



Arcadia High School Newsletter

Arcadia High School PTSA

June 2009/July 2009

Principal's Message



"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Martin Luther King, Jr.

Reflecting on the 2008-2009 school year, it is difficult to not go directly to the many challenges we faced as a school community. AHS opened its doors this year with interim housing and student support offices in the west parking lot. Traffic patterns and parking routines were disrupted as students, parents and staff adapted to the changed campus. Demolition and construction sites quickly developed, giving life to the green fencing that seems to move and grow on a daily basis. With each new day, routines that were taken for granted are now being challenged.

The state budget crisis has created a roller coaster ride of moving targets and unfunded programs with no immediate solutions or answers. Although budgets deal with numbers, the numbers have very specific names, lives, careers, and families left helpless in the politics of balancing a state budget.

One of my colleagues recently said, "If I have to be going through this, I'm just glad I work in Arcadia." Arcadia is not immune to the influences of politics and the human challenges of growth with our construction project, but we are unique. Arcadia is a community where families, city officials, school board members, and businesses recognize the interdependence on each other for the common goal of raising and educating kids. This unique characteristic of Arcadia is what I appreciate and celebrate during the difficult times ahead. I am confident that the world class staff of AHS, with the support of this community, will continue to provide a challenging, competitive education with programs that support and inspire our kids to lead the next generation.

I want to thank our graduating parents for all their years of support to education. Raising kids is the most challenging job any of us will face and it is a pleasure to have partnered with you in this endeavor. I look forward to standing on the platform at graduation and sending another class of extraordinary young adults into the world to thrive and pursue their dreams.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break.

David Vannasdall, Principal

David Vannasdall, Principal

Kay Kinsler, President

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President's Message

It is hard to believe that I have been serving as the AHS PTSA President for 2 years. It is even harder to believe that my youngest child is graduating and heading to college in the fall. Change does happen whether we like it or not. It has been my pleasure in working with the parents, teachers, administrators and students. We have a fabulous community – I'm not surprised that Arcadia was named the best town in California for families. Thank you all in building our future together.

Please know that AHS PTSA will switch to primarily daytime meetings next year. The September meeting will be an evening meeting however. The meetings will be held at our new site – the Fellowship Hall at the Church of the Good Shepherd at the corner of Duarte and Holly Avenues on Thursday mornings. The calendar for next year will be placed on our website as soon as it is put together. Go to www.ahspta.com to find us!

The May PTSA meeting was a fabulous way to honor all of you, our volunteers, and to install next year's PTSA officers. Many of our members were not able to attend; you too are volunteers that need to be honored. Thank you – each and every one of you who have stepped onto our fair campus and helped our students, teachers, and staff create the wonderful, academic, supportive environment that encourages every student to excellence. As they say, "it takes a village..." and it truly does. Thank you!

Also at the May meeting, Very Special Person Awards were presented to Carter Spruill and Eugenia Chang for the contributions they have made to our school. Honorary Service Awards were presented to Mei Tan, Lisa Fairbanks, Kathy Yamane, and Lori Phillipi. Congratulations to all of you. You are all very deserving of the awards and have truly made a positive impact on our school.

Thank you to the Nominating Committee of Lisa Lucas (chair), Ophelia Ha, Lisa Fairbanks, Kim McElwee, Dana Thompson, and Jean Wei who worked hard to bring together this incredible slate of officers. We are very proud to present a very strong and dedicated 2009-10 PTSA Executive Board who will continue to work for our children next year.

Thank you and best wishes to our newly elected Executive Board:

President Ruth Lagace
Executive VP Mary Beth Haney
VP Legislation Ophelia Ha
VP Programs Dana Thompson
VP Publicity Sandhya Ravi
VP Membership Suwannee Chew
Assistant Lee Callander
VP Ways & Means Karen Tom
VP Newsletter Suzanne Davis
VP Hospitality Ellie Bitaraf
Recording Secretary Beth Gerber
Corresponding Secretary Kim McElwee
Treasurer Jennifer Lashier
Financial Secretary Castalia Chan
Auditor Sherry Liang
Historian Christy Wong

The June PTSA meeting time has been changed. The meeting will start at 8:45 a.m. at the Arcadia City Council Chambers at 240 West Huntington Drive. I hope to see you there!

