



ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January/February 2011

ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL PTSA



Associated Student Body President

Jonathan Ma, 2010-2011 ASB President



Hey, everyone! I write this message as a bittersweet senior. It's wintertime which means almost half of our school year is over, believe it or not. Part of me can say that I'm finally relieved of my college applications and will be one step closer to graduation. But at the same time, this year has been a very special one, especially for graduating high school seniors. The thought of graduation looming and half of the year almost over makes me nostalgic yet proud.

The construction that started in 2007 is beginning to give our campus a lot to cheer about. Our new student services building that opened in November never ceases to amaze; the science building that opened on December 11th at the Winter Preview Day no doubt carries a similar positive spirit. Our newly renovated football stands were put to good use at its debut at the Homecoming Football Game when a full house watched our Apaches dethrone rival John Muir High School. There has been so much to celebrate for our teams: our football team won league champs; our Boys' Cross Country are national champs; our nationally renown Band has swept most of its competitions; and many of our other teams have gone undefeated or have had entirely successful seasons.

"It truly has been a magical year as an Arcadia Apache."

It truly has been a magical year as an Arcadia Apache. Although half of our year is over, I'm excited for what 2nd semester has in store for us. I am optimistic that the 2nd semester will be fantastic with our academic teams hitting the floor running and our winter and spring sports rolling out. While our Apache students will no doubt get it done (no Apaches down!), I hope that we as students, alumni, parents – however associated to the Apache family – will join in and support our Apaches the best we can.

I hope to be able to meet each and every one of you throughout this school year. There's a reason why Arcadia has been voted "The Best Place to Raise Your Kids" two years in a row!

I hope everyone had a great winter break and *Go Apaches!*

Inside this issue:

PTSA NEWSLETTER 2010-11, ISSUE 3

President's Message	2	David Vannasdall, Principal
Office of Parent & Student Services	4	Fenton Eng, PTSA President
Counselors' Corner	5	Tina Lee Rodriguez, Editor
Honorary Service Award Nomination	14	Raquel Acosta, Spanish Translator
Regional Occupational Program	15	Monica Gomez, Spanish Translator
Advanced Placement Testing	17	Lily Zhang, Chinese Translator
Reflections Program Winners	19	Jeannie Pang, Korean Translator



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fenton Eng, PTSA President

Dear friends,

Happy New Year and Happy Lunar New Year!! I wish for peace, prosperity, and good health to all!

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make 2010 a fulfilling year for Arcadia High School. We have certainly made a significant difference. I am very grateful for each of you who have given your time and talents to support the programs and vision of the PTSA.

As we look forward to 2011, there will be more challenges for us and I would like to encourage everyone to continue to give their support. PTSA's commitment to support our children is a key component to the success of AHS.

Please take time to enjoy a high school event or activity – there are still many more opportunities. Check out the school website or the PTSA website at www.ahspta.com, read the PTSA newsletter, keep up to date with the weekly email "What's Happening at Arcadia High," or better yet, come to a PTSA meeting, get involved, and enhance your child's AHS experience. If you are not receiving the weekly emails and would like to, go to www.ahspta.com and click on the "Subscribe/Unsubscribe to AHS PTA Email Alerts" and follow the instructions.

I look forward to serving with you during the rest of the school year.

Fenton Eng

2010-11 AHS PTSA President
(626) 710-8322, fong59@hotmail.com

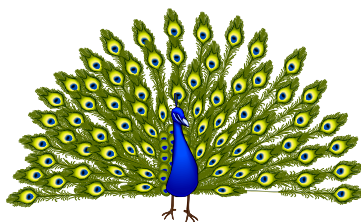
Thank you to:

- * Tina Rodriguez for our newsletters***
- * Jeff Laun for our weekly email updates a.k.a. "Listserve"***
- * Lisa Brock for the bylaws update***
- * The Nominating Committee for their hard work in putting together a slate of officers to lead AHS PTSA next school year***



Pep Squad Tryouts

Mandatory Parent Informational Meeting for 2011-12 season— attend one meeting either on Feb 7th or 8th, 7:00 p.m., Little Theatre. Questions? Contact Ms. Erickson at terickson@ausd.net.



