# Ash High School

Newsletter Date Volume 1, Issue 1



One Town One School One Family

## What Makes Ash High School So Special

By Bertha Chavez

Many people ask why I go to Ash High School. I originally came to Ash because I wanted to graduate early. Now I am here at Ash because this school is special to me. Ash is a place that not only teaches you academics but Ash instills a sense of community in you. Ash High School is really special.

First the teachers here at Ash truly care about us as students, and people. Teachers here at Ash have a unique way of teaching. They are imparting 18 weeks of information into nine weeks and they make it so we get it. The teachers are helpful and caring. Teachers here will meet you before school and after school to help you with a project or getting missed information. The individual help is truly unique.

At Ash High School we are fortunate to have a smaller school setting as students. Even moving around the hallways is much easier and less crowded than other schools. The atmosphere here is friendly and caring. All of the students here know each other. While this could be a problem, it has also taught us to learn how to "clear the air" when any drama begins. As students we also make sure we explain this to new students, if they develop an issue with a person the adult thing to do is talk things out. Everyone does their best to be respectful and kind.

What helps make Ash so special is the fact that we have a fantastic principal. Mr. Wallace is fair and listens to us. He also motivates us to try our best and to do our best for ourselves. Mr. Wallace has also encouraged the creation of our student council. Our student council has been very active this year and working hard to incorporate all of the students. He is compassionate about the various circumstances that each of us students experience.

We have a slogan at Ash High School, "One Town, One School, One Family," I believe this is coming true for Ash. Mr. Wallace make us sing the theme song from the old TV show Cheers,

"Sometimes you want to go
Where everybody knows your name,
And they're always glad you came;
You want to be where you can see,
Our troubles are all the same;
You want to be where everybody knows your name."

I am glad I go to a school where I am known and treated well.

#### **UPCOMOING EVENTS**

- 12/18 Learn Counselor
- 12/18 Mrs. Trudeau Retirement 4:00 pm Cafeteria
- 12/20 Penny Wars End Teacher Pie in the face
- 12/20 Student Council Christmas 8:30—10:30
- 12/20 Ash Students Dismissed at 12:30pm
- 12/21 Graduate Celebration 9:00 am
- 12/21 Ash Students Dismissed at 12:30pm
- 1/9/18 Return to School
- 1/11/18
  "Raising Emotionally
  Healthy Children"
  6:30-7:30
  PISD Boardroom

1/24/18 ABC Partnership 6:30 pm Ash High School



## **Students Thoughts**

By: Alejandra delaFuente

I think students come to Ash for a variety of reasons. Better opportunity to finish school, more help and attentions from teachers and getting into the workforce quicker. It is exciting to see students finishing up their credits and graduating.

## GETTING TO KNOW ASH'S PRINCIPAL

By: Jonathan Rodriguez

Our principal at Ash High School, Mr. Rodney Wallace, is very personable. He always makes time for the students whether it is for an issue or just to have a laugh. I had the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Wallace and ask him a few questions.

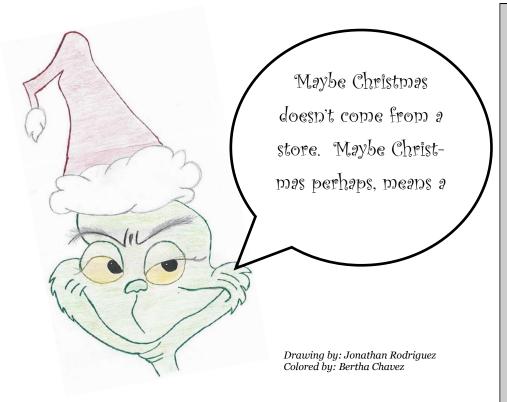
The conversation began with me asking him about his own personal high school experience. Mr. Wallace started out in Joliet, Illinois but ended up graduating from a school on a Navajo reservation. He went on to share that he lived in Joliet, Illinois up to the age of 15, then moved to Ganado, Arizona where he lived with his uncle for three years.

In asking about how Mr. Wallace feels about Ash High School, he shared that he loves it here at Ash. I then asked how he came to be a principal. He mentioned that he became a teacher in 1996. Mr. Wallace continued his education to complete his principal certification. He has been a principal for over four years and has been the principal here at Ash for almost three years.