We need you!!! There are many chairman positions still available. Please contact Ruth Lagace if you are interested in helping next year. Ruth's contact information is 836-1745 or r2lagace@roadrunner.com.

Again, thank you to each and every one on you for your help and support this year. Enjoy the end of the year festivities and have a fun filled and relaxing summer. See you at Apache Days in August!

Kay Kinsler

AHS PTSA President

ASB President's Message

As the year is winding down, my peers and I are looking at these final days of school with both excitement and nostalgia. While we are moving on to achieve dreams of college, a job, or simply resting before another school year begins, we cannot help but reflect on all of the great memories we have had this past year. With these sentiments in mind; the ASB, AHS faculty and parents have taken it upon themselves to end the year with a bang.

As ASB President, I am proud to have helped lead the student body through this period of transition. With all the physical changes on campus, I leave with the knowledge that under my leadership, the ASB has founded a new tradition of valuing the diversity of Arcadia High School. ASB's organization of Diversity Week along with SCAC and other student clubs will become a new tradition at AHS to help our community appreciate the variety of populations we serve. A special thanks to the Chinese Booster Club, the AHS PTSA, and the Arcadia Rotary Foundation for bringing this dream to fruition and opening the minds of students at AHS.

Having held our ASB elections in late April, the results are in and the new Class Councils and Executive Council offices have been filled for the 2009-2010 school year. Please go to <http://asb.ausd.net> to view all of the elected officers who will be dedicating their time and efforts to making our school and community a better place. I would like to especially congratulate my successor, Leah Wong, as next year's ASB President. Having worked closely with Leah Wong over the past few years, I recognize her capability and responsibility as both a student and leader who will continue to lead our school in the right direction.

Speaking of next year, both the excitement and nostalgia experienced by student at AHS cannot be more apparent than for the outgoing Class of 2009. Being one myself, none of us can fathom how fast our four years at Arcadia High School have flown by. Realizing how precious each and every moment we have together is, the ASB and Senior Class Council have organized many activities for the senior class to bond and reminisce. Starting off on May 23rd, a Senior Sunset bonding event was hosted at the AHS football field where seniors watched the sun set as they shared memories and dreams. Senior Activities Day was held on June 5th, in which seniors attended a breakfast on campus together as a class, watched their peers perform in a talent show and viewed a slideshow of their past four years at AHS. All our hard work and efforts were culminated in an exhausting day of celebration filled with laughter and tears of joy. The Class of 2009 is so grateful for all the time and effort invested by their parents in making their last day as an AHS student so memorable.

As we look forward to our futures, we cannot help but reflect on the past: countless hours cramming for tests, the highs and lows of high school life, and the lifelong friendships we forged. As we say goodbye to AHS, we must say thank you! Thank you to the teacher and staff of AHS. And thank you to our parents for standing by and supporting us all these years.

Forever in debt to a loving school and community,

Charlie Tsouvalas
ASB President 2008-2009
Arcadia High School



ASB President Elect's Message

On May sixth, one of our deans, Mr. Finn, looked out into the crowded storm of kids and asked me above the loud voices why this year was so different from the others. It was the last day of our "Junior Council Bail Out Plan" and almost 200 soon-to-be prom attendees flocked the outside of the ASB office in order to save an extra five dollars. Although Mr. Finn was looking at an unprecedented third day of prom ticket sales due to people's affinities for saving money, I had this enormous pride nonetheless that things are indeed different this year.

It has been an amazing feeling to hear nothing but talk of prom the last two months and a daily gift to receive an inbox flocked with questions from excited students. After pulling teeth to acquire attendance at Sadie Hawkins, this fervor over prom is truly relieving and exalting. As one of the hostesses to the most anticipated dance of Arcadia High School this year, I must admit we owe a lot of the excitement to an amazing location that may not be topped for another few years. However, it is safe to say that the junior council's personal relationship with students has burgeoned as we reached out and garnered support for events we made the center of our lives. It makes me both humbled and sad to know that on May 16th, the bulk of my tenure as Junior President will be over and paid off in the tired but bedazzled faces of the students as they leave Universal Studios.

