

April/May
2008 - 2009

Magic Carpet

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Santana High School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This year has gone by so quickly that it is difficult to believe that we have less than six weeks of school remaining. We are currently busy with STAR testing, AP testing, planning for senior awards, watching our spring sports programs, planning for prom and putting the final touches on graduation that will take place at 6:00 on June 4th in our stadium.

We are very proud of many things that we have taken place this school year. Here are a few of the major accomplishments:

- Proposition U Passed
- Construction of the new 17,000 square foot science building started
- Completion of our WASC visit
- AP results came back from last spring with growth in almost every exam
- Attendance rates were released from the district for last year and Santana had the best attendance in the district

As we look forward to next year the excitement is growing with the new projects that will be started with the bond money. The new multi-purpose theater facility will start to be designed and built and a synthetic track is scheduled to be completed early this summer. These new facilities projects are great but the real shining stars are the students that show up to school and give it their all every day. We are so proud of your children and the hard work and dedica-

tion that they have towards their academics, athletics and organizations here on campus.

LIBRARY NEWS

The library continues to be the hip-'n'-happenin' place!

Santana's library consistently

ranks in the top two of all district libraries, usually rivaling Grossmont for top position, in overall book and computer use. This is awesome since we are also the school with the smallest student population! The library staff also took a purchasing field trip over at the local Barnes and Noble and added many new fiction and nonfiction books to our collection hoping to help students explore both academic and personal needs and interests.

Our BIG news was our author visit on March 19th. Mother-daughter writing team P.C. and Kristin Cast, authors of The House of Night series, joined a group of students, staff, and parents for a special luncheon followed by a discussion and Q&A time which included a chance for students to purchase books in the series and have them autographed. The library remains a place where students can come to work on homework, meet with friends, read, and use computers for both personal and academic needs.





FILM AS LITERATURE

In the Film as Literature class the students got into the full swing of our study of the Movie Musical. After studying SINGIN' IN THE RAIN, SWEENEY TODD and ONCE, students participated in a

timed competition to create and perform a dance routine. They also created a musical out of an existing work and composed three songs. So, in the future look for THE MATRIX: The Musical and Sing Along with SAW.

YEARBOOKS

The yearbook class is finishing up its final deadline for spring sports. The students anticipate the release of the book in June and look forward to feedback from their peers. Yearbooks are on sale now in the finance office for \$80 until spring break. Buy your yearbooks as soon as possible for the best price.



WORK PERMITS AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Dear Parents:

As your son or daughter enters the world of work, it is imperative that he or she be reminded of the transition from school to work. One of the reasons high school part-time workers are terminated is being late to work or missing a scheduled shift. A learned behavior that school officials and faculty try to instill in students is being in school and getting to class on time. This characteristic extends to the work place. When an employer schedules your son or daughter to a particular day or time slot they are committed to work those hours. They must remember that there is little or no flexibility in those time commitments. The workplace is not like school where they can be excused for personal reasons. They have committed to work for that employer and in turn are being compensated with a wage

In order for your student to work in California between 14-17 years of age, he/she must apply for a work permit issued by the school district and have your written permission.

A work permit will only be issued if the student attends school on a regular basis. *CA State Ed. Code (49100)*, stipulates that the high school student maintain satisfactory school attendance.

Grossmont Union High School District's policy (*AR, 5121*) on student attendance for the issuing of a minor's work permit is: The student may not have more than six (6) single day T's- truants, P's- period truants or L's- late (tardy), in the previous thirty school days which is approximately six weeks, equivalent to a grading period.

If your student is found to have more than six T's, P's or L's in this time frame his/her application for a work permit will be DENIED for 15 school days. During that time the student is on probation and must clear up and improve attendance behavior. When the 15 day period has elapsed, the GUHSD Work Permit Coordinators will review the student's school attendance record. If their findings result in a favorable decision, the student may be issued a work permit provided he/she maintains acceptable attendance for the remainder of the school year. Attendance for all students with a work permit issued for the school year 2008-09 is being continuously reviewed. If the student's attendance has not met the attendance policy set by the District the work permit may be REVOKED for the remainder of the school year.

A question often asked is, who has the right to revoke a student's work permit? *CA State Ed. Code (49164)*: Inspection, cancellation or revocation states: Permits to work and to employ and certificates of age shall always be open to inspection by supervisors of attendance, probation officers, designees of the Labor Commissioner, and by officers of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Every permit to work or to employ and every certificate of age shall be subject to cancellation at any time by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Labor Commissioner, or by the person issuing the permit or certificate whenever any person authorized to inspect such permits and certificates finds that the conditions for the legal issuance of the permit or certificate of age do not exist or did not exist at the time the permit certificate was issued.

