

# News Page Design

2013 KSPA REGIONAL CONTEST

## Assignment

You will find one story and five photos on the following pages and on the Web.

The story is about Ad Astra alumni reflecting on their experiences in high school and offering advice to current students. You may edit it down slightly if you need it to fit a space, but you should use at least 75 percent of the story. That means it should be a major part of your layout.

The photos and other elements that you choose to add (including headlines) should work to complement each other in a cohesive single-issue layout. Good luck.

\* For story and photo download instructions see page 3.

## Specifications

Using the available story and photos (see download instructions on Web site), design page 5, where you always place special issue-oriented features. You may design a special page-header (such as "INDEEP" or "THE STAR REPORT") that would indicate that this is a standing feature. The page should include folio information as well as the stories and corresponding photo(s) you see fit to include. Designers may add illustrative art, mug shots or other graphics not included among the available photos to enhance overall design. You will have to write your own headlines for the stories.

The newspaper must be designed as a tabloid, 17 inches deep by 11 inches wide. The designer may determine the number of columns. Entries must be computer-generated and may be submitted in color, or black and white. Entries must be printed on a single 8 1/2 x 11 inch sheet of paper, reduced to fit.

## Other Specifications

Photos should be cropped, cut out, and enlarged or reduced to fit the design plan.

You may edit stories down slightly if you need it to fit a space, but you should use at least 75 percent of each.

The headline and other subheadlines (internal and/or atop the story) should suggest the content of the story and should be designed in exactly the size, style and location you want.

You may use the cutlines provided on page 3 of these instructions.

## Description

You are a staff member of Ad Astra High School's The Star. Your newspaper is a biweekly with the next edition to come out March 12. Your editor has asked you to design page five, where you feature your in-depth stories.

## School Info

Name: Ad Astra High School  
Location: Aspera, Kansas  
Mascot: Box Turtles  
Enrollment: 850 (grades 9-12)  
School Colors: Green & Gold  
Yearbook: The Honeybee  
Newspaper: The Star

## Contest Info

This is a carry-in contest.

Please attach your assigned contest number in the upper right-hand corner on the back of your entry.

Do not put your name on the entry. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.

Students are not to request help or advice from anyone other than the KSPA Executive Director. All work must be that of the contestant.



## Reflections on the Ad Astra Experience

Being successful in high school comes with a lot of patience as well as motivation. Unfortunately there are so many distractions coming your way, sometimes it becomes hard to say no.

The Star asked 10 recent Ad Astra graduates the secrets to being successful in high school, and here's their collected advice. It's this week's Top 10.

**1. School IS important.** You don't have to be the nerd who holes himself/herself up in his/her bedroom Friday night or reads gigantic books in the corner of the room to be considered someone who takes school seriously. It's important to have fun and have lots of extra-curricular activities, but school should always be your number one priority. That being said, never take homework, tests, and quizzes lightly! Note that extra-curricular activities are also good with college resumes as well. *Lisa Simpson, Class of 2011 (Duke University)*

**2. A social life is important.** You can be someone who makes straight A's in all advanced classes, but what fun is that? Make sure you let your hair down a little sometimes. You won't regret it. *Bart Simpson, Class of 2009 (Shift Manager, Super Target)*

**3. Get involved at school.** You don't have to wear the green and gold every day or be a cheerleader to do this. All you need to do is to stay on top of things-current events, who won the basketball game last Friday, attending school functions like dances and variety shows, keeping up with plans your student council has for the school, etc. Just like keeping up with current events and politics is important, so is being active at your campus. *Milhouse Van Houten, Class of 2010 (University of Kansas)*

**4. Join a sport.** It's easy to forget to stay in shape when the workload starts piling up, so joining a team at your school makes it one less worry in your schedule; it's already incorporated in your daily routine. If you're going for all three seasons, that's great, but make sure you're being reasonable. If you're taking all honors classes, for example, and you know you're going to have a heck of a lot of homework, you may want to consider taking a season off. *Nelson Muntz, Class of 2009 (Kansas State*

*University)*

**5. Figure out what your hobbies are and find a club that matches that.** Not being an athlete is no excuse for not having something to do after school. If you're into art, join the art club. Music, and join the orchestra or a band. Join something and be sure to stick with it for a long time. If you're not into any of your school's clubs, ask your principal to start a new one. *Martin Prince, Class of 2010 (Owner and CEO of Princely Computer Service, Aspera)*

**6. Care about college.** As soon as sophomore year, start visiting colleges. You don't need to decide anything yet, but it will help you decide if you want a large school or small (urban, rural, or suburban, if a state school is an acceptable choice, and so on). Visit your guidance counselor a lot- they're going to have to write a letter of recommendation so the better they know you, the better a letter you'll get. They'll also be able to help recommend colleges and find scholarships. *Mary Spuckler, Class of 2011 (Middlebury College)*

**7. Make friends with everyone.** There's too much going on to worry about cliques, who's friends with whom, who the popular people are, etc. The best thing to do is to just be friends with everyone. Be confident and be yourself. Get into the habit of saying hi to people and not being afraid to talk to new classmates. The more comfortable you become with a more diverse group of people, the more people will like you and the more you will accustom yourself to the art of versatility later in life. *Moe Szyslak, Class of 2012 (Aspera Community College)*

**8. Eat breakfast and lunch.** It sounds stupid, but you'd be surprised how many people skip breakfast or lunch. Not only is this dumb, but it's uncool and unhealthy. First of all, waffles are yummy. Lunch is important to prevent your stomach from grumbling during your last periods. A full stomach keeps you focused. Skipping meals actually slows down your metabolism and makes you gain more weight, not less. *Adrian Belew, Class of 2009 (Culinary Institute of Kansas)*

**9. Get enough sleep.** This is easier said than done, but sleep has so many benefits. If every high school kid got

around 7-10 hours like they should, everyone would be a much happier camper. Try to get things done and out of the way so that you get your much needed shuteye. I've been asleep since I graduated in May. Just catching up, you know. *Ralph Wiggum, Class of 2012 (Living at Home)*

**10. The only trend you should follow is yourself.**  
This doesn't mean you should then go to school the next

day wearing pantyhose on your head, or whatever. You should have your own style and your own identity, so that you make your mark in high school the right way and not as a nondescript UGG-wearing replica of every other girl out there (or guy, if you're reading this. You probably don't wear UGGs though). Be original, and don't be afraid to be yourself. It's cliché but it's essential. *Alex Whitney, Class of 2010 (Fort Hays State University)*

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## Photo Captions

### Photo #1: REPORTER

Sandra Byrne, sophomore, does a stand-up for Ad Astra's weekly broadcast news show, *Heard on the Hill*.

### Photo #2: FOOTBALL

The 2012 Ad Astra football teams plays a home game against Sunflower High School.

### Photo #3: DRILL TEAM

Kaitlin Peoples, senior, performs with the Ad Astra Sparklers during halftime of an Ad Astra football game.

### Photo #4: CHEERLEADERS

The Ad Astra Varsity cheer squad perform at the game against Sunflower High School in September.

### Photo #5: COMPETITION

Joey Lucas, Toby Ziegler and Leo Bartlett celebrate after answering the final question to the Ad Astra Academic Decathlon correctly.

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## Instructions for Downloading Contest Photos

1. Go to the following address: <http://www.kspaonline.org/regionals/2013-contest/>
2. Scroll down to find the section designated for Newspaper Design Photos and Stories. There is one story in PDF document format and five photos.
3. Click on the links to download the photo files.