However, I have this inkling that Saturday will only be the calm before the storm, because very soon I will be starting a new year as the ASB Executive President. Even saying the name makes me excited! My excitement over being president of a 4,000 student school next year and the excitement over prom have not been able to mix very well, because I think I'd die of a heart attack from the all the jitters. The idea of being an entire school's president is exhilarating and hard to grasp for a girl that can barely pass her license test. But I am ready. Many students take their entire school careers to muster up courage to run for a school office or do something that place them in the eyes of everyone else. I've grown to realize being on ASB and having the simple but humongous opportunity to change things is my comfort zone.

Undoubtedly, I am filled with butterflies at the thought of inheriting a school full of construction zones and budget cuts, but it does not hinder the fact that school spirit and the possibilities of an unforgettable year never lie anywhere else but with the students. I have great plans in my head and hopefully they will be tangible for the school and our beloved community to enjoy. I can already hear the angry protests of students when they find out school starts in the month of August- although it's the last day, they'll still think its terrible- but that just means a great year is even closer! There will be a few slow, summer months in between but once Apache registration starts on August 18th, another roller coaster of irreplaceable experiences will begin and I can not ask for my senior year to be any other way. I appreciate so many things about going into this presidency; from the high standards my current executive president has left me to two supportive and motivating advisors. I am mainly eager to continue and broaden the parent student relationship concerning our school; because it is important every facet and voice of Arcadia High School is involved in the making an amazing year. So therefore, come next fall, construction will not be the only thing changing Arcadia High School.

-Leah Wong
Jr. President
ASB President Elect

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOOTBALL FOOD BOOTH

Come have FUN and EXCITEMENT working a shift in the food booth during varsity home football games in the fall! All proceeds support PTSA . Tentative Friday game dates are 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, and 10/30. Work a two hour shift and get free parking and game admission. Contact Karen at 4toms@earthlink.net for details and questions.



Did you know that your child will check out approximately \$400 worth of textbooks this year?

Read below to learn more about Arcadia High School's Textbook/Library Book Check-Out Policy

BOOK CHECK/OUT

Arcadia High School students will check out books from the library through a computerized program that keeps track of all text and library books. Each copy of a given book has an individual barcode. During check-out, that barcode is recorded so that we know which copy the student checked out. Students should keep track of all barcodes in their planner. Students are advised to write their names immediately into all textbooks issued to them.

BOOK CHECK/IN

At the end of the course, students **MUST** return the **EXACT** copy of the book that was checked out to them to avoid paying a replacement cost. If the book is lost or stolen and not checked in, there will be a charge assessed to the student. The parent is responsible for all charges and books.

TEXTBOOKS

Students have sole responsibility for his/her textbooks. Students should not store their textbooks in teachers' classrooms. The cost of textbooks is high, with prices ranging from \$15.00 to \$160.00. Lost and damaged books that cannot be used are charged at the full replacement value. Be aware that a student's total responsibility may be over \$400.

BOOK RETURNS

All books must be returned to the library. ***Do not give textbooks to friends or teachers to return.***

DAMAGED BOOKS

All damaged books will be assessed a charge. Unusable books will be charged at the replacement cost.

LOST BOOKS

The library accepts cash or checks payable to: **AHS**. Please write the student name and ID number on checks. Receipts are given at time of payment. Please keep the receipt for REFUND purposes if the book is found.

REFUNDS

If a lost book is found in usable condition, a refund will be issued. The appropriate receipt is needed for a refund.

FINES

Fines are charged on overdue library books. The fee is 10 cents per day, up to \$3 per book.

OUTSTANDING CHARGES

Students with outstanding text and library book charges may **NOT** register for the upcoming school year until all charges have been cleared or other arrangements have been made with an Assistant Principal. Text and library book charges are cleared in the library during regular hours of operation: 7:30 am to 3:30 pm during the school year; summer school hours: 7:30 am – 1:30 pm.

EDUCATION CODE

The Education Code 48904 states that any high school may withhold grades, diplomas, and transcripts from students with overdue library books or with charges for lost textbooks until these payments are made. Your student will be prevented from registering for the fall until all charges are cleared.

HasBrouck, April 2009

ROP NEWS

Arcadia High School's Regional Occupational Program (ROP) offers classes to students during the day and it also offers classes to students and adults during the afternoons, evenings, and Saturday.