A permit to work shall be revoked by the issuing authority when he/she is satisfied that the employment of the minor is impairing the health, education or welfare of the minor, or that any provision or condition of the permit is being violated, or the minor is performing work in violation of any provision of the child labor law(s)".

You as the parent, guardian, caregiver who *signed* the permit to employee and request for work permit form, have the authority to restrict or revoke your student's work permit at anytime.

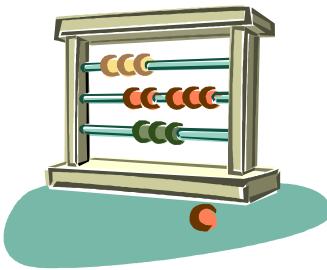
The faculty and staff in the Grossmont Union High School District strive to make your student's high school experience a rewarding and productive time in life as he/she transitions from school to work. This experience can be achieved when they attend school on a regular basis and have your support as they move on to adulthood.

A point to remember is that working is a privilege not a right. As the parent, you gave that privilege to your student by requesting that a work permit be issued.

If you have any questions or need clarification about work permit procedures or child labor laws contact Joe Acosta at Monte Vista HS (619) 660-3154, or Patti Gordinier at Granite Hills HS (619) 454-9729.

MATH

By the time you receive this newsletter, there will be fewer than 40 days of school until summer vacation. Most math teachers at Santana offer tutorials to help students. I often hear of parents paying for a tutor. Why? If your student struggles in math, he/she can ask any math teacher for help. The tutorial schedule is listed on Santana's homepage.



Please monitor your student's grades online. Homework should always be done and understood to succeed in math. Encourage students to always do their best. Which brings up testing. State tests are here, and they are important indicators of our school

and your student's educational progress. After spring recess, there will be three weeks of testing days.

We believe we have a good math program at Santana, better than any around. Let's prove it to everybody.

Thank you for choosing to send your student to Santana. We believe it is the best school for many reasons, and the math program is just one of them.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Santana inclusion program has been spoiled this semester with the addition of our student teacher, Jen Weber. She has become an intrinsic part of our staff, and the students love seeing her everyday. In addition to taking over one of Mr. Tobias' math classes, she has jumped in feet first by collaborating with teachers and peer tutors,

modifying curriculum, attending IEP meetings, and getting familiar with all of the other aspects that come with teaching special education. She even got a taste of what WASC is all about and helped us show the visiting committee what strengths our program has. She has been truly incredible and we wish her luck and success when she has a class of her own.

We have also planned for this semester by attending transition meetings at the middle schools for our incoming freshmen. We look forward to welcoming four new students to our program, who come to us with a wide range of learning styles. We are excited at the prospects of creating programs that will help them be successful at Santana and look forward to meeting with some of you when the time comes to plan for their classes.

The Best Buddies club held its first multicultural banquet, in which each buddy pair of one student with a disability and one student without made a dish from another country and brought it to share. We all enjoyed a festive party, a smorgasbord of mouth-watering delicacies from around the world, and yet another incredible social event in which people could get together as friends, enjoy each other's company, and celebrate our differences.

Our transition program continues to work at its job enclaves at the Hill Creek, West Hills, and Santana cafeterias, Hometown Buffet, and Boot Barn. Those who are not working in the community hone their life skills by grocery shopping, using public transportation, safe street crossing, cooking meals for home, and communication skills. We are always proud of the successes that our students achieve in their continual mastery of independent life skills, no matter how big or small.

We would like to continue to thank the Santana staff for all the help that it gives us and our students in making their educational careers fulfilling and giving them opportunities to practice their communication and social skills with their peers. Santana is a great place to be because of all of you, and our students love you!

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

SDSU Admits

San Diego State University admitted 48 Santana students for the fall semester.

College Entrance Testing

It is recommended that juniors take the SAT and/or ACT in the spring so they have an opportunity to retake it again in the fall if needed. Remember that students planning on attending a UC school must take two SAT subject tests, in two separate disciplines, along with the SAT Reasoning or ACT test (with writing component). SAT Reasoning and Subject tests may not be taken on the same date. SAT Reasoning and Subject tests may not be taken on the same date. SAT Subject tests should be taken at the end of the school year in which the courses were taken so the subject topics are still fresh in the student's mind. Test registration materials as well as test information booklets are available in the Counseling Office and online at (SAT) and . (ACT).

Test Dates:

SAT May 2, 2009 reg. deadline, March 31, 2009
June 6, 2009 reg. deadline, May 5, 2009

ACT June 13, 2009 reg. deadline, May 8, 2009

ELC letters to juniors from the UC

At the end of May, parents of juniors in the top 12 percent of the class should receive a letter requesting authorization to send transcripts to the University of California for evaluation. The UC system has committed to accept the top 4% of each high school who also meet the eligibility requirements. We will forward the transcripts for which we receive authorization after the final grading period in June.

