



American Prep-West Valley 1 Campus Newsletter

August 26, 2022

Website @ <https://westvalley1.americanprep.org/>

Upcoming Calendar Events

*Newly added to this newsletter calendar

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| Friday, September 2 | Spirit Wear Friday! |
| Monday, September 5 | Labor Day. No school attendance. |
| Friday, September 9 | 3:30-5:30pm. “Lights On” family event. <i>Read the details below!</i> |
| Friday, September 9* | Special “Lights On” Spirit Wear Friday |
| Friday, September 9* | No Sistema |
| Thursday, Sept 15 | Constitution Day Commemoration. <i>This will be live-streamed!</i> |
| Thursday, Sept 22* | 5 th Grade “Friendship” Ambassador Event 12:25-2:50 <i>Volunteer!</i> |
| Thursday, Sept 29* | 6 th Grade “Friendship” Ambassador Event 12:25-2:50 <i>Volunteer!</i> |
| October 3-7* | College Week |
| Friday, Oct 7* | Spirit Wear Friday! |
| Friday, Oct 7* | 12:15/12:35 Early Dismissal- Grading Day |
| Friday, Oct 7* | No Sistema |
| Tuesday, Oct 11* | RU (Reading University) Store |
| Wednesday, Oct 12* | School Photo Day: 1 st -3 rd Grades |
| Wednesday, Oct 12* | 12:15/12:35 Early Dismissal – Professional Development |
| Thursday, Oct 13* | School Photo Day: K, 4 th -6 th Grades |
| Thursday, Oct 13* | 1 st -3 rd Grade Field Trips |
| Friday, Oct 14* | 4 th -6 th Grade Field Trips |
| Friday, Oct 14* | End of Term 1 |
| October 17-21* | Fall Break-No School |

Builder Message:

What a dynamic first week and a half of school we have had! Your students have been amazing (ama-ZING!) and we are now almost fully into our daily routine—reading and math intensive groups for our 1st-6th grades started (K starts this week), students are attending their “specials” (music, art and P.E.) and carpool is starting to flow. Thank you to all you parent builders for your enthusiasm and encouragement with all the beginning-of-the-year adventures. What an amazing APA-West Valley 1 community we have with our wonderful parents, our dedicated staff and our stellar students!



School Lunch—Time to Order for September!

The deadline to order lunch for Tuesday, September 6, 2022 is Tuesday, September 1st. Please log on and order before the long 3 day weekend.

Go to <https://apalunch.h1.hotlunchonline.net/> to place your order.

Click here for [Detailed ordering instructions](#)

Just a reminder that all school meals (paid, free and reduced) must be pre-ordered. Our sack lunches are prepared off-site and we only receive enough meals for those who have placed an order. If you have not done so already, we ask all families to complete a free /reduced lunch application even if you aren't going to participate in the program. This helps us as we apply for grants and to receive our Title 1 funding. <https://www.americanprep.org/school-lunch-program/eligibility/>

Friendship Challenge

Making friends is a skill that we want our children to learn! Through the month of September, we will be working on the steps to meet and greet others: 1. Look eye to eye, 2. Smile, and 3. Say "Hi". As this skill is being tried out and practiced—students will earn a friendship button. We encourage them to wear their button each school day through September—earning extra dots or points for each day they do.

"Lights On" Family Event- Celebrating 20 Years of APA Friendships!

Put Friday, September 9, 3:30-5:30 on your calendar! This is the day of our not-to-be-missed "Lights On" family event. This free event is full of fun and food, great info from community partners, signups for Friday Clubs, and the fabulous opportunity to meet other APA families. Students need to be with a parent to join in the fun—so come a little early to park and bring them in. Check in will start at 3:30. You will sign in on your phones—using your family/carpool number—so be sure to take a picture of your carpool tag so you have that number handy. This will be a special "spirit wear" day for all.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP? We are looking for:

Outdoor lawn games & activities that could be shared for the event.

Pop-up canopies that could be borrowed for the day.

If you have something we can use or have a great idea, please email our FSO leaders: Celeste Lopez (aguilanegrax3@hotmail.com) and Angie Van Leeuwen (angievan130@gmail.com)

Employment Opportunities @ APA-West Valley 1

We are anxiously trying to fill open positions at our campus and are hopeful that you—or someone you know—could be of one of APA's newest employees! Our best employees so very often come from our American Prep community!

- **Classroom instructors/aides**—if you want a rewarding job where you KNOW you are making a difference in the world, this is for you. Assisting in the classroom, working with our amazing teachers and students, being trained on our reading and math programs, having the same vacation schedule as your student, medical benefits...this might be the job



you've been waiting for!

- **Substitutes**—we are always so grateful to have trained substitutes! Work as many or as few days as fits your schedule.
- **6th Grade & Sistema Band Teacher**
- **Part-time Lunchroom Worker**—4 to 5 hours a day during school hours @ the West Valley 1 campus. Hoping to find someone fluent in both English and Spanish.

Details and applications can be found on the website under careers—but if you are interested in any of these positions, please come talk to one of the admin team. We would be happy to encourage you!

Spirit Wear Days (Week 2 of 2)

Students can wear an APA-logoed shirt/T-shirt with their uniform pants, shorts or skirt on Spirit Days. Spirit Days happen on the first Friday of the month and at other announced days during the year. This is optional fun, of course, and students can always wear their regular uniforms. Spirit wear can be purchased from the online store: <https://www.americanprep.org/product-category/spirit-wear/>.

Uniforms (Week 2 of 2)

Teachers and instructors will be checking your student's uniforms this week to be sure they have all the right pieces and are wearing them correctly. They will send home a uniform reminder slip if something needs to be fixed. The uniform guide can be access on the APA website under Parent Library/Parent Resources <https://www.americanprep.org/topic/uniforms/>

Professional Qualifications (Week 1 of 2)

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 (Week 1 of 2)

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 (Week 1 of 2)

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 (Week 1 of 2)

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.

Free Adult English Classes

Would you like to learn English or improve your English speaking? Join in the free adult English classes that are starting this week on Tuesday, August 30th. Classes at our West Valley 1 campus are Tuesdays @ 2:40-3:25 pm and Thursdays @ 1:25-2:25 pm. There are also classes being held at the West Valley 2 campus. Mondays and Fridays @ 2:25-3:10 pm and Wednesdays @ 1:20-2:10. You are welcome to attend classes at either campus—or at both!

ALMA Grading Program

Through the ALMA grading program, you are able to regularly check your student's grades. Every parent should have received an email from ALMA with instructions on activating your account. If you didn't receive it, or need help with the program, please email Mrs. Ferlo (mferlo@apamail.org) or Mr. Beard (bbeard@apamail.org) in the academic office.

Reporting Your Volunteer Hours and Donations (Every Week!)

Thank you for your volunteer hours and donations! This link for reporting your hours will be included with each newsletter for handy access. If you have volunteer hours from the summer, please be sure to report those too!

[Report hours & donations here:](#)

<https://forms.gle/o3cxYrpbHmoxWYFXA>

