

## Policies, Calendar and Directions

### 2011-12

**FEES:** AMS is not supported by any other organization and so relies almost entirely on tuition income to maintain an exceptionally low student-staff ratio of 2:1.

Boarding student tuition (includes room and board) for 2011-12 will be \$22,945. Day student tuition will be \$11,945. A non-refundable enrollment deposit of \$1,000 (\$500 for day students) is due upon signing of the Parent Financial Agreement. 60 percent of tuition is due by August 15. The remaining 40 percent is due by December 15. A discount of 2 percent is applied if payment for the entire year is received by August 15. Monthly payments may be made from August – May, with a 10% charge.

If this payment schedule causes undue hardship, a request for an alternative payment schedule may be submitted to the School Finance Committee.

**SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE:** We are able to offer need-based scholarships to some students. Scholarship applications are available upon request and include processing through School & Student Services online.

**THANKSGIVING** is an important event at AMS. It is celebrated the weekend before Thanksgiving. Students' families are invited to join us. Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled on Friday afternoon. Our Annual Scholarship Benefit Auction happens that evening. Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for Saturday around noon and is followed by a student theatrical performance. All students are expected to be here for the activities through Saturday. There is unscheduled time throughout the weekend, giving families time to spend together away from school.

**EXPENSE ACCOUNT:** Boarding students need an expense account deposit of \$250 to cover costs of transportation, required school trips, emergencies, extras, etc. For day students the amount is \$100. Families will be asked to deposit additional money if this amount is insufficient.

**INSURANCE:** The school does not carry medical insurance on students other than in our automobile coverage. For students who do not have any health insurance, we require that parents purchase student

accident coverage available through the school. Others may want to purchase it for additional coverage.

**ALLOWANCES:** The need for spending money is relatively slight at AMS. \$20 to \$25 per month is adequate to cover costs of toiletries, school supplies, entertainment, etc.

**DAMAGE POLICY:** Students are responsible for repair of damages and replacement costs.

**TELEPHONE:** We suggest that student and parents work out an agreement about use of the phone before school begins in the fall. Students are not allowed to charge long distance calls to the school phones but must use a calling card.

**TRANSPORTATION:** As there is no bus or train service in this area, anyone arriving or departing AMS goes by car. With advance arrangements we are usually able to provide a shuttle service for students. Charges to cover mileage costs of school vehicles are as follows:

Asheville bus station or airport.....	\$40
Burnsville or Spruce Pine.....	\$10

**PETS:** We recognize that the responsibility of caring for a pet can be a significant aspect of growing up, but too many pets at AMS can be a problem. We ask that students do not bring pets.

**LAUNDRY:** The school will provide facilities for one load of laundry per week. All items should be clearly marked with the student's name!

**JUNK FOOD:** We provide a balanced, healthy, largely vegetarian diet and strongly discourage the eating of junk food at school. The cooperation of parents is appreciated. Please send home-made treats, nuts, and other healthy snacks in care packages rather than candy.

**WEEKENDS AWAY:** Weekends are an important community time at school, with some planned activities, boarding house work projects, and much informal socializing. To maintain this sense of a seven-day school community, we ask that unless students are on a 5-day boarding schedule, they take no more than one weekend per month away from school.

**ALLERGIES AND MEDICATIONS:** This information will be included on your child's medical forms, which will be given to house parents and taken on all trips. House parents for boarding students who take medications or have allergies should be given written instructions from the student's parents. Parents are responsible for providing a student's prescription drugs to his/her house parents and for being sure an adequate supply is available in advance of trips. Prescription drugs can be called into a Burnsville pharmacy, with the parent credit card on file or mailed directly to the house parents at the school.

**VISITING SCHOOL:** We are glad to have families and friends visit. Arrangements should be made in advance with the house parents or School Office. We expect visitors to share in the life of the school while they are here, including our work and play, meals, and the observance of school rules. Our housing and other facilities are limited and rustic. In order to cover our expenses, we ask the following: \$4 per person for meals; \$5 per person for lodging. Several motels and an inns are located close by.

**DIRECTIONS:**

From ASHEVILLE: Take I-26 north to Exit 9 for US 19E North. Turn right at the end of the off ramp, drive east through Burnsville to Micaville. Turn right onto NC80 South and go about six miles. Turn left onto Seven Mile Ridge Road, cross the bridge and turn right at the stop sign onto Hannah Branch Road (a gravel road). It is one mile to the AMS campus.

From MARION (I-40): Take NC 226 north to US 70 west. Take US 70 west to NC 80 north. On NC 80, go 7 miles past the Blue Ridge Parkway, then turn right onto Seven-Mile Ridge Road and right again onto Hannah Branch Road. One mile to AMS!

From JOHNSON CITY: Take I-26 South. Take Exit 9 to 19E. Drive straight on 19E to Burnsville. Go through Burnsville to Micaville. Turn right onto NC80 South and go about six miles. Turn left onto Seven Mile Ridge Road, cross the bridge and turn right at the stop sign onto Hannah Branch Road (a gravel road). It is one mile to the AMS campus.

**2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

To preserve flexibility, a major asset of a small school, AMS reserves the right to announce calendar changes. All students are expected to leave school for the full duration of all vacations.

ALL STUDENTS ARRIVE: August 28

THANKSGIVING FESTIVITIES: November 18-19

THANKSGIVING BREAK: November 20-27

WINTER BREAK: Dec 16 – Jan 16

FIELD TRIPS: February 27- March 16

SPRING BREAK: March 16 - April 1

GRADUATION: May 26