

## The Academy for Precision Learning

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### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Dear APL Community,

As I reflect on the past year, it has really struck me that this was truly a year of “firsts” at APL. This will certainly be remembered as the year we decided to expand to high school and become a K-12 school. In addition, since the beginning of this school year we brought on a general ed consultant to help us build out our curriculum map, the 4-5 class had their first sleep away camp experience, three of our ninth graders attended the PNAIS leadership conference on diversity, the school added new sports teams and we launched a Science Fair. We have also seen incredible activities from the Parent Council in their first year

### **APL IS LAUNCHING A HIGH SCHOOL**

APL is proud to announce APL High School, beginning with the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades next year, (2013-2014). We will add a grade per year in the following years, so that we will be a 9-12 school by 2015. Each class will enroll 16 students, taught by a Head Teacher and Assistant Teacher, with Instructional Assistants and a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA) working with each student, according to the APL model, as needed. APL High School will provide a high quality and individualized education for students with Autism as well as their typically developing peers within an inclusive and socially vibrant environment. APL High School will provide education that will be molded to the individual students’ post-secondary goals, whether that includes college, vocational plans, or transition services, so that each student is supported to reach his/her full potential.

We will work in cooperation with Yellow Wood Academy (formerly ETC) and Aspiring Youth to create a high quality educational and social program that will cater to the whole child. Yellow Wood Academy has been an accredited High School for over 20 years. Yellow Wood will add quality to the program by providing advanced class instruction (such as Geometry and Science Administrative Assistance, Transcript Creation and Monitoring, Academic and College Guidance and Curriculum Management). We are excited to provide this unique professional partnership with Yellow Wood Academy which adds so much to APL High School!

Aspiring Youth provides Social Skills education to teens in a positive and supportive environment. Aspiring Youth will facilitate social interaction between our students in the High School in a variety of different ways. These include a Social Skills curriculum which will be shared by the students as well as physical exercise, games, and field trips. This social skills curriculum will benefit all of the learners

including parent groups, speaker series and fun community fundraising activities! As you can see, across our academic program, enrichment activities, and community experiences – it has been a busy and very productive year.

But we're not done yet! This is always such a wonderful time of year at the school with high energy all around. The students are focused on meeting their individual goals, our after school clubs and Spring sports teams are in full swing, and we still have several musical productions to host. Personally, it is very rewarding to see all of our students thriving and the staff operating at such a high level.

As always, the ongoing support we receive from our extended community is essential to our success. We thank you for being a part of the APL family and helping us continue to grow and thrive.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Annable  
Executive Director



in the High School in navigating life's challenges.

APL High School will support each class with BCBA services for emotional and behavioral support. In addition, a full time Resource Specialist will support APL High School by enriching student support with Person-Centered-Planning, student-specific educational plans, transition planning and community involvement. Learning opportunities that engage the student into the community in meaningful and substantive ways will encourage students with special needs to prepare for post-secondary life, according to the strengths and needs of the individual student. APL High School will provide social, vocational and life skill training to each student in accordance with his/her educational plan as best fits that student's abilities. APL High School will provide a comprehensive, high quality, challenging education for all enrolled students. Please join us in celebrating the opening of this vibrant, engaged, and rigorous program! If you are interested in learning more about APL High School, please contact APL at 206-427-0115 or at [info@aplschool.org](mailto:info@aplschool.org)

### **GIVE BIG: MAY 15th**

APL is participating in the Seattle Foundation's 24-hour online charitable campaign. From midnight to midnight on May 15th, APL is hoping to raise \$10,000 to support our growing programs and cover the cost of theater arts enrichment. Please consider giving a gift on May 15th and SPREAD the WORD. Every dollar we raise on May 15th will be matched by a Seattle Foundation 'stretch pool', and your gift may be selected at random to win a Golden Ticket (an additional \$1,000) for APL! To learn more or donate on May 15th, click the link below:

### **More Information Here:**

<http://www.seattlefoundation.org/npos/Pages/AcademyforPrecisionLearning.aspx>

### **View APL Video:**

[http://www.aplschool.org/apl\\_givebig2013.html](http://www.aplschool.org/apl_givebig2013.html)



## BOARD PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear APL Community,

The Board of Directors has been actively engaged in creating and executing against our long range Strategic Plan. We have focused our efforts on Advancement and Growth, APL's Service Delivery Model, and Staff Development/Succession Planning. As we look out 3-5 years, we have ambitious goals to continue building out our unique education and enrichment model, balanced against smart, sustainable growth.

