

ABM Weekly News

5.1.20

District Announcements

Registration dates set for 2020-21 school year

Mark your calendar! Registration for the 2020-21 school year will open on May 13. Please note this date is later than usual to give staff and families time to prepare during these extenuating circumstances.

- **Returning student registration for the 2020-21 school year:** Registration for returning early childhood and K-8 students opens on May 13, 2020. High school registration opens July 8, 2020. ParentVUE login and password are required.
- **Fee payments for the 2020-21 school year:** Fee payments for early childhood and K-8 families open on May 13, 2020. High school fee payments open on July 8, 2020. To provide needed flexibility for families with changing financial situations, fee payment will be open through July 30.

Registration is required every year to review/update information about your child(ren) including phone, email, emergency contacts, health data, etc. By completing your registration, you confirm that your child(ren) will return to school in August.

Announcements

Baskets at the Bend

As you know, Baskets at the Bend was scheduled for late March and did not happen. This year, the funds raised were to be donated to the Make a Wish Foundation. At this time we plan to still donate the money collected. If you would prefer to have your \$5 donation transferred to your students lunch account, please click on this [LINK](#) and fill out the form by 3:00 PM May 11th and we will transfer your \$5 to your student's lunch account. We will donate all the remaining money to the Make a Wish Foundation on behalf of ABMS. Thank you for your donations.

Community Resources (Helpful numbers and websites that can help guide you during this time)

Johnson County COVID Hotline 8 am - 5 pm

913-715-2819 English and Spanish languages

Johnson County Mental Health 24 hrs

913-268-0156

For help with community resources you may dial

211 or visit 211kc.org

They will help connect those who need assistance with food, utility assistance, financial help, tax preparation, etc.

Helpful websites include:

www.cdc.gov

www.kdheks.gov

www.jocogov.org/Coronavirus/cancellations

www.sba.gov - for small business owners who need financial help



[ABMS Half Way The...](#)

safeshare.tv

SafeShare.tv removes unwanted distractions from YouTube and Vimeo videos and reduces ads, so you can focus on the content. Perfect for schools and businesses!

A Message from Student Services

Student Services continues to have the check-in "assignment" open in Canvas. Students are welcome to complete the form again if there is a change or something students want to share with student services. Continue to check the PE choice boards for ways to incorporate daily exercise and activities into your school days at home. We are halfway through quarter 4! Everyone is doing a great job!

Library Announcements

Library Webpage Update!

The *ABMS Library* webpage has been updated with new resources. **MackinVia** is a great resource for eBooks, databases, and other digital media. Look for it on our main webpage!

axis360 eBooks

Looking for something to read while the library is closed? You can access axis360 eBooks! Visit the ABMS Library webpage and click the tab! There you'll find a PDF with step-by-step directions to download books to your Chromebook. If you have an Apple device (iPhone, iPad, MacBook, etc) download the axis360 app! Make sure to choose Aubry Bend Middle school.

Library Office Hours

Mrs. Cooper's daily office hours are M-Th

From 9:00-10:00 AM

Feel free to email if you need any help with resources!

accooper@bluevallyk12.org

Twitter & Instagram

Follow us on Social Media!

[@abmslibrary](https://twitter.com/abmslibrary)

[abmslib](https://www.instagram.com/abmslib)

PTO News

· **"BE IN THE KNOW WITH ABMS PTO"**- Be sure to follow us on FB (@AubryBendMSPTO) and twitter (@AbmsPto).

· **AMAZON SMILE** - Did you know you can support ABMS by shopping through [Amazon Smile](#)? It's an easy way to help, but you MUST shop through our [link](#).

- **8th GRADE FAREWELL** - TBD. We still want to celebrate our 8th graders as they head off to high school, but will need to adjust our plans and dates. We will share more once we get a better idea of what this might look like. The main priority is keeping everyone home, safe and healthy right now!
- **STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK** - We have some fun plans to spoil our staff in May! Keep an eye out for a separate email sharing the details of what is planned.
- **JOIN PTO** - We *need* YOU! There are so many ways you can help...some are a one time job and others last throughout the year. No experience necessary! It's a fun and easy way to stay involved, meet other parents and keep your finger on the pulse of middle school. Feel free to share the link with any 5th grade parents. We would love to get them involved as they join our Wolverine family next year. Check out the openings [HERE!](#)

PTO Volunteers needed for the 20/21 school year!

In middle school, helping with anything in PTO is always pretty simple and fun, and no previous experience is required!

We have the following open positions:

- VP of Activities / VP of Operations / VP of Fundraising
- Book Fair
- Family Night Chair / Family Night Committee
- Concession - purchase/stock/inventory
- Concession - volunteer coordinator
- School Supplies
- Spirit Wear - design & order / Spirit Wear - sales
- 8th grade Farewell Chairperson / 8th grade farewell committee
- Wolverine Activity Night
- Wolverine Welcome committee
- Donations receipts coordinator

Please reach out to aubrybendpto@gmail.com w/questions and for more info, you can visit our signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c44abac23aafc1-20202021>



Staff Office Hours

Teacher virtual office hours are 60 minute blocks for students to be able to access their teacher for questions, clarifications and/or concerns. Teachers may be available via email during this time or may hold an open Zoom meeting during this time for students to "pop" into and out of. These are not

considered required classes for students, merely times where teachers are available for all their students.

Click this link to the list of teachers and their office hours:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y0aFV8gYrT0Y4PyhgTllJfuq1Ugo1Fuo/view?usp=sharing>

6th Grade News

ELA:

Students continued researching "Communities in Crisis" information this week. They analyzed organizations that are helping populations, specifically ones that are impacted during this pandemic. It is incredible to learn about the wonderful organizations and people who are really giving and supporting our community during this time of need. Students continue to practice their reading and writing skills each week in ELA.

