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## Guiding Principle of the Week

*Your commitment is to make others around you successful.*

## Express Yourself: Aveson Community Forum Meetings

We have scheduled nine Community Forum meetings between January 23rd and June 4th in order to increase communication regarding our progress toward meeting our vision of seeing each child. These times will be opportunities to have your questions answered by the Aveson Team.

The majority of the meeting will be dedicated to discussing questions, comments and ideas submitted to [forum@aveson.org](mailto:forum@aveson.org) prior to the Aveson Community Forum meetings. We look forward to your participation.

*All meetings will take place in the cafeteria between 6:30-8:00pm.*

### K-2 Meeting Schedule:

January 23, March 12, May 21

### 3-5 Meeting Schedule:

January 30, March 19, May 28

### 6-9 Meeting Schedule:

February 6, March 26, June 4

## **Kate on Campus**

As a result of our restructuring of the Aveson support team, Kate is now on campus and in the classrooms. This week she spent 45 minutes in each K-2 classroom. She provided feedback to the advisors on individual strengths and "quick win" suggestions for promoting our vision. As a school which is dedicated to the flexibility of time, space and resources to meet each child's needs, Kate is always assessing how our classrooms are personalizing the learning experience. In 2008, Kate will be a regular visitor in Aveson's K-9 classrooms.

## **Aveson's Director of Operations**

We are pleased to welcome Myshia Moten as Aveson's Director of Operations. Myshia brings eight years of experience in education and leadership, including a Masters in Education with an emphasis in Cross-Cultural teaching. She is currently a doctoral student in the Educational Leadership and Change Program at Fielding University. Myshia was the State Testing Administrator for LAUSD in 2004 and her position as Site Union Representative for PUSD brought her extensive knowledge of California Educational Code. Myshia was also the Associate Director of the Marshall Dance company for two years and the Artistic Director of the Marshall Dance Youth Ensemble.

## **Going the Distance**

Aveson believes in "the right instruction for the right students at the right time". As evidence of our commitment, we are utilizing an English Language Arts distance-learning course from Brigham Young University for four of our 9th grade students. This course is independently paced and will allow for the students to accelerate their learning, learn from other instructors, enhance self-efficacy and eventually serve as mentors for other students who take distance-learning courses in the future.

## Junior Achievement

The Junior Achievement Program will be offered at Aveson Charter School this year for all classrooms grades Kindergarten through 5. Nine parents have already volunteered to present this program to our students. If you are available during the day and can attend the training on Tuesday, January 29th at 2pm in the library, please consider volunteering. You will receive all of the necessary resources and training in order to present the program to your child's class or another K-5 class.

This valuable and informative program:

- Gives students an age-appropriate understanding of business concepts and the economics of life - all taught in a fun and interactive environment! Programs for grades K-5 include "Ourselves", "Our Families", "Our Community", "Our City", "Our Region", and "Our Nation".
- Is geared to bridge from school to career - emphasizing the importance of education to students' future success.
- Consists of only five 30-45 minute sessions per classroom. The lessons will be taught over a period of three to six weeks.
- Is very well-organized, fully outlined and supplied to our school free of charge. Volunteer presenters will receive a colorful and exciting kit containing everything needed to present the program.
- Is very easy and great fun to present - the students LOVE it! Volunteer presenters will love the response you get from them...and from the teachers!

We are seeking parent or community volunteers to present this wonderful program. You may present to your child's class or to any class you wish. An Orientation/Training Session will be provided for all presenters on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 2pm at the library. Our local Junior Achievement representative will provide the training session for our school, including a review of the materials and tips on the easiest ways to present this fun and very valuable program to our students. Kits will be distributed at the

## Orientation.

If you are interested in being a volunteer presenter for Junior Achievement (in your child's class or to any class that needs a volunteer), please contact Junior Achievement Liaison Felipe Velez at [felipevelez@aveson.org](mailto:felipevelez@aveson.org).

## CHOICES

CHOICES is an interactive, decision-making workshop that empowers teens to achieve academic success in pursuit of their career and life aspirations. In two 50-minute sessions, local business and community volunteers take students through real-world exercises on academic self-discipline, time and money management, and goal setting. Teens discover that they can take charge of their lives.

On Thursday and Friday, January 17th and 18th, Aveson Global Leadership Academy students (6-9) will participate in these workshops.

To learn more about CHOICES link to [www.choices.org](http://www.choices.org)

## ***The View: from 6-9th Grade Project Coach Lori Koop***

Aaaahhhhhh, the world of COACHING. Here at Aveson, we operate like the best of them... directing and encouraging individual motivation and success, providing time and space for group projects, and huddling together when necessary. Students are expected to play hard, contribute to the team effort and stay focused. Four coaches work specifically with 6th through 9th graders.

