



Parent Prospector Press

To focus instruction for increased student achievement.

On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future

October 15, 2018 - October 20, 2018

Principal's Update:

by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**



I hope everyone had a wonderful fall break and took time to relax and rejuvenate. Reflecting back over the first quarter of the school year, I am proud of our many accomplishments. As a school, our athletic teams have proven to be highly competitive with a number of individuals setting the mark for others to follow. Our Chess team, Band, Choir, Orchestra and Theater students are all actively competing and/or performing.

The Administrative Team has been working on the refinement and implementation of various policies and procedures to more closely align to state, federal and local governance, as well as to the Arizona Trust and Retention requirements. As a team we are working on or have already updated the following areas:

- Club Advisors Handbook
- Field Trip Manual
- Coaches Handbook
- Review of course guide and course offerings
- Threat Assessment Procedures
- Student Study Team
- Academic Intervention Programs
- Freshmen success review process

It has truly been a busy fall for all of us at AJHS. Remember as we move forward into the winter sport/activity season, I encourage all students to explore various activities, both academic and extra-curricular. Remember, learning is the ultimate form of personal growth. Staying involved helps to build a sense of belonging while building a strong school community.

The vision of Dr. Anderson, Superintendent AJUSD and the Governing Board has driven the positive vision and purposeful work in identifying areas of refinement and success. Their oversight of the District Strategic Plan and its implementation has given the District direction as we move forward with a clear vision for growth and improvement.

I look forward to continuing our focused work of improving the social and academic growth of our students. It is truly rewarding to be a part of such a community-based school where all stakeholders take a vested interest in the success of the school and its students.

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, October 15

7:30-9:30 am	Facilities	CCC conference room
--------------	------------	---------------------

Tuesday, October 16

11:00 am	Josten's Senior Cap and Gown Presentation	PAC
4:00, 5:00, 6:00 pm	Volleyball Senior Night vs. Glendale	AJHS North Gym
4:00 pm	Swim @ Cactus	Cactus High School
7:00 pm	AJHS Booster Club Meeting	11/12 building

Wednesday, October 17

6:00 pm	JVB Football @ Glendale	Glendale High School
---------	-------------------------	----------------------

Thursday, October 18

8:00 am	Swim @ Charger Invitational	McClintock High School
4:00, 5:00, 6:00 pm	Volleyball @ Cortez	Cortez High School
6:00 pm	JV Football vs. Glendale	Davis Field
7:00 pm	Willy Wonka Production	PAC - AJHS

Friday, October 19

6:30-7:10am	PLC Faculty Meeting	9/10 Building
7:00 pm	Willy Wonka Production	PAC - AJHS
7:00 pm	Varsity Football @ Glendale	Glendale High School

Saturday, October 20

8:00 am	Swim @ Craig Cummins Invitational	Skyline Aquatic Center
All Day	Band @ Williamsfield Invitational Competition	Williamsfield High School
All Day	NJROTC Academic Competition	Moon Valley High School

Important Dates to Remember:

	October 16	Josten's Senior Cap and Gown Presentation	November 12	No School
	October 18-19	Willy Wonka - Advanced.	November 14	Early Release
Drama	October 22-24	Writing Benchmarks in English	November 21-23	No School
	October 23-24	Senior Cap and Gown Orders		Happy Thanksgiving
	October 24	Early Release	December 12	Early Release
	October 29	Bus Evacuation	December 17	Band Concert
			December 19	Choir Concert
			December 20	Orchestra Concert

December 21	End of Semester (Early Release)	March 11-22	Spring Break
December 24-January 6	No School	April 10	Early Release
	Winter Break	April 19	No School
	Happy Holidays	April 24	Scholarship Night
January 16	Early Release	April 25-26	Drama "Lion King Jr"
January 21	No School	April 30 - May 1	AdvancEd Visit
January 30-February 1	Musical~Wizard of Oz	May 7	Band Concert
February 13	Early Release	May 8	Early Release
February 18	No School	May 9	Orchestra Concert
February 21	Bus Evacuation	May 10	Beginning Drama Productions
March 6	Choir Concert	May 15	Choir Pops Concert
March 8	Drama Productions	May 23	Commencement (Graduation)

Field Trips

October 20	Williams Field High School (AzMBA)	Marching Band
October 20	Academic Competition - Moon Valley HS	NJROTC

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

Fundraisers

The Drama Department at Apache Junction HS would like to invite you to a "World of Pure Imagination." On October 18 & 19 @ 7PM in the PAC. Tickets are available at the box office the night of the show. Adults are \$5.00, students are \$3.00. Come early and purchase pizza catered by Bella's Pizza starting at 6PM.

