

REGISTRATION NEWSLETTER FOR 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

July 10, 2010

<http://www.avonschools.us>

REGISTRATION INFORMATION 2010-2011

Don't look now, but the 2010-2011 school year will begin in about one month. With the start of the new school year comes the necessary process of completing paperwork required by the federal and state governments, as well as those needed by the district for efficient functioning.

The Avon Community Unit School District #176 Board of Education and administration recognize that, for many parents and guardians, time and pertinent information are of the essence. It is our hope that this newsletter will help parents and guardians to be more informed and to help streamline the time needed to complete necessary tasks and paperwork. This newsletter contains a number of information items, many of which are referenced in the

box on the left-hand side of this page.

Also included in this newsletter are certain changes in law and procedures that will affect students and/or parents/guardians either directly or indirectly during the 2010-2011 school year.

(Please note that all students living within the boundaries of the school district are required by law to enroll in local schools unless otherwise excused by a waiver of the law or by other statute.)



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REORGANIZATION PROCESS UPDATE

The Board of Education completed a reorganization feasibility study with the Bushnell and Abingdon school districts this past spring. Following the study, the three districts agreed to form a Committee of 10 to further study what the proposed reorganization could look like.

The Committee of 10 began meetings in May, and will

continue meetings through at least the early fall. Currently, the Committee of 10 meets every 4th Thursday, and the subcommittees every 2nd Thursday, with some individual exceptions. Schedules, agendas, and other information can be found through the link on our website.

The Committee of 10 is chaired by Jerry Arthur, Bush-

nell. Abingdon has four members on the Committee of 10, and Avon and Bushnell each have three members. Subcommittees are comprised of three persons from each community.

Anyone having questions or comments regarding the reorganization process may contact the superintendent's office.

REGISTRATION DATES AND LOCATIONS

Registration for students of Avon Community Unit School District #176 will be held August 12-13, 2010 in the all-purpose room of the Avon Elementary School.

Times for registration are as follows: August 12—10:00 am to 6:00 pm; August 13—8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Parents who are unable to register their children during this time frame are

strongly encouraged to contact their student's office after August 5 to make arrangements to complete the registration process in order to avoid frustrations on the first day of school.

Contact information for registration purposes for the school offices is as follows: Avon Elementary School (grades PK-5)—309-465-3851 or dterwilliger@avonschools.us; Avon High School (grades

6-12)—309-465-3621 or scowan@avonschools.us. Office hours are 7:00 am to 2:00 pm for the dates of August 5-13, and 8:00 am to 3:00 pm for the dates of August 16-18. Regular office hours of 8:00 am to 3:30 pm resume August 20.

If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please feel free to contact your child's school.



ONLINE FORMS FOR REGISTRATION

In an effort to assist busy parents and guardians, Avon Community Unit School District #176 is offering several registration forms on the district's website this fall. The forms may be downloaded to the user's computer and filled out and printed out at home at the parent's convenience. The forms thus completed may be brought into the school during registration so that parents do not have to complete as many forms at school, thereby saving time for parents. Forms have been checked for accuracy and usability, but please report any concerns to the superintendent's office.

If you wish to use them, the online forms are located at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2d9bu38> for students in grades PK-5 and

<http://tinyurl.com/267jpxh> for students in grades 6-12.

All forms are in .PDF format.

(Please note that use and completion of the online documents is purely optional. There will still be some forms that must be completed on the registration days.)



SCHOOL PHYSICALS, ETC.

State and federal laws compel students to comply with health physical, eye examination, and dental examination reporting requirements prior to students attending public schools in the state of Illinois. Parents/guardians must present to the school proof of these required examinations.

Eye examinations are required prior to starting Kindergarten.

Dental examinations are required

for students entering Kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 6th grade.

Health physicals are required for students entering Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, 6th grade, and 9th grade.

Parents objecting to these requirements may do so in writing under the following conditions: a) explanation of religious objection for any examination; b) presentation of physician's writ-

ten verification for health or immunization requirements; c) verification of undue burden or notification of lack of access to licensed physician or practitioner for eye or dental examination.

Parents with concerns regarding these requirements or presenting objections to the requirements may contact their child's school to obtain more information.

DISTRICT WEBSITE

The district website (www.avonschools.us) contains a large amount of information. Most pages are updated regularly—we have discovered that the “published” date noted on many pages does not indicate when the page was last updated, only when the page was originally created, so don’t automatically assume that a date listed as sometime in 2007 means that the page has not been updated

since then.

District-level information such as the board policy manual, budgets, board meeting summaries, and annual financial reports are available for public perusal and download.

