SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION WEEK IS JANUARY 30TH - FEBRUARY 5TH

Our district is blessed to have a strong Board of Education! We are fortunate to have a group of individuals that are servant minded and make decisions in the best interest of students. They continue to support staff and students as we pursue excellence! Please take the time to thank our Board of Education for their service. Members: Eric Beranek, Ally Miller, Dave Nygren, Suzanne Sapp, Karen Stille, Russ Westerhold.
MRS. STARNS WINS AWARD!

Congratulations to Mrs. Starns for being selected as the 2022 Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year! The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation selected Mrs. Starns in recognition of her efforts to incorporate agriculture into her classroom through innovative ideas and lessons. Mrs. Starns will receive an all-expense paid trip to the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY this summer, agriculture books for her classroom, and a $250 cash prize.

A-G ART STUDENTS EXCEL AT STATE ART SHOW!

BLEEDING ORANGE: GOLD KEY-CERAMICS - BY SARAH WALLINGFORD
MEMORIES OF THE PAST: GOLD KEY-PAINTING - BY
ALESE VOSS
AWARDS AT STATE ART SHOW

Seventeen artworks produced by Ashland-Greenwood art students have received recognition in the 2022 Scholastic State Art Awards competition, organized by the Omaha Public Schools Art Department. Ashland students competed with almost 2200 entries from across the state of Nebraska. Entries are judged by a panel of art experts. Gold Key winners will go on to compete at the national level.

**Gold Key:** Sarah Wallingford - Ceramics, Alese Voss - Painting

**Silver Key:** Joshua Schrieber - Sculpture, Alivia Pike - Drawing, Riley Lichtas - Painting, Alexis Hoefer - Ceramics (2 pieces), Gracey Earnest - Sculpture, Shea Barnes - Painting.

**Honorable Mention:** Addison Scott - Drawing, Alivia Pike - Painting, Leah Levin - Drawing, Alexis Hoefer - Drawing, Olivia Craig - Drawing, Malyssa Cool - Painting, Caden Bottorff - Digital Art, Shea Barnes - Drawing

331 STUDENTS MET THEIR GOALS AND WERE READING ROCKSTARS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER! WAY TO GO A-G ELEMENTARY!
A-G Participates in Unified Basketball Tournament!

The A-G Unified Basketball team was invited to participate in a basketball tournament in Elkhorn. Two A-G teams competed, and they both placed third! There was a lot of improvement made in practices before the tournament, and students worked extremely hard.
BLUEJAY DANCE TEAM COMPETES!

The Bluejay Dance Team started their competition season with a performance in the Crete High School showcase. The team has worked hard and received great feedback. Congratulations to Alexis Hoefer and Addison Scott for their participation in the individual jump contest. Addison finished as a top 4 finalist. Great work dancers!
A-G ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM EARNS 25 MEDALS!

Although unable to qualify for State competition because they had no varsity level team members, the Ashland-Greenwood Academic Decathlon team made a very strong run at this year’s Regional competition. (The team is coached by Janice Jacobs and Laura Duff.)

REGIONAL RESULTS
Emerson Lindley - Honors Level, Regular Team Member - Math 3rd, Music 3rd, Economics 2nd, Science 1st

Caden Bottorff - Scholastic Level, Regular Team Member - Top Scorer, Art 1st, Literature 2nd, Math 2nd, Economics 1st, Social Science 2nd

Ryland Stephens - Scholastic Level, Regular Team Member - Art 3rd, Music 3rd, Economics 2nd

Elliot Gossin - Honors Level, Alternate Team Member - Art 3rd, Literature 2nd, Economics 1st

Riley Lichtas - Honors Level, Alternate Team Member - Art 2nd, Math 2nd

Tobin Engelhard - Scholastic Level, Alternate Team Member - Art 2nd, Literature 2nd, Math 3rd, Music 2nd, Economics 1st, Science 3rd, Social Science 1st

Ellie Whitehead - Honors Level, Regular Team Member also participated

POSITIVE REFERRALS AT AGMS/HS
As a school, we strive to build character and community through a culture of respect, integrity, safety and engagement. Staff and students have the opportunity to recognize middle and high school students for their efforts in contributing to a positive culture at Ashland-Greenwood MS/HS.

We value the importance of each individual's contribution to creating a positive learning environment for all. Congratulations to the following students whose efforts were noticed during the month of January! Ashland-Greenwood MS/HS is fortunate to have them as part of our school family!

Dawson Thies
Ava Miller
Ethan Dekarske
Carson Hofferber
Jaxson Hamm
Luke Clark
Estelle Redlightning
Jadah Laughlin
Teddy Risney
BLUEJAY HIGHLIGHTS: CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

Bluejay Student Highlights:

These students were Ms. Barent's reading rockstars for the month of January: Memphis, Autumn, Wren, Brody, Callie, Gage, Reese, Karter, Rylie and Janessa.

