

The Casa Connection

Casa Grande High School 333 Casa Grande Road Petaluma, CA 94954
(707)778-4677

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE From Linda Scheele

Success in School

Good health and good habits are essential to success in school. By the end of the first grading period, students should have figured out how to manage the demands of their classes coupled with extracurricular activities. Parents can help by having ongoing conversations with students about homework assignments, reading, and long-term projects, especially the senior project. Ask to see what books your students are reading. Ask about topics discussed in various classes. Stay involved. If you have questions, contact your students' teachers via phone or email. Support your students by ensuring a quiet place to study and the time in which to do it. If you feel your student is struggling or overwhelmed, do not hesitate to contact your counselor.

In addition to forming good study habits, good health is essential. Monitor the amount of sleep your student gets. Provide healthy meals and snacks. Make sure your child stays home from school if he/she is running a fever. Reinforce frequent hand washing and the proper way to cough/sneeze into one's elbow. If your student must miss school, call Stacy Fabian in attendance and she will request homework.

While we can't completely prevent illness from happening we can take measures to lessen the effects. Even in high school students still need our guidance as they navigate the teen years. At Casa Grande we want to partner with parents and caregivers to provide the best experience possible. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,
Linda Scheele
Casa Grande High School Principal

WELCOME TO THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

By Superintendent Greta Viguie

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. The school and district staffs are looking forward to supporting students to experience a meaningful and productive school year. Parents/guardians and community members play a critical role in supporting school success. As the school year begins, please consider making time to get involved with one or more of the districts' schools through volunteering in the classroom, mentor programs, being a guest speaker, or providing internships through local businesses. Students benefit greatly from parent and community involvement. Research has proven that parent and community involvement in students' education does increase student achievement at school. So, call a principal and ask how you can get involved today!

As you have read, school districts have been significantly impacted by the state fiscal crisis. Reduced revenue from the state to Petaluma City Schools has resulted in the elimination of summer school, reductions in teachers, administration and support staff at the site and district levels, elimination of the three staff development days that has resulted in a 1.62% decrease in salary for all district employees, reductions in counselors and classified staff, and increased class size. The District budget projections matched the budget that was passed by our state legislature and approved by the Governor so, for now we will not need to make more cuts. Because the State Budget that was approved still has a significant deficit, there is the likelihood that the State will again make mid-year cuts this winter.

The State's standards and expectations for our students are among the highest in the nation yet California is near last in the nation in the amount that it spends per student. This simply is not acceptable. Now more than ever is the time for citizens to be advocates for public education and to let your voice be heard in Sacramento.

Petaluma High School was determined to be the campus of greatest need and over the summer the school had a number of deferred maintenance projects completed including painting, roofing and paving. These projects were done through a combination of state and district funds that are restricted to construction projects.

Two major projects were completed on the two comprehensive high school campuses. On the Petaluma High School Campus, an eight classroom Art, Media and Entertainment (AME) facility is complete. The facility is being paid for with a combination of State Career Tech Education Funds and District Developer Fees. This facility replaces the leased portables that have been located in the parking lot and the old E-Wing portables. On the Casa Grande campus, a new drama classroom and expansion to the music building and an addition of a computer lab to the library have been completed. The drama class will replace a leased portable in the front of the campus and is being funded through a combination of District Developer Fees and State Bond and District Bond Funds.

I am pleased to introduce Jason Sutter, the new Principal at McNear Elementary School. Jason has been in education for the past 12 years, beginning in Napa as a fifth grade teacher and finishing as a K/1 teacher. From the classroom he moved to work for the County Offices of Education in Alameda, Napa, and Solano with an organization called the California Technology Assistance Project, where he worked with teachers to integrate technology in the classroom and with districts to plan and write grants for getting technology into classrooms.

To support greater success of all of our students, teachers and administrators across the district are working collaboratively to identify students' learning needs and design learning opportunities to meet these identified diverse needs. Teacher collaboration is essential for supporting this work. In Petaluma, we are very fortunate that our Board and parent community support early release Wednesdays for the purposes of teacher collaboration.

