

Academy of Personalized Learning, A Charter School

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Apple News



February News



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Spring semester is in full swing and there is a lot going on at APL. Students are abuzz with enthusiasm engendered in class, the spring musical production is underway, and our school continues to grow. We are shopping for computers to enlarge our computer lab. The Board is finalizing policies so by the end of the month we should have an Acceptable Use Policy to allow expanded student use of the computers with parental permission.

The APL staff are excitedly gearing up for STAR testing, researching test prep materials to help students prepare. As STAR results are indicators of student as well as school performance, we hope to do everything possible to ensure our students' and our school's success. Federal and state departments of education are looking for innovative programs to support, and test scores are a determining factor. With all of us working together, we will do well and fulfill our goal to be a leading charter school of the 21st century!

February events

- ✓ Cash for College
- ✓ Home School Skate
- ✓ Shasta Community Concert
- ✓ Planetarium Show
- ✓ Ski/Board Program
- ✓ Home School 101
- ✓ Love & Logic
- ✓ Dance Project
- ✓ Shasta County Junior Day
- ✓ C.S.I.



Students in the Spotlight



Hannah Bauman is a 6th grade student at APL. With support from her parents, Chris and Aubrey, and sister, Ella, Hannah is thriving in her individualized program. She attends classes at our Learning Center and participates in a variety of school related activities. Hannah is a responsible and organized student who is really starting to take charge of her education. She consistently produces quality and creative work in all of her subject areas. She is highly artistic and has enjoyed participating in Ceramics class, Theater class and Dance. In her free time, Hannah enjoys sleepovers with her friends, attending Ballet class, spending time with her family, and doing anything artistic. She is an amazing girl and an absolute pleasure to have as a student!

Tim Hufford, an 11th grader at APL, is equally at home herding cattle on the historic family ranch and experimenting in a chem lab at Shasta College. He is a talented artist, a budding car mechanic, and an excellent writer. Tim's dry sense of humor lends a light note to his interactions. He loves to read, especially enjoying science fiction. Tim has been schooled outside of traditional, site based schools for his entire school career, and he has obviously made the most of it. With all of his accomplishments, he is nonetheless a down to earth, practical person. Tim, along with his parents, John and Teresa, is a great asset to our APL community.

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APL Orientation



APL is accepting new students. Orientation for interested families will be held Monday evenings at 5 PM at APL, 224 Hartnell Ave. As the office will be closed for the Presidents' Day holidays on 2/8 and 2/15, orientations have been scheduled for

- 2/12 and 2/19 at noon. If you have friends or family looking at school options, please consider suggesting us! Here's what we have to offer:
 - K-12 program
 - WASC accredited
 - Curriculum choice

- Independent study
- Home school
- Classes, vendor courses & tutoring
- Flexible scheduling
- Credentialed teachers
- California standards based instruction



School Business



Seniors, if you are considering college after graduation, the following information is important for you, especially if you are interested in financial aid. Parents/students are responsible to file the **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** prior to **March 2nd** and preferably by **January 30th**. Financial aid is awarded on a first-come first-serve basis so the sooner you submit the better. Parents do NOT have to file taxes prior to submitting the FAFSA; you can estimate your income and tax information on the FAFSA and then submit. Make sure your estimates are as accurate as possible. Once your taxes are filed you may go back into your FAFSA to update the tax information and resubmit.

Cal Grant awards are need-based eligibility grants determined from the information you file on your FAFSA and the student's GPA. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) sets forth income and asset ceilings to determine Cal Grant eligibility. All students are encouraged to apply for financial aid, even if their family income and assets are above the ceilings. A **GPA Verification Form**, which includes the student's SS#, must be submitted to the CSAC by **March 2nd**. This is why parents/students must submit the FAFSA prior to March 2nd.



The **APL Book Clubs** will meet as follows in February: the **Fantasy Book Club** is reading Everlost by Neal Shusterman, and they will meet on Tuesday, **February 9th**. The **Mystery Book Club** is reading ShadowClub by Neal Shusterman, and they will meet on Tuesday, **February 23th**. The **General Topic Book Club** will read Kidnapped by Gordon Korman. They will meet on Friday, **February 26th**. All of the book clubs meet at **4:00 pm** at APL. The books can be checked out at the APL library.

