



SLICES NEWSLETTER

February 12, 2021

Calendar Highlights

Feb. 15 - Feb. 19: President's Day & Mid-Winter Break - NO SCHOOL

Feb. 22: Next Steps - Steps to Independence (see enclosed flyer)

Feb. 23 - 6:00 pm: Follow Up Auction Committee Meeting. Zoom link [HERE](#).

Feb. 25 - 9:00 am: Coffee Cart (via [Zoom](#))

March 9 - 7:00 pm: Parent Connections Meeting. Zoom link [HERE](#). Password: parent

You can check out our whole school calendar any time [HERE](#).

Inclement Weather Reminder

Although it seems the worst weather may hit during break, we may still have snow in the forecast throughout this winter season. We know many of our APL families live outside of the immediate Seattle area and may be impacted by icy roads, snow fall, and power outages. Thus, we are following guidelines similar to that of our surrounding school districts when determining the closure of in-person learning:

If winter weather requires late start, early dismissal, or cancellation of in-person learning, all students will learn remotely.

- Families of students receiving in-person instruction will be notified at 6:30 a.m. of cancellation.
- Students receiving in-person instruction will switch to at-home learning over Zoom.
- All other students will continue learning remotely.

If weather conditions make a schedule change necessary, APL will communicate the decision through the following methods and in this order:

1. *Emails, text messages, and phone calls:* Families will receive an email notification, text message, or phone call by 6:30 a.m.
2. *Social media:* APL Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts will be updated. Follow us on [APL Facebook](#), [APL Instagram](#), and [APL Twitter](#).
3. *School website:* We will post school schedule updates to <https://www.aplschool.org>.

If your family loses power or internet access and school is not cancelled, please notify your child's teachers so they can excuse their absence and plan for making up any missed assignments.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Laura Barringer at laura.b@aplschool.org.

Stay safe and warm! And enjoy Mid-Winter Break, Feb. 15-19.

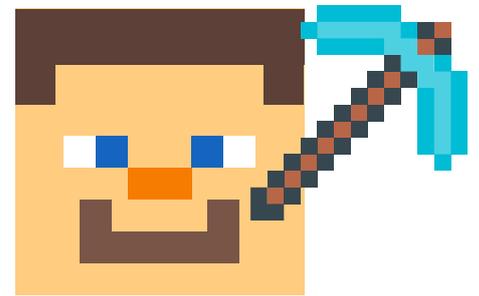
Classroom Stories

Middle School Affinity Groups: Minecraft with Jack

The Minecraft affinity group uses the game Minecraft to work on communication and cooperation skills. Students work together to build projects, harvest materials, and survive deadly mobs.

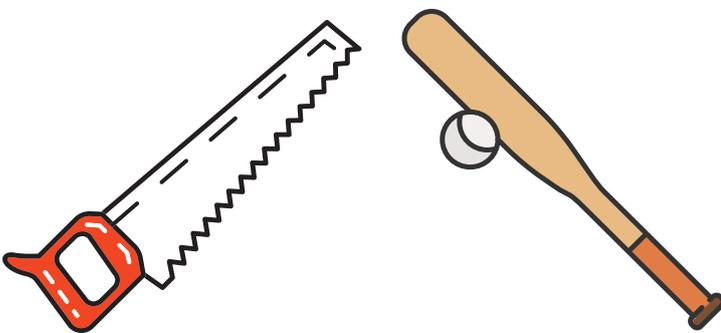
So far in our affinity group, we have built creative structures like a diving board and practical creations, like farms and mines to help sustain everyone in the group.

Teamwork is key for survival in Minecraft, and in the affinity group we look forward to building new projects moving forward.

The word "MINECRAFT" is written in a bold, blocky, pixelated font with a 3D effect, appearing to be made of stone or concrete blocks.

Middle School Affinity Groups: Crafting with Kwame

In crafting/maker club, we have talked and learned about new machines. A woodchipper and Feller Buncher are standouts. We had a student use a hand saw to make their own baseball bat and they kept all their fingers. We'll call that a win.



Thank You for Masquerading with us!



