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**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** DR. JAMES FRANACHINI, SUPERINTENDENT  
**FROM:** MICHAEL OUIMET  
**SUBJECT:** GRANTS  
**DATE:** JUNE 3, 2021  
**CC:** BOARD OF EDUCATION

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The Averill Park Education Foundation has generously made a donation of \$13,600 for the purpose of funding the following:

- \$3,000 Story Pirates at all three elementary schools
- \$8,500 Algonquin Middle School, Esports
- \$2,100 Angst screening, Algonquin Middle School

I recommend the District accept this donation, increase the General Fund budget by \$13,600 (A2110.450-10-0000, \$13,600) and publicly thank the Averill Park Education Foundation for their contribution and continuing support of our school community.

Please place this recommendation on the June 14, 2021 Board of Education agenda. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this recommendation.



## Grant Recipient Financial Gifting Letter

Agreement between the Averill Park Education Foundation and the Averill Park School District.

The Averill Park Education Foundation is donating \$ 3,000 to the PES, MHS, WSL  
(school)

For the following purpose/purchase(s) of: Stony Pirates

If this purchase is not made by 5/31/22, this amount will returned to the Averill Park Education Foundation. The Averill Park Education Foundation will be provided with a copy of the purchase order or requisition and a copy of the paid invoice(s).

Signed Bryan E. Pardo Treasurer Date: 5/31/21  
President/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### For equipment purchase, the following must be completed

The Averill Park Education Foundation is donating money for the purchase of the following :

\_\_\_\_\_

The/these item(s) will become the property of the school, to be used for the following purpose(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

The Averill Park Education Foundation may use the item(item) under the following conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The school will be responsible for the maintenance of the item and for providing supplies. In case of loss or theft, the Averill Park Education Foundation bears no responsibility for replacement. The school will hold the Averill Park Education Foundation harmless for any claim arising out of ownership of the use of the item(s).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
President/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date \_\_\_\_\_

The general Averill Park Education Foundation membership must provide for any expenditure through a budget adoption/amendment and a specific vote at a general meeting. This agreement is void if not ratified by the general membership.



February 21, 2021

Sera Deo & Julianne Urban Strano

Re: Grant Approval

Dear Ms. Deo and Ms. Strano

We're delighted to report that the Trustees of the Averill Park Education Foundation have awarded you a grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 to cover the costs of the Story Pirates.

The funds from this grant are restricted to cover the costs for the consultant as detailed in your grant request dated January 29, 20201 and submitted to the Trustees for consideration.

Within a year, we ask that you send us an informal report on how you have used this grant, along with at least one photo showcasing your project that we may post on our web site or use in promotional materials.

The APEF is proud to support and enrich Averill Park Education through meaningful projects such as yours. We wish you success with your project and look forward to hearing more about it.

Sincerely,

Daryl Bart

President, Averill Park Education Foundation

Averill Park Education Foundation  
PO Box 56  
Averill Park, NY 12018  
<http://www.averillparkef.org/>



## GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Averill Park Education Foundation exists solely for charitable and educational purposes to benefit the students of the Averill Park schools and works to support educational and creative initiatives to enrich programs and services for the students. The Foundation encourages teachers, students, and community members to help identify worthwhile projects for funding opportunities. Funds are distributed in the form of grants and project awards focused primarily in the academic subject areas, as well as technology, cultural enrichment, and general scholastic achievement. Consequently, grant requests submitted to the Foundation must demonstrate that the project/program and the funds requested will benefit our academic environment and our students.

All grants are subject to approval by the Foundation Board. In general, awards range from \$1,000 - 7,500, although larger proposals will be considered.

All proposals will receive a response generally within 6-8 weeks of each deadline. The dollar amount available for grants per year is directly related to the results of the annual fundraising campaign, and may vary from year to year. Depending upon the quality and number of proposals submitted each year, the number of grants awarded may also vary.

Grant awardees will be required to accept the following procedures:

- Submit a written report at the end of the project identifying completion of all established goals, an overview of the results, and recommendations (if any) for future projects;
- Submit a final accounting of all expenses, including budget v. actual, any income or additional funding, and any in-kind donations, if applicable.

