

Administrator's Report for October

Apache Junction High School

Celebrations/Highlights:

1. Mrs. Leen and Ms. Chung hosted another outstanding choir and orchestra performance for our parents and community.
2. Ms. Chappel and her Prospector Band continually finishing in 1st or 2nd place in competitions.
3. Mrs. Lacerenza organized and proctored the PSAT for 57 sophomores.
4. Our students' ACT, SAT, and Grade Rate scores are higher than the state average.
5. AJHS was awarded the Arizona's Nationally Recognized College-Readiness Examination Pilot Program Grant. This grant will pay for 125 students' SAT exam. We would like to thank Dr. Anderson for sending us the information and Mrs. Lacerenza, our 9/10 counselor who completed the grant in one day due to the "first come, first served" timeline.
6. Coach Vance Miller and his Prospector Football Team are the Black Canyon Region Champions. First in 30+ years
7. Coach Jake Heermans and his Prospector Volleyball Team are the Black Canyon Region Champions. First time EVER!
8. Ms. Andie Chung and 3 of her choir students travelled to Tucson to participate in the University of Arizona Honor High School Choir..
9. Mrs. Sandra Leen and her orchestra students competed in their first ADOBA competition and earned a "good."
10. According to the AZ Bd of Regents - 2016 graduates
 - AJHS - 53% enrolled in postsecondary
 - Skyline - 45%
 - Combs - 44%
 - Imagine Prep - 41%
 - Apache Trail - 14%
11. Remember to stay current by following our social media accounts;
 - a. Facebook: www.facebook.com/ajhsprospectors
 - b. Instagram: www.instagram.com/ajhsprospectors

Cactus Canyon Junior High

Celebrations/Highlights:

- The CCJH Softball team finished undefeated and as league champions again to make the sixth year in a row as champions of the Desert Middle School Athletic League. The team was headed by Coach Bill Wilson and Assistant Coach Heather Maertens.
- We had successful choir and band/orchestra concerts to end the first quarter of school. Students have been working hard and were excited to perform for their families.

- Lisa Schroeder and Mallory Stradling, co-sponsors for NJHS, hosted a Fall Leadership Day Camp for NJHS students. Students participated in leadership activities, community outreach, and made mats for the homeless out of grocery bags. NJHS also hosted a chili cook-off to raise money for families in need this holiday season.
- Student Council and sponsor Jason Davis hosted a successful Halloween Dance for students after school. The PTO and Book Club sold items to fundraise at the dance.
- October professional development at CCJH was focused on student engagement strategies and creating the culture in the classroom for students to want to be engaged and participate in their learning. Each staff member wrote a goal focusing on a strategy they will implement within the next few weeks and analyze at our next PD day in November.

Concerns:

- None at this time

Four Peaks Elementary

Celebrations/Highlights:

- Four Peaks raised just over \$7000 from Cookie dough sales. The money will be used to improve playground facilities and student common areas.
- We have a great opportunity to participate in the Shop With a Jock program this winter for several students in need.
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Concerns:

- None at this time

Desert Vista Elementary

Celebrations/Highlights:

- DVES Fall Book Fair was held during the week of Parent/Teacher Conferences. All net proceeds will go back into the library to purchase additional books and book series at various reading levels..
- PTO Annual Fall Spooktacular was held on October 26th. DVES families enjoyed trick-or-treating in the hallways, playing games, face painting, and walking through the haunted library! The event raised almost \$3000 for our Desert Vista PTO.
- On October 30th, we kicked off our Student Council sponsored Cereal Drive. Through the month of November, we will be collecting boxed cereal to donate to our local Project Help.

Concerns:

- None at this time

Peralta Trail Elementary

Celebrations/Highlights:

- Our Fall Festival/October STEAM Night was a great success. We had over 200 people in attendance and had the support of transportation, NJHS, ROTC, and over 40 people from the AJ/GC community. In addition, we raised over \$2,000 toward the purchase of swings for our playground.

- We currently have \$7314.90 of the needed \$10,000 for swings.
- Student Council has raised/donated \$300 to hurricane Victims
- Our students have raised/donated \$79 for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer <https://www.alexlemonade.org/>
- Our before and after school clubs are going strong!
- Our Scholastic book fair had about \$4,700 in sales which provides about \$1,000 for our Library!

Concerns: None at this time.

Food Service

Celebrations/Highlights:

- Our Mobile Food Pantry has been postponed until January. The United Food Bank is not comfortable opening at the start of the Holiday Season.
- Our first Local Wellness Policy Committee Meeting was held October 24th. It was great to see three community members in attendance with two more ready to attend the next meeting in January. We are assessing the current policy and setting healthy goals for our district and community.

Concerns: None at this time.

Facilities

Celebrations/Highlights: None at this time

Concerns: None at this time

Public Relations

Celebrations/Highlights:

Per my request for funds, Royal Neighbors of America is sending us \$500 for our Feed the Children Program. Also, I received positive feedback about both newsletters and people are being more proactive about submitting story ideas.

Concerns:

We need better quality photographs and I would like to make more use of video. I've ordered a better camera and will be learning how to use it to shoot pictures and video..

Technology

Celebrations/Highlights: None at this time.

Concerns:

Lack of head count in the department and help accomplishing tasks in an efficient/timely manner desired.

Would like to implement a different work order system for both tech and maintenance departments (looking at osTicket, FOSS)

Blade server is end of life, cannot purchase support. If something happens to the chassis, 95% of the services the technology department renders will no longer work. Need to purchase a replacement.

Transportation

Celebrations/Highlights:

October is at its end. We have had a very busy month. We have asked the Elementary Principals if they would mind if we helped them during their fund raisers, and they gladly accepted. Peralta Trail was selling Sweet Bread, we helped sell these items, then on Friday, Oct. 27th, they held their Fall Festival. We brought in some ponies so the children could have pony rides for \$1.00. I believe we raised 38.00 on that. Then one of our drivers chaperoned the Bounce House. Everyone had a real good time.

We are having our Halloween potluck on 10/31.

We are constantly fundraising to build our staff fund for our end of the year chin dig.

We also are currently selling 50/50 tickets. 6/5.00 or 1.00 ea.

We picked our date for our yearly Thanksgiving meal and Silent Auction. Nov. 20th 11:00-2:00 pm. Our Silent Auction is where we gather as much items from our garages, houses and from anyone who wants to get rid of something. One mans junk could be another man's treasure. At 1:00 pm on Nov. 20th., we will auction off the items here at Transportation. All proceeds go to the staff fund. You may start bidding on Monday the 20th in the morning.

We would like to invite the Governing Board members, Dr. Cruz and Dr. Anderson to attend our Thanksgiving dinner. We would really love to have you over.

We are also participating in the Lost Dutchman parade.

Our Strategic Goals on well on their way. Thing are looking up.

Mail slot = Concerns and request is working quite well.

10/30/17 had a meeting with REI video surveillance. I am researching on getting new video cameras for the buses if approved.

Communication is improving.

Concerns:

We are unfortunately losing a couple drivers, and one is on LOA, so we are in the process of interviewing.

Still having concerns with employees gossiping and a lot of bashing on facebook.

Would like to see student pictures updated in Synergy.