personal best in going for gold each day at AMS.

We will work with students throughout the year ahead to build on this theme and its connection to our school's three core principles of Respect, Effort and Action.
Thank you.

RESPECT - EFFORT - ACTION

MORNING MEETING ASSIGNMENTS AND SCHEDULES

All Algonquin students will receive a letter in the mail in late August informing them of their Morning Meeting assignment for the upcoming school year.

Students will receive their course schedules on the first day of school.

GRADE 6 FAMILY VISITS - AUGUST 29

Incoming Grade 6 students and families are invited to visit at AMS in advance of the start of school during our AMS Grade 6 Family Visit Night on Thursday, August 29th from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

This event is a loosely structured, self-guided program with a 2 hour time window for families to visit in a relaxed environment.

There will be several fun activities built into the event, including a Stewart's Ice Cream Social, with ice cream sundaes for sale by the APO for \$1.00.

Families should plan on spending about 45 minutes here in the building for the activities.

More information will be shared directly with incoming Grade 6 families in the coming weeks.



We hope this opportunity will support a smooth transition for your child to the upcoming school year. Thank you.

GRADE 6 TRANSITION CONNECTION WEBSITE

Families of Grade 6 Students: We have put together the website linked below to organize the materials we shared over the spring regarding the transition to middle school. We hope that this one-stop resource is helpful to you and your child as they prepare to join us here at AMS in September!



[Click here](#) to view the Transition Connection website:

ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION FORM

Families are asked to please fill out this form to request childcare transportation to a location that is not the same as your home address on file. Please click on the link below to complete the form. Thank you.

<https://www.averillpark.k12.ny.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/TransportationFormChildcarerev2022.pdf>



SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

Please [click here](#) for the Grades 6-8 supply list.

Should any family need assistance with obtaining supplies for your child please reach out to your child's school counselor. Thanks to the generosity of the Sand Lake Kiwanis we have supplies for students who need them. Thank you.



SAVE THE DATE - AMS LEARNING LAUNCH (OPEN HOUSE)

Mark your calendars and join us for Algonquin's Learning Launch (Open House) on Wednesday, September 11th from 5:30-7:00pm. More information about this evening program for parents and students will be shared as we get closer to the event.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS REMINDER

If you haven't done so, now is a great time for students to get going on your summer reading assignment!

At AMS we know that students need to continually build and maintain their skills in reading and mathematics. As a result, our teachers have created important, engaging and manageable summer assignments to support student success in their upcoming grade level.

For Math: Students should be completing their daily math calendar assignments.

For ELA: Students should be reading their summer book and complete the short activity for their grade level prior to the start of school.

For those that need copies of materials, please view the following link:

<https://www.averillpark.k12.ny.us/summer-assignments/>



HEALTH OFFICE INFORMATION

GRADE 6 FAMILIES: Please remember that your student needs the Tdap immunization by the time they turn 11. If they have already turned 11, please send in the physician immunization record if you have not already done so. NYS allows for 14 grace days from the day your student turns 11 to obtain the Tdap immunization. If they do not have the Tdap immunization by the fourteenth day after their 11th birthday, the district can opt to exclude your student.

GRADE 7 FAMILIES: Please remember to send in your student's 7th grade physical, it is a NYS mandate. All 7th grade students, per NYS law, must have the Meningitis vaccine as well. Please send in documentation from your medical provider stating the vaccine was administered. The vaccine is due by September 20 or a note from your provider stating your child has an upcoming appointment, date included, is required if the vaccine is not administered. In compliance with the Dominic Murray Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act, a physical must include documentation that there has been a "family cardiac history review." The physician, PA, or NP completing the physical must "check the box" on the physical indicating that this was done.

GRADES 7 & 8 STUDENT ATHLETES: You must register in Family ID if you intend to try out for a sport. You must also have a current physical on file with the AMS health office. A physical is valid for a period of 1 year from the date it was completed. In order for your child to be approved to try out, their physical on file with the health office must have been completed within 1 year of the tryout/practice start date.

If your student requires medication to be given in school (daily or emergency), please print the form below, have your child's medical provider complete it and return the form to the AMS health office. The link for the NYS physical exam form is also available below. Thank you.

Medication Administration Form: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1vsgVkOsO6R5XZhium2gW1jZFGRReffJ7>

NYS Health Exam Form: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/health-exam-form.pdf>

AMS health office fax (518)-674-8426