

# Andersen Junior High



## Andersen Junior High to Offer World-Class Cambridge Secondary Curriculum!

Andersen Junior High has been approved by Cambridge Assessment International Education to offer its world-leading Cambridge programme.

The Cambridge programme for students aged 11 to 19 is made up of three stages - Cambridge Lower Secondary, Cambridge Upper Secondary and Cambridge Advanced – giving students a clear path for educational success. Each stage combines a world-class curriculum, high-quality support for teachers and integrated assessment.

Every year, nearly a million students from 10,000 schools in 160 countries prepare for their future with Cambridge programmes and qualifications. Success with Cambridge often gives students admission to the world’s best universities – in the US, the UK, Australia, Canada, Germany and beyond.

Michael O’Sullivan, Chief Executive of Cambridge Assessment International Education, said: “We are delighted to announce that Andersen Junior High has joined our global community of Cambridge schools and we look forward to a long and productive relationship with them.”

## Upcoming Events

### **October 17**

Booster Meeting in Media Center at 6:00 PM

### **October 18**

Tryouts for all season 2 sports begin

### **November 1**

Band Concert at Chandler Center for the Arts – 7:00 PM

### **November 15**

6-8 Orchestra Concert at AJHS at 7:00 PM

### **November 28**

Choir Concert at Chandler Center for the Arts – 7:00 PM

### **December 19-20**

Semester Final Exams

## **Contact Information**

Attendance: 480-883-5303  
Front Office: 480-883-5300

## Important Reminders

- Please remember to adhere to the traffic rules before and after school and always pull forward in the loading zones. This will prevent gaps between cars and allow for more cars to enter the parking lot during pick-up and drop-off times. We also ask that parents slow down when driving through the parking lot.
- Students are not to be on campus before 8:00 AM. Students should be picked by 4:00 PM unless they are participating in extra-curricular activities. Students in extra-curricular activities need to be picked up as soon as the activity is over.
- In order to be successful in school, it is important that students are at school. Please review and observe our school attendance policy.
- Check your child's grades (7-8 grade) in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Please contact the front office if you do not have parent portal access.

## Tax Credit Donations

Parents/Guardians Making Tax Credit Donations: make your tax credit donations through the new Intouch/TouchBase system (accessed through your Infinite Campus Parent Portal account). You will click on "InTouch Fee Payments" in the lower left-hand corner after logging into your Parent Portal account; click on your child's name; click on "Items at Student's School," then choose where you would like your donation to go.

Non-Parent/Guardians Making Tax Credit Donations: Others who do not have access to the parent portal can contribute online by going to the district website, [www.cusd80.com](http://www.cusd80.com). Click on "Tax Credit" at the top right-hand corner of the web page, then click on "Community Members".

## Semester Final Exams

Semester exams will be given on December 19-20.

- Each subject area will give a comprehensive final exam
- Exams cannot be taken early
- School will be dismissed at 12:40 PM on exam days
- Final exams are 10% of the student's semester grade



## Proficiency Based Learning (PBL)

This year our sixth grade students have been actively engaged in our proficiency based learning environment.

In proficiency-based learning (competency-based education), curriculum is broken down into competencies (finely-tuned skills and learning targets) that have been aligned with state standards and the Cambridge International Assessment curriculum framework. Learners work to gain and demonstrate mastery of each competency. Commonly, competencies build upon each other, so learners must show mastery of one competency to start working on the next and are encouraged to guide their own pace appropriate to their needs.

We are very proud of the progress our sixth grade learners have demonstrated as they have worked hard to master the learning targets and competencies taught this quarter.

Sixth grade competency progress reports will be mailed home over fall break.

## Counseling Corner

- ❖ September is Suicide Prevention Month. District wide, our secondary students watched a video about the signs and symptoms of suicide. We encouraged all students to speak up if they or a friend are experiencing any of the signs and symptoms. As a school, we are then able to provide resources and help to those students in crisis. A few resources available are:

Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK)

Teen Lifeline: 1-800-248-TEEN (8336) or 602-248-8336

EMPACT (Arizona): 1-866-205-5229 or (Maricopa Co.) 480-784-1500

- ❖ Did you know that AJHS has a Child, Adolescent, & Family Therapist on campus 2-3 days a week? The Licensed Therapist is on our campus through Southwest Behavioral & Health Services. Feel free to contact a School Counselor or the Chandler CARE Center for more information.
- ❖ An increasing trend with middle school students is the use of e-cigarettes. E-cigarettes can be difficult to identify if you are not familiar with what they look like. An e-cigarette or vape can easily be mistaken for a pen, make up compact, USB drive, etc. Students are often under the impression that e-cigarettes are a healthier alternative to smoking. Unfortunately, this is not true. E-cigarettes do contain nicotine, which is highly addictive, and many other harmful and dangerous chemicals. Be sure to speak with your child about the dangers of using e-cigarettes. Below are a few great resources:

[https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html)

<https://drugfree.org/parent-blog/the-teen-vaping-trend-what-parents-need-to-know/>

<https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/getthefacts.html>

## Tryout Information for Season 2 Sports

- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball: October 18, 19, 22 (6:30-8:00 AM)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball: October 18, 19, 22 (3:45-5:15)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Softball: October 18, 19, 22 (3:45-5:30)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Softball: October 18, 19, 22 (3:45-5:15)
- Cross Country: No cuts, practice will begin 10/18 (3:45-4:30)

Students must complete their athletic clearance packet and have their physical completed in order to tryout.



## Important Dates

### **October 17**

School Resumes

### **November 12**

Veterans' Day – No School

### **November 22-23**

Thanksgiving Break – No School

### **December 19-20**

Final Exams

Early Dismissal @ 12:40 PM

### **December 20**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends

### **January 8**

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Begins