



**September Builders' Theme:
I am a builder when I build with enthusiasm
September 21, 2017**

Las Vegas - School Calendar

Wednesday, September 27th	9th-12th Grades Tailgate Party and Lunch
Friday, September 29th	9th-12th Grades Homecoming Dance
Friday, October 6 th	NO SCHOOL GRADES 7-12 –Parent/Teacher Conference Day
Friday, October 6 th	1:20/1:35 Dismissal Grades K-6
Friday, October 6 th	BUILDERS CARNIVAL 5PM-8PM
Wednesday, October 10 th	PSAT for 10 th & 11 th Grade
Friday, October 13 th	Last Day of Term 1
Friday, October 13 th	****SPIRIT DAY
October 16 th – October 20 th	NO SCHOOL-FALL BREAK

****Spirit Day - Students are allowed to wear any of our APA Spirit Apparel shirts, (no hats please). Students still need to wear their uniform socks, shoes, and skirts/pants/jumpers. The Spirit Store is open every Wednesday from 8:30AM - 2:00PM. To purchase online, click on this link: <http://www.americanprep.org/store/>

September Builder Theme: Building with Enthusiasm!

The meaning of enthusiasm is intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval. The source of the word is the Greek “enthousiasmos,” which ultimately comes from the adjective entheos, “having the God within.”

As you read the six traits below, think about yourself and where your strengths are. Pay attention throughout this week to the characteristics that you could improve upon with practice.

Enthusiastic people **RADIATE ENERGY**. When these people walk into a room, heads turn and people gather. Their smile lights up a room.

Enthusiastic people are **CURIOUS AND INTERESTED** in life. They love learning and live in a state of wonder, surprise, and delight.

Enthusiastic people **FOCUS ON THE GOOD** (even when things aren't). They emphasize what they can do rather than what they can't do.

Enthusiastic people **FEEL DEEPLY AND LAUGH OFTEN**. They show compassion for life's difficulties and use humor to help themselves and others through tough times. Enthusiastic people **DO SOMETHING THEY LOVE** every day, no matter how small. They are passionate about their work, hobbies, craft, or the sports they play and it shows.

Enthusiastic people **SERVE A GREATER PURPOSE** than themselves. They have a desire to help others and build community.

<http://livingwithenthusiasm.com/characteristics.htm>

Elementary Academic Update:

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:

1. Students may read books at grade level, one grade level below their level, or at any level above their grade level.
2. Students in Kindergarten and First Grade have the option of self-reading or being read to.
3. Only books that are on the RU list qualify for this program.
4. Students may not read a book for credit more than one time.
5. Books read to students in school do not qualify for RU credit.
6. Students are allowed to choose one book NOT on the RU list each term.

The Reading list was created by our awesome families over the many years APA has been open. If you know of books that you feel set examples for our students to follow as they develop personal character, form relationships, overcome hardships, determine right and wrong, and deal with life, these would be great additions and you would like to have those books added to the Reading University List, please contact your Academic Director.

We are always excited to get new books added to our Reading University lists!

SCHOOL NEWS (K-12th GRADES)

APEF is Friends of APA

Have you heard of American Prep's Education Foundation or APEF? Beginning this year, we will be known as *Friends of APA*! Friends of APA's mission is to enhance the APA experience for our students and families by providing energy, expertise, and financial support to each school. We are excited about this new school year, and we are dedicated to the success of each student on every campus.

What does Friends of APA do?

- Friends of APA supports ALL fundraising for extra-curricular programs and capital improvements at each campus like dance team, Lego club, Madrigals, Fall Festival, sports, and more!
- Friends of APA awards scholarships for APA students.
- Friends of APA sponsors a hardship fund to help staff, students, and families experiencing financial crises.
- Friends of APA promotes the *Builders Club initiative*. Research shows that the most significant positive effect on student achievement is his or her teacher. It is the purpose of the Builders Club to help *attract and retain the best teachers and staff* by supplying a solid source of compensation for staff bonuses. The Builders Club is a subscription based donation program wherein these funds build and bolster our ability to acquire matching assistance from corporate and community organizations. *All American Prep families are encouraged to join the Builders Club by making a monthly donation of any amount.* 100% of these dollars are used for teacher and staff compensation. Last year, Friends of APA contributed 10% of the total APA bonus program. It is our goal this year to increase that percentage to 20% as well as obtain matching contributions from the community. *Please go to <https://www.americanprepfoundation.org/apa-builders-club> to join today!*

Adult Open Gym-volleyball Tuesday nights at APA

APA will be having adult open gym night at our school on Tuesdays from 9 p.m.-11 p.m. There is an entry fee of \$3 each Tuesday you attend. Our APA Volleyball program is doing this for a fundraiser for their teams. This is an **adult open gym**, please spread the word among your family and friends. If you have any questions please contact HGrace@hutchlegal.com.

