

State of the District



**Presentation to the Board of Education
August 2025**

2024-2025

The Year in Review



Goals

Students will graduate with college and career readiness.

Students will productively engage in their school community.

Students will be digitally fluent by demonstrating the ability to live productively and safely in a technology influenced society.



Mission

*To meet the needs
of and create
opportunities for
every student
every day*



Vision

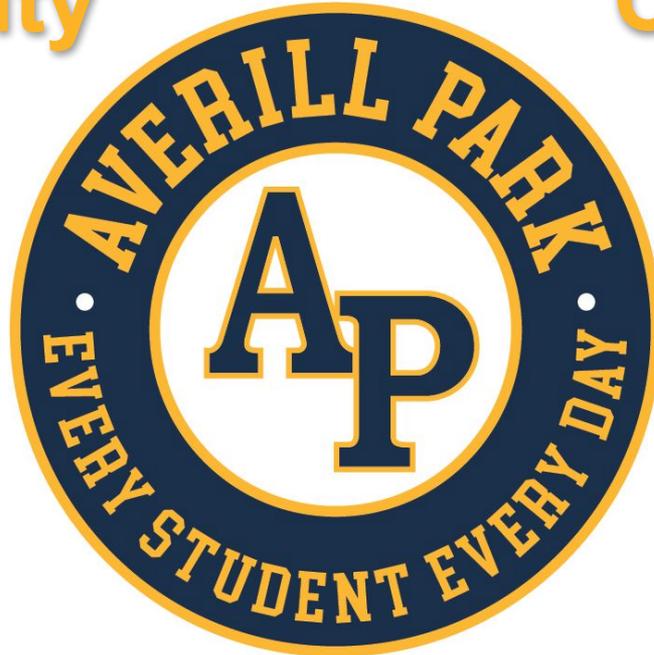


To create passionate learners who contribute positively to their community and the world

Core Values

Responsibility

Community



Growth

Respect

Focused Acts of Improvement

Figure 9.1
RANDOM ACTS OF IMPROVEMENT

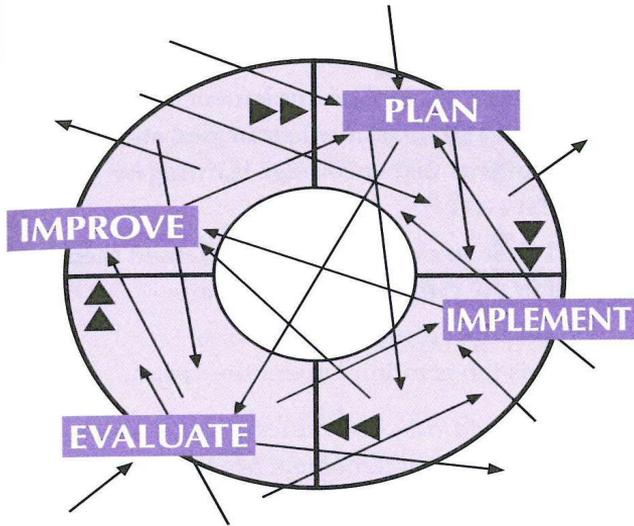
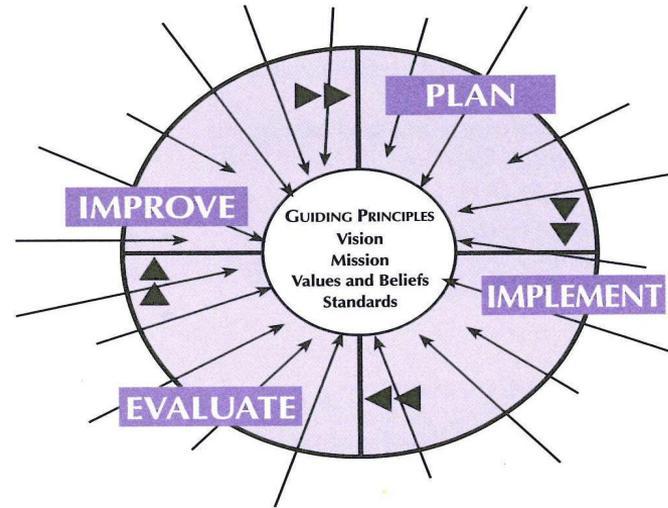


