



# AMERICAN PREPARATORY ACADEMY

September 28, 2018

## Draper 2



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Reading University Deadline

Monday, Oct. 1st

Spirit Day

Friday, Oct. 5th

Late Work Deadline

Friday, Oct. 5th

Picture Re-Take Day

Tuesday, Oct. 9th

Grades 1-3 Field Trips

Wednesday, Oct. 10th

Grades 4-6 Field Trips

Thursday, Oct. 11th

End of Term 1

Friday, Oct. 12th

Fall Break

October 15th-19th

For updates, additional event information, and athletic events, please visit our campus website at:

<https://draper2.americanprep.org/>

### **From the Directors' Desks**

by Cathie Adamson and Kevin McVicar

### **September Builder Theme: Building with Enthusiasm!**

Someone who exemplified enthusiasm was Walter Chrysler, an American automotive industry executive and the founder of the Chrysler Corporation. One of his mottos was "The



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real secret to success is enthusiasm.”

The attitude we display towards working hard is a choice. When we develop and display an “I can do hard things” attitude, and when we work with enthusiasm and confidence, we are successful and gain further confidence in our abilities.

We play an important role for each other as we express our belief in other people’s ability to work hard and succeed, and as we are enthusiastic about each effort they make. Enthusiasm helps others to keep trying, to have fun, and to be enthusiastic themselves. This energy gives us the ability to try again, over and over. Enthusiasm helps us persevere when the going gets tough!

**“The real secret of success is enthusiasm.”**

**Walter Chrysler**

## **Front Office Volunteers Needed**

Hello, Families! We are making progress in getting our volunteer spots filled. This week, we had 6 of the 20 spots filled, which is up by 50% from last week. Thank you so much for those who have come in to help! It’s a fun volunteer assignment and we really appreciate your help. Please sign up and come help us! Here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544adac2ba1f58-american>

## **\*ALMA-Online grading Program-Notifications**

**Exciting News: ALMA will be sending out Missing Work Reports every Thursday!**

### **Alma Update: Missing work notifications**

Parents! You now have the ability to receive notifications for any missing assignment your child may have. We have enabled this for all parents. By default you will receive a weekly text message sent on Thursdays. Please note, if your account is not set up to receive text messages you will receive an email instead. The text message will come from 801-810-3590 and the emails will come from notifications@getalma.com.

If you wish to edit your notifications settings, log in to Alma. Click on "My Account" from under your name in the upper right corner.

ALMA, the online grading program used in our Elementary school, is now up and running. Thank you for your patience as our staff has been working hard to enter all the information needed to get it started. You should have already received an email directly from ALMA with your username and



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password. Please remember to check your junk mail if you didn't receive an email. If it is not there, please contact your student's homeroom teacher so we can fix any problems.

## **School Lunch**

The menu for October, November, and December is now available! You can now order online - the link for online ordering can be found here: <https://www.americanprep.org/school-lunch-program/>

If you ordered Free or Reduced price lunches in September and the ordering system is charging you full price, that may mean your application expired. We were able to offer you free/reduced price lunch for the first 30 days of school without a new application, but if you want to continue to order free/reduced price lunches you will need to complete a new application. We sent letters and paper applications home this week to everyone. Please complete the application as soon as possible and return it to the main office. You may also complete the application online.

<https://www.americanprep.org/school-lunch-program/free-and-reduced-price-meal-application/>

## **Yearbook**

Pictures, Pictures, Pictures!

We are starting to gather pictures for our 2018-2019 Draper 2 yearbook. Some of our best yearbook pictures last year were submitted by our parents taken at various school events, field trips and programs! We would appreciate any pictures that you might take that would be suitable for the yearbook. Please submit them to [mminson@apamail.org](mailto:mminson@apamail.org) and, as always, thank you so much for your help.

## **\*Healthy Home, Healthy Students, Healthy School**

The cold, flu, and stomach bug season is upon us. Usually these illnesses, however uncomfortable they make us, are minor illnesses. The good news is that many of these common illnesses can be prevented with the right precautions. Please help us keep your students healthy by encouraging them to wash their hands frequently, to not touch their face, and to not share drinks or food with anyone. Here at the school, we are doing our best to keep surfaces disinfected and encourage you to do the same. If your student has a fever, has thrown up, or is constantly coughing, we ask that you keep them home from school. We ask that a student be fever free and vomit free for at least 24 hours before coming back to school. By following these guidelines, we hope to decrease the spread of these easily transmittable illnesses! Thank you!!

