



Parent Prospector Press

To focus instruction for increased student achievement.

On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future

November 12, 2018 - November 17, 2018

Principal's Update:

by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**



Congratulations to our Students of The Month:

Santiago Gonzales:

"He currently is in APUSH and works hard to complete his work and to do well in class. He participates in all activities, discussions and interactive lecture. He is a busy student due to his outside curricular activities but manages to stand out academically as well." (Ms. Reynolds)

"Santiago is consistently performing at the highest academic level in Marketing Exploration. He is inquisitive, contributes to class discussion, completes work on-time, and his work is of the highest quality." (Mr. Hutzell)

"Santiago is a very determined young man who is a stand-out to the faculty, staff and administration at AJHS. He is determined and consistently strives for the highest level of success~he makes the Prospectors proud!" (Dr. Chomokos)

Mylee Williams:

"I nominate Mylee for being a leader, inside and outside of the classroom. Also she is always enthusiastic, positive and passionate for music and a king student (100% average in the class), and has a very cheerful, positive and friendly personality." (Mr. Bartholomew)

"It is stated over and over by faculty and staff that Mylee is a natural leader. One who leads with a kindness that is admirable by others. She is an all-round good student and is definitely determined to succeed in whatever she does~she makes the Prospectors proud!" (Dr. Chomokos)

Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year:

Mr. Jayson Angell continues to make a substantial impact on the students of AJHS. He consistently displays a deep desire to support all students as he guides their learning in a scholarly and challenging classroom environment. During his lessons, the students are challenged to grapple with the information and draw their own conclusions, driving the learning to a deeper level. This year he has taken on the role of Professional Learning Community (PLC) Team Leader for the math department. In this role, he assists his colleagues with evaluating student data, strategizing instructional practices, and establishing intervention strategies. He recognizes the necessity for assisting new math teachers and has stepped into the role of mentor and in-service trainer for the department. His commitment to the ongoing improvement of the math instruction at AJHS and AJUSD has moved him into a leadership role.

Congratulations to our Classified Employee of the Year:

Ms. Debbie Kent has been a dedicated AJUSD employee for more than 23 years. This year Ms. Kent has been called upon to take on more than usual. She not only works the front desk and helps with attendance, she also supports the administrative team, the registrar office and a variety of school projects. Ms. Kent displays excellent customer service with both her fellow employees and the students and parents of AJHS, she never rests until an issue is resolved. Ms. Kent is eager to take on any task or challenge asked of her and her knowledge and district experience has been invaluable to the staff and students of AJHS. Way to represent the Prospectors Ms. Kent!

Congratulations to our Volunteer of the Year: Have you ever attended an AJHS event and visited the concession stand? If you have you've most likely seen **Ms. Danielle Demauro** behind the counter. Ms. Demauro has spent many hours working tirelessly to support our school and our students. Danielle is the mother to two Prospectors and she is passionate about our community and the impact we as community members can make on our schools. Danielle has been very active throughout the district and is now serving as VP of our Boosters Club. Thank you Ms Demauro for the countless hours you donate to our school!

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, November 12 **Veterans Day ~ No School**

Tuesday, November 13

8:00 am - Noon	Blood Drive	
7:15 - 2:00 pm	Senior Meetings	Senior English Classes
6:00 pm	AJUSD Governing Board Meeting	District Office

Wednesday, November 14 **Early Release**

7:15 - 11:40 am	Senior Meetings	Senior English Classes
12:00 - 3:00 pm	Teacher Inservice	9/10 Building (various locations)
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Girls Basketball Scrimmage @ Verrado High School	

Thursday, November 15

Friday, November 16

3:00 - 7:00 pm	Boys & Girls Soccer Scrimmage @ Safford High School
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Important Dates to Remember:

