



AOS Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

October 2012

**Greater Albany
Public School
District**

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ROCKS

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

A Word from the Principal

As we enter into the 5th week of the school year I feel like things are beginning to settle into place and I am really enjoying working with the students and staff here at AOS.

The staff is eager and willing to go the extra mile for our students, and the students are continually exceeding everyone's expectations. I have been amazed at the students' willingness to accept new things into their lives including several new teachers and a new principal.

The school board has asked the schools to work on de-

veloping literacy skills this school year. At AOS, in the Innovative High School, we are committed to teaching those skills. I have asked the teachers to have one part of each lesson everyday be dedicated to reading, writing and content vocabulary.

We are also continuing the theme of ROCKS. You may remember that AOS ROCKS has been what we use for Character Education. This stands for Respect, Ownership, Courage, Knowledge, and Safety. As we have done in past years, we will center our advisory

period on the meaning of these words and how the students demonstrate them inside and out of school.

We are here to support our students in developing the necessary skills so they may identify and achieve their personal life goals. It is with this in mind that we are continually looking to improve our programs to meet the needs of all our students. We invite your input and comments as we move through the year. If you have questions please feel free to contact me at school. — Mr. Knight

AOS Receives Green School Certificate

The school year began with an exciting celebration the first day of school. During the kick-off assembly Emily Phillips, of the Oregon

Green School Association, presented the school with the official certificate stating that AOS is a certified Oregon Green School.



AOS is one of the first schools in Albany to receive this recognition, and the first of the high schools.

This certification was earned through the hard work of our Ecology students last year to reduce waste as well as energy consumption at Albany Options School.

October 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Early Release	4	5	6 <u>Service Saturday</u> at AOS
7	8 Columbus Day (Observed on Friday)	9	10 Early Release	11 Last day of grading period FINALS	12 NO SCHOOL	13
14	15	16	17 Early Release	18 OPEN HOUSE 5:30-8:00	19	20 PSAT TESTING
21	22	23	24 Early Release	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween!</i> Early Release			

November 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 NO SCHOOL	6 Spirit of Community Award Deadline	7 Early Release	8	9	10
11	12 Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL	13	14 Early Release Conferences 3:30-7:30	15 Conferences 3:30-7:30	16	17
18	19 NO SCHOOL Conferences 7:30-3:30	20 NO SCHOOL	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL <i>Thanksgiving</i>	23 NO SCHOOL	24
25	26	27	28 Early Release	29	30 Last day of grading period FINALS	

Important Information

Facebook

Be sure to "like" the Albany Options School Facebook page. We are regularly sharing special opportunities, news, photos, upcoming events, reminders, and more.

Search for Albany Options School and "like" us!



Dress Code Rule Reminder...

- No inappropriate content on clothing
- No visible bra straps or cleavage
- No slippers or sagging pants

Students violating the dress code will be asked to change their clothes or go home

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:

See calendar for conference dates.

Teacher availability to meet will be posted on the school website: albany.k12.or.us/aos

AOS OPEN HOUSE!

Thursday, October 18th AOS will be hosting their annual Open House for all students and family members.

It will be an opportunity for families to enjoy a fabulous dinner prepared by the Food Class, meet the staff, and get to know the teachers.

See the insert for more information!

Meet Our New Staff at AOS



Mr. Knight

We are all very excited to welcome our new principal, Mr. Knight.

Mr. Knight was most recently the Assistant Principal at SAHS, but prior to that he was a teacher for 16 years. Mr. Knight taught PE and Social Studies, but also coached volleyball, basketball, football, and was the varsity coach for baseball.

We are thrilled to have him here!

Mrs. Gillispie

Mrs. Gillispie is a new science teacher here at AOS and is currently teaching Physical Science, Chemistry, and Technology in the afternoon.

Mrs. Gillispie has taught at several schools including SAHS, where she is currently teaching math and science.

We are very happy to have her here with us.



Mrs. Beall

Welcome to AOS, Mrs. Beall!

Mrs. Beall has joined us as the new math teacher after working in the alternative school at the Community Services Consortium (CSC) in Lebanon as an AmeriCorps member.