Employability Training Skills: Every ROP class conducts job search workshops that provide information on topics such as personal development, resume preparation, employment applications, interviewing techniques and networking. Each student also receives free of charge, **The Job Finder's Guide**, a book designed to assist the student in the job search process.

ROP REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Junior/Seniors or 16 years. Sophomore students are allowed enrollment in specific ROP classes which is indicated on the schedule with an asterisk. Students can register in the ROP Office, P 12. Students receive high school credit for attending ROP classes. There are no fees for high school students.

ADULTS: Register in the Career Center ROP office. The cost for each class is \$50.00, payable by cash at the time of registration.

What is Work Experience? To earn high school credit for your job, students must be employed and attend class on Monday 3-5:30 p.m. The amount of high school elective credit (5/10) is determined by the average number of hours worked each week.

Students will learn customer relations, career advancement, safe work habits, tax preparation and terminology used in industry. All students enrolled in the class will be issued an extended work permit which allows students to work a more flexible work schedule.

What is a work permit? A work permit is a legal document required by the state of California that allows a person under 18 years to hold a job. An employer who hires a minor must have the work permit on file at the business site before the minor may start the job.

To get or keep a work permit, must I attend school? The answer is YES! Requiring work permits for minors insure that they stay in school, which requires parent or guardian permission to work.

At what age can I get a work permit? In most cases, students must be at least 14 years of age to get a work permit with the exception of "entertainment work permit" that can be given from infants to 18 years. Although 14 and 15 year olds may get work permits, most employers will not hire students under age 16. This is because the workers' compensation insurance usually does not cover workers under the age 16.

How often do I need to get a work permit? Each time a minor is hired for a new job, a

ROP NEWS

new work permit must be obtained and given to the employer.

ASVAB Testing: On Tuesday, October 20th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ROP will be hosting the Armed Services Vocational Battery (ASVAB) assessment for any junior or senior. The Department of Defense sponsors the ASVAB and is a vocational aptitude survey consisting of ten short tests. Areas such as general science, arithmetic reasoning, work knowledge, paragraph comprehension, numerical operations, and mechanical comprehension are some of the potentials measured by the assessment. Administered **free** of charge, no studying or special preparation is required. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program allows the student to understand the wide variety of careers available to them. Taking the test better explains the student's strengths and helps identify where improvements may be needed. In approximately six weeks, the Department of Defense will interpret the assessment with the results given to the students. **We are now taking enrollments in the ROP office, P 12.**

About School to Career: School-to-Career is an educational initiative that provides students of all ages with a wide range of educational and career development options. The goal of School-to-Career is to make classroom learning more relevant, inspiring students to commit themselves to life-long learning and preparing them for successful, high-skill, well-paid careers within today's competitive job market.

ROP Office (P12) has:

Job Book- contains employment opportunities from local community business. If you are or have a business that would like to hire an Arcadia High School student, please give us a call (626) 821-8370, ext.1104, and we will be glad to include your request.

Sample Resume Book- contains various resume samples for students to use as a guide.

Internship/Volunteer Book- consists of non-paid opportunities for students in many private and public agencies throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

Work Permits

Remember: All work permits issued during the 2008-2009 school year and summer will expire on August 31st 2009. If you are under 18 years of age and employed, you must obtain or renew a work permit. Work permit applications will be at the ROP counter during Apache days.

Cindi Franz

ROP Counselor

Get Your California Driver License the FIRST Time

Top Five Mistakes Made On the Written Driving Test

Believe it or not, the DMV WANTS people to pass their driver license test the first time they take it! When more people successfully pass their exam, it confirms that DMV resources are being utilized and that future drivers can rely on these resources to prepare for their own test someday! So to continue with its goal to educate as many drivers possible, the DMV is even willing to share a few more “secrets” to help with preparation for the written portion of the driver license examination. After gathering a list of all the incorrect answers from previous written driver license tests, the DMV has come up with the top five misconceptions people have of the road that can lead to failed written exams.

1. Whether it’s OK to cross the double solid yellow lines

Two solid yellow lines mean *no passing*. You may only drive to the left of these lines when:

- Turning left at an intersection.
- Turning into or out of a private road or driveway.
- In a carpool lane that has a designated entrance on the left.
- Instructed to drive on the other side of the road because your side is closed or blocked.

