



# Parent Prospector Press

*To focus instruction for increased student achievement.*

*On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future*

October 29, 2018 - November 03, 2018

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## Principal's Update:

by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**



RE: Halloween Day at AJHS

Halloween is described by Wikipedia as "a yearly celebration observed in a number of countries on 31 October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows Day. It initiates the triduum of Allhallowtide, the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints (hallows), martyrs, and all the faithful departed believers. Within All hallow tide, the traditional focus of All Hallows' Eve revolves around the theme of using "humor and ridicule to confront the power of death." In America, Halloween has become a time, surrounded by children trick-or-treating, costumes, jack-o'-lanterns, haunted houses and social gatherings.

We recognize that many of our students still enjoy the festive celebration that Halloween brings, as well as the fun they experience with their friends. The Student Council students have requested that the AJHS Administration allow the Prospectors to be allowed to wear costumes on Wednesday, October 31~~Halloween Day. It is my intention to honor this request and allow our students the opportunity to start a new tradition; one that is fun spirited yet allows teachers to maintain their regular lessons and instruction.

While it is not required that students wear costumes, for those who do participate, we are establishing the following guidelines:

- All costumes must adhere to our regular dress-code requirements
- No face-painting or masks, all students faces must be recognizable
- Costumes cannot mock any race, religion, faculty member, or another student.
- Props or extra items are not permitted and should be left at home

Please note that these requirements are intended to maintain our safe and orderly educational setting. If a student's costume is found to be inappropriate, the student will be asked to remove the costume and/or be sent home. The wearing of a costume is intended to enhance the school spirit and is a fun event driven by our Student Council.

Remember, we do ask that the students leave the ghosts, goblins, masks, face-paint, scary simulated weapons, etc. at home. T-shirts and attire that is Autumn or Halloween themed, and is within dress code, would also be acceptable for this day. Those who do participate will be receiving a treat from Student Council for showing their school spirit.

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 StudCo Advisor</i>		

# Prospector Weekly Calendar

### Monday, October 29

7:30a - 10:00a	Facilities Meeting	Principal's Conf Room
9:30a - 10:00a	Bus Evacuation Drill	Bus Loading Zone

### Tuesday, October 30

9:00a - 5:00p	Volleyball State Competition
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### Wednesday, October 31

11:00a - 2:00p	<b>Halloween</b> Cross Country Sectionals	Gilbert Crossroads Park
	<i>Division 3, Section II: Wed., Oct. 31, 2018, 12:35 p.m., GCP</i>	

### Thursday, November 1

8:00a - 1:00p	Club Pictures	PAC
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### Friday, November 2

7:00a - 6:00p	Swim State Competition	Phoenix Country Day School - Dady Aquatic Center
7:00 pm	Football State Competition	Salpointe HS Tucson

### Saturday, November 3

7:00a - 6:00p	Swim State Competition	Phoenix Country Day School - Dady Aquatic Center
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### **Important Dates to Remember:**

October 29	Bus Evacuation	Winter Break
November 1	Club Pictures	Happy Holidays
November 12	No School	January 16
November 14	Early Release	January 17
November 21-23	No School	January 21
	Happy Thanksgiving	January 24, 25, 31, & February 1
November 30	Talent Show	February 13
December 12	Early Release	February 18
December 17	Band Concert	February 21
December 19	Choir Concert	March 6
December 20	Orchestra Concert	March 11-22
December 21	End of Semester (Early Release)	April 10
December 24-January 6	No School	April 19
		No School

April 24	Scholarship Night	May 9	Orchestra Concert
April 25-26	The Lion King Jr.	May 10	Beginning Drama Productions
April 30 - May 1	AdvancEd Visit	May 15	Choir Pops Concert
May 7	Band Concert	May 23	Commencement (Graduation)
May 8	Early Release		

## Field Trips

11/1/18	Choral Festival (AMEA)	Varsity Choir & Women's Honor Choir
11/1/18 & 11/2/18	Construction Career Exploration	EVIT
11/3/18	Central HS Boys to Men 2018 Festival	Choir
11/3/18	Land Navigation Competition	NJROTC
11/3/18	ABODA State - Hamilton HS	Band

If your field trip is not listed here contact Kathy Allyn at [kallyn@goaj.org](mailto:kallyn@goaj.org)

## Fundraisers

If your fundraiser is not listed here contact Kathy Allyn at [kallyn@goaj.org](mailto:kallyn@goaj.org)

