

New Beginnings on 2016-17

The new school year is right around the corner. Summer is nearly over and it has been a long hot summer. It is time to start thinking about a new beginning in 2016-17. Most of our children will have a new room, a new teacher, some new books, new library carpet and windows. These things are far outshined by the many new opportunities and challenges that await the return of our students. Newness brings excitement and enthusiasm for both students and teachers alike. With the right attitude, this could be the best year ever at Avenue City School.

When I think back to a year ago, I was looking at wires, plaster, concrete, holes in the floor and a cafeteria floor that had yet to be installed. At that time, the “new construction” was wrapping up but it sure did not look like it from my point of view. None-the-less, all was complete and our Open House went off without a hitch. This summer, the construction workers are gone and our school maintenance people (Russell and Mike) have been hard at work. We have replaced windows, added new fixtures to restrooms, established a new kindergarten and after school childcare room, installed plumbing in the new kindergarten room, cleaned, sanitized and polished everything that didn’t move and everything that moved too slowly to get out of the way. As is true every year, there is still much more to do before the first day of school arrives but we will be ready because whether we are ready or not “They’re coming!”

While there are many things worth mentioning, I want to bring one special item to your attention. Shortly before school begins, it is our plan to have a flashing traffic signal up and running on 169 Highway. The signal will tell passersby that they are nearing a school zone and during posted times of the day the speed limit will be lowered. The School Board has been working on this for quite some time and they have gotten the job done. The process involved work with MoDOT, local electrical contractors and a signal provider. This is just one more item that we hope will make our little school just a little bit safer for you and for your children.

Let us all work together to make this our best year ever.

Sincerely,

Don Lawrence
Superintendent of schools



Flower pictured above can be found in ACES Garden.

Dear Avenue City Family,

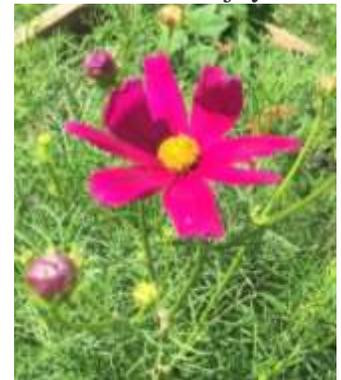
On behalf of the staff and myself, welcome to what promises to be another fantastic year at the Avenue City School District.

We are happy to have our returning students and we want to extend a special welcome to the new students and families who are joining our neighborhood. Our school is successful because of the outstanding students, an expert and dedicated staff of caring professionals, active and involved parents, and a supportive community. We have a strong tradition of working together toward the success of all of the children at Avenue City.

We want your child to be happy and successful at Avenue City School and you can be a big part of this success. Your role is to continuously support and show interest in your child. The child who knows that his or her family is interested in and supports the school program will usually have fewer problems in school and will enjoy success.

At school, we create a safe environment where courtesy, kindness, and respect prevail. We want our students to work hard individually, but also see themselves as part of a team of learners in a classroom and school environment.

Together we form a partnership to ensure that each Avenue City student receives an exceptional education. I encourage you to participate in school activities and special occasions as well as volunteer in your child's classroom as your schedule allows. I look forward to continuing to work with you this school year and many school years to come. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (816) 662-2305 or bgrimes@avenuecityschool.org



Respectfully,
Rebecca Grimes
Principal

Preschool Happenings:

You should be receiving a letter from the teacher in the mail very soon, if you are already enrolled. This will fill you in on all the details pertaining to the first day of preschool, what your child will need to bring and what you can expect. If you do not receive this, please contact the school.

Our morning session is FULL! However, we still have afternoon spots available. This is perfect for the child who needs more social interaction and classroom exposure rather than academic focus. Academics will be brought into the session, but the focus is primarily on social and emotional growth through play.

Contact Mrs. Farrell with any questions, comments or concerns at afarrell@avenuecityschool.org
GET EXCITED! We are!

