
Pennsylvania Department of Education



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Student Services Report
Monday, January 26, 2009
(Approved Wednesday, October 29, 2008)

Entity: Avon Grove SD
Address: 375 S Jennersville Road
West Grove, PA 19390-8401

Educational Community

Avon Grove School District Profile

The Avon Grove School District is located in Southern Chester County. The district serves students and families in Avondale Borough and West Grove Borough. The five townships that comprise the district include Franklin, London Britain, London Grove, New London, and Penn. Avon Grove School District serves approximately 5,460 students in grades K-12 in the following schools:

- Penn London Elementary (K-2)
- Avon Grove Intermediate School (3-6)
- Fred S. Engle Middle School (7-8)
- Avon Grove High School (9-12)

The district is within easy driving distance of the metropolitan areas of Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, DC.

The Community

The community surrounding the Avon Grove School District offers a wide variety of recreational facilities and learning opportunities. The Jennersville YMCA, the Avon Grove Library, local and regional universities, day camps, and sports camps provide opportunities for community members to be active and involved. Through a partnership with social service agencies, businesses, and community members, the Avon Grove School District seeks to provide each child with a safe environment and an education to meet the many challenges of an ever changing global society.

Mission

Through a collaborative effort with students, parents and the community, students are provided with a safe learning environment where they are individually challenged to acquire the knowledge, skills and experiences to personally succeed and become responsible citizens in our global society.

Vision

All students achieve individual excellence.

Shared Values

Expectations for student learning...

- Every student will learn.
- Everyone is responsible for every student's learning. Every student is entitled to engage in high quality learning and opportunities for individualized success every day.
- Students will respond positively to student centered expectations for high achievement in scholarship and citizenship.

Expectations for professional practices...

- Teachers will engage students in high-quality student-centered teaching and learning.
- Teachers are inventors, mentors, and role models who positively affect students.
- District leadership will empower and support staff so they can provide high quality educational opportunities.

Relationship among stakeholders...

- Respect, trust, and collaboration characterize how we interact with one another.
- Parents and the community are responsible to assist the school in providing students the support needed to succeed.

Strategic Planning Process

The Avon Grove School District Strategic Plan was developed in accordance with the Regulations of the State Board of Education. Educators, parents, students and community members contributed to this effort. The intent of the plan is to enhance the capacity of the school district to encourage, support and sustain continuous improvement in the quality of education provided to students. Our focus throughout the process was to improve our present educational program and set high expectations for achievement for *all* students.

The development of the District Strategic Plan began in the Spring of 2007. The work plan was developed in three phases.

Phase I - Spring 2007

Form steering committee
Draft Mission/Shared Values/Vision
Engage in data review/analysis
Establish goals

Phase II - Fall 2007/Winter 2008

Establish planning teams
Establish objectives
Develop action plans

Phase III - Spring 2008

Assemble plans
Gather feedback
Revise plans
Complete approval process

A steering committee was formed in the spring of 2008 and included teachers, administrators, parents, students and community members from across the district. The steering committee was charged with serving as a visioning committee. Their tasks included establishing a mission, vision and shared values for the district, data review and analysis, goal setting, and plan reviewer. The steering committee met four times prior to the end of the 2006-2007 school year and then reconvene in January 2008.

Beginning in January 2008, the following subcommittees were formed:

Academic Standards & Assessment Plan Committee
Professional Education Plan Committee
New Teacher Induction Plan Committee

*Educational Technology Plan Committee
 Special Education Plan Committee
 Student Services Plan Committee*

Each committee chair invited constituents to participate in the various plan committees. These committees met from January 2008 through April 2008 to develop the various plans. In April 2008, components of the Strategic Plan were posted on the District Web site for review by community members and staff. A feedback system was included on the District Web page to allow for community members and employees to provide comments and recommendations. The Strategic Plan Steering Committee provided an update to the Avon Grove Board of Education on June 26, 2008 and again on August 14, 2008. The Strategic Plan was placed in the district libraries, the district office, and on the district Web site for public review and comment for a period of thirty days. The Avon Grove Board of Education approved the Strategic Plan on September 25, 2008.