## General Information:

There's little mystery as to what makes one teacher more effective than another...Hattie concludes that "it is teachers using particular teaching methods, teachers with high expectations for all students, and teachers who have created positive student-teacher relationships that are more likely to have the above average effects on student achievement." Decades of research suggest that the following teacher behaviors, which serve as the touchstones for this chapter, distinguish highly effective teachers:

- **Highly effective teachers challenge their students.** Good teachers not only have high expectations for all students but also challenge them, providing instruction that develops high-order thinking skills.
- **Highly effective teachers create positive classroom environments.** One of the strongest correlates of effective teaching is the strength of relationships teachers develop with students.
- **Highly effective teachers are intentional about their teaching.** Good teachers are clear about what they're trying to teach and then master a broad repertoire of instructional strategies to help students accomplish their learning goals. They know not only what to do to support student learning, but how when, and why to do it.  
...Simply nurturing kids and "loving them up" won't produce learning. Nor will simply setting high expectations...regardless of the instructional approach teacher may be using in the classroom - and you'll get mediocre results at best. Put them together and you're bound to succeed...

Goodwin, Bryan; *Simply Better: Doing What Matters Most to Change the Odds for Student Success*, Alexandria VA: ASCD, McREL, 2011, print

## Student Council Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

- Dress up for Halloween on Wednesday and come see Student Council at the cafeteria for a yummy treat.
- One donation of blood, can help save up to 3 lives. There is currently a national shortage of this valuable material. Please consider donating on 11/13 from 8a - noon. See any STUCO member or stop by Mrs. Schwenkert's office in the 9/10 building for a permission slip.

- The ASA High School Tour will be kicking off our BKind Campaign on Monday 11/5. They are a group of professional BMX riders with a message of NO Hate.

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## Bragging Corner

**Congrats Prospector Band~~We are proud of you!!**

*From Ms. Chappel:*

*Based upon the Band's Saturday performance, the Marching Prospectors qualified for the Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association (ABODA) State Marching Band Festival! We will be performing on Saturday, November 3rd at Hamilton High School. Our performance time is 10:00 a.m.*

Prospectors Football is once again **4A ~~ Black Canyon Region Champs!** This is a Repeat of last year for Back to Back titles! Great Job 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](mailto:achomoko@goaj.org)

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## 9/10 Academic Update

by **Ms. Tanya Loftis**

### **Arizona Laws 36-798.03.**

Tobacco products are prohibited on school grounds, inside school buildings, in school parking lots or playing fields, in school buses or vehicles or at off-campus school-sponsored events.

Under the provisions of A.R.S. 36-798.03. a person who violates the prohibition is guilty of committing a petty offense.

### **JICG: Tobacco use by students**

The possession or use of tobacco products, tobacco substitutes, electronic cigarettes, other chemical inhalation devices, or vapor products is prohibited in the following locations: *school grounds, school buildings, school parking lots, school playing fields, school buses, and other district vehicles, and off-campus school-sponsored events.*

### **Consequences for use and/or Possession of tobacco on school property**

*\*represented as tobacco use or possession (vaporizer device & liquids)*

1. Off-Campus suspension 5 Days + 90 day Behavior Contract
2. Off-Campus suspension 9 Days + District Due Process Hearing

## 11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

### **Cap and Gown Ordering**

This week seniors took their first big step of the year towards graduation when they ordered their Cap and Gown. If you have a senior and they did not order their cap and gown, they will now need to do so online at [Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com). Packets are still available in the 11/12 building or the bookstore if you would like to view the products before going online. Cap and Gown pickup will be Tuesday, April 23, 2019

### **Graduation**

Seniors please make sure you are checking your grades and attending classes. If you have a D or F, please make sure you are contacting your teacher to get some tutoring help at lunch. It is important to continue to stay focused and on track.

### **Applying for College**

This week's link for continuing your post high school education is for the Chandler Gilbert Community College. I would encourage you to take a look and see if this is a fit for you and your educational journey.

<https://www.maricopa.edu/why-maricopa/colleges/chandler-gilbert>

## Counseling Corner

### **Scholarships are coming in!**

**The Sierra Del Saguaro Association** has offered us 1 scholarship worth \$1000.00 to a graduating senior. There will be an application online under Counseling on the school website.

**Moose International and the Apache Junction Chapter** have a tremendous scholarship and trip opportunity for all grade levels to participate in. The initial qualifying event takes place November 3, here at the Apache Junction Moose. One student if chosen can win \$1000.00 or if they win the national competition \$12,000. For more information see Ms. McFarlin in the Counseling Office.