8 Ways to Prepare Your Child for Preschool

1. **Meet the teacher:** If possible, take your child to the Open House and let her play on the playground before school starts.
2. **Play dates:** Try to enroll her in a class where she already knows some of the other children. If that is not possible, ask if you can have the class list before your child starts school. You could offer to make your email available to the other parents so that you can arrange a play date before school begins. Perhaps several play dates can be arranged or you will meet someone who would like to exchange playtime. Do not be shy. The children will benefit from seeing a friendly face the first day of class.
3. **Practice separation:** Leave your child with others for short lengths of time so that they know you will return.
4. **Backpack and lunchbox:** Before school starts, help her be excited about starting school by empowering her to pick out a backpack. If she is staying all day, she will need a lunchbox. Keep in mind everything you have to fit in these items. In her backpack, she may need extra clothes, a special blanket or stuffed animal and small pillow. You may need to put an ice pack in her lunchbox. Fill it with food you know she already likes.
5. **Independent skills:** If your child is staying all day, ask her to help you prepare her lunch. She can stand next to you on a stool while you give her choices such as grapes or raisins, Grape or Strawberry Jello, and orange or apple juice. That way, she will feel like she has some control and will begin to understand what is really happening that day.
6. **Focus on your child:** Make the whole experience as fun as possible. Give your child your full attention on the way to school. Phone calls can wait. Tell her stories about when you were a little girl and how much you liked school. Sing songs. Try a spin-off version of “If you’re happy and you know it, clap your hands”. Make it, “If you’re excited to go to school, clap your hands!” Be excited, smile a lot, and be happy for her.
7. **Communicate:** Tell her it is okay to be afraid, but that there are always adults to help her and she can ask for help anytime. Promise her that you will pick her up in a few hours or after a certain activity at school – like when the teacher sings a certain song or reads the last book of the day.
8. **Do not linger:** When it is time for drop-off, **keep your goodbyes short, sweet and simple.** Give her a quick hug, tell her how much you love her, and leave her in the hands of the capable teacher. Even if she is crying hysterically, she will likely only cry for a few minutes once you are out of sight. However, if you linger, the crying will probably last longer.



Overcoming separation anxiety and adjusting to school may be gradual. Give her your full attention at home whenever possible. Ask and answer questions. Listen and bond with books and play. Tell her that you are proud of her for going to school. Reassure her with hugs and often tell her you love her. Then you will hear the greatest words on earth, “I wuv u too, mommy.”



2016 ACES Summer Reading Program, *On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!*

We have had a great summer full of reading fun! Sports was our theme this summer so most of our storytellers had a sports related background. Rolling Hills Bookmobile was here every week to provide extra books for checkout, which was a great help while our library was renovated.

Our storytellers included the Mustangs and the Royals, Kathy Ridge from the Pony Express Museum, Serengeti Steve with All About Reptiles, Will Stuck from the East Hills Library, Brett Easley and a few MWSU Football Players, and Brittany Venturella from the Andrew County Museum. If you were not here for the Rolling Hills hosted All About Reptiles, you missed a live alligator among other reptiles and amphibians.



District Welcomes New Staff Member

The Avenue City School District welcomes the following professionals to the staff:

- Ms. Kayla Bradley – Vocal Music Instructor
Mr. Bradley is joining a distinguished faculty, and we look forward to the contributions that she will undoubtedly make as we move forward into the 16-17 school year.



2016-2017 Missouri School Immunization Requirements

- All students must present documentation of up-to-date immunization status, including month, day, and year of each immunization before attending school.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) allows a 4-day grace period. Students in all grade levels may receive immunizations up to four days before the due date.
- For children beginning kindergarten during or after the 2003-04 school year, required immunizations should be administered according to the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Schedule, including all spacing, (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>).
- To remain in school, students "in progress" must have an Immunization In Progress form (Imm.P.14), which includes the appointment date for needed immunizations, on file and must receive immunizations as soon as they become due. The student is in compliance as long as he/she continues to receive the appropriate immunization(s) at the correct intervals according to the ACIP recommendations.

In progress means that a child has begun the vaccine series and has an appointment for the next dose. This appointment must be kept and an updated record provided to the school. If the appointment is not kept, the child is no longer in progress and is noncompliant. (i.e., Hep B vaccine series was started but the child is not yet eligible to receive the next dose in the series.)

- Religious (Imm.P.11A) and Medical (Imm.P.12) exemptions are allowed. The appropriate exemption card must be on file. Unimmunized children are subject to exclusion from school when outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases occur.

