



Parent Prospector Press

To focus instruction for increased student achievement.

On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future

September 10, 2018 - September 15, 2018

Prospectors Update:

by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**



Excitement is in the air as we quickly approach our Homecoming festivities. By bringing back some of the lost traditions such as *The Parade* and *The Bonfire*, we hope to reignite the deep-seated feelings of belonging that AJHS has always held. Traditions are a very important part of our school and community. These traditions help to develop a sense of connection, bringing people together who share a common interest. Events such as these become part of our long-lasting memories; helping to shape the beliefs and values we hold for our community.

This year, the Homecoming calendar extends over a two week time period beginning September 14 with the Powder Puff Football game serving as the official KICK-OFF, followed by Homecoming Spirit Week; Homecoming Parade & Homecoming Dance; the Bonfire and then the grand finale where the Prospectors take on Washington High School in a battle on the football field. See ***Important Dates to Remember*** listed below.

On a different note, we have worked very hard to hire and retain teachers who have the appropriate background, experience, and credentials for his or her teaching assignment. As stated in an earlier letter, we have done some shifting within our math department to ensure that our students are receiving the best educator possible for their instruction. At this time, we are very pleased to announce that Dr. Schnebly will be joining the AJHS math faculty. He will begin his teaching assignment on Monday, September 10th.

Dr. Schnebly holds a Bachelors Degree (BA) in Math Education & German, a BA in Human Biology, a Masters Degree in Sports Science and Rehabilitation and a Doctoral Degree in Chiropractic Medicine. He is a certified mathematics teacher and is eager to get started at AJHS. Dr. Schnebly will be teaching Algebra I, and Algebra II, taking the over the reins for Mr. Rhodes, who will continue to work as a substitute for AJUSD. I would like to thank Mr. Rhodes, who is an experienced English teacher for his hard work with our math students. His contributions to the education of our students have been many. He will continue to work toward his mathematics certification and may at some time make the full shift from teaching English to teaching mathematics.

Please know that there is a lot of thought and planning that goes into staffing decisions. These changes are always made with the best interest of our students and their education. Both Mr. Rhodes and Dr. Schnebly are committed to doing everything possible to make this transition as seamless as possible.

Best Regards,

Dr. Angela Chomokos

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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 StuCo Advisor</i>		

Prospector Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 10	Benchmark Testing Math & ELA	
8:00 - 10:00 am	Prospector Admin Meeting	Dr. C Office
3:00 - 7:00 pm	Girls Golf vs. Combs	@ Combs
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Tuesday, September 11	Benchmark Testing Math & ELA	
3:00 - 7:00 pm	Boys Golf vs. Williams Field	@ Williams Field
5:45 - 8:15 pm	Swim vs Gilbert Classical	@ Gilbert Classical
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Wednesday, September 12	1/2 Day Early Release	
	Benchmark Testing Math & ELA	
11:00 am - 6:00 pm	Boys Golf @ East Valley Invitational	Las Colinas Golf Club
3:30 - 7:30 pm	Girls Golf vs Carl Hayden	@ Carl Hayden
4:00 - 7:00 pm	Volleyball vs Arcadia	@ Arcadia
5:00 - 6:00 pm	Cross Country vs. Valley Christian & Maricopa	Prospector Park
6:00 - 8:00 pm	Fresh. Football vs Estrella Foothills	@ Estrella Foothills
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Thursday, September 13	Benchmark Testing Math & ELA	
4:00 - 7:00 pm	Volleyball vs. Marcos de Niza	@ Marcos de Niza
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Swim vs. Gilbert Christian & Arete Prep	AJ Pool
6:00 - 8:00 pm	JV Football vs. Estrella Foothills,	Davis Field
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Friday, September 14	Benchmark Testing Math & ELA	
	9th Grade Hearing Screening	World Hist.
6:30 - 7:10 am	Faculty Meeting	9/10 Building
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Powder Puff Football Game	Davis Field

Important Dates to Remember:

September 12 Early Release	September 27 Bonfire
September 14 Powder Puff FB game	September 28 Early Release
September 17-21 Homecoming Spirit Week	September 28 Homecoming FB Game
September 22 Homecoming Parade	October 1-12 Fall Break
Homecoming Dance	October 18-19 Adv. Drama Performance
September 26 Choir & Orchestra Concert	October 24 Early Release
Picture Retakes	November 12 No School
September 27 Early Release	November 14 Early Release

November 21-23	No School	March 6	Choir Concert
	Happy Thanksgiving	March 8	Drama Productions
December 12	Early Release	March 11-22	Spring Break
December 17	Band Concert	April 10	Early Release
December 19	Choir Concert	April 19	No School
December 20	Orchestra Concert	April 24	Scholarship Night
December 21	End of Semester (Early Release)	April 25-26	Drama Performance
December 24-January 6	No School	April 30 - May 1	AdvancEd Visit
	Winter Break	May 7	Band Concert
	Happy Holidays	May 8	Early Release
January 16	Early Release	May 9	Orchestra Concert
January 21	No School	May 10	Beginning Drama Productions
January 30-February 1	Musical	May 15	Choir Pops Concert
February 13	Early Release	May 23	Commencement (Graduation)
February 18	No School		

Field Trips

Monday, September 10 Grand Canyon University College & Career Center

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

Fundraisers

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

General Information:

Student Council Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

Homecoming is around the corner! Student Council has been super busy getting ready to celebrate alumni and present students. Here is a snapshot of this whirlwind month. Come out and support!!!

