



# AOS Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 3

December, 2020

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

## Inside this issue:

School Calendar	2
Important Info and Announcements	3
AOS Welcomes New Staff Members	3
Graduates and GED Completers	4
Student Guest Writer on Psychology	4
Academic Awards for Last Grading Period	5
Financial Aid: OR Promise and FAFSA	5

## ROCKS

Respect  
Ownership  
Courage  
Knowledge  
Safety

## A Word from the Principal

Dear Students:

Well.....2020 is winding down and I'm sure you can all agree that it has been an interesting year to say the least!

Although there have been many different challenges for me, both personally and professionally over the course of the year, what I will remember most about 2020 is becoming your principal. I am proud of every one of you for your efforts over the course of the first trimester. I also know that it's only going to get better as we get closer to the reality of returning to on-campus instruction.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Florence Angima and welcome her into the AOS family. Ms. Florence will be working with our GED students in the testing process while also supporting our Special Education program.

I would also like to introduce Gina Paynter, who is our new custodian, and has been doing an exceptional job taking care of our build-

ing. We are excited for you to meet and get to know them both.

I know there have been some questions as to why we are changing our schedule for the second trimester, so I'd like to provide you with the rationale for those changes. The new schedule needed to provide for the possibility of you returning to in-person instruction at some point during the second trimester. With that being a possibility, the safety of students and staff were at the forefront of every decision made while developing the schedule.

We also wanted to develop a schedule that could work both virtually and in-person, which this schedule does. We also took into account feedback provided by students, parents, and staff, to make some minor adjustments to the "bell" schedule.

Lastly, I want to again stress the importance of attending ROCKS. It is our plan for you to connect with

your peers while also having another positive relationship with an AOS staff member. We will be offering career-related learning opportunities for you to also experience during this time. It is our goal that every student leaving AOS either with a diploma or a GED, will also do so with a plan for life after AOS.

I can't wait to meet you in person and look forward to when we can all be on campus and experience the unique qualities that make AOS so special.





I would like to personally wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season. I look forward to meeting and seeing you all in the new year.

Take care,



Mr. Hannan



## December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b> Guest Speaker: Phagan's Beauty	3	4 <b>LAST DAY OF THE TERM</b> (Trimester 1, Grading Period 2)	5
6	7 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Grading Day Books/Schedules: 10am-2pm	8 <b>First day of Trimester 2, Grading Period 1</b> (new classes)	9 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b> Guest Speaker: Albany Fire Dept.: 9:30am	10 <i>Hanukkah begins</i> 	11	12
13	14	15	16 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b>	17	18 <i>Hanukkah ends</i>	19
20 	21 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Winter Break	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26
27	28	29	30	31 	January 1 <b>New Year's Day</b>	2

## January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4 <i>Classes resume</i>	5	6 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b>	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b>	14	15	16 
17 	18 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> MLK Day	19	20 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b>	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <b>ROCKS 9:30-10</b>	28	29 <b>FINALS:</b> LAST DAY OF GRADING PERIOD	30
February 1 <i>School Counselor Appreciation Week</i>	2 <b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Grading Day Books/Schedules: 10am-2pm	3 <b>First day of Trimester 2, Grading Period 2</b> (new classes)	For the latest calendar updates, please visit our website calendar at <a href="https://aos.albany.k12.or.us">aos.albany.k12.or.us</a> . You can also view upcoming guest speakers and career/college opportunities on your Counseling Canvas course under the Careers page and College page. Email Mr. Diaz for more information at <a href="mailto:gabe.diaz@albany.k12.or.us">gabe.diaz@albany.k12.or.us</a> .			

## Important Information

### HAVE A JOB?

Students can earn Cooperative Work Experience elective credit for having a job.

Email Mrs. Harryman if you have any questions at:

[Anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us](mailto:Anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us)

You could earn as much as 2.0 elective credits for work you're already doing!

### COUNSELING SERVICES

Every AOS student has been invited to join Mrs. Harryman's Counseling Canvas page, where there are a variety of resources including mental health, college and career information, virtual guest speakers for college and career, family resources, academic and technology support, and more! Be sure to check it out.

If you need anything or would like to schedule a time to chat with Mrs. Harryman, please do not hesitate to ask:

[Anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us](mailto:Anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

"Like" us on Facebook at:

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

"Follow" us on Instagram at:

@AlbanyOptionsSchool

### SNACK PACKS:

AOS offers free snack packs every week to students upon request. If you would like to receive this free service, let Mrs. Harryman or Mr. Diaz know!

