

Nov. 6, 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

Nov. 9

Yearbook Cover
Contest Deadline

Nov. 11-14

Scholastic Book Fair

Nov. 18

Cub Scout Meeting

Nov. 19

Moving from
Bystander to Upstander
7-8:30 p.m.
Avery Library

Nov. 20

Science Fair Info Night
6 p.m.
Edgar Road Elementary

Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Monday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Webster United Methodist Church, we will be discussing how a Scout is Friendly! It will be a multicultural celebration, as members from the Webster University International Student Association join us for the evening. They will share with us how children around the world help their families, as well as what foods they enjoy and some games they play.

Please note the different day of the week and location for this month's meeting. Siblings are always welcome!

Questions? Contact Cubmaster Brandon Thurmon at bthurmon@gmail.com.

Book Fair 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! Change collection runs through **Friday, Nov. 8**. If we meet or exceed our goal of \$600, there will be a special school-wide reading day before Thanksgiving break!

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!

Why Didn't I Say Something: Moving from Bystander to Upstander

Have you experienced instances where you have been a witness to bias, or to divisive or racist behaviors? Did you walk away and think to yourself, "I should have said something," but you just didn't know what to say? This interactive session led by diversity and inclusion consultants Elizabeth Fuchs and Angela Cody will focus on ways to recognize and manage these situations. Participants will walk away with tools to respond to micro-aggressions and gain allies and not enemies. Hosted by Avery Parents for Racial Equity. Free childcare provided for kiddos 2 and older.

When: **Tuesday, Nov. 19**, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Where: Avery library

To help ensure we have adequate space, please [rsvp here](#) if you're interested in attending.

Science Fair Info Night

Come learn about the science fair and how to complete a project on **Wednesday, Nov. 20** in the Edgar Road Elementary library at 6 p.m. If you cannot attend or would like more

information, please contact district science fair coordinator, Shayla Pott, at pott.shayla@wgmail.org.

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 or Michele Willis at 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.

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

Choosing alternatives to juice boxes and water bottles:

I love Capri Suns. They are so portable and cute, and kids of all ages love them too! What a shame that they, and pretty much every other juice box, is a pile of non recyclable junk.

When I was a younger parent with big ideas, I read the side of the Capri Sun box where it gives some ecological lip service and thought about organizing a pouch recycling program at

Avery. But then I really thought about it... Can you imagine the sticky mess of collecting, rinsing and sending back hundreds of pouches?!! And that wouldn't even take care of all those little straws! That's a big no. The juice box companies just put ecological messages on their products to make you feel better about your purchase.

Disposable water bottles are the same way. They have a recycling icon, but the fact is that many places cannot recycle them. This includes our own community. Webster cannot recycle plastics that have a number over 5. Disposable water bottles are most often 6 or 7.

The simple solution is to buy reusable bottles and send them with your kids to school filled with water or juice (from the much more recyclable bottle) in your refrigerator.

If you have any tips for the Green Team, send to Beth Connolly at 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.

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](#).

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.

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

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.

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.

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](#)