Strategic Planning Committee

Name	Affiliation	Membership Category	Appointed By
Ellen Stefanowski	Avon Grove School District	Ed Specialist - School Nurse	Supervisor of Student Services
Margaret O'Grady	Avon Grove School District	Administrator	Superintendent
Susan Natale	Avon Grove High School	Other	Supervisor of Student Services
Valerie Piskorski	Avon Grove School District	Ed Specialist - School Psychologist	Supervisor of Student Services

Current Student Services

Service/Resource	Description
Counseling	<p>The counseling department provides developmental services through the continuous enhancement of programs and systems for a full range of transition supports. This department strives to ensure that all students acquire the skills and opportunities necessary to maximize their potential and prepare them for future success.</p> <p>At the elementary and intermediate levels, counselors strive to build healthy children through early exposure to positive social experiences. In addition, counselors assist in facilitating prevention, identification and remediation of academic, social and/or emotional issues.</p> <p>Middle school counselors work to provide a learning environment aimed at promoting academic excellence and responsible social interactions.</p> <p>At the high school level, counselors assist students to develop post secondary goals, matching skills with interests for which they will have a high degree of success. They also continue to promote and support the academic, emotional and social well being of all students.</p>
Dental Hygienist	The dental hygiene program provides screening for dental issues and referral to community-based agencies as necessary.
Home School Visitor	The home school visitor program monitors student attendance and

	provides counseling and referrals to agencies as necessary.
School nursing	The school nursing program in the Avon Grove School District helps to insure the academic success and life-long achievement of students and staff by promoting optimum student and staff health, wellness, and safety within their school community, thus maximizing student learning, performance, and attendance. This is accomplished by providing daily nursing care that may include the administering of medication, providing state mandated health screenings, providing a referral for health related conditions, promoting a health school environment, and promotion of healthy habits through health education. The school nurse also acts as a participant in the development and evaluation of school policy, and participates as a health consultant on Individual Educational Plans, 504 Service Agreements, and Individual Health Care Plans.
School psychology	The school psychologists at AGSD work collaboratively with administrators, faculty, and parents to solve specified student problems as related to student success. Their activities may include consultation, psycho-educational assessments, behavioral support, crisis intervention, counseling and parent support services.
Student Assistance Program	The purpose of the Student Assistance Program is to identify students exhibiting problem behaviors that pose a barrier to their social and academic development. The goal is to help the student and his or her family to identify problems and develop strategies to deal with these issues. The Avon Grove School District recognizes that many factors may impact a student's ability to learn. By accurately identifying students experiencing difficulties including but not limited to substance use, emotional concerns, eating issues, or any other life stressors, we can assist them in realizing and regaining their full potential.

Needs Assessment

Reflections

There are currently no reflections selected for this section.

A needs assessment was conducted regarding the pupil service programs of guidance, school psychology, Student Assistance and school nursing. Stakeholders including parents, teachers, administrators and students were surveyed. The following results were obtained.

Guidance: The survey of teachers found the relative strengths of the guidance program to be the fact that the guidance program personnel are accessible to students, staff and parents, as well as the fact that the guidance program personnel are responsive to concerns expressed by parents regarding student problems. In contrast, teachers noted that they would like more assistance in the planning, administration and interpretation of group-standardized tests. Overall teacher satisfaction with the guidance program at Avon Grove School District was rated at approximately 91%. Via surveys, parents identified the relative strengths of the guidance program as being the staff's responsiveness to concerns expressed by teachers regarding student problems and their ability to establish meetings and facilitate professional problem solving regarding students. In contrast, parents would like more accessibility of department members to students, staff and parents. Overall parent satisfaction with the guidance program was approximately 82%.