Figure 9.2
FOCUSED ACTS OF IMPROVEMENT

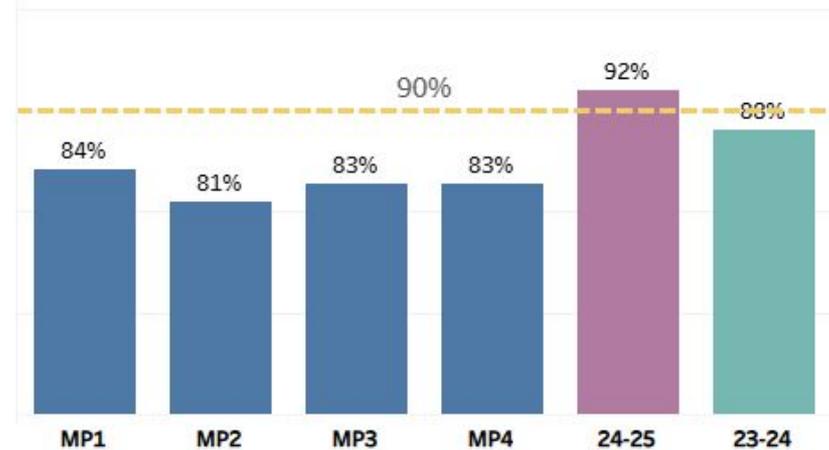


Goal #1: APHS

Students will graduate with college and career readiness.

GOAL #1

At the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 88% of students at Averill Park High School passed all of their classes. In the 2024-2025 school year, at least 90% of all students will pass all of their classes at the end of the year.

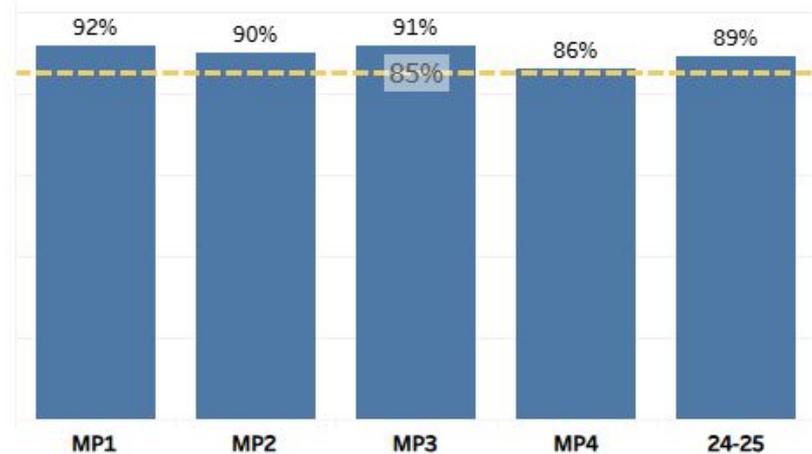


Goal #1: AMS

Students will graduate with college and career readiness.

GOAL #1

85% of students will have passed all of their classes at the end of the year

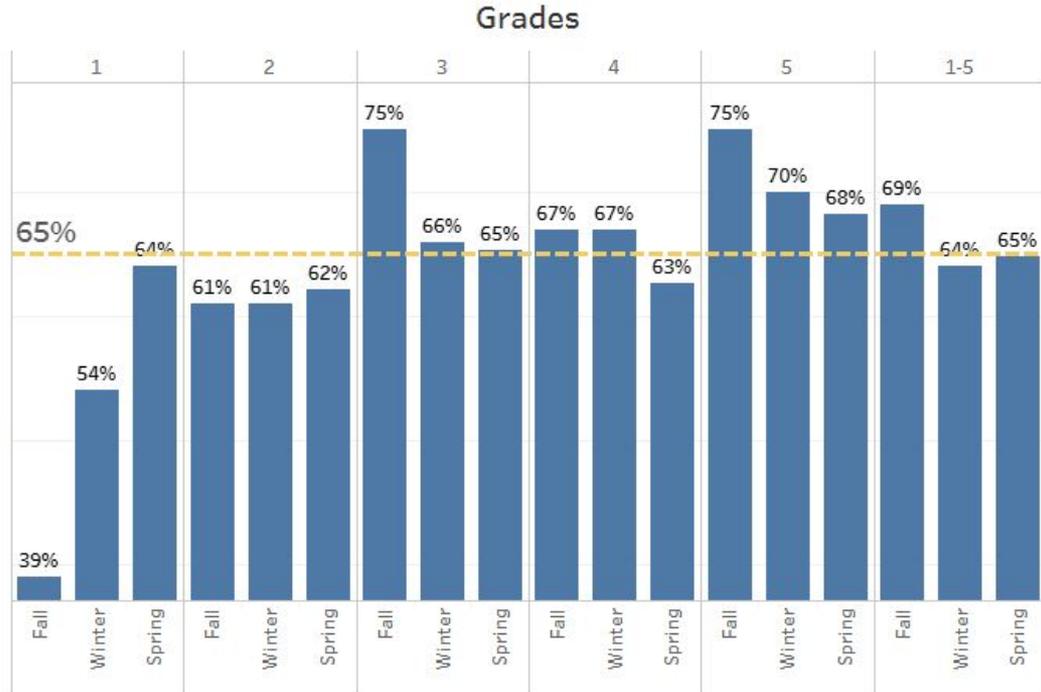


Goal #1: Elementary

Students will graduate with college and career readiness.

