

ALJ Opens Doors to the Future

Arthur L. Johnson High School has a proven reputation of preparing students for successful futures. Given ALJ's block schedule, a student-centered learning environment promotes educational growth at each grade level. Our courses provide dynamic instruction to meet the needs of every student. With 24 advanced placement classes and over 25 honors classes, the school fosters a rigorous academic program. In fact, several of our students have earned the honor of AP Scholar and National Merit Scholar. Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, ALJ now offers AP Seminar™, which teaches independent research, collaboration, and communication skills. In combination with AP exam scores, this class can lead to the AP Capstone Diploma™ recognizing outstanding achievement of college-level academic and research skills.



Students also have the benefit of earning college credit in several unique dual enrollment courses such as Holocaust and Genocide Studies offered through Kean University and the Tomorrow's Teachers Internship Program offered through Rider University. Union County College provides up to six credits for students attending their dual enrollment program. Another way for students to extend their learning beyond the traditional classroom is through our partnership with the Union County Vocational School. In this program, students have an opportunity to gain real-world experience in a variety of fields from cosmetology to automotive technology.

ALJ students enjoy many exciting electives, including Conspiracy Theories Throughout History, Forensic Explorations, and Marine Biology; all of which provide a chance to deeply explore a specific content area. Some new changes for the 18-19 school year include additions like Coaching, Education, and Team Building and Advanced Health and Nutrition.



From before applications even go out to acceptance, students are supported throughout the entire college and career planning process. Our ALJ Guidance Department ensures that every student has a plan in place post-graduation. Over 90% of ALJ graduates pursue two or four-year colleges. Our students are accepted into highly competitive schools including Princeton University, Yale University, Boston College, University of Chicago, Cornell University, Villanova University, and Bucknell University. They are also involved in challenging academic programs at their selected schools. An ALJ student was accepted to the University of the Sciences Dual-Degree Doctor of Osteopathy program, which only admits three students among hundreds of applicants.

Offering over 25 clubs and activities from Student Council to Science Olympiad, every student has an opportunity to get involved in the school community. For those interested in developing their writing skills, students can choose to work on the school newspaper (*The Crusader Today Blog*), the school literary magazine (*The Quest*), or the yearbook (*The Lance*). The arts also play an important role at ALJ with the school providing activities such as Marching Band, Drama Club, and Set Design. By joining organizations like Key Club or becoming a Peer Leader, ALJ students show their dedication to servicing their school and local communities. ALJ offers a wide variety of sports including 23 varsity sports as well. Our Crusader sports teams have won multiple state, conference, and county championships. Given the diversity of experiences at ALJ, our students learn valuable skills while forging new relationships.

When asked about her experience at ALJ, Maryann Makosiej, a 2018 graduate stated, “ALJ truly strikes a balance between encouraging personal growth and instilling a sense of teamwork. With so many different clubs, honor societies, and varsity sports, opportunities to get involved abound at the school, local, and even global level. In this vein, student-run organizations (e.g. Key Club, Spanish National Honor Society, the Civics Unplugged Forum) are strongly encouraged via leadership initiatives.” She continued, “I would recommend ALJ without reservation because I truly feel that it is an experience unlike any other high school in the area. The friendships I’ve cultivated, the depth of learning, and the opportunities for growth are simply unparalleled.”

Arthur L. Johnson High School is an accredited member of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The school has been recognized by *Newsweek* magazine as a “Top American Public High School,” by College Board as a “District of the Year for Success on Advanced Placement Exams,” and as one of “America’s Best High Schools that Challenge their Students to Excellence” as reported by *The Washington Post*.

Superintendent of Schools Edward Grande stated, “ALJ has a superior program that is second to no other in preparing its students for college and future careers. I encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about our offerings to contact us.”

Learn more about Crusader Pride by visiting the [ALJ Website](#) to review our [2018-19 Program of Studies](#), watch our [Open House video](#), and view our [Eighth Grade Open House Presentation](#). Also, be sure to read the [School Profile](#) on the Guidance Department’s website to learn more about what makes ALJ an outstanding school that challenges students to achieve both in and outside of the classroom.