You can read more about roadway lines and their distinctions in the Driver Handbook online at http://www.dmv.ca.gov/top_nav/top_nav_pdf_link.htm (just click “Link to California Driver Handbook”).

2. Actions regarding pedestrians with guide dogs or white canes

Pedestrians using guide dogs or white canes with or without a red tip must be given the right of way *at all times*. These pedestrians are partially or totally blind, so be especially careful when turning corners or backing up.

More information on pedestrians, including those who are blind, as well as suggestions on how to help them can be found in the California Driver handbook on pages 19 and 48. You can download it at http://www.dmv.ca.gov/top_nav/top_nav_pdf_link.htm (just click “Link to California Driver Handbook”).

3. Where to stop when there’s no limit line

When approaching an intersection with a stop sign, you must make a full stop before entering a crosswalk or when you are at the white “limit line” which is a wide white line painted on the street.

If a crosswalk or limit line is not painted on the street, stop at the corner before entering the crosswalk or the near side of the intersection.

This information is located in the Driver Handbook online on page 20 with more information in the 2009 California Vehicle Code at www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc22450.htm. You can download the 2009 Driver Handbook at http://www.dmv.ca.gov/top_nav/top_nav_pdf_link.htm.

4. The shapes and colors of signs and what they mean

The colors and shapes of road signs give clues about the information they contain and can help drivers to anticipate what’s on the road ahead. The shape of a sign gives you a clue about the information contained on the sign. Here are some of the more common shapes you should familiarize yourself with.



Make a full stop whenever you see a *STOP sign*. Stop before entering a crosswalk or at a white "limit line." If a crosswalk or limit line is not painted on the street, stop at the corner.



*The three-sided red YIELD signs *mean you must slow down and be ready to stop, if necessary, to let any vehicle, bicyclist, or pedestrian pass before you proceed.



The " WRONG WAY " sign may or may not be posted with the "DO NOT ENTER" sign. If you see one or both of these signs, drive to the side of the road and stop. You are going against traffic. When safe, back out or turn around and return to the road you were on. At night if you are going the wrong way, the road reflectors will shine red in your headlights. *Square red and white regulatory signs *mean you must follow the sign's instruction. For example, the "DO NOT ENTER" sign means do not enter a road or off ramp where the sign is posted, usually on a freeway off ramp.



If a sign has a *red circle with a red line* through it, it always means NO. The picture inside the circle shows what you cannot do. The sign may be shown with or without words.



Circular signs mean you are approaching a railroad crossing.



Five-sided signs mean you are near a school.

The DMV Web site has a section with information regarding signs that can be found online at www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/signs.htm There is also more information in the California Driver handbook.

5. Procedures for merging onto highways*

Enter the highway at or near the speed of traffic, so if things are running smoothly, you will need to be traveling at or near 65 mph to merge correctly. Highway traffic has the right of way, but do not stop when merging unless it is absolutely necessary. You may have to accelerate to safely merge.

The DMV Web site has more information on highway procedures on page 40 of the Driver handbook, which you can download at www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/signs.htm

The California Driver handbook holds the answers to these five common mistakes and every other question that may show up on the written test. You can read the entire document online at www.dmv.ca.gov* or pick up the handbook at your local DMV office. You can also find information on the DMV Web site related to the behind-the-wheel test. Spend some time studying, use the DMV resources that are available to you and you will have greater success passing your written test the first time around.

Arcadia High School PTSA Calendar

June 2009

1 Grad Night meeting - 7:00 p.m. in the AHS Cafeteria/Apache Pit

For Details:

<http://ahspta.com/DetailsGradNigh>

†

4 AHS PTSA Meeting - 7 p.m. - Arcadia City Council Chambers

5 Senior Activity Day..

5 Yearbook Distribution 2 p.m...

6 SAT & Subject Tests -

<http://www.collegeboard.com>

7 Baccalaureate - 5 p.m. - North Gym (New Location)

9-11 Minimum School Days.

Students will be excused at 12:29pm

Off-campus permits will not be issued during this time. Make all appointments before or after June 9th thru 11th or after 12:29pm.

