



AMERICAN PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Facebook: www.facebook.com/americanprepSalem

APA Salem: (801) 465-4434 Elementary Ext: 1 Secondary Ext: 2

** The asterisk throughout the newsletter indicates information that is new.*

School Calendar – Salem Campus

February 5, 2021

Wed., Feb. 10

*Reading University Store

Looking ahead.....

Mon., Feb. 15- Fri., Feb. 19

*NO SCHOOL, Midwinter Break

You will find all events, updates, and extracurricular activity schedules on our campus calendar at www.salem.americanprep.org.

***February Builders Theme: I Am a Builder When I Use My Words to Encourage Others**

Have you ever thrown a rock or pebble into a pond or lake and noticed the little waves that ripple away from the center in circles? Courteous and encouraging words have that rippling effect on others that can result in good things. Mother Teresa said: “Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.” Echoes are like ripples; they go on and on. Take the time to be courteous and encouraging this next week by honoring someone’s accomplishment, expressing gratitude for something they say or do, offering a hug or a smile, or taking time to listen. A favorite example of encouragement is having students kindly say, “Keep trying.” Remember, courtesy and encouragement do not just enhance the lives of others. They also create ripples in your life by strengthening your relationships, building trust, and spreading good cheer.

***Ambassadors**

We began our Hands for Hope campaign this week. Hope coins should have made it home for both elementary and secondary students. When doing your service, make sure that you first register the coin. Otherwise, once the coin is passed along, you will have no way of tracking where your coin is. We are so excited to hear where your coins have rippled. We can spread good throughout our communities, nations, and even the world. Please share your successes.

The 9th grade students are having a winter dinner and dance with our campus only tonight, Friday, February 5th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. With all the students accepting the invitation, we are looking forward to have a fun evening. Parents have their honor dance at 8:40 and will share a slice of cheesecake with their students. We love to celebrate with family and friends.

Our 7th- 8th grade students will have their La Fiesta event where the highlight is how to eat soup appropriately. Look for more information in the next week.

If you have questions regarding the Ambassador program, please contact Mrs. Denning at ldenning@apamail.org.

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found is located in front of the elementary office. Please encourage your students to check for lost items in this area. All items will be donated or discarded on the last day of the elementary term, February 12, 2021.



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Accreditation Review

Every 5 years, we are required to undergo an Accreditation Review. Cognia is the approved accrediting agency for public schools across multiple states. The Review Team from Cognia that conducted American Prep's recent review represented decades of education experience in public school districts and charters across multiple states. As part of their extensive review, Cognia conducted observations in multiple APA classrooms, examined over 400 documents, and interviewed 117 stakeholders, including board members, administrators, teachers, parents, community members, students, and support staff.

We are excited to announce that American Prep received an *exceptional* recommendation of accreditation from its recent review. The Index of Education Quality (IEQ) is the numeric score given an institution at the conclusion of the Accreditation Review process. The 5-year average COGNIA IEQ score for institutions is 280. American Prep received an IEQ rating of 350 out of 400—*far above* average and indicating that APA “demonstrates noteworthy practices producing clear results that positively impact the institution.”

Cognia specifically noted these powerful practices at APA:

1. The American Preparatory Academy (APA), directed by the chief executive officer (CEO) and the leadership team, tirelessly commit to the institution's purpose and direction.
2. APA's governing board established a comprehensive set of policies and procedures, including a strong code of ethics, allowing them to fulfill their roles and responsibilities for the institution and schools' direction.
3. APA schools provide a structured and positive culture that exemplifies the system's mission statement “...to ensure that each student achieves maximum academic proficiency and develops virtuous character and motivation for a productive citizenry.”
4. APA exemplifies a data-driven system where teachers record, collect, analyze, and use both formative and summative assessments to update the curriculum and assess student learning.
5. APA provides staff members with professional learning activities based on data-driven needs assessments with a focus on collaboration and collegiality.
6. The system provides access to information resources and materials to support the curriculum and allocates human, material, and fiscal resources in alignment with the organizational purpose and improvement of student performance.

We are grateful to the staff, parents, students, and community members who contribute in meaningful ways to the culture and mission of excellence at American Prep!

***Test Data and School Report Cards Available**

The 2019-2020 School Report Cards are available on the American Prep website's Parent Library under “Plans and Reports” (<http://www.americanprep.org/plans-and-reports/>). School Improvement Plans for our Title I Campuses will also be located at this site. If you have any questions regarding this data, feel free to contact your school administrators.