GOAL #1

Between September 2024 and June 26, 2025, students across the district in grades 1-5, will improve reading fluency from 62% to 65% as measured by the district determined benchmarking fluency measure. (proficiency is >35%ile)

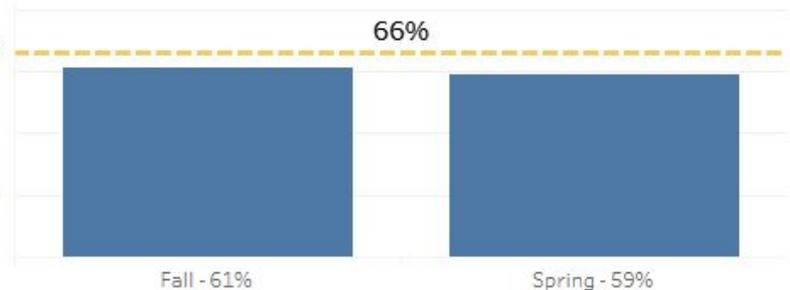


Goal #2: APHS

Students will productively engage in their school community

GOAL #2

At the opening of the 2024-2025 school year, a building-wide survey indicated that 61% of students at Averill Park High School felt as if they fully or mostly belong at the high school. By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, we will increase this by at least 5%, to at least 66%, as measured by a repeat of the same survey to all students in late April of 2025.



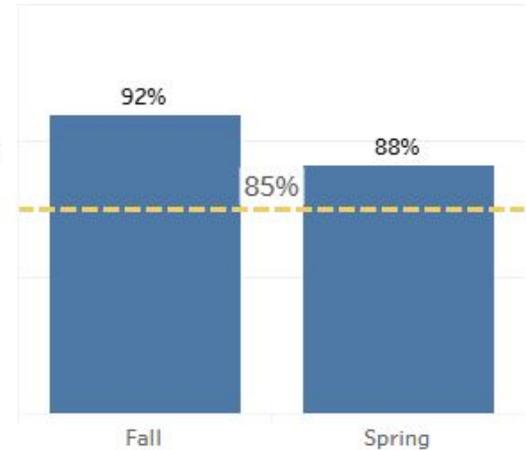
Goal #2: AMS

Students will productively engage in their school community

GOAL #2

85% of students will answer with positive responses (Scale Scores of 2 through 5 on a Scale of 1-5)

At my school, there is a teacher, counselor, coach, principal or some other adult who I think cares about me

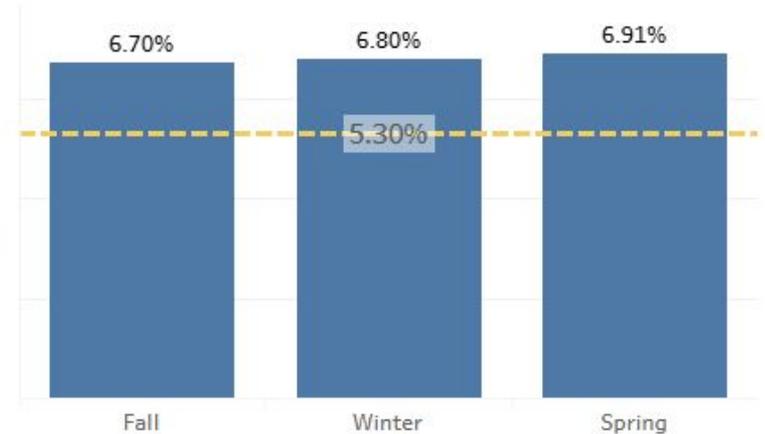


Goal #2 Elementary

Students will productively engage in their school community

GOAL #2

Using the Grade 3-5 Elementary Engagement Goal 2 Survey, each building will decrease the percent of “no” responses to the survey questions by 20% from the Fall 2024 administration to the Spring



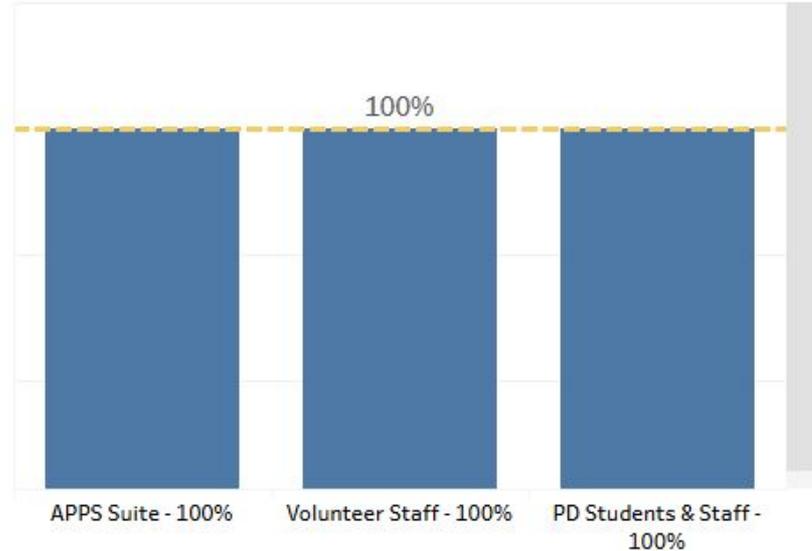
Goal #3: APHS

Students will be digitally fluent by demonstrating the ability to live productively and safely in a technology-influenced society