## **\*Holiday Boutique Planning Meeting**

Each year we hold a Holiday Boutique fundraiser and we need volunteers to help make it a success!! Plans are underway for this year's Boutique and we would LOVE your help! This year's boutique will be bigger and better than ever, and we'd love any suggestions or ideas that you have. Please contact Michelle Goudge at [mgoudge@gmail.com](mailto:mgoudge@gmail.com) or 218.556.2484 if you can help!



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ARTISTS WANTED! Our 3rd Annual Holiday Boutique will be held November 16 and 17. We are excited to announce that this year we will host our own in-house Art Gallery at the boutique! Our theme is "Deck the Halls," and we will display APA students' artwork that centers around this theme. This is something that students will do on their own, outside of art class. Use your creativity! All submissions must be dropped off at the Draper 2 office no later than November 6. Please direct any questions to [apadraper2events@gmail.com](mailto:apadraper2events@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing the talents and creativity of our APA students!

## **\*\*Field Trip Donations**

FIELD TRIPS!!! Our elementary students in grades 1-6 take two field trips per year. Kindergarten students will go to the zoo for their end-of-year field trip. Field trips are important - and FUN - learning experiences for our students!!

The transportation to the field trips is quite expensive. In past years we have had parent volunteer drivers because the cost of buses is about \$11.00 per student per trip. This year, we are hoping to use buses for all our field trips and we are asking parents to help us to provide this great opportunity to your child. We need your kind donation of \$11.00 per field trip (\$22.00 total for grades 1-6).

The school's foundation - American Preparatory Education Foundation - is graciously heading up the field trip donation effort this year. Please go to <https://www.americanprepfoundation.org/programs> to make your online donation. When you hit the page, scroll down to "Program Enhancement" and from the drop-down menu choose "Draper 2 Field Trips".

You may also send a check made out to APEF if you prefer.

Although we hope to receive donations of \$22.00 from every parent, we welcome donations of a greater amount to help cover where we may fall short. THANK YOU!!

## **From the Academic Office**

### **DIBELS Day!!!**

This week on Tuesday we had our first DIBELS day. DIBELS is a state-required reading test, where the students read multiple grade level passages for 1 minute to measure their reading speed and fluency. We were able to assess all 1300 students present on the same day!!! All students also had an extra PE, Music, or Art class that day and we cancelled groups! Reading fluency is important at APA. There have been studies done by the University of Oregon finding that if a student can read at a certain fluency rate then their comprehension of scientific text increases. There are different benchmarks for different grades that your student's homeroom teacher will go over with you at your parent teacher conferences in October. Please talk to your student about how the day went, make sure you are practicing your student's reading fluency every night and encourage reading at home!



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The benchmarks are as follows:

1st grade: N/A

2nd grade: 80 wpm

3rd grade: 97 wpm

4th grade: 111 wpm

5th grade 132 wpm

6th grade: 150 wpm

## **Academic Update: Reading University - Due for all students Monday, October 1st**

The goal of the Reading University program is to instill a love for independent reading in our students. Our RU booklist provides value-based literature and varied informational texts that reinforce positive character traits, strengthen vocabulary, and enrich our curriculum.

Students are required to read a specified number of books each term from the Reading University book list and according to their grade level requirements. Please check your student's learning plan or email their homeroom teacher if you do not know the assigned number of books.

The RU book list is on the Draper 2 website at the top of the page titled "Reading University."

Guidelines for RU books:

- Students may read books at grade level, one grade level below their level, or at any level above their grade level.
- Students in Kindergarten and First Grade have the option of self-reading or being read to.
- Books that are on the RU list qualify for this program and students are allowed one free choice book not on the list per term.
- Students may not read a book for credit more than one time.
- Books read to students in school do not qualify for RU credit.

## **From the Front Office**

We are having such a great time getting to know the school, the processes, and most importantly, YOUR KIDDOS!! We have learned so much over the last few weeks and really appreciate your patience with us as we continue figuring all this out!

Just a few reminders:

- Every class eats lunch, every day, so please remember to send food with your student.
- Also about lunch, APA doesn't have forks or spoons available for the students so, if your student will need one, please be sure to pack one.
- Your child's safety is incredibly important to us. As such, if your student needs to leave school early, please, please, PLEASE plan enough time to wait in line while we
  - check your ID
  - look up your student



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- find which homeroom/groups/specials class he/she is in
- call said classroom
- have your student gather his/her things
- and have your student walk to the office.
- For the health of all our students, if your child vomits at school, he/she MUST be taken home.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us -- we love them all!

## **\*Parking**

If you need to come into the school during the school day, please park in the VISITOR parking spots. They are painted with white paint. Please do not park in any of the numbered spots, as those are reserved for staff parking. Thank you!

