

Avonworth School District News

May/June 2019 - Have a Great Summer Everyone!

Congratulations to Our 2019 Graduates!



[2019 Awards Assembl...](#)

Alfred Beckley Award
Czech Olympic
Tyler Davidson

Annemann Citizenship & Leadership Award
Lisa Beaman
Margaret Neely

David L. Grossman Citizenship Award
Ally Stewart

Michael Brimacombe Award
Ally Stewart
Langley Caroline Tuncman
Madison Anne Dean

NFL Players Association Award
Chloe Cooper
Derek Johnson

Arroyo ROTC Scholarship
Amanda Marshall
Chloe Cooper

Harvard Book Award
Natalie Marshall

A Thank you Video from 2019 Seniors to their Teachers



[Awards Assembly \(Fin...](#)

drive.google.com

Avonworth's JAM Enterprises is One of Twelve Recognized in HundrED's Spotlight on Pittsburgh



We couldn't be more proud to announce that Avonworth's JAM Enterprises has received INTERNATIONAL recognition by being one of twelve innovations selected for HundrED's Spotlight on Pittsburgh. Having our great city of Pittsburgh chosen for the HundrED Spotlight is an incredible honor as Pittsburgh is the second city ever chosen by HundrED for their Spotlight. For this Spotlight, HundrED was seeking to shine a spotlight on educators and innovators who are doing extraordinary things to help students in southwestern Pennsylvania. We are proud that JAM was chosen for this extraordinary honor.



HundrED is a global nonprofit that seeks and shares inspiring innovations in K12 education from around the world. HundrED's goal is to help improve education and inspire a grassroots movement through encouraging pedagogically sound, ambitious innovations to spread across the world. They research innovations in K12 education from around the world and select 100 Inspiring Innovations every year. All of their insights and selected innovations are documented, packaged, and shared with the world for free, so anyone can improve education wherever they are. Learn more at www.hundrED.org.

So, you might be wondering . . . why Pittsburgh? For more than a decade, educators in the Pittsburgh region have been taking risks, reaching higher, and pushing the limits of learning. Much of this innovation has been driven by two strong supporters of K12 Education in Pittsburgh, the [Grable Foundation](#) and [Remake Learning](#). Both organizations are also partners with HundrED. The Avonworth School District is proud to also be a member of Remake Learning and to have received support from Grable for many initiatives.

As usual, Pittsburgh broke the mold. HundrED's original goal was to identify 10 innovations to spotlight from the Pittsburgh region. However, the response from the community was so robust, and HundrED found such depth of innovative work happening in our region, that they expanded the Spotlight to include 12 innovations instead of 10. These 12 innovations represent the most innovative approaches to teaching and learning created by educators in the greater Pittsburgh region.

As part of the Spotlight, JAM Enterprises will be profiled by HundrED in a written report and video case study, plus we'll be joining a delegation of Pittsburghers traveling to Helsinki, Finland to attend the HundrED Innovation Summit in November 2019. We're honored to share the Spotlight with the 11 other innovations, as well as 70 more inspiring projects created by educators in the Pittsburgh region.

Congratulations to Mrs. Maureen Frew, an Avonworth Primary Center teacher who started JAM with two of her students, Julia and Amelia. Their initials were put together to create the name JAM. It all started when the girls came to Mrs. Frew and simply wanted to make things using the Primary Center's Maker Space that they could sell and donate any money they made to charity. This amazing after-school program has grown into an incredible organization that has helped raise thousands of dollars that have been donated to numerous causes. Of course, the most famous creation to come out of JAM is #bethekindkid. JAM is closing in on selling 20,000 #bethekindkid shirts and this incredible message has been spread not only across our region but across our country and beyond.

[The HundrED Spotlight on Pittsburgh](#)



 JAM

hundred.org

JAM is an after school making program that started in 2016 when two first-grade girls expressed a desire to use their creative skills to make items and then sell those items to raise money that would then be donated to local non-profit causes. Their passion for making has grown each and every year and so has the impact JAM has been able to have on numerous non-profit organizations.



[Finnish organization t...](#)

www.msn.com

Three years ago, two first-grade girls at Avonworth Primary Center came up with an idea to sell the items they made in their school's maker space and donate the money to charity. Their toilet paper roll crafts and window clings made of recycled grocery bags eventually expanded into anti-bullying buttons, and then T-shirts. The club, called JAM, now boasts more than 60 members, and the students have raised about \$10,000 for nearly 30 charitable...