September 14th: Powder Puff Football

- The game starts at 7p
- \$3 or 3 non-perishable food items
- Homecoming Court will be announced and Nominees for King and Queen will be revealed

September 17th - 21st: Spirit Week

- Monday: Mime Day
- Tuesday: Twin Tuesday
- Wednesday: Wild Wednesday (animal print)
- Thursday: Circus Thursday (red and white)
- Friday: Vine/Meme Day

September 22nd: Parade and Homecoming Dance

- Parade: 9a - 10a
 - Maps will be included in next week's Prospectors Press
- Dance: 8p - 11p in the North Gym
 - Theme: Carnival
 - Single: \$20 Couple: \$35 Tickets at the door: \$25

September 27th: Bonfire

- Festivities begin at 6:30p
- Bonfire at 7:00p
- Bring your own chairs or blankets

September 28th: Assembly and Football Game

Bragging Corner

Recently I was shopping at the Fry's Supermarket in AJ. I needed some assistance and luckily an assistant store manager happened to approach me at that time. She kindly found the item I needed and at the same time she noticed I had on a school shirt. She asked me if I worked at AJHS, my reply was yes I did. We chatted some more and then she said her son attended AJHS. I said, yes we've met before ~ she said that her son had regained his desire to learn and she had received positive communication from his English teacher Ms. Boutelle. She was so glad that AJHS has been such a positive place for her son!

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**

Benchmark Test 9/10 - 9/14

Students will be completing their first Benchmark Testing in Math and English Language Arts (ELA) for the 2018-19 school year. This assessment is conducted to check student progress as compared to Benchmark assessment completed at the start of the year.

PROSPECTORS it is very important that you put forth your best effort when completing Benchmark tests. Teachers will be reviewing testing data and making decisions about where they will need to speed your instructional time and energy. No one enjoys speeding a 55 minute class period on material they have already mastered. BORING!!

Help your teachers to make good instructional decisions by giving an honest effort on this week's Benchmark test so they can get an accurate picture of your knowledge and skills.

11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

Applying for College

Some of you have been asking about the process of applying to college. Here are a few tips to help you get started.

Applying to college, career school means more than just filling out forms. For a successful college application, you first need to understand each school's admission requirements, gather information, meet deadlines, and pay any necessary fees. Plus, each school has different application requirements and deadlines, so it's important to get organized.

While the application process may seem a little overwhelming, you can use the following information to get ready and figure out your next steps.

[Narrow Your Application Choices](#)

[Research Admission Requirements Carefully](#)

[Develop a Timeline or To-Do List](#)

[Consider Applying Early](#)

[Application Tips](#)

[Special Considerations](#)

Arizona State University

This is a great place to start the process and “get your feet wet”. Here is a link to ASU step by step process for enrollment: <https://admission.asu.edu/freshman/apply>

Counseling Corner

Sophomores and Juniors, we are excited to announce that the **PSAT** will be offered at AJHS on October 24th **during** the school day. To register, please pick up a blue registration form at the Bookstore desk in the main office. The cost for the test is **\$25**. Once you have paid for your test, you will receive a study guide. **The registration deadline is September 10th.**

For students interested in the ACT, please see Mrs. Jenkins for a FREE study guide.

The Greater Phoenix National College Fair will take place Sunday, Oct. 21, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Phoenix Convention Center. Sponsored by the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), the Greater Phoenix event -- which is free and open to the public -- offers prospective students the opportunity to connect with hundreds of colleges and universities in one location. The Phoenix Convention Center is located at [100 N. 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004](#).

Participants are encouraged to register for the Fair at GOTOMYNCF.COM in order to receive fair details, avoid lines onsite, and to share contact information with selected schools. Registration is free.

The Conservatory of Recording Arts & Sciences will hold an open house for area high school juniors and seniors and their parents/guardians on Thursday, Oct. 18, from 7 to 9 p.m. at its Gilbert Campus, [1205 N. Fiesta Blvd](#). CRAS offers its audio engineering students an industry-leading curriculum and award-winning Instructors. The open house will introduce you to the world of audio engineering and include a tour of the CRAS facility. Admissions and financial aid experts will be on hand to answer questions.

EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

The Athletic Department is looking for someone to keep the scorebook for our volleyball games. The position pays \$11.08 per hour. If interested, please contact Belinda Buhrig at bbuhrig@goaj.org or call 480-982-1110 extension 2312.

What's the Score?

Sport	Opponent	Freshmen	JV	Varsity
Football	Vista Grande	W	(ALA) W	39-33 W
Girls Golf	Tempe			W
Boys Golf	Superstition Cup Inv. Tourney			Placed 8th Harrison~~~ placed 17th overall

Girls Cross Country				
Boys Cross Country				
Girls Volleyball	Vista Grande HS			3-1 W
	Desert Edge HS	0-2 L	0-2 L	2-3 L Great match
	Poston Butte HS	1-2 L	0-2 L	0-3 L
	Coconino Classic Tourney			0-2 L 0-2 L 2-1 W 1-2 L
Girls Swim/Dive	Marcos De Niza & Skyline	2nd		
Boys Swim/Dive	Marcos De Niza & Skyline	2nd		



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