All of the students in Mrs. Pearson's Kindergarten class earned their Book-It in December!

The following students in Mrs. Starns' Classroom met their reading goal for January and they also completed the Holiday Reading Challenge over the Christmas break! You are a Reading Rockstar: Alaina Bird, Scarlett Bray, Brynn Bundy, Jace Collins, Connor Friehie, Addison Glantz, Charleigh Haschke, Elijah Hogle, Gabriel Jeffery, Kellan Knapp, Kylie Kopf, Olivia Lewin, Elijah Needham, Kayden Payne, Nash Schmidt, Pyke Slagle, Nevaeh Smith, Breelyn Strode, and Knox Wegner!

All students in Mrs. Murphy's first grade classroom met their reading goal for the month of December.

Mrs. Brady's Class earned another Bluejay Incentive party by earning 300 tickets together for demonstrating Respectful, Safe, and Responsible behavior during the months of December and January. The students earned their tickets for reading and other class activities.
Ben Chung
Eliana Hernandez
Charlie Kunkel
Keyton McGuire
Laileonna VanLaningham

Sawyer Schirm from Mrs. Cooper's class has earned 100 Bluejay Tickets so far this year!!!!
Brantley T. was a Bluejay Way Role Model! Mrs. Cooper's class has read 7,800 minutes so far this year.

The following students in Mrs. Gude-Rung's class met their December reading goal: Maci Alcorn, Addy Cooper, Brody Heitman, Hailey Johnson, Carter Perillo, Lainie Pratt, Carter Price, Alex Rhine, Coraline Roberts, Aidia Robinson, Rory Trygstead, and Jaron Tucker. Great job kids!

The following students in Mrs. Lawley's class met their reading goal for the month of December! HAWKINS BERANEK, JOHN BRYANT, MADDOX FERGUSON, JESSIE FLYNN, JAYCEE GROTELUSCHEN, JOE JOHNSON, REED KUCERA, LINAS MAKEAITIS, REAGAN QUEEN, IAN SCHMIDT, ADELLA SLAGLE, BENTLEY SPURLIN, ASHTON STRODE, AVA WELCH, BRYNLEE WELLMAN, HARRISON DEKARSKE

The following students in Mrs. Gutierrez' class completed their December reading goal: Chase Milburn, Grant Miller, Trey Petersen, Dean Skretta, Grace Thies, Olivia Thompson, Olive Welch, Harper Westerhold, Sam Bottorff, Wyatt Buckingham, Jackson Chung, Mackenna Crnkovich, Zander Forbes, Myles Fronterhouse, Autumn Judy, and Noah Kaiser.

These Reading Rockstars in Mrs. Lewin's class made their December reading goals: JP Heitman, Journey Kissel, Urijah Kuhn, Silvija Makaitis, Bryson Mattila, Kayleigh McFerrin, Riley Myers, Landon Polzin, Asher Wasalaski, Alec Whitaker and Kane Meinke

The following list of Mrs. Lightfoot's art students were selected to have their artwork framed and displayed for 3rd Quarter at the Elementary.

Karlee Talcott-1st Grade
Grace Lentz-1st Grade
AJ Clark-5th Grade
Caely Leonard-2nd Grade
Charlie Kunkel-2nd Grade
Silvija Makaitis-5th Grade
Karsen Christo-2nd
Senior football player, Evan Shepard, has been selected to play in the 2022 Nebraska Shrine Bowl. He will be playing for the South Team on June 4th at UNK.

Congratulations to the following A-G Business Students on earning their Microsoft Certifications:

**Microsoft Excel 2016 Certifications**
- Alex Shand
- Alivia Pike
- Annalise Ptacek
- Ashlynn Piller
- Brandon Ott
- Carver Konzem
- Eli Kerkman
- Elliot Gossin
- Emma Williams
- Holly Campbell
- Jasmina Khalil
- Jadah Laughlin
- Jaycee Fangmeyer
- Lauren Gerdes
- Mira Comstock
- Paige Comstock
- Ty Carey

**Microsoft Word 2016 Certifications**
- Aidan Washburn
- Aiden Krumwiede
- Alex Shand
- Alivia Pike
- Annalise Ptacek
- Ashlynn Piller
- Ben Kreitler
- Brandon Ott
- Bree Schefdore
- Carver Konzem
- Eli Kerkman
- Elliot Gossin
- Emma Williams
- Hayley Pfeiffer
- Holly Campbell
- Jacob Burman
- Jasmina Khalil
- Jadah Laughlin
- Jaycee Fangmeyer
Looking for Outstanding A-G Alums!

The Ashland-Greenwood Schools Foundation is accepting nominations for outstanding alumni. Each year the foundation honors alumni for outstanding contributions they have made to society. They recognize both an alumnus and a young alumnus. For these awards simply complete the online application found on the district website under Administration>Foundation.