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

General Information

(Benchmark testing and a late start for seniors on 10/23/2018)

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

Next Tuesday we will be having a late start day for our seniors as our freshmen through juniors are taking their Benchmark tests from 7:17-9:15. Testing locations will be available later this week.

WRITING BENCHMARKS - English 9, 10 and 11

Monday, October 22, 2018 - Multiple Choice Portion - Completed in regularly scheduled English classes

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 - Essay Prompt - Modified Schedule/LATE START FOR SENIORS

On Tuesday, October 23, 2018, students in English 9, 10 and 11 will take the writing portion of the English benchmark. Students taking English 9, 10, or 11 will test from 7:15 am - 9:15 am and then follow a modified schedule for the remainder of the day. Students will attend all of their classes following the testing block.

Tuesday will be a late start day for any Senior not currently registered in English 9, 10 and 11. Seniors will report to school at 9:05 am.

Any seniors who need to ride the bus to school will ride the bus as they normally would and then report to the library during the testing block.

The schedule for **Tuesday, October 23, 2108**, will be as follows:

	Start	End
Testing Block	7:15 am	9:15 am (no seniors except those testing)
1st hour	9:21 am	9:56 am
2nd hour	10:02 am	10:37 am
Lunch	10:37 am	11:17 am
3rd hour	11:23 am	11:58 am (EVIT students will miss 3rd hour)
5th hour	12:04pm	12:39 pm
6th hour	12:45pm	1:20 pm
7th hour	1:26pm	2:00 pm

Writing Benchmark #1

Our first writing benchmark of the year is rapidly approaching. Students in grades 9-11 will participate in this two-part assessment the week of October 22nd - 26th. Students will take a multiple choice assessment followed by a written assessment. Teachers will use the data from these assessments to help guide their instruction. Below are the genres each grade will be testing in and what the requirements are for highly proficient learners.

Writing Genres 2018-2019 Grades 9-11

Grade 9

Benchmark 1

9.W.02: The Highly Proficient student can write highly effective informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Benchmark 2

9.W.01: The Highly Proficient students write highly effective arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence; introduces strong and precise claims, develops strong claims and counterclaims fairly, and uses precise words and phrases.

Grade 10

Benchmark 1

10.W.02: The Highly Proficient student can write an effective informative/explanatory essay that examines and conveys complex ideas clearly and accurately through the effective selection of details/facts/quotations, organization and analysis of content.

Benchmark 2

10.W.01: The Highly Proficient student can write a strong and highly effective argumentative essay that develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, providing effective supporting evidence.

Grade 11

Benchmark 1

11.W.02: The Highly Proficient student can write highly effective informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, analysis, and formatting of content. Benchmark 2

Benchmark 2

11.W.01: The Highly Proficient student can write highly effective arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Student Council Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenckert**

Homecoming has come to a successful end. The Bonfire was a blast, the assembly got everyone pumped and it ended with a victory over Washington! Until next year alumni!!

Bragging Corner

- ❖ THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU to The Arthur's, The Bohl's, and The Bartley's for the generous donations of wood for the Homecoming Bonfire!
- ❖ We couldn't have done Homecoming without the support and involvement of Apache Junction Parks and Recreation. Thank you, Liz Langenbach, to you and your crew for all of the help!
- ❖ Thank you to Fry's Food and Drug for the flower donation for the Homecoming Dance.
- ❖ Thank you again to Jodi Ehrlich for making the amazing sashes for our Homecoming Royalty.
- ❖ Choir and Orchestra had their first concert of the year and it was fantastic. They truly put on a show for the audience! Orchestra also received their first **excellent** at the festival on Friday!
- ❖ YOUR MARCHING PROSPECTORS TOOK FIRST PLACE OUT OF 12 SCHOOLS AT THE University of Arizona! We also received awards for outstanding general effect, music performance, and percussion performance!
- ❖ Will Lohman was chosen as the Pinal County Player of the Week!
https://www.pinalcentral.com/casa_grande_dispatch/local_sports/pinal-prep-performer-of-the-week-willi-am-lohman/article_9d27c4a6-45ca-5c12-9306-e2d3bd81cb6e.html
- ❖ Great Job to everyone on the Assembly today. The announcers did very well, they could be heard clearly. The Band did amazing, the Cheer and Football did amazing. ROTC did amazing, and the Anthem was done very well. It was one of the best that I have been to so congrats to everyone. Including of course StuCo!! (message from Mr. Angell, dittoed by all!)

