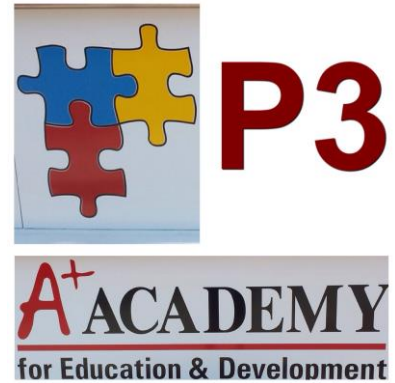


A+ ACADEMY Parent Partnership Program



Tempe

Dear Parents of A+ Academy Students,

February is going to be an exceptionally fun and busy month for our PTO! We have two big events coming up this month.

First on the list is **Ladies Night with Lularoe!** We'll have 5 Lularoe consultants bringing more than 5,000 piece of Lularoe clothing. There will be free leggings raffles for those attending.

You are welcome to invite friends to enjoy shopping, trying on and buying Lularoe. Appetizers, soft drinks and water will be provided with no admission charge. So, do bring your friends! See page 9 for details.

P3 is also planning our **2nd Annual Friendship Dance** for February 25th, Saturday, from 7 to 9 PM. Our students will have a great time dancing to a professional DJ playing their favorite tune choices, a photo booth, great raffle prizes, treats and more. See page 10 for details.



Artwork by Carly Brown

Enjoy these fun events,

Susan Alonzo
P3 Newsletter Editor

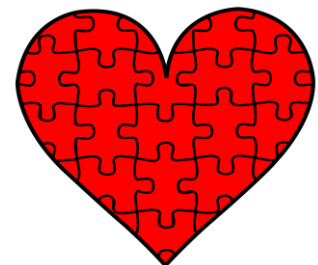
Next A+ P3 Meeting:

Join us for one of our upcoming Parent Partnership Program (P3) meetings on:

February 7th
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Tempe Campus
OR

February 10th
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Starbucks in Safeway
SW corner Elliot & McClintock

Hope you can join us!



P3 Parent Partnership Program - Tempe

Find us on Facebook:



Email: p3tempe@gmail.com questions, comments, ideas?

P3 Update

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7th at -- **note new start time – 6:30 p.m.** If you cannot make it to the evening meeting on the 7th, you're welcome to join us for a recap meeting on Friday, February 10th, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Starbucks in Safeway, near our school on the SW corner of Elliot and McClintock.

Items to be discussed and decided:

- Final plans for Ladies Night Lularoe Fundraiser
- Final plans for 2nd Annual Friendship Dance
- Plans and update for February Teacher Treat Day and Teacher Wish List

January Teacher Treat Day was well appreciated!



At the January meeting, our PTO agreed to show our A+ teachers and staff appreciation on a monthly basis by providing them with monthly a treat day. In mid-January, Our PTO provided a little light lunch to teachers and staff to thank them for all they do. Thank you, Laurie Hopkins, P3 President, for pulling this all together!

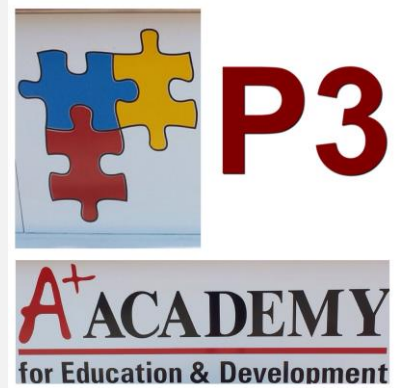
Financial Update

January bank account balance (after Nov & Dec fundraising): \$2,620.86

Expenditures:

- Photo booth for dance: \$300.00
- D.J. for dance: \$100.00
- Sensory Boxes: \$100.00
- Teacher's Wish List items, Movie Night expenses, and Teacher's lunch expenses: \$504.33
- Money set aside to start off next year's P3: \$250.00

P3 account balance as of January 27, 2017: \$1,366.53



3821 E. Baseline Road J-140
Gilbert, AZ 85234
480 794 1116

<http://nytdeli.com/>

**Order your student's lunch
on-line
for Thursdays, now!**

Not Your Typical Deli is a full service delicatessen and bakery serviced primarily by adults with developmental disabilities.

Our life skills students lead by A+ Academy Teacher Leslie Dille have the opportunity every Thursday to help prepare our students' meals while learning valuable job skills.

However, we must provide the deli with sufficient orders for meals on Thursdays. Please do order!

Thank you for your support!

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A+ Academy Spotlight: Mrs. Shannon Mitchell



Welcome to "the spotlight," Mrs. Shannon Mitchell, Developmental Director of AAED Schools. Mrs. Mitchell has worked students with autism and multiple disabilities for the last 15 years within school and home settings in Arizona. She received her undergraduate degree from Arizona State University in Communication with minors in Business and Child Development.

