

YOUR SCHOOLS

2013

Aurora City School District

From the Superintendent

By **RUSS BENNETT**
Superintendent of Schools



I hope that a wonderful holiday season was enjoyed by all and that precious time was spent with family and friends.

Our schedule here at Aurora Schools was busy, loaded with holiday concerts, classroom parties and giving projects. Thank you to all of those that helped us touch others in need. The generosity of the Aurora community never ceases to amaze me!

Currently, students are busy completing next year's class schedules. This year we are highlighting the prestigious IB program which is offered to our high school Juniors and Seniors. The IB diploma program offers a challenging, well-rounded, and very highly regarded curriculum. The Aurora School District is one of the few school systems that offer this diploma program in the State of Ohio and we are fortunate to offer it as an option to our students. If your student is looking for a program that can both challenge and enrich them, IB could very well be the perfect fit. If you are interested in more in-depth information, please read the IB Program story in this newsletter issue. Guidance counselors will be working closely with students to ensure that their class schedule reflects

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INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) PROGRAM OFFERS STUDENTS PREMIER OPTION



Aurora High School (AHS) students entering their junior year have the option of choosing to participate in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma program. This two-year diploma program is described by IB as "a demanding two-year curriculum leading to final examinations and a qualification that is welcomed by leading universities around the world." Aurora High School Principal Mike Roberto described the program as "a world recognized international program," that is found in "countries all over the world." When there was "the opportunity to expand our program to offer something to our students from a world-wide perspective going into the 21st century... we jumped on that chance," he explained. Superintendent Russ Bennett said, "We are one of the fortunate schools in the State of Ohio that has the IB school."

Roberto described the basic difference between the Advanced Placement (AP) class offerings and IB diploma program by likening them to meal options. He explained that, "while the AP program is like ordering off of a menu a la carte," or selecting classes from many different course offerings, the IB diploma program option comes as a complete set meal. The diploma program, he said, "is a little bit more structured." It is a complete offering of six parts including,

English, Global Language, History, Science, Math and Art. Students in the diploma program must choose 3 High Level (more in-depth) classes and 3 Standard Level courses within the six parts, along with earning Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) hours. These requirements make it "a well rounded program," Roberto said.

Roberto mentioned that there seems to be a misconception that "you have to be crazy smart to be in IB." Instead, he believes that a student "should be a good worker and willing to commit" to the challenging program.

Bennett added that he wanted to clear up rumors regarding the cost of the IB program. He said, "The cost of the IB program really has been up front in terms of the training. What it costs the district on a yearly basis is really the fee of about \$10,000 to IB. The cost of exams to students are close to the same cost as AP exams." He added that there was a fallacy during levy discussions that it "cost a lot of money. Costs have already been built in. We already have the people trained...so I want to dispel that rumor."

See IB program p. 7

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SCHOOL BOARD INTENDS TO REHIRE BENNETT

The Aurora School Board has announced their intention of rehiring current Superintendent Russ Bennett for a 40-month period beginning on March 4, 2013 and ending on June 30, 2016.

Bennett announced his retirement at the December School Board Meeting and will become effective Feb. 28, 2013.

The Board's decision was made after careful consideration and deliberation. Board President, Jerry Kohanski, said, "The Board is basing its decision on an overwhelming response from the community favoring Mr. Bennett's rehiring and also on Mr. Bennett's willingness to enter into negotiations with the district on a new contract."

Key factors considered in this decision included:

- The current market for qualified, highly skilled superintendents is very competitive. There are currently 13 mid-year vacancies that exist in Ohio with more expected by the end of the current academic year.
- Currently, 14 school districts in the Greater Cleveland Superintendent's Association have employed superintendents on a retire-rehire basis including, Bay Village, Hudson, Kenston, Orange, Shaker Heights, Solon, and Streetsboro.
- Bennett's current salary of \$132,000 is less than the \$140,500 superintendent salary in our 9-district comparative group. He has had, and would continue to have, a very lean contract. His contract did not, and would not, "contain benefits enjoyed by other superintendents such as, tax-sheltered annuities, longevity stipends, auto expense, and bonus or merit pay."

