



TITAN

— MONTHLY —

Athlos Academy of St. Cloud | January 2019

Message from the Director



Randy Vetsch

What will 2019 bring to Athlos Academy?

Athlos Academy will continue its pursuit of delivering the best educational program in the St. Cloud area. Athlos educates students in more areas than academics alone. In addition to preparing children to excel academically, we also prepare students for lifelong success by focusing on health and performance character education. For students to succeed in academics, and in life, they need to be more than just academically proficient. That is why Athlos' three-pillar approach to education, which combines Prepared Mind, Healthy Body, and Performance Character, will have the biggest impact on our community now and in the future.

Athlos Academy of St. Cloud is also committed to ensuring a top-notch, academically rich education to all of our students. Athlos has and will continue to provide quality professional development to all of its staff. Student engagement, technology, data driven instruction, and training with our new reading curriculum have been focuses this school year. Our school just recently contracted with Edmentum to provide technology driven assessment programs: Reading Eggs (kindergarten to second-grade) and Study Island (grades 3-8). There is a separate article in this Titan Monthly with more detail on these programs. The administration team has been conducting walkthroughs in all of our classrooms to ensure high-quality instruction and student engagement is happening. Some of the highlights of our walkthroughs are strong classroom management; lots of positive reinforcement; strong procedures and routines; smooth and efficient transitions; high-quality lessons of embedded in the standards that are highly engaging, rigorous, and developmentally appropriate for students; great use of technology; and classroom environments that are optimal for student learning.

The Athlos Academy staff wishes all of you a very blessed new year! 2019 is going to be a great year, and we appreciate your involvement with our school and are thrilled for what the future brings for all of our students.

The mission of Athlos Academy of St. Cloud is to provide high quality educational opportunities for the whole child built on the three foundational pillars of Prepared Mind, Healthy Body, and Performance Character.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NO SCHOOL | JAN. 4

Staff professional development day. No school for students.

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | JAN. 8

For prospective students in all grades - 6 to 7:30 p.m.

ATHLOS' GOT TALENT | JAN. 18

We're hosting a talent show, Athlos' Got Talent, for our creativity kick-off! The show will be separated into two events:

1:00-2:00 p.m. for grades K, 2, 4, 5, and 6

2:00-3:00 p.m. for grades 1, 3, 7, 8

We have many amazing and creative individuals in our school and can't wait to see the display of unique talents!

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | JAN. 18

For prospective students in all grades. There will be a Somali translator at the event, as well as resources and information on support for English language learners. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

NO SCHOOL | JAN. 21

Staff professional development day. No school for students.

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | JAN. 24

For prospective kindergarten students in the 2019-2020 school year - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

TITLE I PARENT INFORMATION SESSION | JAN. 25

The Title I team will be holding a parent information session where students and families can come learn more about the Title I program and engineer ideas using children's story classics. Build the

strongest house for the Three Little Pigs using straws, toothpicks, or legos! Build a bed that is just right for Baby Bear from the classic, Goldilocks and the Three Bears! For the older students, create a castle for Cinderella using geometric shapes that apply ratios and fractions! Come join us for a night of fun and discovery! Time to be announced.

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | FEB. 1

For prospective students in all grades. There will be a Somali translator at the event, as well as resources and information on support for English language learners. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

INTENT TO RETURN | FEB. 4

It's nearly time again to start thinking about the upcoming school year! Please check your emails on February 4 for the Intent to Return Form for the 2019-2020 school year. We ask that you please fill out the form to let us know if your student will be attending Athlos next school year. Forms are due by February 15.

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | FEB. 9

For prospective kindergarten students in the 2019-2020 school year - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NO SCHOOL | FEB. 15

Staff professional development day. No school for students.

NO SCHOOL | FEB. 18

President's Day. No school for students or staff.

ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE | FEB. 21

For prospective students in all grades - 6:30 to 8 p.m.

ENROLLMENT FOR NEXT YEAR

Our enrollment window for the 2019-2020 school year is now open, and we are accepting enrollment applications from new students entering grades K-8 in the upcoming school year. Enrollment is open to students living in St. Cloud and the surrounding communities. If you know of other families interested in joining the Athlos school community, encourage them to attend one of our open houses to learn more.