Many teachers provide up-to-date websites for their classrooms or activities, from Mr. Hansen’s weekly listing of assignments to Mrs. Anderson’s helpful parent guides and infor-

mation to Mrs. Olson’s weekly assignments and news.

The district website also provides a portal to the Parent Connect portion of our school management program. Parents can access their student’s grades as well as other items via this portal. If you are not already using the portal, please contact your school’s office for more information.



SPORTS INFORMATION

Students in grades 7-12 who meet requirement criteria of the IHSA/IESA and the student handbook may participate or try out to participate in extracurricular activities provided by the school district.

Avon High School (grades 9-12) and Avon Elementary School (grades 7-8) are a part of the Bushnell-Prairie City Avon athletic cooperative, and all athletic teams

offered by the district are operated under the cooperative agreement. Students in grade 6 may be eligible for athletics in certain sports; in those cases, the coaches and/or administration will notify the 6th grade students of their eligibility and/or tryout information.

Athletic physicals can be completed at Dr. Arnold’s office in Bushnell July 14, with middle school sched-

uled for 1:00-2:30 pm and high school for 2:30-4:00 pm. Cost is \$10 per athlete. No appointment is necessary, but athletes must bring the parent-signed physical form available at your school’s office. (Note: freshman physicals will be used as a sports physical.)

Any student wishing more information regarding extracurriculars may contact the school.



LEGAL / PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Illinois legislature again held a busy session this spring. There are at least 500 laws on Governor Quinn’s desk awaiting signatures as of this writing. Many of them affect education in some way—some that are visible to the general public, others that are not.

The biggest issue from the legislature is what did not pass. While the budget passed says that schools will

be funded at basically the same level as the last year (which, as we all know, wasn’t very good), the bottom line is that the money hasn’t been appropriated to do so. The legislature will have to deal with the issue after the November elections, with thoroughly unpredictable results.

At the federal level, the health care legislation, among others, will be-

gin to impact the district this year, although the full implementation is not until 2014.

As in past years, as the Board and administration become aware of information that will impact students and their education, we will disseminate that information in some form.

FREE - REDUCED LUNCH FORMS

The district strongly encourages all families to complete the free-reduced lunch forms. While many families may not qualify and others may have reasons for not accepting the available assistance if they do qualify, simply having a higher count of eligible free-reduced lunch students helps the district. Higher counts may make the district eligible for programs and funds to help our students and educational program that are not otherwise available. Your child's involvement in this pro-

gram is confidential.

An example of this is the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) grant program through the library. The program has been very successful for the district, but because our free-reduced lunch count has fallen below the federal guidelines, the district is no longer eligible for the RIF funds.

If a family submits the form and qualifies but does not wish to accept the assistance for free or reduced lunch, that family should notify their child's office of the request.



HOMELESS STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Students in the district who are homeless have the right to a free and appropriate education, and should be enrolled in school as soon as possible. Schools are required to enroll homeless students even without access to any records such as birth certificate or records from past schools.

Who are homeless students? According to guidance from the federal government through the McKinney-Vento legislation, homeless students include but are not limited to those who are: sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of

housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; are awaiting foster care placement; are staying in public or private places not ordinarily used as sleeping accommodations; are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings; or are otherwise not residing in a fixed, regular and adequate

nighttime residence.

If you believe that your child meets or may meet these conditions, please speak with your building principal to ensure proper arrangements are made.

More information may be obtained from the school upon request.



QUESTIONS? NEED HELP?



Anyone having questions or concerns regarding the upcoming school year or registration may contact the appropriate school office for assistance. Office staff will either answer your questions or direct you to resource persons who can.

Grades PK-5
Grades 6-12

309-465-3851
309-465-3621

HANDBOOK CHANGES

There have been several important changes to the student handbooks over the summer. Parents and students will be made aware of the specific changes to the handbooks as the school year begins. Please read the handbook(s) carefully for information that pertains to your child(ren).

