



Albany Options
School
Greater Albany
Public School
District

AOS Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 6

March, 2014

A Word from the Principal

Inside this issue:

School Calendar	2
Snow Make-up Days and Calendar Change	3
Ecology Prepares for Spring	3
Ms. Kozak's Graphic Novel Class	4
GED Completers	4
Student Academic Awards	5
Mock Trial Class prepares for court	5

ROCKS

- * Respect
- * Ownership
- * Courage
- * Knowledge
- * Safety

We have not only worked at learning this month, we have also had to battle the weather. As you know, we had three snow days at the beginning of the month, and earlier this week the School Board voted to make up snow days at the end of the school year. If you log on to the school's website there is a link to the calendar that shows our last days of school for each program. Be sure to take a look at it.

Our students have completed their Writing OAKS and two rounds of OAKS testing in Reading, Math and Science. I have seen some

very confident and proud faces as they complete their assessments. There has been lots of improvement for them and they deserve a pat on the back regardless if they met or not!

Service Learning continues to be an emphasis for AOS. This is where teachers take their students into the community and they apply their learning to the real world through service, while they practice State Standards. Mr. Corliss has been taking his Probability and Statistics class to Sunrise Elementary to work with the 4th graders, teaching them how to add and

subtract money. It has been a huge success for both groups of students.

As February turns to March, we will be transitioning not only from Winter to Spring, we will also move into Trimester 3. We have just two short weeks until the end of this Trimester. Encourage your students to finish strong, eat well, get good rest and study hard.

Just a note to plan ahead, graduating seniors' last day will be June 5th and graduation will be at Linn-Benton Community College on the evening of June 9th.

AOS Service Learning at Sunrise



Two years ago Miss Tverdy's math class went



across the street and taught the 4th graders how to add and subtract money through games the AOS students had created. The event was such a success that we returned to do the project again with Mr. Corliss' Statistics and Probability math class.

The students visited the 4th graders once a week for three weeks in a row. Each


Check out the Democrat-Herald article from Friday, February 28th on our website at: albany.k12.or.us/aos

visit included a different game that our students created.

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Service Saturday: Cornerstone Out-
2	3	4	5 Early Release	6	7 Volunteer: Tan- gent Elementary Carnival 5:30-8pm	8 Service Saturday: Periwinkle Park Native Plants
9 Daylight Savings Begins 	10	11 Mock Trail: Linn County Court-	12 Early Release	13	14 LAST DAY OF TRIMESTER	15
16	17 NO SCHOOL Grading Day	18 First day of Trimester 3	19 Early Release	20	21 FIRST DAY OF SPRING! 	22
23	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	
30	31	APRIL 1	2 Early Release	3	4 NO SCHOOL	5

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1 	2 Early Release	3	4 NO SCHOOL	5
6	7	8	9 Early Release	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Early Release	17	18	19
20 EASTER SUNDAY	21	22	23 Early Release	24 Oregon Green Schools Summit	25	26
27	28	29	30 Early Release	May 1	2 LAST DAY OF GRADING PERIOD	

Important Information

Dress Code

As we enter the warmer months of the school year again, we would like to remind our parents and students to familiarize themselves with the dress code for our school as described in the handbook.

Shorts, skirts, and dresses must extend at least to the fingertips of arms down at the side.

Bra straps and cleavage must be covered.

No bare midriffs, cutoff shirts, or see-through clothing items.

Dress code violations may result in behavior referrals, suspension, or the student will be asked to wear clothing provided by the school's clothing closet.

CO-OP CREDIT

Students,

do you have a job?

See Mrs. Harryman to see how you can earn Elective credit for work you are already doing.

Students working can earn up to 1.0 Elective credit a year through the Co-Operative Work Experience program.

75 hours of work = 0.5 credits

150 hours of work = 1.0 credits

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Have you earned a perfect attendance award this year?

Students who have perfect attendance for any 6-week grading period will have the opportunity to go up to Portland for dinner at a restaurant and a Trailblazers game.

This is your last six-week period to earn the award to be able to go to the basketball game!

Snow Make-up Days and the School Calendar

After our most recent second round of snow days, the School Board met on the 24th and considered four options which included not making up any additional time, making every Wednesday a regular school day (and conducting the Professional Learning Communities later in the same afternoon), adding 30

minutes to each school day after spring break, and adding days to the end of the school year.

Last day for IHS, Choices and the evening programs is Wednesday, June 18th.

The last day for the GED program is Thursday, June 19th.

After careful consideration the Board chose to add days, extending the student school year to a half-day on June 19. The last work day for teachers will be June 20.

As the schedule continues to be finalized it is still subject to change. Please

continue to monitor the district website, the school calendar, and subsequent newsletters for the most updated information.

At this time administration continues to consider Summer School scheduling options so as to maximize student learning opportunities as well as provide our staff and students with a relaxing, enjoyable, and well deserved Summer vacation.

Ecology Class Prepares for Spring

The Ecology class has been very busy preparing for the arrival of Spring. The last two months the students have been busy germinating seeds, propagating, watering, and transplanting.

Sunny mornings have been spent outdoors preparing the raised beds, trimming bushes, and planting seeds.

As part of the effort to maintain AOS as a certified wildlife habitat, the

students planted seed mixes, which will provide a natural habitat and food source for hummingbirds, insects, and butterflies.

