

Oct. 30, 2019



Have a submission for the All-Star News? Send it to [Leslie Garrison](#) by 5 p.m. Sunday.

## Coming Up At Avery

### Through Nov. 8

All for Books  
Coin Collection

### Oct. 30

WGSD Parent  
Safety Info Night  
7 p.m.  
Steger Auditorium

### Oct. 31

Halloween Parade  
& Parties

### Nov. 1

No School

### Nov. 5

Avery Trivia Night  
Committee Meeting

### Nov. 9

Yearbook Cover  
Contest Deadline

### Nov. 11-14

Scholastic Book Fair

## Girls on the Run Coaches

Are you interested in being a Girls On The Run coach at Avery? The coaching commitment requires a short training session and availability to attend after school meetings/training sessions with the students two afternoons a week for 10 weeks. Girls On The Run begins in late February and culminates with the Girls on the Run 5K in May.

Please contact Amy Fuhr at [aledioyt@aol.com](mailto:aledioyt@aol.com) or Michele Willis at [micheleiwillis@gmail.com](mailto:micheleiwillis@gmail.com) for more information on coaching. Coaching registration begins soon. More information for STUDENT registration for Girls on The Run will be available in January.

## Box Tops Due Oct. 31

Did you know that for every Box Top for Education you clip and turn in, Avery earns 10 cents? Those cents add up quickly, and it's such an easy way to help our All Stars! Please turn in any Box Tops to the bin in the front entryway by **Thursday, Oct. 31**, so we can meet the fall submission deadline. But don't worry if you miss it, we will keep collecting all year. Thanks for clipping!

Also, please note that the Box Tops program is phasing out Box Tops on packages. You may notice that packages mention Box Tops for Education, but do not have Box Tops to clip. The new system requires the (free!) Box Tops for Education app. You will then scan your receipt whenever you buy participating products. It's super easy and a good way to encourage family and friends to participate, since they won't need to get clipped Box Tops to you, and can instead support Avery from wherever they are!

## Book Fair Collecting Change & Volunteers

The Scholastic Book Fair is quickly approaching! In the two weeks leading up to the book fair, we will be collecting change in front of the school each day from 8:00-8:20 a.m. The money is used for the All 4 Books program, which helps ensure that all Avery All-Stars have access to books! With each donation, students get a bookmark and can enter a drawing for a set of free books! Our change collection runs from **Oct. 28-Nov. 8**.

The book fair committee is also looking for parents to volunteer to help at the fair. The fair runs from **Nov. 11-14**. Please [sign up here](#) if you are available!

## Lost & Found Items

During conference week, Lost and Found items will be placed in the main hallway outside the office from Monday to Thursday **Nov. 11-14**. On Friday, all items will be donated. Please be sure to check for your child's items!

## New Student Grant Opportunity

All of the money raised from the Kona Ice days will be reserved for student grant ideas on how to serve the community outside of Avery. Students can come up with an idea of how to benefit others outside of Avery with their families, friends or teachers. Please turn in grant ideas to classroom teachers, who will then pass them on to PTO. Students will be asked to attend a PTO meeting to present their idea.

## Green Committee Tip of the Week

**Reusable Lunch Containers:** If your kids usually bring their lunches from home, as mine do, it can really help to invest in some reusable containers. Here are a few things I have learned the hard way:

- Although you probably have more important priorities in choosing a lunch box design than shape and size, such as whether it has Batman or those reversible sequin things on it, a larger rectangular one that can fit a bento box container really helps. By fate and a little coaxing, my kids both picked this kind this year, and it has made lunches much easier to pack.
- A well-packed bento lunch with some fruit and crackers and a nice sandwich is like watching a Wes Andersen film - so quaint! Or you can fill each box with a different kind of snack chip for your picky eater kid like me, and still feel like you are an adequate parent. One thing to look out for with multiple compartment containers is whether they are separated completely. Some have a space on top of the separator, which allows the items to mix. This makes the container completely useless in my opinion! Look for boxes that will stand up to wear; some crack or the latches break off easily.
- Remember: before you buy, test the products to see your kid(s) can get the tops of the containers off by themselves. Otherwise, their lunches may become the full-time job of the cafeteria volunteers.
- Despite these small concerns, changing to reusable containers has made a positive change in our lives. I just rinse them out after school and let them air dry until later when I pack them again. I am sure I have already saved them world from hundreds of Ziplocs already!

If you have any tips for the Green Team, send to Beth Connolly at [connollybjm@gmail.com](mailto:connollybjm@gmail.com).

