

Gator Gazette

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter for the Agnor-Hurt Community

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January 9, 2018

Mark Your Calendar...

January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, no school

January 19 - End of 2nd quarter

January 22 - Teacher work day, no school

January 23 - PTO meeting, 7pm

February 7 - National girls & women in sports night

Happy New Year

The Agnor Hurt community wishes you a Happy New Year and welcomes you back to the second half of the school year! We have various communication mediums for you to stay connected, so please check out the "Contact Us/Stay Informed" section. Have something to share for an upcoming Gator Gazette? Please email it to katesoderman@yahoo.com or agnorhurtpto@gmail.com. The next deadline is January 17.

Staff Spotlight

Debbie Schaefer has been a teacher for 21 years! She can always be found with a smile on her face in Agnor-Hurt's K-A Base Program! She loves iced/hot coffee, chocolate and purple is her favorite color. Starbucks and Vivace are favorite places for a special treat. Fun fact about Ms. Schaefer: she is fluent in sign language. She taught some of the 5th graders Silent Night in sign language which they performed at their winter music concert!

Speak Up 2017

Albemarle County Schools (ACS) is participating in Speak Up 2017 through January 19th. This survey provides a way for students, parents and educators to share their views on technology and learning with ACS. Your input informs decisions about technology, as well as contributes to the national dialogue about educational technology. Questions or concerns can be directed to the Learning Technology Team at learningtech@k12albemarle.org. Follow these instructions to take the survey:

1. Visit speakup.tomorrow.org.
2. Select "Begin Survey."
3. Select your group (Parents or Educators).
4. Search for your school by entering your zip code or by selecting Virginia and selecting your school's name from the list.
5. Read the instructions and begin the survey.

2017 - 2018 Annual Golden Apple Awards

Is there an outstanding teacher you'd like to recognize and nominate for this award? Submission deadline is February 1. These awards are presented to faculty members from the public and private schools in Albemarle County and Charlottesville City. One winner will be selected from each school. Award recipients receive a Golden Apple, as well as gift certificates from local businesses. As a "Golden Apple" teacher, each recipient is eligible to receive a \$1,000 Golden Apple Grant. Grants are awarded to eight candidates: three elementary, two middle, and two high school candidates, and one from the schools that are members of the VAIS. The grant award is used for classroom materials or to support the recipient's continued professional development. Golden Apple Award recipients will be announced in May. Visit the AHES homepage for more information.

Lunch Buddies

Interested in spending some time with AHES students who might need an extra set of ears from a supportive adult? Join Dave Downey (434-296-7253) as he schedules one Wednesday a month for the Lunch Buddies program. Contact Dave for upcoming dates, and thanks for supporting the children in our community!

Redistricting Information

The Redistricting Advisory Committee has presented its recommendations to Superintendent Pam Moran. She presented her recommendations regarding redistricting to the School Board in December, and the School Board will consider her recommendation and hold a public hearing in January 2018. You can follow this process online at <https://www2.k12albemarle.org/acps/division/superintendent/redistricting/Pages/Current-Projects.aspx>

Easy Ways to Support Our School

It's not too late to link your **Kroger card** via <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow!> This is one of our biggest fundraisers, and the easiest one, too! Link your card, and every time you shop, Kroger will donate to the school. It doesn't cost you anything, and it does not affect your gas points! It's win-win!

Shop **Amazon Smile!** You can support our school while doing your last-minute holiday shopping. Just use Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>) instead of the regular Amazon URL. It's the same site, but if you register and purchase there, they will donate a percentage of each sale to the school.

Of course, you are welcome to make a donation to the PTO directly for our **PTO Direct Donation Campaign!** You can donate through Paypal (https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=v9J-v1H5qRESb_J_m-IKtPK3KXYF3h6pQF6VTwJ66iEVC41PpvOe2WLKtop9xH2RYxhz6W&country.x=US&locale.x=US), the "donate" button on our Facebook page or send cash or check (made out to AHES PTO) to school in an envelope labeled "PTO."

- An important job of the PTO is to raise money for school projects and our direct donation goal is \$5000!
- This money helps to fund field trips, special class projects, playground updates, landscape/gardening around the school, and other events. A few examples of this are the purchase of the Volta Inclusive Spinner on playground, staff breakfasts and snacks on teacher workdays, money to support Jamestown Field Trip, teacher reimbursement of supplies, International Night, Fall Festival, plantings around the school and supporting after school programs.

Box Tops are collected all year long. You can save them up for a spring contest, or send them in anytime. A big thank you to all students, parents, and staff that have sent in Box Tops since the start of school.



Contact Us/Stay Informed

Agnor Hurt PTO

agnorhurtpto@gmail.com

PTO Website

agnorhurtelementarypto.org

School Website

www2.k12albemarle.org/school/AHES

Do you have information for the Gazette? Please send submissions to katesoderman@yahoo.com

The next Gator Gazette will be published on January 23. The submission deadline is January 17.

"Like" us on Facebook! Look for "Agnor-Hurt Elementary PTO"

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