

Opportunity for Progress Awaits

Many years ago, the voters of Avenue City School District voted themselves a tax levy to improve their school with a construction project. From that vote came new classrooms for a middle school, bathroom/locker rooms/storm shelter and the associated items with that new addition. That work was done with a 98-cent tax levy. Many years later, as the district approached paying off the middle school addition, the district asked its taxpayers to leave the tax rate where it was in order to do a new building project. The voters said yes and the district constructed a new kitchen, a new cafeteria, a new entry way and an associated security system and it was accomplished with the same 98-cent levy voters approved over two decades ago. The same kind of opportunity for progress awaits your vote in April.

In 2011, the school district adopted a long-range building plan. Since 2011, the following projects (and others) have been completed:

- ✓ Purchase additional ground/land for parking expansion and or potential growth in the facility.
- ✓ Provide a more secure and updated main entrance for student and parent access to school including updated burglar and fire alert systems.
- ✓ Expand and construct a larger cafeteria facility for our students in grades preK-8.
- ✓ Remodel, upgrade and equip the current kitchen facility to better prepare meals for our students in grades preK-8.
- ✓ Remove non-friable asbestos floor tile and wrapped pipes.
- ✓ Update/remodel original student restrooms.
- ✓ Upgrade to a new phone system.
- ✓ Replace original air conditioning units with more efficient units, which would also reduce operational expenses.

Two items remain on the long-range plan to be completed.

1. Expand the gym to provide classroom space, spectator comfort for programs and contests.
2. Add two additional classrooms if needed. (Believe me; with 45 new students since 2018, it is needed.)

In April 2023, the district will once again be asking for approval to upgrade its facilities. The district would continue to use the same 98-cent tax levy it has used over the past many years to fund this project. Therefore, the construction tax rate would remain the same as it has these past many years.

Gym renovations would include the expansion of the gym to a full size high school floor, creating more space for physical education classes, installation of a wooden basketball floor, expansion of the bleacher capacity from 192 to a capacity of 452. The stage and storage rooms on the east and west side of the stage will need to be removed and reconstructed to the north of the new gym/PE flooring providing additional space.

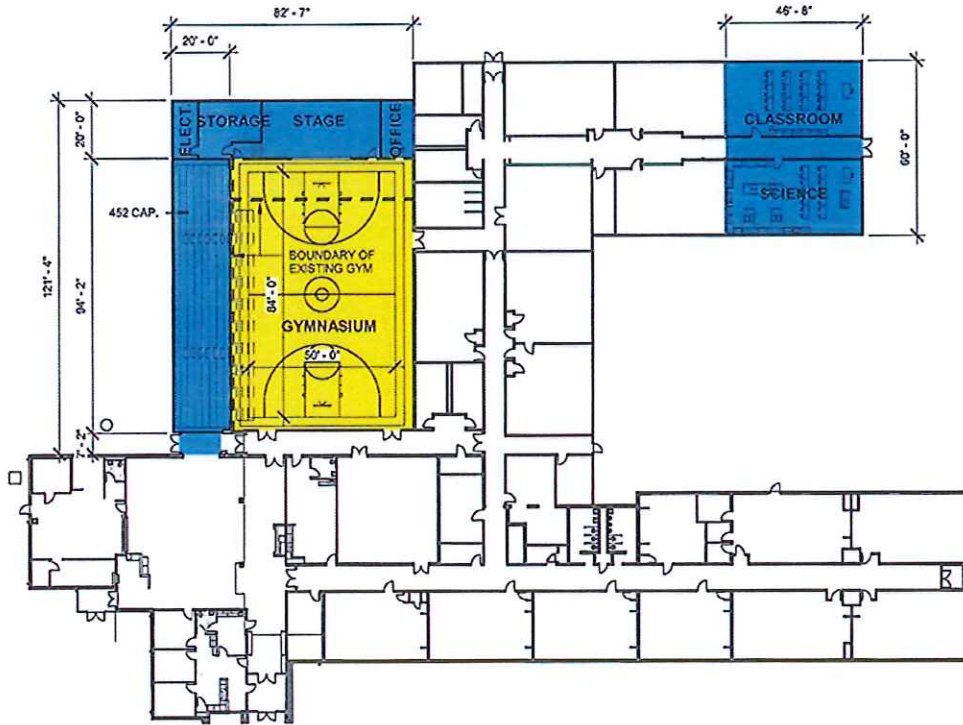
If approved in April, two new middle school classrooms would also be constructed. Located to the west end of the current middle school, one of these rooms would be designed and equipped as a science laboratory. I hope that voters can see that having an actual science lab will allow our students new opportunities and experiences that they do not have currently.



