





Because we keep very few grades during the first weeks of school, as our students are waking up their brains and adjusting to the rigor of their new schedules, there may not be many assignments reported. This is expected. You will see an increase in the number of assignments as the weeks progress. We are excited to offer this flexibility to our parents and students and are looking forward to your feedback on this new program. Thanks in advance for helping us work through the unexpected kinks and tweaks that always accompany this kind of endeavor.

### **CARPOOL—It's A Team Thing!**

Parents—so many of you are doing all you can to make carpool run as smoothly and safely as possible! THANK YOU! Our very best scenario is a carpool where EVERY parent picks up their child at the curb. This would be the safest and most efficient system for everyone. It may not be the most efficient for YOUR family...but when we look at the whole school and all of the families and what's best for EVERYONE, using the carpool system as designed is the very best way. We have wanted, for several years, to take some data on how long it takes to go through carpool, looking at arrival times, number of students you are picking up and even if your carpool number group makes a difference. We will be doing this “research” over the next couple weeks. Thanks in advance for your participation. As reminders:

- ⇒ -Please do not park on Crystal Avenue. This makes it dangerous for our walkers, is an annoyance to our neighbors, and complicates the traffic flow for parents trying to exit the parking lot. Please park in a regular parking spot.
- ⇒ -The north parking area nearest the exit will be blocked off by cones. Please avoid this area as it blocks the view of oncoming traffic for cars leaving the parking lot.
- ⇒ -If you *must* park at the north end of the building, consider backing into the parking spots. Backing out onto Crystal Avenue is hazardous during this heavy traffic time.
- ⇒ -Ask your children to be watching for you so that once you pull up to the curb they can load quickly (and you do not have to wait for staff to try and hunt them down!)

To all of you who are making this work—thank you so much! We are in this together—and your enthusiasm and support makes this part of being at a charter school so much better!

### **Reading University in Elementary—What's It All About?** (Week 3 of 4)

Reading University, often referred to as “RU”, is a program of *student independent reading*. The purpose of the program is to encourage students to read regularly, outside of school hours, and expose them to good literature. When students become enthusiastic readers, not only do they build their vocabulary and imaginations and understanding of the world, they most often see increased academic success in every subject. Time spent in independent reading has been shown to be a defining indicator in a student's academic success.

Reading University is a graded subject in elementary and will be part of your student's report card. The grade is based purely upon the number of books that your student reads each term. It is reported to the teacher by turning in the list of books (Title, Author and Parent Signature to say it was read) each term. We call this the RU Log. You should find this paper in your student's gray RU folder in their docket. If you cannot find it, please ask the teacher for another copy.



Each grade requires a different number of books to be completed for each term:

- Kindergarten—8 books per term
- 1st Grade—8 books per term
- 2nd Grade—6 books per term
- 3rd Grade—5 books per term
- 4th Grade—3 books per term
- 5th Grade—3 books per term
- 6th Grade—3 books per term

Books are selected from the Reading University book list. The RU book list is most easily accessed from the school website: [www.americanprep.org](http://www.americanprep.org). Click on our campus—West Valley I-- at the bottom of the page. Click on the “resources” tab at the top, then “Reading University”. The book lists can be viewed by grade, or books can be searched by title or author. If you need help with this, please ask your teacher or the Academic Office and we can help you.

Some other important points about Reading University:

- Students can read books that are at or above their grade level or one grade level below. (3rd graders, for example, can read books on the 2nd grade list and up)
- Students can have books read to them. This is true for not just our beginning readers in K and 1st, but students in all grades. For example, reading a book from the 6th grade list together as a family could count for each of your students.
- Books on tape are okay to use for Reading University. It is especially good to have a copy of the book as well so that the student may read along with the narrator.
- Books that are not on the RU list can also be enjoyed, but only one per term can count toward the RU reading requirements.
- Books can be checked out from the public library. Books from the RU list are also available to be checked out from the classroom library.
- At the end of each term, students will have the opportunity to earn small prizes at the “RU store” for completing or doubling their RU goal.

If you have suggestions for excellent books to be added to the RU list, we would love your input. If you are interested in being a parent who does volunteer time reading the books that have been recommended, we can use that help too! If you have any questions—please, please ask. Reading University is the subject that every student should be earning an A+ in, yet it is the subject that is most failed at our campus. Get your students off to a great start with their independent reading!