School Psychology: Parents indicated that the relative strengths for the school psychology program are efficient use of time on services that are appropriate for students, faculty and family, and responsiveness to concerns expressed by teachers regarding student problems. In contrast,

parents would like to see an increase in the program's ability to facilitate communication between teachers and parents. Overall parental satisfaction with the school psychology program at the Avon Grove School District was approximately 63%. The results of the survey for teachers regarding the school psychology program identified the relative strengths of the school psychology program as its ability to be responsive to concerns expressed by parents regarding student problems as well as the program's ability to include parents in the evaluation process for their children for either special education and/or gifted services. The overall parent satisfaction rate for the school psychology program at the Avon Grove School District was 100%.

Student Assistance: A survey of parents regarding the Student Assistance Program revealed that the strengths of the program revolved around the maintaining of confidentiality as well as providing quality in-service and training for the staff and community. In contrast, parents indicated that they would like to be more involved in the Student Assistance Program. Overall, parent satisfaction was rated at approximately 72%. A survey of teachers regarding the Student Assistance Program revealed the strengths of the program to be its alignment with district philosophy and school mission goals as well as its ability to maintain accurate records and confidentiality. In contrast, teachers indicated that they would like to have the SAP program participate more in individual education plan and provide input for meetings to student's needs. Overall satisfaction was approximately 91%

School nursing: A survey of teachers regarding the school nursing-program overwhelmingly supported the effectiveness of the current program. The relative strength of the program was noted in accessibility to school nurses and the flexibility and responsiveness of the nursing program to students and staff. The relative weakness of the program was seen as the limitation of physical space within some of the health rooms. Overall teacher satisfaction with the nursing program at the Avon Grove School District was at approximately 96%. Results of parent a survey also identified concern regarding physical space available for some health rooms. Parents identified the relative strengths of the school-nursing program as the knowledge of the nurses regarding standards and practices as well as communication with families. Overall, parent respondents indicated a satisfaction rate of approximately 95%.

Student survey results for the Student Assistance program, guidance and school nursing programs were overwhelmingly positive. All students indicated they were satisfied to extremely satisfied with the support services provided by the Avon Grove School District. There were no recommendations for improvement.

Action Plan

Goal: 1.5 Academic Achievement - Intervention/Support Programs

Description: Provide effective academic intervention and support programs for identified student populations (ELL, IEP, ED, Hispanic) to ensure proficiency in reading and mathematics by decreasing the percent of students performing below basic or basic on the annual PSSA by 10%.

Strategy: A. English Language Learners (ELL) Program

Description: Provide a comprehensive program with a full range of services for ELL students.

Activity: 4. Provide professional development for guidance counselors

Description: Conduct monthly professional development opportunities for guidance counselors so that they may support the individual development of ELL students.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Strategy: C. Intervention/Support Programs

Description: Provide intervention and support to students in need of additional assistance in reading and mathematics.

Activity: 1. Instructional Support Program

Description: Provide intervention/support services to students identified as struggling through the Instruction Support Team at each school

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 2. Response to Intervention Program (Rtl)

Description: Continue to develop an Rtl Model to provide intervention and support for students struggling in Reading and Mathematics. Pilot models to determine an appropriate and successful Rtl model.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Goal: 1.6 Academic Achievement - 21st Century Learners

Description: Provide a high quality education with increased opportunities for all students that will prepare them for the world of work and post secondary experiences and increase the percentage of children attending a post secondary school from 79% to 89% as measured by the annual District Post Secondary Survey.

Strategy: A. Rigorous Academic Programs

Description: Provide a rigorous academic program for all students across all grades.

Activity: 4. PSAT/SAT

Description: Increase the district average score on the SAT exam annually.

District SAT Average Scores (2008) = Math (525) Reading (513) Writing (495)

District SAT Average Scores (2013) = Math (530) Reading (520) Writing (500)

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Strategy: C. Early Graduation and Dual Enrollment

Description: Establish an early graduation/dual enrollment program designed to provide

opportunities for high school students who have met or are close to meeting graduation requirements to participate in college level courses.