Brady and Kelly in action

Thank you all for supporting us in so many ways through our 2021 Auction: *The Masquerade - Connecting for Inclusion*. All of us were excited to hold the event in an online format so we could safely show our community examples of how we are creating success for students all across the autism spectrum.

A special shout out to our Auction Chair and Cocktail King Robert-Haynes Peterson! And thank you Traci Corazin who shared her story and Sam's during the event.



Robert giving a virtual cocktail tutorial

Thanks to everyone's commitment, *the Masquerade* inspired over \$300,000 in donations, which are helping APL continue to create student success – even as we respond to the challenges of the pandemic.

And as we announced at the event, dedicated donations are being earmarked for our future *South Campus*. This additional space next to Trader Joes near the corner of 47th and Roosevelt (just blocks away from our main campus) will allow us to provide a richer experience for our Middle School and High School students, while also making room for a larger number of elementary school students in the future. We look forward to sharing more about this project after Mid-Winter Break.



"Incredible Turtle" art project from the 2-3 classroom

Check out links to videos from the live event, photos, social media posts, and other content as we keep posting it at aplschool.org/auction.

Follow Up Auction Committee Meeting



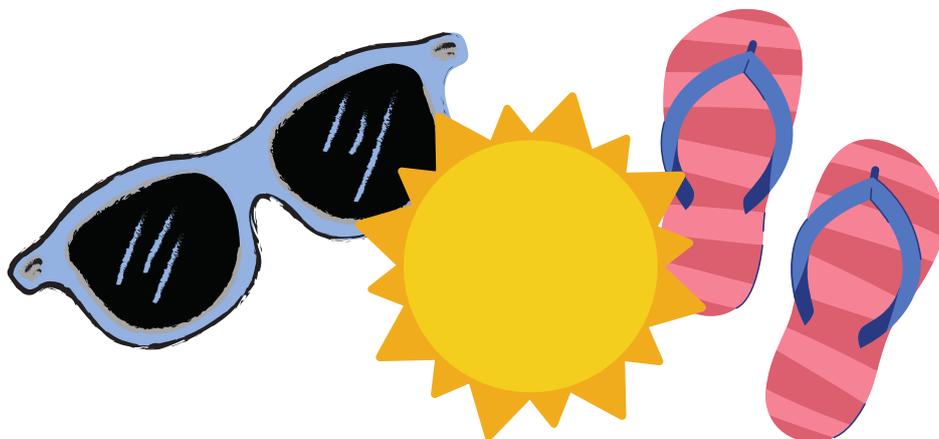
After a relaxing break, we hope you will enjoy talking through details of our Feb. 6 event - results, lessons learned, and what we can take forward for future events.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/my/meetkirk>

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported us, have a good break!

Take the ESY Survey

Extended School Year Returns This Summer!



See the letter below that has details about ESY, which will run in July and August. And if you haven't yet, please indicate interest for your student by filling out the Extended School Year (ESY) Survey.

Upcoming Online Programming

RSVP for Parent Connections March 9th with
Ben Wahl and Ryan Wecker

We are excited to welcome Ben Wahl and Ryan Wecker as guest speakers for our Parent Connections Meeting on March 9th, 7:00-8:00 pm!

Ben and Ryan will be joining us to talk about services for adolescents and young adults offered by their organizations Aspiring Youth, Delphi Young Adults, Enigma ASD, and Thrive Seattle Housing.

Aspiring Youth Website: <https://aspiringyouth.net/>
Delphi Young Adults Website: <https://delphiyoungadults.com/>
Enigma ASD Website: <https://www.enigma-asd.org/>
Thrive Seattle Housing Website: <https://thriveseattleliving.com/>

In order to give our guests an idea of how many families will be joining us and who will be in the audience, please [RSVP HERE](#).

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91444899023>
Password: parent

If you have any questions regarding this event, please don't hesitate to contact Alicia directly at alicia.n@aplschool.org.

Upcoming Online Programming

Register Today for the 3rd Annual Washington Fatherhood Summit, *March 16-18*

Join the Washington Fatherhood Summit on March 16-18, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm & optional virtual lunch 12:00 - 1:00 pm PT

Who: Fathers, providers, lay and professional leaders, policy makers, philanthropists, and fatherhood advocates.

Why: Help Washington State continue to build a state where all men can become the fathers they want to be.

