

Hello Yellow Jacket Nation!

We are excited to start the 2024-25 school year! Please see the items below as we begin to prep for the new school year.

- **Registration:** Registration documentation will be online through PowerSchool, where you will digitally sign your students' emergency cards and support documents. We are currently waiting for the final transition to PowerSchool to enable this process. There will be an email coming from the district that will open the window and provide directions on how and when to complete this process. **Once this process is open, students will not be able to access their schedules or attend classes until this vital safety information is collected.**
  - If you need help accessing the PowerSchool, please contact robin.bovensiep@avondaleschools.org.
  
- **Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors:** We will not have an in-person registration. Schedules will be released late in the week of August 19th through PowerSchool, if your parents/guardians/caregivers have completed the on-line registration information.
  
- **Freshmen:** Registration/Orientation will take place on Tuesday, August 20th from 9-11 am. Please see the information below for this event:
  - Freshman registration/orientation will be held on 8/20 from 9-11am
  - All 9th grade students should enter through the front vestibule by at least 9 am.
  - Parents are welcome to join their students and accompany them for registration activities
  - Students will engage in the following:
    - School scavenger hunt
    - Find your classes
    - Auditorium welcome from principals and student leadership
    - Review of school policies
    - Exposure to extracurricular activities
  - If parents are not accompanying students for registration activities, they should be prepared to pick students up at 11:00am
  - **Note: There will be an Informational Meeting for 9th grade parents/guardians/caregivers on Tuesday, August 28th, at 6:30 pm in the high school auditorium.**
  
- **New/Returning Students to Avondale High School:** Since our registration is online (except for Freshmen), we would like to welcome any new/returning students, and their families, that would like to walk the building on Monday August 19th, from 12:30-2:30 pm. Please note that schedules may not be ready at this time due to the transfer to PowerSchool.
  
- **Schedules:** Will not be released until the week of August 19th. Schedule changes will be accepted through the first five days of school (ending on Tuesday, September 6th, at 2:30 pm) for the following reasons:
  - Students should ONLY request a schedule change if the schedule contains errors, the student has already taken the class, for medical reasons (i.e. PE), when a teacher

initiates a schedule change based on his/her assessment of a student's skills, or due to other extenuating circumstances that are approved by a counselor or administrator. Change requests submitted for items such as lunch changes, teacher changes, etc. will not be accepted.

- Honors and Advanced Placement classes cannot be changed.
  - If there are extenuating circumstances (i.e. injury that makes PE impossible), please communicate with your student's counselor.
  - Note: Any year-long class (as designated in the curriculum guide) will not be able to be dropped or switched at the semester mark.
- **Pictures:** All pictures will be taken on September 11th, 2024 for all grades. Students will receive their ID's at this time. Senior picture information will be shared at a later date. We will send a link in a later communication about ordering pictures..
- **First Day of School:** The first day of school is August 26th, 2024 and will be a ½ day. Please see the schedule below (the regular schedule is also attached):

### AHS ½ Day Schedule – Non-Exam Day

1<sup>st</sup> Hr – 7:22 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hr – 7:50 a.m. – 8:13 a.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> Hr – 8:18 a.m. – 8:41 a.m.

4<sup>th</sup> Hr – 8:46 a.m. – 9:11 a.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Hr – 9:16 a.m. – 9:39 a.m.

6<sup>th</sup> Hr – 9:44 a.m. – 10:07 a.m.

7<sup>th</sup> Hr – 10:12 a.m. – 10:33 a.m.

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- **District Calendar:** Here is the [District Calendar](#).
    - Note: We do not have school on August 30th and September 2nd..
  - **Homecoming:** Homecoming Week 2024 will take place from Thursday, October 3rd - Saturday, October 12th. The parade and football game will be on Thursday, October 10th.. The dance will be on Saturday, October 12th, at the high school. The theme this year is "A Night in the City."

- **Tech/Handbook/Textbook Distribution:** We will be distributing these items during the first couple of weeks of school.
- **Fall Sports (Tryout and Contact Information Attached):**

**\*\*\*ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL DATED AFTER APRIL 15TH, 2024 TO TRYOUT OR FOR THE 1ST PRACTICE\*\*\***

General Questions - Please contact our Athletic Director at  
Kenny.Oshaughnessy@avondaleschools.org

- **Curriculum Night:** Curriculum Night is on September 11th from 6:30pm-8:30 pm. There will be information coming in the following weeks regarding details.
- **Senior Parent Night:** Senior Parent Night will occur on September 11th from 5:30-6:15 pm (prior to Curriculum Night) in the high school auditorium.
- **Yearbook Distribution:** Yearbooks can be picked up the first couple weeks of school from Ms. McLaughlin in room D15.
- **Parking Passes:** Parking passes will be available starting the first week of school. See the attached document for the application. After the first week of school, we will begin to monitor the parking lots for cars without parking passes.
- **Standards Based Assessing:** Please see the attached FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) regarding learning and grading at the high school.
- **Attendance, Cell phones, Behaviors, Safety, and School:** It is our goal to create a one-of-a-kind educational experience for your child. An experience that pushes your student to excel, offers a safe place that fosters curiosity, and a diverse community to connect with. In order for that to happen, we need your support and partnership in the following areas:
  - It is imperative that your students not only attend school everyday (for all hours), but also actively participate in their learning. This will allow our teachers and staff to see, adjust, and push their learning, as well as, your students to own their learning.
  - In order to be active participants in their learning, they need to be focused in what they are engaging in, this means that we need to limit the distractions. We will be adjusting the current cell phone policy and not allowing phones/headphones in any class during the day. We ask that you discuss, and practice, this with your student. Our goal is to have them fully present for learning. There will be a separate communication regarding this policy update.
  - Safety is paramount for a successful learning space. We have spent a lot of time making sure that our students are safe and we understand that safety protocols, at times, may present an inconvenience. We ask for your cooperation following the protocols and complying with requests made by Avondale High School personnel, as

well as, our Safe Ed team regarding school safety. We will continue to adapt our protocols as situations arise. We ask that you converse with your students about appropriate behaviors, letting others know about issues that your students witness, and taking an active role in creating the culture and environment they want to be a part of.

- As we, together, make up the Yellow Jacket Nation, we look forward to partnering with you in setting, and upholding, high expectations for our students that will lead to exceptional futures!

Stay Awesome!

Doug Wilson