With the support of the K-12 Curriculum Council, teachers and administrators will continue to meet in professional learning communities and use the inquiry process and student data to identify effective practice and guide instruction.

Also under the direction of the K-12 Curriculum Committee, as the new school year begins, we will use of our common Power Standards. Those standards have been posted on the district website. Plans for elementary and secondary activities are described below.

At the elementary level, District committee work will include: pilot of a standards-based reporting form, and the Elementary Writing Assessment. In addition professional development related to the newly adopted math and science materials will be provided for elementary teachers.

At the secondary level, the K-12 Committee has plans to continue the identification and approval of common departmental assessments that reflect the priorities of the Power Standards. From each 7-12 site, department representatives will collaborate to refine or develop rubrics for use in measuring student progress. The district writing assessment rubrics are some of the first products from the collaboration. Also, teachers and administrators will continue to use software called Edusoft as a tool to develop assessments and monitor results by analyzing individual student work and progress.

Casa Grande High and Petaluma High are continuing to focus on the community and school staffs' identified goals of (1) Family & School Connections, (2) Personalization, and (3) Authentic Curriculum. You can help strengthen the family and school connections by becoming involved in activities such as mentoring students, being a guest speaker in classrooms, and providing opportunities for students to apply what they are learning in schools through internships in local business and industry. Please call your principal or Ellen Lewis, Community Entrepreneur, 778-4702, and ask how you can become involved.

To learn more about the District, checkout the District web site at www.petalumacityschools.org. An informative booklet about our schools is on our web site under the heading, *About our Schools*.

Thank you for your support and involvement in our schools. We know that we cannot do it alone. By working together sharing resources, knowledge, and skills we will better educate our students. I look forward to seeing you at school site events and meetings throughout the year.

Sincerely,
Greta Viguie, Ed.D.
Superintendent

BIENVENIDOS AL AÑO ESCOLAR 2009-2010

Por Superintendente Greta Viguie
Bienvenidos al año escolar 2009-2010. La escuela y el personal del distrito están cometidos a apoyar a los estudiantes para que tengan una buena experiencia este año escolar. Padres/guardianes y miembros de la comunidad tienen un papel crítico apoyando el éxito de las escuelas. A medida que transcurre el comienzo del año escolar, le pedimos que considere hacer un tiempo libre para involucrarse en una o mas de las escuelas del distrito trabajando como voluntario en el salón de clase, mentor de programas, ofrecer una presentación, o proveer

programas para aprendices a través de negocios locales. Cuando los padres y la comunidad se involucran los estudiantes son quienes se benefician. Estudios han comprobado que cuando los padres y la comunidad se involucran en la educación de los estudiantes aumentan los logros de los estudiantes en la escuela. Entonces, ¡llame a uno de nuestros directores y pregunte como puede empezar a involucrarse a partir de hoy!

Como habrá leído, los distritos escolares han sido significadamente impactados por la crisis fiscal estatal. Al reducirse los ingresos monetarios del Estado, tuvo como resultado para las Escuelas de Petaluma la eliminación de la escuela de verano, reducciones en maestros, personal de administración y de apoyo en las escuelas y a nivel del distrito, eliminación de tres días de desarrollo del personal que resultan en una disminución del 1.62% en el salario para todos los empleados del distrito, reducción de consejeros y personal clasificado, y aumento de estudiantes en las clases. La proyección del presupuesto del Distrito se equipara la presupuesto pasado por la legislatura de nuestro estado y aprobado por el Gobernador, entonces, por ahora no necesitaremos hacer mas cortes. Como el Presupuesto Estatal que fue aprobado todavía tiene un déficit significativo esta la posibilidad de que el Estado nuevamente haga cortes a mitad del año, durante el invierno.

Los estándares y expectativas del Estado para nuestros estudiantes están entre las más altas de la nación y sin embargo California esta casi ultimo en la cantidad que gasta por estudiante. Simplemente, esto no es aceptable. Ahora mas que nunca es el momento para que los ciudadanos aboguen por la educación pública y hagan que sus voces sean escuchadas en Sacramento.