A coach's day consists of steering morning and afternoon Advisory. This is the time students and staff gather together as a smaller community within a community, for more intimate support, discussions and connections. It enables us to be heard and known as individuals, as well as be guided within the culture and climate of Aveson. Advisory opens and closes each school day.

Project coaches maintain a block schedule, just as the 6-9 students. Monday through Thursday, each student has a "Projects" block for 1 3/4 hrs. During that time, they journal, work on individual and group projects, and meet one-on-

one with coaches. The coach to student ratio is one to ten, so in a given block, we assist ten students. Whereas Advisors focus on academic instruction, our job focuses on life skills, helping the student individually with goal setting, time management and service to the community.

As any coach will tell you, the best of days is when the team performs to their optimum potential... things just flow because each student is giving their best. It sings. It works! And whether an individual secures a win or loss, each experience provides learning and deeper understanding. It's commitment, determination and reflection that leads to winning seasons... and wins in life!

## Calling All 9th Grade Agents of Change

Do you have a passion for ending world poverty? Do you buy into the values of Political Activist and U2 lead singer Bono? Do you want to learn about global economics? Do you believe in Global Warming? Are you interested in traveling to another country and learn about their culture and the difference between Free Trade and Fair Trade?

If you answered a resounding yes, come and join other motivated high school students interested in exploring Global Issues at Pasadena's Coral Innovation Center!

Class is still open to Aveson 9th grade students:  
Thursdays from 5:30 - 7:00pm

CORAL Innovation Center  
2750 E. New York Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107

Last year's Global Issues Class traveled to Haiti. They will share about their experience at the Ten Thousand Villages Fair Trade Cooperative Gwo Jan, a Village above Port-Au-Prince.

All Dates of Classes: Jan. 10,17,24,31 Feb. 7,14,21,28 March 6,13,20,27  
Optional April, May, June, July Fundraising Schedule for trip to Haiti

For more information contact Christine Yap at 626.712.3392 or

[cyap@newvisionpartners.org](mailto:cyap@newvisionpartners.org) or [christinecyap@gmail.com](mailto:christinecyap@gmail.com)

*Be the change you want to see in the world.* ~ Mahatma Gandhi

## **Gifts of Meaning**

Aveson raised \$483.18 for Heifer International in December. Some of the money came in dollars and change - clearly from our kids! Good work!

Thanks,

*Danielle Poulson*

Aveson Parent

## **Hear This: *Morning Public Announcements***

Aveson School of Leaders, and Avesong Global Leadership Academy has begun utilizing our Public Announcement system.

Every morning students will hear an inspirational song over the loud speaker that will notify them that it is time to begin going to class. This is followed by our public announcements which will take place promptly at the start of school. Every week one/two students will speak publicly to the Aveson community, reminding us of our Guiding Principle's, making announcements, and giving the inspirational quote of the day.

## **Kids Night at the Gym = Night on the Town**

Have your kids spend a night out playing in the gym while you have a night out shopping for the holidays or just having fun! VERNON LEE AMATEUR GYMNASTICS ACADEMY is having a Kids Night to benefit Aveson Charter School. With 75 children attending, Aveson could raise enough money for one field trip! Help us reach this goal.

**Saturday - January 19, 2008 6:00 PM-11:00 PM**

**\$25.00 each child / \$20.00 additional siblings**

**Dinner Included**

**Welcoming Students Ages 5-18 years**

Complete and return permission slips to the main office or contact Aveson parent and Vernon Lee Amateur Gymnastics Academy founder Luzia Wiesmuller for more information - [www.vernonlee.com](http://www.vernonlee.com).

## Support Aveson by Nurturing Yourself at Petal Holistic Skincare

As a fellow Aveson parent, I invite you to honor yourself with a healing, rejuvenating Dr. Hauschka Signature Treatment. Relax, nurture and enjoy while helping Aveson Charter School . . . When you treat yourself to any of our services throughout the school year, Petal Holistic Skincare will donate 10% to Aveson Charter School.

We specialize in Signature Treatments using Dr. Hauschka Skin Care Products. Using pure botanical preparations and a nurturing touch, the holistic Dr. Hauschka Treatments cleanse and revitalize the skin while encouraging deep relaxation. Each treatment begins with a warm, sage foot bath and includes aromatherapy compresses.

Kathleen Van Dusen  
Dr. Hauschka Licensed Esthetician  
626.290.9666

*Petal Holistic Skincare is in The Center for Wellbeing located at 20 North Baldwin Avenue in Sierra Madre.*

## Mark Your Calendars

- January 21st Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (School Closed)
- February 7th and 8th: Celebration of Learning
- February 11th Lincoln's Birthday (School Closed)
- February 18th Washington's Birthday (School Closed)

- April 7-11th Spring Recess (School Closed)

You are receiving this e-mail because you are an active member of the Aveson community.

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