November 5-30 Fall AzMerit	December 21 End of Semester (Early Release)
November 12 No School	December 24-January 6 No School
November 13 Blood Drive	Winter Break
November 14 Early Release	Happy Holidays
November 21-23 No School	January 16 Early Release
Happy Thanksgiving	January 17 ASVAB Testing
November 26-30 Benchmark #2 Testing	January 21 No School
November 30 Talent Show	January 24, 25, 31, & February 1 Wizard of Oz
December 2 SAT	February 4-6 Writing Benchmark #2
December 3 NHS Induction	February 9 ACT
December 8 ACT	February 13 Early Release
December 11 Broadway Bound-Drama Showcase	February 18 No School
December 12 Early Release	February 21 Bus Evacuation
December 17 Band Concert	February 25-March 1 IE Benchmark Posttest
December 19 Choir Concert	March 6 Choir Concert
December 19-21 Final Exams	March 9 SAT
December 20 Orchestra Concert	March 11-22 Spring Break

March 25-April 19 AIMS Science Testing
April 1-26 Spring AzMerit
April 10 Early Release
April 15 Academic Awards Night
April 19 No School
April 24 Scholarship Night
April 25-26 The Lion King Jr.
April 30 - May 1 AdvancEd Visit

May 6 - 8 IE Biology Posttest
May 6 42nd Annual Senior Scholarship Night
May 7 Band Concert
May 8 Early Release
May 9 Orchestra Concert
May 10 Beginning Drama Productions
May 15 Choir Pops Concert
May 23 Commencement (Graduation)

Field Trips

11/16 - 17/18
11/17/18

State Thespian Festival
ABODA Finals

Drama Club
Band

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

Student Council Update:

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenckert**

- Student Council is running a canned food drive from November 14 - December 14. Please donate canned or non-perishable food items to your 5th hour class. The class with the most items, will win a pizza party.
- Student Council begins its second week of the BKind campaign. Visit the complement booth up by the cafeteria during lunch this week.

Bragging Corner

The Marching Prospectors took 4th place at the AzMBA Championship this Saturday at Campo Verde High School! With 24 bands in division 1A, this was no small feat!

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**

HAVE YOU LOOKED AT YOUR GRADES?

This can be done very easily on your Chromebook. You can access StudentVUE login page via the AJUSD website. Go to "For Student", then "Student Technology resources", scroll down the list to find "StudentVUE log-in. The same username and password that you use to log into your Chromebook will allow you to log into your StudentVUE account. Once logged in you will need to click on Gradebook to see your current class grades. When you click on the class title, it will open up the gradebook so that you can see your scores, specific assignments, tests, and quizzes. [Gradebook quick link](#)

Stay informed on your progress in your classes and remember grading turnaround time is **not** immediate. Teachers are asked to have grades up to date on the **1st and 15th of the month**. ~Be Patient~

If you have questions on your grades please speak with your teacher before school, after school, and/or at lunch. Class time is **not** the best time to address individual grade needs and concerns.

11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

Fall AzMerit Window - November 5- November 30

This week, students enrolled in an **online spring semester** of English 9, 10, 11 and/or Algebra I, Algebra II or Geometry began taking the AzMerit end of course exam. AzMERIT is a statewide test that measures how students are performing in English language arts and math. Although testing is never fun, assessments can be effective tools to support your child's learning. They can tell you and your child's teacher if your child is on track to succeed or if he/she needs to spend additional time learning a topic.

The Spring AzMerit window will be from April 1st - April 26th, 2019, This is the end of course testing window that most of us think of when it comes to AzMerit testing. Students in grades K-12 participate in testing at this time. More information will follow as the testing time draws nearer.

Counseling Corner

We are excited to tell you about **learning support services** offered at CAC Superstition Mountain Campus. High school students may visit the Learning Center for help with academic assignments, computer help and use of computing commons.

Hours are Monday-Thursday 9am-9pm.
CAC Learning Center
805 S. Idaho Rd. Apache Junction

REMINDER: Scholarship Application Day after school on Tuesday, November 13 at 2pm in the library. Come with your chromebook and a pen. Mrs. McFarlin, Mrs. Jenkins, and Mrs. McConnell will be there to help you!