Se determinó que la escuela preparatoria Petaluma High School era el recinto escolar con más necesidades, por lo cual durante el verano se completó un número de proyectos de mantenimiento, incluyendo pintura, techos y pavimentación. Estos proyectos se hicieron a través de una combinación de fondos del Estado y del distrito que están restringidos a proyectos de construcción.

Se completaron dos proyectos importantes en los recintos de las dos escuelas preparatorias. En el recinto escolar de Petaluma High School, se completó un área de ocho salones de Arte, Media y Entretenimiento (AME) Este proyecto se pagó con una combinación de fondos para Fondos de Educación del Estado para Carreras Tecnológicas y Honorarios de Urbanización del Distrito. Este proyecto reemplaza los salones portables que estaban localizados en el lote del

estacionamiento y los portables que estaban en el Ala-E En los recintos de Casa Grande, se completaron un nuevo salón de drama y expansión del edificio de música y la adición a la biblioteca de un lab de computación. El salón de drama va a remplazar al salón portable del frente de la escuela y está sustentado a través de Honorarios de Urbanización del Distrito, Bonos Estatales y Fondos de Bonos del Distrito.

Estoy encantada de presentar a Jason Sutter, el Nuevo Director de la escuela McNear Elementary School. Jason ha estado en la educación por los pasados 12 años, comenzando en Napa como maestro de quinto año y terminando como maestro de K/1. Del salón de clase, pasó a trabajar a las Oficinas del Condado de Educación en Alameda, Napa, y Solano junto a una organización llamada California Technology Assistance Project, trabajando con los maestros para integrar la tecnología al salón de clase y con los distritos para planear y escribir becas para obtener mas tecnología para los salones de clase.

Para apoyar el éxito de todos los estudiantes, maestros y administradores a través del distrito están trabajando en colaboración para identificar las necesidades de aprendizaje de los estudiantes y diseñar oportunidades de aprendizaje para atender estas necesidades diversas. La colaboración de los maestros es esencial para apoyar este trabajo. En Petaluma, somos muy afortunados de que tanto la Junta Directiva como la comunidad de los padres apoyen la salida de clases mas temprano los miércoles, con el propósito de que los maestros colaboren entre si. Con el apoyo del Consejo del Plan de Estudios de K-12 maestros y administradores continuarán reuniéndose en comunidades de aprendizaje profesional usando el proceso de investigación y datos del estudiante para identificar prácticas efectivas y guías de instrucción.

Además, bajo la dirección del Comité del Plan de Estudios de K-12, a medida que el nuevo año comienza, usaremos nuestro Propios Estándares corrientes. Esos estándares se han publicado en el sitio de la Red del distrito.

Los planes para actividades de primaria y secundaria se describen a continuación.

Al nivel de primaria, el trabajo del comité del Distrito incluirá: un plan piloto de forma de reporte basada en estándares, y Evaluación de Escritura de Primaria. En adición se ofrecerá desarrollo profesional relacionado a los nuevos materiales adoptados para matemáticas y ciencias para los maestros de primaria.

Al nivel de secundaria, el Comité de K-12 tiene planes de continuar la identificación y aprobación de evaluaciones departamentales

comunes que reflejan las prioridades de nuestros Propios Estándares. De cada escuela para 7-12, representantes de cada departamento colaborarán para refinar o desarrollar rubricas para medir el progreso de los estudiantes. Las rubricas de evaluación de escritura del distrito son uno de los primeros productos del trabajo en colaboración. Además, maestros y administradores continuaran usando un programa llamado Edusoft como herramienta para desarrollar evaluaciones y monitorear resultados analizando el trabajo y progreso individual del estudiante.

Casa Grande High y Petaluma High continúan enfocándose en las metas de identificación de la comunidad y el personal de la escuela para (1) Conexión Familia & Escuela, (2) Personalización, y (3) Plan de Estudio Auténtico. Usted puede ayudar a que la conexión entre Familia y Escuela sea mas fuerte al involucrarse en actividades como ser mentor de estudiantes dar una presentación en una clase como invitado, y proveyendo oportunidades para los estudiantes para aplicar lo que aprenden en la escuela en los negocios e industrias locales. Por favor, llame a su Director o a Ellen Lewis, Empresaria de la Comunidad, 778-4702, y pregunte en que forma puede involucrarse.