My next question was, "What would be one thing you would want most for the Plainview community to know about Ash?" Mr. Wallace's response was very encouraging, "Here at Ash we receive this amazing student with all that they have to offer, but we see an even greater value than they see. We take what they have to offer, add a little education, pride, and selfconfidence (the baking soda) to help it grow fast and give them the boost to go out and become productive members of society."

We at Ash are fortunate to have a principal who is so understanding. When I asked Mr. Wallace how it is that he manages to deal with all of us kids and all of our bad behavior choices at time, his response was unique. Mr. Wallace mentioned that he take time to look at the student through his perspective as a young person once. He says he has to be the "speedbump" to slow students down a bit until the student realizes their own common sense for themselves. We don't have bad kids here, we have kids that want to get their education, get to work and provide for themselves and their families.

I did ask one question that I thought got an interesting response. I asked him, "What would be one thing that no one would ever guess about you?" His answer was great, he was in cheerleading during college for a whole year and he flunked math. He didn't pass math, yet he still became a math teacher.



#### ASH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

By Marivel Melendez

Ash High School Student council exists to create a more student friendly environment. Student Council works to provide different activities for students, fundraising for student trips and community service enrichment activities. Student Council works to provide different activities for the students like having penny wars, throwing a school wide Christmas party with secret Santa. These opportunities bring students together and assist in bonding us as one family.

Next our fundraising efforts are to assist us with extracurricular activities. These funds will allow student council members to go to Austin and visit the state capital. Student council member participated in a hamburger dinner prior to one of Plainview High Schools football games. This event helped us raised at least a third of the funds necessary for the Austin trip. Future fundraising efforts will go towards a potential snack machine, park benches and our end of year celebration.

Finally our student council participates in the community. One way in which we

do this is through Snack Shack. This program allows us to help other students in need. We also will be helping a family that has lost their home and possessions due to fire with our Penny War activity.

Ash High School Student Council is a very active group of students. We stay busy trying to meet the needs of the students and community.



### **ASH STATS**

Graduates this Academic Year:

We have had 3 students graduate!

Pending Graduates for December:

We have 18 pending graduations for December 21st at 9:00am

Credit Recover Program with APEX:

From October to Present 113 academic credits completed by students at Ash High School

Number of Students Enrolled:

We currently have 77 students enrolled at Ash High School

Top 10 Gifts to get for Parents By: Miguel Tafolla

- 10. Le Creuset Apple Pie Dish
- Banana Republic Deer skin gloves with texting fingers
- 8. Scented soaps
- 7. The Nest Learning Thermostat
- 6. Ugg Ascot Leather Slippers
- 5. Grill Set
- 4. Nambé Butterfly Bowl Set
- 3. Ugg Cozy Cable Slippers
- 2. Williams Sonoma Infused Olive
- 1. Super Soft Warm Blanket Throw

#### **COUNSELOR**

#### **INFORMATION**

LEARN Counselor will be here December 18th and January 18th please sign up to see her in the Ms. Wiseman's office.

ABC Partnership <u>January 25th</u> beginning at 6:30 pm here at Ash High School

PISD Counselors will be presenting to students and parents on "Raising Emotionally Healthy Children" on <u>January 11th</u> from 6:30-7:30 in the PISD Boardroom

#### MEET OUR COUNSELOR

By: Marivel Melendez

Our counselor at Ash High School is Ms. JayJay Wiseman. Ms. Wiseman wears a ton of hats to help keep students on track to graduate. We asked Ms. Wiseman to write a little about herself. She shared that she is half way through her 9th year here at Ash High School. Plus, this year is her 23rd year working in the field of education. Prior to coming to work at Ash, she taught high school and college English.

Mrs. Wiseman says "It has been wonderful to see the transformation of Ash over the past nine years, and I truly believe we have the best students, faculty and staff." She went on to say, "I love being the counselor at Ash HS. I enjoy my job as it gives

me an opportunity to work one on one with students in addition to my administrative duties." Ms. Wiseman's favorite activity outside of school is traveling with her husband and son. She also enjoys reading and scrapbooking.

If you have any scheduling or academic questions for Ms. Wiseman, she can be contacted in her office or you can reach her at (806) 293-6010



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