- It is estimated that Bennett's 40-month contract would save the district between \$106,000 and \$125,000 over the term of the new contract. This is because the district would no longer cover Bennett's additional STRS retirement payment and would incur lower insurance costs.
- This retire-rehire scenario allows the district to retain a superintendent with 8 years of experience with "an outstanding track record, strong credibility with the ODE, excellent knowledge of the district and community, and a high enthusiasm level for working in Aurora." This would also allow for the development of promising internal candidates that will be more prepared to assume the superintendent duties in three years.

Kohanski explained that, "Mr. Bennett is going to collect his pension no matter what decision the Board makes and that with a new superintendent, "The loss of productivity and risk to the district's performance due to a learning curve and inexperience is obvious."

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both their interests and abilities.

School safety is also on everyone's minds with the unthinkable school tragedies that have taken place across the country. I want to assure everyone that student safety is one of our top priorities. We are doing our best to insure our students remain safe. After analyzing our security measures, the Board of Education has made several changes that will limit access to and increase the surveillance of our buildings. For a more detailed description of these changes, please read the article "New Safety Procedures In Place" in this Your Schools issue. I have also posted a video on our website at www.aurora-schools.org explaining our new safety procedures. We ask for your help and patience as we implement these changes, keeping in mind that our children's safety is worth the extra precautions.

On a happier note, we appreciate all those who gave so generously to our school's giving campaigns. We are a community that cares. We are lucky enough to see it almost everywhere we look!

NEW SAFETY PROCEDURES IN PLACE

In light of recent school tragedies, school systems nationwide have been forced to re-evaluate their safety protocol. Likewise, we at the Aurora Schools have been re-evaluating our school building procedures. This process has inevitably led to changes in some of our practices. These have been implemented with our number one priority in mind - the safety of our students.

These changes have been implemented with the sole purpose of helping

to enhance the numerous safety procedures we already have in place, some of which include, A.L.I.C.E. training for staff, introducing A.L.I.C.E. to our students, and adding our School Resource Officer (SRO), Michelle Ice. With the Aurora community supporting us in the 2008 levy, we were also able to upgrade our security systems to increase security surveillance and monitor access to our buildings. Our current safety

See Safety p. 7



YOUR SCHOOLS

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Your Schools is a publication of the Aurora City School District. Its purpose is to keep residents of Aurora informed of current events and progress in the Aurora City Schools and to foster pride and a continuous communication link between the schools and the community.

Your Schools has been awarded the "Mark of Excellence" and "Best of the Best" Awards by the Ohio Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association for service as a school district newsletter. *Your Schools* is a quarterly publication, mailed to all residents of Aurora. For information, comments, or story ideas, e-mail Editor Stacey DeAnna at: yourschools@aurora-schools.org.

IN THE CLASSROOM

ASTRONAUT "LANDS" IN LEIGHTON CLASSROOM

Students in Mrs. Skeels' 5th grade classroom were treated to an unusual event on November 15, 2012. An astronaut named Greg "Box" Johnson "landed" in their classroom to talk about his experiences as a NASA astronaut. He was invited to speak by Dale Pilarczyk, a NASA Glenn Research Center system's engineer, and his son Charlie, a student in the class.

Johnson brought with him a very interesting and fun video presentation that showed himself and other astronauts in the International Space Station. The students laughed at the video showing a female astronaut whose hair stood straight up and the astronauts catching and eating floating candy because of the zero gravity.

Johnson, 50, said he became interested in space when he was 7 years old. He watched as Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. He decided, "That seemed like an exciting job. I always wanted to be an astronaut after that." He said, "I was inspired by my 7th grade teacher, Mr. Dice." He achieved his dream and

became an astronaut in 1998. Johnson then served as the pilot for two Space Shuttle *Endeavor* flights. He described the *Endeavor* take off as "a lot of vibration and acceleration. It was actually a little bit scary. It's a pretty crazy ride," he added.

Johnson retired in 2009, but still serves NASA in a civilian capacity, part of which includes speaking to students. He reminded them, "There are so many things to learn if you put your mind to it."

STUDENTS PLAYED FETCH!

Aurora School Board Member John Sloe recently played "fetch" with students in Mrs. Stoye/Skeels 5th grade classrooms at Leighton Elementary School. Sloe, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) from Sloe and Associates in Aurora, and his wife Kathy, helped students to better understand how to use money and manage it successfully by utilizing The

Ohio CPA Foundation's FETCH! program.

