



We are travelers on the Aspen Ridge Trailways. It is our mission to think independently, participate in our integrated world, and achieve individual goals in order to gain knowledge and understanding. We will approach challenges with confidence and assist others in our community while learning and growing together on the trail of success.

●●● LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER ON THE TRAIL OF SUCCESS ●●●

# OWL TRENDS JUNE 2016

Everything Aspen Ridge

IN THIS ISSUE

## The Grass Isn't Greener

Jon Gordon

For several years, I have followed and found wisdom in Jon Gordon's books and words. I hope you take a few minutes to read his newsletter article below, and gain as much insight as I have from his words. Enjoy....charla

We often think that the grass will be greener somewhere else. We believe we'll be happier and more successful anywhere but where we are. And so we pursue happiness. And chase success. Thinking one day we will magically find them. But rarely will we find happiness and success by seeking them. I've learned if you want success you can't chase it. Instead you must decide to make a difference where you are... and success will find you. I've learned if you want to find happiness don't seek it. Instead decide to work with passion and purpose... and happiness will find you. Happiness is a byproduct of feeling fulfilled. The key to experiencing real success and true happiness is to be The Seed and plant yourself. When you plant yourself where you are with a passionate desire to make a difference you'll grow into the influencer you were born to be. When you serve in small ways you get more opportunity to serve in bigger ways. Too many people want instant success and gratification right now! Too many athletes want to be traded because think they'll be more successful on another team. Too many employees complain

that their co-workers aren't working hard enough and this affects their own performance. Too many sales people compare themselves to others and become frustrated and disengaged. Too many people worry about what everyone else is doing instead of focusing on what they are doing. Too many people run from challenges instead of developing stronger roots. If you are like me, you've been one of these people. Most of us have at one time or another. It's human nature after all. That's why I want to encourage you to remember that your job is not to worry about things you can't control. Your job is not to run away from where you are in the hope of finding greener pastures. Your job is to plant yourself each day and be the best you can be and bring out the best in others. Your job is to grow yourself and grow others. When you do this and allow yourself to be used for a greater purpose, a greater purpose will move through you and bring greater opportunities, greater success and greater joy and happiness to you. The greenest pasture is not somewhere else. It's the place where you plant yourself and grow into the leader you were born to be. When you do, you'll produce an abundant harvest filled with real success and true happiness. Do you agree that the grass isn't greener? – Jon

Read more about Jon Gordon and his books at [www.JonGordon.com](http://www.JonGordon.com)

-  **Become an OWLbassador; Get involved!**
-  **Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar**
-  **Staff Highlight—Whoo's New to AR**  
Page 2
-  **Message from Mrs. Salmeron**  
Page 3



## Join OUR team! We need YOU!

Become an OWLbassador and help us to:

- 🦉 Recruit New Students and Families
- 🦉 Volunteer This Summer and Throughout the Year
- 🦉 Lead Informational Tours
- 🦉 Become a Parent Partner

Join Mrs. Salmeron for coffee on Monday, June 20 at 2:00pm, to learn more about ways you can become involved at Aspen Ridge.

Bring your best ideas, a positive attitude, and your favorite coffee cup! (I'll bring the coffee!) Let's put our minds together for Aspen Ridge's success!

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP and to let us know you are coming. Can't make it but still want to be a part of this great opportunity? Just let us know on the RSVP form.

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." -Helen Keller*



## Upcoming Dates

You won't want to miss...

- June 20, 2016—Coffee with Mrs. Salmeron; Become an OWLbassador, 2pm
- July 13, 2016—Board Mtg, 4:30-6:00
- July 23, 2016—Ribbon Cutting for Upper Campus (Time/Details TBA)
- July 26, 2016—New and Interested ARPS Family Tours, 10am and 3pm
- August 2, 2016—New and Interested ARPS Family Tours, 10am and 3pm
- August 10, 2016—Board Mtg, 4:30-6:00
- August 12, 2016—Expect Welcome Postcards from your homeroom teacher
- August 15, 2016—Howdy Hop (More information to follow)
- August 16, 2016—First Day of School
- September 1, 2016—Curriculum Night

## \*Meet Ms. Britton

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher

Ms. Britton, originally from Castle Rock, Colorado, graduated from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. Wanting to escape the rain she immediately moved back to Colorado to receive her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Denver. During this program she had the opportunity to full-time student teach at the Ricks Center for Gifted Children in a 3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. Ms. Britton is ecstatic to be joining the Aspen Ridge Team and is looking forward to creating a collaborative and welcoming classroom for her students. She emphasizes both academic and social/emotional growth in her class

while using positive narration and backwards design.

