

ASMSA Parents Association Newsletter

Second Semester: Busy Time for PA

The Parents Association is reaching in lots of directions these days. We're reaching in to assist with current student events such as Prom. We're reaching out to potential families with events such as Open House and Interviews as well as out to current students by hosting local meetings around the state. We're reaching up in our efforts to offer parents more regarding information, process improvements and contacts. Stay tuned. There's a lot more to come!



Parents gathered in Clarksville, AR, Tuesday, March 6th for an informational meeting. Arranged by Junior parent, Connie Toombs, the gathering welcomed rising Junior parents, current Junior parents and a Senior parent. Topics covered included current events, upcoming events, and then pointers for a successful ASMSA experience all the way from move-in to graduation. Parents then enjoyed a time of one-to-one conversation and finger foods.

"As we were setting up," explains President Sandra Gilmore, "another group was leaving the conference room. It just so happened that among those was a parent whose daughter was affiliated with the school in the 1990's. She commented about what a terrific school it is. Those sentiments got the evening off to a good start. It was encouraging to see the whole cycle begin again with new parents involved with current parents, cheered on by the good wishes of the alumni parents."

Local Meetings Launch in Clarksville



Are You Making Plans to Participate?

- March 14th – Local Meeting in Fayetteville NW Region
- March 26th - Local Meeting in Heber Springs NE Region
- March 31st – Local Meeting in Magnolia SW Region

If you would like to help host a local meeting in your area, please contact Sandra Gilmore, tandsgilmore@yahoo.com or cell phone 334-324-8983 for details. We'd love to network and to share information with those in your area.

Local meetings for Central Region and Southeast Region are in the works. Details will be announced as soon as definite arrangements are made.

News from the Nurse: Wellness Day February 29

February 29th is an unusual day on the calendar and it was an unusual day on campus as well. The schedule was completely rearranged so students could learn and participate in wellness. Here's a summary from our nurse:

I had 14 students show up for AED training. This class was where the students got hands on experience with our Zoll AED trainer (Automated External Defibrillator). Students would take turns being the victim and the life-saver and they left with more confidence and comfort knowing that they can work the AEDs and save lives!

I had about 30 students and staff show up for my Zumba class, and boy did we have fun, we had sweat just pouring off of us.

Comments I heard from students were that they wished we could have a wellness day more often like every 9 weeks or every semester! And that they were glad to have a day that helped them relieve stress. I am seeing a lot of sore muscles and tired students/staff today!

Overall, the day was filled with positive energy, good fun, happy students, and great learning activities for staff and students! It was definitely a success!

Maliah Wernette RN,BSN

Now and Later: Understanding Concurrent Credit

These days, we are all shopping for bargains, two-for-one or half-priced sales. Everyday ASMSA students participate in such a deal!

ASMSA joins forces with University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) to provide concurrent credit for students who take courses from a designated list. This list is published on the school's website, www.asmsa.org under the Academic Affairs section. Click the title on the right of the screen. Courses include the basics such as Senior English and History. Other

courses offered fall under most academic categories.

Check the course listing for particular credit offerings.

What do students need to do to launch this credit?

Almost nothing. The basic eligibility requirement is an ACT composite of 19, Reading 19 and math 21. If those ACT scores are met, then students just follow instructions per the Registrar's Office. These are published throughout the year.

Upon graduation, students need to follow through with UALR directly for a transcript. This transcript can then

be sent to colleges with the application process for review. Some colleges around the state take these credits toward degrees. Credit offered toward degrees varies from program to program. Students are encouraged to check with the prospective schools individually for credit confirmation. Note: There may be certain fees for copies of transcripts.

Parents, have you touched base with the school registrar, Vicki Parke and your student's counselor? Counselors are assigned by student's last name.

A – L Ms. Diana Arms

M – Z Ms. Jackie Vaughn



Open House



From Admissions Coordinator,
Abijah Kratochvil:

I just wanted to say "Thank You" to all the parents that served as greeters, served on our panel, and helped with registration during our Open House. It was a great success with over 300 people in attendance. I appreciate you all for giving of your time and energy to help promote ASMSA.