## **\*Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem**

If you are entering our building, or in the building somewhere, and we are underway with either the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem, please stop and respectfully participate! The front office takes this very seriously and we will stop what we are doing to participate in both. We think this is a FANTASTIC way to start the day.

## **\*Parent Messages to Students**

Thank you to those parents who have been diligent in getting messages to their students via the student's teacher -- it has been very helpful to not have to track them down during groups!

Although we would love to be able to get personal messages from parents to students during the school day, it is not possible for us to consistently do this. As you know, our students are on the move all day long! Students are going from the classroom to groups classes to specials (music, art, PE) and recess. Did you know our students have at least 10-15 transitions every day? Finding a student to pass along a message is quite a feat! So with only 2 secretaries in the office to serve our parents and guests and students who are ill, we really are not in a position to leave the office to run messages to students. Please communicate any message that needs to get to your student with the homeroom teacher via email the night before (preferably) or first thing in the morning.

## **\*Attendance**

- **Absences:** when your student is absent -- whatever the reason and whenever you learn they will not be attending -- please **email the front office** (d2attendance@apamail.org) **AND** your student's teacher (First Letter Of The Teacher's First Name Full Last Name @[apamail.org](mailto:apamail.org)).
- **Tardies:** when your student is tardy -- whatever the reason and whatever the time of day -- an adult needs to walk him/her into the building and sign him/her in. If it is before 9:20 am, your student will not need a pink slip for class, but an adult still must be present to sign off that the student wasn't just sluffing :)



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## **\*Lost and Found**

Items in the Lost and Found will be donated at the end of every month. If your student is missing a docket or a water bottle or headband or sweater or lunchbox -- please come claim it today!!

## **\*Air Quality**

APA receives updates daily on the air quality in the valley. The air quality system has differing levels, with red being the worst air quality. On red days, we will often keep the students inside. If your child has a particular need to stay inside on orange or yellow days, please be sure your child's teacher is aware and you have included that information on your child's health alert.

## **Spirit Day NEWS!**

We are excited to announce that the **first Friday** of every month will be "Spirit Day". Wear your favorite American Prep shirt or sweatshirt along with Friday dress standards. This will be a combined calendar event for both of our Draper 2 and 3 buildings. Click on the following link to get your spirit wear before our next "Spirit Day" on Friday, Oct. 5th.

<https://www.americanprep.org/product-category/spirit-wear/>

## **\*Friends of APA**

We all know that American Prep's greatest assets are our teachers and staff!

Research shows one of the most important factors affecting student learning is the teacher. When students are placed with a high-performing teacher three years in a row, gains in student achievement are significant and their chances of attending college are increased.

Friends of APA has created a unique way to say "thank you" by forming the Builders Club. The **Builders Club** is a program that provides bonuses and staff compensation for our teachers. We invite all our parents to become members of the **Builders Club** by making monthly donations for each student that attends APA. We want to reward our teachers so we can retain them and provide an excellent education for our students well into the future.

If you love your child's teacher, join the Builders Club!

<https://www.americanprepfoundation.org/apa-builders-club>

You can also donate in person each month at the front office.

## **\*School Supply Donations**

American Prep takes care of all the school supplies our students need during the year. We provide pencil pouches, pens, pencils, writing paper and a docket to all of our students. Our dockets help keep



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papers organized and help students acquire the organizational skills needed to become successful in their educational endeavors. Parents need to supply a clean uniform and a nutritional lunch for their student each day.

<https://www.americanprepfoundation.org/programs>

## **Family Support Organization - Volunteer Opportunities**

Dear Parents,

The school year is moving at a rapid pace! We have a few things coming up and we would love your help!

1. **Box Tops Volunteers:** All of our classroom teachers now have an Academic Support Team (AST) Lead so please watch for emails from your AST regarding the needs in your student's classroom. Currently, each AST is looking for someone to help the FSO with box tops. If you are looking for a way to fulfill your volunteer hours but can't come in to the school this is a great way to do that. You will collect the box tops from your teacher and then organize them and turn them back in to the FSO to be submitted for the funds they provide.
2. **Veterans Day Assembly** - On Thursday, November 8th at 9:00 a.m. and again at 11:30 a.m. we will be having our WONDERFUL Veterans Day assemblies! We need parents to help on the Veterans Day Committee! If you would like to help plan this event and be there that day to welcome our guests and help the event run smoothly, please contact Mr. McVicar and Mrs. Adamson by emailing them! [kmcvicar@apamail.org](mailto:kmcvicar@apamail.org) and [cadamson@apamail.org](mailto:cadamson@apamail.org).
3. **Staff Meals for PTC!** On October 25th and October 26th, the FSO needs your help to provide meals for the awesome staff at APA. Please follow the link below for all of the details.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4ea8ab2fa4fe3-staff>

As always we appreciate all of our volunteers and the time and energy they put into our school. Don't forget to turn in all of your volunteers hours!