Requests for grant renewals must follow the same procedure as initial grant proposal submissions. A prior award does not guarantee a renewal.

Completed applications should be submitted to:

Grants Review Committee  
Averill Park Education Foundation  
PO Box 56  
Averill Park NY 12018

Any questions regarding the submittal of applications may be directed to Sue Powers @ [sjp505@aol.com](mailto:sjp505@aol.com).

**All 4th grade in-person and virtual students will submit a story to the Story Pirates and one student from each school will be selected to have their story performed during each show. Their story will be brought to life on stage by the Story Pirates actors. Each student will receive written feedback from the Story Pirates at the conclusion of the project.**

What student group(s) will be served by this project/program? Please include an estimate of the number of students served.

4th grade in-person and virtual students from each school for a total of approximately 240 students

Please list any artists, cultural organizations, or other community/business organizations or agencies that will be involved in this project (if applicable):

**The Story Pirates** (<https://www.storypirates.org/schoolprograms>)

What are the proposed start and end dates for this project? From: January 2021 To: June 2021

January - teachers meet to plan the dates, develop the plan for the day, and begin the grant process.

February 12th--Story Pirates Virtual Presentation with all 4th and 5th grade in-person and virtual students at PES, MHSL, & WSL The Story Pirates will present a current 5th grader's story which was written during their 4th grade year 2019-20 thanks to the generosity of the APEF.

February - teachers devote a portion of their curriculum time to communicate with the Story Pirates and plan and develop resources to go along with the day.

March – Begin creative writing process in classrooms

March/April – Continue creative writing process, submit stories to the Story Pirates

May/June – Actual Visit

June - teachers meet to finalize the grant process and thank both the APEF and the Story Pirates

Is additional funding also being sought for this project from other sources?  Yes  **No**  
If yes, please list any other funding organizations or sources:

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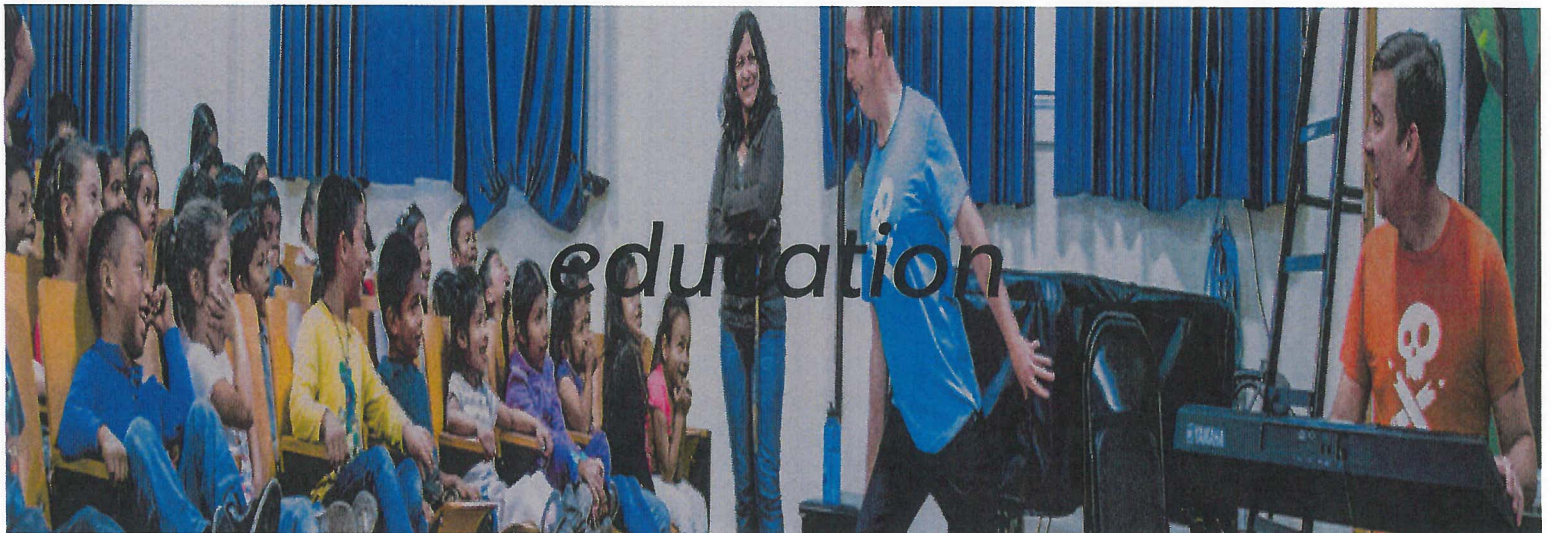


