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 Empower All Learners to Excel  
**School News**  
Aptakistic Junior High School  
Meridian Middle School  
Pritchett Elementary School  
Tripp Elementary School

Aptakistic-Tripp CCSD 102  
1231 Weiland Road Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
847.353.5650 [www.d102.org](http://www.d102.org)

April 5, 2011

**All District 102 parents are invited to hear motivational speaker Mawi Asgedom on Friday, April 15 at 8:00am or 9:00am in Aptakistic Junior High gymnasium. Asgedom will focus on inspiration and respect. Prior to his talk, 7th & 8th graders will read his book Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard.**

Space is limited. Reserve a spot with Andrea Alhadef via email at [aradba@comcast.net](mailto:aradba@comcast.net) or by calling 847-383-5026 or with Peggy Rose Schnierow via email at [schrose4@aol.com](mailto:schrose4@aol.com) or by calling 847-478-8985. District 102 has also been granted permission to record the presentation and make it available to our parents for checkout. The Parent Network is sponsoring this as part of AJHS Career/Social Emotional Learning Day.

### PTO At A Glance

#### D102 Challenge: Sign Up Today

The second annual 5K/1 mile race is Sunday, May 1. For more information or to register visit <http://www.d102.org/pto/d102challenge.html>.

#### Save the Date

Barnes and Noble Book Fair Saturday, June 4, from 9:00am - 9:00pm.

#### Up-to-Date PTO Events

Be sure to "Like" District 102 PTO on Facebook or visit [www.d102.org/pto](http://www.d102.org/pto).

### School Notes

#### Pritchett Reading Night

On Thursday, April 7 from 6:15 - 7:00pm there will be two sessions where teachers will present read a louds,

## Aptakistic Junior High School

### [Arrowhead](#)

#### Students Involved and Enjoying Extracurricular Activities



Junior high students are involved in some exciting programs. For the last few months, students prepared for Science Olympiad, Science Fair, Scholastic Bowl and State wrestling events. Aptakistic had medalists in both science competitions and placed third as a team in the Science Fair. More details and photos are in the [Arrowhead](#).

#### Tips from the School Social Worker

This month's Quick Tips column is about teaching tolerance to children. There are also suggestions on what to do if you are being bullied, witnessing bullying, and being the bully. Read more about how to make a change or a difference in the [Arrowhead](#).

#### Mix It Up Week Starts April 11

"It takes all sorts to make a world." This anonymous quote serves as this year's catch phrase for the 4th annual Mix It Up Week at Aptakistic Junior High. Mix It Up Week is devoted to the celebration of diversity, as well as

similes, poems, e-book resources, I-Movies and more. From 7:05 - 7:45pm, the feature presenter, Bill Buczinsky from "A Child's Voice" will host radio poetry in the gym. Student participation is encouraged.

### **Daisy Troop #40176 Needs Your Help**

We are collecting new and unused personal care items for donation to a local women's shelter this Mother's Day. A donation box will be located outside the office at Tripp Elementary School until April 15. For more information contact Jill Axelrod at 847-459-9093 or Jill Kowitt at 847-279-0085.

### **Kindergarten Registration/Round Up**

Call the office of the school your child will be attending to schedule an appointment for your child's screening on May 6. Visit [d102.org/kreg](http://d102.org/kreg) for more details.

### **Incoming 7th Graders Transition to Aptakisic**

Incoming 7th Grade Parent Orientation is scheduled for April 12 beginning at 6:30pm at AJHS. Incoming 7th Grade Transition Night is scheduled for May 12 at 6:30pm. More details in the Incoming 7th Grade [letter](#) and [flyer](#).

### **Incoming 5th Grade Orientation**

All 4th grade students and parents are invited to

education and discussion surrounding issues of tolerance, stereotyping, discrimination, and bullying. More in the [Arrowhead](#).

## **Meridian Middle School**

### [Meridian Minute](#)

#### **Fifth Grade Curriculum Update**

This month's update was written by Ms. Schreiber and Ms. Zucker. The article provides details about what students are learning in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies classes. The description notes some of the novels being read such as [Al Capone Does My Shirts](#) by Gennifer Choldenko, [Rules](#) by Cynthia Lord, and [The Boy Who Saved Baseball](#) by John Ritter; science classes' explorations in astronomy; and social studies' focus on settlements in the New World. Read more details in the [Meridian Minute](#).

#### **Talking to Our Children about News Stories**

The recent tsunami has been front and center in the news. The devastation is hard for an adult to comprehend, let alone a middle school child, which is why it is so important that we talk to our children about this experience. Dr. Jeffery Dolgan, a senior psychologist in Behavior Health at the Children's Hospital in Denver, Colorado suggests some helpful tips for communicating with your children about the tragedy in Japan. Read more in the [Meridian Minute](#).

#### **Middle School Students Participate in Reading and Wrestling Challenges**

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Rebecca Caudill "20 Club." These students read all the competition books and passed a test for each. Students will receive a paperback book of choice from the Rebecca Caudill list.

Congratulations also goes to fifth grader Josh Ginsburg who competed in this year's Sectional Wrestling Tournament.

## **Pritchett Elementary School**

### [Pritchett Times](#)

#### **Opportunity to Help Relief Efforts in Japan**

Please join Pritchett and Tripp Elementary schools in helping provide relief efforts to the people of Japan. We would like to send a Shelter Box to Japan. A shelter box is a durable, lightweight, waterproof container that holds needed equipment and supplies and can double as a food container or a cot. By purchasing a bracelet for \$4.00, you can make a difference in the lives of those affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami. Order

Meridian Middle School on May 5 at 7:00pm for an hour of dialogue with a panel of experts, school tour, and co-curricular fair. More details on [5th Grade Orientation Flyer](#).