Si quiere aprender más sobre nuestro Distrito, mire nuestra página de la Red www.petalumacityschools.org. En nuestra página de la Red encontrará un libreto informativo titulado *About our Schools*.

Agradecemos su apoyo y involucramiento en nuestras escuelas. Sabemos que solos no podemos lograrlo. Al trabajar juntos compartiendo recursos, conocimiento, y habilidades educamos mejor a nuestros estudiantes. Espero mirarlos en los eventos y reuniones de nuestras escuelas a través del año

Sinceramente,
Greta Víguie, Ed.D.
Superintendente

House and Cluster News

The Autumn House teachers congratulate our September Students of the Month, Alicia Angotti and Garrett Hodapp. They will both receive gift certificates to Cold Stone. Keep up the good work!

News from the Casa Grande High School English Learner Academy

WELCOME! Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! As always the teachers in the English Language Development Academy (ELD Academy) are excited about the new school year and working with your students. For your

information, the teachers and bilingual instructional assistants are listed below:
Judi DeChesere-Boyle, English Learner Resource Teacher, ELD IB, II, III
Elena Richer, ELD III, IV
Hilda Castillo-Abate, US History SDAIE, World History SDAIE
Steve Conner, US History SDAIE
Mavis Weir, US Government SDAIE
Tom Griffin, Economics SDAIE
Michal Buchmann, Biology SDAIE
Melissa Wickenkamp, Physical Science SDAIE
Melinda Maderious, Algebra II SDAIE, Math Analysis
Angel Moquete, Geometry SDAIE, Algebra IA SDAIE
Eric Smith, Algebra IA SDAIE
Jamie Pugh, Algebra I SDAIE
Beverly Peterson, Algebra IB SDAIE
Rebeca Martinez-Chavez, Spanish for Native Speakers II, III/IV, IV/VAP
Rachel Galdamez, Spanish for Native Speakers I
Leonor Garduno, Counselor (Representing the counseling staff)
Stephen Owens, Assistant Principal

The teachers and bilingual staff will be supporting the English Learners at Casa Grande High School throughout the year. Our goal is for all of our students to be successful. We welcome your comments and questions at any time. Please phone the Bilingual Office at 778-4770. Messages may be left at any time, 24 hours a day! If you have concerns about your student regarding attendance, class work, grades, or other issues, please call! Communication is so important!

ELAC MEETINGS – It is important to understand why the ELAC (English Learner Advisory Committee) meets. When a school in California has more than twenty-one English Learners (and Casa Grande has over 350), it must have a committee made up of parents who have input on all services and programs offered to English Learners. The ELAC meetings create a forum through which parents can have such input into the education of their students. So, join us! Make your voices and concerns clear by attending these important meetings. **Please mark your calendars with the following dates for the English Learner Advisory Committee meetings that will be held at 7:00 p.m. in room M-9:**

**October 8, 2009, December 3, 2009,
February 11, 2010, and May 6, 2010**

At the October meeting parents will be able to meet the ELD and SDAIE teachers. Also, the counseling staff will be represented and will give valuable information regarding grades, transcripts, and qualifications for college. In addition we will select ELAC officers. Please be present at the meeting so that you can be considered for a position as an ELAC

representative. Besides being important to our Casa Grande ELAC meetings, officers will represent Casa Grande High School at the District English Learner Advisory Committee meetings throughout the school year. Our goal is to build a community of interested and involved parents this year. We hope, therefore, that participation at the ELAC meetings will continue to grow. We look forward to meeting the parents of our students and encourage your involvement.

CELDT TESTING – The English Learner Development Department has completed the state-mandated California English Learner Development Test. Results of the test will be available toward the end of 2009. The CELDT test is one that measures the language acquisition of EL students. Parents will receive a copy of each student's proficiency levels in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing when results are available. We will keep you informed!