I have included a basic floorplan for the project. As we approach the April election, there will be at least one opportunity for a community gathering to answer questions and to gain additional information. I hope the district can count on you to both attend and vote in April.

Sincerely,

Don Lawrence



1 COMPOSITE FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"



School Board Candidate Filing Opens in December

It is time to prepare for the April school board election. Candidate filing begins December 6, 2022.

- There are three seats up for election for a three-year term.
- There is one seat up for election for a two-year term.
- The first day of filing begins Tuesday, December 6th at 8:00 a.m.
- Filing will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Filing will not occur during Christmas break, beginning December 20th at 3:45 p.m. through December 26th.
- The closing date for filing is December 27, 2022. On that day, filing will be open from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.
- Filing will not occur on days that school is not in session due to inclement weather.
- Candidates may call 816-662-2305 or email hhuff@avenuecityschool.org to inquire if the office is open.

The district will provide each candidate a copy of a summary of campaign laws provided by the Missouri Ethics Commission and written notice of the candidate's obligation to file a personal financial disclosure statement.

Information on the School Board Organization

The qualified voters of the School District shall annually on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of April, elect two directors for terms of three years, except, effective for Board elections beginning in April of 1993, and each three years thereafter, when three directors shall be elected in compliance with regulations specified in state law.

An election shall not be held if the number of candidates who have filed for the Board is equal to the number of positions available.

Qualified Voters in the School District

An individual must be a registered voter in order to vote in a school election. In order to vote, a person must be eighteen (18) years of age or older, must be a citizen of the United States, and must reside in the School District thirty (30) days.

Candidate Qualification - Method of Filing

Qualified applicants for the Board may file for office beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Superintendent's office commencing on the sixteenth (16th) Tuesday prior to the election and ending at 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh (11th) Tuesday before the election. The candidate shall declare his/her intent to become a candidate, in person and in writing to the secretary of the Board of Education. The names of qualified candidates shall be placed on the ballot in the order of filing. The notice of election and certification of candidates must be submitted to the county clerk by the tenth Tuesday prior to the election. Candidates must comply with all of the prevailing laws concerning eligibility and campaign financing.

Candidates must be citizens of the United States and resident taxpayers of the District, reside in his/her state for one year next preceding their election or appointment, and be at least twenty-four (24) years of age. Each newly elected or appointed director shall qualify and take his/her oath of office in the manner prescribed by law and according to Policy 0330 - Oath of Office.





INFORMATION ON THE 2021-2022 DISTRICT FINANCIAL AUDIT

Included in this newsletter is:

1. A Summary Schedule of Revenues Collected, Expenditures Paid, and Changes in Fund Balances
2. An Independent Auditor’s Report on Management’s Assertions about Compliance with Specified Requirements of Missouri Laws and Regulations

The complete audit report is available for inspection and examination by going to the district’s webpage at www.avenuecityschool.org. Under Administration and Reports from the Board you will find this summary and the complete audit report.

You may also request a copy of the audit report by contacting the Avenue City School District’s Board Secretary Office by phone or email (hhuff@avenuecityschool.org).

Avenue City R-IX School District
 Summary Schedule of Revenues Collected, Expenditures Paid, and Changes in Fund Balances
 School District Funds
 Year Ended June 30, 2022

	<u>General</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Special</u> <u>Revenue</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Debt</u> <u>Service</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Capital</u> <u>Projects</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Revenues Collected	\$ 1,506,915	\$ 1,366,781	\$ 381,642	\$ -	\$ 3,255,338
Expenditures Paid	<u>948,582</u>	<u>1,456,615</u>	<u>425,853</u>	<u>42,393</u>	<u>2,873,443</u>
Excess of Revenues Collected Over(Under) Expenditures Paid	558,333	(89,834)	(44,211)	(42,393)	381,895
Other Sources(Uses) Transfers	<u>(232,227)</u>	<u>89,834</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>142,393</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess of Revenues Collected and Other Sources Over(Under) Expenditures Paid and Other Uses	326,106	-	(44,211)	100,000	381,895
Fund Balance July 1, 2021	<u>3,359,960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>273,680</u>	<u>409,803</u>	<u>4,043,443</u>
Fund Balance June 30, 2022	<u>\$ 3,686,066</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 229,469</u>	<u>\$ 509,803</u>	<u>\$ 4,425,338</u>



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Ruthanna Martin, CPA

Amy Hanway, CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Education
Avenue City R-IX School District

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Avenue City R-IX School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 2022. Our report included an explanatory paragraph addressing the District's preparation of its financial statements on the modified cash basis.