Activity: 1. Dual Enrollment Grant

Description: Submit application to PDE for Dual Enrollment Grant for the 2008-2009 school year.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 3/31/2008	-
	Finish: 8/31/2008	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 2. Partnership with Delaware County Community College

Description: Establish and maintain an active partnership with Delaware County Community College.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 4/30/2008	-
	Finish: 6/30/2013	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 3. Procedures for Early Graduation and Dual Enrollment Program

Description: Develop and update annually, procedures and guidelines for the Early Graduation and Dual Enrollment Program.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 6/1/2008	-
	Finish: 12/6/2010	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 4. Implement Dual Enrollment Program

Description: Implement Dual Enrollment Program beginning in the 2008-2009 school year. Monitor and evaluate program success measured by the number of students participating in the program and the number of college course credits earned by students in the program.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 8/6/2008	-
	Finish: 12/31/9999	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Goal: 3. Effective Student, Parent, Community and School Collaboration

Description: Energize families, communities, civic and business leaders to engage in the success of education. Measurement of goal attainment will occur through the use of customer satisfaction surveys and climate surveys.

Strategy: A. Communication Plan

Description: Provide continuous and effective communication with all internal and external stakeholders.

Activity: 1. District & School Web sites

Description: Maintain and update District and School Web sites as a mechanism for communication with the school community.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 3. Annual district wide newsletter delivered to all households in the District

Description: Publish a district wide newsletter (The Grove) twice during the year to be delivered to all households in the Avon Grove School District.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 4/28/2008	-
	Finish: 12/31/9999	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 5. Bilingual Home/School Visitor

Description: Provide a bilingual home/school visitor to assist with making home school connections.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 6. Provide interpreters at school events

Description: Provide interpreters at the school events for parents.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Strategy: B. Home/School Partnerships

Description: Increase and strengthen parent/family and school partnerships.

Activity: 4. Career Fairs

Description: Hold annual career fairs across all school for students on an annual basis

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 4/6/2009	-
	Finish: 12/6/2010	

Status: Not Started — Upcoming

Activity: 5. Parent Information Nights

Description: Provide Parent Information Nights that provides parents with sessions that will help them assist their children with doing well in school.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Strategy: C. Community Partnerships

Description: Enhance alliances with community, civic and business leaders to support student achievement.

Activity: 1. Establish partnerships with local businesses for job recruitment

Description: Encourage local business leaders to recruit high school students to serve as employees within their organization.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Goal: 4. Deliver High Quality Support for Schools

Description: Continually enhance school performance and improved academic achievement through delivery of high quality District management, operational support and customer service. Measurement of goal attainment will include (1) overall academic achievement, (2) customer satisfaction surveys, and (3) annually established goals and metrics for each department.

Strategy: B. Pupil Services

Description: The Pupil Services will continue to provide high quality services to students, parents, and staff to support academic achievement for all students.

Activity: 1. Define roles and responsibilities

Description: Define roles and responsibilities for the pupil services departments - guidance, nursing, school psychology, dental hygienist, and student assistance.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 2. Develop/revise job descriptions for pupil service employees as needed
Description: Develop/revise job descriptions for pupil service employees - guidance, nursing, school psychology, dental hygienist and student assistance.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 3. Review job descriptions with each department at the beginning of the school year
Description: Review job descriptions with each department at the beginning of the school year - guidance, nursing, school psychology, dental hygienist and student assistance.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 4. Develop annual program goals for each pupil services department
Description: Survey each pupil service employee at the beginning of the school year and develop a measurable goal for each department - guidance, nursing, school psychology, dental hygienist and student assistance.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 5. Guidance Curriculum K-12
Description: Develop a comprehensive guidance curriculum K-12.

