

July 18, 2025

Dr. James Franchini, Superintendent
Averill Park Central School District
146 Gettle Road
Averill Park, NY 12018

Mr. Rob Messia, Principal
Algonquin Middle School
333 NY Route 351
Averill Park, NY 12018

Members of the Board of Education
Averill Park Central School District



Dear Dr. Franchini, Mr. Messia, and Esteemed Board Members,

On behalf of the New York State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NYSASCD), I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the students, staff, and leadership of **Algonquin Middle School** for being named the **2025 NYSASCD Whole Child Award** recipient.

This honor recognizes the extraordinary commitment Algonquin Middle School demonstrates in educating the whole child—academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. Through your innovative programs and deeply rooted culture of care, Algonquin stands as a beacon for schools across New York State and beyond.

From wellness initiatives like the CARES program and Wellness Day to the inclusive academic opportunities provided through Regents and high school-level coursework, your school exemplifies all five tenets of Whole Child education. Your team's emphasis on student voice, mental health, family partnership, character development, and equitable access to learning is both inspiring and impactful.

The measurable academic growth your students have achieved is matched by the strength of your school community—fueled by 25+ clubs, a thriving music and arts program, and project-based learning opportunities that build real-world connections. The work happening at Algonquin is not only shaping successful students but cultivating compassionate citizens.

Please know that your leadership and your entire school community's dedication to holistic education has not gone unnoticed. The NYSASCD is proud to recognize your collective achievements and amplify the powerful example Algonquin sets for how schools can truly educate the whole child.

Once again, congratulations on this well-earned distinction. We are proud to honor you and to share your story with educators across the state.

Warm regards,

Executive Director
New York State ASCD