



Parent Prospector Press

To focus instruction for increased student achievement.

On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future

February 11, 2019 - February 16, 2019

Principal Update:



by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**

As mentioned in last week's Prospectors Press, this is a big year for AJHS as we work to renew our AdvancEd Accreditation. On April 30 & May 1 we will be hosting a team of six (6) outside educators who will be conducting an Engagement Review. The Engagement Review is a two (2) day event designed to measure the degree to which AJHS has engaged in their ongoing improvement process over the past (5) years.

A part of this ongoing improvement process is obtaining feedback from all of our stakeholders. This includes students, parents, staff and community members. We would love to have your input to help guide us through this process.

Please take a moment to fill out the parent survey found at the link below.

<http://www.advanc-ed.org/survey/public/8638725>

Best Regards,

Dr. Angela Chomokos

Our Administrators & Counselors

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------|------------------------|
| Dr. Angela Chomokos | <i>Principal</i> | Bria Jenkins | Counselor Grades 9/10 |
| Ms. Tanya Loftis | <i>Assistant Principal</i> | Valerie McFarlin | Counselor Grades 11/12 |
| Ms. Sue Campbell | <i>Assistant Principal</i> | Jillian Conway | Psychologist |
| Mr. Tim Vanda | <i>Special Services/EVIT</i> | | |
| Ms. Dawn Schwenkert | <i>Athletic Director/Teacher StudCo Advisor</i> | | |

Prospector Weekly Calendar

Monday, February 11

8:00 am Prospector Admin Meeting Front Office

Tuesday, February 12

6:00 pm School Board Meeting District Office

Wednesday, February 13 **Early Release**

11:40 am Early Release
 3:00 pm Varsity Baseball Scrimmage Florence
 6:30 pm City of AJ Reception Culinary

Thursday, February 14

4:00 pm Varsity Softball Scrimmage Cienega

Friday, February 15

All day Choir/Band AMEA Regional Honor Festival Camelback High School

Saturday, February 16

All day EVIT SKILLS USA Region 3 EVIT Main
 All day Choir/Band AMEA Regional Honor Festival Camelback High School
 10:00 am WGAZ Festival for Drumline & Guard Tucson
 6:00 am NJROTC Drill Meet Phoenix

Important Dates to Remember:

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| February 13 | Early Release | April 15 | Academic Awards Night |
| February 18 | No School | April 19 | No School |
| February 21 | Bus Evacuation | April 24 | Scholarship Night |
| February 25 | Site Council Meeting | April 25-26 | The Lion King Jr. |
| February 25-March 1 | IE Benchmark Posttest | April 30 - May 1 | AdvancEd Visit |
| February 26 | Blood Drive | May 6 - 8 | IE Biology Posttest |
| March 1 | Movie Night - Davis Field | May 6 | 42nd Annual Senior Scholarship Night |
| March 2 | NJROTC Car Show | May 7 | Band Concert |
| March 5 | ABODA Festival | May 8 | Early Release |
| March 6 | Choir Concert | May 9 | Orchestra Concert |
| March 8 | Powder Puff Volleyball | May 10 | Beginning Drama Productions |
| March 9 | SAT | May 10 | Yearbook Signing Party |
| March 9 | Drama Club Broadway Bound - NY | May 11 | Prom |
| March 11-22 | Spring Break | May 15 | Choir Pops Concert |
| March 25-April 19 | AIMS Science Testing | May 17 | Senior BBQ |
| March 29 | Lock-in | May 23 | Commencement (Graduation) |
| April 1-26 | Spring AzMerit | | |
| April 10 | Early Release | | |
| April 12 | Mr. Prospector | | |

Field Trips

2/15/19 & 2/16/19
2/16/19
2/16/19

AMEA Regional Festival
WGAZ Festival Mountain View (Tucson)
Drill Meet

Choir & Band
Winter Drumline & Guard
NJROTC

If your field trip is not listed here contact Kathy Allyn at kallyn@goaj.org

Fundraisers

Student Council will be selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts before school on Valentine's Day 2/14. Come and get your hot donuts for \$1 before they're gone. We will have one table set up by the gate of the student parking lot and one table set up by the gate leading in from the bus ramadas.