[SPTV \(/SPTV\)](#)

[VOLUNTEER \(/STORY-LOVE\)](#)

[SUBMIT A STORY \(/SUBMIT-A-STORY\)](#)

[DONATE \(/DONATE\)](#)



[DOWNLOAD OUR FREE LESSON PLANS HERE \(HTTPS://WWW.STORYPIRATES.COM/LESSONS\)](https://www.storypirates.com/lessons)

## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Story Pirates have been providing school programs since their founding in 2004, and now visit over 400 schools across the country each year. School programs range from a single assembly to a year-long program that involves performances, workshops, books, professional development, and more! **Which level is right for your school?**

### Level 1: Greatest Hits Assembly

Our most popular assembly!

The Greatest Hits Show is a sketch comedy musical based on stories written by kids from around the country, plus a story that's entirely improvised according to suggestions from kids in the audience. The cast brings along a colorful set, props, costumes, a piano, and six Story Pirates books for the school library, as well as resources for classroom teachers.

Book today! (<https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1>)

## **Level 2: New Story Show**

What if the Story Pirates walked on stage and announced that the next story was written by... YOU?

The New Story Show includes brand new stories written by young authors in the audience! Students write their stories in advance, and the Story Pirates transform them into fully-produced sketch comedy and musical theater, in a big assembly for the entire school. The show also includes stories from across the country, as well as a story created on the spot by the audience. This program includes one book per classroom.

Book today! (<https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1>)

## **Level 3: Idea Storm**

Two visits to your school!

The Story Pirates visit your school twice, first with an assembly inspiring students to write their own stories, then returning several weeks later to perform their work in a New Story Show. Every student who writes a story receives a personal, handwritten note (we call it Story Love) that encourages them to keep writing!

Book today! (<https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1>)

## **Level 4: Play/Write Residency**

The Story Pirates visit your classrooms and your auditorium!

This in-depth residency combines a series of in-class writing workshops with all-school assemblies. Our experienced instructors teach a variety of writing skills, guiding students to write their own original, detailed stories. Finally, the entire school watches several of these stories come to life on stage. Every student walks away from the program with a personal note, and their own copy of a Story Pirates book, to help inspire them for years to come.

Book today! (<https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1>)

## **Level 5: Year-Long Pirate Takeover**

Imagine if the Story Pirates visited your school throughout an entire school year!

We provide assemblies and classroom workshops for a variety of writing units, from personal narratives to persuasive writing and more, throughout the year. We also provide family engagement workshops, professional development for teachers, and custom media. Contact us for more information!

Book today! (<https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1>)

**BOOK SCHOOL PROGRAM TODAY ([HTTPS://WWW.STORYPIRATES.ORG/CONTACT-1](https://www.storypirates.org/contact-1))**

**MORE INFORMATION ON ASSEMBLIES & SKYPE PROGRAMS  
([HTTPS://WWW.STORYPIRATES.ORG/ASSEMBLY-PROGRAMS](https://www.storypirates.org/assembly-programs))**

**MORE INFORMATION ON IN-CLASS PROGRAMS  
([HTTP://STORYPIRATES.ORG/CURRICULUM](http://storypirates.org/curriculum))**





## Grant Recipient Financial Gifting Letter

Agreement between the Averill Park Education Foundation and the Averill Park School District.