If you have a child that will be attending kindergarten next year, make sure you complete the enrollment form as well.

PREPARED MIND | **HEALTHY BODY** | **PERFORMANCE CHARACTER**

High academic achievement | A culture of health and wellness | Character in the classroom and beyond

GET TO KNOW ATHLOS!
Join us for one of our upcoming events

08 JAN OPEN HOUSE FOR ALL GRADES
Tuesday, 6-7:30 PM

18 JAN OPEN HOUSE CULTURAL NIGHT
Friday, 6:30-7:30 PM

24 JAN OPEN HOUSE FOR KINDERGARTEN
Thursday, 6:30-7:30 PM

ATHLOS ACADEMY

ENROLL ONLINE
www.AthlosStCloud.org

FIND US ON SOCIAL:

STUDY ISLAND AND READING EGGS

Athlos Academy will be implementing an online math and reading assessment tool that is based on real-world skills and aligned to the Minnesota State Standards. The rigorous and engaging content is designed to meet each student at his or her proficiency level through the use of media and interactive experiences. They support formative assessment practices in the classroom through targeted, standards-based practice and assessment solutions. The reports generated from these assessments equip our teachers with high-quality data that will help them identify what students know and where learning breaks down.

Students will also be able to access their individual learning program at home, the library, or anywhere outside of school to reinforce their skill levels.

Students in grades kindergarten to second-grade will use Reading Eggs and students in grades 3-8 will use Study Island.

The professional development day on January 4 will provide staff training on these assessments.

GOOGLE CLASSROOMS

There are new Google Classrooms for the music classes.

In order to access this page, parents/families will need a Google account. We have recordings of concerts and other important information listed. When you sign into your Google account, there is a link at the top of the page to join a classroom. In order to access the classroom, you will need an access code.

Please look at your weekly newsletter from your classroom teacher, the access code will be in there. There are currently three classrooms: K-5 Elementary, 6-8 Middle School, and Band.

If you have questions, please reach out to Ms. Scheevel at jscheevel@athlosstcloud.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR CHANGE

January 4, 2019 will now be a teacher professional development day and there will be no school for students. In exchange, April 5, 2019, which was previously scheduled as a professional development day, will now be a regular school day, and students will be expected to attend.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

The purpose of Athlos Academy's Special Education Advisory Council is to collaborate with the Director of Special Education to:

- Address the unique needs of diverse learners so they can meet their maximum potential.
- Promote an attitude of respect toward all students and a welcoming environment for all families.
- Empower and support parents to effectively advocate for children.

We do this by:

- Informing and educating parents, school staff, students and community members through workshops, websites, and printed materials.
- Providing opportunities for parents and caregivers to connect with the schools, community resources and each other.
- Promoting collaboration as a means to improve the education process for all learners.
- Influencing change, policy and procedures through researching needs and advocating for solutions.

The first meeting will be held January 30 at 5:00 p.m. All are invited to attend. If you have any questions, please reach out to Emma Olson, Director of Special Education, at eolson@athlosstcloud.org.

STUDENT SURVEYS

Just before our winter break, students in grades 3 through 8 participated in a Panorama Survey. These surveys are a self-assessment of students' social-emotional learning skills (i.e. those developed through the Performance Character pillar). Skills in the survey are things like grit, growth mindset, and social intelligence. Also included in the survey are questions about students' dispositions around physical activity, their sense of belonging in the school, and teacher-student relationships. This data will help us hone the focus of our Performance Character huddles and improve our school climate.

BOARD RECRUITMENT

The Athlos Academy School Board will be holding elections this spring. Nothing is more important to the health and sustainability of our school than getting highly qualified and enthusiastic people to serve on our board. We are looking for members who want to have a voice and who want to represent the Athlos community to ensure that Athlos Academy continues to be the school that any parent would be proud to send their children to: a school with high academic achievement, a school that develops students with character, and a school that bridges the gap between our school community and the larger community.

Consider getting involved. Look for an email in coming days with more information. If you have any questions, contact Randy Vetsch at rvetsch@athlosstcloud.org.