A Very Successful Spring Sports Season

Hayden Robinson Runs Her Way to a Gold Medal & PIAA State Championship in the 100 Meters

Hayden Robinson is no stranger to athletic success. Hayden was an integral member of last year's PIAA State Championship Girls' Track Team and made her own noise in 2019 with an individual gold medal and State Championship in the 100 Meters. Hayden ran the final heat of the 100 Meters with a time of 12.03, which was only .39 seconds off the PIAA record. Hayden entered the PIAA Championships as a favorite in both the 100 Meters and the 200 Meters. In the 200 Meters, she came close to a second gold but was edged out by Tali Diggs from Saucon Valley.

Congratulations Hayden! Your Avonworth family is extremely proud of you!



Ten Avonworth Students Participate in the PIAA Track & Field Championships

Simply making it to the PIAA Track & Field Championships is an incredible accomplishment. This year, Avonworth was fortunate to be represented by ten students at the PIAA Track & Field Championships.

Congratulations to the following students for a successful track & field season and for making it to and competing in the PIAA Track & Field Championships! Way to go!

- Lindsey Hartle
- Anna Igims
- Maggie Colenbrander
- Hayden Robinson
- Jackson Habala
- Luke Wagner
- Jacob Noethiger
- Jonah Brandt
- Noah Clickett
- Eli Kauer

Varsity Girls' Softball Team Wins the First WPIAL Softball Championship in School History

To say the Avonworth Girls' Softball Team bats were on fire in the WPIAL Championship game against Keystone Oaks would be an understatement. The game took two days to complete due to inclement weather but when it was all said and done, the girls walked away with a 12-0 victory and the first Girls' Softball WPIAL Championship in school history! In a game that only took 5 innings due to the mercy rule, the girls hammered out 16 hits. The bats of Dominique Raught, Natalie Marshall, Sarah Helffrich, Maya Kozup, and Leah Logan were nothing short of amazing and led the team to an 8-0 lead by the end of the 4th before the rain took both teams off the field and postponed the game until the following day. Part of the 8-0 lead was built when a two-run home run left the park off of Leah Logan's bat in the 3rd inning. When play finally resumed the following day, the girls' 8-0 lead quickly became 12-0 when Sarah Helffrich hit a grand slam in the 5th, which sealed the deal on the girls' WPIAL Championship!

The girls entered the PIAA Playoffs with hopes reaching the PIAA Championship Game in June. The girls' bats continued to be hot in the first round of the PIAA Playoffs against Fort LeBoeuf leading them to an 8-1 victory. In the quarterfinals, the girls came up short against Clearfield by a score of 2-1, ending their PIAA Playoff run.

Congratulations to all of the girls on an amazing 23-3 season, Section Championship, the first-ever WPIAL Softball Championship in school history, and a great run in the PIAA Playoffs! Congrats to Coach Muncie on leading this amazing group of girls on this exciting and successful journey this season. The entire Avonworth community is very proud of all of you!



[Avonworth finishes off...](#)

tribhssn.triblive.com

Avonworth took part in a hit parade Wednesday as the Antelopes blooped and smashed their way to a big lead before the WPIAL Class 3A softball title game was suspended.



Helffrich Named the Trib HSSN Softball Player of the Week



[Trib HSSN Softball Pl...](#)

tribhssn.triblive.com

The Trib HSSN Softball Player of the Week is Avonworth senior Sarah Helffrich, who stood out on both days of the WPIAL Class 3A championship game.

Coach Muncie Joins Don Rebel on His Rebel Yell Podcast to Break Down the PIAA Playoff Brackets

[podcasts - Trib HSSN](#)

tribhssn.triblive.com

The Avonworth Boys' Baseball Team Finish as Section Co-Champs

The Avonworth Boys put together a great season with an overall record of 16-5 and 11-1 in their section. 11-1 in the section resulted in being Co-Champs. At the end of April, the boys were recognized as the [Trib HSSN Baseball Team of the Week](#) after winning a key game against Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. That win put them in a tie for first place in the section with only three regular-season games remaining. The boys then held on to that tie at the top of the section to end the season as Co-Champs! The boys reached the quarterfinals of the WPIAL Playoffs where they lost to Serra Catholic by a score of 7-2. Congratulations to all of the boys on a hard-fought and successful season!