**Activity Based Summer School Registration Open**  
Session I - 6/13 - 7/1  
Session II - 7/5 - 7/22  
More details at [www.d102.org/summer programs](http://www.d102.org/summer_programs).

**News From SHS**  
**Freshman Orientation Day**  
Monday, August 22, 2011  
8:00am - 3:25pm. Freshman are encouraged to ride the bus.

Read [e-Minuteman February 25 - March 3](#). Register to receive it regularly on the [SHS website](#).

**Community Briefs**  
**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** will be presented for families by Emerald City Theatre on April 3, 2 - 3:00pm. [Details](#).

**The works of Edgar Allan Poe at Vernon Area Public Library** will be presented through a variety of programs listed below. For [more details click here](#).

Live Oakes Educational Theatre presents [Edgar Allan Poe](#) on April 5, 6 -

form available in the [Pritchett Times](#).

### **Recipes for Helping Your Child be Successful**

As your child heads into the final stretch of the school year, Dr. Moreland offers suggestions for a strong finish. This month's Pritchett Times also includes an outline of practical activities that contribute to a child's success. The Reading on Location column suggests activities to improve reading comprehension. The Conversation Skills column activities focus on practicing conversation that will encourage participation in group discussions, improve thinking, and basic communication skills. Read more details in the [Pritchett Times](#).

### **The Role of Mobile Devices**

How many of you have some sort of mobile device that your child uses at home? The library/technology page shares ideas and opportunities for children who have access to an iTouch, iPod, or iPad. There are a variety of apps with interactive features that are fun and educational. See a list of Pritchett teachers/students favorite apps in the [Pritchett Times](#).

## **Tripp Elementary School**

[The Tripp Times](#)

### **Ask Questions: Reading Strategy of the Month**

Questioning is an important strategy that is essential to understanding what one is reading. A reader can create and answer questions about text to extend thinking before, during, and after reading. Children may look at a book title and the pictures and ask themselves how the story will unfold. Readers can make predictions or ask why this event happened and where will it lead the story. Read more in [The Tripp Times](#).

### **"Bucket Filling" Assembly at Tripp Huge Success**

Thank you to those parents who took the time to attend one of the two bucket filling assemblies at Tripp Elementary School on March 21. Carol McCloud, author of [Have You Filled a Bucket Today?](#), shared the importance of being "bucket fillers." When one is a bucket filler it means treating other people with respect, being polite, and helping others. McCloud also discussed how to successfully handle the "bucket dipping" students encounter at school, as well as how to use "lids" to prevent other people from dipping into your buckets. [Read more in The Tripp Times](#).

### **Parent Share Day Volunteers Needed**

Parent Share Day is a day when parents are invited to Tripp Elementary School to share time with students. Parents prepare half hour activities and lead students in completing the activities. Please complete the volunteer form in The Tripp Times if interested in helping with the special day.

8:00pm

Parent/Child Book

Discussion: The Man Who was Poe by Avi on April 12, 5:45 - 7:00pm

Meet the Author: Avi, April 12, 7 - 8:00pm

Poetry Workshop, April 13, 4:30 - 6:00pm

Tales of Madness & Revenge with Lifeline Theatre, April 17, 2 - 3:00pm. SHS West Auditorium

Poetry Slam, April 20, 7 - 8:30pm.

**The Principles, Strategies and Benefits of an Energy-Efficient Home**

Workshop presented by Kenneth and Blanche Steinkopf on April 20 at SHS, West Auditorium at 7:45. Green tours of SHS begin at 7:00pm

**Look Ahead**

**4/7 Pritchett Reading Night,** 6:15 - 7:45pm, PES

**4/7 Race to Nowhere** showing, 7:00pm, SHS (sold out)

**4/11 Board of Education meeting,** 7:00pm, DO

**4/12 Incoming 7th Grade Orientation,** 6:30pm, AJHS

**4/14 Meridian Talent Show,** 7:00pm, MMS gym

**4/15 Career /SEL Day guest**

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**speaker Mawi Asgedom,**  
8:00am, AJHS gym

**4/18 MAP testing begins,**  
grades 2 - 8

**4/20 Future Planning  
Meeting,** 6:30pm, AJHS  
cafeteria

**4/21 No School - Teachers  
Institute Day**

**4/22 No School**

**4/25 Board of Education  
meeting,** 7:00pm, DO

**4/26 Tripp 1 & 2nd Grade  
Concert,** 7:00pm, TES

**4/27 Tripp 1 & 2nd Grade  
Concert,** 7:00pm, TES

**4/28 Jazz Cafe,** 6:30pm, AJHS

**4/29 Jazz Cafe,** 6:30pm, AJHS

**5/1 D102 Challenge,** 5K/1mile  
run/walk, 8:00am/9:00pm,  
Willow Stream Park, BG

**5/5 Incoming 5th Grade  
Orientation,** 7:00pm, MMS

**6/1 AJHS 8th Grade  
Graduation**

**6/7 Last day of school**

AJHS - Aptakisic Junior High School  
MMS - Meridian Middle School  
PES - Pritchett Elementary School  
TES - Tripp Elementary School  
DOCC - District Office Conference  
Center  
SHS - Stevenson High School

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