GIVE US NOTICE if your student plans to be away from school for any length of time for vacations to Mexico or elsewhere. It is essential that your student keep up with schoolwork during the days he or she is absent so that credit is not lost!

KEEP US INFORMED! If your address or phone number changes for any reason, please call the Bilingual Office at 778-4770 with the new information. It is vital that we communicate and that the school is informed of such changes!

Noticias de la Academia de Inglés de la Escuela Preparatoria Casa Grande

¡BIENVENIDOS! ¡Bienvenidos al año escolar 2009-2010! Como siempre los maestros de la Academia de Desarrollo del Idioma Inglés (ELD Academy) están emocionados de comenzar un nuevo año y de trabajar con sus estudiantes. Para su información, los maestros y asistentes bilingües son los siguientes:

Judi DeChesere-Boyle, Maestra de Recursos de Inglés, ELD IB, II, III

Elena Richer, ELD III, IV

Hilda Castillo-Abate, Historia de USA SDAIE, Historia Universal SDAIE

Steve Conner, Historia de USA SDAIE

Mavis Weir, Gobierno de USA SDAIE

Tom Griffin, Economía SDAIE

Michal Buchmann, Biología SDAIE

Melissa Wickenkamp, Ciencia Física SDAIE

Melinda Maderious, Álgebra II SDAIE, Análisis Matemático

Angel Moquete, Geometría SDAIE, Álgebra IA SDAIE

Eric Smith, Álgebra IA SDAIE

Jaime Pugh, Álgebra I SDAIE

Beverly Peterson, Álgebra IB SDAIE

Rebecca Martinez-Chavez, Español para Hispanohablantes II, IIIAP, IV/VAP

Rachel Galdamez, Español para Hispanohablantes I

Leonor Garduno, Consejera (Representando al personal de consejería)

Stephen Owens, Sub Director

Los maestros y el personal bilingüe estarán apoyando a nuestros estudiantes aquí en nuestra escuela durante todo el año escolar. Nuestra meta es que todos nuestros estudiantes sean exitosos. Sus preguntas y comentarios son bienvenidos en todo momento. Usted puede llamar a la Oficina Bilingüe al 778-4770. ¡Usted puede dejar mensajes a cualquier hora, 24 horas al día! ¡Si usted tiene preguntas ó inquietudes acerca de su estudiante, su asistencia, trabajo escolar, tareas, etc., favor de llamar! ¡La comunicación es muy importante!

JUNTAS DEL COMITÉ BILINGÜE – Es muy importante el entender porque se reúne éste comité. Cuando una escuela en el estado de California tiene a más de veintiún estudiantes que están aprendiendo el Inglés como segunda lengua (nosotros tenemos más de 350), debe de tener un comité integrado por padres de familia que aporten información acerca de la educación de sus estudiantes. ¡Únase a nosotros! Aclare sus inquietudes y hágase escuchar asistiendo a éstas juntas tan importantes. **Favor de marcar sus calendarios con las siguientes fechas de reunión para nuestro Comité, que serán en el salón M-9 a las 7:00 p.m.:**

8 de Octubre, 2009, 3 de Diciembre, 2009,

11 de Febrero, 2010, y 6 de Mayo, 2010

En la junta de Octubre, los padres tendrán la oportunidad de conocer a los maestros de las clases de apoyo en inglés (ELD y SDAIE). A su vez, los consejeros se presentarán y nos darán valiosa información acerca de las calificaciones, folios – créditos, y requisitos para la universidad. Además, elegiremos a los oficiales de nuestro comité. Favor de estar presente en la junta para poder ser considerados para alguna posición oficial en nuestro comité. A pesar del importante papel que juegan en nuestro comité, los oficiales nos representaran en la escuela y en las juntas del Comité del Distrito Escolar durante todo el año. Nuestra meta es construir una comunidad de padres interesados y activos. Por lo tanto esperamos que la participación de padres de familia en nuestro comité continúe incrementando. Estamos ansiosos de conocer a los estudiantes y a sus padres.