[TribHSSN Baseball Te...](#)

tribhssn.triblive.com

The Trib HSSN Baseball Team of the Week is Avonworth, which won a key Section 4-2A game that put it into a tie for first place with three section games remaining.

Hayden Robinson and Turner Grau Named Avonworth's Female and Male Athletes of the Year

Congratulations to Hayden Robinson and Turner Grau for being named the Avonworth Female and Male Athletes of the Year!



Hayden excelled in both basketball and track. In basketball, Hayden was recognized as all-section, Feb 5, and was also a Roundball Classic participant. In track, Hayden earned multiple medals at both the WPIAL and PIAA levels. She earned a gold medal and PIAA State Championship in the 100 Meters and earned a silver medal as the runner-up in the 200 Meters at the 2019 PIAA Track & Field Championships.

Turner concluded his athletic career at Avonworth with four varsity letters in baseball and basketball. He also earned three varsity letters in football. Turner was named all-conference in football and was recognized as all-section three times over his Avonworth Baseball career.

Avonworth's Arts Programs Continue to Shine



Avonworth Choirs Bring Home Hardware from the Music in the Parks Festival Held at Hershey Park

Mr. Warren and his middle school students headed to Hershey Park in May to compete in the *Music in the Park Festival*. As Mr. Warren described, he wasn't sure what to expect. As we have all come to learn about our music programs, we can always expect great things and the middle school choirs that competed were simply spectacular! Not only were they spectacular, but they also cleaned up with each choir coming away with 1st Place honors! Congratulations students and Mr. Warren!

1st Place Jazz Choir: Avonworth Middle School

1st Place Mixed Choir Level A: Avonworth Middle School

1st Place Overall Jr High/ Middle School Choir: Avonworth



Avonworth High School Concert Band Earns Superior Rating

In the world of high school music, high school bands have the opportunity to take to the stage to be adjudicated. This is a tremendous opportunity for the musicians and band's conductor to get feedback from expert musicians and see how they measure up against other high school bands. The Avonworth High School Concert Band attended a Music Performance Adjudication this May and the results won't surprise any of us that have had the pleasure of attending one of our band concerts. The Avonworth Concert Band received a *Superior* rating, which is the highest rating that can be received. For this adjudication, our concert band musicians performed two grade 5 college level pieces that they prepared for the competition and then had to sight read a grade 3 high school level piece. All four judges gave our students a score of 1, which is a *Superior* rating! This is an incredible accomplishment for Mr. Will Guess, High School Band Director, and our concert band student musicians! Great job everyone! Congratulations!



Gene Kelly BEST COSTUME Award for The Little Mermaid 2019

Started in 1991, the *Pittsburgh CLO Gene Kelly Awards for Excellence in High School Musical Theater* recognizes student achievement in musical theater and arts education. This is the highest recognition given to high school musical theater productions. We are very proud to announce that this year's production of *The Little Mermaid* earned a **Gene Kelly Award for Best Costume!** Congratulations to Musical Director, Ms. Frauenholz and her amazing student cast and crew. We would be remiss if we also didn't extend our congratulations to all of the amazing parents and community members that help support our musical production each



For Excellence in High School Musical Theater

year. There are many who contributed to the achievement of this award! Congratulations! Well done!

Avonworth High School - The Little Mermaid 2019



Gene Kelly Awards 20...

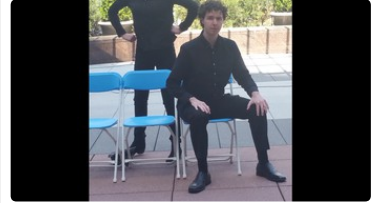
www.pittsburghclo.org

The Pittsburgh CLO 29th Annual Gene Kelly Awards for Excellence in Musical Theater were held on May 25, 2019 at the Benedum Center.



Avonworth's Summer Skillen and Lucas McDonald Perform at Pittsburgh Children's Theater Festival

Avonworth seniors Summer Skillen and Lucas McDonald have been stars on the theatrical stage throughout their high school careers. We have been fortunate to observe their talents in many musical performances over the years. This May, they shared their talents at the Children's Theater Festival.



Choir Concert - Simply Beautiful!