**We are excited to begin reviewing books for possible inclusion on the RU lists! If you are interested in volunteering for this fun project please contact the RU Review Committee Chair, Jacqui Maxfield @ [jacquimaxfield@gmail.com](mailto:jacquimaxfield@gmail.com) for details. Many thanks to our past and future reviewers!**

### **Parent Emails**

Our teachers are using parent emails to keep families updated on student progress and upcoming projects and events. We ask that all parents ensure they have a current email address at American Prep so they can receive these important messages. Every week Mrs. Hernandez emails the Newsletter to each family. If you are not receiving this email electronically, please contact the front office to update your email or add an email address to your family information.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

If you believe your child may have a disability that is affecting them academically, and they would benefit from Special Education, please contact Monica Brown at [mbrown@apamail.org](mailto:mbrown@apamail.org)

## School Compliance and Qualifications

"Our parent surveys consistently express confidence and overwhelming satisfaction with our teachers at American Prep. 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."

**School Lunch** - Please be sure your student has lunch on Monday! They can bring a home lunch or can order a school lunch online @ [utahsmartlunches.com](http://utahsmartlunches.com). Orders must be placed by midnight of the day before. If you have questions, please e-mail Mrs. Kristine Stevens—[kstevens@apamail.org](mailto:kstevens@apamail.org). APA is looking to train a district-wide sub for the School Lunch Program. When subbing, the time frame each day would be 8:00 - 12:30. All four campuses in the Salt Lake County have the lunch program. If you are interested in being trained for this part-time position, please contact Debra Davies [ddavies@apamail.org](mailto:ddavies@apamail.org).

## Fresh Fruits and Vegetables – NECTARINES & STRAWBERRIES

Nectarines come from a natural process of mutation from a peach. They are actually a fuzz free peach. They do have all of the same characteristics except for the fuzz. Because of the lack of fuzz nectarines generally have brighter colors than a peach. Nectarines have high levels of calcium and vitamin C.

Strawberries are one of the most popular and favorites of all fruits. They can be grown in almost any region where during part of the year there is a warm climate. One interesting characteristic of strawberries is that they carry their seeds on the skin rather than inside the fruit. Strawberries are consumed in many different ways. They are eaten raw, used in jams, desserts, pies to name a few.

**Box Top Contest** – “Class Against Class” – Which class has the most Love for American Preparatory Academy? Show your school spirit and send in your Box Tops. Help your students win a fun prize. Your Box Tops do make a difference! Make sure your name and grade are on the box tops so we know where the credit counts. If your name is not on it, the front office and administration get the credit. This contest ends October 14, 2016

## Jr. High News

Our first cross country meet took place last Thursday, and we are proud to announce that one of our own took 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Jose Muro-Pardo against Ogden Prep. Our second meet was at our campus Tuesday. We had a great showing. For the boys, OJ Hernandez took 4<sup>th</sup> place and for the girls, Andrea Garcia came in FIRST. We are very proud of our campus and their great showing. Our next meet will be Thursday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at Ascent Academy in Farmington, and on Tuesday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup> at Legacy Preparatory Academy in Woods Cross at 4:30. Practices continue to be Monday mornings at 6:45 am. Volunteers are needed at the meet on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Our first volleyball was Wednesday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at Ascent Academy in Farmington. Monday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup> game is at North Davis Preparatory in Layton. Their games are at 6:00 and 6:30 pm. Their practices are afterschool on Tuesday until 5:00 pm. Thank you for being so supportive!



On Friday, September 16 is Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1:00-4:00pm. This is by invitation only, for struggling students. But if you would like to talk to any of your student's teachers, please feel free to come.

### **Ambassadors**

Attention parents and students! We are so excited to kick off this year with our 7th and 8th grade Leaders for Life Opening Ceremonies! At this event, students will learn how to demonstrate positive character traits, strong leadership by thinking out of the box, and respectful behavior. In addition, students will learn and review proper "meet and greet" protocol, and will be taught how professional body language is a key factor in making a good impression. The event will be on Wednesday September 21st from 1:10-3:45pm. Parents if you would like to volunteer to help at this event, please email Hailey Stevens at [hstevens@apamail.org](mailto:hstevens@apamail.org) or volunteer online by visiting [apaambassadors.org](http://apaambassadors.org) and clicking on the "Volunteer Online" tab! We are excited to see you there!

### **9th Grade Ambassador Event: Leadership Challenge and Unity Walk**

We are proud of our 9<sup>th</sup> grade students for completing the Unity Hike. This was no easy feat. They not only showed their physical strength and self-motivation, but they worked together to arrive as a unified team to the top of Ensign Peak. After enjoying the view, while hearing inspiring words from Mr. Sheneman, the students made their way down and enjoyed lunch and more team building activities at the park. To top it all off, our students showed that they are true ambassadors and helped clean the park before loading the bus and making it back to school. A great time was had by all!

