



Albany Options School
Greater Albany Public School District 8J

AOS Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 5

March, 2017

A Word from the Principal

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- ### ROCKS
- * Respect
 - * Ownership
 - * Courage
 - * Knowledge
 - * Safety

We just completed schedules for the final trimester of the school year, which means we're almost two-thirds done with the school year.

With the trimester coming to an end we are excited about several students finishing up their credits for their high school diploma. We are looking forward to another large graduating class this year.

I encourage our students, especially our seniors, to be sure they are passing their classes, earning credits, and tracking what they need to be doing for graduation. It will be here before we know it!

With our short 6-week grading periods, a couple of missed days can negatively impact a students' ability to pass their classes. We want to encourage our students to be here every day. If you are out for sick days or scheduled appointments, be sure to bring in your

notes so your absence can be excused.

Work with your teachers to make up missing work. We have amazing staff who are always willing to help and work with our students.

Students and parents, make sure you are checking Pinnacle. If you do not know how to see your grades online, do not hesitate to come in and ask. We are always happy to show you.

I would like to thank Lindsey Roundy, who served as our English and Social Studies Teacher for Mrs. Harryman while she was on maternity leave. We were so fortunate to have someone of her caliber available to be a member of our little family. Luckily, we still get to see Mrs. Roundy regularly as a substitute in our building.

This year we are looking forward to

a new tradition we will be starting. On March 23rd we will be having our first AOS Day of Service for all of the students in our Innovative High School program.

SAVE THE DATE:
AOS Day of Service is Thursday, March 23rd.

That day every student will participate in a service project throughout our community. Projects will include volunteering at Safe Haven Humane Society, planting trees at LBCC, and starting a school garden at South Shore Elementary School.

This day will be a great opportunity to get our students out and show the community what we already know, that AOS students are the best!

Let's finish out this term strong! I am looking forward to another incredible trimester this spring.



Happy Birthday to Mr. Hunter, who celebrated his 50th this past month!

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Early Release	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Early Release	9	10 End of Grading Period: FINALS	11
12 Daylight Savings Time Starts 	13 NO SCHOOL: Grading Day	14 Start of Trimester 3	15 Early Release	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Early Release	23 AOS Day of Service: School-wide Service Day	24	25
26	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL	31 NO SCHOOL	
Spring Break						

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 SERVICE SATURDAY: SOLV Beachside Cleanup in Newport
2	3	4	5 Early Release	6	7 NO SCHOOL: Staff Develop- ment Day	8
9	10	11 PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY	12 Early Release	13	14	15
16 Easter Sunday 	17	18	19 Early Release	20	21	22
School Volunteer Recognition Week						
23	24	25	26 Early Release Administrative Professionals Day	27	28	

Important Information

CAPS AND GOWNS

Seniors, the deadline to have ordered your caps and gowns is March 24th, 2017, if you plan on walking in graduation. The deadline to pay for them is May 1st.

If you need assistance paying for them see Mr. DeCoster or Mrs. Barker. Order forms are with Mr. DeCoster.

If you do not have a cap and gown you will not be permitted to walk in graduation.

Graduation Slideshow

If you plan on walking at graduation, please bring in the following to school by **June 1st** for the graduation slideshow:

- Baby picture
- Senior portrait (if you took them)
- Any photos from school activities at AOS

Photos should have your name on the back of them and be given to Mrs. Harryman, or be emailed to Mrs. Harryman at:

anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us

DRESS CODE

As the weather begins to warm up for Spring, please be mindful of our dress code at school.

If you have any questions or need a reminder, please review the student handbook or ask a staff member at school.



Staff Honored for Service

Two staff members at AOS received certificates honoring them for their service to education from the school district.

Debra Fewless, who is the first face you see when you walk through our front door, was recognized for completing ten years with our school district.

Fewless is one of our beloved "Front



Desk Ladies," but we all know she is so much more. Fewless takes care of attendance, buses, lunches, you name it!

Mrs. Harryman received a certificate for completing five years with the district. She originally began at AOS as the Business to School Liaison as part of the School Improvement Grant.

During her third year at AOS she was hired on as a teacher.

Pic of the Month



Student's in Ms. Jansen's Speculative Literature English class working together to make plot charts for the *Two Towers*.

AOS Forms Competitive Chess Club

For the first time as a high school, AOS is forming a competitive team!

Students this year have shown such an interest in chess that not only have they formed a chess club that meets once a week to practice and play, but they're also starting



to enter in to competitions. Saturday, February 11th, students from Albany Options School participated in the Chess for Success Regional Tournament

against other high school students from across the State. The tournament took place in Monmouth at

Ash Creek Elementary School.

It was a learning experience for them and also a good chance to connect to other high school students in the area with similar interests.



The students look forward to future tournaments.

Students Visit Portland Art Museum

On Tuesday, February 21st, thirty Albany Options School students visited the Portland Art Museum for the day.