For More Information:

Attendance Office 821-1770

9 Minimum Day - finals: periods 3 & 6..

10 Minimum Day - finals: periods 5 & 1..

11 Minimum Day - finals: periods 2 & 4 - end of Fourth Quarter..

11 Last day of school

12 AHS Graduation -

Commencement - 6:00-8:00 p.m. at

Santa Anita Park

12/13 Grad Night - 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m

13 ACT Test Date -

<http://www.actstudent.org>

August 2009..

17 Freshman and New Student Orientation..

18 Apache Days - Seniors..

19 Apache Days - Juniors ..

20 Apache Days - Sophomores..

21 Apache Days - Freshmen..

23 - 28 Music Camp for Orchestra Band and Color Guard..

24 Apache Days - Makeup:..

9-9:45 Senior..

9:45-10:30 Junior..

10:30-11:15 Sophomore..

11:15-12 noon Freshmen..

31 Start of 2009/10 school year..

September 2009..

7 Labor Day Holiday (No school)..

AHS PTSA HONORS VOLUNTEERS

Arcadia High School PTSA was honored to present awards to six people who have made a significant impact on the children, teachers and staff of AHS. Two honorees received the Very Special Person award and four honorees were awarded the Continuing Service certificate and pin.

The Very Special Person (VSP) award is given to an individual who has gone out of his way to serve students or who has been valuable in an area of service.

VSP recipient Eugenia Chang has been actively involved during all the years her children have attended Arcadia schools. She has been involved in the PTA, the Music Clubs, and the Chinese Parents Booster Clubs.

Volunteering as a very positive and willing assistant on numerous committees over many years, she makes sure everything gets completed. Eugenia is described as humble with a huge heart and always ready to give a hand!

Carter Spruill, another VSP, is an Information Technology Specialist for the school district. His vision was to have an on campus club for African American students to foster pride in their race, help them become better citizens, and intertwine Black history with historical current events. Carter's vision was accomplished when the Black Student Union was chartered at AHS in 2007. He also helped start a SAT study course at a reduced cost, participated with students at the African American High School Conference, and has brought the parents of the BSU members together for monthly meetings.

The Continuing Service Award (CSA) is conferred on a person who has already received an Honorary Service Award from a PTA unit or council for continued service to children and youth.

CSA recipient Mei Tan has served on the PTSA boards of all three schools her children have attended as well as the boards of the Arcadia Council PTA, Dana Music Club, Boy Scouts, and AEF. Many of her volunteer hours have been spent as auditor, treasurer, financial secretary, coordinator of volunteers for Grad Night, Apache Days, and AEF accountant. Mei has willingly been on call for Mandarin translating when the need arises.

Another CSA honoree, Lisa Fairbanks, has served on the PTSA boards and as several Committee Chairs at three Arcadia schools. At AHS she is often found in the vicinity of the Band room because of her volunteer work as the Arcadia Marching Band uniform coordinator as well as the Varsity Percussion parent volunteer coordinator. Volunteering time at band and percussion events as well as helping with different aspects of the music club has been an important part of Lisa's service at the high school.

Kathy Yamane was awarded the CSA for her dedication at three of the Arcadia campuses as her five children have progressed through them. Offering her skills, time, and enthusiasm she has served on the council level and as PTSA Presidents and multiple board and chairman positions. At AHS she continues her volunteerism with energy, efficiency, and excellence. Kathy has received numerous honorary service awards including the Golden Oak Award, the most prestigious PTA award in California.

Honored with the CSA, Lori Phillipi has been highly involved with PTSA since her first days at Highland Oaks School. She has served as PTA President at three schools as well as serving in many board and chairman positions. This honoree continuously thinks about how to better our service to our children and parents. She was instrumental in dreaming up the Apache Preview Day, Smoke Signals newsletter to incoming freshman families and Freshman Orientation Day. Lori continues to serve our community as a School Board Member.

The Honorary Service committee of Vicky Stewart, Mei Tan, Karen Tom, Kim McElwee, Kay Kinsler and David Vannasdall were honored and privileged to recognize these individuals.



Left to right: Mei Tan, Eugenia Chang, Kathy Yamane, Lisa Fairbanks, Lori Phillipi, Carter Spruill

AHS PTSA Installs New Executive Board



*Front Row (l to r): Kim McElwee, Mary Beth Haney, Ruth Lagace, Ophelia Ha
Not Pictured: Sandhya Ravi, Lee Callendar, Suzanne Davis, Ellie Bitaraf, Castilia Chan*

Ruth Lagace, the incoming AHS PTSA President, has received her gavel from outgoing President, Kay Kinsler. The installation of Ruth and the 2009 - 2010 executive board took place during a luncheon at Matt Denny's Restaurant in Arcadia.