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Activity: 6. Professional Development for Counselors
Description: Provide training for all guidance counselors on the revised curriculum

Person Responsible Timeline for Implementation Resources

Margaret Sharp	Start: 1/1/2009	-
	Finish: Ongoing	

Status: Not Started — Overdue

Narratives

Developmental Services

The Student Services Program at Avon Grove School District currently offers developmental services to all students in Kindergarten through twelfth grade. These developmental services include counseling, psychological services, health services, dental hygiene services as well as home and school visitor services that support students in addressing their academic, behavioral, health, personal and social development issues. The direct services facilitate the normal development of students. Counselors provide information to individuals or groups of students to ease the transition into new situations as well as academic counseling to assist students in course selection, determining appropriate placement and matching various styles of learning to appropriate instruction. In addition, counselors work with students on career development skills in order for the student to be able to make appropriate postsecondary plans. Competencies are developed in the areas of self-knowledge, career planning, and educational/vocational development. These goals are accomplished through individual or group counseling and instruction in the use of technology-assisted career exploration (the Discovery Program). School psychologists in tandem with counselors, teachers, parents and administrators provide monitoring of student performance and progress and develop a plan when a particular student is experiencing frustration and academic failure. School nurses provide periodic health appraisals to monitor normal development. Such appraisals include height, weight, vision, hearing, scoliosis, and body mass index. In addition, the school nurses and the student assistance coordinators promote programs and activities for all students, which develop positive coping skills and support healthy behaviors. A dental hygienist provides periodic appraisals of student dental hygiene. The home and school visitor encourages regular student attendance and if nonattendance becomes an issue, makes appropriate referrals.

Direct services have lead to academic improvement over the last three years as evidenced by increased performance on the PSSA tests and the Avon Grove School District making Adequate Yearly Progress.

In the future, the Student Services Program at Avon Grove School District plans to continue to offer developmental services to all students in Kindergarten through twelfth grade as currently provided. In addition, with the impending adoption of new regulations and standards for “child find” for special education services, the Avon Grove School District plans to an additional certified school psychologist.

Diagnostic, Intervention and Referral Services

Counselors, school psychologists and student assistance program coordinators provide all students in Kindergarten through twelfth grade with diagnostic assessment in order to support the Avon Grove School District’s instructional goals. These diagnostic assessments include but are not limited to group or individual counseling in a variety of contexts; interviews, observation, testing and surveys. These assessments identify issues including but not limited to personal development, social development and/or coping with specific life situations; signs of depression, chemical abuse, academic difficulties, or other behaviors that are harmful. In conjunction with the student’s parent(s), these professionals develop individual intervention plans. These intervention plans can include the services of instructional support teams, student assistance teams or crisis intervention teams. These professionals may also refer the parent(s) to community-based agencies depending on the intensity of the student’s problem. School nurses and the dental

hygienist provide diagnostic screenings for acute medical and dental issues. The school nurses will provide treatment as per the Avon Grove School District's standing Medical Orders and refers the parent(s) to private medical providers of medical care for children, as appropriate. After screening each student, the dental hygienist refers the parent(s) of students in need of dental care to community-based agencies for dental treatment.

The Avon Grove School District plans to continue to provide diagnostic, intervention and referral services to all students enrolled in the district within the current framework. In the future, the Avon Grove School District will be bringing mental health services into the high school through a contractual agreement with the county mental health service agency (Human Services) to provide group support to students experiencing a variety of life stressors.

Consultation and Coordination Services

The school nurses, counselors, school psychologists, student assistance program coordinators, home school visitor and dental hygienist facilitate the development and progress of all students enrolled in the Avon Grove School District through consultation with other school staff and parents or through coordination with other agencies. These services include but are not limited to: case management; community liaison activities; consultation; home/family communication activities; staff development and parent education. Case management provides the coordination of services assigned for each student. Community liaison activities are provided to discover, promote and draw upon local resources, which provide services to students. Consultation services provide guidance regarding curriculum development, instructional processes, human growth and development, learning and/or behavioral issues. Home/family communication services facilitate communication and coordination between home and school through such activities as home visitation, parent conferences and providing workshops or informational sessions.

Staff development entails both that pupil service staff acquire the most current information in their field to enlarge their own knowledge bases and skills as well as share their expertise with other staff. This role may take the form of advising administration or providing professional development to colleagues. Finally, parent education promotes student progress through informing the parents about their role in student success. The Pupil Services staff at the Avon Grove School District conduct parent seminars on a variety of subjects each school year.