Where: Zoom with interactive engagement.

Register on [Eventbrite](#) today!

3rd Annual Washington Fatherhood Summit: Resilient Dads: Fathering in Challenging Times

March 16th - 18th
8:30am - 12:00pm (PST)
12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch Optional

Visit our website: waFatherhoodCouncil.org for agenda, photo contest, VROOM focus group, and registration

Interagency Fatherhood Council Washington

Who: Lay & Professional Leaders, fathers, policy makers, providers, advocates, and philanthropists.

Why: Help Washington become a state where all men become the fathers they want to be

Where: Zoom with interactive engagement

What's New: Photo Contest- Win Prized! To launch WA Father's Photo Bank

Keynote: Corey Best
A father and leader in community organizing, authentic family engagement, racial justice, anti-racism and pre-crisis support by those impacted by the child welfare system.

Tell us your opinion! Give us the dad perspective of the VROOM app by participating in a focus group.

Supporting us in building the Washington Fatherhood photo bank by entering the photo contest

For agenda, photo contest, VROOM focus group, and registration visit: waFatherhoodCouncil.org

Interagency Fatherhood Council Washington

Featured Speakers:

3/16: Corey Best

3/17: Fatherhood Panel

3/18: Kevin Bremond, Co-Founder Alameda County Fatherhood Corps

More details [HERE](#).

Upcoming Online Programming

Update on Virtual Experiential Learning Week (April 5 - 9)

Hello APL Families,

We hope you are having a great start to the second half of the school year. We have quite a few fun things coming up and wanted to tell you a little more about Experiential Learning Week (ELW).

APL has been doing a version of ELW since 2015, and it has evolved over the years with this year being no exception. ELW is a chance for the students to break away from traditional classes and participate in a specific, focused group for the whole week. These groups have included: cooking, D&D, photography, science, etc. We strive to weave hands-on experiences with guest speakers and field trips. This year, due to COVID, ELW will be done virtually, including field trips during the week of April 5th-9th. This adds challenges, but also opens the possibility to explore opportunities outside of our immediate geographic location.

Because our activities will be taking place online, it will mean a slight change to your child's daily schedule. We will keep the same block schedule, but it will be filled with group activities, guest speakers, asynchronous activities (to complete and report back on), and beginning and end of the day check-ins. Our teachers and BTs will be with students, supporting throughout the day, as usual in addition to BCBA's and admin dropping in to check on groups.

During some of these asynchronous activities your children may need some additional support at home and we will make sure you have lots of advance notice. If you have any questions or concerns that come up now or in the coming weeks, please reach out to Shelly Frappier (shelly.f@aplschool.org) or Laura Barringer (laura.b@aplschool.org) and we will respond as soon as possible.

Expect more information as the groups are finalized and the activities/schedule is more set.

Thank you!

Register Now for two Online Series: [Steps to Independence and Lifelong Learning](#)

We are excited to announce APL is partnering with Seattle Children's Autism Center to implement the Next Steps Curriculum in a school setting for the first time! Next Steps is a 3-part class series for APL families only, designed to provide information and support for parents and caregivers of a child 15 to 21 years old and transitioning to adulthood. APL is opening this class up to ALL families interested in learning about the transition process, non-dependent on your child's age. These classes will be facilitated by Alicia Nathan, APL's Director of Counseling and Transition.

Please see the attached flyer for detailed class information.

Through March 2021, APL will begin a monthly rotation of each series. Each series will be comprised of 3 weeks of classes to cover the full curriculum and will be held via Zoom on Mondays, 5:00-6:30 pm.

Rotation 3: *Steps to Independence* - 2/22
Rotation 5: *Lifelong Learning* - 3/1, 3/8, 3/15

Middle School Affinity Groups

We are excited to announce the launch of Affinity Groups for Middle School students, which are being facilitated by APL staff members. These will be held on Wednesdays at 12:25 pm. Check out the topic areas below, If one of your middle school students would be interested, email info@aplschool.org for more information.

- Jack's Minecraft Group
- David's Board Games Group
- Toby's Anime/Manga Group
- Kwame's Crafting/Making Group
- Steve's Cooking Group
- Jesse's Makeup Artistry Group