The Averill Park Education Foundation is donating \$ 8500<sup>00</sup> to the AMS

For the following purpose/purchase(s) of: ESports grant  
(school)

If this purchase is not made by 5/31/22, this amount will returned to the Averill Park Education Foundation. The Averill Park Education Foundation will be provided with a copy of the purchase order or requisition and a copy of the paid invoice(s).

Signed Brian E. Pardo, Treasurer Date: 5/31/21  
~~President~~/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### For equipment purchase, the following must be completed

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The Averill Park Education Foundation may use the item(items) under the following conditions:

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The school will be responsible for the maintenance of the item and for providing supplies. In case of loss or theft, the Averill Park Education Foundation bears no responsibility for replacement. The school will hold the Averill Park Education Foundation harmless for any claim arising out of ownership of the use of the item(s).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
President/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date \_\_\_\_\_

The general Averill Park Education Foundation membership must provide for any expenditure through a budget adoption/amendment and a specific vote at a general meeting. This agreement is void if not ratified by the general membership.



May 28, 2021

Rob Messia & Dave Hansen

Re: Grant Approval

Dear Mr. Messia and Mr. Hansen

We're delighted to report that the Trustees of the Averill Park Education Foundation have awarded you a grant in the amount of \$8,500.00 to cover the costs of the e-Sports Program at Algonquin Middle School.

The funds from this grant are restricted to cover the costs of the equipment and NERIC Support / NASEF Registration Costs For Two Sessions (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022) as detailed in your grant request dated May 13, 2021 and submitted to the Trustees for consideration.

Within a year, we ask that you send us an informal report on how you have used this grant, along with at least one photo showcasing your project that we may post on our web site or use in promotional materials.

The APEF is proud to support and enrich Averill Park Education through meaningful projects such as yours. We wish you success with your project and look forward to hearing more about it.

Sincerely,

Daryl Bart

President, Averill Park Education Foundation

Averill Park Education Foundation  
PO Box 56  
Averill Park, NY 12018  
<http://www.averillparkef.org/>

# GRANT APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: e-Sports Program at Algonquin Middle School

Date: 3/25/21

School Campus: Algonquin Middle School

Department: Technology

Telephone: 518-674-7100 ext 1

Email: messiar@apcsd.org

FAX: 518-674-7063

Supervisor/Principal: Rob Messia

## Project Type

Funding is being sought for what type of project? (Check all that apply)

- Classroom Activity
- Performing Arts
- Special Event/Guest Presenter
- Curriculum development
- Educational outreach
- Equipment
- Conference
- Other:

Please describe: Registration costs for e-Sports platform for the 2021-22 school year

## Project Goals and Description

Please provide a brief description of the project for which you are seeking funding and the goals (what you expect to accomplish) you have set for the project. Please attach additional pages describing your project's time line, planned activities, and responsibilities of principal staff involved. If your request is specifically for funding for equipment, please list the equipment or product you are seeking to purchase:

The term "e-Sports," for those who are not familiar, describes organized, competitive play of video games in a team format, and for secondary schools, can be an intramural and and/or interscholastic program.

Here at Algonquin, students have expressed interest in e-Sports and we hope to funnel the high level of engagement and commitment students have to playing video games outside of school into the school program through competitive play among our students and then branching out to competition programming with other local middle schools.

Sports and activities offered by the school district need to be representative of student interest in order for them to be engaging and help them feel connected to their school. This after school program will allow students to participate in two eight week sessions. There is equal opportunity to develop skills in leadership, teamwork, and communication in E-Sports as there is in traditional sports. Our hope is that this program will help engage students who may not be attracted to traditional sports programs but can become skilled e-Sports athletes. The social emotional learning components of e-sports such as skill acquisition, health and wellness, and navigating digital culture is well documented in the recently published Esports Education Playbook.

Our goal is to provide students the opportunity to participate in non-violent video games such as Rocket League and MineCraft.