If students are still experiencing chronic problems after consultation and coordination services are provided, intensive interventions are developed. Intensive interventions include but are not limited to a referral to community-based agencies and referral to an alternative education program. Among the various community agencies that the Avon Grove School District interacts with are the Home, School and Community Council, Chester County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Chester County MH/MR and the Chester County Alternative Education Program. When the needs of a student extend beyond the available services of the neighborhood school, referral to community and intermediate unit resources are appropriate. The Chester County Office of Drug provides assessment and intervention for chemical abuse issues while Chester County MH/MR provides a variety of diagnostic and intervention services for mental health and mental retardation issues. The Home, School and Community Council brings together the school district staff and all of the child and family service agencies in the county so that they may all work as a team to meet the entire needs of children and families in distress. The Chester County Alternative Education Program provides services to middle and high school students who experience difficulty in coping in the regular school environment. This program serves students who experience problems learning and interacting in the regular education setting. The Chester County Alternative Education Program provides a totally structured and self-contained program with academic components. Lastly, the Chester County High School provides a half day program where students who are not comfortable in the large high school setting can work at their own pace to earn a high school diploma.

Student Assistance Program

The student assistance plan is offered at 4 different schools in the Avon Grove School District. The high school and middle school buildings offer a program called S.O.S., supporting our students. This referral based program helps identify students who are at risk in the academic setting due to barriers interfering with their education. The referrals come from teachers, parents, administrators, guidance counselors and peers. These referrals are all taken very seriously; however, data is collected to ensure some validity regarding the referrals. The middle and high school program provides parent and teacher consultations, individual counseling sessions with students, and group counseling sessions with students. Substance abuse educational programs are required for students who violate the district's drug and alcohol policy. These sessions are mandatory as a support while the student re-enters school after a suspension.

The elementary schools offer student assistance as a support through their child study teams. The Student Assistance Coordinator attends the child study teams as a resource and consultant to help students and their families overcome barriers to the student's ability to benefit from their educational program. The referrals for the elementary programs come mostly from teachers, administrators, guidance counselors and parents. The programs at the elementary schools provide parent and teacher consultations, individual counseling sessions with students, and group counseling sessions with students.

The Student Assistance Program for the district focuses on educating the students, teachers, parents and community about substance abuse prevention and healthy decision making by offering specialized programs. The Student Assistance Program has offered parent/community nights focusing on drug and alcohol prevention, Internet safety, The Choking Game, and AH/HD. The students have been educated through community nights designed for age appropriate learning as well as through, assemblies, classroom lessons and information tables. The program also helps to support the teachers by offering after school trainings, which help increase their knowledge of recent educational and social trends.

Information for the Student Assistance Programs in Avon Grove School District can be found on the districts website.

Communication

1. Information is provided to students about educational opportunities of the school's instructional program through daily announcements at all grade levels as well as through daily announcements and written notification (on an as needed basis) from grades 3rd through 12th. Information is provided to parents about educational opportunities of the school's instructional program through the school calendar (annually), newsletters (monthly), mailings (on an as needed basis), school web pages (on going), student handbooks (annually), policies and participation regarding extracurricular activities/sports (annually) and newsflash/email (on an as needed basis).
2. Currently, all eighth grade students participate in a guidance department lead unit on career exploration. Upon entry into the Avon Grove High School in 9th grade (or later if student is transferring from another district) all students are given a user id and password for a website called DISCOVER. The DISCOVER website allows students to research any occupation, major, or college they choose. In addition, the website provides demographics about salary range and educational needs for each occupation. All freshman complete the three DISCOVER inventories: Interests, Abilities, and Values. The results of these inventories can be used as a starting point for doing research on careers and majors that may be suitable for the student. Since this program is accessed via the Internet, students can access it at home if they have access to the Internet and parents can use the program as well. Students are able to use the DISCOVER website until they graduate from AGHS. In their sophomore year, all students take the PLAN test,

which is a practice version of the ACT. The PLAN test includes 4 academic sections, as well as an Interest Inventory. The results from the Interest Inventory are then used to suggest different Career Areas to the students. Every other year Avon Grove High School has a Career Fair, which all students visit during their English class. Last year's fair featured over thirty different careers and businesses. Students in eleventh and twelfth grades are able to participate in the Job Shadowing Mentorship program. This program allows the student to be excused for the day from school to observe someone working in an area in which they are interested.

