

The AGLA Student Store is NOW OPEN Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11:40-12:00. The store carries Aveson Gear, notebooks, binders, folders, pens, pencils and more! We are here to serve - just let Adam know what else you need!



Proceeds go to AGLA programs! Eric O'Loughlin, Adam Belling, and Nathan Ngo operate the Student Store

Winter 2012

In this Issue:

AGLA Happenings	1
Volunteer News	2
1-2-3 Eye on "G"	3
Staying Green	3
Calendar	4

AGLA WINTER IN-FORMAL

Hethyr Verhoeff, AGLA Parent Liaison Coordinator and mom of Izzy

The Multipurpose Room was a flurry of frenetic activity. Students were racing across the room with strings of white lights dangling. Both classrooms were cleared to make boogie room. Streamers were twisted and hung, bake sale items unwrapped and priced. Focusing the spotlight on the mirrored disco ball brought a momentary lull and a collective "ahhh" to the busy group...

The Leadership Class was on a mission: to set up for their much anticipated dance. Students were ready to celebrate winter vacation and a successful start to the school year. Mr. Gloyd's band rocked the house, followed by DJ Mark DeSantis, who spun out mixes that kept the party going. Kids took pizza breaks and then were back at it. All in all a fantastic evening! Mission accomplished!

Our growth together requires us to grow individually.



AGLA parent and student volunteers got together in November to help make our new campus a home. We painted lunch tables, assembled back pack hooks, and painted the "mezzanine" - an area that will soon feature student works of art or excellence. Thanks to all who joined in!

ASL & AGLA: STILL TOGETHER

Tom Hyatt, AGLA Advisor and dad of Noah



Noah Israel, Griffin Collins and Alex Mitchell look on as Jack Van Dusen reads

In December, students from AGLA's Leadership Class traveled to ASL to be "Mystery Readers" for the day. Flex Room advisors, Dr. CC, Mrs. Smythe, and I concocted the idea as a way to bring ASL and AGLA back together and build on the success of past peer mentoring programs.

AGLA grade level representatives from the 6th through 12th grades sat in on the classroom's daily activities, helped the students with their "jobs", and participated in other activities including story time. AGLA students brought along their favorite children's books and shared them with the ASL students. The group also held a picnic, with a dozen ASL parents supporting the venture and supplying snacks.

Vision means seeing what could be and what will be and living the difference.

VOLUNTEER NEWS & NEEDS

General Operations

Communication & Community (& Culture & Climate)

All your questions answered in one document? We hope so! The CCAT has been working closely with Aveson administrators to update the ASL Handbook, which will be distributed early in 2012. *Contact Amy Jaecker-Jones: CommunicationTeam@aveson.org*

Events Action Team

Volunteers, sponsors and donations are needed for the Spring Soirée on March 3rd. *Contact Tina Forrestel: tforrestel8@gmail.com or Shannon Hunt: shananigns@hotmail.com*

Fundraising Action Team

Families with businesses are requested to partner with Aveson (sponsor events, provide in-kind donations, etc.). Volunteers are always needed for grant-writing and other activities. *Contact Sidra Gohvala: fundraising@aveson.org*

Maintenance Action Team

Many, many thanks to *Adrian and Nico Vrsalovich* and everyone else who helped tidy up the campus after the Great Wind Storm of 2011!

Contact Eric Blumberg: MaintenanceTeam@aveson.org



Technology Action Team

Contact Brendan Heffernan: TechnologyTeam@aveson.org

Integrity is everything.

Personalized Learning

Learning Differences Action Team

Contact Jennifer Cowie King: LearningTeam@aveson.org

Library Action Team

We will be hosting Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair in the ASL Auditorium during the Celebration of Learning, Feb 13-16. We need volunteers to help staff it as well as assisting with set-up and tear-down. Sign up at the library, or contact Junie Hildebrandt with "Book Fair" in the subject line: *LibraryTeam@aveson.org*

Music Action Team

Attention Teachers: We have talented musicians willing to appear in classrooms to talk about how musical instruments work, the history of music, how to write a song, record music and more! *Contact Bill Burnett: MusicTeam@aveson.org*

Performance Action Team

We have a date for our school performance, mark it in your calendars: May 23rd. We also have our blog up and running, please visit it for info regarding your child's classroom performance, lyrics, and music: *Contact Nina Malone: PerformanceTeam@aveson.org*

Visual Art & Media Action Team

The AIR Space program will start in D3-D6 on January 18th! Volunteer sign-up sheets will be sent soon. *For more information about the AIR program, contact Claudia Scholz-Brennan: claudiasbrennan@me.com; for general questions/suggestions, contact Heather Kealey: ArtTeam@aveson.org*