FETCH! is an acronym for Financial Education Teaches Children Healthy Habits. The program utilizes a fun interactive board game to teach the students about budgeting, saving and spending financial concepts.

Sloe said, "The Ohio Society of CPA's encourages its members to present this financial educational program to the



Mrs. Stoye's Class Fetch! Winners: Back Row: Kathy Sloe, John Sloe. Front Row: Henry, Megan, Will, Jonathan, Brianna, Allie.

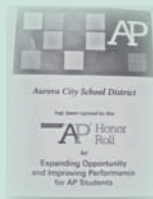
elementary students and personally I really enjoyed facilitating the FETCH game with our fifth grade students. We all had fun and learned a little bit about the importance of sound, financial principles."

AURORA HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZED BY COLLEGE BOARD

Third Consecutive Year Included On AP Honor Roll

The College Board has once again acknowledged Aurora High School with inclusion on its Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Roll. This is the third consecutive year that Aurora has achieved this distinction, one of only 539 school districts across the U.S. and Canada to be named. This Honor Roll consists of school districts described as having "achieved increases in access to AP® courses for a broader number of students and improved the rate at which their AP students earned scores of 3 or higher on an AP Exam."

Aurora High School Principal Mike Roberto explained, "This is the third



consecutive year that Aurora High has been recognized by the College Board through placement in the Advanced Placement Honor Roll. I am proud of the students who are challenging themselves to take college level courses and clearly putting in the work that is needed to be successful. The students have contributed to our expectation of excellence and the importance of challenging yourself. Where many students will 'take their senior year off before college' many of our seniors are instead taking multiple AP courses to better prepare for college. The second part of our success is that it is clear our teachers are helping the students to be successful. All of the teachers at AHS are helping the students to get a strong foundation that the AP teachers can build off of and the AP teachers are

putting in a lot of time and energy to be sure the students understand the material. It is a recipe for success that we have been able to follow for years while our students are willing to rise to the challenge each of year as well."

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Pat Ciccantelli, congratulated students and staff by saying, "This is a tremendous accomplishment, congratulations to the students, their parents, and the faculty at Aurora High School. To obtain this distinction for three consecutive years is truly an amazing feat. We are very proud of the fact that more students are challenging themselves with this rigorous curriculum, and even prouder that they are passing the AP tests at an increasing rate."

Who's Who & What's New

The second grade held a **K-2 MATH NIGHT** at Craddock School that helped to educate parents about strategies in teaching math. The program was a big success thanks to **MIKE LIPNOS, LISA LEONE, KATHY CHRISTIAN, LISA VANRAEPENBUSCH, JESSKIA GONZALES, COURTNEY KOHANSKI, CYNDI HAUGHEY, ASHLEY TYLER, BETH BRYANT, JEN MILLER, MARGIE BRUDER** and **THERESA MOTICAK**



TRUMPETS performed as part of the fall Marching Band Show in the AHS Junior Varsity gym.

Aurora High School's most recent **NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR SEMIFINALISTS** are seniors **THUY LI, DANIEL CHEN,** and **SID MANDAVA.** They join **NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR COMMENDED** seniors **MICHAELA RITZ** and **CAROLINE BOEHM.** In February 2013, Semifinalists will be notified if they have advanced to Finalist standing. Congratulations to each for their impressive accomplishment.

Check out our Miller and Craddock web pages for a wonderful selection of **EARLY CHILDHOOD APPLICATIONS** for the iPad. Kindergarten teacher **JEN YONALLY** researched a variety of applications for our young learners. To find the apps, look in the School Forms section on the Miller and Craddock school web pages. Enjoy.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) has announced the 26 semi-finalists for the **2013 SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD.** **MILLER/CRADDOCK SCHOOL COUNSELOR TAMI MAZZELLA** has been nominated for this honor by the **OHIO SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION.** Best of luck Tami!

The Aurora Schools' **DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORTATION, GREG POLLOCK,** is working in conjunction with the **CITY OF AURORA** on the **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.** The Safe Routes to School Program is run by the **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** with the goal of improving "the environments around schools and encourage walking and bicycling to and from school."



