



AMERICAN PREPARATORY ACADEMY
LAS VEGAS CAMPUS

March Builders' Theme:

I am a builder when I am willing to try and believe in my ability to succeed
March 1, 2018

Las Vegas - School Calendar

Thursday, March 1 st	8-9 th Grade Science Fair
Thursday, March 1 st	5 th Grade Maturation Night 5:00pm
Monday-Friday, March 5-9 th	K-6 Classroom Speech Festival
Wednesday, March 7 th	K-6 Builder Assembly 8:00am
Monday, March 12 th	No School Professional Development
Tuesday-Friday March 13-16 th	9-12th Grade Spirit Week
Wednesday, March 14 th	5 th Grade Hoedown
Thursday, March 15 th	4-6 School Speech Festival 1:00pm
Friday, March 16 th	K-3 School Speech Festival 1:40pm
Friday, March 30 th	Online Enrollment Packets Due
Friday, March 30 th	Spirit Day****

****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 - 12:00PM. Spirit wear can be purchased online, at: <http://www.americanprep.org/store/>

*****Celebration of Excellence*****

This meeting is held each year to include you as parents in our efforts to maintain our high standards and recommit ourselves to support our vision, philosophy, and mission as well as fill you in on changes and improvements that will be happening.

This meeting is **MANDATORY** for all families wanting to re-enroll their students for the 2018-2019 school year.

****Signing-Up****

- Please sign-up for one meeting per family at <https://vegas.americanprep.org/celebration/>
- You must arrive on time
- You must stay for the entire duration of the meeting
- Those arriving late will **NOT** be allowed to enter
- You will need to sign-up for another meeting time

For families with students entering **Grade 7** or **Grade 9**

- please select a **MORNING** meeting time
- OR Thursday or Friday evening meeting

SCHOOL NEWS (K-12th GRADES)

March Builder Theme: I am a builder when I am willing to try and believe in my ability to succeed. Have you ever watched ants? Ants can carry 50 times their own body weight, and they will work together in small or large groups to move even heavy objects. Most ants can survive around 24 hours underwater. Ants are the longest living of all insects, living for up to 30 years. Ants move an estimated 50 tons of soil per year in one square mile. *Ants are the epitome of belief in ability to succeed.* Watching ants makes me wonder, “How do children gain belief in their ability to succeed?” I think the ants show us that it comes from struggle. But because struggle brings mistakes and failure, it is sometimes a hard gift to give our children. When they are uncomfortable, or sad, or overwhelmed, it is *so* tempting to lower expectations and adjust the goal. Yet there is so much value to be gained by not doing that. Mistakes are part of the process and are wonderful learning opportunities that strengthen self-esteem. Failure prepares children for the real world. Quick fixes or rescues cause false beliefs that don’t bring lasting results. Struggle is good for the brain. Although it may be hard to not remove the struggle, children need to be challenged in order to gain their own belief in themselves and their abilities. Our children are best served if we help them develop the skills necessary to, like ants, “move heavy objects”, and “survive underwater” for a while. This is where they learn that they have the ability to succeed.

Mathnasium APA Math Night

On Tuesday, the school hosted the first **APA Math Night**. Over 60, Kindergarten through 6th grade, families attended this **FREE** family event. All of the students and their families had a great time and we are looking forward to having another Math Night at APA. All students walked away winners with their completed passports and earned their take home prizes. Congratulations to Ratchatida Perreida for winning the Parent Amazon Gift Card.

Thank you to all of the APA Families that volunteered. A HUGE shout out to our **APA KEY CLUB** members for helping this event be a success. We cannot do this without our amazing families and students.

Mathnasium contact: laurie.saposhnik@mathnasium.com

American Preparatory Academy and Yogurtland

Head over to Yogurtland located at 9516 W. Flamingo Rd. (Flamingo and the 215) on Wednesday March 14th between 11am-11pm to support American Preparatory Academy. 20% of the proceeds will go to our school! You **MUST** present flyer to purchase or mention you are with American Preparatory Academy.

Student Snack Store - Varsity Cheer Fundraiser

The Student Snack Store will now be open to all students in the mornings from 7:30am -7:55am

Yearbook Order: Deadline April 5, 2018

To order yearbooks please use the codes listed below. Order online: ybpay.lifetouch.com

Elementary Code: 12746218

Secondary Code: 12389718

ELEMENTARY NEWS (K-6)

Academic Update – Reading University Book Referrals:

Our Reading University List was compiled by the amazing parents of students at APA! Books are included on the booklist based on the following criteria:

- Does the book have an original, well-constructed plot; well developed, multidimensional character(s); and a setting that is well established and clearly defined?
- Does the book teach values such as honesty, kindness; cooperation; courage, and other values we wish our students to internalize?
- Is the overall message of the book true, or just, or moral?
- Does the book nourish the intellect and stimulate the imagination?
- Does the book have a timeless quality that spans all ages and allows it to be enjoyed by all?