FACULTY / STAFF FOR 2010 - 2011

There have been several changes in faculty/staff and assignments for the start of the 2009-2010 school year. For your convenience, here is the faculty/staff listing for the upcoming school year as of this writing

Board of Education

President: Mrs. April Tatham

Vice-President: Mrs. Diane Thompson

Secretary: Mr. Frank Craver

Financial Secretary: Mr. Bob Orwig

Members: Mr. Brian Friedrich, Mr. Mark Rodeffer, Mr. JC Staggs

Elementary School Staff (grades PK-8)

Pre-Kindergarten: Mrs. Sue Craig, Mrs. Alison Darst

Kindergarten: Mrs. Alicia Rogers

1st grade: Mrs. Nikki Sloan

2nd grade: Mrs. Alicia Ferry

3rd grade: Mr. Chad Robertson

4th grade: Mrs. Naydeen Mahr

5th grade: Mrs. Robyn Olson

1st-5th grade Special Education: Mrs. Michelle Dunbar

6-8th grade math: Ms. Jessica Travis

6-8th grade science: Ms. Amanda Murdock

6-8 social studies: Ms. Amanda Murdock (6), Mrs. LouAnn Rhoads (7), Mrs. Sarah Bainter (8)

6-8th English/language arts: Mrs. LouAnn Rhoads, (7-8) Mrs. Sarah Bainter (6)

Physical Education: Mr. Mitch Russell, Mr. Lucas Lovejoy

Health (6-8): Mr. Lucas Lovejoy

6-8th Special Education: Mrs. Lynn Anderson

Title I: Mrs. Sarah Shamblin

Music/Band: Mrs. Kathryn Cunningham, Mrs. Amelia Rakestraw

Art: Mrs. Deon Maas

Keyboarding: Mr. Phil Oloffson

Principal: Mrs. Alice King (PK-5), Mrs. Tina Stier (6-8)

Dean of Students (6-8): Mr. Richard Brown

Secretary: Mrs. Debbie Terwilliger (PK-5), Mrs. Susan Cowan (6-8)

Nurse: Mrs. Joy Moss

Custodian: Mrs. Joann Frakes

High School Staff

Mr. Richard Brown—Driver's Education, Athletic Director, Dean of Students

Ms. Jennifer Drendel—Social Science

Mr. Howard Hansen—Mathematics

Mrs. Sarah Bainter—English

Mr. Phil Oloffson—Business/Computer Applications

Mrs. Deon Maas—Art

Mrs. Amy Mayall—Science

Mrs. Alison McGrew—Agriculture

Mrs. Mary Peterson—English

Mr. Martin Pio—Special Education

Mr. Lucas Lovejoy—Physical Education, Health

Mrs. Kathryn Cunningham—Chorus, Band

Mrs. Tina Stier—Principal, Jazz band

Mrs. Susan Cowan—Secretary

Mr. Ray Warner—Custodian

District Staff

Counselor: Ms. Tami Hains

Library: Mrs. Stephanie McKinley-Miller (librarian), Mrs. Peggy Williams (library aide)

Specials: Mrs. Melissa Mathes (Psychologist), Mrs. Alicia Nelson (Speech Pathologist)

Maintenance/custodial: Mr. Trevor Sloan

Transportation/grounds: Mr. Chad Fengel

Cafeteria staff: Mrs. Darla Sackfield, Mrs. Linda Gardner, Mrs. Susan Rose

Bus drivers: Mrs. Sharon Abbott, Mrs. Janeine DeJaynes, Mrs. Pam Dallefeld, Mr. Gary Greenlief, Mr. Terry Johns

Unit office: Mrs. Dawn Ginther, Mrs. Tami Ruff, Mr. Dan Oakley

Avon Community Unit School District #176
 2010-2011 School Year Calendar

August 19	Teacher institute
August 20	Teacher institute
August 23-September 2	Early dismissal 2:05 pm
August 23	Student first-day attendance
	Early dismissal 11:30 am
September 3	Early dismissal 11:30 am – School Improvement
September 6	No school – Labor Day
September 24	1 st quarter mid-term
October 8	Teacher institute
October 11	No school – Columbus Day
October 22	End of 1 st quarter
October 28	Early dismissal 11:30 am – School Improvement
	Parent/teacher conferences 4:00-8:00 pm
October 29	No school – Parent/teacher conferences 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
November 11	No school – Veteran’s Day
November 19	2 nd quarter mid-term
November 24-26	No school – Thanksgiving break
December 17	End of 2 nd quarter
December 20-31	No school – Winter break
January 3	School resumes
January 14	Early dismissal 11:30 am – School Improvement
January 17	No school – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 11	3 rd quarter mid-term
February 18	Early dismissal 11:30 am – School Improvement
February 21	No school – President’s Day
March 11	Early dismissal 11:30 am – School Improvement
March 18	End of 3 rd quarter
April 15	4 th quarter mid-term
April 21-26	No school – Spring break
May 26	Last scheduled day of student attendance – tentative*
	End of 4 th quarter – tentative*
May 27	Teacher institute – tentative*
May 29	High school graduation 2:00 pm
May 30 – June 6	Emergency days*

*Dependent on district usage of emergency days