Mrs. Beall grew up in Eugene and graduated from OSU. She did her student teaching in our district and we are so happy to have her back with us.



Mrs. Hart

Mrs. Hart is our new Special Education teacher at AOS and also teaches Read 180 and the Study Skills class.

She has 3 girls, 1 husband, 3 dogs and 2 guinea pigs! Before moving to Oregon in 2006 she taught in Idaho and Arizona. She taught at Memorial for 2 years before becoming a School Support Specialist in GAPS.

Welcome to AOS!

AOS Introduces "Service Saturdays"

AOS is always looking for ways for students to earn credits outside of the classroom during the school year. Last year many students took advantage of these opportunities and earned credits through cadet teaching, volunteering, restoring jet war planes, and through their jobs.

This year AOS is introducing "Service Saturdays," which will be an opportunity for students to meet on the weekends for special credit earning opportunities. The school intends to

provide a whole variety of activities ranging from a wood shop series, trips to the coast, work days at the school, and more.

Students will earn credits participating in these activities through the Co-operative Work Experience (Co-Op) curriculum. Students who participate will earn hours towards credits. For every 32 hours a student will earn .25 Elective credits. These hours can be added to other volunteer and Co-Op hours. Regular announcements about

these opportunities will be sent out and Service Saturdays will be added to the school calendar.

We are excited to begin our weekends together and hope the students take advantage of all of the opportunities.

The next Service Saturday will be at AOS on October 6th.

Students will work on the bioswale during the day.

Lunch will be provided!

Spirit of Community Award

Last year students Debra Leonor and Caitlynd Bishop were recognized for their outstanding commitment to community service and Service Learning through the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Debra, now a senior at AOS, was recognized as the Honoree from AOS, and Caitlynd received a certificate of

merit for all her hard work.

In addition to the both of them being recognized in the newspaper, Debra also received a signed letter and certificate from President Obama for performing over 200 hours of community service.

It is that time of

year for students involved in community service to begin applying for the award.

If you have any questions about the award or about participating in community service opportunities please see Miss Sokolov in the Outreach Office.

Deadline to apply for the award is November 6th

Riverside Cleanup at Bowman Park

Saturday, September 22nd, students from AOS spent their morning volunteering at Bowman Park in Albany as part of the first Service Saturday. The City of Albany partnered with

SOLV to host the Riverside Cleanup Event at the park.

Students participated by cleaning up trash and removing invasive ivy and blackberry plants to help protect the native plants.

Students who participated earned several hours towards their Co-Op for elective credits as part of the Service Saturday set-up.



Picture of the Month



Principal Mr. Knight teaches senior AJ Bidwell the official rules of Ping-Pong outside during the lunch break on Tuesday, September 25th.

Harvesting in the AOS Garden



Cody shows off two harvested squash from class Sep. 9th.



Above: Fresh harvest from the AOS garden. The Food Class is going to use the pumpkins to make pumpkin pie!



Right: Danica holds up a yellow onion she harvested from the garden on September 9th.



Right: Students turn the compost and add new yard waste. The compost bin was part of the Green School efforts.

Left: Students weed the raised bed that held daffodils last spring.



Youth Outreach Center Opens!

On Thursday, Sep. 6th Jackson Street Youth Shelter, Inc. opened the Cornerstone Youth Outreach Center in Albany.

Jackson Street Youth Shelter has been working towards opening a youth shelter in Albany for several years, and in the mean time they have



an outreach center for youth ages 12-18.

CYOC offers services such as helping students register for school, complete their homework, create cover letters and resumes, as well as provide youth with food and other basic necessities.

The center is located at 960 Queen Avenue at the corner of Queen and Elm, and is open from 2:00pm to 6:00pm Monday through Friday.

AOS Counselor...

See your counselor, Ms. Smith, if you are interested in:

- PSAT, SAT, ACT
- College visits
- PE Credits/YMCA/Curves
- Transcripts
- LBCC
- Career Ed Credit
- Advisory Council

Greater Albany Public School District

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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.....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
- **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/

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Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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