AJ Parks and Recreation helps host a Downtown Running Walking Series to help our athletic teams raise monies for individual sport teams. 100% of the proceeds benefit our Athletic Teams. It is \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth. All participants get a medal and if you participate in 3 or more events, you earn a t-shirt. We have two events remaining for this school year:

Girls Basketball: 3/2/19

Boys Basketball: 4/6/19

Check in is at 9:00 a.m. and the run/walk begins at 9:30. Both events occur at Flatiron Park.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our 21st Annual NJROTC Benefit Car and Motorcycle Show. The event will be Saturday, March 2, 2019 from 10:00a - 3:00p. Anyone interested in entering a vehicle or making a prize donation can contact Lisa Schroeder at 928-460-0331 or Daniele Darnell at 602-418-6633.

If your fundraiser is not listed here contact Kathy Allyn at kallyn@goaj.org

General Information:

IMPORTANT EVIT TRANSPORTATION CHANGE EFFECTIVE MARCH 25

All students traveling to EVIT Main campus or EVIT East campus will have a new pick-up and drop off location starting March 25. In an effort to provide the best safety procedures for our AJ/EVIT students, the busses will now depart from the AJHS front office gates near the ROTC building. On March 25th all students must have an ID card with EVIT credentials to exit campus and load onto the EVIT busses. The times will remain the same departing AJHS at 11:15 and returning by 3pm depending on traffic. New permission slips are being created and will be required to be on file asap. **More information will be added to this each week.**

Student Council Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenckert**

AJHS' quarterly Blood Drive is coming up on February 26th, 2019 and is open to the public. Get a form from any Student Council member or from the Stuco Lunch table. You can also follow the link to sign up online @ <https://bloodhero.com> (Sponsor Code: Prospectors). Those who sign up and successfully donate will be automatically entered into a Raffle for a Senior Shirt (priced at \$12) or a Prospector Lanyard (Priced at \$7). Save a life and donate blood. Hope to see you there!

Bragging Corner

HUGE THANK YOU !!!

Adison Vargas & Faye Stanly for being upstanding PROSPECTORS...

These young ladies noticed a cafeteria clip board and money bag and returned it to the main office. Students were rewarded by the cafeteria staff with a free lunch of their choosing :-)

Congratulations to our Women's Honor Choir and our Varsity Choir! Women's Honor Choir received a Superior rating and our Varsity Choir received an Excellent rating at the NAU Jazz/Madrigal festival last week. Way to go singing Prospectors!

Have Bragging News--please share!

This will allow us to recognize the many accomplishments of the Prospectors family. Send information to achomoko@goaj.org

9/10 Academic Update

by **Ms. Tanya Loftis**

GRADES, please make sure you are reviewing your grades and taking care of both current and eligible make-up assignments, projects, tests/quizzes. Do **NOT** wait to address your concerns with teachers.

- Continue to dedicate 15-30 minutes a night to study or complete homework.
- Utilize "Lunchtime Tutoring", the first 25 min. Of your 45 min. Lunch
- **Get a pass for lunch time tutoring...**

Monday & Wednesday:
Tuesday & Thursday:

English & Social Studies
Mathematics & Science

**arrange with your teacher*
**arrange with your teacher*

11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

2019-2020 Course Selection is now complete

We have wrapped up student course selection for the 2019-2020 school year. Please ask your student or log in to your ParentVue to see the courses they have selected. If you have any questions please contact your student's grade level counselor or administrator.

If you have questions about your students upcoming senior year and their graduation status please contact our Junior/Senior counselor Ms. McFarlin.

Celebrate your year with the purchase of a yearbook

To order your yearbook click the link below:

https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1001689/Apache-Junction-High-School/2019-Yearbook/2018070704194395070/CATALOG_SHOP/?utm_content=TOP-CTA-BUTTON&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=YBK_MER1469_YBA_HOLIDYGFT&utm_source=exacttarget&utm_term=Trigger%20Overflow&campaign=193015

AJHS has a proud tradition of offering a high quality yearbook for students to celebrate their high school years. Producing this type of quality yearbook is an expensive endeavor. We would like to always be able to offer this type of yearbook to our students. Selling copies of the **yearbook** is the most important source of the program's income.

Celebrate your Senior with a Senior Ad in the Yearbook

Did you know you could celebrate your senior and their high school accomplishments by placing a senior ad in the yearbook. Yearbook ads are a great way to celebrate student success and milestones and reflect on the person your student has become. Show your pride and support your school at the same time.

