



Aveson's new Volunteer Coordinator, Elizabeth McCallie, and her daughter Thea

September/October 2011

Special points of interest:

The Aveson Vision is becoming a reality!

We can't do it without you!

It doesn't have to be painful!

There are lots of fun things you can do!

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FULFILLING OUR VISION

Kate Bean, Executive Director and mom of Addison and Avery

Now that AGLA is getting comfortable in its own home, I have the opportunity to reflect on how far Aveson has come. I admit it is *wonderful* to witness Aveson's vision come to fruition in only our fifth year....

- The culture and climate have surpassed my expectations for such young schools.
- Personalized Learning is happening everywhere from Kindergarten to 12th grade.
- Advisors have identified literacy and math proficiency levels for each and every student.
- Students are receiving unparalleled support as a result of a student-to-educator ratio unheard of in public education.
- Students are being coached and instructed by educators who are knowledgeable, caring and passionate.
- Students are learning in spaces which are warm, stimulating and full of resources.

SCHOOL SPIRIT KICKS OFF THE NEW YEAR

Elizabeth McCallie, Volunteer Coordinator and mom of Harper and Thea

First, I want to say that I am thrilled to be helping Aveson parents navigate the plentiful volunteer opportunities at our two schools. Studies show that children whose parents participate in their education do better in school, so that should be more than enough incentive for you to get in touch with me!

It actually makes me sad to think of all the students who do not have access to what our students experience on a daily basis. As a parent and staff member, I am proud of the place we have created for our children. This is going to be an unforgettable year for Aveson families!

Aveson's Vision:

We will be a global leader in providing the right instruction for every student every time. We will earn our communities' enthusiasm by boldly rejecting the status quo and by maximizing the opportunities to succeed driven by an unprecedented commitment to team member autonomy and accountability. Our students will be known globally for their commitment to make others successful.

I was truly inspired by the tremendous turnouts at both the ASL and AGLA Meet & Greets during the second week of the school year. We hope that everyone had a chance to learn about the many volunteer opportunities, taste Alice's culinary masterpieces, and meet the teachers. What a great start to a great year!

There is no such thing as too much truth.

ASL CAMPUS ACTION DAY

Eric Blumberg, ASL Maintenance Action Team Facilitator and dad of Amelie

The September Action Day was well-attended by both new and returning families. Our volunteers accomplished a variety of tasks ranging from welding/repairing the lower blacktop gate and using an industrial lift to repair and paint the auditorium to classroom maintenance and deep cleaning. The day was full of sweat and smiles... just the way we like it!

Next month we will start a new tradition of having advisory groups "host" an Action Day. It will be exciting to see the results of such concentrated attendance. However, please remember that every Action Day is for EVERY BODY.

Your time and energy are truly appreciated by me and the staff, and by the children of Aveson. Your ideas for making the campus a better place are also welcome.



Scott & Emma Jennings painting outside the cafeteria

VOLUNTEER NEWS & NEEDS

Fundraising Action Team

We are working on the Fall appeal for the Annual Fund, and a centralized process for approaching local businesses about partnerships and sponsorships. We are looking for:

- (1) a volunteer book sale coordinator,
- (2) a volunteer restaurant night coordinator,
- (3) a volunteer merchandiser (design & shop for Aveson Gear!),
- (4) bake sale bakers. *Come to our meeting on October 1st in the ASL cafeteria, and/or contact Sidra Gohwala: fundraising@aveson.org*

Events Action Team

We are getting ready for our Bingo Night at AGLA, a Pancake Breakfast and Boutique Sale (so start making whatever it is that you make now), and the second annual Spring Soirée!

Come to our meeting on October 1st in the ASL cafeteria, and/or contact Sonja Alarr: salarr@earthlink.net

Maintenance/Grounds Action Team

We need a facilitator for the AGLA Campus, to organize Action Days and prioritize campus improvement projects.

Contact Eric Blumberg: MaintenanceTeam@aveson.org

Communication & Community (& Culture & Climate)

Volunteers are needed to help create the parent handbook and directory.

Contact Amy Jaecker-Jones: CommunicationTeam@aveson.org

Technology Action Team

Contact Brendan Heffernan: TechnologyTeam@aveson.org

Learning Differences Action Team

Contact Jennifer Cowie King: LearningTeam@aveson.org

Visual Art & Media Action Team

Contact Heather Kealey: ArtTeam@aveson.org

Music Action Team

Contact Bill Burnett: MusicTeam@aveson.org

Performance Action Team

We need parents to teach songs to the students during the school day so they'll be ready to perform at the end of the year.

Contact Nina and Billy Malone: PerformanceTeam@aveson.org

Outdoor Education Action Team

We are planning a Spring Break camping trip to Anza Borrego.

Contact Lulu Vallee Escott: OutdoorEdTeam@aveson.org

Playground Action Team

We are trying to improve the outdoor play environment, specifically on the lower blacktop of ASL. We need K-2 lunchtime volunteers ASAP.

Come to the lower blacktop on Mondays from 11:15-12, Tuesdays-Fridays 12-12:50, and/or contact Laura Hyatt: laurahyatt@gmail.com

Culinary Arts Action Team

Contact Anna de Cruder: CulinaryArtsTeam@aveson.org

Gardening Action Team

Bring your gloves and tools to ASL on Tuesdays from 5-7pm and/or contact Susan Piskura: GardeningTeam@aveson.org

Green Environment Action Team

We are partnering with eRoots to bring organic, local produce to Aveson families.