New drop-off time

As a reminder our drop off time in the morning begins at 7:25 a.m. Please take advantage of this new schedule to avoid long lines while dropping off your student/s. Again, ensure your student/s are aware of how to quickly and safely get out of the vehicle. A prompt drop off will help speed up the carpool time and get the students in class before 8:00 a.m. Have your student/s ready to go with their backpacks and lunches once your vehicle is at a complete stop by the curb.

Pick-up times and waiting early by the school

Please see times listed below and remember that your pick-up times are also listed on your carpool tags.

Mon., Tues., Friday.

1st release is at 3:05 p.m.

2nd release is at 3:15 p.m.

3rd release is at 3:30 p.m.

Wed., Thursday.

1st release is at 2:05 p.m.

2nd release is at 2:15 p.m.

3rd release is at 2:30 p.m.

Builders' Carnival

We will start selling carnival tickets on Monday, September 25th. Tickets can be purchased via credit card on Monday from 8:15 am-11:00 am and Wednesday from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm. Please see ticket presale order form attached to this week's newsletter for more details and information.

We are still reaching out to our wonderful APA community to see if you have a business that would like to sponsor a game or food booth, donate raffle baskets, donate prizes, or have connections to a dunk tank or inflatable slide or obstacle course. Please let the FSO (Family School Organization) know if you have any connections or interest in participating in this way by emailing FSO@apavegas.org. Thank you.

Banker Hours and Location

We have now designated specific people, hours and location for receiving all money at the school. The “banker” can be found at the elementary office Monday-Friday from 7:45 a.m.-8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The banker can receive money for all club fees, class fees, rental fees, PE uniforms, new dockets or name tags.

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus links have been emailed out! Every parent/guardian will receive a separate link. If you had an account before, you will be asked to change your password. If you are logging on for the first time, the email will have all instructions on how to access your student(s) portal. You may also receive multiple emails, one for each student. All siblings should be tied to your account, so you only need to click on one of the links. Please be sure you can view ALL of your students on the portal. If you cannot, please email cindy.mayo@apavegas.org for secondary students or faun.nelson@apavegas.org for elementary students. If you have NOT received an email from the Infinite Campus Message Center, please first check your spam and junk folder, then email Cindy Mayo or Faun Nelson to validate the email address we have on file. This link to access and set up your account will only be valid until OCTOBER 1st! Please setup your account as soon as possible.

APA Eagles Volleyball Games Saturday

This Saturday we will be hosting our league volleyball games here at APA. Please come out and support our Volleyball Program and cheer on our teams. We are looking for Volunteers this Saturday to work the Snack Shack and Entry. Please use the sign up to get your volunteer hours.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45ada82da5f58-fall>

Game Times AT APA

10:00 a.m. 7th /8th grade TEAM A vs Predators

1:00 p.m. 5th /6th Grade Team vs Blue Sharks

** 7th / 8th Grade TEAM "B" has NO game this week

Entry Fee:

\$1 for each entry. Staff admission is free with Staff ID. Students are free if they are wearing APA spirit wear or PE shirt. Please enter on the back side of the school and use the entrance with the ramp.

Saturday Volunteers:

Entry fee, snack shack and line judges are needed for the games on Saturday. If you would like to get some volunteer hours, please use the sign-up link and sign up today! Remember all families are required to volunteer 20 hours for the school year. You can use these volunteer hours toward those 20 hours.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45ada82da5f58-fall>

Thank you in advance for volunteering and supporting our wonderful school. If you have any questions, please direct them to **activities@apavegas.org**.

SECONDARY NEWS (7th-12th Grade)

At this time we would like to thank those who volunteer their time at our school. We especially would like to thank the parents and staff who volunteer to help us with our sports and clubs. It is incredible to us as we see the hard work that is put in to provide these opportunities to our students. To coaches, leaders, and all volunteers, thank you!

Last week we highlighted our character development program. As a “part 2” to that highlight we would like to remind everyone that our fourth period class is our character development period. At times we will have silent study time when homework can be completed. However, this class is for character development and this is the main priority for that designated period of time.

Speech & Debate: *We need volunteers this weekend!*

The High School Speech & Debate students will compete in a league tournament this coming weekend at Desert Oasis High School. This is their first opportunity to compete this season at a GDSA tournament, so wish them luck!

This weekend’s upcoming tournament is also a great way for our APA parents to get involved. We need parents to help out at the tournaments as judges and there is no experience required.

Friday 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday 7:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.

You do not need volunteer for the whole day, choose hours that work in your schedule. Those of you that work and are unable to volunteer during regular school hours, these

Friday/Saturday tournaments are a great way for you to get in your volunteer hours. Please email kimberly.abbott@apavegas.org if you are interested in volunteering this weekend or any time during the year (you do not have to have a secondary student).