**\*If you have volunteer hours, please record them on your weekly communication envelope or email your hours to [volunteerdraper2@apamail.org](mailto:volunteerdraper2@apamail.org)**

Nicole Harman  
FSO Director Draper 2  
[nharman@apamail.org](mailto:nharman@apamail.org)





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## **\*\*Assembly Etiquette**

At American Prep, we have many different assemblies for various events and weekly student "Show What You Know" assemblies. At these assemblies we ask everyone to observe the following protocols:

- Please always find a seat. We do not want any guests standing during an assembly.
- Please stay for the entire program. It is not good manners to get up and leave in the middle of an assembly. Please just plan on spending the extra time in the assembly if coming to see your student.
- When the Pledge and National Anthem start, please stop and pause where you are and participate by being respectful, reciting the Pledge and singing along with the National Anthem. Please do not try and enter the room during this time, just stay in the lobby or outside the door.

## **Character Development**

by Mandy Brown

A big shout out to Shana Hawes, Mindy Guzman, Sandra Galindo, Kellie Bywater (and her son!), Hailey Slaugh, Rachel Haymond, Laurel Arnold, Brenda Salazar, Haley Vijayaraghavan, and Evelyn Muir for helping us with our 6th grade "FriendSHIP" event last week. We couldn't have done it without you! We hope you had fun with us.

Your students were able to use their imaginations and go "back in time" to "see" Amelia Earhart during lunch this week. She was a great example of enthusiasm! Ask your child something that he/she may have learned. "Flying planes isn't always plain sailing, but it is always fun!" -Amelia Earhart

IMPORTANT REMINDER! ... we want to collect more stories of service! Please let us know about YOUR CHILD serving an elderly neighbor, volunteering with their sports team to clean up a park, going as a family to walk dogs at the Humane Society, etc. Send your stories and photos to [mandy.brown@apamail.org](mailto:mandy.brown@apamail.org) to be featured all month long on our Builder Bulletin Board (located in the kindergarten/first grade hall).

## **\*\*School-to-Parent Communication**

A weekly newsletter from the Administrative Director will be emailed to American Prep families. Additionally, there will be a weekly communication envelope sent home with the youngest student of each family which will contain a paper copy of our newsletter, additional flyers and other paper materials. This envelope will go home with students on Thursdays or Fridays. The newsletter will contain notification of important dates and events, as well as pertinent school news and information.

**Please empty the contents and return the Communication Envelope with your student the following Monday, signing that you have received it.**



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## **After School Clubs**

If you have students participating in an afterschool club there is no supervision provided for their siblings. Please do not expect our staff to supervise siblings during after school clubs. Parents are welcome to come in during this time and provide supervision for siblings, otherwise please make arrangements to pick up any student not participating in one of the after school activities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

## **\*Chess Club**

The first Chess Club meeting was last Monday and we had 3 parents that stayed and played along with our students. The next meeting will be Monday Oct. 1st in the 2nd floor art room #233 from 3:30-4:30 pm . Students can come alone or with their parents.

## **Carpool Corner**

A few of our parents have been stopped recently by the Draper City Police regarding some of the traffic laws on Lone Peak Parkway. We don't want you to receive a ticket so be safe by remembering to follow these recommendations: Always turn right during carpool drop off and pick up by coming in from the north and exiting out the south. Please do not park in the bike lane and be courteous to our neighborhood next to the school. The impacts of our traffic are being closely monitored and will affect the approval of our performing arts auditorium at the Draper 3 building. Thank you for your cooperation!

## **Veterans Day**

We are very excited for our Veterans Day celebration which will take place on Thursday, November 8th! We will have 2 assemblies to honor our Veterans, one at 9:00 a.m. and one at 11:30 a.m. This assembly is an opportunity for students and families to invite a Veteran friend or family member to come and be honored by our student body. We usually have about 80 Veteran guests! It is a wonderful event. Due to the space constraints in our gymnasium, only parents who are accompanying Veteran guests, or parents who are volunteering at the event are able to attend in person. We hope to livestream the assembly so parents can watch it online!

Be thinking about a Veteran you could invite to this wonderful assembly! We will be sending home an invitation you can give to a Veteran in the communication envelopes the 2nd week in October. Watch future emails from your student's teacher to learn which assembly your child will be attending.

**Volunteers needed!** If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Kevin McVicar and Cathie Adamson by emailing them at [kmcvicar@apamail.org](mailto:kmcvicar@apamail.org) and [cadamson@apamail.org](mailto:cadamson@apamail.org).