AGPS STAFF MEMBERS WELCOME ALL TO THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR! EVERYDAY IS A GREAT DAY TO BE A BLUEJAY!

"Purpose is what gives life meaning."
Richard Leider

During the opening staff day in early August, AGPS staff members participated in a Purpose Retreat with Youth Frontiers. The retreat focused on helping educators and staff rediscover
the motivation that led them to education. Staff concluded the retreat feeling renewed and recommitted to their vocation and our students’ success!

**GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY HELD AT SITE OF NEW PRE-K-2 ELE BUILDING!**

Elementary students were treated to a Bluejay Rally to kickoff the new school year. This was a great opportunity to review the Bluejay Way expectations with all students. The rally had an "Olympic" theme complete with a flag ceremony and some friendly competitions between students and staff. Mrs. Poell, ELE Asst. Principal, served as Master of Ceremony. Mrs. Bray, ELE Principal, was the coach for the staff team. Mr. Libal, Superintendent, served as the coach for the student team. (According to the students, they won the competitive portion of the rally :).
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 have already been noticed! Ashland-Greenwood MS/HS is fortunate to have them as part of our school family!

Braxton Buck, Nancy Aguilar-Medina, Evan Shepard, Jackson Myers, Daylee Flahive, Tyson Darnell, Rogan Cerveny, Hannah Keith, Gavin Showers, Mckenzie Bottorff, Ellie Stein, Josh Schreiber, Emma Bogatz, Oliver Teagan, Lisle Spears, PJ Vest, Ryland Stephans, Drake Zimmerman

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It’s Friday Night Lights....**UNIFIED**!

**Ashland-Greenwood Bluejays vs. Milford Eagles**

Friday, September 3rd

Come support our Unified Flag Football teams and then stay for the Varsity matchup!

Kickoff at 5:30

Memorial Stadium

Ashland, NE

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**AGPS WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW STAFF MEMBERS!**

**MR. REESE HOUGE**

Mr. Hogue teaches MS and HS Social Studies. He also is an assistant coach for softball and girl's basketball. Mr. Hogue taught previously for Columbus Lakeview; he is originally from Fall City. He became a teacher because he was inspired by his parents who are both teachers.
Mr. Cole Washburn

Mr. Washburn teaches Physical Education and Social Studies. He will be assisting with coaching softball and wrestling. Mr. Washburn is an alum of AGPS; he previously taught for Lincoln Public Schools. Mr. Washburn is looking forward to being a part of a district that has high expectations for its staff, students, and the community.

Ms. Alicia Olson

Ms. Olson serves as the school psychologist for the district; she also supports the Elmwood Murdock district in this role. Ms. Olson previously worked for Lincoln Public Schools; she is originally from Gretna. She is looking forward to the varied ways she may be able to support students at AGPS.

Ms. Haley Guenther

Ms. Guenther teaches Spanish and Business. She previously taught in Elgin; she is originally from West Point. Her high school guidance counselor saw her passion for helping others and encouraged her to be a teacher.

Mrs. Hannah Drudik

Mrs. Drudik teaches 6th grade Language Arts. She has previously taught in Creighton, NE (her hometown) as well as for Omaha Public Schools. Mrs. Drudik’s desire to be part of a culture and community that supported all students led her to Ashland-Greenwood.
MS. JORDYN BOTTRELL

Ms. Bottrell teaches 7th and 8th grade Language Arts. She will also be assisting with the speech team. Ms. Bottrell taught previously for Cedar Bluffs; she is orginally from Palmyra. Many of her high school teachers served as great role models for her and influenced her career choice.

Ms. Bottrell teaches 7th and 8th grade Language Arts. She will also be assisting with the speech team. Ms. Bottrell taught previously for Cedar Bluffs; she is orginally from Palmyra. Many of her high school teachers served as great role models for her and influenced her career choice.

MS. TAYLOR GRANDSTAFF

Ms. Grandstaff is the MS/HS Vocal Music Teacher. She previously taught for Kearney Public Schools; she is orginally from Fremont. Ms. Grandstaff is passionate about fostering growth and connection with students through music!

MS. SHELBY BURR

Ms. Burr teaches Instrumental Music. She previously taught at Hastings St. Cecilia; she is originally from Syracuse. Working at a performing arts summer camp during college helped shape her desire to become a teacher.

MS. HAILEY HANSEN

Ms. Hansen teaches 1st grade and assists with the AGHS Spirit Squad as well. She previously taught for DC West Public Schools; she is originally from Fort Calhoun. Ms. Hansen plans to help all of her students believe in themselves and know that they are capable of doing even difficult things!

MS. TORI DAVIS
Mrs. Mariah Row

Mrs. Row teaches Agricultural Education and serves as the FFA Advisor. She previously taught at Osceola; she is originally from Springfield. Mrs. Row's experiences in the AG industry and internships for Nebraska Extension helped form her love for students and teaching.

Ms. Megan Wehling

Ms. Wehling teaches HS English and Journalism. She is a recent UNL graduate originally from Lincoln. She wants to inspire her students to explore texts that allow them to make connections to their lives and the world around them.

Ms. Georgia Lewin

Ms. Lewin teaches 1st grade. She is an AG alum and a recent graduate of UNL. She desires to make sure her students feel supported in their learning journey.

Ms. Davis teaches 4th grade. Her most recent experience is serving Wahoo Public Schools as a substitute teacher. She is originally from Bassett. Ms. Davis is looking forward to creating independent, creative, and resilient learners within her classroom.
Dear AGPS Parents,

As we shared with you this summer, Ashland-Greenwood Area Communities for Kids recently received a three-year grant from Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to support and expand early childhood care and education services (see c4kag.info). Some 40 other communities in Nebraska have these grants as well.

While some estimates of early childhood service needs have been made, an important first step is to hear from parents and citizens about the needs in our communities. Many of you have completed this survey but others have not yet.

If you have not already done so, Ashland-Greenwood Area Communities for Kids would appreciate you completing this survey at this link: bit.ly/AGAEarlyChildhoodSurvey

Results of the survey will be used to develop a long-term plan for our communities.

Thank you for your participation.

FREE SMART THERMOMETERS AVAILABLE FOR AGPS FAMILIES

Checkout the flyer below for information on how to access yours!
SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND :)  

A calendar of ALL school events will again be posted on the district website at agps.org. This can be found at the bottom of the district web-site home page. It displays by week. You can access/view by month by clicking the View Month link.

The monthly Bluejay Tweet will also include access to a PDF of the monthly activities calendar.

The Rschool Athletics Calendar will still continue to be displayed on the district web-site as well.

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.

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

BLUEJAY HIGHLIGHTS: CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

By the FOURTH day of Kindergarten, Mrs. Holz's Kindergarten class already filled up their Mr. Potato Head by making good choices together! They earned a popsicle party!

Congratulations to Mrs. Gude-Rung's class. They met their first Bluejay Buck goal of 100 tickets in the first week of school!

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
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.