Senior Deficiencies

Counselors finished reviewing senior transcripts with first semester grades posted to make sure seniors are on track for graduation. We sent out letters to inform parents if there is a possibility that their student may not graduate. After the 12th-week progress report, we will review grades again and send out deficiency letters for those students in jeopardy of not graduating in June based on these grades.

Seniors who are deficient at the time of graduation will NOT walk with their class. They can take up to 15 credits during the summer to be an August graduate, at which time they will also receive their diploma. Seniors who may need extended time to complete their graduation requirements (fifth year) need approval from the

Vice Principal. Students should talk to their counselors and work out a plan to see if it is even feasible before seeking approval from an administrator.

Summer School

Summer school applications will be available for current students the middle of April. Enrollment is first come, first served. If your student needs to make up a class that is being offered, he/she should turn in an application as soon as they become available to the counseling office.

Summer School dates are:

Session I June 8, 2009 – June 26, 2009
7:30 am – 12:30 pm

Session II June 29, 2009 – July 17, 2009
7:30 am – 12:15
(no school July 4th)



DANCE TEAM

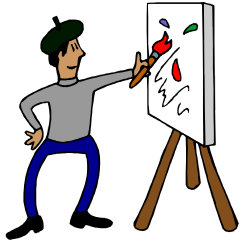
The Santana Sultans dance team competed in its first competition on February 28th at San Pasqual High School and qualified for the open division at nationals. The dance team went through a restructure this year and changed into a performing arts technical style team that is now jazz based. The technique and style of the team can be compared to a dance studio.

With the current changes and dedicated experience, dancers will be eligible to audition for college dance programs, professional dance companies and any other program which require this type of dance. Our sultan dancers are finishing out their season by sending four of their seven varsity dancers to palm springs to attend a major dance convention on scholarship thru the professional dance network. Auditions to be on the dance team will be held at the end of May. Please contact Ms. Wilkerson in the guidance office for more information.

ART DEPARTMENT

This semester, all three teachers in the Art Department have returned to college to update their digital skills in Photoshop editing, taking a semester class two nights a week.

Mrs. Seitz' students are in the process of entering the Helix Water District contest and working on submis-



sions for the SD County fair as well. They are having a great time with their current journalism assignments of creating personal magazine covers and journalism spreads on their classmates.

Along with making their own jewelry, Mrs. Ryerson's 3-D Design students have been working on designing jewelry for a contest put on by Golden Artistry in La Mesa. The grand prize is a piece made by Terry Whyte, the owner and master jeweler, plus scholarship opportunities. The winning piece will also be reproduced and sold. A portion of the sales will go to the East County Friends of the Arts. The awards ceremony will be May 7, 2009, at the La Mesa Community Center.

AP TESTING SCHEDULE

Course	Teacher	Test Date	Time
AP Government	Coffin	Monday, May 4	7:45 a.m.
AP Spanish	Jack	Tuesday, May 5	7:45 a.m.
AP Calculus A/B	Blais	Wednesday, May 6	7:45 a.m.
AP English Literature	Johnson	Thursday, May 7	7:45 a.m.
AP US History	Crocker	Friday, May 8	7:45 a.m.
AP European History	Phillips	Friday, May 8	11:45 a.m.
AP Environ. Science	Accardi	Tuesday, May 12	7:45 a.m.
AP English Language	Bagg-Rizzo/Shaw	Wednesday, May 13	7:45 a.m.
AP Art History	Johnson	Wednesday, May 13	11:45 a.m.

This year, we will offer a pre-administration session for AP testing. This will save time on exam day. During this session, students will complete the identifying information on their answer sheets. **Every** student taking an AP test must participate in this session. The pre-administration sessions will be held April 22 & 23rd in the library from 7 a.m. – 8 a.m. Attendance is as follows:

- A-F Wednesday, April 22
- G-L Thursday, April 23
- M-R Wednesday, April 29
- S-Z Thursday, April 30

Testing will take place off campus at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 10052 N Magnolia Avenue, Santee, CA 92071.

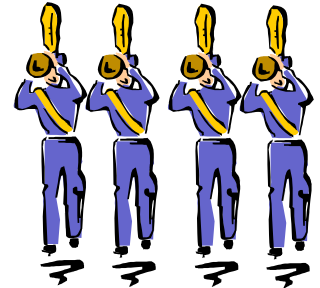
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Wiggins at 956-0222.

