



Apache Junction Unified School District

FOCUS IN SCHOOLS

KEEPING THEM ALL
SAFE



Apache Junction
Unified School District
**EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PLAN**

Emergency Brochure Sent Home

The District's new Emergency Response Plan brochure is being sent home with K-8 students. The new publication outlines what parents can expect from the Response Plan, including lockdown procedures. Parents of students in grades 9-12 can pick up the publication at the school office, library or counselor's office.

The publication provides information on what parents

or visitors should do and what they shouldn't, and explains communication procedures that would be in effect in either a real situation or a drill.

The goal of the district Emergency Response Plan is to enable staff, students and parents to handle any unexpected crisis safely and with confidence. It is essential to ensure all students and staff know what to do in the event of an actual emergency. To that end, each school conducts four lockdown drills a year.

The brochure will provide information on what to do in the event you arrive at a school site after a lockdown has been called.

For instance:

- Do not stand in the parking lot.
- Do not stand outside the doors or near the school. Return to your vehicle; wait for the all clear announcement.
- If this is not a drill, you could be in imminent danger.

The brochure also provides communication information including where to go to find the latest update on any situation.

Take a few moments and familiarize yourself with the District's Emergency procedure. It is the one brochure with information we hope no one ever has to use.



The Black Stallion Literacy Project introduces DVES first graders to "Little Black" and "Big Red."

Parent-Teacher Conferences Emphasis Shifts this Time

Because of some new and exciting changes happening in the Apache Junction Unified School District, Parent Conferences, scheduled for Thursday and Friday, Feb. 5 and 6, will be a little different this semester.

The recent implementation of the Technology Portal now allows parents to access their student's Progress Report by logging onto the Internet and going to the AJUSD Homepage www.ajusd.org

In a departure from years past when parents would conference with teachers to obtain and discuss the progress report, conferences will be specifically discussing the results of the second quarter benchmark testing and the mid-year aggregate forecast for AIMS. Teachers also will be prepared to assist and "walk through" anyone desiring help in accessing Gradebook Wizard and Galileo academic aids.

Also keep in mind some of the other purposes of Parent-

Teacher Conferences. They give parents and teachers an opportunity to meet and form a partnership for the benefit of the child. A good working relationship can go a long way toward assuring that children are learning to the best of their abilities and having positive educational experiences.

In pursuit of furthering this partnership, be sure and bring along a list of any questions or concerns that you might have, and be willing to share information about your child that will aid the teacher in helping your child.

Access that is now also provided through the Technology Portal to Galileo will also help parents to stay more involved with their child's education. This is so important. Studies show that one of the most important factors in a child's academic success is parental involvement.

Please plan to participate in a conference if possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your school.

AJHS Stages 'Peter Pan'

The Apache Junction High School Drama Department will be presenting J.M. Barrie's original production of "Peter Pan" on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, February 4-6, at 7 p.m. and on Saturday, Feb. 7, at a 1 p.m. matinee.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors. Children under 5 are free. General admission tickets are available at the District Office and the AJHS Bookstore. Limited reserved seats are \$10 and can be arranged by calling Paul Lamphear at (480) 982-1110, ext. 5317.

The children's drama "Peter Pan," written by J.M. Barrie, was first presented on the London stage as a play in 1904 and is about boy who refuses to grow up and lives in Neverland. When he visits the Darling children, he sprinkles them with fairy dust and they all fly to Neverland where they have a never-to-be forgotten adventure.

Flying effects have been contracted to Flying by Foy, the group who did flying effects for last year's "Wizard of Oz" production.

Free Parenting Class Available

"Parenting with Love and Logic" is a new, free seven-session parenting class that will be available through AJUSD Parent University this spring. It teaches parents strategies and techniques to help their children become more self-confident, motivated and ready for the real world with this win-win approach to parenting.

The course is appropriate for parents of children 5-17.

Classes are held in the AJUSD Title I Building (Southern and Ironwood) 6-7:30 p.m.

February 5, 2009 --

Module 1: Raising Responsible Kids

February 12, 2009 --

Module 2: The Love and Logic Formula

February 19, 2009 --

Module 3: C Stands for Control that's Shared

March 19, 2009 --

Module 4: O is for Ownership of the Problem

April 2, 2009 --

Module 5: O is also for Opportunity for Thinking

April 16, 2009 --

Module 6: L is for Let Empathy & Consequences

Do the Teaching

April 25, 2009 --

Module 7: Let's Wrap It Up and Take It Home!

Registration is now available through the AJUSD Parent University registration Web site at <http://www.solutionwhere.com/ajusd/cw/main.asp>. Attendance at every session is not a requirement for registration.

AJHS' NJROTC Sponsors Free Classic Car Show

Car fans should be sure to circle Saturday, February 14, 2009, on their calendars for one of the best free events of the season in Apache Junction — the 10th Annual NJROTC Spring Car Show held each year in the parking lot of Apache Junction High School at 2525 S. Ironwood Drive.

This year's event is being

sponsored by the NJROTC Parents Club (The Anchor Club) and Impala Bob's. All proceeds will go to support the AJHS NJROTC program and activities.

And for classic car/truck owners, there is still time to enter a vehicle in the show/competition. Entries are \$30 and there are 23 class cat-

egories to choose from. Free dash plaque and T-shirt to the first 100 entries. Prizes will be awarded.

For more information on entries, call (480) 288-9087 or (480) 540-5241.

Each February, hundreds of attendees join the fun for the 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. celebration of classic vehicles. Besides viewing the cars, there

are exhibits, raffles, 50/50 drawings and lots of music and food.

Rain or shine, the show will be held, so plan to come down and enjoy it.



Simulator Popular Training Tool



AJUSD Bus Driver Annicke Carlson receives instruction from Trust Trainer Dean Humpherys as a part of continuing education program required of the District's CDL licensed bus drivers. One new innovative way to provide this training is by using a simulator. Simulators have in the past been used to train pilots; engineers, even cement truck drivers, and now school bus drivers. AJUSD's drivers had the opportunity to "test drive" the simulator during recent 4-day training.

How Do You Spell Winners?



David Walker, a fifth grader from Superstition Mountain Elementary (far left), was the victor in the district's annual Spelling Bee competition held on Jan. 14. David spelled the final word "gregarious" to take the top prize. Second place went to Caleb Shroyer (second from left) and third went to Christopher Jordan-Davis both from Thunder Mountain Middle School. Alternate was Lolita Matteotti from Superstition Mountain Elementary School. Students will compete in the Pinal County Spelling Bee on February 20.

Peralta 'Featured School of the Day'

Students at Peralta Trail Elementary School will always remember Monday, January 20, 2009, as a very special day, but for two reasons. Not only was Barack Obama sworn into office as the 44th President of the United States, but their school was selected as "Featured School of the Day" by Schooltube.com. Peralta Trail was one of seven schools selected nationally for the honor. To qualify schools must:

- have at least 10 videos uploaded to SchoolTube.
- have an average of one video uploaded per week — so if there is not a video one week but three videos the next then it will average out to 1.5 videos per week.
- provide a photo or logo for our "Featured Schools" page.

Peralta Trail has been contributing to SchoolTube as just another way to share with parents many of the activities and events at PTES.

Planning Your Family Vacation?

Last Day of 2008-2009 School Year
Thursday, May 21, 2009

First Day of the 2009-2010 School Year
Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Spring Break
March 16-20, 2009

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 5-6 – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Feb. 10 – Governing Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 – President's Day - No School
Feb. 24 – Governing Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.