



Albany Options School
Greater Albany Public School District

AOS Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 7

May, 2017

A Word from the Principal

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ROCKS

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

Hard to believe that the school year is almost over, but here we are, already several weeks into our final six-week grading term.

For our seniors, this may be a stressful time as they cram to complete everything they need in order to graduate on time. We are here to provide all of the support we can to help get our students to where they need to be. Do not hesitate to advocate for yourself or your student.

This final grading period is a fun time for us at AOS. May 18th the whole IHS program will be going to OMSI for the day!

The week of May 22nd-26th is our Spirit Week. This is put on by Mr. Corliss' Leadership class. We will finish the week with our annual Luau, which will be put on by Leadership and Mrs. Harryman's Pacific Rim history class.

On Thursday, May 25th we will have our second annual Night of the Knights

event after school, which will be put on by the Leadership class. This is a great event for students to come, relax, have dinner, play games, and enjoy a fun evening together. I encourage every student to come and check it out.

The final day of the six-week grading term will be on Friday, June 9th. This is the last day of school for our graduates.

Unlike previous years, all classes will end for the term on that date. We will be offering a Mini Sessions term the last week of school, June 12-16th.

Students will take another class for the final week, which they will participate in all day, and will earn an additional .25 credits this year as a result. Since half of our school will be gone that last week, we have to

have finals in most of our classes the week before anyway, so we wanted to offer an innovative way for

students to earn more credits.

The classes will be co-taught by our amazing teachers and will include lots of hands-on learning opportunities, field trips, and interactive learning.

Check out the classes that will be offered in the box. Classes will be assigned first and foremost based on the student's credit needs, but we hope to place students in classes they will enjoy.

Of course, the greatest event of the year is our wonderful graduation, which will be held on June 12th at 7:00pm in the LBCC Russell Tripp Theater. This is the day we work towards all day every day. Don't let the beautiful weather keep you from showing up and doing what you need to do to finish the year strong.

<p>Mini Sessions Classes</p> <p>Albany, OR History (SS) Wolfe, Harryman</p> <p>Robotics Engineering (SC) Gillispie, Corliss</p> <p>Poetry and Nature (EN) Jansen</p> <p>Intro to Backpacking (PE) Mitchell, Fitzpatrick</p>
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May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Early Release	4 End of Grading Period: FINALS	5 Career Cruise	6
7	8 Albany Peace Seekers Awards— 4:30 Albany Public Library	9	10 Early Release	11	12	13
14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	15	16	17 Early Release	18 OMSI Field Trip for IHS Students	19	20
21	22 Theme: Pajama Day! 	23 Theme: Tie-Dye Day	24 Theme: AOS ROCKS (AOS shirt) Early Release	25 Theme: Jocks vs. Geeks	26 Theme: Hawaiian Day! Luau BBQ	27
28	29 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	30	31 Early Release Youth Special Olympics			

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Early Release	8	9 Last day graduates SENIOR BBQ End of Trimester	10
11 	12 Graduation LBCC, Russell Tripp Theater, 7pm	13	14 NO EARLY RELEASE	15	16 HALF DAY	17
18 <i>Father's Day</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	Summer Break!				

Important Information

Youth Special Olympics

Interested in volunteering at the Youth Special Olympics?

Every year AOS students help run the events at the Youth Special Olympics for young children at the SAHS track.

When: Wed. May 31st, 8am-1pm

Where: Meet at AOS, event at SAHS track and field

What: Wear your AOS shirt

Who: See Mrs. Harryman for info

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

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for graduating seniors:

Friday, June 9th (all work is due by 3:30pm if you plan to walk at graduation!!)

Last day of school for the rest of the school is **Friday, June 16th**

June 12-16th is a mini session for all students.

No early release June 14th, 16th is a half day.

AOS Introduces New Mini Session

The final week of the school year, June 12-16th, AOS will be introduce a new mini session for the students still at AOS.

Since half of the school finishes up on June 9th, all of the students will finish their finals with the seniors by June 9th.

Students who did not graduate, including seniors who did not graduate, will be assigned one class for the week, which will serve as a mini session.

Students will be able to earn an additional .25 credits that week.

The term is a great opportunity for the teachers to provide a fun and hands-on course, taking advantage of the full days to go on field trips and do larger projects.

The mini sessions term is still during the mandatory school week and attendance will still be tracked and monitored.

See the letter from the principal on the first page for more information about the classes.

GED Completers

Congratulations to the following students who completed their GED during the month of April, 2017:

Caitlin Taylor
Camille McClaskey
Christine Caspino
Ashtin Miller



Guest Speaker in Street Law Class

Whitney Perez, a Salem lawyer who represented a woman who killed her husband and claimed Battered Woman Syndrome, came to Mr. Wolfe's Street Law class to speak about that case and other legal matters.

Ms. Perez's presentation was timely because Mr. Wolfe's students were in the midst of writing a judge's opinion on another Battered

Woman Syndrome case in which a woman who, after years of abuse at the hands of her husband, shoots and kills him while he is sleeping in bed.

Ms. Perez's interesting talk helped the students more clearly understand the role of



public defenders, especially in Battered Woman Syndrome cases.

The class also learned a great deal about the grand jury process, plea bargaining and pre-trial police investigations.

Student Article: Leadership Happenings

The Spring Leadership class is adding new plans to our agenda. Not only do we have a first time Leadership teacher, Mr. Corliss, but we changed to having leadership in the afternoon which expands some of the things we are able to do.

We have added a weekly Service Learning project, where we go to Sunrise Park and do some community service including cleaning up spray paint from the structures, picking up trash around the park, and weeding.

In the classroom we have a different student take control of the lesson

plan, lead the discussions, and play “teacher” for the class each day.

This has shown an improvement in the students behavior towards others, and towards themselves. They've learned a lot more about being a leader and a follower in the necessary times.

The Leadership class has been planning upcoming events like Spirit Week, where students are responsible for the specific days and activities, the Night of the Knights, Teacher Appreciation Week, and more.

I love being in Leadership because it

has allowed me to make new friends in the school that I would not have gotten to know otherwise. It's a really positive way for me to end my day. I always leave in a good mood. It has also shown me how to let others step up and be leaders. I always want to take control, but there are so many other strong students in that class with stuff to offer, so it's been good for me to be part of that. *-Written by Anessa Johnson*



Anessa and Megan (pictured from left to right) are both Sophomores.

Student Article: New to AOS

I have never been a very gifted student, meaning I failed a lot of classes and had extremely low motivation to stay on track. About two months ago I was in a very low point in my schooling and I was on the track of dropping out. AOS was my last chance at success and I was pretty skeptical about going to the “bad kids school.”

Within my first day at AOS I knew without a doubt I had found not only a place where I can succeed, but a place where I can feel safe and at home. I was able to make connections I could never have at my home school, the exact connections I needed to get motivated and on track.

Not only am I able to have a closer

connection to the students here, I am able to make a family-like bond to the teachers and staff. My grades in the last two months are better than they have ever been in five years. Truly, I am thankful for AOS and the positive impact it has had on my life already.

-Written by Megan Carter

How to Check Student Grades

It's the final countdown for many of our students who are preparing for graduation. Please be sure that you are checking in on your student's progress, grades, and credits. We would hate for there to be any surprises.

If you are unsure of your student's progress in a grading period, or in high school in general, please contact our counselor, Kevin DeCoster. He can help you access “Pinnacle”, which tracks students' progress on a real-time basis.

You can see current grades as well as

what assignments are completed or not as long as you have the appropriate password. Any of our front-desk staff can help you with this.

Mr. DeCoster can also go over students' transcript with you if there are any questions about how close students are to graduating, how many credits they have earned, what classes are still needed, etc.

You can contact Kevin through the main AOS phone number – 541-967-4563.

Pic of the Month



Students in Mr. Corliss' Construction Math learned how to survey. Pictured here are Noah Jackson, Lamont Palacios, and Griselda Jimenez.

Academic Awards for Trimester 3, Grading Period 1

Congratulations to the students who earned academic awards the first six-week grading period of the third trimester:

Mr. Corliss:

Anessa Johnson—Math Workshop
Griselda Jimenez—Construction Math
Makenzie Vineyard—Algebra 1
Andrew Middleton—Trigonometry
Karla Franco—Leadership

Ms. Fitzpatrick:

Maria Lopez-Cordoba—Math Lab
Antonio May—Geometry
Kesha Collett—Geometry
Kobe McLaren—Geometry
Andrew Middleton—Music
Makenzie Vineyard—Music
Alan Hernandez—Music

Mrs. Harryman:

Alan Hernandez—Pacific Rim History
Michael Robb—Horticulture
Meghan Hartford—Horticulture
Makenzie Vineyard—Mythology
Antonio May—Russian Literature
Maria Lopez-Cordoba—Russian Lit
Stephni DeMello—Pilates
Emily Sterner—Pilates

Mrs. Gillispie:

Kesha Collett—Biology
Makenzie Vineyard—Art
Jadyn Whitney—Science
Erick Rodriguez—Chemistry
Antonio May—Oregon Wildlife
Kobe McLaren—Forensics

Ms. Jansen:

Briar Lynch—Digital Media
Griselda Jimenez—Contemporary Fic
Leslie Lazcano—Speculative Lit.
Tanner Kalugin—Speculative Lit.
Amber Scott—Speculative Literature
Emily Sterner—Speculative Lit.
Briar Lynch—Speculative Literature

Mrs. Mitchell:

Griselda Jimenez—Sign Language
Amber Scott—Sign Language
Isaiah Yocum—U.S. History
Monet Jackson—Cultural Literature

Mr. Wolfe:

Anais Ortiz—Street Law
Stephni DeMello—Economics
Makenzie Vineyard—Current World
Jared Wolfe—Running for Fitness

Congratulations to the students who earned attendance awards:

Antonio May—100% attendance
Israel Moreno—100% attendance
Izze Eppard—No tardies
Michael Lux—No tardies
Israel Moreno—No tardies
Joan Ortiz-Cortez—No tardies
Kaleb Washington—No tardies
Jared Wolfe—No tardies

Honor Roll: 4.0

Pedro Tecpile
Kobe McLaren
Andrew Middleton
Mia Spiroski

Honor Roll: 3.5-3.9

Bobby Weatherford
Anessa Johnson
Makenzie Vineyard
Kesha Collett
Stephni DeMello
Juan Ortiz Cortez
Antonio May Uc
Michael Robb
Garrett Nock

Forensic Science: Learning to Solve Crimes

Crime Scene investigation has become increasingly popular and with TV shows like CSI, Bones and Law and Order, We thought why not incorporate these hot topics into a science class?

Mrs. Gillispie is teaching a Forensics class where, this last term, the students learned about blood times, ink chromatography, and



how to compare handwriting samples. The final for this class incorporated all these topics into one final crime scene investigation.

A student agreed to play the victim in a mysterious crime that can be seen in the image. With a note left at the crime scene and blood times to be detected, the students had to create a list of

suspects, questioning, and investigated the evidence. For their final product they turned in an analysis of who committed the crime and what evidence they had to support it.

The Forensics class is continuing this term by studying fingerprints, shoe impressions, as well as hair and fiber analysis. The final will be similar to last term, but the evidence will pertain to the materials the students have been learning.

**Greater Albany Public
School District**

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Visit us online at:

www.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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