

# September 2005

## Arizona Wildcats Newsletter

John Adams Middle School  
Arizona Wildcats

### Forms/school supplies re-quired by Friday:

- Emergency Information/Getting To Know You Form
- Materials on the "Supplies Needed" List
- Reader/Writer Survey
- Science Lab Safety Contract
- Science Magnet Eligibility Contract (science magnet students only)
- Science Project Information Sheet

## Welcome To The Arizona Wildcats Team

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

We would like to welcome you to a new school year at JAMS and begin a dialogue on how we can work together to make this a successful year for your child. As part of this plan, your child has been placed on the Arizona Wildcats team for his/her core academic classes. As the Arizona Wildcats teachers, we are planning a year filled with challenge, learning, and excitement for our 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Through student, parent, and teacher involvement, all students can succeed.

We'd like introduce you to the new developments of

the teaming and advisory program here at JAMS. If you are familiar with our cores from last year, we have formed smaller and more academically concentrated teams. The Wildcats teachers are Ms. Parisa Ahmadi (Math), Ms. Lissette Cartagena (Language Arts), Mrs. Shelly Rosekelly (World History), Mr. Jesus Rodriguez (ELD 1 Reading), Ms. Alva Scotland (ELD Language Arts and Humanities), and Ms. Brigitte Steinmetz (Science).

In this newsletter you will find information regarding student expectations and teacher contact information for all Wildcats. Please review all of the following infor-



Arizona Wildcats Teachers

mation and store for safe keeping.

We look forward to including you as part of our team. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Arizona Wildcats Teachers

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## Classroom Behavior Rules

- 1) RESPECT - Have respect for yourself as well as towards others.
- 2) Come to class on time and be prepared to learn.
- 3) Have a magnificent positive attitude. Learning is FUN. Why not enjoy it?
- 4) Follow all the basic rules of John Adams Middle School.



## Student Responsibilities



*"The mind is like a parachute, it only works when it is open!"*

- 1) Be in your seat ready to learn when the bell rings. This includes having your supplies out.
- 2) Be on your best behavior at ALL times so that everyone benefits from a SAFE environment. Students must behave well if they want to participate in the labs. Labs/group activities are FUN and a privilege, not a given right. If a student behaves poorly they put both others and themselves at risk of getting hurt. As a result they will be removed from the lab activity, expected to complete an alternative assignment in an isolated setting, and will be put on a behavior contract. If you finish your class work early, you can help others, work on homework, or use the computers in the class to occupy your time. Be advised that if a substitute teacher for any negative reason leaves your name you will automatically receive a referral and an "U" for the grading period.
- 3) Complete all assignments neatly and on time. Homework assignments can be found in a designated area of our classrooms as well as on our websites.
- 4) Keep an updated 3" notebook with sections for each class. See below for a list of supplies.
- 5) Complete all reports and projects. Due dates and information can be found in class and online.
- 6) Study for all quizzes and tests. Dates and study guides can be found in class and online.
- 7) Please ask for help if and when you need it. We will be more than happy to meet with you one-on-one or in small groups after school. Also, obtain a tutor if needed.
- 8) Check current grade point average for accuracy when grades are posted. Students will be required to print out their grades online and have it signed by their parents. This will count as a homework assignment.
- 9) The bell does not dismiss you – the teacher does.

## Supplies Needed

**Back to School**



Time to gather all those supplies!

- 1 - 3" 3-Ring Binder (used for all classes)
  - 1 - 1" 3-Ring Binder (to turn in work at end of each unit; can be used to do the same for other classes).
  - 5-8 Dividers (to separate academic classes)
  - 5 Dividers (for science sections: Grades & Assessments, Notes, Class Work, Labs, and Projects)
  - 5 Dividers (for math sections: Notes & Tool Kits, Class Work, Homework, Assessments, Record Keeping)
  - 2 - 3 Subject Spiral Notebooks w/ holes (for Social Studies and Language Arts)
  - Highlighters (for note taking)
  - 3"x 5" index cards (500 minimum – used for vocabulary terms)
  - Blue/Black Ink Pens (carry at least 2 with you at all times)
  - Pencils (carry at least 2 with you at all times)
  - Colored Pencils/Markers
  - Lined Paper (carry at least 50 sheets with you at all times)
  - John Adams Middle School SCAB Book
- \*\* Recommended:  
USB Flash Drive ( to store computer files for all classes) – shouldn't need more than 64MB
- \*\* Please notify us if you have trouble purchasing these supplies.