GOAL #3

During the 2023-2024 school year, all APHS students, faculty and staff were introduced to the concept of digital portfolios, and learned about the vision for digital portfolios at APHS over the next 3-5 years. In the 2024-2025 school year, the high school will implement a first-year digital portfolio pilot:

- 1) All students in the APPS Suite will produce a digital portfolio
- 2) Volunteer HS staff will be recruited to pilot digital portfolios in their own classes
- 3) PD will be provided to students and staff on the use of Google sites and CANVA for the production of digital portfolios

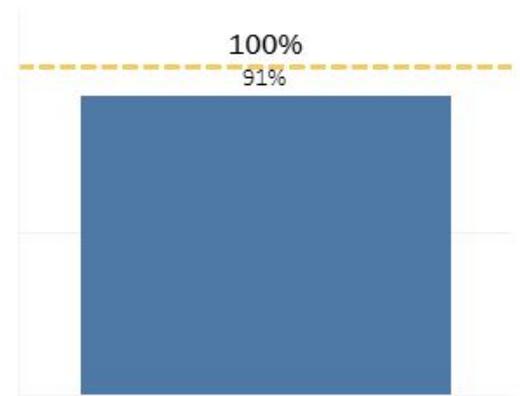


Goal #3: AMS

Students will be digitally fluent by demonstrating the ability to live productively and safely in a technology-influenced society

GOAL #3

100% of AMS staff will experience Artificial Intelligence professional learning through Magic School and create one piece of professional practice utilizing AI to use with students

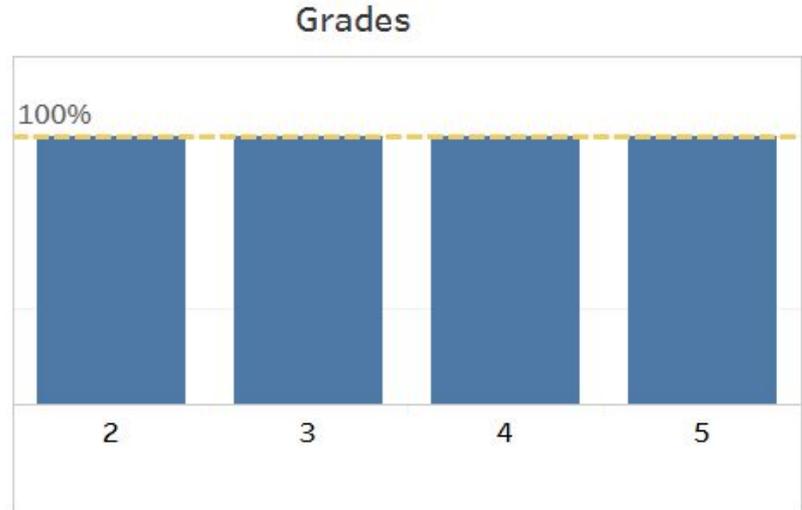


Goal #3: Elementary

Students will be digitally fluent by demonstrating the ability to live productively and safely in a technology-influenced society

GOAL #3

By the end of the 2024-25 school year, all students in grades 2-5 will demonstrate their learning on a topic by choosing a digital tool to create a digital artifact that will be stored in their Google Drive. This will be measured by administering a survey to teachers.



Board of Education

Annual Board and Administration Retreat

Committees

- Advocacy
- Audit
- Facilities
- Policy
- Safety



Communications

- Podcast
 - The "The Future of Technology in Schools" Episode Earned the Annual National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) "Award of Excellence" (Highest Category)
 - Recorded the 100 Episode
- Social Media Platforms Eclipsed 10,000 Total Followers
- Facebook Receives 500,000 Views Per Month



Safety

Implemented HelpMe Anonymous Reporting to All Families and Students (Grades 4-12)

Updated Bus Accident Protocols and Held a First Responders Meeting

Reviewed After-School Procedures and Developed an After-School Plan

Increased the Number of Amber Lights Outside the Buildings

Increased Signage (Doors, Parking Lots, Windows)

Head Chaperone at AMS

Rensselaer County TAM Participation



Powered by STOPit Solutions

Community Relations

Golden Knights Transition

Sand Lake Planning Oversight Committee



Brinley's Bag

Kiwanis Builders Club at AMS would like to thank everyone in the community who donated to Brinley's Bags. The items will be shared at local NICUs!



