



ACE Charter High School

www.acehs.org (520) 628-8316

Arizona announces AzMERIT will replace AIMS

What is AzMERIT?

AzMERIT (Arizona's Measurement of Educational Readiness to Inform Teaching) is Arizona's new statewide achievement test. Arizona is partnering with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to develop tests which are unique to Arizona.

Why does Arizona need this new test?

In 2010, the Arizona State Board of Education adopted new standards in English language arts and mathematics for all students in Arizona. These academic standards outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. With the adoption and implementation of new standards, a new test was necessary.

How is AzMERIT different from the AIMS test?

Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) tested the old standards. Spring 2014 was the last time AIMS was administered for reading, writing, and mathematics. AzMERIT, based on the new standards, will tell teachers, students, and parents if students are on track to be college and career ready upon graduation from high school. The Arizona Science Standards did not change, so students in Grades 4, 8, and high school will still take the AIMS Science test. High school students graduating after December 31, 2016 will no longer be required to pass the AIMS test to graduate high school. Currently enrolled Juniors and Seniors who have not yet passed the AIMS must retest in February and meet the standards in order to receive a high school diploma upon graduation.

Go to www.azed.gov for more info or contact ACE Charter!

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Upcoming Events

December 19th

Winter Break / End of Semester 1 – No School

January 5th

First Day of Semester 2!
Welcome Back!

January 12th

Martin Luther King Jr. / Civil Rights Day – No School

January 15th

100th day of the school year!

Toy Wrapping & Parent Night

The Community and Culture Class enjoyed bringing the holiday spirit to the school by transforming the Multipurpose room into a Winter Wonderland.

Thank you to the families that joined us on December 11th, for ACE's Second Annual Toy Wrapping Party. We had a great time preparing the food for all to enjoy. The coffee, hot chocolate and ice cream sundae station was a huge success and quite delicious! There was laughter, Christmas Carols and the sounds of wrapping in the air. The younger kids enjoyed making a craft to take home and decorating cookies to eat.

We really appreciate the families that came and helped us give back to the community! We look forward to seeing more families at next quarter's parent night! If you would like to help plan our next parent event, email emily.ruddick@acehs.org

ACE 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Program

ACE 21st CCLC program has completed the trial period for four weeks. In general, the program started very strong on paper. We had over 80 students signed up for extra help with math and reading, and other enrichment activities, such as Environmental Science club, Community and Culture, Chinese Martial Arts, Fitness & Weight Training, Guitar, Dance, Sex Education, and Mariachi classes. During the trial period 60 students participated per week, which means about 15 students participated in the 21st CCLC program each day! Unfortunately some students who signed up did not attend.

The Advisory Committee had a meeting on December 12, discussing some of the improvements to consider: 1) change scheduled time for Math, Reading and other enrichment activities; 2) create incentives such as gift cards, or raffle tickets to reward participation; 3) ask for teachers' recommendation for those who really need more support on their academics.

The Advisory Committee for the ACE 21st CCLC program is looking for ideas and suggestions from all students, teachers and parents on how we can improve the ACE 21st CCLC program next semester.

If you have good ideas, please send to John.zhang@acehs.org. Thank you for your support!

Have a wonderful Holiday!

Environmental Leadership Committee

ACE Charter High School is proud to report it will be starting a new Recycling program starting in the New Year. As part of the 21st Century Community Learning program, the following 'environmentally-conscious' students in Mr. Kennedy's Environmental Leadership Committee have taken it upon themselves to educate staff and students about the importance of protecting our environment through recycling: Lilliana, Jesus, Salma, Luis, and Jahlil.

Working with the City of Tucson, they will be monitoring the collection of recyclables throughout the school and helping make sure our school does its part to go **GREEN!**

Congratulations to these hard-working, motivated students who are making a difference!

History and Science Field Trip - Arizona Rock and Minerals Resources

On Friday, December 5th, students and staff headed south on a science field trip to Mr. Rautert's mining claim in southern Arizona, near Arivaca. Mr. Rautert and his partner, Charlie, conduct several small-scale mining operations looking for gold and other precious minerals. As part of Mr. Kennedy's Earth Science unit on rocks and minerals, students "dug for gold", collected rocks, and learned about Arizona geology, mining history and natural resources. Everyone had a great time connecting with nature and learning more about the history of Southern Arizona while enjoying a beautiful day outside exploring!