### GRADES

Parents and Guardians,

You are able to check your student's grades on Pinnacle, just like in the past.

You can access the Gradebook at: <https://aos.albany.k12.or.us/students-parents/pinnacle/>

and use your assigned DBN number to log in.

Need your number? Just call the school.

### Need More Support?

Struggling in classes and feel like you need more support? Please let us know! We have systems in place and resources to help you succeed. Please email Mrs. Harryman at: [anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us](mailto:anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us), who will coordinate with you.

### SENIORS: FAFSA and OR Promise

If you still need help completing the FAFSA and Oregon Promise, please email Mrs. Harryman right away to get help! Mr. Diaz is also available to assist with financial aid application for families needing assistance in Spanish. Financial aid is first come, first served, so please do not wait to get it done!

## AOS Welcomes Two New Staff Members

It is with great excitement that we welcome two new members to the AOS family.



Florence Angima is new to AOS as our GED testing coordinator, and she will also be providing assistance with our Special Education program.

Ms. Florence is from Kenya and came to the United States 24 years ago to get her Master's degree in Family Studies in Texas.

She has experience working with low-income families and victims of do-

mestic violence, and has worked in schools, administrative work, and in hospitals.

She was drawn to AOS because she has a passion for helping people and wants to be there for people when they need it, even if that just means listening to them. She is so grateful to be here and feels like she has found a good family in AOS.

She is married and has a daughter at OSU and a son at Corvallis High School.

Gina Paynter is our new custodian. Originally from Washington, she



grew up in Idaho, where she worked on orchards and farms and as a grounds keeper for the City of Boise and the airport.

In addition, she has worked with special needs students, with prisoner rehabilitation, and has run her own daycare.

Ms. Paynter is married and a daughter who is 24 and a son who is 21, both of which graduated from West Albany High School.

She is happy to be at AOS and shared that she can feel the love of this school, even in virtual.

Welcome both!

## Graduates

Congratulations to the following students who completed their high school graduation requirements in the past month:



Mason Nealy

Anthony Sweat

## Pictures from the Month



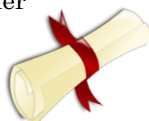
Congratulations to Mason Nealy, who completed all of his credits for a high school diploma on December 7th! Mason is the fourth student to graduate from AOS this year!



## GED Completers

Congratulations to the following student who completed the GED;

Sidnee Meier



AOS in the news! Mrs. Harryman and Oliver Lee were in the Albany Democrat-Herald on November 19th in an article about GAPS counseling services. All of our news stories are archived on our website at <https://aos.albany.k12.or.us/announcements/aos-in-the-news/>

## Student Guest Writer: Psychology in Virtual Learning

It's no understatement to say that it's been rough for us all as of late, and that virtual learning has posed many challenges. However, I can say with confidence that there is light to it all, and that I've found one such light within Mr. Wolfe's classes here at AOS.

It's not hard to imagine that transferring assignments normally done in a classroom into something virtual can be a struggle, yet Mr. Wolfe has done a phenomenal job doing just that, which has made the transition much easier to handle.

In addition, he has not included extra media platforms to complete our assignments. This has made learning smoother, since some of us struggle to adjust to too many

new platforms at once.

Mr. Wolfe has always given us plenty of examples to help us better understand and relate to the content of the lesson. He has kept that aspect even with his virtual teaching. Most of



Selfie time! Mr. Wolfe took a picture with his Psychology class the last day of the term.

these examples are ones he has collected from his, and his family's, own experiences. This not only helps us understand the material, but has also helped us to be more empathetic towards each other, and in some cases, ourselves.

Since virtual learning has started, Mr. Wolfe opens every class by dancing to an upbeat and fun song. This silly action greatly improves my mood, and helps keep mo-

rale high for the entire class. He asks every student that logs on how they are feeling, and will ask them a question that will often correspond with the day's lesson. However, should a student prefer not to answer the question, he respects the student's decision and will move on without being invasive. This is something that I have greatly appreciated and enjoyed, because it helps everyone either shake off their troubles for a moment, or at least feel supported enough to proceed with a smile.

Despite the technological challenges of virtual learning, Mr. Wolfe has adapted very well, and he makes my day better each and every time!