In addition, non-fiction works are selected on the following basis

- Is the book written accurately?
- Is it conducive to independent reading /learning—not requiring extensive background knowledge or explanation by an adult?
- Does the book enrich subject matter and concepts consistent with APA curriculum?

Furthermore, books for primary grades are evaluated according to some additional criteria:

- Is the book appealing to children?
- Does the book reinforce concepts such as numbers and counting, rhyming, sequencing, comparing, patterning, vocabulary skills, making predictions, reading out loud, etc?
- Are the illustrations artistically stimulating?
- Do they present an excellent pictorial representation of the story?
- Do the illustrations introduce various artistic techniques and mediums, such as watercolor, oil, collage, pen and ink, etc?

If there's a book you feel should be on our Reading University List, please complete the Reading University Referral Form on our website and submit it to the Elementary Academic Office for review.

Grades 2-6: Author Visit

We were so excited to have C.W. Trisef visit with our 2nd-6th grade students this past Wednesday! If you are interested in purchasing autographed copies of his book, please complete one of the book order forms in our Elementary office by Friday, March 2nd.

SECONDARY NEWS (7th-12th Grade)

The most unavoidable thing about parenting preteens and teens is that they will inevitably grow bigger. Our students are rising upward and getting taller all over the school. You may be asking yourself, why we are addressing this in the newsletter? One area where this growth is most evident is in uniforms which are getting a little small on many of our students. Uniforms are required to be in good repair and fit appropriately. This includes, among other things, pant fit, sweater repair and fit, skirt length/fit, and shirt fit. Please see a brief review of the uniform guidelines below. Upon return from the break, the above listed points will be enforced in full. Clothing must not be too tight, short or in disrepair.

Lower Body

1. Slacks must fit the following description: Uniform slacks (no denim, tight-fitting, or corduroy). Belted, pleated or flat front, long enough to cover top of shoe, short enough to stay off floor when worn with shoes, worn no more than 2” below waist, no cargo pants or outside pockets (patch pockets), match color of Dockers or Lee khaki (not stone colored). 1. No tight-fitting slacks (must be able to pinch one inch of fabric in front and back). Slacks may NOT be tapered. **They may not be skinnier at the ankle than at the knee.**
2. Leggings may be worn under skirts. Must be black or navy-blue in K-12 and with an option of white in K-6, and full-length to the ankle. **Socks must come to the bottom of the leggings.**
3. Bicycle-type shorts are required under skirts for playground activities.
4. Skirts/Jumpers must come to the knee when standing **and sitting**...

Social Media

It has once again come to our attention that many of our Elementary, Junior High and younger High School students are utilizing social media. Many of our students who are on social media are also using it improperly. **We are excited to announce that in March we will be holding a social media night.** We look forward to helping parents understand the perils of social media in the hands of students who lack the maturity to use it. We will require some students and families to attend, while encouraging others and all families to attend with their students. All are invited. Please watch future newsletters for the dates and times of these very important meetings. Please note the section of our Parent Student Handbook which encourages all families to terminate the use of social media amongst students at APA. *“Similarly, American Preparatory Academy recommends a ‘no Social Media’ policy for students until 11th grade.”* Recent evidence shows that there are potentially damaging effects on pre and young teens who engage in use of social media without the proper maturity and brain development.”

CLUBS AND ATHLETICS

American Prep Eagles Speech and Debate

Congratulations to our High School Speech & Debate team for a great season. They finished strong by winning 2nd place overall at the last league tournament of the season. Randy Moreno took 5th place in Varsity Speech and Dillon Brouwer and Kimberly Wellington made it to finals in JV Debate. Congratulations Eagles! With the regular season at an end, our team is now gearing up for state and district competitions. We are very excited to be hosting the district competition for speech at the APA campus in April. This is a great opportunity for our parents to get involved. We are in need of judges for these events which should be easy and fun. Please volunteer a few hours of your time to judge one of our events. There is no experience required, all you have to do is listen to student speeches and decide which one you liked the best. For 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. If you are interested in helping out please sign up at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0F4EAAA72EAAFC1-speech or contact Kimberly Abbot at kimberly.abbott@apavegas.org. For more information about our High School Speech & Debate team contact lisa.cates@apavegas.org.

High School Volleyball

APA High School Volleyball had an amazing season this year. We ended the season by taking second place in the League Championship Match with 2 close games against an undefeated team. The team played awesome this season. They treated each other and each of their opponents with such grace and respect while playing great volleyball. Thanks volleyball athletes! You are amazing!

5/6 Boy Basketball

We concluded the regular season with winning records for both 5/6 Red and Navy squads. We are genuinely proud of our boys for their effort and dedication. The Navy team made the league playoffs and drew St. Rose in the first round. It was a hard-fought game and although we came up short, it exudes promise for the young program for upcoming seasons. We managed to overcome all the peaks and valleys within the season and look ahead to assisting in building a successful and dedicated basketball program. Congrats to both Red and Navy teams, GO EAGLES!!