Hopefully, you were in attendance for the Elementary, Middle, and High School Choir Concert on May 28. Observing the growth of our district's choirs and hearing their amazing voices fill the high school auditorium was simply incredible. Our Avonworth vocalists sang their hearts out to a packed house and as always, left the audience in amazement with not only their beautiful voices but also with the wonderful messages delivered through song. Congratulations to Mr. Warren and all of his amazing students!



Student Spotlights

Avonworth Students Recognized as A.W. Beattie Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following Avonworth students who were recognized as April/May Students of the Month at A.W. Beattie! We are very proud of you!

- Caitlin Penfield - Automotive Collision Technology
- Adelina Otstot - Cosmetology
- Krista Wright - Emergency Response Technician
- Jennifer Weiss - Health Science Technology



**Caitlin, Jennifer,
Adelina**



Krista

Ninth Grader Halle Archey Wins First Place in Writing Contest

Congratulations to Avonworth ninth grader, Halle Archey, who won First Place in the Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School's First Annual Student Writing Contest for her poem *Perched*. The contest was judged by award-winning author Wende Dikec, and the contest was open to all 6th through 12th-grade students in Western PA. Congratulations Halle! This is an amazing accomplishment!



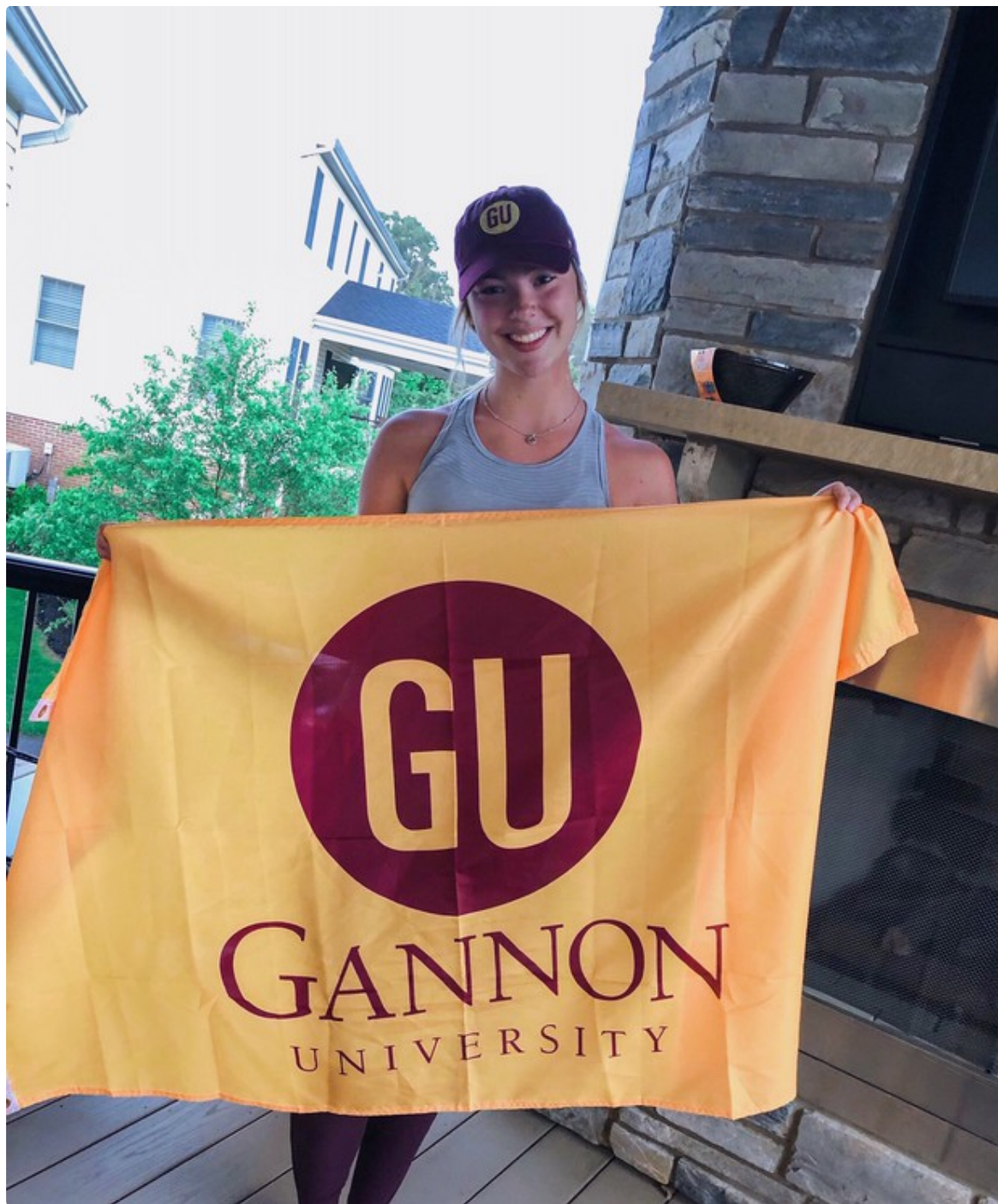
Makenna Gavin Commits to Gannon University