Vaccines Required for School Attendance	Doses Required by Grade												
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DTaP/DTP/DT ¹	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+
Tdap ²									1	1	1	1	1
MCV (Meningococcal) ³									1				2
IPV (Polio) ⁴	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+
MMR ⁵	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hepatitis B	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+
Varicella ⁶	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	No doses required, however vaccination is highly recommended

- Last dose on or after the fourth birthday and the last dose of pediatric pertussis before the seventh birthday. **Maximum needed:** six doses.
- 8-12 Grades:** Tdap, which contains pertussis vaccine, is required. **If a student received a Tdap, the student is up-to-date. Tdap is currently licensed for one dose only; an additional dose is not needed.**
- Grade 8:** One dose of MCV is required.
Grade 12: Two doses of MCV is required unless the first dose was administered to a student who was 16 years of age or older, in which case only one dose is required.
- Kindergarten-6 Grade:** Last dose must be administered on or after the fourth birthday. The interval between the next-to-last and last dose should be at least six months.
7-12 Grades: Last dose on or after the fourth birthday. If all four doses are administered appropriately and received prior to the fourth birthday, an additional dose is **not** needed. Any combination of four doses of IPV and OPV by four-six years of age constitutes a complete series. **Maximum needed:** four doses.
- First dose must be given on or after twelve months of age.
- First dose must be given on or after twelve months of age.
Kindergarten-6 Grade: As satisfactory evidence of disease, a licensed health care provider may sign and place on file with the school a written statement documenting the month and year of previous varicella (chickenpox) disease.
7-11 Grades: As satisfactory evidence of disease, a parent/guardian or MD or DO may sign and place on file with the school a written statement documenting the month and year of previous varicella (chickenpox) disease.



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Bureau of Immunizations • 930 Wildwood Drive • Jefferson City, MO • 65109 • 800.219.3224

Rev 8-15





NEW MISSOURI SCHOOL REQUIREMENT FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR: One dose of Meningococcal (MCV) is required for all children entering the 8th grade. Two doses of Meningococcal (MCV) are required for all children entering the 12th grade unless the first dose was administered to a student who was 16 years of age or older, in which case only one dose is required. If you have questions about the new Missouri school requirement, please contact Lynelle Paro at [573-526-7659](tel:573-526-7659).

Parent Teacher Organization

The Parent Teacher Organization at Avenue City is planning some exciting things for the 2016-2017 school year! Throughout the year, you will see numerous events centered on the school and community that not only will fill your stomach such as a pancake breakfast or chili supper but also entertain and show appreciation like our yearly festival and Teacher Appreciation Lunch. PTO is a great opportunity to get involved in your child's education. Through the PTO organization, we are able to provide funds for field trips, playground equipment, purchase items for the school. The faculty, staff, and students are always top of mind and we strive to provide a fun and educational environment for them to succeed.

We want to take this opportunity to introduce the 2016-2017 executive committee.

Abby Sorensen will be serving as the 2016-2017 PTO President. She and her husband Aaron are Iowa natives who relocated to the area 10 years ago. They have two sons, Grant a first grader this fall and Owen who will be starting preschool. Abby works at Boehringer Ingelheim in sales and marketing and enjoys planning parties and being active in her church community.

Heather Huff will be serving as the 2016-2017 PTO Treasurer. Heather and her husband, Brian, have two daughters. Sidney will be entering kindergarten and Grace preschool at Avenue City. Heather is a stay-at-home mom and does seasonal tax preparation. She is an Aces graduate and has served as a PTO member the last two years.

Mindi Richardson will be serving as the 2016-2017 PTO Secretary. Mindi and her husband have two children currently attending Avenue City. Mindi has been in education for 14 years and enjoys watching their children play ball, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Mindi and her family also enjoy being with their church family and helping with the youth.

Yearly membership is \$5.00 and meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. We understand that schedules are busy and carving out time for meetings can be tricky but there are also multiple other ways to contribute to the organization such as volunteering at events and just providing insight. Through PTO, you not only gain valuable relationships with parents and teachers at the school but you truly get to make an impact on your child's education. We look forward to an exciting year; please consider joining us and making PTO a success!



Join ACES PTO!

- ❖ Do you want to have a voice in what happens at Avenue City Elementary School?
- ❖ Do you have ideas that can make our school the best it can be for our children?
- ❖ Do you want to get more involved with our school?
- ❖ Do you want to show your support for our school, teachers, and children?

Join the PTO! All adult members in your household and family can sign up for just \$5 each. You, spouses, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. can all join. Meetings are generally held once a month throughout the school year. THANK YOU for your support!