EXAMENES DE DESARROLLO DE INGLÉS (CELDT) – El Departamento de Desarrollo de los Estudiantes de Inglés ha completado los exámenes requeridos por el estado. Los resultados de dichos exámenes estarán disponibles a finales de éste año, 2009. Este examen mide la adquisición del idioma Inglés de los estudiantes. Los padres de familia recibirán una copia con los resultados de cada estudiante en las áreas de Lectura, Escritura,

Habla y Lenguaje. ¡Les mantendremos informados!

FAVOR DE AVISARNOS – Si su estudiante no asistirá a clases por cualquier periodo de tiempo, ya sea de vacaciones a México u otro lugar. ¡Es esencial que su estudiante se mantenga al corriente con sus trabajos escolares durante los días que haya faltado, para que no pierda sus créditos!

MANTENGANOS INFORMADOS – Si su dirección ó números de teléfono han cambiado, favor de llamar a la Oficina Bilingüe a cualquier hora y dejarnos saber su información correcta. El número a llamar es 778-4770. Es vital que mantengamos las líneas de comunicación abiertas y que ambas partes estemos al tanto de dichos cambios.

HEALTH NOTES From Susan Wintermeyer, School Nurse

We want the current school year to be a healthy one and there are several ways you can help.

HAND WASHING: It's in your hands! It has been known for a very longtime that hand washing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. Studies have shown that as hand washing increases the spread of infections decrease. As we come upon the cold and flu season, your best defense to prevent getting sick is to WASH YOUR HANDS!

COVER OPENED SKIN SORES OR WOUNDS with band aids to prevent skin infections.

HEALTH PROBLEMS: If your child has a chronic health condition or a life threatening one, such as severe reaction to bee stings or nuts, requiring a EPIPEN, please contact your school nurse, Susan Wintermeyer 778 – 4677 at the beginning of the school year. Your child's safety is our concern.

IMMUNIZATIONS: Make sure you child is fully immunized. There are several new recommendations advised by our Public Health Department, HPV, Hepatitis A, meningitis, and a second varicella to name a few. Contact your medical provider or your local public health clinic for immunization clinic times.

HEALTH SCREENINGS: This year's state **mandated** screenings:

Hearing and Vision: Screening for all 10th grade students will be conducted during the months of October, November, December, and January. If further medical screening is indicated you will receive a letter informing you of the results and a need for follow-up. If you do not have insurance and are unable to afford follow up care, please contact Susan Wintermeyer, school nurse at 778-4677

If you have concerns about your student's hearing or vision you may request a screening. This does not take the place of a regular physical exam by your student's physician.

MEDICATIONS: The California Education Code provides for any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed for her/him by a physician provided the school received:

1. Written statement from the physician detailing the method, amount and time schedule the medication is to be taken.

2. A written statement from the parent or guardian of the pupil indicating the desire that the school district assist the pupil in the matter set forth in the providers statement.

MEDICATION MUST BE IN THE ORIGINAL CONTAINER (PRESCRIPTION OR OVER-THE-COUNTER). The medication should be clearly labeled with the student's name, medication name and dosage.

ALL medication carried by a student while at school must have an "**Administrating Medication Form**" completed and signed by their provider and a parent/guardian. This includes inhalers for asthma. The form can be obtained at the school office and once completed must be turned into the office. This form along with the medication (supplied by the student's family) remains at the school for the 09-10 academic year. A new form must be completed with each medication change and at the beginning of each academic year. All remaining medication must be picked up by a parent/guardian by the last day of school. Medication not picked up will be discarded.

BE A GERM STOPPER: Clean your hands often, after sneezing, coughing, or after using the bathroom, before you eat and before you touch your eyes, mouth or nose. Don't share food or drinks. You have the power to be a GERM STOPPER. It's in your hands! It has been known for a very longtime that hand washing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. As we come upon the cold and flu season, your best defense is to, WASH YOUR HANDS! Washing hands with soap and water is best. Wash long enough to sing "Happy Birthday" song twice. Let's unite together and STOP THE GERMS!

PTSA News

If you picked up a Raley's e-scrip card at Goucho Round-Up Days, be sure to activate the card online. If you need directions on how to do that, visit the PTSA webpage on the Casa Grande Website. Raley's cards are still available! If you would like a card, contact Rhonda Kobe via e-mail at rkobe@comcast.net. It's a free and easy way to raise money for the students and teachers of Casa Grande!