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Avenue City R-IX School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Avenue City R-IX School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Avenue City R-IX School District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant





deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2022-1 and 2022-2 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Report On Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Avenue City R-IX School District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Avenue City R-IX School District's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Avenue City R-IX School District's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin & Hanway CPA's P.C.
Martin & Hanway CPA's, P.C.
Saint Joseph, Missouri
November 8, 2022



Board of Education Meeting Highlights

A brief description of the highlights of the board meetings from August 2022 to November 2022 is listed below. The minutes of each board meeting is posted on the school webpage under Board Information.

August 11, 2022

- Decided on Tax Rates for 2022-23 School Year
- Accepted Retirement of Janice Pankau
- Appointed District Secretary/Treasurer
- Discussed District Facility Improvements
- Bond Counsel/L.J. Hart and Company
- Reviewed Seclusion and Restraint Handbook
- Approved District's Annual Goals
- Approved the Substitute List for the 2022-23 School Year
- Approved the Local Plan for Compliance for Missouri Special Education
- Adopted the Avenue City Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan for 2022-23
- Approved the Prepayment of Bonds
- Adopted the Revised Policy 6211 Class Size
- Approved a Part-time Population Paraprofessional
- Adopted the Revised Policy 2760 Students in Foster Care

September 15, 2022

- Reviewed Program Evaluations for 1) Facilities Safety and 2) Transportation
- Approved Additions to the Substitute List
- Approved the 2022-2023 Career Ladder Program
- Posted Board Policies and Regulations
- Decided on Administrative Opening

October 13, 2022

- Adopted New and Revised Board Policies and Regulations
- Rescinded Policy 2670 Corporal Punishment: Prohibited
- Adopted Regulation 2610 Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences
- Set Date for Community Meeting Regarding Construction Project
- Approved the Proclamation of "Red Ribbon Week"

November 10, 2022

- Approved the District's 2021-2022 Audit
- Reviewed Program Evaluation for Federal Title Programs
- Set Date for Principal Interviews
- Accepted Board Member Resignation
- Reviewed Policy 0324 Filling Board Vacancies
- Discussed Filling the Vacated Board of Education Seat
- Set Dates to File for the Board of Education: December 6, 2022 to December 27, 2022
- Discussed Ballot Language

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2022.

Tis the Season to be Reading!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the ACES library December 5-9. There are a lot of great books scheduled to be at the fair! We will be set up in the commons area on the night of the ACES winter music program, which is on December 8, 2022. Stop by and pick out some good reads! All proceeds will go to our school library. If you would like to order online, the website is:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/avenuecityelementaryschool>



Upper Grades Book Clubs

We are very excited to have many students involved in our upper grades book clubs this year! The sponsors of these clubs are Jessica Hoffman and Jolynn Zvolanek. So far, the 4th and 5th grade club has played book trivia, studied how cocoa beans are made into chocolate, and taken a field trip to the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory. Our middle school book club had a spooky story night where students shared stories by candlelight! We are now into a book study of Divergent, by Veronica Roth. At the last meeting we found out what faction we would belong to if we lived in that society. When we finish the book, we will watch the movie and compare to see what elements are similar and different. In December, both clubs will have a book exchange. We have many more fun things planned and are happy to see students so enthused about reading!

Professional Development News at Avenue City

As professional development is always a key component to effective teaching, learning, and implementing, the staff at Avenue City has had a busy first quarter. We have been looking at the state mandated requirements that have been implemented through our educational state department in order to best choose our next path in our science curriculum. As a group, we have looked at several new science series, and have worked together to determine which curriculum best fit our needs and wants. We have also been learning through staff presentations about several workshops that have been attended. This includes topics in the areas of Number Talks 101, Reading Strategies Across the Content, Kagan Cooperative Learning Strategies Training, Virtual Reality, Science Network, LETRS and Pathways Trainings. We look forward to the second semester as we continue our quest to complete our science curriculum updates and look toward upcoming opportunities.