Congratulations to Makenna Gavin on her commitment to take her academic and athletic talent to Gannon University. Makenna will be playing volleyball for the Golden Knights!

The following are Makenna's accomplishments:

- Pennsylvania All-State – Class AA All-State Team 2018 (Junior)
- Pennsylvania All-State – Class AA All-State Team 2017 (Sophomore)
- 2018 AVCA Under Armour Phenom Watch List
- Class AA ALL WPIAL ALL-CONFERENCE 2018 and 2017
- Two-time Varsity MVP
- Freshman Rookie of the Year
- 3 Time All Section Player

Makenna's club team at Pittsburgh Elite (18 Elite) went to the Girls Junior National Championship in Dallas this year.



A Peek at Some Things Happening in Our Schools

The Pirate Parrot, Chik-Fil-A Mascot, and Pirate's Announcer, Joe Klimchak, Visit Avonworth Primary Center

Thank you very much to the Pirates and Chik-Fil-A for visiting Avonworth Primary Center. Pirate's announcer Joe Klimchak visits many schools but this visit was a little more special since his daughter is a student at Avonworth Primary Center. Our students had a blast as they heard a great message from Joe and then messages from some of the Pirates players (via video) about the importance of being kind. Students also had the opportunity to win prizes by playing the Pirates' Box of Mystery game. The students had a great time! Thank you for coming out to Avonworth Primary!





Avonworth Elementary Students Plant 90 Trees

Each year, our elementary students in 3rd-grade participate in the [One Tree Per Child](#) program. Avonworth Elementary School was the first school in the nation to participate in this program. This year, 3rd-grade students and 3rd-grade teachers planted 90 trees at the Ohio Township Park. Thank you to our students, teachers, and Isabela Angelelli, head of the PTA Care Space Committee, for your efforts and participation in this worthwhile program.



Avonworth Primary and Elementary Students Participate in the City of Pittsburgh Kid's Marathon

For the last nine years students, their families, and staff from Avonworth Primary and Avonworth Elementary have been participating in the Pittsburgh Kid's Marathon. This year, we had close 300 students from our primary and elementary schools that participated in the marathon. That is incredible! Great job to all of you that participated!





Do you know anyone that would like to receive the Avonworth School District Newsletter?

If you do know someone (grandparents, uncles, aunts, friends, etc.) that would like to receive our Avonworth School District Newsletter, please share this link with them. Once they complete this google form, their email will be added to our newsletter mailing list.



[Avonworth School District Newsletter Sign Up Google Form](#)



Important Dates

- June, July, August - Sunshine, Fun, Relaxation, but be sure to read a book or two, or three, or four!
- June 10: School Board of Directors' Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM
- July 8: School Board of Directors' Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM
- July 17-19: Drumline, Leadership, & Rookie Camp
- July 11 - Aug 2: Band Camp
- July 24: Kindergarten Family Movie Night at APC, 7:00 - 8:00 PM
- Aug 5: Band Kennywood Day
- Aug 5: Athletic Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Aug 5: School Board of Directors' Work Session, 7:30 PM
- Aug 5 - Aug 9: PIAA Football Heat Acclimation Week
- Aug 12: First Day of Practice for Fall Sports
- Aug 12: Curriculum Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Aug 12: School Board of Directors' Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM
- Aug 19: Grades 7-8 Curriculum Night, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Aug 20: Grades 3-6 Curriculum Night, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Aug 22: First day of School for Grades 1-12
- Aug 22: Kindergarten Welcome Party at APC, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
- Aug 23-28: Kindergarten Welcome Days
- Aug 29: First Full Day for Kindergarten Students
- Aug 29: Grades 1-2 Curriculum Night, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