The image shows a group of approximately ten children of various ages standing in a line on a sidewalk in front of a brick building. They are holding colorful bags and items. To the right of the photo is the logo for the Kiwanis Builders Club, which includes the text "Kiwanis Building Leaders" and "Builders Club" in a stylized blue font.



Averill Park
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Community Education Offerings
JANUARY 2025 - JUNE 2025

The image features a yellow iris with green leaves and buds, set against a background of white snow and a dark, starry night sky. The text is centered and uses a mix of white and yellow fonts.

Athletics

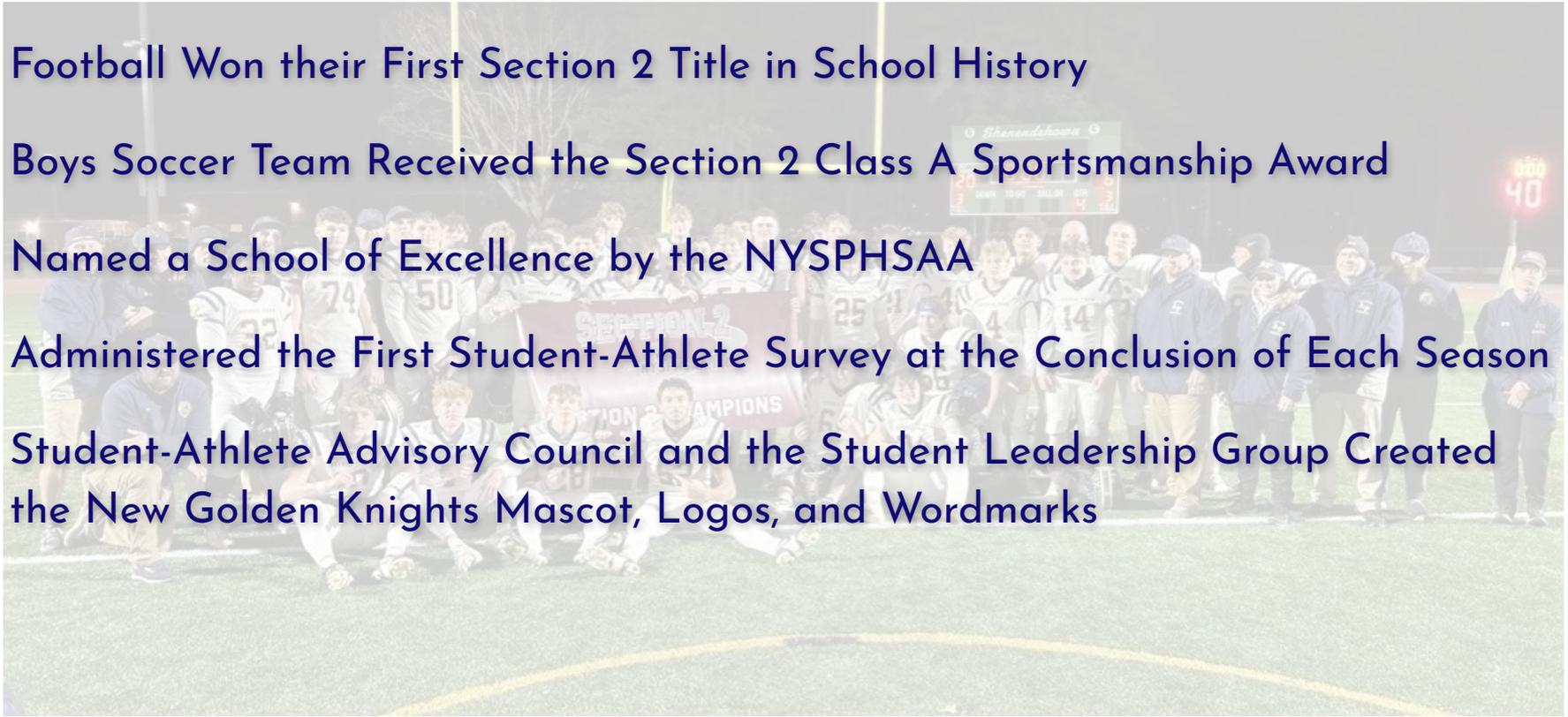
Football Won their First Section 2 Title in School History

Boys Soccer Team Received the Section 2 Class A Sportsmanship Award

Named a School of Excellence by the NYSPHSAA

Administered the First Student-Athlete Survey at the Conclusion of Each Season

Student-Athlete Advisory Council and the Student Leadership Group Created the New Golden Knights Mascot, Logos, and Wordmarks



Human Resources

The Year in Review



Staff Well Being

Continued Promotion and Growth in Utilization of the EAP Resources

"Honoring Those Who Served" Campaign for Veterans Day to Spotlight APCSD Employees with Military Service

