



**Albany Options  
School  
Greater Albany  
Public School  
District**

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**ROCKS**

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

# AOS Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1

October, 2017

## A Word from the Principal

Welcome to the new school year! We have had a fantastic start already and it is hard to believe we are already a month into the school year.

We have a great new group of students who joined us this year and I am excited to watch as everyone reaches their academic goals.

Of course, the most important factor in being successful in school is attendance. When comparing grades and attendance there is a clear connection between the two. Please urge your student to make it to all of their classes and work hard so that we finish the first term and face the rest of the school year on a positive and successful note.

On the evening of Tuesday, September 26th, we had our annual Open House, where I had the joy and pleasure of meeting many parents, guardians, and

family members. It is always so powerful to see how much our parents and guardians care about the education of their students

and see how invested they are in their future.

Later this month we will have our Parent Teacher Conferences. This is a great opportunity for parents and guardians to come and meet

the teachers and staff, discuss how their student is doing in school, and learn how far off they are from graduating.

We do not require any appointments, so I

hope you will stop in when you have the time during conferences. For more information about conferences please go to the green

sheet insert in the newsletter.

During Wednesday evening of conferences, Mrs. Harryman will be offering assistance to the families of our seniors in completing the FAFSA online. Even if you are unsure or doubt if your child will go to any school after high school or GED, please consider coming and completing the FAFSA. It is free and a great resource if your student chooses to attend any further schooling, degrees, certificate programs, or trade programs.

On a final note, we are extremely excited to welcome Mrs. Roundy and Mrs. Soot to our AOS family this year. Mrs. Roundy is our new English and Social Studies teacher, and Mrs.

Soot is our newest Special Education Aid. Both bring value and experience to our school and we are lucky to have them.



Mr. Hunter pictured here with Superintendent Jim Golden. Hunter grilled hotdogs for the students the first Friday of the school year.

**Parent Conferences Schedule:**

**Wednesday, Oct. 25th:**

3:30-8:00pm, FAFSA assistance from 5:00-8:00 pm

**Thursday, Oct. 26th:**


7:30am-11:30am, and 12:30pm—5:30pm

No school





**Friday, Oct. 27th:**

No school or conferences

# October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Early Release	5	6 Manufacturing Day	7
8	9 <b>Columbus Day</b> Students to be recognized at School Board Meeting 7:00 pm	10	11 Early Release	12 <b>End of Grading Period: FINALS</b>	13 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Staff Development	14
15	16 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Grading Day <b>Boss' Day</b>	17 Start of New Grading Period	18 Early Release	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Early Release <b>Conferences</b> (see page 1 for conference schedule)	26 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> <b>Conferences</b> (see page 1 for conference schedule)	27 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	28
29	30 	31 Halloween				

# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Early Release	2	3	4
5 Daylight savings Time Ends "Fall back" 	6	7	8 Early Release	9	10 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Veteran's Day Observed	11 
12	13	14	15 Early Release <b>National Classified Appreciation Day</b>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Early Release	23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>Thanksgiving</i>	24 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	25 
26	27	28	29 Early Release	30 <b>End of Grading Period: FINALS</b>	December 1 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Grading Day	2 

## Important Information

### SENIOR REQUIREMENTS

**All seniors are required to attend the LBCC Job Fair on December 13th.**

To attend you must have three resumes completed as well as three job applications.

Students in the Innovative High School program as well as the Choices programs will work with Mrs. Harryman to complete the assignments.

Students who do not attend this event will have alternative assignments to complete.

**This is a state requirement for graduation.**

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

“Like” us on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/albanyoptions](http://www.facebook.com/albanyoptions)

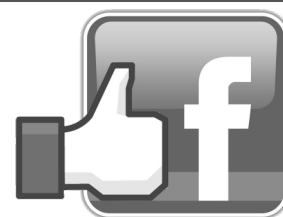
“Follow” us on Instagram at:

@AlbanyOptionsSchool

#AlbanyOptionsSchool

#AOSrocks

#AOSknights



### **Have a job?**

Students can earn Co-Operative Work Experience elective credits for having a job. See Mrs. Harryman if you have questions. You could earn as much as 2.0 elective credits for work you're already doing!

## Students Volunteer in Community

Ms. Fitzpatrick teaches the Team Building elective class every day, where students go out into the community to volunteer and serve.

Once a week the students go to FISH of Albany and help in the clothes closet by organizing, cleaning, and vacuuming. Some of the students also help outside with yardwork such as laying down mulch or weeding.



On Wednesdays the students run an afterschool club for 3rd through 5th graders at Sunrise Elementary School. After a snack, the elementary students are paired with AOS students. The students act as mentors to the elementary students.

Twice a week the students go to Regency of Albany Assisted Living

Center and help with outdoor cleaning and yard work one day, and spend the other day with the residents playing board games and getting to know them.