Contact Debrah Lemattre: GreenTeam@aveson.org

Library Action Team

Contact Stephanie Pinto: LibraryTeam@aveson.org

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*

1-2-3 EYE ON GIVING

Sidra Golwala, Director of Development and Fundraising Action Team Facilitator

My son, Oskar, was in the fabulous flex room last year, but is no longer attending Aveson. However, I'm still here, and I'm excited to be overseeing Aveson's fundraising efforts again. Let me tell you why!

Because... public education in California, including charter schools, is in crisis mode. And although my own child is at an independent school, I realize not everyone can do that, and I care deeply how the rest of the State is educated (or not educated, as is too often the case).

Because... Aveson Charter Schools are being asked by the State of California to educate our children with the same amount of funding that schools received back in 2005. That means public funding could leave Aveson more than \$150,000 short of its 2011-2012 budget. Last year, I helped Aveson raise more than \$100,000 and I believe we can beat that this year.

Fundraising for Aveson is important because...

Aveson uniquely provides:

- Small class sizes
- Personalized learning
- Quality teachers with specialized knowledge and skills

And because...

- A field trip for 200 students costs \$2,000
- Aveson's utility bills are \$85,000/year
- Communications services (telephone, mail, internet) are \$22,000/year
- Aveson's rent is \$288,000/year
- The cost of Specialized Academic Instructors in the classroom and on the playgrounds is \$190,000/year!



Heather and Caiden Kealey signing up at the ASL Meet & Greet on Sept. 12th.

Our growth together requires us to grow individually.

Soon I will send you a letter about **Aveson's Annual Fund**. I hope you will start thinking about how you can contribute so that Aveson can continue to provide the kind of education you want for your child, and that I want for all of our children. **In the meantime, please take a moment to read about a few of our "painless fundraisers."**

 * Between September 15 and December 31, shop at any *
 * **FRESH & EASY**, and put your receipts valued at \$20 *
 * or more in the box at the office. *
 * Aveson will receive \$1 *
 * for each \$20 spent! *
 * Tell your friends! *

If you like getting daily deals (like groupons) in your inbox, sign up for **townloop** – the link is on our website.

When you shop at **amazon.com** use the Amazon Associates link that's on our website EVERY time you shop.

If you shop at **TARGET**, apply for a Target REDcard and designate Aveson. Our school ID# is: 125578

Register your **WUMS**/Safeway shopping cards/credit cards on **eScrip** by calling **1-800-801-4973**. ACS's ID is: **500015960**.

Coming soon... Collect **Box Tops!**

RESTURANT NIGHTS will generally be the 3rd or 4th Tuesday of every month; proceeds go to Aveson's Culinary Arts Program... look for them on the School Calendar or the front page of the website.



AVESON CAFÉ



Aveson Food Services is proud to offer your child healthy, hot lunches every Tuesday through Friday! Please support the Culinary Arts Program by taking advantage of hot lunch!

Kids enjoy a main dish (meat or vegetarian option), fresh fruits, veggies & healthy grains served with naturally-flavored waters. Each meal is produced in the spirit of our sustainable, healthy-living goals of the school, and have wide-ranging appeal.

Submit order forms bi-weekly, each Friday before the new menus start. Click the little green button at www.aveson.org to access the forms. Fill out and either fax them in or place them in the Food Services box located in either office. *Thanks for your support!*



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 1 ASL & AGLA Fundraising Action Team Brunch
Volunteers needed for envelope stuffing and closet organizing.
- October 10 ASL & AGLA Fresh & Easy Shop for Schools Night
Volunteers needed to help bag groceries and increase awareness of ACS.
- October 17-20 ASL & AGLA Goal Setting Conferences
Minimum Days (K pick up at 12:30, 1st-2nd at 12:45, 3rd-4th at 1:00, 6th-12th at 1:30)
- October 21 ASL & AGLA Staff Day - *ASL & AGLA closed to students*
- October 23 ASL Campus Action Day
Volunteers needed to beautify the campus & help in multiple ways.
Host advisories: D3 & D4
- October 25 Restaurant Night at CPK 
- November 5 Fall Bingo Night at AGLA
- November 10 Kinder Field Trip to Underwood Family Farms
- November 11 Veterans Day – *ASL & AGLA closed*
- November 12 ASL Campus Action Day
Volunteers needed to beautify the campus & help in multiple ways.
Host advisories: D5 & D6
- November 15 Restaurant Night at El Torito 
- November 21-25 Thanksgiving Break - *ASL & AGLA closed*
- December 10 ASL Campus Action Day
Volunteers needed to beautify the campus & help in multiple ways.
Host advisories: C5 & C6
- ...and...** Pancake Breakfast & Boutique Sale! *(see right inset)*
Volunteers needed to make objects d'art & sell their creations.

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

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

Everyone's time is valuable.

DECEMBER 10 PANCAKE BREAKFAST & BOUTIQUE SALE



Get your creative juices flowing now!
We know there are A LOT of talented Aveson parents out there, and now you have an opportunity to showcase your talents!

Proceeds go towards ASL & AGLA
Campus Beautification projects!

Interested in having a booth? Just contact:

Tina Forrestel OR Crystal Cantu
tforrestel8@gmail.com cantucrystal@rocketmail.com

Thinking about the rising cost of food lately?
Wondering how to justify buying organic produce?
Well, soon you'll be able to subscribe to
Aveson's produce collective! Not only will you get local, organic produce weekly, you'll be supporting Aveson's Green Team.

Stay tuned for details!



Aveson School of Leaders
1919 E Pinecrest Drive, Altadena, CA 91001
Main # & ASL Office: (626) 797-1440

Aveson Global Leadership Academy
1206 Lincoln Ave, Pasadena, CA 91103
AGLA Office: (626) 797-1438

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