After working as a Child Development Specialist for Easter Seals of Arizona, and as an in-home habilitation therapist and trainer, she desired to learn more and returned to school. She received her teaching certificate in a Post-Baccalaureate program from Scottsdale Community College.

While teaching full time as a self-contained autism teacher and conducting trainings for habilitation families, she began to further her education again at Northern Arizona University. Within a year and a half, she received her Master's in Special Education along with certification as an Autism Support Specialist.

Mrs. Mitchell also has had extensive training and experience in different modalities of teaching including ABA, TEACCH, PBIS, SCERTS, and behavioral/social skills support. She has taught students with autism within the Scottsdale Unified School District for 6 years, mentoring teachers, and supporting families to help students reach their full potential. She came to the Autism Academy 4 years ago with a passion for students and their capability of being successful, respectful, and contributing members of society. Mrs. Mitchell believes that high expectations from teachers and families are key to student achievement and success in life.

When asked what she enjoys most about her role as director at AAED, Mrs. Mitchell explained, "I really love the teachers' passion for their profession. I see such drive that I know we are giving the students in all campuses the best! Teachers truly love the students and it is a privilege to help support and train teacher to continue growing in their natural ability."

Her goal at AAED is "for Autism Academy to grow and support as many students and families as possible. We have such a unique and supportive program that we really want to share with Arizona families."



Mrs. Mitchell is originally from Michigan but moved when she was so young she considers Arizona her home. "I cannot see myself ever moving out of state," she said. "In October, of 2015, I married Douglas Mitchell, a wonderful man who shares my passion of education and schooling outside of the box." He is a teacher in the Chandler School district and teachers business, computers, and life connections to 6th-8th graders. Both of their parents reside in Arizona and they see them often.

Her hobbies include biking, which she recently started, with her husband and she loves it! As she explained "I never thought I would find a form of exercise that I look forward to doing each week. We try to bike three days a week and average 35 miles a week!" In addition to this new interest, she loves to spend time with family and friends.

Favorites:

- **Music:** Oldies are her favorite as this is what she listened to when she was young and her parents controlled the radio stations. She also likes pop music and current music.
- **Favorite Movie and/or book or genres:** She really likes action films like 007, the newer versions.
- **Colors:** Gold and silver
- **Food or treat:** Mexican food, Sprite and Skittles

Thank you, Mrs. Mitchell, for your willingness to participate in this ongoing feature . . . and thank you for all you do to help all AAED students achieve their personal best!

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## Parent Partnership Program (P3) – Tempe 2016 2017 Calendar

Meetings: First Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:00 (usually)

2017

**February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. & February 10<sup>th</sup> Recap at 8:30 a.m.**

**March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Save the dates! \*\* Meetings are subject to change\*\***

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## Upcoming Important Events at A+! Mark Your Calendars:



- February 7<sup>th</sup> – Monthly P3 meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Tempe Campus
- February 10<sup>th</sup> – Monthly P3 Recap Meeting at 8:30/8:45ish a.m. at the Starbucks in the Safeway on the S.W. of McClintock and Elliot. Join us for coffee, stay for the meeting recap!
- February 10<sup>th</sup> – Lularoe Ladies Night Fundraiser 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. See page 9 of this newsletter for details.
- February 13<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> -- Ream Your School paper collection contest – winning classroom receives pizza party! See page 11 for details.
- February 20<sup>th</sup> – President's Day – No School
- February 25<sup>th</sup> – Annual Friendship Dance 7 – 9 p.m. See page 10 for details.



**President's Day is on Monday, February 20, 2017.  
No School. Classes will resume on February 21<sup>st</sup>.**





## Teachers & Staff Birthdays at A+ Academy



**Heather Sauer – 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Graham Newcomb – 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Mychelle Gresham – 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Happy Birthday!*



## **Order your A+ Academy T-Shirt: Available Online**

**Check out the new baseball tee, sweatshirt and hoodie!**



- The orders can be placed online: [www.etsy.com](http://www.etsy.com)
- In the search box, enter: **KoalaTeeApparel** (all one word)
- Each \$20 T-Shirt sold **brings in \$2.00 to our P3**
- Available in black, gray, white, blue and red
- Sizes in all ranges: women's S to XXL; men's S to XXL; Youth Girls & Boys S to L

***A+ Academy T-Shirts are great to wear when going on field trips & on PE days!***





### **Tribal Crossfit**

6170 W Chandler Blvd  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
<http://tribal-fitness.com>

## **CROSSFIT WITH A SPECIAL TWIST**

Every Saturday  
12:30-1:30pm

\$10 Drop-In fee per kid/ per class  
Coached by a Special Education  
Teacher/ Crossfit Instructor

Any questions can be answered by  
Leslie Dille [jelly4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jelly4@sbcglobal.net)



## **Join the Dance Fitness Party!**

**Adapted Zumba ®** is available weekly at A+ Academy from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on **Thursday's** right after school.