3. Information for parents regarding the health needs of their children is communicated in a variety of ways. If a student is injured on the way to school, at school or on the way home from school, a parent is notified via phone. Parents are provided information regarding mandated immunizations via the school calendar (annually), written notification (at the time of registration and then annually), school web pages (ongoing) and school calendar (annually). In addition, parents are provided with information regarding required physical forms and dental forms through written notification (annually). Parents are also called if they have not provided the appropriate immunization records, physical forms or dental forms. Parents are provided with the results of mandated screens through letters to their home (after each screening). All letters are translated into the parent's native language and interpreters provide information via phone in the parent's native language.

4. Parents are provided information about the nature and scope of surveys and their relationship to the educational program of their child as well as their ability to refuse to participate in the survey(s) via mail (at least four weeks prior to any survey administration).

5. These communication activities are integrated into the Avon Grove School District's action plan as the method of supporting parent-school communication. These activities support the Avon Grove School District's instructional goal by emphasizing the importance of parent participation in their child's education as well as illicit parent support of high expectations for their child's achievement.

Assurance for the Collection, Maintenance, and Dissemination of Student Records

- By checking each of the boxes below, the local education agency assures compliance with the requirements of 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12 and with the policies and procedures of Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). PDE will specify, in writing, policies and procedures to be followed. Requests for any deviations from these regulations, policies, and procedures must be made in writing to PDE (electronic mail may be directed to ra-chapter12@state.pa.us).

The Local Education Agency (LEA) assures the following:

- The LEA has a local plan, including policies and procedures, in place for the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of student records in compliance with § 12.31(a) and § 12.32
- The plan shall be maintained in compliance with § 12.31(b) and made available to PDE in compliance with § 12.31(c)

Assurance for the Operation of Student Services and Programs

- By checking each of the boxes below, the local education agency assures compliance with the requirements of 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12 and with the policies and procedures of Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). PDE will specify, in writing, policies and procedures to be followed. Requests for any deviations from these regulations, policies,

and procedures must be made in writing to PDE (electronic mail may be directed to ra-chapter12@state.pa.us).

The Local Education Agency (LEA) assures that there are local policies and procedures in place that address:

- Free Education and Attendance (in compliance with § 12.1)
- School Rules (in compliance with § 12.3)
- Discrimination (in compliance with § 12.4)
- Corporal Punishment (in compliance with § 12.5)
- Exclusion from School, Classes, Hearings (in compliance with § 12.6, § 12.7, § 12.8)
- Freedom of Expression (in compliance with § 12.9)
- Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance (in compliance with § 12.10)
- Hair and Dress (in compliance with § 12.11)
- Confidential Communications (in compliance with § 12.12)
- Searches (in compliance with § 12.14)
- Emergency Care and Administration of Medication and Treatment (in compliance with 35 P.S. § § 780-101—780-144)
- The LEA acknowledges that the above policies shall be maintained locally and be made available to the public upon request. The policies are not to be submitted to the Commonwealth except upon specific request by PDE.

In addition, the LEA assures the following:

- The Student Services Report complies with § 12.41(b), § 12.41(c), and § 12.42 (consistent with the Early Intervention Services System Act (11 P.S. § § 875-101—875-503))
- Consistent with § 445 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C.A. § 1232h), parents or guardians are informed regarding individual survey student assessments and provided a process for refusal to participate (in compliance with § 12.41(d))
- Persons delivering student services shall be specifically licensed or certified as required by statute or regulation (in compliance with § 12.41(e))

Supporting Documents

Supporting Documents - Attachment

- Supporting Documents