Please attend our next PTSA meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2009. The meeting will be held in the Teacher's Lounge at 7:00pm. Come and get involved! involved!

Kelly Balfour, PTSA President



The Counseling Connection

Information to help you succeed in high school and beyond

Counselors Sharon Howell (Head Counselor), Kathy Jelin, Leonor Garduno, Paul Koene, Brett Sklove
Secretaries Lisa Lomeli and Kathy Moyles
Project Success Desiree West **Career Center** Karen Buchanan

Important Dates

Senior Year Overview Night (for parents)
October 1st - 7:00 P.M. - NMU

UC/CSU Application Workshops
October 12th and 15th - Register in the
Counseling Office

PSAT Test Date
October 17, 2009 - Administered at CGHS
Register in the Counseling Office

ACT Test Date
October 24, 2009 - Register by January 6th

SAT Test Date
November 7, 2009 - Register by September 18th

End of 2nd Grading Period
October 30, 2009

Santa Rosa Junior College Information Night
November 4, 2009 - 7:00 P.M. - NMU

reduce course offerings, there is still a wide range of electives, honors/AP courses, and field work opportunities available to students. Summer school may or may not be available in the future, due to reductions in school funding. SRJC has cut hundreds of classes, making it more difficult for students to get the courses they need. Casa Grande High School offers students high quality, rigorous and relevant classes -right in their backyard! Take full advantage of it!

Progress Reports

By now you should have received the first progress report cards which were **mailed on October 2nd**. If you have not received this report card in the mail, please call the



Counseling Office to ensure that the mailing address is correct.

The progress report card is a courtesy to students and parents to track student progress. If you or your teen is surprised by a grade, please communicate with your teen's teachers to discuss the reason(s) for a grade received.



Students of the Month

Congratulations to **Rohan Sharma** and **Vanessa On** who were recognized as students of the month for **September 2009**. Students are selected based upon their outstanding academic achievement.

Take advantage of all that Casa Grande has to offer!

Now that students are settled into classes and the dust has cleared, it is time for students to take full advantage of the wide range of course offerings available at Casa Grande. Taking an interest in their current classes, as well as working with their counselor to plan for future classes, allows students to gain valuable skills and knowledge – ALL AT NO COST TO THEM! While Casa Grande has had to

PSAT Test

The PSAT will be administered on **Saturday October 17th**, beginning at **8:00 AM**. The PSAT is the Preliminary SAT exam targeted primarily for juniors.



All juniors who are planning to attend a 4-year college after high school should take the PSAT before they take the SAT. Sophomores and Freshmen may take the PSAT if they have taken Geometry or higher in math, however, Juniors have priority. Juniors taking the exam who score in the top 1/2 of 1 percent nationally are considered for a National Merit Scholarship. **Sign up's for the PSAT will begin October 1st in the Counseling Office.** The cost will be \$20.00.

Educational Plans

We have begun accepting appointments for educational plans for those parents who would like to schedule an individual appointment with their teen's counselor. Counselors will be doing educational plans in a group format to ensure that all freshman and sophomore students have a plan which addresses their future plans.

Classroom Guidance

Counselors will be visiting many classrooms this month to provide informational lessons to students. We will be visiting Senior English classes to discuss information about graduation and college/post-secondary options, Freshman Physical Science classes to provide information on how to be successful in high school, and Junior U.S. History classes to discuss graduation requirements and college/post-secondary planning.



UC/CSU Application Workshops

October 12th and 16th at 3:15 PM. in the Library

Begin your CSU and UC

applications in the computer lab. At least two counselors will be present to answer questions. Please sign up in the Counseling Office.

The California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)

The California High School Exit Exam will be administered to all **Sophomores** on **November 3rd and 4th**. For any students who are absent, a make-up test date will be scheduled.