Tenure and Retiree Celebrations

Workplace Violence Prevention Act



| | |
|---|---|
|  | <p>MIKE WALCZAK APCSD BUS DRIVER CORPORAL, U.S. ARMY, 6 YEARS</p> <p>"IT DEFINITELY HELPED ME GROW UP AND MATURE QUICKLY. I SERVED IN ALASKA AND KANSAS. I WAS AN MP AND A CORRECTIONS OFFICER. IT WAS A GREAT SIX YEARS. I WOULD DO IT AGAIN IN A HEARTBEAT."</p> |
| <p>Honoring ALL THOSE WHO SERVED</p>  |  |

Recruitment and Training

Hired

- 13 New Teachers
- 1 School Psychologist
- 2 TAs
- 1.6 Nurses
- 1 Principal



Teaching and Learning

The Year in Review



Instructional

Guiding Documents for All Content Areas

Classroom Intervention and Extension

Building Thinking Classrooms Approach in Math Classrooms

Curriculum Renewal

Music, World Languages, Writing K-8

Use of AI in the Classroom

Monday Meetings



Professional Development

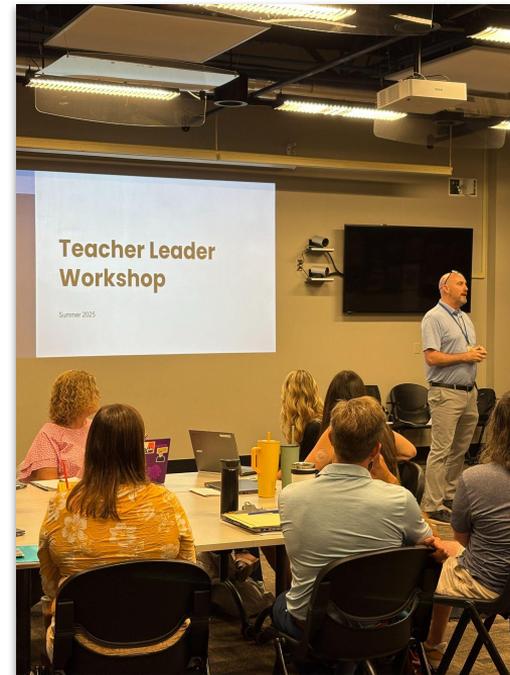
Mini-sessions on a Variety of Topics on Opening Day

AP Transforms Conference Day

Questar Regional PD day

Teachers and Admin Attended PLC Workshop in Albany

On-going PD Sessions for Transportation & Teacher Aides



Special Education

Shift to Co-Teaching for the 25-26 School Year

Increased Opportunities for Students to Move to Less Restrictive Environments

Implemented Inclusive Initiatives for Students in Special Classes

Increased Work Based Learning Opportunities Focused on Developing Communication Life Skills

Focused on Building Relationships and Collaborative Communication

INTRODUCING CO-TEACHING IN OUR SCHOOLS!

WHAT IS CO-TEACHING?
In a co-taught classroom, a **general education teacher** and a **special education teacher** work together all day to:
• Plan lessons
• Teach all students
• Provide individualized support
• **One class, two teachers**—more learning opportunities for every child!

WHAT'S CHANGING?
BEFORE
Special education students primarily received consultant teacher support during math and ELA only.
NOW
• **Full-day instruction** from TWO teachers
• Support for **every subject**
• Benefits for **all learners**—not just special education students

WHAT TO EXPECT AS A PARENT
INSIDE A CO-TAUGHT CLASSROOM
Your child will:
• Be taught by both teachers
• Learn through flexible, inclusive lessons
• Follow the same high academic standards
• **One classroom in each elementary school grades 2-5 will adopt this model**

WHY CO-TEACHING?
• **Averill Park CSD Mission: Every Student Every Day.**
Co-teaching helps us meet the needs of every student every day by:
• Reaching all learning styles
• Improving academic & social growth
• Sharing teacher expertise
• Creating inclusive, engaging environments

STAYING CONNECTED
• **Both teachers** will communicate regularly.
• You'll get **updates** on learning and progress.
• Contact your **principal** or **director of special education** with any questions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!
Let's make this a year of growth, connection, and success for every student!

146 GETTLE ROAD AVERILL PARK, NY 12018 (518)-674-7055 www.averillpark.k12.ny.us

Technology

Enhanced Cybersecurity Posture

Foundational Network Infrastructure Upgrade

Optimized Staffing and Extended Support Capabilities

Supported Classroom Technology Integration



Business

The Year in Review



Budget

Budget

- Passed = 66.36% to 33.64%

Bus Proposition

- Passed = 65.85% to 34.15%



MAY 2025 BUDGET NEWS

Averill Park



BUDGET VOTE
Tuesday
May 20, 2025
7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Averill Park High School
AUXILIARY GYM

APHIS Reintroduces Business Program After 15-Year Hiatus

For the first time in 15 years, Averill Park High School will offer Business-related courses beginning in the 2025-26 school year. The Business program will be reintroduced to APHS by reallocating an existing teaching position. Specifically, the District will replace a retiring Technology teacher with a Business teacher.