Ruth introduced the new PTSA board whose theme will be "Go the Extra Mile for Our Kids!" She gifted each board member with chocolate to keep their energy going for the new school year!

Graduating parents who have been active PTSA volunteers were acknowledged and thanked by Kay Kinsler with a gift to remember their years of service.

Another highlight of the installation luncheon was the announcement of the Honorary Service Award recipients. The Very Special Person awards were given to Eugenia Chang and Carter Spruill. Four people were chosen for the Continuing Service Award: Mei Tan, Lisa Fairbanks, Kathy Yamane, and Lori Phillipi. (see accompanying article)

Our current Executive VP, Ruth Lagace, thanked Kay for her past two years of service as President and presented her with the PTSA President pin, an engraved gavel, and a gift from all the parent volunteers. Kay was honored by words from both Principal David Vannasdall and VP Ruth Lagace about how she has worked diligently as PTSA President towards her goal of "Building Our Future Together."

In summarizing the activities of the PTSA during the past year, Historian Karen Wong had calculated that parent volunteers had given more than 39,000 hours of service to AHS!

Carla Heer was thanked for coordinating the wonderful installation luncheon and program.

The **PSAT/NMSQT** will be given at Arcadia High School on **Saturday, October 17, 2009** to any juniors, sophomores, and freshmen who sign up. This test determines the juniors who will qualify as National Merit Scholarship Semi Finalists in their senior year.

Students' PSAT test booklets will be returned along with the test results in January 2010 giving all students a great opportunity to not only see their scores but also your student's work for additional study.

Student **Sign Ups** for the PSAT will be during lunch only, in front of the Music Building, next school year, from September 21 through October 2. Students need to remember to bring a photo ID to sign up for this test. We encourage all juniors, sophomores and freshmen to sign up and take this important test.

The cost of the test will be \$30.00 per student and checks should be made out to "Arcadia Music Club." Late sign-ups as well as walk-ins on the day of the test will be charged \$40.00.

If you have questions regarding sign-ups for the test, please feel free to contact Mrs. Terry Schreiner at 821-1711.

**Arcadia High School
PTSA**

180 Campus Drive
Arcadia, California 91007
Phone: 626-821-8370
Email: ahsnewsletter@ausd.net



"Building our Future Together."

Please visit our website @
<http://ahspta.pbwiki.com/>

Staying Connected!

- AHS website: www.ausd.net/ahs Gives you student bulletins, teacher e-mails, counselors and administrators, bell schedules, daily updates on what's happening at AHS, phone numbers, ISIS, Library, ASB, etc
- Counseling Center website: <http://www.ausd.net/ahs/Counseling/> Provides information on all aspects of the Counseling Center. View PowerPoint presentations and all documents here!
- E-mail listserv: listserv.ahspta@ausd.net Weekly updates for activities, parent resources, calendar of events, volunteer opportunities.
- Read PTSA newsletter : www.ahspta.com and click on newsletters or go to www.ahspta.com/Newsletters
- Calendar of PTA events: www.ahspta.com and click on calendar or go to www.ahspta.com/calendar
- Input to PTSA Newsletter: ahsnewsletter@ausd.net E-mail articles for the quarterly newsletter about campus activities, counselors tips, administration's message.
- Arcadia Choral: <http://www.arcadiachoral.com>
- Athletics: <http://athletics.ausd.net/>
- Music: www.arcadiamusic.org
- CPBC: www.arcadiachineseparents.org

Textbook and Library book reminder from the AHS Library:

We would like to remind parents and students that all textbooks and library books need to be returned, and any fines paid before seniors will be allowed to receive their diplomas, and all others be allowed to register in August. Seniors please remember: many job applications, security clearances, etc. require verification that you have graduated from AHS. We will not be able to verify this unless you are cleared in the library of all books and fines. Please try to be cleared in the library by the last day of school. Returning students who are cleared at the end of the semester won't have to wait in long lines to take care of this at registration in August. Please contact the Library if you have any questions.

Thanks from the Library Staff