Math:

Students in advanced math classes will continue to practice solving one-step equations next week. Students in integrated math classes will learn the basics of solving one-step equations and will begin practicing those skills in the coming weeks.

Science:

Science classes will continue their unit over astronomy by learning about the moon phases, gravity, and Earth's seasons next week.

Social Studies:

Social Studies has moved into our last unit: the Middle Ages. They have been exploring the governing system in Medieval Europe called Feudalism (Kings, Lords, Knights, Peasants/Serfs) and how the Crusades affected everyone involved. We will continue with the Middle Ages next week, offering students choices of activities and topics they want to explore.

7th Grade News

Science:

Students will work on a project on interdependent relationships within ecosystems for the next two weeks! Get ready to do some research!

Math:

Now that we have finished volume, students can expect to move out of geometry and into probability for the next two weeks!

Social Studies:

This week the students will be learning about the Civil War in Kansas, particularly Quantrill's Raid of Lawrence. They will be reading some primary sources and how bias can change the way one event is viewed differently.

8th Grade News

Social Studies:

Time Heist – End of the year project. Students will move to the individual part of the project this.

Math:

Algebra 1- Polynomials

Math 8- Continuing with Geometry with a focus on angles and triangles.

Science:

Students will learn about Newton's 3rd Law of Motion. For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

ELA:

Week 6: This week we will finish *The Giver* by reading Chapters 19-23. **Your choice board project is due on Friday, May 8th.** If you choose to participate in the enrichment opportunity offered by your teacher (OPTIONAL), that is also due on Friday.

This week, as we surpass the halfway mark of Continuous Learning at home we hope you are working on a choice board project that inspires you in some way and allows you to explore your creative side. We also encourage you to take advantage of your time at home to explore other creative avenues. We have heard from students who are painting, writing, learning new instruments, and developing their cooking skills! So this week, we would like to leave you with this quote as you work on your projects and/or find solace in other activities at home:

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." Maya Angelou

From the Desk of Mrs. Tate...

Happy May Day! I'm so glad the weather has turned nice again. It's so nice to be able to sit on my porch and enjoy the warmth of the sun and breeze (or gale winds, like today).

As I sat outside the other evening enjoying the quiet and scrolling through some email and website updates, I realized that I was allowing worrisome thoughts to impede my beautiful evening. I started worrying about "after." We are all starting to think about what "after" may look like at work, at school, and in our community, but I started worrying about what "after" would look like at home. For me. For my family. For my school kids. For my school kids' families.

Our kids have been sharing some amazing thoughts and feelings with their teachers. They share how nice it is to have everyone at home. They love having meals together every day (or almost every day). They love having conversations with their parents and siblings without outside distractions. Even though they miss their friends and activities, they are embracing and enjoying the slower pace of life.

So, I worry about "after." Will I go back to my same frenetic life? Will I have to get all the things done that I used to do but haven't done in 5 weeks? Will we continue to have dinner together every evening? Will I continue to take the time to cook for my family because I love to do it and make the time, or will I get sucked back into the routine of takeout because I'm tired and just want to relax when I get home.

Maybe I shouldn't be worrying. Maybe I shouldn't even be sharing these thoughts with you right now, but I think it's important that we start thinking about the impact of "after" on our kids. They may complain about a lot of things they can't do right now, but I know – they've told us – that they really enjoy being with their loved ones. They love the attention and support. They even love the ups and downs of being together 24/7.

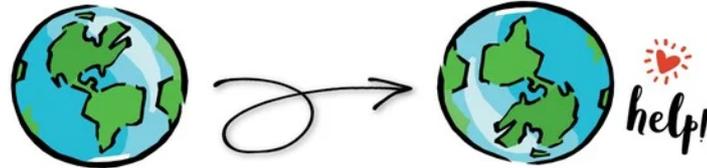
I have spent the best part of the past 18 months focusing my life's work on building a community that loves and supports one another. In some ways, this pandemic has helped me in that goal. If we take the time to reflect on what really matters, I think all of us will say family and friends, not a new car or a set of upgraded appliances (don't tell my husband I said that). Community is important. Family is important. This time apart has shined a light on those things we value. Once we start to reconnect and reopen, I think we will be challenged to keep the things we value at the top of our priority list...for real... not just in lip service.

This pandemic has had a different impact on all of us. I hurt for those impacted in their jobs, for those impacted in their health, and for those impacted financially. I feel joy for those impacted by the reconnection of our families and communities uniting to help one another through these difficult times. If one good thing comes out of this difficult time, please let it be that we only allow those things

back in our routines that we really want and need so that we can stay connected, especially with our kids.

We value our community and want you to know that you can count on us.

Sincerely,
Diana Tate, Principal



We are here to help!

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down. There's a lot of change and uncertainty surrounding our mental and physical health, our parenting, & our daily life. Building rhythm and resilience can help us cope now and moving forward.

Join us LIVE on Zoom
Wednesdays from 7pm-7:45pm
(30 minute interactive presentations followed by Q&A)

- **4/29** Dr. Michelle Robin from Your Wellness Connection: motivation, health and wellbeing
- **5/6** Kirk Martin from Celebrate Calm: staying calm when strong-willed kids & teens are struggling
- **5/13** Bren Tally, marriage & family therapist: processing grief & loss when everything is cancelled
- **5/20** Julie Gettings, clinical social worker: helping our younger kids cope and connect through play



Register here: bit.ly/2Sezs07
Zoom link will be emailed to you!
Open to the community