There are a variety of options and prices for you to choose from:

\$125.00 - Full Page

\$80.00 - 1/2 Page

\$50.00 -1/4 Page

The deadline to place your ad in the yearbook is January 31, 2019.

Visit the Josten's website to design and place your ad today.

<http://jostensadservice.com?REF=A00218800><<http://jostensadservice.com/?REF=A00218800>>

Counseling Corner

Attention JUNIORS: Dr. Chomokos is working on funding to be able to offer the **SAT** at no cost for interested **JUNIORS**. The test will be offered **at AJHS on Tuesday April 9th** during the school day. If you are interested, we are placing a sign up sheet at the Bookstore counter in the office. Please sign up as space will be limited to the first 100 students. Remember to visit www.kahnacademy.org to prepare for the test. According to the College Board, students who use Kahn Academy for 20 hours to practice for the SAT score an average of **115 POINTS HIGHER!** If you took the PSAT in October, please make sure you have picked up your score report so you can review questions you missed. They can be picked up from Mrs. Johnson in the College & Career Center.

Central Arizona College - Superstition Mountain Campus is having an Open House February 12 and February 28 from 6pm to 8pm for 8-12th grade students and parents! They will be having presentations on Promise for the Future, Registration, Financial Aid and navigation of the college. It is a great opportunity to make sure you or your student is on track with The Promise of the Future Scholarship Program, and Dual Enrollment. They will be giving away \$200 Scholarship Raffles and other prizes!

Grand Canyon College is coming February 28 during 3rd-5th hour. If you are interested in meeting with them please sign up in the front office or email rjohnson@goaj.org.

Scholarships available - American Legion Aux #27 Scholarship has extended their deadline to February 22. Follow the link <https://az01901895.schoolwires.net/Page/5566> to use the generic application. Please turn in to Ms Farlin or Ms Johnson in the front office.

Central Arizona Tall Society gives away \$250 scholarship to seniors that meet the height requirements. Below is the link for more information and application. <http://www.tallphoenix.org/scholarship.html>

Neely Foundation is granting a \$3000 scholarship a year up to 4 years to one high school senior that meets the qualifications. It can be used towards a college education or technical training.

http://neelyfoundation.com/assets/neely_2015scholarshipapplication.pdf

Seniors that are being raised by elderly parents or grandparents and are helping care for them, The Caring.com Scholarship is awarding two \$1500 to be used towards books or tuition.

<https://www.caring.com/caregivers/scholarships-for-student-caregivers#the-caring-com-scholarship>

UCB is offering thirty two scholarships to people living with epilepsy, their family members and caregivers pursuing higher education. <https://www.ucbepilepsyscholarship.com/>

EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

IMPORTANT EVIT TRANSPORTATION CHANGE EFFECTIVE MARCH 25

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Culinary students will be competing in SKILLS USA Region 3 competition at EVIT main campus on Saturday Feb 16th. Students from EVIT main campus and AJHS culinary will compete in this cooking competition with others schools from our region.

The competition is judged on areas of professionalism, technique and cooking skills and is timed. A panel of industry judges evaluates each contestant awarding scores in each area.

Skills USA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Skills USA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 13,000 school chapters in 54 state and territorial associations. More than 14,500 instructors and administrators are professional members of Skills USA.

Culinary Students will also be catering a reception for the City of AJ. We will be preparing a reception menu of finger foods for 100-150 people. Reception begins at 6:30 in the Culinary building cafe area. The city of Apache Junction will hold the annual State of the City event on Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Apache Junction Performing Arts Center, located on the Apache Junction High School campus at 2525 S. Ironwood Drive. Mayor Jeff Serdy will play host to the event, which will spotlight the many achievements in the city over the last year and provide a look ahead to 2019 through an exciting multi-media presentation.

Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

Congratulations to Ethan Wright for taking 4th in the State Wrestling Tournament this past weekend in Prescott Valley. Congratulations to Gibson Limongello for taking 5th in the State Wrestling Tournament! Great job guys!

Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Soccer team for once again making it to the State Playoffs! What a great way to end the season!



Apache Junction High School
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Apache Junction, AZ 85120
(480)474-3980 phone (480)982-3787 fax
Office Hours: 6:30am - 3:00pm