It has been an especially exciting few months with the decision to expand APL to high school. This is a great opportunity to extend our model to many more deserving students. The reaction from our own families and those in the greater community has been very rewarding. Our collective work to build the high school not only breaks new ground in educating students in the upper grades, but it has provided insights and ideas around curriculum development, student centered approaches, and community outreach that will benefit the school as a whole. I have no doubt that growing APL into a K-12 school that delivers a quality experience to each and every student is just the type of meaningful challenge that our Board, staff, families, and extended community are well equipped to tackle.

The continued growth and evolution of APL, and most importantly the success of all of

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### FUN RUN: JUNE 1st

On June 1st at 9:30am, APL teachers, students, staff and community are gathering for the 2nd annual APL Fun Run! Join us at Road Runner Sports, Green Lake (7020 Woodlawn Ave NE) for tasty treats, zoka coffee, prizes, storewide discounts and the opportunity to run, walk or jog around the lake. Note: This is a 100% fun run. There are no fees or chip timing!

PLEASE RSVP TO: [evperillo@yahoo.com](mailto:evperillo@yahoo.com)

### A Special Thanks to the Community Fun Run Sponsors:



### BROADWAY BOUND PERFORMANCES

APL Students have been working hard at honing their theatrical skills via Broadway Bound children's theater and Jimmy Nixon. Come watch the students perform this coming June. Junior High will be performing a modern day version of Hamlet, 4/5 and 5/6 will be performing Oliver and the K/1 and 2/3 classes will perform Aladdin. For more information, email: [info@aplschool.org](mailto:info@aplschool.org)

### CLINICAL UPDATE

ROOTS (APL's behavioral consultation team) is hard at work this Spring completing post-testing! This rigorous assessment process involves completing the Woodcock Johnson Tests of Academic Achievement III (the WJ-III for short) with each student at the end of each school year to measure yearly academic progress relative to same-age peers. The test results also give us more information for planning instruction next year. For questions email Ali Moors Lipshin, Clinic Director: [ali@aplschool.org](mailto:ali@aplschool.org) or Courtney Burnett, Clinic Coordinator: [courtneyb@aplschool.org](mailto:courtneyb@aplschool.org)

**Meet Behavior Analyst, Chante Stoeckley: Hi!**  
I'm the behavior analyst in the K/1 classroom and the 4/5 classroom. This is my third year at APL.



our students, is something we are continually grateful for. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you for your ongoing support that helps bring our goals and plans to life.

Sincerely,

Erin C. Brewer  
Board President, Co-Founder &  
APL Parent



**For information or to donate, visit:**  
<http://www.aplschool.org>

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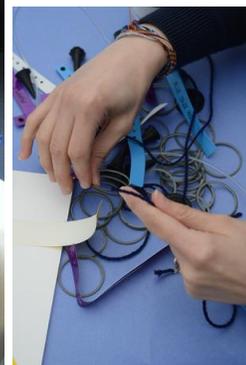
**APL FUN FACT:** Did you know the Parent Council has a 'Perfect Latte' cart? Visit us on select Mondays & Fridays for the best latte in the U-District!

I love the job of Behavior Analyst here. Being part of a community that is constantly striving to create the best possible education for kids is incredibly important to me. As a behavior analyst here, I get to work with the teachers and para-educators to write individualized plans for students, train staff to be effective precision teachers, and try to maximize students' learning through well-designed programs. One of my favorite parts of the job is seeing the incredible progress kids make over the years. Another is finding new ways to teach tough skills when our standard methods aren't working. Language and communication are my favorite skills to teach.

On a personal note, I enjoy reading (*occasionally* reading about something not related to behavior analysis or Autism!), sailing, and traveling in my spare time. I lived overseas for 3 years before coming to APL, and I love learning about other cultures and languages. The most unusual place I've ever been was North Korea and the most unusual food I've eaten was still-wiggling-octopus! Ask me about it if you see me in the hallways!

### LIVING OUR MISSION

At the heart of APL is giving back to the community! This spirit was truly embraced mid-April during Earth Day (and week). The K/1 students and Green Team members brought in used batteries to recycle and learned about BETTERY. The 2/3 students planted flowers in the front of the University Heights Building. The 4/5 class learned about sustainability and made recyclable models of their own green schools while 5/6 students integrated earth week themes into their science curriculum. To cap it off, the Junior High students worked with the Creation Station to create recyclable jewelry, props and art. APL loves to not only give back to the community but engage in green-centered activities!



We are dedicated to ensuring every student's success through accelerated academic progress, social development, character building **and community involvement!**