*Natalya Sajovic is a senior at AOS and is a guest writer monthly for the AOS newsletter.*





## Academic Awards: Trimester 1, Grading Period 2

Congratulations to the following students who earned academic awards in the first six-week grading period:

### Ms. Bellando:

Chyra Carillo—American Literature  
Ashleigh Carmona—Contemporary Lit  
Heidi Cortez-Gonzalez—Film

### Mr. Corliss:

Emma Hernandez—Algebra 1  
Tyra Hawaihalau—Probability & Stats  
Kameron Burford—Digital Media

### Ms. Fitzpatrick:

Braeden Hadlock—Health B  
Isaac Middleton—Health B  
Derek Brenneman—Geometry A  
Kiali Scott—GED  
Christian Mowery—GED  
Christian Woelherth—GED

### Mrs. Mitchell:

Kyleigh Taylor—US History  
Jyssame Ridders—US History  
Dalton Lucas—Cultural Literature  
Braeden Hadlock—Cultural Literature

### Mr. Kenny:

Serenity Snyder—Oregon History

### Mrs. Gillispie:

Braeden hadlock—Biology  
Jyssame Ridders—Art I  
Madison Alderin—Art I  
Gage Pearson—Observational Science  
Bailey Perkins—Observational Science

### Mrs. Glass:

Kylie Durham—Choices Program

### Mrs. Roundy:

Oliver Lee—World History  
Heidi Cortez-Gonzalez—World History  
Kalea Guyette—British Literature  
Kamarie Buen—British Literature  
Tyra Kawaihalau—Health Occupations  
Liliana Lorenzana—Health Occupations

### Mr. Wolfe:

Natalya Sajovic—Psychology I  
Liliana Lorenzana—Sociology I  
Oliver Lee—Creative Writing

### HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following students who earned Honor Roll:

#### 4.0 GPA:

Heidi Cortez-Gonzelez  
Tyra Kawaihalau  
Liliana Lorenzana  
Gage Pearson  
Jyssame Ridders  
Madison Alderin  
Kalea Guyette  
Braeden Hadlock  
Dalton Lucas  
Natalya Sajovic  
Kyleigh Taylor

#### 3.5-3.99 GPA:

Ashleigh Carmona  
Oliver Lee



## Financial Aid: FAFSA and OR Promise

Seniors and GED students, you should be already be working on your plans for after you complete your education.

If you plan on attending any kind of post-high school education, please complete the FAFSA.

**FAFSA** stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and is the form you complete in order to apply for financial aid for college and career school.

**You can access it at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).**

Mrs. Harryman is available for in-person appointments to assist students and families with completing the FAFSA, OR Promise, and college applications.

The FAFSA opened October 1st, so do not wait to complete it.

If you need assistance completing the FAFSA, please reach out to Mrs. Harryman. If you need assistance in Spanish, please contact Mr. Diaz.

**The Oregon Promise** is another funding opportunity for students planning on attending community college and can be completed online at: <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/oregon-promise.aspx>.

**GED students:** deadlines vary depending on when you receive your GED, so check it out right away.

**Undocumented Students:** Contact Mr. Diaz for support getting financial aid by completing the ORSAA.

**Greater Albany Public  
School District**

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

Phone: 541-967-4563  
Fax: 541-924-3780  
Web: [aos.albany.k12.or.us](http://aos.albany.k12.or.us)

Visit us online at:  
[www.aos.albany.k12.or.us](http://www.aos.albany.k12.or.us)

Albany Options School Newsletter: December 2020  
Respect Ownership Courage Knowledge Safety

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

**MENTAL HEALTH**

**RESOURCES**

**MRS. HARRYMAN EMAIL** (email to talk)  
[anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us](mailto:anna.harryman@albany.k12.or.us)

**NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE:**  
1-800-273-8255

**LINEA DE AYUDA NACIONAL DE  
PREVENCION DEL SUICIDIO:**  
1-888-628-9454

**LINN COUNTY CRISIS**  
1-800-304-7468

**OREGONYOURLINE.ORG**  
1-877-968-8491  
Text "TEEN2TEEN" to 839863

**JACKSON STREET YOUTH SERVICES**  
Mental health and outreach  
541-220-2955

**CALL: 211 - INFORMATION HELPLINE**  
Connect to health and human services

**EMERGENCY- 911**