Healthy Living

Culinary Arts Action Team

Look for notice of ASL and AGLA meetings in the near future. *Contact Anna de Cruder: CulinaryArtsTeam@aveson.org*

Gardening Action Team

Aveson has a new gardening blog - stay tuned for updates: <http://avesongardening.wordpress.com>. To volunteer, just bring your gloves and tools to ASL on Tuesdays from 5-7pm. *Contact Susan Piskura: GardeningTeam@aveson.org*

Green Environment Action Team

CASH for Trash - Bring your recyclables (Plastic #1, Aluminum Cans, White Paper, Glass, Cardboard) to the Aveson Recycle Center - we're always open! *To volunteer, please contact Debra Lemattre: GreenTeam@aveson.org*

Outdoor Education Action Team

We are planning school-wide Spring Break camping trips to Anza Borrego State Park. *Contact Lulu Vallee Escott: OutdoorEdTeam@aveson.org*

Playground Action Team

We always need K-2 lunchtime volunteers - come to the lower blacktop on Mondays from 11:15-12, Tuesdays-Fridays 12-12:50. *Contact Laura Hyatt: laurahyatt@gmail.com*

Global Leadership

Student Travel Action Team - We need a facilitator! *If you are interested, write to ActionTeams@aveson.org*

World Language Action Team - We need a facilitator! *If you are interested, write to ActionTeams@aveson.org*

Got a solution or want to volunteer but don't see the right fit here? *Contact Elizabeth McCallie: Volunteers@aveson.org*

Want to start an Action Team or expand one of these to AGLA? *Contact Erin Johnson: ActionTeams@aveson.org*

MENTOR FAMILIES NEEDED

The Communication and Community Action Team is already thinking about the many parents who are trying to decide if Aveson is the right choice for their child(ren) in 2012, and eagerly anticipating the March lottery, which will bring new families to our community. If you have been positively impacted by your experience at Aveson, please consider serving as a Mentor Family. Mentor families provide new families with opportunities to ask questions, meet new friends, and begin to feel that they are part of the community. As one of this year's participants said, "[Our mentor] met with us at a park and answered ALL of my questions, and my child got to connect with her child and see her at June Jubilee and even at school recess. It was so helpful for her to know one other person at the school." If you are interested in volunteering as a Mentor Family, please contact the Communication and Community Action Team and write "Mentor Family" in the subject line.

1-2-3 EYE ON GIVING

Sidra Golwala, Director of Development and Fundraising Action Team Facilitator

I am thrilled to give this update on various fundraisers!

The Pancake Breakfast and Boutique Sale was really exciting! More than 20 vendors and hundreds of shoppers and pancake eaters came out on a beautiful Saturday morning. Thanks to donations from Whole Foods, Fresh & Easy, and several Aveson families, we made \$2,500 for Aveson.

Our Fall Bingo Night at AGLA was a total blast and made a record \$3,000 - enough for a gorgeous AGLA sign!

The Taking Care of Aveson Together philanthropy campaign has brought in nearly \$2,200 to date! Better yet, some classrooms had more than 90% participation! Did you see the water bottle overflow with coins? - What an easy way to make money for Aveson!



If your Coin Sharing Container happened to collect some more change since last time, we are happy to take it and promise to put it to good use!

MAJOR CONGRATULATIONS!

Kindergarten Advisor Extraordinaire, Jennee Sonnenberg, won a grant from the *Sharing the Dream* program, funded by the MetLife Foundation. ASL is one of 25 elementary or middle schools getting \$5,000 to create globally oriented schools and international learning communities, and to engage children in transformative, multidisciplinary experiences and service learning projects that will help them succeed in the interconnected world of the 21st century.

When identifying problems, offer strategies and solutions.

RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING A MAINSTAY AT ASL

Debrah Lemattre, GREAT Facilitator and mom of Chester

Aveson School of Leaders has diverted 13,634 pounds of material from landfills since the beginning of the school year! How did we do it? By collecting aluminum cans, plastic bottles, glass, paper, and recovering all the food scraps during lunch. Recyclables and compostables are valuable resources that should not be discarded! Instead we are recovering and repurposing these materials.

Thanks to the dedication, passion and commitment of Aveson's Green Environment Action Team (GREAT)*, the Aveson Recycle Center (ARC) and Waste Less Living's Organics Recovery Program (ORP) are getting us close to a zero-waste campus! The ARC has been in business since Earth Day 2011 and has consistently collected an average of 3,000 pounds of recyclables each month, which we trade in for cash. Proceeds from the ARC off-set other GREAT initiatives such as the Organics Recovery Program which has resulted in a waste diversion rate of 90%.

