



Greater Albany Public
School District

AOS Newsletter

March 2012

Issue 3

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Special points of interest:

- * Important information for graduating seniors on page three.
- * Coin drive competition to help animals at Safe Haven Humane Society
- * See page five for photos of AOS students in action.

A Word from the Principal

Life at Albany Options School is moving forward at a rapid pace. As the year has progressed we have continued to add more programs to help match our students' educational needs. This is a fun and exciting way to enrich each individual students' education.

As you read this newsletter you will see various stories about how our students are making a difference in our community. Whether it is doing a food drive to help

stomp out hunger in our community or working with the animals at Safe Haven, our students are making a difference. These are rewarding and enriching experiences for our students that go beyond the brick and mortar of the school.

Equally heartwarming is how the community has embrace our students. There are multiple non-profit organizations and community members, some of which have requested to remain anonymous, that

have worked hand in hand with our students to serve our community. Several businesses and individuals have been willing to donate things that we need here at school, giving both time and money to help our students and our school be successful.

Everyday I come into the building I am excited to see how our school and community are working together!

Mike Ingman
Principal

Young Adult Reading Class Fights Hunger

After reading the book "The Hunger Games" in Mrs. Guilliot's Young Adult Reading class students are now doing a food drive to help fight hunger.

Fred Meyer's of Albany generously donated 200 empty paper grocery bags that AOS students took around to homes throughout Albany on March 1st. Accompanying each bag was a flyer asking people to fill the bags with any food

they wish to donate, and put the full bags back outside their front doors to be picked up on March 6th.

Students spent time researching community organizations that provide emergency food baskets and decided on donating the food to Fish of Albany.

When all the food has been collected, students will deliver the food to Fish. The food will be used to help fill emergency food baskets for

families throughout Linn County.

Special thank you to
Fred Meyer's of Albany
for donating 200 paper
grocery bags for this
Service Learning
Project and to all those
who donated food!

March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Empty Grocery Bags distributed throughout Albany for Service Learning Project	2	3
4	5 No School!	6 Food Donations picked up by Young Adult Reading Class	7	8	9	10
11 Daylight Savings	12 AOS High School Board Report @ School Board Meeting	13	14 Miners will be here at Lunch for Seniors!	15 End of Grading Period Oregon FAFSA Deadline!!	16 NO School! Teacher Grading/ Work Day	17
18	19 New Grading Period Begins	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 National Gardening Month!	2 Spring Term Classes Begin at LBCC	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Earth Week	17 Hart's Nursery Delivery Day	18	19	20 Global Youth Service Day	21
22	23	24	25 Administrative Assistant Day	26	27	28
29	30 No School!					

Important Information

Attention Seniors!

Miners Graduate Services will be here at lunch on Wednesday **March 14, 2012** to talk to you about:
Caps and Gowns, Graduation Announcements, Stationary, Class Rings, and other Graduation Accessories



Daylight Savings Reminder:

Don't forget to set your clocks **for-ward** one hour on **March 11, 2012!**

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AOS in the NEWS

Please visit the AOS school webpage link **"AOS in the NEWS"** for more articles about AOS students and staff.

<http://www.albany.k12.or.us/aos/news.php>

Spirit Week 2012

March 6th through March 9th is Spirit week at AOS. The Innovative High School student body and staff members will be divided into four teams, Freshman/Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, and Staff.

Throughout the week there will be dress up days and lunchtime competitions that students and staff can earn points by participating in. In addition

all students and staff members will be given a small stack of green cards that say "I Support Albany Options School" across the top. These cards are designed to have family and community members sign to show their support for AOS. Points will be awarded for each card that is filled out and brought back in. The winner of Spirit Week will be announced in next months newsletter.

Spirit Week Dress Up Days

Tuesday: College Day

Wednesday: Dress for Success

Thursday: Famous Person Day

Friday: AOS ROCKS-today is the day to wear lots of green and any AOS apparel you may have.

****All outfits must be appropriate and may NOT violate school dress code.**

English Class Gathers Supplies for Safe Haven Humane Society

This term Miss Kozak's English class read a book called "Straydog." This book depicts the story of an angry, withdrawn teenager who attempts to save a stray dog. While reading the book Miss Kozak arranged to have a representative from Safe Haven Humane Society come to AOS and speak to the class.

Following the guest speaker, students took two class trips out to Safe Haven to play with animals and learn more

about shelter. Safe Haven is a non-profit, no-kill shelter that serves Albany. From July 2010 to June 2011 Safe Haven has saved 1, 539 animals and in the past 35 years they have saved 20,000 dogs.

With the down economy Safe Haven has more animals than ever. In an effort to support the animals that are saved and kept at Safe Haven while waiting for their "forever" homes the students at AOS are having a coin

drive competition and supplies collection.

Two collection jars have been placed at the front of the school; one for dogs and one for cats. Each staff and student gets to sign up for either the "cat" or "dog" team and put any donations they have in the jar for their team. The team with the most money at the end of the competition will earn a pizza party. All money raised will be donated to Safe Haven.

Albany Options School Garden

From the beginning of the school year AOS has been working to create a school garden to serve as an outdoor classroom and learning environment. It has always been a dream to have a school garden and it is finally becoming a reality!