Equipment (Please specify): <b>4 - Gaming PC's with minimum specifications and graphics capabilities to sufficient run and compete in ESports.</b>	<b>\$1500</b>	<b>\$6000</b>
Printing/Postage	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
*Other (Please describe below) <b>NERIC Support / NASEF Registration Costs For Two Sessions (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022)</b>	<b>\$975.00</b>	<b>\$1950.00</b>
<b>e-Sports Team Uniforms</b>		<b>\$550.00</b>
	Total cost of project/program:	<b>\$8500.00</b>
	Less amount funded by other sources (if applicable):	\$
	Total amount being requested from Averill Park Education Foundation:	<b>\$8500.00</b>

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information presented in this application is true and correct. If approved, the Averill Park Education Foundation will be provided a copy of all PO's, requisitions and receipts as documented in the Financial Gifting Letter.



May 13, 2021

Signature of Applicant

Date

Rob Messia

May 13, 2021

Signature of Supervisor/Principal

Date



May 13, 2021

Signature of Assistant Superintendent

Date

*Additional pages of description of your project may be added if necessary.*

Please submit your completed grant application to:



## Grant Recipient Financial Gifting Letter

Agreement between the Averill Park Education Foundation and the Averill Park School District.

The Averill Park Education Foundation is donating \$ 2100<sup>00</sup> to the APHS

For the following purpose/purchase(s) of: ANOST Screening  
(school)

If this purchase is not made by 5/31/22, this amount will returned to the Averill Park Education Foundation. The Averill Park Education Foundation will be provided with a copy of the purchase order or requisition and a copy of the paid invoice(s).

Signed Guillaume Paré, Treasurer Date: 5/31/21  
President/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
President/Averill Park Education Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator Date \_\_\_\_\_

The general Averill Park Education Foundation membership must provide for any expenditure through a budget adoption/amendment and a specific vote at a general meeting. This agreement is void if not ratified by the general membership.

From: Janice Balogh  
Subject: grant approval  
Date: December 12, 2020 at 3:00 PM



To: [billie@apcsd.org](mailto:billie@apcsd.org)  
Cc: Matt Hladun [mhadun@apcsd.org](mailto:mhadun@apcsd.org), Michael Ouimet [ouimet@apcsd.org](mailto:ouimet@apcsd.org), Heath Quiles [quiles@apcsd.org](mailto:quiles@apcsd.org), Robert Messia [rmessia@apcsd.org](mailto:rmessia@apcsd.org), Daryl Bart [d.bart@gmail.com](mailto:d.bart@gmail.com), Sarah Paris [sarahparis@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahparis@yahoo.com)

Thank you for your grant submission. We are happy to share that the APEF Trustees have voted to approve your grant as detailed in the attached letter.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the emotional well being of our students.  
Janice Balogh

Sarah - Can you process payment at your earliest convenience?



December 12, 2020

Linda Billie  
Averill Park High School  
16 Gettle Road  
Averill Park, NY 12018  
Re: Grant Approval

Dear Ms. Billie:

We're delighted to report that the Trustees of the Averill Park Education Foundation have awarded you a grant in the amount of \$2100.00 to cover the costs of the *ANGST* screening.

The funds from this grant are restricted to cover the costs for the screening as detailed in your grant request dated December 8, 2020 and submitted to the Trustees for consideration.

Within a year, we ask that you send us an informal report on how you have used this grant, along with at least one photo showcasing your project that we may post on our web site or use in promotional materials.

The APEF is proud to support and enrich Averill Park Education through meaningful projects such as yours. We wish you success with your project and look forward to hearing more about it.

Sincerely,  
Daryl Bart  
President, Averill Park Education Foundation



## GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Averill Park Education Foundation exists solely for charitable and educational purposes to benefit the students of the Averill Park schools and works to support educational and creative initiatives to enrich programs and services for the students. The Foundation encourages teachers, students, and community members to help identify worthwhile projects for funding opportunities. Funds are distributed in the form of grants and project awards focused primarily in the academic subject areas, as well as technology, cultural enrichment, and general scholastic achievement. Consequently, grant requests submitted to the Foundation must demonstrate that the project/program and the funds requested will benefit our academic environment and our students.