**The Recovery Village Health Care Scholarship** is open to graduating seniors pursuing a health-related degree program in counseling, social work, nursing or psychology with a focus in addiction counseling or a substance abuse related field. Please visit the AJHS Counseling website for the link to the application.

### **College Board Opportunity Scholarship**

This isn't a typical scholarship program—it isn't just for academic superstars or talented athletes. You don't have to write an essay or fill out an application and there's no GPA or SAT score requirement. Instead, the College Board Opportunity Scholarships reward you for doing what you already need to do when you're applying to college.

You can earn scholarships of \$500–\$2,000 by completing individual college planning steps. The more you complete, the more scholarships you can earn. When you've done all 6 you'll be eligible for the \$40,000 scholarship. Each scholarship is open at certain times of the year, to help you plan your journey:

1. Build Your College List: \$500
  - Get started by exploring colleges you're interested in on BigFuture™.
2. Practice for the SAT: \$1,000
  - Use Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® to get ready for test day.
3. Improve Your Score: \$2,000
  - Show how practice pays off by improving your SAT score.
4. Strengthen Your College List: \$500
  - Make sure your college list has a mix of academic safety, fit, and reach schools.
5. Complete the FAFSA: \$1,000
  - Fill out the free government form to apply for financial aid.
6. Apply to Colleges: \$1,000
  - Apply to the schools you want to attend.
7. Complete Your Journey: \$40,000
  - Complete all 6 scholarship steps to be eligible for a \$40,000 scholarship.

Members of the class of 2020 who are attending high school in the United States, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories can get started in December 2018—sign up to be notified when the scholarships open. If you're in the class of 2021, you'll be able to participate beginning in December 2019.

To find out more, go to [cb.org/opportunity](http://cb.org/opportunity).

For more information check the AJHS website under Counseling.

A big thank you to senior student Dylan Condra who represented Apache Junction High School at the 2018, Pinal County Town Hall on October 18th. He served as a student delegate!

*Career Focus: Social Work* A career in social work requires compassion and dedication to serving vulnerable populations. Earning a Master of Social Work degree can help to provide the knowledge and skill set necessary to embark on a fulfilling career. While growth will vary by specialization, employment of social workers is expected to increase 16 percent from 2016 to 2026. In 2016, the top median annual pay exceeded \$60,000.

## EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

### **Upcoming EVIT Education Foundation Breakfast**

AJHS Culinary Foundations students will be participating in a real experience event at EVIT Main Campus! The East Valley Institute of Technology's Education Foundation (EVITEF) is hosting its annual gourmet fundraiser breakfast on Nov. 8. The breakfast, which is EVITEF's only fundraiser of the year, from 7 to 9 a.m. in the EVIT Culinary Banquet Hall, 1601 W. Main Street, Mesa. The funds raised will provide scholarships for qualifying low-income students. Last year's event raised more than \$95,000 and assisted nearly 200 EVIT students in paying for class fees, uniforms, kits and tools.

The mission of the EVIT Education Foundation (EVITEF) is to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit of promoting excellence in vocational technological education and enhancing educational and employment opportunities for the youth and adults applying, attending, or who have attended the East Valley Institute of Technology. For more information or to reserve a seat, email [evitfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:evitfoundation@gmail.com)

EVIT Culinary and Construction also have some fun and exciting events they are preparing for. The Culinary program is hosting the Mayor's Breakfast with United Way on November 8 at the Apache Junction High School Culinary Dining Room. Mayor Serdy and many dignitaries from our community and beyond will be served an incredible breakfast prepared by the EVIT/AJ students.

The EVIT/AJHS Construction students will be attending the Arizona Construction Career Days on November 1st and 2nd. This event is held at the Arizona Army National Guard Papago Site for two days. All construction students will have an opportunity to meet industry specialists from across the state and beyond. This event allows students to explore the construction industry from the ground up and often leads to new pathways.

## Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

Winter tryouts begin Monday, October 29th for Boys Basketball, Boys Soccer, Girls Basketball, Girls Soccer, and Wrestling. Please see Belinda Buhrig for clearance paperwork if you have not already done this.

**What's the Score?**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>JV</b>	<b>Varsity</b>
<b>Football</b>	Combs	Loss	Loss	54-27 W
<b>Girls Volleyball</b>	Combs	Loss	Loss	Win



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