Back in September Lacey Edmiston, a senior at AOS, measured out the garden space and plotted out where we would put the raised beds. Several months later she designed the beds and built them with the Woods Class, which was the start to the AOS school garden.

Now the raised beds are in the garden and the exciting part begins. With the overwhelming support of community organizations, individuals, and donors, all of the pieces have been coming together so that in March we can begin planting in time for an end of the school year harvest.

Next grading period Mrs. Muller will be teaching Ecology, which will have a strong focus on the garden. The garden will serve as a hands-on Service Learning opportunity, where students will take knowledge from the classroom and apply it to the real world.

Produce from the garden will be used in our Foods classes and the school cafeteria. Excess produce will be available to students to take home and will be donated to local organizations.

To promote a "Green" environment at the school, compost bins will be added to the cafeteria and the staff room, which will be broken down in the garden composter and turned into fertilizer for the garden.

None of this would be possible without the support of the community.

Government Class Visits Oregon State Capital

On Monday, February 27th the American Government Class took a field trip to Salem to visit our State Capitol. The students were given a tour of the Capitol where they learned about the history of the State and of the Capitol building.

During the tour the students had the privilege to observe a Legislative Session and watch as bills were passed

and laws were created. Students even had the opportunity to sit in the Governor's chair and have their photo taken. One wrote in a reflection that: "I'm beginning to see politics differently, because I'm learning more and becoming more knowledgeable on politics. I see the State differently because I see they care about the real issues".

Students visited the office of our State Senator,

Frank Morse, who is now scheduled to come visit Albany Options School and discuss issues relevant to the City of Albany. The students will have an opportunity to discuss issues and present solutions with our local representative.



New Electives at AOS

This term Albany Options was very excited to introduce two new elective classes, Music and Art.

Ms. Tverdy, who also teaches Math at AOS, is teaching Music class. The class is focusing on the history of American music, beginning in the colonial days and eventually moving through to modern music of today.

Ms. Johnson, who also teaches art at South Albany High School, is now

teaching two periods of Drawing at AOS. This class is an amazing opportunity for many of our students and is allowing them a chance to express themselves artistically. The walls of AOS are now full of beautiful artwork created by students.

We are looking forward to seeing the outstanding work and knowledge students acquire through both of these new elective classes.

AOS Acts at ACT

This Spring the Albany Civic Theater is putting on a production of "High School Musical." AOS is very proud to announce that after three nights of auditions senior Daniel Naylor and Middle and High School teacher Ms. Mitchell were both cast roles; Naylor as Chad, one of the basketball players, and Ms. Mitchell as a teacher. The musical will hit the stage beginning May 18, 2012.

AOS in Action



An English class visited Safe Haven Humane Society as a Service Learning Project. Pictured above: Tyson Studier



AOS Math class students made Valentines Day cards for the Sunrise Elementary School 4th Grade Class that they tutored as a Service Learning Project earlier this year. Pictured above: Danica Alter-Maxey, Angelica Garza



Students from the Woods Class built raised beds for the future AOS Garden. Pictured above: James Cox, Chance Adkins.



Middle School students planted bulbs in planters as a Service Learning Project for Science. Pictured above: Bayli Roberts

“Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world.”

-Joel A. Barker



Debra Leonor and Caitlynd Bishop stand with Principal Mike Ingman after being honored with Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Congratulations to each of the following students who earned a 4.0 or 3.5 and above GPA. We're proud of you!

4.0 GPA Awards

December 5 - February 2

- ♦ Caitlynd Bishop
- ♦ Angelica Garza
- ♦ Debra Leonor
- ♦ Alyssa Rogers

3.5 GPA and Above GPA Awards

December 5 - February 2

- ♦ Mariam Andrade-Torrez
- ♦ Tahnee Ankarberg
- ♦ Kristen Bumgarner
- ♦ Brittany Newman
- ♦ Abigail Wilson

AOS GED Graduates

Congratulations to the following students who have earned their GED in the past month!

Cody Leth
Josh Lovato
Josh Phillips
Travis Wright

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Visit us online at:

www.albany.k12.or.us/AOS/

AOS encourages students and families to take advantage of the many resources our community has to offer. Below is a list of services and organizations available throughout Linn County that are available to the public.

- **Family Connections:** The people to call for child care, parenting information, family activities and more.....(541)917-4899 or 1-800-845-1363
- **Comcast Internet Essentials:** Affordable internet may be available for families with a child receiving free school lunches.....7-855-846-8376
- **Oregon Health Plan (OHP):** Provides health insurance to qualified citizens, includes dental services.....1-800-359-9517
- **Families and Agencies Coming Together (FACT):** Community resources for families with children in the Albany School District.....541-924-3720
- **Albany Helping Hands:** Emergency shelter, phone, mail, three meals per day, laundry, and showers upon approval: 619 St. SE. Albany.....926-4036
- **FISH Clothes Closet:** Free clothing available; must bring name with current address. 1880 Hill St. SE. Albany.....928-4460
- Call **211** for free and confidential information regarding help with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling and more.

****For more community resources please visit the Albany Option School webpage:**
www.albany.k12.or.us/AOS/

Albany Options School Newsletter: March 2012
Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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