Principal’s Message

Trojan Families:

We have a big week ahead of us at AHS. On Tuesday, April 20 and Wednesday, April 21 we return almost half of our student body to a two day a week in-person learning experience. Our staff is excited to see the return of our students to their classrooms and even though our teachers are still in the midst of supporting students with 3rd Quarter finals, they are also hard at work preparing for 4th Quarter. Similarly, our students and families are probably getting ready for this next transition and we want to be as supportive as possible to make this as smooth of a pivot as possible. Please, always ask if you need more information.

I’m proud of the work that our teachers and every single labor group associated with Auburn High School has been doing to prepare for this and I am 100% anticipating a great start to our 4th Quarter. I want to keep this letter focused because I realize there is so much to do as we are all preparing, but I want to end my letter with two important items.

The first is that our school is a place where our students will find compassion and solutions to challenges despite the current state of our country. A country that is filled with conflict and division. Division that has remained part of a reality that affects students and staff. AHS must be a safe space of learning and a safe zone for personal beliefs and opinions. Our teachers and the rest of our staff will assure that our students can learn and expand on their beliefs and curiosities in a safe atmosphere.

Secondly, our school was just recognized by The Flippen Group with quite a prestigious award. Last October AHS applied for National Showcase Recognition as a Capturing Kids Hearts school. This process began with surveys to see if our practices were embedded enough to even be considered as a nominee. We were informed in January that we had made the first cut. Out of over 500 schools across the nation, AHS remained as one of the 300 plus schools in the running. The Flippen Group then ran more surveys and conducted a virtual site visit that included panels of students, parents, staff members, some of our school’s capturing kids hearts leaders that we call Process Champions. On Wednesday, April 15th we were notified via a Zoom meeting that Auburn High School is a 2021 Capturing Kids Heart National Showcase School. We are very proud of this as this has been a culmination of three solid years of work to change our school’s culture to one that is more positive, more empowering, and more social and emotionally aware of our student’s needs. We’ll covet this recognition but just know that this is not a one and one endeavor but we were able to earn something tangible during a most challenging time. Furthermore, we will continue to improve to make our school a place where lives are transformed.

If you would like to know more about Capturing Kids Hearts please view this video from The Flippen Group: https://flippengroup.com/information/

Respectfully,

Jeff Gardner
Principal - Auburn High School

“Nine-tenths of education is encouragement” – Anatole France

Welcome Back Hybrid Students! We are so excited to have you in the building!! And to all of our online students, excited to see you too for Qtr. 4!!
Helpful Counseling Resources
With all that’s going on in today’s world, stress and anxiety levels are higher than ever. Asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness. Here are links for counseling resources that may be helpful:
(Hold down the control key and click on the link)

Counseling/Crisis Resources
AHS Counseling Website

AHS Counselors
A-D Michaela Herrera mherrera@auburn.wednet.edu
Dn-K Judy Lutton jlutton@auburn.wednet.edu
L-Ra Boone Borden bborden@auburn.wednet.edu
Rb-Z Jackie Krezelak jkrezelak@auburn.wednet.edu

Remote Learning Tips and Tricks
1. Stay Organized
2. Stay Engaged
3. Manage your Environment
4. Ask for Help
5. Take Care of Yourself
Click here for the full article by Manchester University!

Parents/Guardians of Seniors
Scholarships Available!

The Auburn community donates over $150,000 each year to seniors graduating from Auburn highschools! Seniors complete one application and submit two letters of recommendation to be considered for over 220 scholarships ranging from $200-$2500!

Community donors review applications that meet their scholarship criteria and select the recipients. The application is posted on the AHS website with a link on the homepage. Seniors, click on the link and complete the application.

At least one letter must be written by a teacher, the second letter can be from an employer, family friend or other adult who can speak to your character, skills, leadership special circumstances, financial need, etc.

Completed application packets are due on Friday, March 26, 2021. Applications must be printed out, attached to two letters of recommendation, and turned in (or mailed in) to the Counseling office. If you or your senior has questions, please contact Judy Lutton at jlutton@auburn.wednet.edu or 253-931-4893.

Auburn Valley | YMCA (2 boxes of FREE FOOD per family)
1620 Perimeter Rd SW, Auburn, WA 98001
Sundays, 10am-10:50am & 11:45am-12:35pm
ID required, or piece of mail with an Auburn, Pacific, Kent, Federal Way, or Algona address

Messiah Food Bank
410 H St NE, Auburn, WA 98002
Open each Wednesday morning from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.
The food bank is open to all who choose to come with no restrictions on income.

CONSEJO (Counseling and Referral Service) (Spanish Available)
Call (206) 461-4880 (8:00am-5:00pm PST)
or After Hours & Weekend Crisis Line: (206) 461-3222

Child Care Aware
1-800-446-1114
For families looking for child care, visit Child Care Aware to find child care nearby your home or your work place.
Minimize the Spread of COVID-19

- **Avoid close contact with people outside of your household.** Stay at least 6 feet away from all other people who are not part of your household.
- **Wear a cloth face covering anytime you are with people not from your household.** This includes family members and close friends who do not live with you. Make sure the face covering fits snugly over your nose and mouth.
- **Avoid confined indoor spaces.** Outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities. If participating in an outdoor event is not possible and you choose to attend an indoor event, avoid crowded poorly ventilated, and fully enclosed indoor spaces. Increase ventilation by opening windows and doors if possible.
- **Wash or sanitize your hands (and the hands of little ones) often.**

Stay home if you are sick or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19. If you are sick, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, stay home and away from others.

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**GRADUATING SENIORS ONLY— MAY PURCHASE THEIR CHROMEBOOK FOR ONLY $5!**

Starting May 3, Graduating Seniors ONLY, can purchase their Chromebook, charger and case for only $5! You may pay online under Fees and Services. To purchase you will need the asset number of your student’s Chromebook and the numbers must match what our records indicate. We will contact you if there is a discrepancy. Students attending hybrid may also pay at the bookkeepers office beginning May 17.

If your senior chooses to not purchase the Chromebook/charger please have them return these items to the bookkeeper the week of June 14-18. For Q&A email: llippert@auburn.wednet.edu

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**Securly for Parents**

Securly is ASDs cloud-based web filter for schools. It not only provides an internet filter but also student online activity monitoring for bullying and self-harm, teacher device monitoring and a parent portal for filtering at home. Click here for more information about Securly.