Previous AG Outstanding Alumni

1994 Jeff Raikes
1995 Chris Greene
1996 Gary Parker
1998 Susan Strate M.D.
1999 Jon L. Wendt
2000 Clay Anderson
2002 Richard Harnsberger & Gary Bates
2003 Bonnie Carnicle Smith & Jerry Newsham
2004 Frank Gaines & Donald W. Ziegler
2005 James M. Booher
2006 Robert C. Fricke & Allison B. Gilmore
2007 Wayne Richard & Susan Lutton Rodgers
2008 Steven Pilcher
2009 Mary Ziegenbein
2010 David Lutton
2011 Tim Schram
2012 Jill Hull
2013 Randy Beranek
2014 John Nygren
2015 Sherry Rush
2016 Jeff Kuhl
2017 Kristi Bundy
2018 Tom Wheldon
2019 Sally Nellson-Barrett
PREVIOUS AG OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

2003 Tom Laune
2004 Tammy North Comstock M.D.
2005 Daniel J. Kritenbrink
2007 Deena Curtis
2008 Eric Sherman
2009 Damon Howard
2010 Kevin Garner
2011 Kenneth Krings
2012 Ryan Torpy
2013 Kim Thomas
2014 Amy Clark M.D.
2015 Matthew Starr
2016 Greg Timblin
2017 Taylor Sliva
2018 Rob Bundy
2019 Shelia Bentzen

RAIKES HONORED TEACHER AWARD - SEEKING NOMINATIONS!

Each year the Alice Raikes family honors one teaching staff member with the Alice Raikes Distinguished Teaching Award. The award is announced at our annual Foundation spring dinner. **The winner of the award receives a $1,250 cash prize** and $1,250 to spend on their department or grade level. The Raikes family decides on who to honor based on nomination forms submitted by school staff, parents, community members and students. The nomination form can be found on the district website under Administration > Foundation.

PREVIOUS ALICE RAIKES TEACHER OF THE YEAR WINNERS

2009 Wendy Hughes
2010 Alice West
2011 Patti Schofield
2012 Dan Brokaw
2013 Kristi Bundy
2014 Diane Starns
2015 Kristin Fangmeyer
2016 Janice Jacobs
2017 Matt Flynn
2018 Janet Rolofoson
2019 Julie Mink
THIS TIME OF YEAR OFTEN POSES SOME WEATHER CHALLENGES

The safety of students and staff will continue to be the priority that informs school cancellations or delays. Decisions that may impact the normally scheduled school day will be made as early as possible. We understand how decisions to cancel or delay school can impact students and their families. The district will continue to use the school messenger system to alert families of any changes to the normal school day. Families can also check the district web-site and other district social media for announcements. Area TV and radio stations also carry information regarding school delays and cancellations.
Ashland City-Wide Flag Design Contest

Who: The community
What: Design a flag for the city
When: You have until February 28th

Design the flag that best fits Ashland. All obscene designs will not be considered.

Submit to: ashlandflagcontest@gmail.com or drop off a design on 8 1/2 x 11 paper at the Ashland Public Library

Design Submission will close on February 28th

Sponsored by the Ashland Creative District Committee

The Bluejay Tweet Will Continue to Be Digital

During the 2020-2021 school year, the district transitioned its monthly newsletter, The Bluejay Tweet, to a digital only copy. Each month (other than July) The Bluejay Tweet is posted on the district web-site. If you know someone who would like to receive direct notification, when the monthly newsletter is published, please refer them to the following link for sign up: https://www.smore.com/7egn3 Click the box that says: Follow Jason Libal and add your contact information.
PROCESS FOR RESERVING SCHOOL FACILITIES FOR COMMUNITY MEMBER USE

Starting in August requests for all Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools facilities will be done on a new online system. This new online system will allow users the ability to see available times for all school gyms, practice fields, and other district facilities. In order to request district facilities you will need to sign up for an account. The link to the entire facilities calendar and sign up are found on the AG homepage (www.agps.org). You can find a link to the new online facility calendar at the AG homepage; the link is titled Facilities Requests - picture shows this link highlighted in red. All requests for facilities must be approved by AG personnel and are subject to change should the school district have a need for the facility. If you have any questions please contact AGPS Activities Director, Matt Flynn, at 402.944.2114 or matt.flynn@agps.org

Patrons could also contact either building office and ask that their email be added to the notification link.

BOARD OF EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Board Members:
David Nygren - President
Eric Beranek - Vice President
Suzanne Sapp - Secretary
Ally Miller - Member
Karen Stille - Member
Russ Westerhold - Member
Tom Walsh - Board of Education Secretary

Administrative Staff
Jason Libal, Superintendent
Jill Finkey, Curriculum Director
Kristin Fangmeyer, Student Services Director
Brad Jacobsen, MS/HS Principal
Matt Flynn, MS/HS Asst. Principal, AD
Teresa Bray, Elementary Principal
Megan Poell, Elementary Assistant Principal
NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.