The students have also spent time learning about endangered species, including the Fender's Blue Butterfly, which is only found in the Willamette Valley. The students are committed to spend-



Students planted Amaryllis bulbs, which are now blooming.

ing the last portion of the term planting the necessary plants needed for the butterfly's habitat, and spreading the word in a Service Learning project.

The school is also in the process of purchasing a greenhouse in order to expand the Ecology program.

Miss Kozak's Graphic Novel English Class

Who would have thought that a graphic novel, comic, could be so entertaining, fun and educational?

Well, in Miss Kozak's Graphic Novel class, students have been reading *Persepolis* which is a graphic memoir of a young girl growing up in revolutionary Iran. The story begins in 1980, when Marjane Satrapi is just 10 years old, and the revolution has just begun. Marjane and her family are thrust

into a new fundamentalist Islamic society. Women must wear veils, men shouldn't shave, alcohol and even card games are forbidden.

Miss Kozak and her students alike have learned a great deal about the political and social changes that have come about in Iran before and after the revolution. They have learned why some people in Iran have disliked the politics of the USA while wanting to

emulate our culture. All in all, the students and their teacher have a better understanding of the Iranian people.

Although this is a black and white picture book, the students have been challenged by the vocabulary and the issues.

Most students have agreed that they have learned a lot and have had fun reading *Persepolis*.

GED Completers

Congratulations to the students who have completed all of their tests and earned their GED. The new GED, which began in January, is now aligned to the Common Core Standards for seniors, and is therefore more challenging.

Sonny Boyer

Collin Caldwell

Nicolas Douglass-Garcia

Valentine's Day at AOS

Albany Options School celebrated Valentine's Day this year with treats made by the afterschool cooking club.

Students made a variety of cookies, which were enjoyed by all of the staff and students at AOS.

The whole school got together to recognize the students who earned an outstanding grade point average (GPA) during the last six-week grading period.



After High School

Seniors, as you get closer to meeting your graduation goals make sure to schedule a time to discuss your graduation requirements with the school counselor, Ms. Smith.

You will need to complete your Career Related Learning Standards assignments, which Ms. Smith tracks.

Ms. Smith is also available to discuss your plans for once you graduate, including jobs, trainings, scholarships, and college.

Sign-up sheets to see Ms. Smith are at the front desk.

Picture of the Month

Ecology students, Harrison (left) and Trevor (right) went out in the rain to deal with the flooding on our school grounds.

They dug a pathway for the water on the flooded lawn behind our building to make it into the rain bioswale.

Had they not done this, the flooding could have potentially affected the neighboring apartments as well as our school grounds.

They also cleared the drains around the school property to keep water flowing. Thank you, Harrison and Trevor!



Trimester 2, Grading Period 1 Students Awards

Congratulations to the students who earned academic awards and recognition for their outstanding working during the first grading period of the second trimester!

Students are listed under the name of the teacher in whose class they earned the recognition and award.

Mrs. Agee:

Samantha Tolman
Connor MacAuley
Sidney Higgins

Mr. Blackman:

Jake Guthrie
Gerald McAlister
Asia Flaska

Mr. Corliss:

Daniel Obershain
Devan Walling
Sebastian Reyes
Jessie Farr

Mrs. Gillispie:

Hayden Purpura
Luis Garibay
Kevin Lorenzo
Jeremy Sease
Devan Walling

Mrs. Harryman:

Harrison Hagan-Morin
Gerald McAlister
Luis Garibay

Ms. Kozak:

Cody Rezanow
Dylan Hicks
Brandon Cole

Mrs. Mitchell:

Matt Foon
Connor MacAuley
Bryce Spowehh

Congratulations to the students who passed their Essential Skills during the last grading period:

Writing:

Morgan Flanders
Shelby Lucero
Dylan Hicks
James Cox
Ashley Eastman

Reading:

Janelle Brand
Shelby Hibbs
Karla Gallegoes Lopez
Samantha Tolman

Math:

Daniel Obenshain
Devan Walling
Sebastian Reyes
Jessie Farr

100% Attendance

Congratulations to the students who earned 100% Perfect Attendance during the last six-week grading period:

Luis Garibay
Dylan Hicks
Asia Flaska
Matt Foon
Devan Walling

These students have earned their place to attend the Trail Blazer's Basketball Game later this Spring!

Mock Trial Class Prepares for Court

Mr. Wolfe's Mock Trial class has always been a favorite at Albany Options School.

Every year the class is filled with students who enjoy learning about the law, courts, juries, and the legal system.

This term the students have been working extremely hard as they prepare their court case. The students study a real case, then become the characters involved.

The students write the opening and closing statements, all of the ques-

tions, answers, and defense.

This term the students will have the special opportunity to perform their mock trial at the Linn County Courthouse!

The students will spend the afternoon on Tuesday, March 11th in the courthouse, and community members volunteer that afternoon to fill the role of jurors.

Mr. Wolfe, who practiced as a lawyer prior to entering the field of education, will serve as the judge and oversee the case.

**Greater Albany Public
School District**

Albany Options School
701 19th Ave. SE
Albany, OR 97322

Phone: 541-967-4563
Fax: 541-924-3780
Web: www.albany.k12.or.us/aos

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 2014
Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

Albany Options School
701 19th Ave. SE
Albany, OR 97322