Credits, Grades and Graduation

As the school year progresses, senior students and parents are reminded that 220 credits in the specific subject requirements are required for graduation. Students who fail a graduation requirement in the fall semester must make arrangements to make up those credits in



order to graduate. Time is obviously of the essence. SRJC and Petaluma Adult Education are two of the most accessible ways for students to make up credits during the spring semester. It is not yet known if Summer school will be held in 2010. If it is, this option is available to seniors after this school year; however seniors who choose this option will not be able to participate in the graduation ceremony. If parents or students have concerns about credits, grades or graduation status please contact your counselor as soon as possible.

Letters of Recommendation

A reminder for seniors who are requesting a letter of recommendation from their teacher and/or counselor: **please make your request at least two weeks prior to the date you need the letter.** Also, please fill out the *Letter of Recommendation Profile*, which is available in the Counseling Office. This is very helpful to teachers and counselors, as we may not know about many of your activities and accomplishments outside of the classroom.

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT STAFF (707) 778-4690 (707) 778-4705 FAX

Paul Koene (A - C)	pkoene@pet.k12.ca.us
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Lisa M. Lomeli Counseling Secretary	llomeli@pet.k12.ca.us
Kathy Moyles Student Records	kmoyles@pet.k12.ca.us
Linda Barbieri Registrar 778-4900	lbarbier@pet.k12.ca.us
Desiree West Project Success Coordinator 778-4680 x 1028	desiree@petalumapeople.org
Karen Buchanan Career Center Coordinator	kbuchanan@pet.k12.ca.us

Casa Grande Boosters Welcome Letter

Dear Students, Teachers, Faculty & Parents:

The Casa Grande Booster Club and I would like to welcome you all back to school. Registration was fun to work, it's always nice to see the kids excited to be back and see their friends. It's also nice to see the parents of returning students and meet the parents of incoming freshman and new students to our school. I strongly encourage all the parents and teachers to join the Booster Club this year. Membership is down compared to last year but it's never too late to join. Given the state of the economy, Casa is going to need our help more than ever.

Our Booster Club is unique in the fact that we support; Academics, Fine Arts and Athletics. We basically touch every student at Casa Grande, we have a budget of \$56,000 for the year, with \$50,000 going to Academics, Fine Arts and Athletics. We also give out 12 scholarships a year at a value of \$500.00 each to graduating seniors. Parents must be Booster members. We raise monies in various ways from, Membership drive, Bingo on Sundays, Clothing sales, Fireworks booth in the summer, running the snack bar at the football games, Escrip (**sign up our number is 139573899**) and our annual Crab Feed in January. We can use help in all these areas.

We look forward to you joining the Casa Grande Booster Club and seeing you at our meetings. Meetings are the 2nd Monday of every month. We meet at 7:00 in the faculty lounge. The Casa Grande Booster Club is really a fun organization that has a great time while we make money for our students and their school. Special thanks to Athleta who generously donated \$4,000.00 to us this year for Girls Athletics. Go Gauchos!

Valerie King
President

SAVE THE DATE

2ND Annual Crab Feed

Friday, January 22, 2009

Luchessi Center

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 11:00

Cost: \$45.00 a ticket

Tickets will be available in mid October

We only have 240 tickets and we **SOLD OUT** last year.

Contact Val King 765-4602 or 484-1076

Bridget Lyons 484-477-3191

Committee is meeting at the Starbucks by K-Mart on **Wed 10/7 @ 6:30 pm.**

We are asking for donations for silent and live auction items or if your company would like to help sponsor the event that would be great.

HELP US HELP CASA

Join the Casa Grande Booster Club

Call Jeannie Castro 763-4273

Ask her about Life Time Membership payment plans

Work a Sunday Bingo

Call Trudy May 415/897-7913

Earn \$25.00 for your club or sport or class * must be 18 to work

Buy Casa Clothing

Call Sheila Burke 778-7203

Makes great Christmas gifts & gives you school spirit

Join Escrip

Register On line & reregister in October

Our number is 139573899

This is a painless, no cost fundraiser for you!

Help with Crab Feed

Call Val King 765-4602

Come to our meeting 10/7 @ Starbucks by Kmart, 6:30 p.m.

Call if you are interested in being a sponsor or have any donations.