



Calendar

- Friday, September 1 Spirit Wear Day!
- Monday, September 4 Labor Day - No School
- Friday, September 8 5th Grade Friendship Event 12:15pm-3:15pm
- Tuesday, September 12 Parent Empowerment Night - Internet & Cell phone Safety 7pm
- Friday, September 15 Jeans Day for No #2s or #7s from 8/17-9/14
- Friday, September 15 6th Grade Take Flight Event 12:15pm-3:15pm
- Friday, September 15 Midterm Deadline 3:45pm
- Friday, September 15 Fall Festival 5pm-8pm
- Tuesday, September 19 Reading the Constitution 10am
- Friday, September 22 1st-3rd Grade Field Trips
- Friday, September 29 4th-6th Grade Field Trips

Hello American Prep Families,

Our Builder Theme for the month of September is **“I Am A Builder When I Show Enthusiasm!”**

It’s been a great week at American Prep! Our students and teachers are the embodiment of our Builders Theme –Building with enthusiasm. Thank you to our great parents who are also enthusiastically supporting your children, assisting them to complete their homework, ensuring they are prepared for school each day!

You may wonder why enthusiasm is so important to us at American Prep – well, in our Parent Student Handbook you will find the following is one of our Foundations:

“Enthusiasm: Enthusiasm propels one on to greater effort. Enthusiasm makes work enjoyable and provides encouragement for others to put forth increased effort. It is the responsibility of every member of the American Prep community to bring enthusiasm to their work and to their associations at school.”

So you can see, we understand that enthusiasm is a key component to our success as a school, and more importantly the success of your student! We commit as staff members to bring enthusiasm to our work each day with your students, because we know it will result in higher effort being put forth by your child, and greater success! We greatly appreciate our parents who also bring enthusiasm to us in our interactions and help us put forth our best efforts!

Be A Builder

All students are memorizing the Builders Poem in school. We also ask during the month of August & September that our families memorize the Builders Poem.

Builders

I saw them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.

With a yo heave ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and the sidewall fell.

I asked the foreman if these men were as skilled
As those he would hire if he were to build.

He laughed and said, "Oh, no indeed,
Common labor is all I need,

For they can wreck in a day or two,
What builders have taken years to do."

So I asked myself, as I went my way,
Which of these roles am I to play?

Am I the builder, who works with care,
Measuring life by the rule and square;

Or am I the wrecker who walks the town,
Content in the role of tearing down?

I've made my decision; I'll start today,
I'll be a builder in every way.

Parent Student Handbook Spotlight

Electronic Free School Nights

American Prep recommends that families adopt a "no TV, no Video games" policy Monday through Thursday. There has been lots of research showing that it is not good for students to watch television and play video games on a daily basis. Lack of physical exercise is resulting in obesity in epidemic proportions in our country, even in our children. We encourage our families to provide opportunities for their students to exercise through play and study during the weekday evenings.

Spirit Wear Day - September 1st!

D2's first Spirit Wear Day of the school year is Friday, September 1st! We have a few spirit wear items available at the elementary office or you may order online at www.americanprep.org/store. Show your APA pride on Friday! All prior year spirit wear items are also allowed! Locate those Fun Run shirts, art contest shirts, etc and let's rock Spirit Wear Day!

Families with students attending D2 & D3

We love that so many families are choosing to continue receiving their education at the D3 campus. A reminder for carpool pick up...families need to first pick up JH and HS students at Draper 3 and then make a second stop at the Draper 2 campus for elementary students. Please do not send your JH or HS Draper 3 student to the Draper 2 campus to pick up their sibling. We also ask that you do not instruct your Draper 2 elementary student to walk over to Draper 3 to hang out or get picked up. This is for the safety of the students.

Uniform Reminders

Casual Friday continues for another year! Students in grades K-6 may wear khaki pants with solid navy polo-style shirts on Fridays. Shoes remain the same style as Monday-Thursday.

Additional Clarifications: Following are some uniform notes that we feel need clarification:

- Shoes must be solid black in color with no embellishments or visible patterns. Students may wear black athletic or dress shoes.
- White polo shirts are only part of the K-3 uniform. 4th-6th grade students must wear the uniform appropriate blouse or shirt, not a white polo.
- In K-3, girls may wear either a white polo or blouse under their jumpers. K-3 boys may wear a white polo with a navy sweater/vest or a navy blue polo.
- Khaki pants/shorts must be uniform style dress pants/shorts. They should be loose (able to pinch an inch of loose fabric.) Peg leg, skinny, or tight-fitting pants, cargo, or jean style pants are not uniform appropriate. No outside pockets.

If a student is out of uniform they may be sent to the office to call home. Students may not be allowed in class without the proper uniform.

Drop Off/Pick Up (aka Carpool)

We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as families and staff are learning the drop off and pick up procedures. This time of day is a perfect opportunity to demonstrate to your children and APA neighbors on how to be a builder. A few reminders:

1. Display your carpool tag on the rearview mirror. If it is on the dash or seat next to you it is difficult for our staff to see and allow your vehicle on the property.
2. Instruct your child(ren) to enter and exit the vehicle on the side nearest the curb. This is for your child's safety as well as keeping the flow of traffic moving.
3. If you have business to conduct inside the school, park in a visitor parking space. If you park in a numbered stall, you are taking a spot that belongs to a staff member and delaying them from entering the building and beginning their job (helping your student have a successful day)!
4. If you do not live in the neighborhood directly North of APA, this is NOT a place for APA traffic. Please be courteous and do not use the neighborhood to turn around and/or use as a staging area until your pick up time.