Students spent the afternoon visiting the Asian Art Exhibit, especially the two rooms dedicated to ancient Chinese art.

Students who visited the museum were part of Mrs. Harryman's Ancient Civilizations



history class and Mrs. Gillispie's Art Class.

In the Ancient Civilizations class students had just finished up a unit on Ancient Chinese history. The Portland Art Museum

has one of the largest Han Dynasty art collections, which was an era the students had studied.

Many students wrote afterwards about how amazing it



was to see items made and used as long ago as two thousand years ago in person. For most it was their first time ever visiting a museum.

One student wrote, "The very fact that that much creativity was alive inside a person then, changed my perspective on art. In my opinion art was perfected long ago." Another wrote, "My experience at the art museum made me feel things I didn't know art could."

Students Attend Future Engineers Day

On Tuesday, February 28th, students from AOS loaded onto a school bus and headed to Keizer, where they attended the Future Engineers Day.

While they were there, students had the opportunity to talk with several representatives of the colleges



and universities throughout Oregon, as well as meet engineers and tour their workplace.

One student said that her favorite part was getting to see where they make GPS parts for the military. She commented that this opportunity helped her figure out what kind of engineer she would like to be.



School Board Recognizes Students

On February 27th, three students were recognized as student All-Stars at the School Board meeting at the district office.

Each year, the School Board recognizes exceptional, hard-working students for outstanding academic accomplishments as well as their motivation, perseverance, growth, and school and community service.

The students recognized were Anessa Johnson

(Junior), Amber Scott (senior), and Madison Frederic (senior).



Recipients pictured here with the School Board and Superintendent Jim Golden. From left: Amber Scott and Madison Frederic. Not pictured: Anessa Johnson.

GED Completers

Congratulations to the following students who passed their tests and earned their GED during the month of February:

Julian Ramirez
Ashton Fox
Lauren Hutsell
Sky Merner
James Parr
Abigail Lea
Thomas Hubbard
Alex Pinon

Senior "To Do" List for 2016-2017



1. Track your credits – If we are both doing it, we should keep things current! Need a copy of your transcript? Ask for one!

2. Order your cap and gown for the graduation ceremony, June 12, 2017. Miners Graduate Services is our providers. See the insert for deadlines!

3. Pay all fees, or clear up your account at your referring high school or you won't receive your diploma. Check at the front desk if you are not sure if you owe any fees.

4. Return all books – Here at AOS, and at your referring school or you won't receive your diploma.

5. You must have all of your work completed for your classes and all fines paid by June 9, 2017.

CAPS AND GOWNS

Seniors, the deadline to have ordered your caps and gowns is March 24th, 2017, if you plan on walking in graduation. The deadline to pay for them is May 1st.

6. Complete the FAFSA and "Oregon Promise" application.

7. *Get a final copy of your high school transcript (*available after the end of school year).

8. Get at least one letter of recommendation from an adult who knows you (but not your parent).

9. Make sure you have a current copy of your resume, which includes a list of activities you participated in while at AOS. (Volunteering, jobs, church-related work, caring for family members).

10. Have a plan! I don't think you want to live with your parents and work at Burger King forever. At least try some things out – college, a job, training, or a combination of these. Moving on goes along with growing up!

11. Set a budget! Whether you stay at

home or get a place of your own, knowing how much money you have, and what you need to spend it on is important. Getting a credit card can be dangerous!

12. Turn in a copy of a picture of you as a baby, and a graduation picture if you have them, and turn them in to Ms. Harryman. The larger the picture the better. If you bring it in to the school, one of the ladies at the front desk can scan it in and send it to Mrs. Harryman. You can also email a digital copy to anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us.

If you have any questions be sure to see our counselor, Mr. DeCoster. Keep an eye on mail from the school, as it may include addition graduation information and news you do not want to miss!



Students Engage in Community

This Winter term Ms. Fitzpatrick's elective course "Team Building" was designed to get the students actively involved in the Albany Community.

The students had to work as a team to accomplish many different volunteer assignments between Sunrise Elementary and Regency Assisted Living Facility.

Weekly, the students ran an after-school club at Sunrise Elementary School. Each AOS student was assigned one or two buddies who they



engaged with on a weekly basis.

On Fridays the students visited Regency of Albany and had the opportunity to interact with the seniors.

Last week the students even were able to feed and take care of a baby goat, which brought a lot of laughter and smiles to the residents.

The students have also had the opportunity to interview the senior residents, spend time with them, and play games with them.



Rotary Student

Congratulations to Dakota Sanders, who was recognized as the Student of the Month by the Rotary Club of Albany. He received the "Service Above Self" award for his commitment to serving the community.



**Greater Albany Public
School District**

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aos.albany.k12.or.us

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.....1-855-846-8376
- **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 District541-924-3720
- **Jackson Street Youth Shelter, Cornerstone Youth Outreach Center:** Overnight and drop-in resources for youth in Albany, Corvallis.....541-207-2958
- **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/

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Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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