A+ ACADEMY Parent Partnership Program

Dear Parents of A+ Academy Students,

Wow, I can't believe we are about to start another new year!! All of us here at the Parent Partnership Program (P3) hope everyone had a wonderful holiday filled with family, friends, and lots of great memories.

We would like to take this time to say a huge "THANK YOU" for all your generosity through 2015. The fundraising we have done has purchased supplies for the teachers, supplies for the art department, musical instruments, and a Halloween dance for our wonderful students, who work so hard every day!

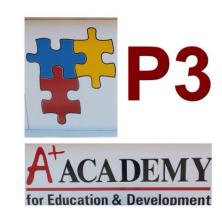
Earlier this year, the school had suffered a great loss with the passing of Mr. Don Newcomb. We have no doubt with the generosity and support of our **awesome** A+ Family, we will continue to carry out his vision and passion for this GREAT school filled with so many AMAZING children.

We always appreciate your input, so please do not hesitate to share your questions/comments/ideas with us.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy 2016!!!!

Laurie Hopkins, President A+ Academy P3

Sincerely,



Tempe

Next A+ P3 Meeting

Join us for our Parent Partnership Program (P3) meeting **Monday**, **January 11** from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Tempe campus.

Please join us as we make plans for the second half of this school year!

An A+ aid has volunteered to provide child care here at the school during the meeting. Please contact Kym Wilbur, 480-447-3997, at the school's front office and let her know you plan to attend and how many children you will bring.



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A+ P3 Update

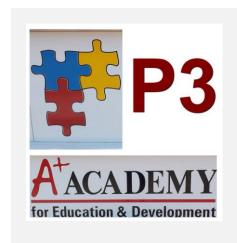
Spare Change Collection Results: We raised \$613.42 just collecting spare change! Mrs. Sevier's class was the winner of the "Spare Change" contest by bringing in \$184.95. Congratulations and hope you enjoyed your pizzas, juice boxes and veggie tray! Fitness M.O., a local gym, helped us by collecting an additional \$144.60.

Village Inn Pie Card Sale Results: Well, we did it! We took on the task of selling 150 Village Inn Pie cards, and we met our goal. Special 'thank you' to **Rachelle Kinton** for selling 41 cards! Wow!!!! That's a lot of pie!

We raised \$994.33 for our students via this successful fundraiser. Thanks to all who supported this sweet effort!



February "Friendship → Dance" – plans are in the works for a school dance in February around Valentine's Day. Come to the P3 meeting on Monday, January 11 and let's plan a great event for our students!



In the Community

Special Needs Project
Education & Advocacy
and
The Miracle League of
Arizona

Join forces to provide an informative, important and timely workshop.

See page 5 for details.





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A+ Academy Teacher Spotlight: Leslie Dille

This "Teacher Spotlight" will be an ongoing feature and will highlight one of our teachers in each monthly newsletter.



Welcome to "the spotlight," Ms. Dille, one of our high school teachers with a class of 11 students. As a graduate of ASU, she attained her Bachelors Degree in Liberal Arts in Sociology. Ms. Dille acquired her M. Ed. in Special Education at Lewis University in Illinois. She also studied abroad at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia.

Her teaching experience includes two years of junior high includsion, language arts, science and social studies. She also taught for four years at ACES. This is her first year here at A+ Academy.

Ms. Dille most enjoys seeing her students make progress, grow and become happier individuals. Her goal here at A+ is to create a vocational program for the high school.

Originally from the Chicago area, Ms. Dille relocated to Arizona to attend ASU and be with her husand of almost three years. Recently, they welcomed a beautiful baby boy, Bode, into the world. Congratulations!

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Ms. Dille's hobbies include crossfit, hiking, running, shopping and reading. Her favorites include:

Music: Country; Adele

Movie and book: Sweet Home Alabama – movie; Ishmael -- book

Type of food or treats: Pasta, Starbucks, cookies.

Favorite color: Pink

Thank you, Ms. Dille, for your willingness to participate in this ongoing feature . . . and thank you for all you do to help A+ students achieve their personal best!

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A+ Photo Moments





Thank you, Trudy Valo, for donating the xylophones!

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#### You're invited to:

# "The ABC's of Special Needs Planning Made Easy"

Please be our guest at an important workshop on how to protect and provide for those with special needs.

Informative & Educational for Parents, Professionals and Caregivers. Relevant for all ages and types of developmental disabilities.

Including a special discussion about the ABLE Act of 2014. Learn how this new legislation will affect your loved one with special needs.

Also including: Special Needs Trusts, Wills, Guardianship, Trustees, Budget Planning, Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, and the Letter of Intent.

# Please RSVP to allow materials for everyone attending: 480 686 8137 or cswitalski@mlaz.org

Workshop Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016

6 to 7:30 pm

**Location:** Miracle League of Arizona

Address: 11130 E. Cholla Street, Ste. 1-110

Scottsdale, AZ 85259

<u>www.mlaz.org/</u> <u>www.facebook.com/MiracleLeagueAZ/?fref=ts&ref=br\_tf</u>

www.specialneedsproject.org www.facebook.com/snproject/?fref=ts&ref=br\_tf

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Join the party! Adapted **Zumba** ® **Gold** will be offered weekly starting January 14, 2016 on Thursdays right after school. This free class – from 3:30 to 4:30 pm – is offered to A+ Academy:

- Teachers and Aids
- Students Please note: adult parent, guardian, habilitator must be present for student to participate.
- A+ Academy P3 moms

**Susan Alonzo**, licensed **Zumba** ® **Basic** and **Zumba** ® **Gold** instructor and an A+ P3 mom, has volunteered to lead the class. This one-hour class is easy to follow, yet challenging and fun, while at the same time delivering a great cardiovascular workout! You just enjoy, dance to your heart's content and have fun! Come dressed and ready to move: t-shirt, athletic shoes, shorts, leggings or comfortable workout pants, a small towel to wipe the sweat you're sure to work up, and a bottle of water.

A signup sheet will be sent home and must be returned before you can start. If you have any questions please contact **Susan** at **480 203 4767** or <a href="mailto:salonzo4@cox.net">salonzo4@cox.net</a>. Hope to see you there!





There will be no school on January 18, 2016 in observance of MLK, Jr. Holiday.

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Young Living Essential Oil of the Month: The Focus Roller



For More Information: Christy Andrews 480-436-2795





925 N. McQueen Rd. #104, Gilbert, AZ 85233 480-599-9900 www.getfitmo.com

Fitness M.O., a fitness and weight training gym in Gilbert featured our **A+ P3** Parent group in their November "Pay It Forward" Event. They helped raise \$144 for our Spare Change drive by asking for donations from clients at their gym. In addition, a special 'thank you' goes out to Fitness M.O. member, **Cheryl Kranz**, who donated recorders and maracas to our music program.

Thank you, FITNESS M.O.!

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