

April 1, 2021

Hello AMS Friends and Families,

As we wrap up another week, only five school days away from April vacation, we wanted to keep today's update short and sweet.

Next week is National School Librarian's week- please join us in recognizing our amazing Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Ritacco. Mrs. Ritacco's classroom space is literally and figuratively the center of the action at AMS in a typical year, and even amidst a global pandemic, she has still managed to maintain a high level of energy and access to the endless books and resources in our media center. Thank you Mrs. Ritacco!

April 7th is Paraeducator Appreciation Day- we are so grateful for our incredible paraeducators who support teaching and learning across the building day in and day out. Beyond the academic support they provide, they are also an integral part of our school community, and we ask that you join us in thanking Mrs. Suttmeier, Mrs. Hadgkiss, Ms. Seluktekin, Mrs. Choquette, Ms. Mongillo, Ms. Alexander, Mrs. Vugdalic, Mr. O'Brien, and Ms. Ravalese.

A few updates/reminders:

- **Flex Update**
 - Flex began this week, running for 30 minutes per day, rotating through different subject areas throughout the week.
 - This will be an opportunity for students to work individually/in small groups with teachers, provide them time to study and get ahead on/caught up on work, time to read quietly and a chance for a mindful moment during their fast-paced day.
- **Cell Phone Use**
 - We're asking for your support again in reminding students that our expectation is that their cellphones are off and away for the duration of the day. This applies to the entirety of the school day- including mask breaks. If you need to get in touch with your student during the day, please call the main office and we will get you in touch with them. Thank you!
- **Middle School Spring Athletics Update**
 - Track and Field registration is now open!
 - Mr. Post's (Athletics and Activities coordinator) website: <https://sites.google.com/a/avon.k12.ct.us/jpost/materials>
 - Family ID (for athletic registration): <https://www.familyid.com/programs/avon-middle-school-spring-sport-registration-2020-2021>

Schedule for the week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5- A	6 - B	7- B	8- A	9- B

Previously Shared information:

Bus Transportation Update

- As was previously explained in our correspondence ([TBS/AMS Bus Update 3.2.21](#)), students have been assigned to specific color zones on their bus. It is critical, for contact tracing and students' health and safety that students adhere to their assigned zone on the bus daily. Thank you for your support in reminding students of this!

AMS Announcement Google Slides

- At the request of many families, we will now post our AMS Announcements google slide deck on the [Avon Middle School website](#) on Mondays, for your viewing. These announcements are projected daily in classrooms and emailed to your students.

District Issued Chromebook Update

- As a reminder, the expectation each day is that **students are using their district issued device- not a personal device**. We have asked teachers to remind students of this as well and notify us if a student is continuing to use a personal device, so that we can assist in ensuring all students have their district issued device each day.
 - If your student is remote, please see the update from our Central Office team.

Frequently Asked Questions/Answers

- [FAQ & Answer Running Document](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) form (you do not need a google account to fill this out)

State Department of Education Resources

- [Resources for Families](#)
- [Social Emotional Family Resources](#)

Have a wonderful weekend!

Stay well,

Jess and Kristina