California Cash for College is a program of the California Student Aid Commission and regional partners across California. The mission is to provide free, in-person help to high school seniors and parents with an emphasis on low-income and first generation college-going students and their families. Workshops focus on providing financial aid information. Cash for College workshops offer the opportunity for eligible students at qualifying workshops to get a \$1,000 to \$4,000 CFC/PBS scholarship. The expectation is that up to one in eleven high school seniors who participate in qualifying Cash for College Workshops in this region could receive a scholarship! To be eligible for one of these scholarships, students must attend the workshop and (1) Complete an Exit Survey at the workshop; (2) Submit a signed Informed Consent Form (parents sign too if student under 18); (3) Submit both FAFSA and Cal Grant GPA Verification by the March 2 deadline; and (4) Participate in a workshop with a total of 25 or more seniors who complete both the Exit Surveys and Informed Consents. **APL will host a Cash for College Workshop on Thursday, February 4, from 6-8 pm**. As you have read, we need 25 seniors to participate in order to qualify for scholarships, so seniors, please come and participate!

Library News

Scholastic Book Catalogs are available at the APL library. Scholastic book orders are a great way for you to get new books, CHEAP! Each order that you place also helps to buy books for our library and for our students. You can place your orders either through our library with a check, or online with a credit/debit card. To order online go to <http://clubs.scholastic.com/parentordering/> Then you need to enter our school username: applibrary, and password: bookorders. If you have questions, contact Kimberly at the APL library.

All 10th grade students and 12th graders who have yet to pass will take the CaHSEE (California High School Exit Exam) on **February 2nd and 3rd**. The test will be administered at **APL from 4:00-7:00 pm** and also at the **Burney Library from 10:00 am-1:00 pm** both days. On Feb. 2 students will take the English component of the exam and Feb. 3 they'll take the Math portion. **APL classes will end at 3:30 pm on both days** to prepare for the CaHSEE.

The monthly **Passport Club** will meet on Wednesday, **February 25th** from 11:00-11:50 a.m. in Room 1. The country of focus will be India.

If your students participate in vendor classes, we ask that you make every effort to attend. We pay monthly.

Parents please note that all APL classes will end at 3:30 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 2nd and 3rd, as the school site will be utilized for CaHSEE testing. Thanks in advance for your understanding!

Student IDs: For an APL student identification card, please contact Sherina at the office, 222-9275.

Work Permit applications are available at the office. Parents can fill out the request and drop it off at APL or fax it to Sherina, 222-9281.

"Fourscore and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863

Join **'Friends of the Library'** to help accomplish tasks in support of our library. Sign up at the APL library.

The theme of this year's **reading incentive program** is **"Take Off With Reading."** Pick up your reading "Flight Logs" at the APL Library or from your teacher.



February Events



Cash for College is a college workshop that will be held at APL on **February 4th** at 6:00 pm to help seniors and their families fill out the FAFSA online and GPA Verification for Cal Grant application. Students who attend the event, submit the forms, and complete a survey will qualify for a chance to win a scholarship. We must have 25 seniors participate to qualify so we need all seniors on board!

APL has scheduled monthly planetarium shows at the **Schreder Planetarium** on Magnolia Ave. Join APL on Thursday, **February 18th**, from 1-2:45 pm, to explore the night sky with your favorite friends from Sesame Street in **One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure**. Follow along with Big Bird, Elmo and their friend from China, Hu Hu Zhu, as they take you on a journey of discovery to learn about the Big Dipper, the North Star, the Sun and the Moon. To sign up for the show, contact Rose James at APL, 222-9275. Preview the monthly shows at www.schrederplanetarium.com.

Are you interested in becoming a **Love & Logic Parent**? A series of workshops is being presented on Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:30 pm at the Shasta College University Center, Room 8220. This program is free for GEAR UP parents and \$8 for others. Please contact Pam Dunlap, Regional GEAR UP Coordinator at 339-3611 if you have any questions and to RSVP. The workshops include food, prizes and great information! There are four more sessions as follows:

February 17th: "O" is for Ownership of the Problem

February 24th: "O" is Also for Opportunity for Thinking

March 3rd: "L" Stands for Let Empathy and Consequences Do the Teaching

March 10th: Let's Wrap It Up and Take It Home! and Graduation!

Home School Skate is the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 3-5 pm. The dates will be **2/10**, 3/10, 4/14 and 5/12. Gateway Unified School District hosts the program, open to all home schooling families. Cost is \$3 per person with one free admission for supervising adult. All participants must be accompanied by an adult. For information, contact Heidi Hillesheim, 90alana@shasta.com.

Interested in skiing/snowboarding? Join the **Millville Educational Ski/Board Program 2010** for Friday trips to Mt. Shasta Board n' Ski Park, 1/8/10-3/12/10. All students are required to participate in a minimum of two lessons. **Late registration will be accepted until 2/20/10 with a \$30 reg. fee.** For more information about the program, including costs and the required forms, visit the website www.freewebs.com/kyleeneh or contact Wendi Hill, 244-7758 or kyleeneh@yahoo.com.

