

2016

Amelon Elementary School

Ms. Duke

Principal

eduke@amherst.k12.va.us

434-528-6498 (office)

434-929-1547 (fax)



Welcome to School Year 2016-2017!

We are back and gearing up for a tremendous school year. We once again ask that you continue to be a positive, pro-active part of your child's education. You can do this in a variety of ways that include, but are not limited to:

- volunteering (background checks must be done at the central office)
- participating in parent teacher conferences (dates on our Calendar of Events)
- knowing general student handbook content (school policies/handbook)
- visiting the school webpage (<http://amelon.amherst.k12.va.us/>)
- helping your child with his/her homework, providing a quiet place to study/read
- assisting us in protecting the educational block (8:40 – 4:00)
- encouraging your child to aim for "the stars" as he/she is special and unique

Together, we can inspire and empower our young people to be productive citizens and lifelong learners. Thank you for working with us, making this the "place to be"!

As you receive this newsletter each month, we will provide you with information that will enhance your knowledge of our school "happenings" and provide recognition of our wonderful programs provided for the boys and girls of Amelon.

We do have wonderful new staff members this year and they are:

- Mrs. Burks (Fourth Grade Language Arts, History)
- Mrs. Cabell (Child Nutrition)
- Mrs. Cooper (Special Education Resource)
- Mrs. Hamby (Instructional Assistant)
- Mr. Murry (Day Custodian)
- Ms. Overstreet (Child Nutrition)
- Mrs. Peters (Office Secretary/Bookkeeper)
- Ms. Sites (Third Grade Math, Science)
- Ms. Tilley (Third Grade Math, Science)

AMELON BULLDOGS ARE...

Prepared, **A**ct Responsible, **W**ork hard, and **S**how Respect!

Mrs. Copp
Amelon Assistant Principal

We are Happy to have our students back at Amelon Elementary School!

The classrooms and hallways are filled with children and that is what we like to see.

Our summer construction was an ongoing project and now our school has bright new lighting, and a quiet, energy efficient air conditioning and heating system.

We are so fortunate to have the construction behind us and to begin our new school year with such an improvement!

Getting back into the swing of a new school year can be a big change for many children.

Here are some parent tips for making this transition smooth:

- Check your child's school agenda for homework assignments, important information, and teacher communication.
- Have your child set a realistic goal for this school year such as read 30 books or learn the multiplication facts.
- Have your child pack his/her backpack for school before he/she goes to bed.
- Put your child's name on personal items such as a lunchbox, backpack, and jackets.
- Visit the Amelon website and the teacher pages for school information and updates.
- Get involved. We welcome you to be a part of the Amelon Family in any way you can.



We are looking forward to a wonderful year of growth and learning!

Mrs. L. Walker
Amelon School Counselor



Welcome back Amelon Bulldogs! Let's have a great year together!

What is the school counseling program?

The school counseling program at Amelon will continue to consist of classroom guidance lessons attended by every student once per month, small group counseling as needs arise, and individual counseling with students.

Confidentiality is a vital part of any school counseling program, and I will adhere to that ethical guideline in my program here. In order to build rapport and relationships with students, school counselors do not discuss what a student shares unless the student is hurting him or herself, the student discloses that he or she wants to hurt someone else, or someone else is hurting the student.

How do I get in touch with Mrs. Walker?



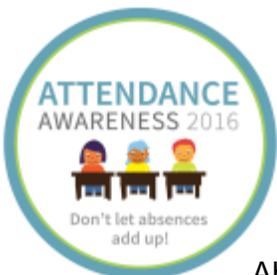
If a student needs to speak with me, he or she can sign the clipboard hanging in the hallway outside of my office or ask his or her teacher about visiting my office. I can also be reached by phone at Amelon at 434-528-6498 then press 2, as well as by email at walker@amherst.k12.va.us.

What else is happening in the school counseling program?

Some other exciting things to look forward to in Amelon's school counseling program are: the Student of the Month program recognizing students who exhibit good character, Attendance Awareness Month in September, Bullying Prevention Month and Red Ribbon Week in October, Mix it Up Day, and Career Day.

Attendance Awareness Month – September 2016

Regular school attendance beginning even in kindergarten is *essential* to students' success in school. School has just begun but now is the time to make regular attendance a priority and build those good habits!



Did you know...?

Children can suffer academically if they miss 10% of school days, or just 18 days in a school year! That is *just one day every two weeks* and it can happen before you know it!

Absences, excused or not, still represent lost time in the classroom and lost learning opportunities. Let's make attendance a top priority!



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

In an effort to support and encourage good character in our students, Amelon will recognize a Student of the Month from each homeroom. These students will be chosen based on showing the Character Counts character trait of the month and will receive a personalized certificate and a small award. The following character traits will be recognized during the 2016-2017 school year:

Caring

- Be kind
- Be compassionate and *show* you care
- Express gratitude
- Forgive others
- Help people in need

Fairness

- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Be open-minded; listen to others
- Don't take advantage of others
- Don't blame others carelessly

Citizenship

- Do your share to make your school and community better
- Cooperate
- Stay informed; vote
- Be a good neighbor
- Obey laws and rules

Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do
- Persevere: keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control; be self-disciplined
- Think before you act – consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your choices



Trustworthiness

- Be honest
- Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- Be reliable – do what you say you'll do
- Have the courage to do the right thing
- Build a good reputation
- Be loyal – stand by your family and friends

Respect

- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant of differences
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements