Supercharged Summer!
This year’s “Get Supercharged!” theme set the tone for a dynamic camp that resulted in increased literacy rates, technology skills, and critical thinking skills through the visual arts and drama. In response to the needs stated by the Beaverton School District, the AASK partnership focused solely on the middle school level this year, bringing a new depth to the program. There was a strong emphasis on the incoming sixth graders, which included students not only from Vose Elementary School but also from McKay Elementary School.
Everyone loved Fantastic Friday, with activities ranging from the famous “Teddy Bear Tea Party” to a visit from Bright Dike and Steve Purdy of the Portland Timbers. What a summer!

“I’ve been coming to AASK since I was in 3rd grade and I would really like to help kids just like me learn and have fun just like every counselor has done for me.”
- Brandon M., 8th grade

Milestone Birthday for AASK
AASK is entering into its 15th year of operation! The OES Board initiated the AASK program in January 1999, and in October AASK will move into its 15th year of programming. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the program’s longevity and sustainability.

First Annual Open House
The first Open House this summer was a fantastic success, with 30 people attending to find out more about AASK. One staff parent said, “I have two daughters on staff, and even though they talk about AASK all the time, I don’t think I understood the program until I visited it today.” Plan now to be at next year’s Open House and see the students and staff in action for yourself!

(continued on page 2)
**Food + Movies + Books = Empowerment and Service**

Getting supercharged is all about food, right? There was certainly no doubt about this in the AASK seventh-grade classroom, as students studied nutrition, brought in favorite family recipes, and created a cookbook for the whole camp celebrating healthy food choices.

Galvanized by the importance of early childhood literacy, fifth- and sixth-grade students wrote stories for young children and read them to families who gathered under the trees at the Beaverton Public Library. They named it the AASK Early Childhood Literacy Fair, and they also offered art activities and parent information.

Eighth grade focused on giving back to Whitford, now their alma mater. They made reading posters for the school and created videos that looked at inclusion and exclusion issues for teens.

All of these capstone projects utilized student gains in reading, writing, and presentation skills – all essential for success in school.

End-of-camp student evaluations cited these activities as some of their favorites. They were empowered by making a difference as they took action to make their community a better place. Now that’s supercharged service learning!

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**Counselors in Training Rock**

Each year, AASK accepts approximately 16 high school participants as new Counselors in Training (CITs) for the summer day camp. The numbers are balanced between OES students and former AASK students, all of whom make a five-week volunteer commitment to being an integral part of the AASK staff. The most important experience for CITs is the relationships they form with their students; at the same time they are also gaining leadership, teamwork and job skills. CITs come away reflecting on their own learning and the fulfillment that happens when giving to others.

**YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

The important work of AASK depends on individual donations, foundation grants, the OES Auction, AASK family contributions, and the OES budget to operate. If you haven’t yet made a gift this year, please consider it.

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**AASK FAQs**

- Number of students attending this summer 128
- Number of high school volunteer Counselors in Training 14
- Total volunteer hours 3209
- Ratio of staff to students 1:4
- Attendance rate for summer 96%
  *(fifth consecutive year for this percentage)*
- Total hours read in day camp 1958
- Students increasing or maintaining literacy scores as per the State of Oregon State Reading Assessment (OAKS) 80%
- Total overall increase in keyboarding 8 wpm
- Greatest individual keyboarding gain 16 wpm
- Favorite computer program GarageBand

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**The AASK Day Camp story in pictures!** From left to right: (top row) Emma N., OES ’12, cheers on a basketball game with her students; 2012 CIT group; Yesenia M., OSU ’15 and former CIT, joined the staff this summer to support students now in the program the way she was supported as a younger student; (bottom row) making movies with the PhotoBooth program; Kevin H., OES ’14, is surrounded by his students during a presentation.

**Save This Date!** Celebrate 15 Years of AASK at the AASK Friend Raising Breakfast

**Friday, December 7 • 8:00 A.M. - 9:30 A.M. in the OES Dining Hall**

It was a great summer – see you next year at the AASK Open House!

AASK Day Camp 2013, July 1 - July 27