"We are extremely excited and thankful to have the opportunity to rebuild and revive this important pathway for our students," APHS Principal Heath Quiles said. "To stay relevant, it's important that we provide students with every possible opportunity to succeed and explore their passions. This program will add a nice variety of options, which will certainly enrich the experience of our students."

In addition to new Business courses, this teacher will allow the District to offer students career exploration and internship opportunities. The Business program will equip students with valuable skills, such as problem-solving, financial literacy, and communication, which are transferable to various careers and post-graduation situations.



Students are all smiles in the classroom, the cafeteria, and on the stage!

2025-26 Proposed Budget Focuses on Fiscal Responsibility While Facing Inflationary Costs

On Tuesday, May 20, Averill Park Central School District community members will vote on a spending plan for the 2025-26 school year that maintains a rigorous academic curriculum despite rising healthcare costs.

"After tirelessly advocating for change regarding state aid, the District is receiving an increase in Foundation Aid this year. Despite this increase, the District is facing a budget deficit that will require reductions partly due to health care premium increases," Superintendent Dr. James Franchini said. "We will continue to do everything we can to be good financial stewards for our community and honor our commitment to meet the needs of and create opportunities for every student every day."

The \$69,503,900 budget is supported by a 2.41% tax levy increase which continues the District's practice over the past 14 years of adopting tax levies that are within the state's statutory property tax cap limit. The community will also vote on a proposition to purchase six (6) school buses at a maximum cost of \$971,099 as part of the district's long-term bus replacement plan (page 5).

Important points of the proposed budget include:

- Significant increases in medical and prescription benefits were a driving factor in budget decisions. This year alone, the budget impact of premium increases is more than \$1.25 million.
- The District will see a reduction of nine (9) aides, two (2) teachers, and one (1) district office member. Costs will also be reduced while replacing 10 retiring teachers.
- The 2025-26 budget includes additions to nursing, a girls wrestling assistant coach, a business teacher, and bringing the Unified Bowling program into the general budget.
- If the proposed budget is approved by voters, Averill Park CSD will maintain the current academic programs, Advanced Placement classes, college credit courses, and academic intervention services (AIS) teachers. The budget continues to include a wide range of athletics and extracurricular activities for students. For more information about the proposed budget, please visit averillpark.k12.ny.us and click on "Budget Corner."

2025-2026 BUDGET SUMMARY

- ▶ Proposed Budget: \$69,503,900
- ▶ Budget-to-Budget: Increase 4.34%
- ▶ Tax Levy Increase: 2.41% (Meets the tax levy limit)

ALSO ON THE BALLOT...

- ▶ Board of Education Election (See page 3)
- ▶ Bus Purchase Proposition (See page 5)

Capital Project

2021 Project

- Ahead of Schedule + Under Budget = Increased Scope

2024 Project

- \$39.9 Million Passed (59.09% to 40.91%)

2027 Project

- Beginning to Plan



SCAN ME

CAPITAL PROJECT FAQ

Q: What is a Capital Project?

A: A Capital Project is essentially home improvements for a school district. By NYS Law, the District regularly inspects its property and works with an architect to maintain a five-year capital improvement plan. Some issues require immediate attention, while other improvements and repairs can be spread out over time. This is done in much the same way a homeowner utilizes savings or obtains an improvement loan to fund major repairs, such as a roof. For school districts, this is called a "Capital Project"; in our case, we would enter into a 15-year bond in order to pay for the project, coinciding with State and Building Aid Payments.

Q: Why doesn't the District just include these items in the annual budget?

A: By creating a Capital Project from the work that needs to be done, the District will receive money back on every dollar spent. Without that reimbursement from the State, the entire cost would rest with the tax-payers. Major construction cannot be absorbed into the annual budget and is best funded and paid over several years.

Q: Why now?

A: By NYS Law, the District regularly inspects its property and works with an architect to maintain a five-year capital improvement plan. Some issues require immediate attention, while other improvements and repairs can be spread out over time. The items included in this Capital Project should not be delayed. If the issues are not corrected in the near future, the cost will be much more significant to taxpayers.

Q: Will there be any surprise costs after the voting?

A: No. We are asking voters to approve the maximum borrowing that is needed for this project. The cost can only be lowered after the vote.