The Dance Project is presenting their spring performance, **Steppin' Out**, for schools on Thursday, **March 25th** at the Cascade Theatre at 10:00 am. Experience the passion, power and movement from some of the most beloved musicals of our times as The Dance Project takes you on a journey to Hollywood, Broadway and beyond. The company will keep you swinging in your seat with a new, high energy song and dance revue that brings the best of the big city stage to the Cascade. Tickets are \$5 per person and must be paid for by Friday, **March 6** (money to APL by that day). Checks can be made out to "The Dance Project" and of course, cash is fine. Please contact Helen Hazel at 410-8798 to reserve seats. On the day of the show, the group will meet in front of the Cascade Theatre at 9:30 am.



The **Shasta Community Concert Association** sponsors free 45 minute daytime programs for students. On **Thursday, February 18**, **Daniel Rodriguez**, "the singing policeman," will perform at the Redding Convention Center at 10:30 am. Although reservations are not mandatory, they are appreciated via email: music4schools@shastacomunityconcerts.com or by calling Dave or Judy Bush at 549-3095. (You can register for all of the concerts.)

The next **Home School 101 Parent Workshop** will be **Thursday, February 25th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm** at our school site. Teachers will be sharing their favorite activities, strategies, and ideas that have worked for them and their families. Don't miss this valuable workshop that will fill your teaching "toolbox" with effective, time-proven, quality education practices! Snacks and childcare will be provided.

Juniors are invited to attend the 5th annual **Shasta County Junior Day** sponsored by College OPTIONS and hosted by Simpson University. This day will be an opportunity for juniors to experience a college campus, learn about financial aid, and plan for their educational options beyond high school. The event will take place at Simpson University on Wednesday, **March 31st**, with students arriving at **8:45 am** and the program running from **9:00 am-12:30 pm** with a pizza lunch included.

Community Science Interns: David Ewart at the Planetarium has let us know that he would like a couple more C.S.I. students (Community Science Interns). These are students in grades 7-12 who spend Wednesdays helping to facilitate labs at Shasta College and the Schreder Planetarium Science Learning Center. This is a great educational experience for students and it is fun for them, too. If your student is interested in becoming a C.S.I., contact David Ewart at 225-0241 or email dewart@shastacoeg.org.

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Tutoring



Meetings



End Notes



APL offers opportunities for tutoring. There will be **Open Tutoring** for high school students on-site Tuesdays, 9:00-2:00, and Thursdays, 9:00-12:00.

Math Tutoring with Mr. Nason will be offered as follows:

Mon: 1:00-3:00 pm at the Redding Library (Please note there will be no tutoring on the following Mondays: **2/1, 3/1, 4/12, and 5/24.**)

Tues: 3:30-4:30 pm at APL

Thurs: 3:30-4:30 pm at APL

Fri: 9:00 am-noon at the Local Indians for Education (LIFE) Center in Shasta Lake City. (Call 275-1513 for directions.) Also, 1:00-3:00 pm at the Anderson Library.

APL will provide tutoring at the Burney Library on an as-needed basis. Students can contact APL teacher, Vanessa Burger, at 276-7936 for tutoring assistance.

The APL Board Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at **4:30 pm**. Barring a schedule change or special meeting, the schedule of board meetings for the rest of the school year is as follows: **2/16, 3/16, 4/20, 5/18 and 6/15.**

The APL staff and Advisory Council meet on the same days, with the staff meeting at noon and Advisory Council at 4:30 pm. Their meeting dates are as follows: **2/1, 3/1, 4/12 and 5/24.**

February calendar: On **Feb. 2nd and 3rd** all classes will end at **3:30 pm**. There will be no school and the office will be closed on **February 8th and 15th** in observance of **Presidents' Days**. Please note that **Orientation** has been rescheduled from these Mondays to the following Fridays, **2/12 and 2/19 at noon. Happy Valentines Day!**

Correction: Please note that Kimberly Coughren's **Research and Writing Skills** class for students in grades 6-12 takes place on **Tuesdays** from **12:30-1:45 pm**.

Reminder about open/closed campus days: On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, APL is a closed campus, while on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students in 8th grade and above can leave school during breaks, if they have a signed note from their parents on file giving them permission to leave.

We would like to ask everyone's cooperation to help keep our site clean. Please throw away empty food containers and trash. Thanks!

APL would like to thank the Spooner family for the lovely rugs they donated to our school. The rugs have been placed in the student study and family meeting areas to protect the carpet and they look beautiful!

"Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today."

Abraham Lincoln