Apache Junction Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship

The Elks National Foundation is proud to announce the launch of its 2019 Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest. The MVS contest is open to any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen. The top 20 MVS finalists nationwide will attend the Most Valuable Student Leadership Weekend from April 11-14, 2019, in Chicago to interview for the top awards of \$50,000, \$40,000 and \$30,000. Runners-up will receive fifth-place scholarships of \$4,000.

The Apache Junction Elks Lodge #2349 also will be awarding three \$5,000 local scholarships to local student applicants who are not selected to receive an Elks National Foundation scholarship. Call 480-982-2349 for more information.

Applications for the MVS contest are due online by Nov. 15, 2018. Go to <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm> to learn more and to apply.

In addition to the MVS awards, the Elks National Foundation also offers:

Legacy Awards which are \$4,000 scholarships for children and grandchildren of Elks members. The Foundation will offer a total of 300 awards in the 2019 contest.

Emergency Educational Grants for undergraduate college financial assistance to children of deceased or totally disabled Elks in the form of renewable, one-year grants of up to \$4,000.

An exclusive scholarship opportunity just for Elks scholars pursuing a medical degree or Osteopathic Medicine.

Go to <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/MedicalSchoolScholarship.cfm> for more information on these opportunities.

HOBY Youth Leadership Camp for Sophomores will be held at ASU West Campus 6/6/19 to 6/9/19. Students will participate in leadership training, gain new skills, experience life on a university campus, and make new friends. Register at HOBY.org using school ID: 11505 and password: gwxctp. Registration **Deadline: December 7, 2018.**

Weekly Career Focus: Computer forensics, or digital forensics, is a fairly new field. They provide many services based on gathering digital information, from investigating computer systems and data in order to present information for legal cases to determining how an unauthorized user hacked into a system. They earn a median salary of \$90,120 per year. The employment outlook for digital forensics examiners and investigators is favorable due to the rapid growth of crimes involving computers (cybercrime). According to the BLS, the related occupation of information security analysts is expected to grow by 18% between 2014 and 2024. A bachelor's degree in computer forensics or a similar area is generally required to earn a position as a computer forensics investigator.

EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

Chef Diana and 35 of his culinary students participated in the annual EVIT Education Foundation Breakfast on Wednesday November 8th. The students prepared and served their culinary breakfast cuisine to over 400 dignitaries including Senator Jon Kyle. The partnership between AJHS and EVIT allows students the real life career experiences that will develop skills for success!

The EVIT Presentation has been changed to December 13th for all freshman and sophomores students in the PAC. EVIT representatives are looking forward to sharing amazing career opportunities during your Junior and Senior year. The best part of the program is that you choose which EVIT program will fuel your passion! All of our 40 plus programs are "Free" with the exception of supply fees that can also be covered with good attendance and grades by the Evit Education Foundation.

EVIT will be here for a Street Team visit on November 27th during lunch. They will be having music from their radio program and host an information table for all your questions.

Attention Sophomores, if you would like to gain a greater understanding of the program you are interested in or to spark a new interest, join Apache Junction on a tour of EVIT on January 14th 9:00am-11:00am. You will need to get a permission slip from your counselor as we will be riding the bus over to the Main Campus.

If you haven't had a tour of EVIT mark down January 26th from 9:00 am to 1:00pm for the EVIT EXPO. This is a great opportunity for you to see the whole campus with family and friends and take a closer look at over 40 Programs. EVIT offers various certifications and licenses for all programs to help you start your foundation for the future. EVIT also has adult programs so if you are a Senior come check out EVIT. The opportunities are endless.

Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenckert**

- Congratulations to the boys cross country team. They finished 28th overall in state with Erik Salas finishing 61st with over 200 runners.
- Congratulations to the girls cross country team with Faith Rutkowski and Makayla Henwood finishing strong.



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