Some recent important **PARENT COMMUNICATION FORUM (PCF)** topics from our school buildings have included: **MEAN GIRLS** – by Leighton and Craddock School Counselors, **DRUG AWARENESS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL** at Aurora High School with School Resource Officer (SRO) Michele Ice and Portage County Drug Task Force Officer Mike Wadlington, and **SCHEDULING/IB PROGRAM** at Harmon School with AHS Principal **Mike Roberto.** You can learn a lot in a short amount of time by attending these one-hour monthly meetings. We would love to see you at the next PCF.

A before school club (**STUDIO CLUB**) at Leighton School has set up a new **L810 STUDIO** where they are learning how to write scripts in groups using Google Docs, set up shots in Wirecast software, and use teleprompters and a soundboard. The Studio Club will be doing the Leighton School's announcements that will be streamed live from the studio to the classrooms via SMART Boards.



L810 STUDIO CLUB MEMBERS in the new studio at Leighton School.

The second annual **AEA KETTLE CORN SALE** raised approximately \$1,450 for the **AEA SCHOLARSHIP FUND.** Parents, students, staff and community members were very supportive.

Congratulations to the 2012-13 **HOMECOMING KING MITCH MOROVEC** and **QUEEN TRACY ASPLIN.**



2012-13 Homecoming Ceremony (left to right): ERIN MCNAMARA, JACK BRUDER, MITCH MOROVEC (KING), TRACY ASPLIN (QUEEN), RACHAEL DAVIS, ROHITH JAYAKUMAR, TEAGAN AMEY, and PATRICK DOUGHERTY.

CLASS ACTS

We are very proud of our **Miller Integrated Preschool**. They met all of the compliance requirements in the state conducted site-licensing visit.

The cast of **The Academy for the Performing Arts at Chagrin Falls'**

production of **Les Miserables** (Student Edition) featured Aurora students **Cat Lally as Madame Thenardier** and **TJ Hayes as Grantaire, Chain Gang, and Brujon**. **David Ludick** appeared as **Judge Brack** in the **Hedda Gabler** play.



Thank you to the **Cleveland Clinic** for their partnership with our athletic teams and programs during the 2012-13 school year.



Craddock/Miller School Guidance Counselor **Tami Mazzella** received an **Eddy Award** for her work in "Be A Buddy - Not A Bully." The

award was presented, along with a \$100 grant, to Mazzella by Sylvan Director of Enrollment, **Rosemary Weizer**. The funds will be used to enrich the bully prevention program at Craddock School.

We send a big "thank you" to the **Bainbridge Target Store** and its **Aurora shoppers**. The store donated over \$3,200 to our schools as a part of its community-giving program.

In early 2012, the Aurora City School District adopted an **Energy Conservation Program**. According to the Aurora Schools' Director of Business Affairs and Transportation, **Greg Pollock**, the combined efforts of the administration, staff, maintenance, custodians, and students, has netted a savings of over \$36,000 in the first six months.

"**The Makers**" describe themselves by saying, "We are student developers creating technology solutions for real problems in our world, which makes us quite awesome." This new group of students



that meet during study hall periods are introducing "The Makers" Initiative and have created their own website at <http://makers.aurora-schools.org>. Their website says, "Our students have an unprecedented opportunity to design and create technologies that can positively impact their world. Technology solutions are developed here for real people with real problems." The website asks, "Looking for something to get excited about? Look no further!" For more information about this initiative, contact Andrew Sams at asams@aurora-schools.org.

Ohio Board of Education member Bryan Williams met with **Superintendent Russ Bennett** and the **Aurora School Board** to discuss issues relating to education in the State of Ohio.



You can help our schools earn cash simply by clipping the **Box Tops** from your eligible grocery items. To help, simply buy the products, clip the Box Top coupons from the packages and send them into school (Miller, Craddock, or Leighton) with your child or look for donation boxes throughout Aurora. Last year, the Elementary PTO collected over \$6,000 in Box Top earnings that went toward assembly, field trip, etc. costs. Our potential earnings total is \$60,000 for our 3 participating school buildings. Thank you to all of the many families that help cut Box Tops all year long. Keep on clipping!

Thank You!



COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING TACKLES ADDICTION TOPIC

The Aurora Schools sponsored the second in the continuing speaker series of community forums entitled, "Protecting Our Youth ... Protecting Our Community" on October 4, 2012. Russ Bennett explained that the series was designed, "for parents and families and is about helping our kids to grow up healthy." He said, "Obviously this is something important to me and to our schools..." This meeting's focus was on "What We Should All Know About Alcohol and Other Drugs," presented by Mr. Jim Joyner.

The evening featured Mr. Jim Joyner, of Joyner and Associates, a licensed chemical dependency counselor for 40 years. He addressed the audience with a candid presentation and discussion about addiction with the goal of assisting "you in making healthy choices for yourself and those that you love and care for." After reading the obituary of a 23-year old girl who had died of a drug overdose, Joyner explained that these tragic deaths are why we gather to better understand addiction. "We need to come together as a community in a comprehensive effort..." he said.

With continued community interest, the Aurora Schools will continue to hold this speaker series throughout the year.

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SPORT REPORT

Congratulations to the **Aurora High School Boys' Golf team** and their coaches **Gus Mehallis** and **George Snider**. They finished 3rd at the Pine Hills District competition and qualified for State. It was the first time that they have made it since 1987. They went on to finish 8th in the OHSAA Boys Golf State Championship Tournament on the Ohio State Scarlett Course. **Andrew Hinton** finished in 7th place as an individual and was named Second Team All Ohio. What a great season!

STATE BOUND!



Aurora H.S. Golf Team 2012
District 3rd Place
Andrew Hinton 76, Scott Schroeder 80,
Head Coach Gus Mehallis, Sam Nowak 88,
Alex Avalon 86 and Conor O'Callaghan 84

The **AHS girls' soccer team** and **Coach Jason Bibza** took the title of District Runner-up and Finalist to end their season. They advanced farther than any AHS Greenmen girls' soccer team ever has in post season! Congratulations on an amazing season!

Coach **Chris Gentile** took the **AHS boys' soccer** program to a new level last season by earning a third straight district title and advancing to the Regional Final for the first time. They capped their tremendous season by playing hard in their State Final Four appearance, eventually losing after a hard fought double overtime game to Sylvania Southview!

The Greenmen 2012-13 football team boasted two All State First-Team players. **Zach Smierciak** was first-team All-State at linebacker and **Patrick Dougherty** was first-team All-State at offensive tackle.

Zack Quinn runs with the ball.



Fans of the Greenmen Football Team braved the cold temperatures to cheer them on as they were given a police/fire escort out of the high school. They were headed for the State Final Four game against Toledo Central Catholic.



We are very proud of our **Greenmen Football Team** and their coaches, **Bob Mihalik, Brian Wervey, John Calcei, Mark Dingman, Nick Kukarola, Jay Price, Vic Ricketts, and Chad Murawski**. Their appearance in the State Final Four this past season was their second consecutive time and the third time in five years! It was also the 8th straight appearance in the state playoffs, which is the longest streak for any high school that competed in the playoffs. Way to go!



Aurora Greenmen Football Coach Bob Mihalik holds the award he was given in honor of winning his 100th game.



The Greenmen Football Team congratulated Coach Bob Mihalik on his 100th win.

Other CVC Accomplishments: **Girls Tennis** - CVC Champions, **Boys and Girls Cross Country** - Third In CVC, **Volleyball** - Sectional Finalists, **Girls Golf** - Third in CVC.

The **Sylvan Learning Center** donated \$100 to the Leighton School Boys on the Run program. New this year, Leighton Guidance Counselor **Cynthia Curry** has started the **Boys on the Run** athletic running program similar to her self-esteem building **Girls on the Run** program.

PERFORMANCE SCORE RANKS AHS AS 6TH HIGHEST IN STATE OF OHIO

The Ohio Department of Education has recently announced the high school Performance Index (PI) scores, which are partially based on the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT). Aurora High School students have once again excelled with a PI Score of 112.1, which

ranks it as the 6th highest high school in the state. With this score, Aurora High School ranks as 3rd highest in Northeast Ohio with Solon High School first with a score of 113.1 and Hudson High School coming in fifth at 112.2.

Although our district's PI scores put us at the top in the state and surrounding areas, we spend much less per pupil (\$10,947) than Solon Schools (\$13,387) and the Hudson School District (\$13,671).