Academic Teams and Middle School Scholar Bowl

The Avenue City Academic Teams are getting ready for another great season! We have 8 fourth graders, 6 fifth graders, 8 sixth graders and 9 in our middle school scholar bowl team. Each meet consists of four rounds with the second and fourth rounds being toss up questions followed by a bonus question.

The Avenue City 4th and 5th grade Academic Teams compete against the Savannah elementary schools in our area including Amazonia, Helena, Minnie Cline and John Glenn. The 6th grade team competes against Savannah Middle School and St. Joseph Christian School. The Middle School teams will enjoy competing against other small schools in the area including North Andrew, St. Paul Lutheran and St. Joseph Christian School this year. Their season will consist of several meets during the month of January. Avenue City is proud of its Academic Teams and Scholar Bowl competitors, and the sponsors, Mandy Scott, Jolynn Zvolanek, and Ashley Davis look forward to continuing the fun throughout this year!



Inclement Weather

Decisions about closing school due to severe weather (snow & ice) are made with the students' safety in mind.

Early Morning Closings: Announcements will be made on KQTV. Announcements will also be made on KFEQ, KKJO, and KSFT radio stations. When possible the announcement will also be posted on the website: <http://avenuecityschool.org/>

Early Dismissal: Announcements will be made as soon as possible on the stations listed above. Dismissal because of inclement weather will be at 12:50 when possible. When possible the announcement will also be posted on the website: <http://avenuecityschool.org/>

Lumen Communication System: A communication system is available to members of the district for these types of days. If you are not receiving notices, please call the office. Students should know where they are to go in case of an emergency early dismissal.



Avenue City 2022-2023 Middle School Basketball Teams

Head Coach Kensey Dyer and Assistant Coach Beth Forney had the privilege of working with the ACES 7th and 8th-grade boys and girls basketball teams this October and November. The student-athletes worked so hard learning and implementing fundamental skills, celebrating wins and learning through losses as a team, and growing as individual players. They played a variety of local schools in Northwest Missouri. Additionally, the teams participated in the NE Nodaway Valley tournament, where the boys team fought hard and won the Consolation trophy. The athletes and ACES community should be so proud of their efforts and work hard in the off-season!



Avenue City Student Council

The ACES Student Council has had a wonderfully busy 1st semester. The leaders in this group are so hardworking and full of ideas! Thus far our StuCo gave each student bubbles at the beginning of the year because we were "bubbling over with excitement for a new school year"! We hosted a successful bake sale for the entire school, a middle school dance with a fantastic d.j., held a special Veterans Day assembly for our community, and provided boxes for our Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox initiative for children in third world countries. Our plan is to host a Christmas spirit week, sell candy grams, and provide teacher appreciation and end-of-school-year items to our staff and students. As always, we are so thankful for our school and community for all of the support you give to our group!





AVENUE CITY SCHOOL 1st QUARTER HONOR ROLL

3rd GRADE - A HONOR ROLL

Sylvanie Albin
Zechariah Albin
William Meikle
Maddox Vu

3rd GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Ryder Arnold
Harper Barsch
Lane Derr
Jesse Eggleston
Noah Francis
Bentley Hawkins
Isabelle Jones
Elliana Nold
Alden Pike
Samuel Qin
Ryder Schweizer
Landin Thurn
Annabelle Watson
Cooper Wofford
Cameron Zeamer

4th GRADE – A HONOR ROLL

Naomi Forney
Kensley Meikle

4th GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Ryden Anderson
Colton Bradley
Maximus Burkeyble
Arrington Campbell
Natalie Clary
Kash Davis
Grace Huff
Joslyn Schultz
Coby Seevers
Isabelle Seevers
Myla Shavnore
Peyton Spafford
Audrey Temple
Ava White
Carlee Yingling

5th GRADE – A HONOR ROLL

Beau Flatt
Larkin Greenlee
Trey Hochenauer
Carter Hollars
Joshua Salmons
April Sedlacek
Lillian Watson

5th GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Karsen Garner
Hanner Hare
Landon Jessen
Macey Kerns
Jensen McCourt
Ian Rogers
Avery Temple

