



Building LifeSkills

MARCH
Positive Identity



Young people have a strong sense of their own power, purpose, worth, and promise.

40 Key Building Blocks to Help Kids Succeed

Search Institute has identified 40 building blocks of healthy development that help young people grow up healthy, caring and responsible. These building blocks are referred to as "assets." Local schools have united in identifying monthly "asset" themes for schools and communities to help kids reach their potential.

Avon High School promotes positive identity

- I like myself just the way I am.
- I am a capable person who does many things well.
- I believe my life has a purpose.
- I can do useful, important things with my life.
- I have dreams and goals for myself.
- I have a good future ahead of me.
- I do well when my parents and teachers encourage me.

MONTHLY THEMES

- March.....Positive Identity
- April.....Citizenship
- May.....Volunteerism
- June.....Support
- July.....Constructive use of time
- August.....Commitment to learning
- September.....Decision-making
- October.....Respect
- November.....Responsibility
- December.....Caring
- January.....Fairness
- February.....Trustworthiness

Co-Sponsors of this page:

- Lorain County Children Services
- Lorain County Board of Mental Health
- Lorain County Domestic Relations Court



by Kelly Gonzalez

At Avon High School, positive identity means respect for self and respect for others. Students who recognize their own purpose and worth should also recognize and respect the purpose and worth in others, especially those they care about—which is the underlying message that Avon High School’s Teen Street Team wants to give to its peers.

Teen Street Team at AHS championed this

“I originally brought Teen Street Team to AHS to promote the importance of a healthy relationship. Purple Ribbon Week really sets the tone at Avon High School for students to think about where they are in their relationships and to never settle for anything less than they want.”

*Megan Harris
Senior
Avon High School*

cause of positive identity and healthy relationships by observing Purple Ribbon Week from February 24-28. This Purple Ribbon Week raised domestic violence awareness and recognized Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Members of Teen Street Team shared information about abusive behaviors and focused on the rising incidence of abusive behavior in teen relationships. Throughout Purple Ribbon Week, members encouraged students to sign links pledging not to become statistics.

Each student who signed the pledge received a purple ribbon to wear, and his or her link became part of the longer chain displayed in the commons. Throughout the week, Teen Street Team also accepted donations for Genesis House, Lorain County’s shelter for victims of domestic violence.

Teen Street Team is in its second year at AHS, brought to Avon by now-senior Megan Harris, pictured left. Megan’s experience serving on the Lorain County team gave her the inspiration for creating a branch in Avon, where she knew more people wanted to get involved.

Meg McIntyre of Genesis House came to AHS to educate new Avon members about their roles as positive examples and how to refer students in worrisome situations to adults.

Students work under the guidance of guidance counselor Sherry Pietch and teacher Kelly Gonzalez, and from a staff perspective, Gonzalez said, “If our goal is to not only teach but also nurture our students so that they can go out into the world and be their best selves, we need to be supporting our students beyond the core curriculum. Teen Street Team promotes safe and healthy relationships from a young age, and the message is spread by the students to their peers. Students are reminding each other to be good to themselves and the people they love, and that’s awesome.”

For more information about bringing Teen Street Team to your community contact: Genesis House at 244-1853.