All grants are subject to approval by the Foundation Board. In general, awards range from \$1,000 - 7,500, although larger proposals will be considered.

All proposals will receive a response generally within 6-8 weeks of each deadline. The dollar amount available for grants per year is directly related to the results of the annual fundraising campaign, and may vary from year to year. Depending upon the quality and number of proposals submitted each year, the number of grants awarded may also vary.

Grant awardees will be required to accept the following procedures:

- Submit a written report at the end of the project identifying completion of all established goals, an overview of the results, and recommendations (if any) for future projects;
- Submit a final accounting of all expenses, including budget v. actual, any income or additional funding, and any in-kind donations, if applicable.

Requests for grant renewals must follow the same procedure as initial grant proposal submissions. A prior award does not guarantee a renewal.

Completed applications should be submitted to:

Grants Review Committee  
Averill Park Education Foundation  
PO Box 56  
Averill Park NY 12018

Any questions regarding the submittal of applications may be directed to Sue Powers @ [sjp505@aol.com](mailto:sjp505@aol.com).

## Warrior Wellness Day - The Mind Body Connection

The Averill Park Central School District would like to present a day of mental health awareness and coping called Warrior Wellness - The Mind Body Connection for all students at the secondary level. In a year that has been fraught with anxiety on every level, from food insecurity, worry about sick loved ones, fear of parental job loss to generalized anxiety and depression related to COVID, it is necessary to address this issue head on. We must remove the stigma of mental health struggles by talking about them and the impact they have on everyday life. I would love to say that the impetus for this was my idea but in truth, the idea was born out of a letter written by a student to the Board of Education and the Leadership Team of the district. The letter was an impassioned request for us to address the mental health needs of students. Although the student was able to see how much care the district was taking to keep everyone physically safe, her message to us was, in regards to mental health, "The kids are not alright." We felt compelled to take immediate action.

The Warrior Wellness Day will consist of a multidisciplinary presentation which will include breakout sessions on coping with anxiety and depression in ourselves and our friends. We will be partnering with Rensselaer County Mental Health, Capital Pride, Mental Health Association of NYS, Community Hospice, We Rise Consulting, and Arts Letters and Numbers, local yoga providers as well as embracing all the talent and expertise that Averill Park Central School District has to offer. All agencies are donating their time to us motivated by a generosity of spirit, an understanding that the kids, indeed, are not alright and a desire to change that for them in a way that is meaningful.

We hope to meet the following goals:

- Tap into each student's strength (art, music, exercise, mindfulness) to help them find a way to manage their emotions and feelings in a healthy, positive way that is specific to their own talents and interests.
- Remove the stigma of talking about mental health struggles and the impact they have on each of us.
- Educate everyone on what it is like to have anxiety and to have compassion for our friends and family members who are struggling.
- Develop strategies that can be used in the moment to decrease anxiety so that each student can fully engage in their education.

The first step in doing this is educating everyone about anxiety, giving this undefined fear a name, and opening the door for students to talk about it and to learn about it. A necessary step of dealing with anxiety and depression, especially in such a difficult time, is to understand anxiety and depression not as insurmountable obstacles, but rather as something that can be broken down into manageable parts in an attempt to break free from it's all encompassing grasp. An important

