

March 2009

March is Middle Level Education Month and to celebrate AMS has several activities planned to promote this very special time in the educational careers of our children. In our age of accountability middle level students must achieve success. Middle schools as well as all k-12 schools are influenced by the new emphasis on standards and assessments. Parents and educators must work together to challenge students to focus on achievement and success. Throughout the month of March we will sponsor several activities to celebrate excellence at AMS. Friends and activities become very important to the middle level student. The AMS student council will be sponsoring a Middle Level Educators Week, March 16 – 20 with various dress-up days. The week will culminate with the third annual AMS Dodgeball Tournament on March 21. Middle level education also emphasizes a rigorous and challenging curriculum. During this month our classes will be studying the following: 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be starting a Roman Unit including reenactments and chariot construction. History Day projects will be showcased in the library. 7<sup>th</sup> grade science will start their animal unit including dissecting worms. 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be focusing on exponential growth in math and studying Africa in geography. Health in seventh grade will be researching the negative effects of alcohol and other drugs. I invite you to get involved with Middle Level Education Month by taking part in the planned activities, visiting our classrooms and taking time to talk to your child about his/her assignments and daily experiences at AMS. Middle school is an exciting, challenging and rewarding time for children. I once again encourage you to take part in our celebration of Middle Level Education Month.

Students in grades four, five and six will have the opportunity to participate and/or watch “Elixir of Love”, a performance put on by the *Opera for the Young* at 1:30 p.m. on March 10<sup>th</sup>. We have had the pleasure of having this group perform for us in past years and are excited to have this opportunity once again.

Our students do several community service projects each year. In March as part of our Scholastic Book Fair students will be having a “penny war” to raise money for purchasing books for our Nekoosa Boys and Girls Club. Students love the competition a “penny war” brings, and raising money for books is a great way for our students to get involved in serving their community in a positive way.

The AMS MVPs are once again sponsoring a lock-in for our seventh and eighth grade students on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. The lock-in will run from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. with a number of activities planned. These events take many volunteers to make them a success, if you are interested in chaperoning please contact our school office. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

AMS will host its third annual dodgeball tournament on Saturday, March 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Once again a Scholastic Book Fair will be open all day along with yummy concessions and lots of flying dodgeballs. This year the money raised from admissions will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club. The registration deadline for entering a team (5<sup>th</sup> grade thru adult) is March 14. If you have not had the opportunity to witness a dodgeball tournament I recommend you stop in for a highly energized fun time.

Congratulations to the following Knights of Columbus contest winners: math contest = Rohan Deshpande, Michael Bulin and Ajit Deshpande. spelling contest = Chrystal Booher. These students each took first place in their grade level and have the opportunity to compete at the next level in Plover on March 7.

Some important dates in March include:

Last day of third quarter = 3/27      Cold weather make-up day = 3/27      Spring Break = 3/28 – 4/5

We hope you are able to enjoy some spring time weather!