Return this form to:

Avenue City Elementary
Attn: Abby Sorensen, PTO President
18069 HWY 169
Cosby, MO 64436



Name: _____

Child(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Total Membership(s) @ \$5 ea: _____

Make checks payable to Avenue City Elementary PTO



Professional Development News

The summer months are a great time for the staff at Avenue City School to take classes, attend workshops, and learn about new activities and strategies to use in the classroom for the upcoming school year. We have had many teachers attend workshops and classes this summer, including *Classroom Strategies to Begin the School Year*, *Reading Summit for Educators*, *Building Writers*, *Kagan's Brain-Friendly Teaching*, *Kagan Structures*, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, and *Co-Teaching: A Step Beyond Class-Within-A-Class*. We will also continue with our mentoring program through NWMSU for our new teachers.

During the school year, the professional development committee is excited to announce that we will be doing a study of the professional works of Ron Clark. We will incorporate the works of Mr. Clark. He has a best-selling book that highlights the essential components of success in the classroom that teaches students, teachers, and parents to work together to create a successful environment for all children. In addition, teachers will have more opportunities to grow professionally through shorter workshops and events. We are looking forward to a great year and cannot wait to get started!

Visit Washington, D.C.

Taking a trip to Washington, DC with friends is a junior high student's dream & most parents have a visit there on their family's "bucket list"! We are so excited that ACES Junior High students, parents, & staff members will be attending a trip to Washington, DC this May 23-25, 2017! If your junior high student is interested in this awesome opportunity, please contact Mrs. Forney at bforney@avenuecityschool.org for details.

Washington, DC Trip students need to plan to attend a meeting Monday, August 22, 2016 in Mrs. Forney's classroom during lunch to begin learning about the amazing sites, monuments, museums, etc. we will be visiting while in our nation's capital!

Thanks! Beth Forney





* Garden Club *

Avenue City has started its first garden club and it is really growing! Malinda Ehrhardt, from the Andrew County Health Department, approached administration and Ms. Davison about starting a school garden. The Andrew County Health helped start the program and has paid for all of our supplies thus far. Miss Davison has planned the gardens and led the club since school released for summer break. Al Atchity built and installed the raised beds. David Fankhauser hauled in and donated the dirt to fill the beds. Mrs. Proctor has donated a variety of milkweed and Mrs. Bertha Parker has donated many flowering plants. We have about a dozen members that come weekly to plant and tend to our garden. We have four raised beds and have planted many plants including tomatoes, jalapeno peppers, sweet bell peppers, miniature and large pumpkins, watermelons, squash, and strawberries. One bed has been reserved as a butterfly habitat, catering to the needs of the monarch butterfly. We have planted flowering plants to attract the butterflies and different varieties of milkweed, which is the only plant the young monarchs will feed on. The kids have planted, weeded, watered, and observed the plants each week throughout the summer. We are excited to have the chance to teach our young kids about cultivating their own food and plants, and eager to see how this club will develop in the future!



Apply NOW for Available 2016-2017 Position

- **Instructional Paraprofessional** for the 2016-2017 school year. An instructional paraprofessional is responsible for implementing the instructional plan and lessons created by the classroom teacher and helping a student or a group of students participate in instruction when provided by the teacher. The paraprofessional helps individual students or groups of students learn the concepts being taught by the classroom teacher and ensure students are on-task by understanding and implementing the behavior methodology set into place by the classroom teacher. The paraprofessional will be responsible for ensuring Individual Education Plan (IEP) accommodations are carried out and will help facilitate the development of functional skills. Avenue City offers competitive salaries, excellent location, small student/teacher ratio, and a positive learning environment. This position will be removed when the successful candidate has been identified. Avenue City School District is an equal opportunity employer.

Applications available at phone: 816-662-2305 or email: bgrimes@avenuecityschool.org

Please send completed packet including application, letter of interest, resume and transcript to:

Avenue City School
c/o Principal Rebecca Grimes
18068 Highway 169
Cosby, MO 64436

New District Communication System

Dear Avenue City School District Parents -

We are excited to announce that Avenue City School is updating communication platforms from Dewslly to a brand new tool called Loop.

Loop is a simple tool that allows for quick, easy and secure engagement with parents, students and staff. How does Loop allow parents to remain up-to-date with district, school, and classroom communication?

1. Parents/guardians can customize notification preferences - email, phone calls, and/or text messaging
2. Parents/guardians can respond to Loop direct messages straight from email

Next steps:

- Avenue City School District will send a Loop welcome email on August 11, 2016.
- Click the link within the email and follow the prompts to customize your preferences

OR

- Simply let all communication land in your inbox

If you have any questions please consult ACES Technology Director, Tim Jones.

(tjones@avenuecityschool.org) You can also check out the Loop website for more information at www.loopK12.com.

Becky Grimes
Principal

