



Prospector Press

To focus instruction for increased student achievement.

On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future

July 30 - August 3, 2018

Prospectors Update:

by **Principal Dr. Angela Chomokos**



The new school year is underway, and we are off to a smooth start. In the past few weeks, we have had a fantastic turn-out for the "Freshman & Freshman Parent Bootcamp," as well as the "Meet the Teacher Night." Being new to AJHS, it was inspiring to meet our students; I quickly discovered that the Prospectors are a group of well behaved young adults who hold a high level of pride in their school.

To assist your student with the expectation at AJHS, our teachers have supplied them with a course syllabus while the administrative team has been preparing for our upcoming distribution of the AJHS Student Handbook and school/district policy orientation. Our beginning of the year challenge is centered around completing our staffing. We are currently pursuing two mathematics teachers, and are actively strategizing the educational strategies for our students before the hiring of said teachers. We are very fortunate that one of the two positions is currently being taught by a certified mathematics teacher.

To assist with the communication information flow from the school to home, we are sending a "Communication Information Form" home with your student. Please watch for these cards, once you have received it, fill it out and return it to school with your student to their 1st-period class.

The first week shows exceptional promise to what will be a very successful school year. At AJHS we continue to support the vision of "To focus instruction for increased student achievement," but this year we have also adopted the motto "On Top of the World and Reaching for the Future." Our goal is to assist our students with staying on top of the world as they strive for high test scores, solid grades, and regular attendance.

Our focus from the start of the day until the dismissal bell is to supply our students with a solid education. Keeping classroom disruptions to a minimum is necessary. Please remind your son/daughter to take all of their essential items with them in the morning. We are unable to interrupt a class to give them lunch money or forgotten items; therefore they will only be called between classes. Student attendance is essential for their academic success; therefore we discourage parents from setting up an appointment during the school day. However, if it is necessary to do so, please make arrangements for your son/daughter to meet you at the attendance office at the beginning of a class period. Especially during their lunch period. This will minimize disruptions to the classroom, as well as alleviate an extended wait time for you.

I feel it is a privilege to be at Apache Junction High School and to work with such an excellent and competent staff. We are committed to ensuring that each student is thriving and has the opportunity to

reach his/her personal goal. We are here for one purpose, your children, our students. I look forward to meeting and interacting with every family who is associated with AJHS.

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 Schwenckert	<i>Athletic Director/Teacher StudCo Advisor</i>		

Prospector Weekly Calendar

Monday, July 30

8:00-10:00 am	Prospectors Adm	Dr. C office
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Tuesday, July 31

7:15-8:20 am	Chromebook Distribution	Designated Classrooms
2:45-3:45 pm	Becoming a Teacher Website Wizard	Rm 188
4:15-5:15 pm	Becoming a Teacher Website Wizard	Rm 188

(These are optional inservice trainings offered by Bethany Ligon, AJUSD Instructional Coach)

Wednesday, August 1

7:15-8:20 am	Chromebook Distribution	Designated Classrooms
2:25-3:45 pm	Getting a Grip on Google Classroom	Rm 188 (Ms. Ligon)
4:15-5:15 pm	Getting a Grip on Google Classroom	Rm 188 (Ms. Ligon)
6:00-7:00 pm	Football Parent Night	9/10 Bldg

Thursday, August 2

Friday, August 3

6:30-7:10 am	Chromebooks active for use PLC (inservice)	9/10 Bldg
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Important Dates to Remember:

August 8	Early Release	November 12	No School
September 3	No School	November 14	Early Release
September 12	Early Release	November 21-23	No School
September 26	Choir & Orchestra Concert		Happy Thanksgiving
October 1-12	Fall Break	December 12	Early Release
October 18-19	Adv. Drama Performance	December 17	Band Concert
October 24	Early Release	December 19	Choir Concert

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

Student Council Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenckert**

Club Rush will occur on Tuesday, August 7th. Students will have the opportunity to see what clubs are currently in existence and get information on how to join. Come out and join the fun!

9/10 Academic Update

by **Ms. Tanya Loftis**

Welcome to the class of 2022 and welcome back class of 2021!!!! Hope everyone had a great summer...

Class of 2022, STUCO has green 2022 class t-shirts on sale for \$10. This is a great purchase to make and can be worn throughout your 4 year high school career on "Class Colors" days. Please see STUCO member or visit room 186 during lunch to purchase your class t-shirt.

Thank you to all for patience as counselors and administration work to to complete schedule change request. Please check your StudentVUE and email for updates and changes.

CHROMEBOOKS, are coming... AJHS students will be receiving their chromebooks this next week. Please remember Chromebooks should be charged every night at home and come to school daily in case, chargers are left at home.

11/12 Academic Update

by **Ms. Sue Campbell**

Welcome back Prospectors. We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready to get started on a fantastic year.

It is important that you begin looking at your transcripts and making sure you have all the classes you need not only for graduation, but for year 13 and beyond. I will give weekly updates on things you can do to prepare yourself for your next steps after high school.

This week's focus will be on ECAP, Education and Career Action Plan. An ECAP reflects a student's current plan of coursework, career aspirations, and extended learning opportunities in order to develop the student's individual academic, career goals and postsecondary plans.

ECAP is a state requirement for graduation and must be completed by all students.

This coming week, log into your ECAP account, <https://portal.azcis.intocareers.org/>, and make sure you are up to date. If you are having trouble logging in please see Mr. Mattausch in the Career Center or Ms. McConnell in the Library.

We will keep you updated on upcoming ECAP deadline dates as the year progresses.

Reminder:

Schedule Changes: Next Friday, August 3, 2018 will be the last day to submit any schedule change requests.

EVIT Update

By **Mr. Tim Vanda**

EVIT is excited to start the new year with two new instructors in Graphic Design and Construction. Please welcome Mickey Glon and Gary Stapley to the AJHS family as they prepare to share innovative programming to the AJ campus. In addition, AJ and EVIT will continue to offer the following foundation classes that will surely motivate and inspire student in culinary, welding, health, graphic design, construction, and anatomy/physiology.

Athletic Update

by **Ms. Dawn Schwenkert**

Sports Tryouts will begin August 6, 2018. The current head coaches can help with any questions you may have to participate:

Football: Coach Vance Miller

Boys Golf: Coach Ed Matlosz

Girls Golf: Coach Candyce Matlosz

Swimming: Coach Terry Hendron

Volleyball: Coach Regan Roach

Students interested in participating in a sport will need to complete an Athletic Participation Packet. Packets are available in the Athletics office and online through the AJHS website.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



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