#AP_EveryStudentEveryDay

capitalproject2024@apcsd.org

518-674-7055

<https://www.averilpark.k12.ny.us/capital-project/>



Business Office

Enhancements and Improvements through \$100,000 Project

Clean Audit for FYE 6/30/2024



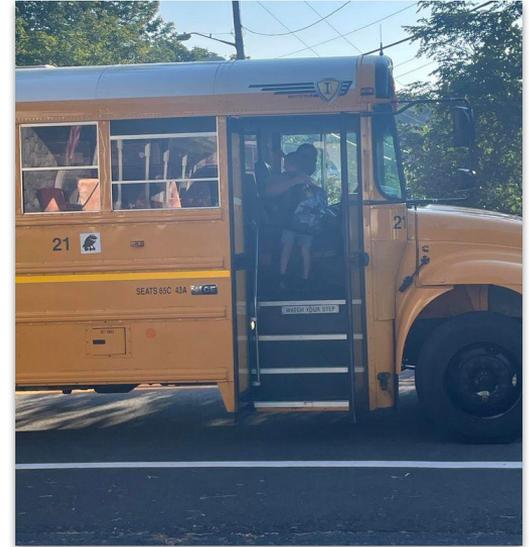
Transportation

100% Passing Rate on Annual DOT Inspection

Implemented New Safety Protocols for Bus Accidents

Completed Fleet Electrification Study

Certified All Employees in CPR, AED, and First Aid



Buildings and Grounds

Installation of a Sensory Playground at WSL

Renumbering of APHS

Rekeying of District



Buildings

The Year in Review

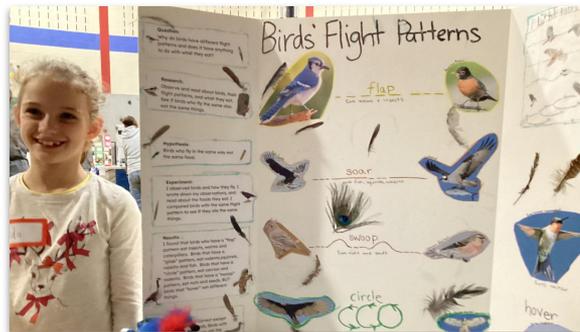


MHSL

Implemented Second Step Social/Emotional Program

MTSS-I Building Team Introduced School-wide Behavioral Expectations and Incentive-based Initiatives

PTA Facilitated a Day of Service



PES

Implementation of All Means All Tier II time

Positive Recognitions

Recess Equipment Upgrade

Implemented Second Step
Social/Emotional Program



WSL

Expanded MTSS-I Work by Implementing Check In, Check Out

Implemented a New Data Management System to Track Growth and Intervene Academically and Behaviorally

Implemented Second Step Social/Emotional Program

Installed 5 Pieces of Accessible, Inclusive Playground Equipment



Algonquin Middle School

School-Wide Events

CARES Program Supported by District Funding

Recognized:

- US News and World Reports Top Middle Schools
- Duck Donut Best Middle School Competition

Obtained NYS Grant - Invisible Mentoring Program for 2025-26



Averill Park High School

92% of Students Passed All of Their Classes

Increased Student Performance on Regents Exams

Decreased Student Disciplinary Incidents

Held Monthly Themed Recognition Months

More than 350 Students Created Digital Portfolios



2025 - 2026

The Year Ahead



Teaching and Learning

Continued Work with PLC Process

Year 3 of MTSS-I Grant

Co-teaching at the Elementary Level

Continued Exploration of AI, Grading Practices
and Distraction-Free Environments

Curriculum Renewal - Begin New Cycle

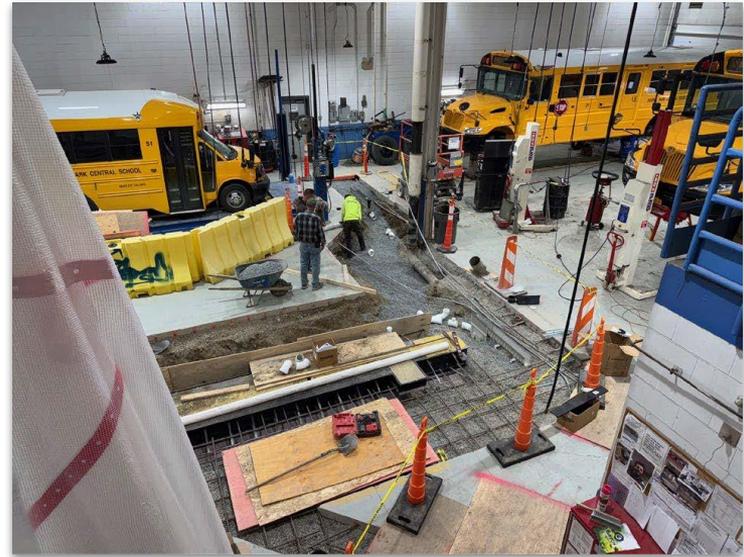
New Evaluation Process



Business

Electric Vehicle Mandate

Capital Projects



State of the District



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