On weekends you can find Ms. Britton hiking, snowshoeing, and getting outside in the surrounding mountains or at Chautauqua Park in Boulder. She is an avid reader, likes baking and trying her hand at new recipes. She loves spending time with her friends, family and her two (very) large dogs. She is looking forward to moving to Erie and getting to know the surrounding community!

Welcome Genell! We look forward to you joining our team!!



## SUMMER FUN



### Meet the mini-Salmerons

Kathryn (19), Elisabeth (16) and Ian (11), living the life and visiting everything "Colorado" this summer, before Kat heads back for her Sophomore year at The University of Texas, San Antonio!



Meet Lucy (left) and Jack (below). They were the Upper and Lower School Assistant Principals for the afternoon before school was out. Be on the lookout for these Owls, as they are SURE to be leaders in our community one day!



## Message from Mrs. Salmeron

Campus Administrator

Happy Summer, Owls! I hope your summer is off to a great start of fun, rest, and relaxation!

While students and families are out for the summer, we are working hard at Aspen Ridge, organizing, planning, and preparing for a smooth, successful start to the 16-17 school year. While there are many changes in the books for our community, please know first and foremost that we are committed to making our school the BEST school around. Through the growing pains that we are experiencing, through staff changes, and through trying to incorporate solid systems for all, our priority is focused, first and foremost, on our unwavering commitment to doing what is best for kids. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or ideas. The best way to reach me is through email, and I am available to schedule meetings or phone conferences as needed.

Want a sneak peek into some of the changes that are happening at ARPS?

### STAFF UPDATES

Here are our returning staff members, along with their most up-to-date placements, for you to HOOT about!

Amber Simmons (PreK), Val Johnson (PreK), Cara Sheperd (Kinder), Jenny Hays (Kinder), Katie Kielian (1<sup>st</sup>), Amy Sasser (1<sup>st</sup>), \*Genell Britton (2<sup>nd</sup>), Julia Reed (2<sup>nd</sup>), Leann Tyson (3<sup>rd</sup>), Colleen Lataille (3<sup>rd</sup>), Rebecca Wild (3<sup>rd</sup>), Malysa Hiskett (4<sup>th</sup>), Rachel Miller (4<sup>th</sup>), Michael Tarlow (4<sup>th</sup>), Tess Amer (5<sup>th</sup>), Dawne Mangus (5<sup>th</sup>), \*Liz Walls (7<sup>th</sup>), Brandin

Torbeck (PE), Courtney Smith (Music), Salli Gutierrez (Spanish), Rebecca Mayo-Cody (Counselor), Denise Collard (Heath Clerk), Bonnie Cleary (Lunch Room Manager), Sarah Meyer (HR Manager)

And while it isn't goodbye (as our paths always find a way of crossing)—a congratulations and a "we'll see you again" goes out to...

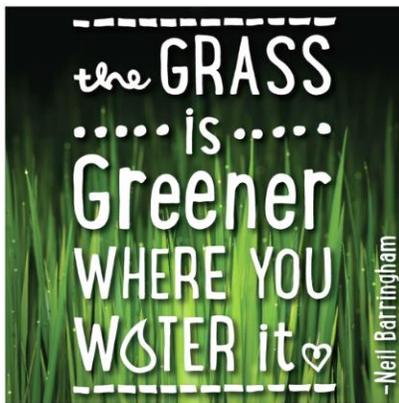
Kristin McKenzie, Katie Wells, Annick Shaswar, Bethany Morray, Erin League, Jessica Manzanares, Kara Harper, Kera Pratt, Gina Datillo, and Dr. Rader.

And finally, please be on the lookout for these positions to be filled and announced prior to school starting....

- ½ Day Kinder
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade (2)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Special Education
- ½ Time Art
- Lunch Room Aide
- Secretary (both lower and upper)
- Assistant Principal
- Executive Director
- Business Manager



While change can be scary, we are embracing the next level of excellence that Aspen Ridge is getting ready to take on! Thank you for not only your continued support of Aspen Ridge, but for spreading the \*positive rumors\* that we are the best school around! We've got a lot of work to do! Get out your watering cans!



### The TIME is NOW!

Spread the rumor! Get on Facebook....TWEET about it...Tell your friends at the pool....Aspen Ridge is the up and coming school to be a part of! We are THE place to be! Gather all of your water hoses and get to watering!

### FAST FACTS

# #39

Out of 1101 Elementary Schools in the State of Colorado, Aspen Ridge is #39!!! That's news to HOOT! <http://www.coloradoschoolgrades.com/>

### DID YOU KNOW...

The Summer "Slide" is Real and it can be prevented?? Click [here](#) to read more about how to keep your owl in the learning game this summer!