Our goal is to raise \$500 per month, but to do this, we need your help! So please, visit the ARC weekly and drop off your **aluminum cans, plastic bottles, white paper, cardboard and glass.** *It's so easy!*

Your commitment is to make others around you successful.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE:

Where does the Annual Fund stand now?

47% of our \$ GOAL!

50% of our families!

Restaurant Nights are always popular among our families and typically bring an easy \$500 to \$1,000 For Aveson!

Kalle Noble, Riley Buoem, and JD Alibrando had a great time at El Torito while raising money for Aveson.



AVESON PRODUCE COLLECTIVE

Johanna Brandvik, Coordinator and mom of Esme and Freya



Elizabeth Huston and her daughter Bailey enjoying farm-fresh organic produce and raising money for Aveson at the same time!

The Aveson Produce Collective would like to thank the families and friends of Aveson for a great kick-off! In just three weeks, 150 boxes of locally grown, organic produce were ordered through the Aveson Produce Collective. Families roasted fennel, baked sweet apples, and in doing so raised over \$450 for Aveson and \$150 for WORKS, a diverse women-led organization that provides housing and food access solutions to individuals and families of modest means. Still haven't ordered your weekly or bi-weekly organic produce boxes? It's not too late! Just go to www.eroots.org to subscribe. Orders placed before Monday will be delivered the following Thursday. Questions? Contact: avesonproduce@aveson.org

GREAT promotes monthly recycling drives with awesome prizes going to the winning advisory. Deadline for the **Plastic Bottles <PETE> Eco-Challenge is January 27, 2012.**

**Special thanks to GREAT volunteers Karen Aenlle, Cynthia Staub, Daniel Cruder, Lisa Bell-Blanco, Lori Campos and Christine Lenches-Hinkel who monitor the ARC daily.*

Other ways you can help the school raise funds while promoting healthy living at home and in our community:

Sign up for the Aveson Produce Collective at www.eroots.org (\$3/box is donated to Aveson)

Sign up for weekly food scraps pick-up at www.wastelessliving.com/services/green-school-program (10% of proceeds are donated to Aveson)

There is no such thing as too much truth.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12	<i>ASL Community Forum</i>
January 14	<i>ASL & AGLA Campus Tours</i>
January 16	<i>ASL & AGLA closed in honor of Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday</i>
January 18	<i>Open House for parents of current 5th graders at Coffee with Larry</i>
January 19	<i>AGLA Community Forum</i>
January 21	<i>ASL Campus Action Day Hosted by D1 and D2</i>
January 24	<i>Restaurant Night at Round Table in SoPas</i>
February 4	<i>AGLA Mixer</i>
February 11	<i>ASL & AGLA Campus Tours</i>
February 13	<i>Celebrations of Community (ASL & AGLA minimum days) Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair at ASL</i>
February 14	<i>Coffee with Dr. Cognetta Celebrations of Community (ASL & AGLA minimum days) Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair at ASL</i>
February 15	<i>Coffee with Larry Celebrations of Community (ASL & AGLA minimum days) Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair at ASL</i>
February 16	<i>Celebrations of Community (ASL & AGLA minimum days) Mrs. Nelson's Book Fair at ASL</i>
February 17	<i>AEC Staff Day (ASL & AGLA closed to students)</i>
February 20	<i>ASL & AGLA closed in honor of Washington's Birthday</i>
February 22	<i>Restaurant Night at Sharky's</i>
February 26	<i>ASL Campus Action Day Hosted by the Flex Room</i>
March 3	<i>2nd Annual Aveson Spring Soirée</i>
March 13	<i>Coffee with Dr. Cognetta</i>
March 21	<i>Coffee with Larry</i>
March 24	<i>ASL Campus Action Day Hosted by B2 and C2</i>
April 2 - April 13	<i>ASL & AGLA closed for Spring Break</i>

Note: Always check the Aveson Master Calendar for updates, times and locations!

AVESON SPRING SOIREE

The Events Action Team is hard at work planning the

2nd Annual Spring Soirée

to benefit Aveson Charter Schools. To get involved, come to our planning meeting on January 16th & contact Elizabeth McCallie: volunteers@aveson.org.

Otherwise, save the date!

March 3, 2012 - 7 pm

at Noor (in Paseo, Pasadena)

Tickets will be \$50 per person (\$40 for Aveson Staff)



Participating in an Events Action Team "meeting" is a fantastic way to fulfill your volunteer hours and raise money for Aveson!

How you say it is as important as what you say.

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Got pictures or a story you want included in the next edition?...

Want to help edit the **Compass**?...

Contact the **Compass** staff at: newsletter@aveson.org



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