

Alma Intermediate School News



Office Assistants



Mrs. Wilson and her daughters



Students working together



Amazed by the Solar Eclipse

September, 2017

Student Mission Statement: *As students our mission is to learn what we need to know for successful living. We are responsible, life-long learners, using our knowledge and skills to help others right here, right now!*

School Calendar (almasd.net)

- Sept. 20: Internet Safety for 5th grade with Officer Caldwell during activity periods
- Sept. 25: Third grade music program at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center
- Sept. 28: Homecoming Parade at 6 p.m.
- Oct. 11: School Pictures
- Oct. 16-20: Book Fair
- Oct. 18: Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 24: Fire Safety Program for 3rd grade
- Oct. 30: Flu Clinic from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the Safe Room

Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conferences

Alma Intermediate School has conducted student-led conferences for at least the last ten years. Teachers and parents have found that this increases students' ownership of their learning and allows for more conversation about the child's progress. Conferences are scheduled for October 18 from 2-7 p.m. Additional teacher conferences may always be scheduled on other dates as needed.

ACT Aspire Scores for 4th and 5th Grade

Students now in 4th and 5th grade completed the ACT Aspire last April. Test scores are being sent home to parents with this newsletter. We're proud of students' progress on this assessment.

We look forward to this year's testing in April and know that students will be ready to do their best. The ACT Aspire aligns with the ACT students will take in high school to qualify for scholarships.

From the Principal...

I had wonderful parents but didn't realize this until around age 25. They've become more impressive to me with each passing year. I've been thinking about what made them such good parents. Here are a few things that stand out.

They were there! My parents made an effort to attend performances and sporting events I was involved in. More importantly, they were there emotionally at home. We had conversations, and they let me know that I was an important part of the family....not the center of attention....not the center of their universe, but an important part of the family.

They had expectations of me. They gave me jobs around the house and expected them to be done. They expected me to do well in school and continue my education after high school. They expected me to work and earn a living. They expected me to respect others. The list goes on, but you get the idea.

My parents treated each other with respect. If they had any complaints about one another, I never heard them. They may have gotten a little cross on rare occasions but always in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

My parents loved me unconditionally *but* also let me experience the consequences of my decisions, good and bad. They never cared less about me because I made a mistake, but they did require that I face the consequences of my actions. Sometimes this was unpleasant, but I knew they loved me no matter what.

Parenting is a difficult task! My parents have often said they weren't perfect, but I don't think perfection is required. Giving yourself to the job of parenting and doing the best you can each day is the key.

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Thank you to all of our students' parents for your efforts! Thank you for trusting us with your most precious possession, your child. It may seem like a thankless job but your children will recognize your good work in the future, and you'll have the satisfaction of seeing their growth and success in life. As educators and parents, we look forward to working with you and seeing great learning during this school year!



Mr. Warnock's mother and father with a vase that was a gift from many years ago.

Report to the Public

Report to the public will occur prior to the music performances on September 25th and will include handouts with test scores and school improvement status as well as a review of programs being utilized at AIS.

Rebecca Tate Attends Summer Institutes

Rebecca Tate applied for and was accepted to participate in three Teacher Institutes last summer. During these institutes, teachers from across the nation are involved in intense study using historic artifacts hosted by expert presenters and interpreters.

During her week at the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History's seminar on The Era of George Washington at historic Mount Vernon, Ms. Tate learned about the leadership of our first president by spending the week analyzing primary source documents and walking in the General's footsteps at his beloved home.

Ms. Tate participated in a National Endowment for the Humanities-sponsored institute entitled Mapping a New World: Places of Conflict and Colonization in 17th Century New England. She was able to explore numerous historic sites in Boston including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Massachusetts Historical Society; Plimoth Plantation and Wampanoag Village; Plymouth, Massachusetts; and the Mashantucket Pequot Museum of Connecticut.

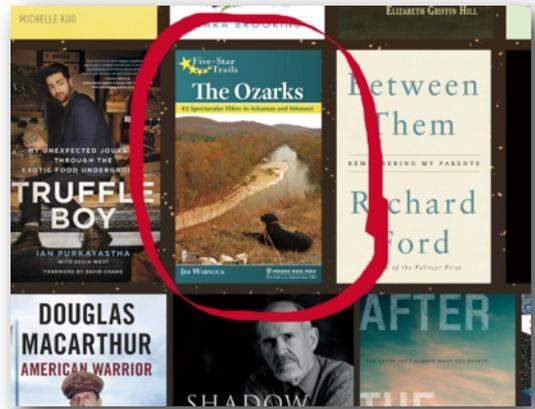
These experiences increased Ms. Tate's understanding of the first contacts between Native Americans and explorers in the New World and how those interactions shaped the first colonies.

(Rebecca Tate continued)

To wrap up an exciting summer of historical exploration, Ms. Tate spent a week at the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute where she visited Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown.

Participants learned about everyday life during the colonial period as well as how Williamsburg and the revolutionaries who lived there played a vital role in sparking our nation's independence. Ms. Tate is thrilled to translate her summer of learning into engaging, hands-on lessons that will bring history alive for her students!

Principal's Book Named to Arkansas List



Five Star Trails: The Ozarks has been named to the Arkansas Gems List of books for 2017 by the Arkansas Literary Festival based in Little Rock. Mr. Warnock wrote this book over a two year period. It features 43 of the highest rated hiking trails in the Ozarks of Arkansas and Missouri.

This project stimulated a lot of learning about the writing process and Mr. Warnock enjoys sharing this with students. Visit his backpacking and hiking blog at OzarkMountainHiker.com if you enjoy the outdoors.



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