IB Program – Continued from p. 1

Aurora School Board President Gerald Kohanski said, “US colleges and universities have greatly expanded their recognition of the IB program over the past decade to the point where college credit for IB courses taken in high school is granted on the same level as AP courses. Many of the executives where I work who were stationed overseas were

thrilled that they were able to enroll their children in IB schools in countries like China where their classmates would be the children of international diplomats. They felt that their kids were getting an outstanding education that would enable them to compete in the global marketplace. IB truly provides a well-rounded, very high quality education.”

Bennett stated, “Certainly it’s a program for our kids that want to be in a high level program. Just like AP, IB is there if you want to broaden your horizons, think differently ... it’s a program we’d love to have you in at Aurora High School.” To learn more about the IB program, please contact Mike Roberto or our AHS Guidance Counselors.

IB PROGRAM – A GRADUATE’S PERSPECTIVE**Julie Kirk**

(AHS and recent University of Notre Dame graduate):

“I believe that that (IB program) helped set me apart when I applied at the University of Notre Dame. It showed just how much I was motivated, interested in education, and kind of wanting to explore a lot of different things.”

“In high school, and going into college,

I was very interested in pursuing some kind of international career... understanding other world cultures,”

“Coming out of high school ... we (the IB class) were very, very close knit. It was a great experience because we knew what each other was going through, we were all going through the same assignments.... There was very much a community feel of we’re all going to get us through this together.”

Jacob Calcei

(2005 AHS graduate)

“This was one of the most rewarding decisions I’ve ever made. The IB program challenged me in ways that many of my peers taking honors or AP classes were never tested. It is a unique program that not only challenges the students in the classroom, but also opens them up to a new way of thinking about the world and helps them to grow as a person.”

Safety – Continued from p. 2

procedures are regarded

as advanced by other school districts and they often come to us for school safety advice. Superintendent Russ Bennett said, “The Aurora Schools are currently regarded as a cutting edge district in providing for the safety and security of our students by other school districts in Northeast Ohio.” However, we are constantly re-evaluating our safety practices and The Board of Education has established several new safety procedures to help insure student safety.

These new procedures are meant to monitor and decrease the number of visitors to our buildings. During an ordinary school day, school building staff members deal with an array of situations. These interruptions, whether they are to drop off a homework assignment or lunch, pick up for a doctor appointment, or drop off forms, while nonetheless important, distract personnel from tending to their everyday tasks, which include safety precautions. In a recent study conducted at one of our elementary buildings, it showed that a



visitor arrived every 3-4 minutes. For this reason, we are now asking visitors to please follow the procedures listed below:

- The “buzzer systems” at all school buildings will be moved to the outside of the main entrances. All parents and visitors will need to “buzz” the secretary and provide information regarding the visit before gaining entrance.
- To drop off items, please place the item on a designated table or cart that will be located in the airlock, the space between the two entrance doors at the main office of each school building.
- Items that are dropped off should be clearly marked with the names of both the student and their teacher on it. These items will then be distributed in a timely manner.
- If you need to meet with a staff member, please call ahead to make an appointment.
- Classroom parties will be more structured with an accurate listing of parents involved that must sign in and out and entry and exit times will be enforced.
- Eating lunch with your child should

be done sparingly. Please call the secretaries to let them know about your visit so that they will be expecting you.

Along with these changes, Bennett mentioned that, “We are encouraged that our meetings with city leaders may also lead to the hiring of an additional SRO. The city government has been extremely supportive of our schools and understands the need to provide proper security to both our citizens and our schools. This collective support and collaboration goes a long way in providing the security we all desire.”

Bennett explained, “We hope that these requests will be received with the caring yet concerned spirit in which they are conveyed. We are trying to balance having the ‘Aurora feel’ with the need to implement even tighter security measures. We ask parents to be patient and helpful as we make appropriate adjustments.” There is currently a school safety video running on the district website at www.aurora-schools.org. We hope everyone will find the time to view this important information. He added that, as always, “we invite your comments and ideas as we move forward with these initiatives.”

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**A HAUNTED HALLOWEEN
BREWED UP SOME FUN**



**VETERANS DAY
WALL OF HONOR**

• Craddock School students celebrated Veterans Day 2012 with a wall display to honor past and present U.S. armed service members. The wall featured photos and information about service members that students brought in. Thank you to all of our military personnel and families, past and present, for serving our country.