PROM PREP

FRIDAY, April 20, 2012 7:30 pm

Prom Theme: *Arabian Nights*

The 2012 Prom will begin at 7:30 pm at the Arlington Hotel, just down the street from the school campus. Prom will end promptly at 11:15 pm but the fun doesn't stop there. Tradition carries that the fun moves to the bowling alley on Central Avenue with pizza, snacks and bowling until 3 am.

This year is a first for a Friday Prom so planning is a must. Classes will be held in usual fashion that day. Get your appointments made early because time will be of the essence.

Students may leave for prom from the school beginning at 6:00 p.m. (It's tradition for student to take pictures in the park across from the Arlington Hotel.) All students must be at prom by 7:30 p.m. Students can begin leaving prom at 10:00 p.m. Students wanting to leave after prom must be checked-out by **their parent** or must have approval from their parent to be checked-out by **another ASMSA parent**. All students that will be leaving after prom must be checked-out by 11:30 p.m.

How can parents help?

There are opportunities to help with decorating, transportation things/decorations to and from the hotel, general clean up afterward at the hotel and snack contributions for the After-Prom party.

Prom Points for Parents: Rules and Regulations

Prom is a highlight of the school year. In order for this night to be an extra special one, there are extra special points to follow. Michelle Barnes, Prom Coordinator, offers the following frequently asked questions and answers:

Q: How will we get to Prom? A: Students will be allowed to walk. In case of rain, Plan "B" arrangements will be made.

Q: Will I be able to ride a horse and carriage to the Arlington?

A: Yes, arrangements will be made with The Carriage Company. There are often discounts offered with larger groups. You will be able to sign-up in the RLO one week before prom.

Q: Are guests allowed to participate in the after party?

A: Yes, you will have an opportunity to sign-up for a spot on the bus to be transported to the bowling alley. At that time you may sign-up your guest as well.

Q: How old must my guest be?

A: Your guest must be under the age of 21.

Q: If I have my another family member on my list, can he/she check me out after prom?

A: No, only your parent or another ASMSA parent can check you out after prom.

Q: Can I check myself out after prom?

A: No, you will only be allowed to leave with your parent or another ASMSA parent.

Q: Can we drive to the after party?

A: No, you must sign-up for a spot on the bus.

Q: At what time should I be ready to leave for the after party?

A: Depending on the bus schedule, you must be in the RLO checking out 15 minutes prior to departure time.

Q: If I check-out for the weekend on Friday afternoon with the intent to return on Sunday after 2:00p.m and I've purchased my prom ticket; can I drive myself to prom and the after-party?

A: No, your parent(s) will need to transport you to prom and the after-party.

Gratitude is a Powerful Thing: Saying Thank You, Giving Back

APPRECIATION SLIDESHOW PREP

Call for letters – Ever thought about how to say *thank* you in a special way to those who have made the ASMSA experience better? Have you heard about our annual Appreciation Slideshow? We'd like to include your testimonials and/or thank you notes in our annual Appreciation celebration. These are compiled into a slide show then sent staff and faculty via email to convey our appreciation. This year, it will be sent in conjunction with the national Teacher Appreciation Week, the first week in May. If you would like to offer a few words of gratitude for the ASMSA teachers and staff, please forward your notes and/or pictures to Martha Carlson, at picksomedaisies@yahoo.com by April 1st.

Special Thanks

Prospective students and their parents were hosted by ASMSA at Interview Day on February 11, 2012. Then, March 3, 2012 brought more parents and visitors together with Open House. It takes teamwork to create all that success! Special thanks to those who participated. We are grateful. Good job!

Michael and Jeana Stout	Byron and Teresa Lasater
Howard and Tracy Sublett	Leah Katherine Hadder
Nikki Mallaby	Susan York
Angelos Lambis	William Royals
Michelle Smith	Martha and Carl Carlson

Kim Holcomb has also diligently posted our PA bulletin board in the RLO each month since Christmas Break. She's so creative!

There are several parents who are helping with regional meetings these days. Hats off to you!

There are also those of you who come by the campus to offer encouragement, to leave goodies or supplies for the students and to just simply "be there". Your efforts are noticed and gratefully acknowledged. Thank you for your contributions.



The ASMSA
Class of 2014
will be on
campus
Saturday,
April 28th
for Orientation.
Congratulations,
rising Juniors!