Amelia Trainer
Chance Velazquez

6th GRADE – A HONOR ROLL

Casey Adwell
Lyla Colwell
Billie Hare
Lukas Huff
Sidney Huff
Abigail Morey
Landon Neil
Dixon Palmer
Khloe Payeur
Jessica Qin
Jackson Salmons
Kristopher Seevers
Kenzle Wolfe

6th GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Collin Anderson
Emily Barsch
Wyatt Brandt
Carter Farrell
Gwen Francis
Wyatt Pippitt

7th GRADE – A HONOR ROLL

Elijah Albin
Adelynn Arnold
Wyatt Forney
Reagan Rodgers
Maebry Shuster
Brody Worley-Glise

7th GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Brenna Holcumbrink
Parker Jessen
Kale Pollard
Joelle Salsberry
Lillian Salsberry
Dylan Schultz
Lucas Shavnore
Trip Shuster

8th GRADE – A HONOR ROLL

Madelyn Barsch
Owen Burnett
Jacey Collins
Natalie Farrell
Taylor Flatt
Lawson Francis
Cora Gregory
Gwendolyn Oswald
Dalton Schultz
Trace Wolfe
Alexis Yingling
Owen Zelt

8th GRADE – A/B HONOR ROLL

Avery Dunbar
Knitza Patrick
Averi Shepherd



PTO NEWS

As always, the PTO Executive Committee would like to thank our members and ACES families for all of their support so far this year. We held two big events this Fall, the Trunk or Treat and our Annual Chili Supper. We want to extend a big thank you to all those who volunteered and/or attended these events to make them a success. All your time, donations, and support are greatly appreciated.

A new design of ACES t-shirts was sold this Fall. If you missed the Fall apparel order, we plan to sell again in the spring.

We want to congratulate Rick Garvey for being the winner of the Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle.

Our upcoming meeting and events include:

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| • 01/10/23 | 6:30PM | PTO Meeting |
| • 2/18/2023 | 7:00AM-12:00PM | Pancake Breakfast |
| • 2/21/2023 | 5:00-8:00 PM | Culver's Night |
| • 3/7/2023 | 6:30PM | PTO Meeting |
| • 4/11/2023 | 5:00-8:00 PM | Culver's Night |
| • 4/15/2023 | 5:00-7:00 PM | Spring Fling |

Looking ahead we are planning for our next big event, the Spring Fling. We are looking for help setting up games/activities, collecting items for the silent auction, and prizes for the games. If you are able to help or would like to donate an item to the silent auction, please reach out to one of the Executive Committee members.

Make sure you follow our Facebook page at *Avenue City Elementary – PTO* for updates, reminders, and fun things that are going on in the school.

Don't forget that we have trash bags and a few apparel items available for sale. Also, we continue to accept new memberships throughout the year, so it is never too late to join the PTO!

Once again, thank you for the continued support you provide to the PTO and ACES. Because of it, we are able to provide field trip assistance, playground equipment, sport uniforms, as well as endless classroom supplies to better the working environment for our students and staff.

ACES PTO Executive Committee

Joella Schultz, President

Sarah Arnold, Vice President

Heidi Brandt, Treasurer

Metchel Rosmolen, Secretary

Parent
Teacher
Organization 



AVENUE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSPAPER

Nonprofit Organization

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WE ARE ON THE WEB

WWW.AVENUECITYSCHOOL.ORG

FOLLOW AVENUE CITY
ELEMENTARY -PTO
ON FACEBOOK

**Avenue City Elementary School
Winter Concert**

Sunshine, palm trees and pinatas sound great on a cold winter day. Join Avenue City Elementary as we turn the gym into a tropical island for our upcoming Winter Concert. ACES 5th grade students are busy preparing their speaking parts for the production of *The Holly Jolly Pirates of Pinataville*. Come prepared to enjoy a night of entertainment as the 1st-4th grade students add their singing voices. The 1st through 4th grade students may be dressed in tropical style clothes or nice school clothes. 5th graders will be dressed in costumes. Join ACES in the gym on Thursday December 8th, 7:00 pm.

We will kick off the holiday program with Kindergarten at 6:30 pm as they perform their holiday songs. Middle School students will be performing at 6:45 pm. Kindergarten and Middle School students are to wear nice school clothes for their performance.

Thursday, December 8, 2022

6:30 Kindergarten

6:45 Middle School

7:00 Elementary 1st-5th