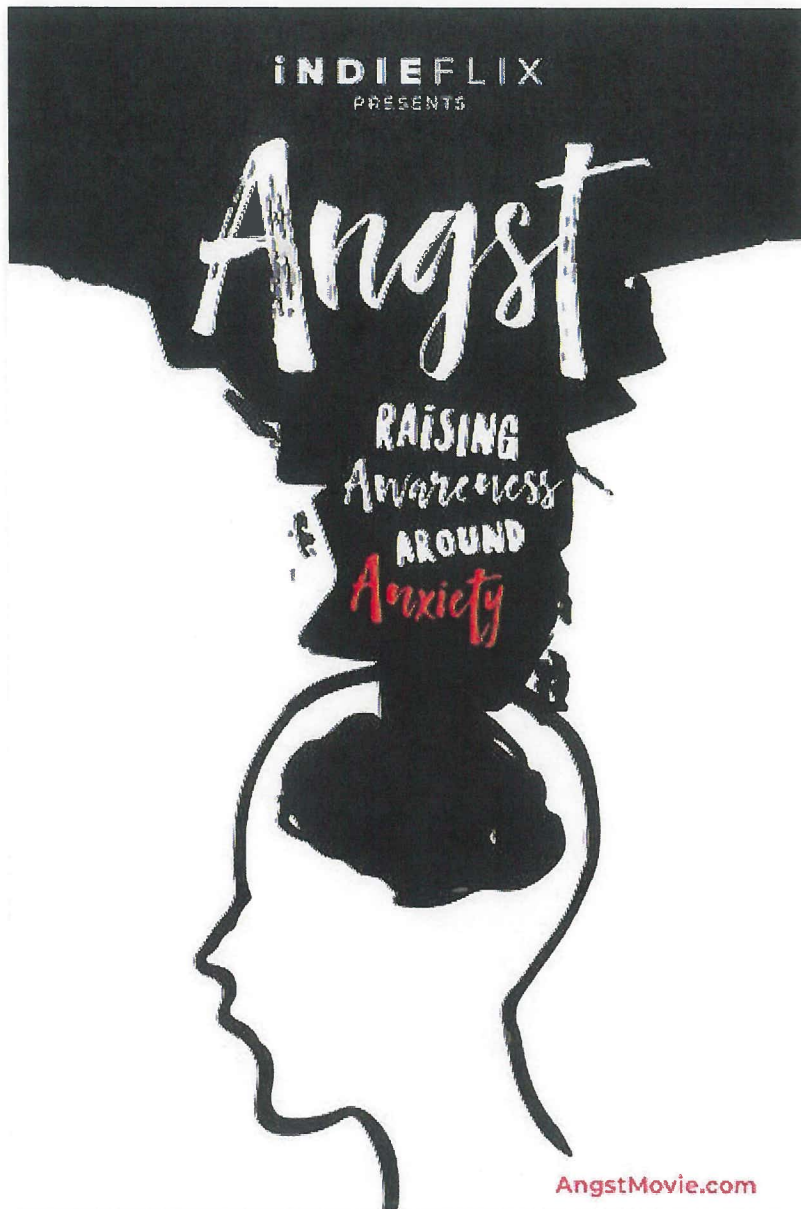


part of the day is the viewing of the film ANGST, which will help to set the tone of the day and will introduce us to all the topics in our goals.

The ANGST Movie is a 56-minute film that explores anxiety, its causes, effects, and what we can do about it. The filmmakers' goal is to have a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. ANGST features candid interviews with kids and young adults who suffer, or have suffered, from anxiety and what they've learned about it. The film includes discussions with mental health experts about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects, as well as help, resources, and tools.

The resources and tools that will accompany the movie are staff/student discussions and debriefing sessions. The resources include, but are not limited to common questions, helpful websites, articles and books. Additionally, ANGST comes with guided questions for staff to use with students after the movie to help them identify their own triggers and coping strategies.

As adults we like to think that students will come to us for help. If you ask students what they need, their answer will always be each other. This movie shows students overcoming anxiety with the help of their friends as well as showing adults as people who can help. It highlights relationships with parents as well. We encourage parents to view the film along with their children if they are able.



**Angst** is an iNDIEFLIX Original documentary designed to raise awareness around anxiety.

Angst removes the stigma and opens up the conversation around anxiety, helping people understand and manage their symptoms, and when to reach out for help. Most importantly, it shows people that they are not alone, and that anxiety is 100% treatable.

This hopeful and inspiring film has helped over 2 million people around the world, weaving in the personal stories of those suffering with expert perspectives, who break down what's going on, how to deal with it, and how to help others. Michael Phelps shares his own anxiety story, proving that anxiety can affect everyone, and there is no shame in asking for help. For many, watching Angst has been a catalyst for changing their lives for the better.

## The Impact of Angst



02:01

**95%**

Think Angst is helpful for kids and teens