APA High School Basketball: *Hard. Smart. Together.*

In preparation for the upcoming season, we are holding a meeting for all high school boys (grades 9-12) interested in trying out for APA's high school basketball team next Monday, September 25, at 3:15 p.m. in Coach Brinsko's room (Room 274). We will be discussing the pre-season schedule (open gyms and conditioning) as well as disseminating information about our participation in the Charter League this season.

Any student wishing to participate in any basketball activities (including preseason activities) needs a current physical on file with our Athletic Department. If you do not have a current physical, please make plans to get one as soon as you can: it is our intent to start our pre-season open gyms next Thursday (September 28).

Finally, we still need some more parent volunteer coaches for our basketball team this season. In particular, we need some additional help at the junior high (7-8 grade) and elementary (3-4, 5-6) grade levels. Anyone interested in volunteering should email Coach Brinsko at Tony.Brinsko@apavegas.org or call him at (702) 510-8458. Thank you!

We are not meeting with the parents at this time (though parents are welcome to attend). The primary purpose of the meeting is to inform the players about our open gym times and pre-season conditioning schedule. We also will be discussing our participation in the Charter League (including the \$200 activities fee). As soon as we have all of the pertinent information, I will create a flyer and email it to the students who have expressed interest in playing and their parents. I intend on having a second meeting with the parents closer to the start of the season, when all of the details about our participation in the Charter League have been finalized.

8th Grade Barn Event- September 20th

Our 8th grade students put on their cowboy hats and bandanas for all of the fun at the Barn Dance & BBQ Event! Our students did a wonderful job practicing skills such as listening during conversation, the importance of teamwork, how to seat a lady, and how having a positive attitude makes a big difference when the going gets rough! A big "thank you" to our parent volunteers who helped our event to be a success!

9th-12th Tailgate Party and Lunch- September 27th

During Lunch on September 27th we will be having a Tailgate PARTY! Student Government has been hard at work planning a great time! Students are encouraged to bring cash to purchase lunch, drinks, and snacks. If you would like to donate the following things, sign up here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d48aea72ca0f58-tailgate>

9th-12th Grade
Tailgate Party



Wednesday, September 27th
12:20-2:00 PM
In the Highschool Parking lot
Featuring: D.J. Pami3G
Lunch, snacks and drinks available for purchase!
All students will go to 2nd lunch

Games and Activities Include:
Giant Jenga
Face Painting
Plinko
Photobooth \$1

9th-12th Homecoming Dance- September 29th

9th-12th Grade will be having a Homecoming Dance!

We will be having a themed dance on Friday, September 29th. The dance will be held from at 3:15-5:00 p.m. We will start the dance right after school. Pick up for the Homecoming Dance will be at 5:00 p.m. at your students assigned curb. **PLEASE be on time to pick up your students!!**

We will not be allowing dates from other schools at this dance.

Student Government asks that students come TO SCHOOL dressed in clothing representing your grade's assigned decade (shown below):

9th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1950's
10th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1970's

11th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1980's
12th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1990's

Clothing **MUST** follow these guidelines:

- a. Clothing should be hemmed and free from excessive tears, rips, and holes, and NOT SAGGING
- b. Clothing must cover undergarments and the back. **This includes not wearing leggings as pants.**
- c. **All clothing must cover shoulders. No exposed bellies or bare midriffs. Pants, dresses, or skirts must come to the knee. No sleeveless or see-through shirts or blouses.**

The following are NOT allowed:

- open toed footwear such as sandals or flip-flops
- muscle shirts (tank tops)
- clothing that is overly tight, revealing, or extremely short
- NO shorts, leggings, or yoga pants

We have a few things that we need volunteers for, if you are interested sign up here:

To Donate Items: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d48aea72ca0f58-homecoming>

To Help Clean Up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d48aea72ca0f58-homecoming1>

9th-12th Grade Homecoming- Spirit Days

9th-12th Grade Students will receive "spirit points" for their grade, for every student who participates in the following dress-up days:

Monday: Silly Sock Day

Tuesday: Different Tie Day

Wednesday: Free Shoe Day (All shoes **must** be closed toe)

Thursday: APA Spirit Shirts

Friday: Clothes for the Dance:

9th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1950's

10th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1970's
11th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1980's
12th grade students should dress in clothing representing the 1990's

That week we will be tallying "spirit points" by grade. The grade with the most "spirit points" will receive a **NO UNIFORM DAY!**

Yearbook Grades 7th-12th

Our first yearbook club meeting will be Thursday, September 21st from 2:15 - 3:15. This will be an informational meeting for students. The meeting will be held in the 7/8 grade lunchroom after dismissal. Parent pick up will be at the front of the school in the north side parking lot at 3:15. Students will get dismissed from the meeting and parents can pick their students up curbside. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Braybrooke at **adrian.braybrooke@apavegas.org**.