Visiting American Prep

Please remember that anytime you need to come to school; even if it is to deliver a lunch or a docket; you must stop by the office to sign in and get a visitor's badge. You will be asked to return to the office if you are not wearing a visitor badge. We have quite a few new staff members who would not know if you are a parent to one of our students or someone dangerous. Please help us keep all of our students and staff safe.

Parent Empowerment Meetings

Our 1st parent empowerment meeting of the year will be held via zoom on September 12th. The topic is Internet and Cell Phone Safety. Join us at the following link: <https://uetn-org.zoom.us/j/89267303321>

Character Development Corner

FIFTH GRADE students have their first ambassador event on FRIDAY, September 8th during the school day. We LOVE our parent volunteers: Sign up here

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0444afae29abfc1-5thgrade8#/>

SIXTH GRADE students have their first ambassador event on FRIDAY, September 15th during the school day. (Watch for the sign-up genius if you'd like to volunteer!)

*CALLING ALL PARENTS!: Our annual College Fair has become a wonderful tradition which is only possible due to our AMAZING PARENT VOLUNTEERS that day! Did you love your college experience? Do you have a career you are passionate about? Then you would be PERFECT to join us this year!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27th is the date! Watch for the sign up genius, but save the date for now! Watch this two minute video from a past college fair!

<https://vimeo.com/739049195/813158f533>

You will be doing a 7 minute presentation/interactive experience up to 5 times in one hour (for up to 5 different classes who rotate in) So for example, a pediatrician who graduated from the U might bring a Utah flag, a Utah t-shirt, and have a stethoscope, a blood pressure cuff, and a roll of stickers to give away. **it is not required that you give something away at your presentation! At your presentation, you could have a demonstration, a game, or anything else to show a group of approximately 20 kids (one class) in our large upstairs multipurpose room. Searching "pinterest" or "google" you can find a lot of great ideas. (one hour of your time will be up to 150 kids that you are presenting to, 30 at a time)

More ideas on presentations here: <https://www.sparksinslp.com/college-and-career-exploration.html>

Wolfpack Running Club

Great news! APA has a new Head Coach. He's Rocco Losurdo, an experienced runner and athletic trainer. Along with Wolfpack's structured training program, Rocco's in-depth knowledge, skills and abilities will make the APA pack the best.

Please consider signing up to be his Assistant Coach. Your kid(s) will be free. No experience is needed, and we'll train you. Registration will be open until September 10 for late registrants.

Your athletes will learn the basics of cross country, trail running, and endurance running—through game-based workouts, fun lessons, and a primary focus on individual improvement. Practices will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Draper City Park.

The season includes 6 weeks of fun and challenging practices + 2 meets per season + Racing jersey + Tons of new friends. Here's the link for more information and to register.

<https://wolfpackrunning.org/services/elementary/>

The season starts September 5 and ends October 13.

If you have questions, please text or call Tom Sharkey, Wolfpack Director of Elementary at 443-939-7133.

Compliance Items

Professional Qualifications

Our parent surveys consistently express confidence and overwhelming satisfaction with our teachers at American Prep. In accordance with state regulation, all APA teachers are licensed through one of three licensing paths: Professional, Associates and LEA specific. Parents are welcome at any time to request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers including: 1) whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction or whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; 2) the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and 3) whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

American Prep recognizes that parent and family engagement is key to student achievement. We provide many opportunities for parents and family members to participate in, and stay informed of, their student's academic achievement.

American Preparatory Academy trains staff annually during pre-service and teacher academy on how to communicate, build meaningful connections, and otherwise involve parents/families and the school. These topics are reinforced during professional development opportunities throughout the year as needed.

Additional details regarding Parent and Family Engagement are available in the annual Parent-Student Handbooks (PSHB) which are distributed annually, posted on the school websites, and available in Spanish at our West Valley campuses.

For the full District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, please refer to this [link](#) on the Policy page of the americanprep.org website.

School Parent and Family Engagement Policies

School Parent Involvement Policies vary slightly by campus and are located within the Parent-Student Handbooks <https://www.americanprep.org/parent-student-handbooks/>. These Handbooks are distributed annually to parents and are now accessible on the APA website under the Parent Library drop-down tab. West Valley Parent-Student Handbooks will be available in Spanish.

Mandated Assessments and Opt-Outs

American Preparatory recognizes that Standardized Testing is an essential tool for measuring student learning and teacher success. The data obtained from these assessments may be utilized by teachers and administrators to review student academic progress, plan instruction, and share with students and parents. Summative assessments allow for data to be used in public reporting about school quality. Parents may opt-out of most state standardized tests by submitting a Parental Exclusion form to the Academic Director. You can learn more about the state assessments administered at American Prep and find the testing schedules for your student's campus by following this link: <https://www.americanprep.org/state-assessments/>.