## Yearbook Cover Contest Deadline is Nov. 9

This year's theme is "I Am Because We Are." Please submit the completed artwork on 8.5x11-inch white paper to Mrs. Telthorst by **Saturday, Nov. 9** with the student's name and grade on the back. The artwork can be worked on in art class or at home. Mrs. Telthorst has the entry

sheet for students.

There will be a front and back cover winner.

## Complete the Avery Buzz Book Form!

The Avery Buzz Book is our yearly school phone book which includes class lists & contact information for Avery staff and families.

You can submit your information online by completing [the form here](#).

If you prefer to submit your information via paper, a form will be sent home with your child this week or [print this form](#). Please return completed forms to your child's teacher.

## Trivia Night Committee Meeting

If you're interested in helping to plan the next Avery Trivia Night & Auction, which will be Feb. 22, 2020, we invite you to join the next committee meeting on **Tuesday, Nov. 5** at 7 p.m.

Email Leslie Garrison at [lesliekgarrison@hotmail.com](mailto:lesliekgarrison@hotmail.com) for more information.

## School Board Seeks Applicants to Fill Vacancy

The Board of Education is seeking applicants who would like to serve on the board until an election can be held in April to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Arnold Stricker, who has resigned. The board is asking interested persons to submit a cover letter and resume. You can find details [at this link](#).

## Need Help with a Thanksgiving Meal?

Avery Families: If you are in need of help with providing a Thanksgiving meal for your family, please reach out to Anna Wallace at [wallace.anna@wgmail.org](mailto:wallace.anna@wgmail.org) by **Friday, Nov. 1**. We want to help ensure that all Avery families are able to celebrate with a meal together.

## WGSD Parent Safety Information Night

The Webster Groves School District will provide families with information about district safety initiatives, including:

- WGSD School Resource Officers will present an overview of 4E (intruder) training that we conduct with district staff and preview an elementary student presentation

- WGSD Superintendent Dr. John Simpson will provide updates on Prop E safety, accessibility, and space measures

When: **Wednesday, Oct. 30** at 7 p.m.

Where: Steger Auditorium, 701 N. Rock Hill Road

## Avery Spirit Wear Available!

Show your school pride with an Avery Elementary shirt, hoodie, hat or sticker! View and purchase products online at [averyspirit.com](http://averyspirit.com).

## Marker Recycling

All around Avery Elementary, students and teachers will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. The markers will be sent to a facility where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more!

Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house – even non-Crayola brands. Drop-off boxes will be located around the school for your child to deposit the markers.

See [this letter](#) for more information, or contact library aide Noreen Mayfield at [mayfield.noreen@wgmail.org](mailto:mayfield.noreen@wgmail.org)

## We Stories in the Library

The [We Stories collection](#) at the Avery Elementary Library features culturally diverse children's books and discussion kits to help parents initiate conversations about race.

The kits include 4-6 different books, suggested activities and a discussion guide. Each kit is centered on a different theme such as "Everybody Counts," "Girl Power," "Celebrating the Skin You're In" and "Who are the People in Your Neighborhood." The We Stories kits are designed for parents and children ages 3-8 and can be checked out for two weeks.

See [this flyer](#) for more information. Learn more about the We Stories organization at [www.westories.org](http://www.westories.org).

## Read, Right & Run Marathon

Avery Elementary is participating in the GO! St. Louis Read, Right & Run Marathon program for the 2019-2020 school year. GO! St. Louis, a local non-profit organization, encourages individuals and families in the St. Louis region to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle year round.

The GO! St. Louis Read, Right & Run Marathon is a marathon program for children in grades K-8 that focuses on literacy, fitness, and character development. Students are challenged to **READ** 26 books, **RIGHT** the community with 26 good deeds and learn to set goals to **RUN** the necessary miles in preparation for their final race. After 26 weeks of hard work, the program culminates each year when the students complete their race day goals at the GO! St. Louis Family Fitness Day in Forest Park on **March 28, 2020**.

The [Parent Letter](#) has more information. If you're ready to register your student, [you'll find instructions here](#). For more information, contact Tim Velten at [velten.tim@wgmail.org](mailto:velten.tim@wgmail.org).

## PTO Buyout

Several years ago, the PTO decided to no longer ask parents to sell anything to help with fundraising. Instead, we do a PTO "buyout," which is a one-time direct donation to the PTO. We get to keep 100% of the funds, and every single penny will go back into Avery this year, with the bulk of money going directly to the teachers to help reimburse them for personal money they have spent on their classrooms!

Our goal this year is \$12,000!! This is the highest goal we have set! Please remember that EVERY dollar counts! It's not how much you can give, just that you give! You can donate through [the Avery PTO PayPal buyout link](#).

## Flyers

[Webster Groves Parent Advisory Council \(PAC\) Meeting Information](#)