

FEBRUARY 2026



ISSUE NO. SEVEN

# The ATO Academaniac Circuit



CATCH THE CURRENT: MONTHLY NEWS, HIGHLIGHTS AND EMPOWERED INSIGHTS!



## From the Desk of Coach Peaches

### Exciting Updates from ATO Academy!

⚡ WE'VE GOT THE POWER! ⚡



We are excited to announce that our electric stove is officially UP AND RUNNING! A very special thank you to Master Electrician Mr. Benjamin Delsey, Program Director of the Arizona Automotive Institute Electrical Program, for helping make this possible. Your support means more than you know!

Because of this upgrade, we're elevating from "Cuisine de Costco" to even more balanced, nutritious, & delicious home-cooked meals for our ATO Academy students!!

Coach Peaches and Coach Prince officially are certified as food handlers! 🍴❤️

And that's not all... this opens the door for our upcoming "Savor The Flavor" Dinner Party FUNdraisers launching quarterly!

Mr. Delsey was so impressed with our program that he referred us to the Angel on Patrol Community Safety Program! More details coming soon! Stay tuned... exciting things are cooking! 🔥⚡



## IN THIS ISSUE



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

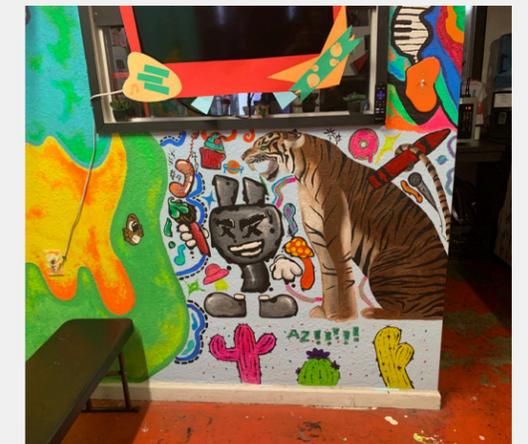
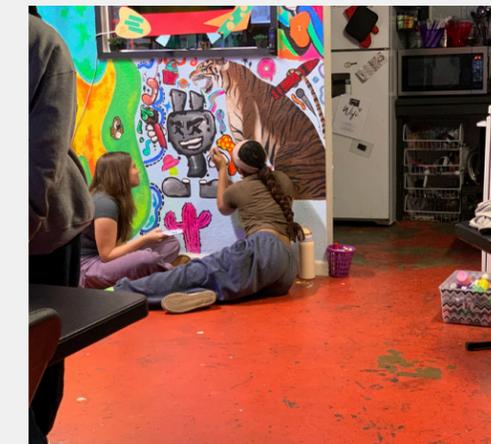
We're excited to launch our Student Spotlight Gallery, a space to celebrate all the amazing achievements of our ATO Academy students! Each month, you'll find a short bullet list of learning objectives, activities, and projects, along with photos that give you an inside peek at everything our students are accomplishing.

From creative projects to hands-on experiments, the Student Spotlight Gallery is your front-row seat to the talent, creativity, and growth happening at ATO ACADEMY! Stay tuned each month to see what our students are learning, creating, and achieving!

In February, our ATO Academaniacs were busy being...

- celebrating Black History Month and Valentine's Day!
- learning about the Arizona Diamondbacks Baseball Team and Sport Caster History!
- exploring the scientific dynamics of basketball and athleticism with the AZ Science Center and Valley Suns!
- practicing for our AZ Rattlers Halftime Performance
- repurposing denim with artistic finesse
- leaving their mark on the ATO Art Wall and most importantly, problem solvers and great scholars!

We are so proud of our Academaniacs!





INSIDE PEEK of ASU MULLETT ARENA – VALLEY SUNS GAME – TEMPE, AZ

## FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

🏀 Valley Suns Field Trip Day: Where Science Meets Slam Dunks! 🌟

On Thursday, February 12, our students had a blast at Valley Suns Field Trip Day where basketball, science, and fun collided in the most experimental way!

Hypothesis: STEM + Sports = Maximum Fun

We put our scientific method skills to the test right from the start:

1. Ask a Question – Could we combine science experiments with basketball excitement?
2. Do Background Research – The Valley Suns G-League team, the NBA affiliate of the Phoenix Suns, plays at Mullett Arena on ASU's campus, and they love STEM learning as much as slam dunks!
3. Form a Hypothesis – If we do hands-on science activities while watching basketball, learning will be more fun!
4. Test with Experiments – We launched catapults, measured our wingspans, tested reflexes and response times, and experimented to see how high basketballs bounce on different surfaces and materials.
5. Observe and Collect Data – Some basketballs soared sky-high, our reflexes improved, and our muscles definitely got a workout!
6. Analyze Results – Hypothesis confirmed: STEM + Sports = maximum fun. ✅

Other Fun Findings:

- Enjoyed a bagged lunch right in the arena
- Saw explosive science experiments at halftime

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

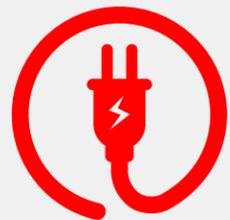
We cheered as the Valley Suns defeated the Salt Lake City Stars and 🎉 All the AZ mascots came to celebrate Ray the Mascot 1<sup>st</sup> birthday! Our field trip proved that science isn't just in a lab it can bounce, launch, and slam dunk right into real life! The Valley Suns Field Trip Day was fun, educational, and totally cool, and we can't wait for the next experiment... on and off the court!

## Upcoming Events:

- ⚡ Spring Break – 3/16–3/20
- ⚡ Monthly Field Trip – 3/26
- ⚡ Rattlers Practice – 3/8, 3/22 & 3/29
- ⚡ Easter Monday – 4/6 – No School
- ⚡ Rattlers Halftime Show – 5/30



emPOWERed minds = emPOWERed lives



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