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**

Hope you enjoyed your break and are ready to get rolling!!

1. Get organized, separate folders for each of the core classes (Math, Science, History, English).
2. Complete EVERY assignment!!!
3. Dedicate 10-20 minutes a night to study or complete homework.
4. Utilize "Lunchtime Tutoring"

Monday & Wednesday:	English & Social Studies	11/12 Building
Tuesday & Thursday:	Mathematics & Science	9/10 Building

These little improvements might make a big difference at the end of the semester, on December 21st.

11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

Applying for College

If you are looking for a smaller environment to start college, we have a great community college right here in Apache Junction. Central Arizona Community College offers a variety of programs for your first two years of college in a beautiful setting. If you are interested in learning more about the requirements for enrollment or in applying for admission, here is the link <https://centralaz.edu/admissions/application-process/>.

Counseling Corner

During the month of September, the counseling team met with all students (grades 9-12) during English classes to work on their Education Career Action Plans (ECAP). Parents, please ask your student to show you what they completed on the Arizona Career Information System (AZ CIS) website. The website has assessment tools and information about employment, occupations, and educational options.

If your student is unable to log-in or was absent for a class session, they can make an appointment with Ms. McFarlin for assistance. It is a state requirement that students complete an action plan prior to graduation.

Weekly Career Focus: Caterpillar Technician Training, AAS Degree 72-hour training

High demand field with opportunities for travel.

Salaries can range from **\$32,000 - \$70,628**

For more information: www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept2/caterpillar/
(offered at Main and Red Mountain Campuses)

EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

Please be watching this section as EVIT is preparing to be on the AJHS campus in the near future to discuss program options and registration for 2019-2020 school year. EVIT will offer presentations and on-site tours before December. All important dates will be listed in this section very soon.

Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

DID YOU KNOW? That AJHS offers a couple of different ways to get into home sporting events? Here are some options rather than always having to remember to bring money with you to the games:

SEASON PASSES: Fall, Winter, or Spring - \$50 admits two adults & two children

ANNUAL PASS: All seasons - \$100 admits two adults & two children

ACTIVITY CARD: For students only; \$25 to attend all home sporting events for the year.

If you have any questions please contact Belinda Buhrig (bbuhrig@goaj.org; 480-982-1110 ex 2312)

Winter tryouts will be here before you know it. Athletes will not be able to try out without completing an Athletic Packet. Athletic packets can be picked up in Ms. Buhrig's office, online at ajhsprospectors.org, or now athletes can register through *Register An Athlete* on the website as well. Students that participated in a Fall sport, do not have to complete another packet. If you have any questions please contact Belinda Buhrig (bbuhrig@goaj.org; 480-982-1110 ex 2312). AJHS participates in Pay to Play. Each team is \$150 per season.

What's the Score?

Sport	Opponent	Freshmen	JV	Varsity
Football	Washington	47 - 12 (W)	BYE	41-14 (W)
	Dysart	55-29 (W)		55-34 (W)
	Cortez		60-14 (W)	63-0 (W)
Girls Golf Boys Golf	Dobson & Maricopa			2nd & 4th
	Saguaro & Marcos de Niza			1st & 2nd
Boys Golf Boys Cross Country	Maricopa & Combs			1st, 4th, 5th, 7th & 8th
	Williams Field & Higley			5th, 7th, 12th, 13th & 15th
Girls Cross Country	ALA - Gilbert, Mesa High & Dobson			2nd
Boys Cross Country	ALA - Gilbert, Mesa High & Dobson			1st
Girls Volleyball	Glendale	2-0 (W)	2-1 (W)	3-0 (W)
	Cortez	0-2 (L)	2-1 (W)	3-0 (W)
	Washington	2-0 (W)	2-0 (W)	3-0 (W)
	Combs	--	--	3-0 (W)
	Dysart	0-2 (L)	2-1 (W)	0-3 (L)



Apache Junction High School
 2525 S. Ironwood
 Apache Junction, AZ 85120
 (480)474-3980 phone
 (480)982-3787 fax
 Office Hours: 6:30am - 3:00pm