September 2021

Dear New Avoca Family,

Welcome to Avoca West, we are looking forward to having your family be a part of our wonderful Avoca community! While many of our typical events have been placed on hold as we continue to navigate the pandemic, we want you to know we are eager to meet you. Attached to this letter, please find ways you can connect with other Avoca families, and stay up to date with the latest Avoca news. Additionally, you are invited to participate in our Buddy Program. New families will be paired with our veteran families to serve as a valuable resource for all things Avoca. These mentors can answer questions about the school and community to assist with your transition. **If you are interested in receiving a buddy, please email Melanie Morrow (**[**stein.melanie@gmail.com**](mailto:stein.melanie@gmail.com)**) with your name, children(s) name(s), and grade level(s) by October 15, 2021.**

**Helpful Resources**

**Avoca District 37 Website:** The district-wide website includes valuable and reliable information surrounding the Avoca Community Preschool, Avoca West Elementary, and Mary Murphy Middle Schools. Visit here for more information: <https://avoca37.org/>

**Avoca West Parent Teacher Council (PTC)**: Our version of a PTA (including parents, teachers, and staff) who are dedicated to fostering the educational, social, and overall well-being of each student. We are proud to be a resource for teachers, students and families, and to offer a variety of opportunities for you to get to know your school community.

* **PTC Membership & Dues:** This low $25 per family yearly donation allows the PTC to sponsor social and educational events for students, families, and the community; funds special school programs, and supports innovation grants for Avoca teachers and staff that directly benefit Avoca students. **To pay your annual dues, visit here:** <https://www.avocaptc.org/ptc-resources-ptc-membership-dues>

or

<https://avocaptc.membershiptoolkit.com/home>

**Stay informed and up-to-date on all things surrounding the Avoca PTC through these various digital platforms:**

* Visit the Avoca PTC website here: <https://www.avocaptc.org/>
* Visit our New Families Welcoming Page: <https://www.avocaptc.org/new-families>
* Follow the Avoca PTC on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avocaptc37> (@avocaptc37)
* Follow the Avoca PTC on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/avocaptc/> (@avocaptc)
* *Avoca West & Marie Murphy Families (SD37) Facebook Group*: This private Facebook group includes families of students at Avoca Preschool, Avoca West Elementary, and Marie Murphy schools. Not in official page for Avoca School District 37. Join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AvocaD37Families>

**Avoca District 37 Newsletter:** Delivered weekly to your email inbox.

**Avoca District 37 School Directory:** This online directory is available to paying members of our PTC. Access it here: <https://avocaptc.membershiptoolkit.com/home>

**Spirit Wear:** Show your Avoca and Viking spirit on-site and on-screen. *Sale ends 10/1/21*. Proceeds benefit the Avoca PTC. Shop here: [**https://spiritshack.net/**](https://spiritshack.net/)

\* If you haven’t already, please reach out to your room parent(s) to be included in classroom communications. Not sure who your room parent is? Contact your child’s teacher or email: stein.melanie@gmail.com

Looking forward to a successful school-year. We are excited you have joined us!

Sincerely,

Melanie Morrow

Avoca West PTC Vice President