Ms. Fitzpatrick said, “the students have been amazing at all of these places. I have received numerous compliments from staff members at all the places we have volunteered at praising our kids for their hard work ethic!”

## Classroom Gets Flexible Seating

Mrs. Mitchell and Ms. Fitzpatrick changed the layout of their classroom this year by adding flexible seating options.

In addition to the traditional desks and chairs, they have redesigned their classroom to include a variety of different kinds of chairs including gaming chairs, bean bag chairs, stools, stability balls, and more.

The change was made in an effort to

create a learning environment that better fits their teaching styles as well as the learning styles of the students.

Ms. Fitzpatrick shared that “it has really helped the students focus and be engaged in class. We are all loving it.”

Many classrooms

in the school district are starting to switch to flexible seating options. The National Education Association published an article last September on the benefits, which Mrs. Mitchell, Ms. Fitzpatrick, and the students are now experiencing in their classes.



# AOS Professional Development Focuses on Equity

Superintendent Jim Golden spoke to the whole district on Monday, August 28th, during the Back-to-School District Rally, about the importance of breaking down the barriers of race in our culture and schools.

In sticking with the theme, the teachers and staff at Albany Options School and district administrators spent the morning of Wednesday, August 30th meeting with Dr. Johnny Lake. Dr. Lake kicked off the school year talking about diversity, race and culture, and equity of learning.

Dr. Lake is an internationally renowned trainer and consultant, and has taught as a professor in the teacher and counseling preparation programs at Northwest Christian University in Eugene. He is an Administrator on

Special Assignment with the Eugene 4J school district. Dr. Lake holds a bachelor's degree in history from

Willamette University, has a Masters in educational leadership and administration, and received his Ph.D. in educational leadership, policy, management and organization. Dr. Lake is a former chairman of the State of Oregon Commission on Black Affairs.

Dr. Lake is an incredible speaker and left the staff feeling motivated, inspired, and excited to take on the challenges of the new school year. Principal John

Hunter commented that, "Equity of Learning is paramount to the success of all students. It is not just a catchy phrase, it is a necessity, and Dr. Lake was able to bring that to a human and personal level that every teacher in the building can bring back to the classroom with them."

Mark Wolfe, with 25 years in public education, was extremely inspired by Dr. Lake's presentation. "After listening to Johnny Lake, I realized that even with all my years of

experience there's still so much I can do to be a better teacher." In fact, Mr. Wolfe said that on his second day of his Psychology class this term he implemented a group activity that he learned from Dr. Lake.

Dr. Lake is part of the year-long professional development theme on providing equity of learning. The staff began their focus on this last Spring with guest speakers on providing

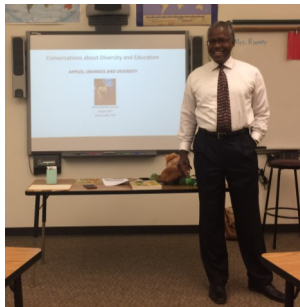
equal learning opportunities to at-risk youth, English Language Learners, and Special Education students.

The teachers will continue their work with additional educational leaders in the community to make sure that they are providing our students with the best educational opportunities available.

At AOS we believe that every student deserves the best education and equal opportunities.



Dr. Lake using Mrs. Gillispie to demonstrate an example during his presentation.



Dr. Lake is an advocate for equality in the schools for all students.

## GED Completers

Congratulations to the following student who completed all of the tests and earned their GED during the month of September:

**Mari Garcia Medina**



## Cadet Teaching

Interested in a career in education or enjoy working with younger children? There are opportunities for AOS students to serve as teacher aids at local schools and earn credit while also building your resume.

**Sign up to talk to Mrs. Harryman about it if you are interested.**

You must be a student in good standing (grades, attendance, and behavior) to be considered.

## Welcome Fall



September 22nd was the first day of Fall and students at AOS celebrated with hot chocolate and apple cider, cookies, and of course a selfie wall.



## September in Pictures



## AOS Welcomes New Staff

AOS is very excited that Lindsey Roundy joined our family as the new English Language Arts and Social Studies teacher. Last year Mrs. Roundy spent a trimester at AOS as the long-term substitute for Mrs. Harryman while she was on maternity leave. She spent the rest of the year as the primary



substitute in the building.

Mrs. Roundy earned her Social Studies Master in Education degree from the University of Georgia and her Bachelors in Social Sciences Education from Florida State University. She has been working at Oregon State University as a student mentor and BEST staff member.



We would like to welcome Mona Soot to the AOS family as our newest SEA. Mrs. Soot earned her Master's in Theology at Saint Vladimir's Seminary and her Bachelor's in Biology from Occidental College. In addition, she has taught parenting classes in our community and is the mother to two students at West Albany High School as well as five West Albany alumni.

**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](http://www.albany.k12.or.us/aos)

Visit us online at:

[www.aos.albany.k12.or.us](http://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 District .....541-924-3720
- **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/](http://www.albany.k12.or.us/AOS/)

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Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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