This **free class** is offered to: **Students – Please note: adult – parent, guardian, habilitator – must be present for student to participate; A+ Academy P3 parents; Teachers and Aids.** Make sure to wear **comfortable clothing, athletic shoes and bring a bottle of water!** Get ready to have a great time!

A completed signup sheet must be returned before you can start. If you have any questions and/or need a signup sheet, please contact **Susan Alonzo** at **480 203 4767** or [salonzo4@cox.net](mailto:salonzo4@cox.net).

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Email: [p3tempe@gmail.com](mailto:p3tempe@gmail.com) questions, comments, ideas?

# January Events at A+ Academy

## Family Movie Night

Thank you to our A+ Academy Student Council  
for selling pizza and candy! You made this event even more fun!



Photo credit: Kym Wilbur

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JOIN US FOR A...



## FUNDRAISER

DRESSES • SKIRTS • LEGGINGS • TOPS • KID'S CLOTHES • & MORE!

**WHEN:** Friday Feb 10th 2017

**LOCATION:** Autism Academy for Education and Development  
Tempe Campus: 7541 S. Willow, 85283

**TIME:** 5:30-7:30pm

Fundraisers are a wonderful way to raise money for a great cause!



Bring your freinds and shop for a Cause! Multiple consultants.....HUGE inventory!



**AUTISM ACADEMY**  
for Education & Development

### Join us for a fun “Ladies Night!”

There will be over 4,000 articles of Lularoe clothing to look through and purchase. We will also be serving appetizers and desserts. Bring your friends! You'll be supporting a great cause! If you have any questions, please e-mail [p3tempe@gmail.com](mailto:p3tempe@gmail.com).

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Parent Partnership Program - Tempe Presents...

## FRIENDSHIP DANCE 2017



### Save-the-date for our annual Semi-Formal Dance

(please, no T-shirts, shorts, or ripped jeans)

**When:** *Saturday, February 25, 2017*

**Where:** *A+ Academy*

**Time:** *7 pm to 9 pm*

Starting February 13, 2017, you can purchase your ticket for **\$5.00** (cash or check made payable to P3). There will be refreshments along with a raffle for some wonderful prizes.

*\*Parents, there will be a room available if you would like to do a "meet and greet" with other parents. Refreshments provided\**

Please have your child submit their three favorite songs by **February 15<sup>th</sup>**:

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Song Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your child gluten free? YES or NO (please circle)

*\* We are looking for about **6 parent** volunteers, please let us know if you'd be willing to help! [more info to come](#)\**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address or phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have questions, please contact Laurie Hopkins at [p3tempe@gmail.com](mailto:p3tempe@gmail.com). Thank You!!*





## Let's Ream Our School!!



The Parent Partnership Program is holding another contest to see which class can collect the most *reams* of paper. The contest will be held from

*February 13, thru February 28, 2017*



The winning class will receive a **PIZZA PARTY** paid for by P3.

*P3 thanks you for your support, and appreciates all you do for  
A+ Academy!!*



## Young Living Essential Oils of the Month



For More Information:  
Christy Andrews  
480-436-2795

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2ND ANNUAL AUTISM EXPO

PRESENTED BY



Arizona Autism COALITION

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017

9AM - 1PM | ABILITY360 SPORTS & FITNESS CENTER, PHOENIX

EVENT RSVP + VENDOR REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



AUTISM EXPO is a **FREE EVENT**
for families to connect with local service providers,
support and resource organizations in Arizona

INFORMATIVE WORKSHOPS
each hour beginning at 10:00 am

RAFFLE
for door prizes donated by vendors & sponsors

FREE EVENT DIRECTORY
with vendor listings

SPONSOR AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES
available for vendors

FREE PARKING AND ADMISSION

P3 Parent Partnership Program - Tempe

Find us on Facebook:



Email: p3tempe@gmail.com questions, comments, ideas?



AMC features movies on the second and fourth Saturday of every month,
as well as Tuesday evenings for mature audiences.

For a list of movies and locations that offer this service, please feel free to follow the link:

<https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>

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Chuck E. Cheese also offers sensory friendly days, which the first Sunday of every month from  
9:00am to 11:00am for kids with autism or other special needs.

Please visit their website at [www.chuckecheese.com](http://www.chuckecheese.com) to find a location near you

