

February Letter to Parents

I have some important items to bring to your attention:

Construction: Our new classroom building is on track and should be completed by the middle of the Spring semester. The district will then begin the process of removing the portable classrooms from around the campus. The District has agreed to re-build our bathrooms in the Gym and the "M" building. This will take place during the Spring semester. Plans will be drawn up in the Spring for reconstruction of classrooms in the "S" building. When finished they will be submitted to the state for approval. Construction will probably start in the late part of the Spring semester of 09, and be completed in the summer. An architect has been selected for the Performing Arts Building and the process of determining what the building will look like and where it will be placed on the campus has now begun. We are probably looking at a 3 year process of agreeing on a design, drawing up plans, getting them approved by the state, and then actually constructing the building.

Testing: The California High School Exit Examination [CAHSEE] was administered during the first week of the Spring Semester. Over 500 students took the exam. The examination had the support of our teachers, staff and administrators. It went off without any problems, and we are confident that our students will continue the tradition of passing the examination in overwhelming numbers.

The California Standards Tests, also referred to as the STAR Tests, will be administered on April 29, 30, and May 1. Those tests are given to 9th, 10th and 11th grade students in the areas of math, English, social science, and science. We will be sharing the exact order of testing, but as we did last year, the day will be devoted only to testing and will be a modified schedule, with the students being released early.

The Advanced Placement tests will be administered during the first two full weeks in May. Those dates are set by the national board several years in advance. Your student will be sharing those dates with you, but you can check for yourself by going to the Advanced Placement web site to find all of the information you will need.

School of Choice: All students wishing to attend a school outside of their attendance area must fill out a "School of Choice" form. This is the time of the year when those forms are usually filed. The forms are given to the school that the student would have been expected to attend, and then

are forwarded to the school that student wishes to attend. It is vitally important that these forms be completed and filed in a timely manner. The deadline set by the district for this is April 1st. Should you have any questions contact the Principal or the Attendance Office.

New Teachers: New teachers joined our faculty this semester. Nadia Rizk is teaching English, Anush Chalian is teaching Math, Lauren Marks is teaching English, and Jaqueline Marinello-Sweeney is teaching Spanish.