# Let's hear a roar for our team teachers!

## Ms. Parisa Ahmadi (Math)

Hi! I am from Northern California, raised in Davis. I attended UC Davis for my undergraduate degree and UCLA for my teach-

ing credential. This will be my 6th year teaching math overall, but my 3rd year at JAMS. I look forward to working with your

family this year!

Contact Information:

Ext: 189

ahmadi@smmusd.org



## Ms. Lissette Cartagena (Language Arts)

I graduated from Pepperdine with a B.A. in Journalism and a minor in English. I completed my credential at Long Beach

State. I love reading and the beach. I was a high school teacher for two years before coming to JAMS.

Contact Information:

Ext: 187

lissette.cartagena@smmusd.org

## Mrs. Shelly Rosekelly (World History)

I graduated from Bowling Green State University with a B.S. in Integrated Social Studies Education and a minor in history.

After teaching middle school for two years in Ohio, I relocated to the LA area in August. I am excited to be here at JAMS!

Contact Information:

Ext: 188

shelly.rosekelly@smmusd.org



## Mr. Jesus Rodriguez (ELD 1 Reading)

I graduated from CSU Northridge with my B.A. in Latin America and Spanish and Pepperdine University with a M.A. in

Education and Secondary Teaching Credential. This will be my first year as a Spanish and ELD teacher at JAMS.

Contact Information:

Ext. 153

jesus.rodriguez@smmusd.org

## Ms. Alva Scotland (ELD Language Arts and Humanities)

I graduated from CSU Long Beach with my B.A. and teaching credential and CSU Dominguez Hills with my M.A.

I have been teaching here at JAMS for 13 years, I have taught sixth grade humanities, Spanish Immersion and E.S.L.

Contact Information:

Ext. 111

scotland@smmusd.org



## Ms. Brigitte Steinmetz (Science)

I was born & raised in Santa Monica graduating from SAMOHI in 1995. Degrees earned: B.S. Biological Sciences

(USC); Single Subject Credential in Biological Sciences (CSUN).

This will be my 6th year as a JAMS teacher.

Contact Information:

Ext. 231

steinmetz@smmusd.org  
http://www.waterkid.net



John Adams Middle School  
Arizona Wildcats

2425 16th Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90405  
(310) 452-2326  
(310) 452-5352 fax

<http://www.adams.smmusd.org>  
<http://www.waterkid.net>  
Counselor - Mr. Larry Silvers (ext. 216;  
[silvers@smmusd.org](mailto:silvers@smmusd.org))

**“What you are to be you are now becoming!”**

**Be a part of the pack!**

Arizona Wildcats Logos—<http://www.logoserver.com/US-NCAA-A.html>  
(8/30/2005)

## Grading Policy

- **Homework:** Assigned 2-3 times weekly (related to the work done in class and projects).
- **Grades:** Entered in a computer-grading program (available online and printouts will be posted).
- **Grading Scale:**
  - Academic/Work Habits Score:

97-100% A+/E	87-89% B+/G	77-79% C+/S
94-96% A/E	84-86% B/G	74-76% C/S
90-93% A-/E	80-83% B-/G	70-73% C-/N
67-69% D+/N	Below 60% F/U	
64-66% D/N		
60-63% D-/U		

- Citizenship Score (behavior in class):

90-100 Points E	80-89 Points G	70-79 Points S
60-69 Points N	Below 60 Points U	

## Guided Study

Homework is assigned on a regular basis (Monday- Thursday) to help students become more self-reliant, learn to work independently, improve skills, master concepts, and complete assigned projects. Appropriate weekend homework may also be given. Students are expected to turn in assignments on time.

If students choose not to do their

homework, they must call home and attend the Guided Study program after school from 3-3:30 p.m. in a designated classroom. Students who cannot stay after school must bring a note from their parent explaining why (each time). Please note that extra curricular activities are not excusable. Teachers will arrange another time for the student to complete guided study (i.e.

nutrition, lunch). Students will have two school days to attend Guided Study and must receive a stamp from the teacher running the session in their SCAB book. Students must come prepared to do homework for 30 minutes. Students will show their completed homework and proof of attendance to their teacher the next time they have class. See schedule below:

HW Due Day	Days to Attend Guided Study				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday	→		Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher.		
Tuesday		→		Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher (P.2,4,6)	Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher (P.1,3,5).
Wednesday			→		Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher.
Thursday	Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher.			→	
Friday	→	Show completed work/proof of attendance to your teacher.			→