### **8th Grade Ambassador Event: W.O.R.K. Party**

On Friday, September 16th all 8th Grade students will have the opportunity to provide community service at the Stable Place. The event will run from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. The goal of these projects will be to allow students to do physical, not so glamorous, work to help them realize that everyone has the responsibility to help out in their community. Hence, the acronym W.O.R.K. stands for Wonderful Opportunities to Render Kindness. Here APA not only do we teach our students how to work hard, but also how to find opportunities to serve their community.

\* **Note:** Signed permission slips are required and must be turned in to 4<sup>th</sup> period teachers by Tuesday, September 13th for full points.

\*\* This is a required event and will be included in students 4<sup>th</sup> period Ambassador Hour grade.

**Parents!** Volunteers are needed and welcome at this event! If you are available to help for any amount of time, please contact Hailey Stevens at [hstevens@apamail.org](mailto:hstevens@apamail.org).

### **Parents of 6th - 11th Graders—USU Parent Summit**

Our GEAR UP grant partner, Utah State University, is providing WV1 & WV2 parents and guardians of 6<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade students a WONDERFUL opportunity for an overnight campus visit! The event occurs on November 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> on the US campus in Logan, Utah. Workshops will address many areas about your student's future college process including: admissions, financial aid, ACT information, and a USU Physics demo show! You will stay for FREE at the University Inn. You will also be provided complementary meals and famous Aggie Ice Cream! You only need to provide your own transportation to Logan or form a carpool with other parents.

If interested, please send an email to Mr. Guido at [Rguido@apamail.org](mailto:Rguido@apamail.org). Include: 1) your name, 2) student names and grades, and 3) the campus your student(s) attend. Once we know of your interest, we will share information with you on how to register. ***This event is for adults only.***





**After-school programs (Sistema & Collegium Hall)**

**Sistema:** Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 3:30-6:30 pm  
Wednesday and Thursday: 2:30-5:30 pm

**Collegium Hall:** Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 3:30-6:30 pm  
Wednesday and Thursday: 2:30-5:30 pm

**Math Club:** Tuesday – 4:00-5:00, Wednesday 3:00-4:00 pm

**Knights of the Game Table:** Mondays - 3:50-4:50 pm

**Robotics Club :** TBA

**Latin Club:** Monday and Thursday - during 2<sup>nd</sup> dismissal

**7th Grade Art Club:** Every other Wednesday – 2:30 – 4:00 pm (Started Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>)

**S.T.E.A.M Club:** Every other Wednesday – 2:30 – 4:00 pm (Starting Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)

If you have any questions, please contact our Afterschool Director, Amberley Motz, at [amotz@apamail.org](mailto:amotz@apamail.org).

"Please remember: Sistema students are invited to participate in **one club at a time**. If your child has expressed interest in multiple clubs, they will be directed to choose one as a focus."

**Sistema *♪♪♪♪♪* MAKE A NOTE! *♪♪♪♪♪***

- **Sept. 30 Bach Buck Store** (Sistema reward program)
- **Oct. 8 Suzuki Association of Utah Violin Region Event** "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star Wars": By invitation only for select Sistema violin student.
- **Oct. 14 Sistema Strings Logan Trip**—Invitations have been sent for this event. The form must be signed and returned asap. Invited students must not have missing work, attend Sistema Strings regularly, and must be a star student in order to be able to represent our school at this great even.

Students need to bring a reading book to Sistema every day. We do have a very small library of books in Sistema. We are looking for donations of books on the Reading University list. If you would like to donate a books, please turn them into the Sistema desk. Thanks for your contributions!!

**NO SISTEMA October Dates:** (No Sistema on any Friday in October)

- **Oct. 7 No Sistema**—Professional Development for Afterschool Staff
- **Oct. 12 No Sistema**—Elementary Early Dismissal
- **Oct. 14 No Sistema**—Sistema Logan Trip (by invitation only)
- **Oct. 17-21 No Sistema**—Fall Break
- **Oct. 27-28 No Sistema**—Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences
- **Oct. 31 No Sistema**—Early Out for Teacher Professional Development



## Community Corner

### English Class—CLASSES STARTED THIS WEEK!

We are excited to announce that English classes are beginning on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Bring your friends and come have fun learning English. The classes are free and are open to everyone who would like to improve their English skills. The classes will be Mondays and Wednesday – 8:20 – 9:20 am. The classes will be taught by Bonnie Meyerson



Please be aware that little batteries, like phone batteries or watch batteries, when tossed on the ground, and not disposed of properly, can be a hazard for little ones that like to put everything in their mouths. Be alert and dispose of properly!