CONTINUING STUDENT REGISTRATION

"Continuing Student" registration packets will be passed out to the classrooms on Friday, May 15th. Students will be turning in there packets Wednesday May 20th and Thursday May 21st and get there pictures taken for their ID cards

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music department is busy preparing for a dessert concert on March 27th featuring solo's and small ensembles. This concert will also include the choir. The venue is pending. Two of our students, Alicia Morris and Ayla Johnstone-Skjoldage went to the East County Solo and Ensemble contest at Cuyamaca College recently and received an excellent rating.



The Winterguard team has already been to two competitions at Mt. Carmel and Eastlake High Schools, and received a second and first place trophies respectively. Our Spring Concert will be held at 7:00 pm on May 26 in the gym. The concert will feature all parts of the music program. Admission is \$5, children 12 and under are free, and students with an ASB card are \$3.

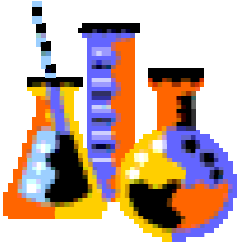
The Music Outreach program to the Santee schools is going well with approximately 25 students from four different schools participating. These students will join our Spring Concert in May, and we look forward to hosting them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5/8 - Senior Prom
- 5/8 - **NOT a Minimum Day (Testing)**
- 5/4-5/15 - AP Testing
- 5/12-5/13 - CAHSEE 10th Make-up, 11th & 12th
- 5/13 - Day of the Teacher
- 5/18 - Minimum Day
- 5/25- Memorial Day No School
- 5/26 - Day of the Administrator

- 6/2-6/4 Final Exams
- 6/4 Last Day of School and Graduation

SCIENCE



On March 20, Dr. Eric Topol came to speak to several science classes. The presentation was part of the Fifty Nifty Event that kicks off the San Diego Science Festival at Balboa on April 4. Dr. Topol is a renowned cardiovascular physician leading the way in research in genomic medicine.

The honors biology classes are completing a large semester project in which the students research a science career. The students interview a person in their career choice, research a college and scholarships for the career, and write a paper and present to the class about their career.

The medical biology students took a field trip to Grossmont College to visit their Allied Health programs such as the nursing and respiratory technology programs offered at the school.

Several science students and teachers look forward the field trip in May when they will go to the Natural History Museum to see the famous Bodies exhibit. We thank the Allied Health Grant for funding the trip.

PERMITS TO LEAVE CAMPUS

If a student must schedule a doctor's appointment, dental appointment or court appearance during school hours, he/she must be picked up in person by a parent/guardian or bring a note to the Attendance Office **before school** on the day of the appointment to receive an **"OFF CAMPUS PASS."**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



If you are a 10th –11th grade student, start planning ahead for next years PE scheduling.

Classes offered will be aerobics, (fitness center), racquet sports (badminton, racquet ball, tennis), team sports, (basketball, softball), and weight training.

Any current 9th or 10th grader who still needs the "Fitness Gram" should sign up for aerobics or weight training.

First come first served so sign up early.

STAR Testing Schedule

2008-2009

Monday 4/20/09	Tuesday 4/21/09	Wednesday 4/22/09	Thursday 4/23/09	Friday 4/24/09
Minimum Day	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 ELA I	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 ELA I	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 ELA II	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 ELA I
Monday 4/27/09	Tuesday 4/28/09	Wednesday 4/29/09	Thursday 4/30/09	Friday 5/1/09
Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 Social Science I & II CAHSEE Diagnostic Test 9th Grade (In Geog. Classes)	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 Social Science I & II CAHSEE Diagnostic Test 9th Grade (In Geog. Classes)	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 Science I & II	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 Science I & II	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 Math I
Monday 5/4/09	Tuesday 5/5/09	Wednesday 5/6/09	Thursday 5/7/09	Friday 5/8/09
Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 Math I	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 Math II	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 Math II	Block Day Periods 1/7, 3, 5 10th NCLB CST (In Bio Classes)	Block Day Periods 2, 4, 6 10th NCLB CST (In Bio Classes)

- Star Testing will begin on Tuesday, April 21, and end on Friday, May 8th
- All students, including seniors, will attend their regularly assigned classes
- All tests will be proctored by the subject area teachers
- Students will test in English, Math, Social Science and Science classes shown on above calendar

Odd Block Schedule

Period 1 or 7	8:15 - 9:52	97 Minutes
Nutrition	9:52 - 10:00	8 Minutes
Period 3	10:06 - 11:44	98 Minutes
Lunch	11:44 - 12:14	30 Minutes
Period 5	12:20 - 1:58	98 Minutes

Even Block Schedule

Period 2	8:15 - 9:52	97 Minutes
Nutrition	9:52 - 10:00	8 Minutes
Period 4	10:06 - 11:44	98 Minutes
Lunch	11:44 - 12:14	30 Minutes
Period 6	12:20 - 1:58	98 Minutes