AHS PTSA Calendar

January

- 3 School resumes – Students return to school
- 6 **PTSA Meeting – 8:45 a.m., Church of the Good Shepherd (Fellowship Hall)**
- 7 AHS Chinese Parent Booster Club, monthly meeting – 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- 10 1st Grad Night Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Science Building (Lecture Hall)
- 14 Orchestra Movie Night – 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Marching Band & Color Guard Spaghetti Dinner – Dinner 4:00-9:00 p.m. in Cafeteria, Show at 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. in N. Gym
- 17 Martin Luther King Holiday – No School
- 19 Articles due for Smoke Signals Newsletter – Feb/Mar/Apr issue
- 19-21 Finals for semester – Minimum days
- 21 3rd Quarter begins
- 29 AHS Chinese Parent Booster Club, New Year Party – 6:30 p.m., Community Center
- 31 No School

February

- 3 **PTSA Meeting – 8:45 a.m., Church of the Good Shepherd (Fellowship Hall)**
- 7 or 8 Pep Squad for 2011-12 season, Parent Informational Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Little Theatre (attend one of the dates)
- 11 Newsletter deadline for Mar/Apr issue – articles due
- 21 Presidents' Holiday – No School
- 26 Orchestra Benefit Dinner, 6:00-10:00 p.m., Arcadia Community Center
- 28 Junior Parent Meeting – 6:30-7:30 p.m., N. Gym

March

- 1 Sophomore Parent Meeting – 6:30-7:30 p.m., N. Gym
- 2 Freshman Parent Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m., N. Gym
- 3 ELD Parent Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Cafeteria
- 3 **PTSA Meeting – 8:45 a.m., Church of the Good Shepherd (Fellowship Hall)**
- 7-11 Red Cross Drive
- 8-9 CAHSEE (Exit Exam)
- 11 Newsletter deadline for April/May issue – articles due
- 24 Orchestra Vertical Concert
- 28 4th Quarter begins
- 24-26 Theater Spring Musical, 7:00 p.m.



The Office of Parent and Student Services

Student Services Building

We are moved into the new Student Services Building. The Deans, Mr. Kerney and Mrs. Mackessey, are located on the southeast side of the building right next to the registrar's office. The secretary for the Dean's Office is Mrs. Sarina Alvarez. Their phone number has not changed, it is (626) 821-1759.

Mr. Finn's office is located on the north side, west of the main entrance on Campus Drive. The phone number is also the same, it is (626) 821-1791. Mrs. Leann Solis is the secretary for Mr. Finn.

Items During School Hours

No food items will be accepted by any of the offices. If non-food items need to be brought to a student, the student must make arrangements to receive these items from their parent. This cannot be done during class; it must be during passing period or lunch. An example would be the following: parent will meet daughter/son in the main office at the beginning of lunch to drop off his/her athletic uniform.

Fire Alarm

Your son or daughter may have let you know that the fire alarm has been activated a few times during the past few months. The work being completed during construction has caused smoke detectors to activate the alarm system due to the amount of dust created. The contractors are addressing this issue while maintaining a safe and alert campus.

Discipline

There was a recent incident in which an illegal substance was sold by a student on campus. The appropriate action is being taken as we continue to work to keep our campus safe.

We hope your winter break was restful and enjoyable.

John Finn
Assistant Principal
Student/Parent Services

Keith Kerney
Dean of Students

Linda Mackessey
Dean of Students

PSAT INTERPRETATION WORKSHOP

Results of the 2010 PSAT will be available to students upon returning from the holiday break. Students can pick up their scores at 5:00 p.m. in the North Gym and the Interpretation Workshop will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Scores will not be distributed during the workshop - so please arrive early. An explanation of the scores and information about test taking strategies will be provided. Having your test result scores in your hand makes the information much more meaningful. Arrive early on **Thursday, January 13th, 5:00 p.m.**

TEST PREP CLASSES

Arcadia High School is now working with various SAT test prep companies to offer test prep classes on our campus. Princeton Review, Revolution, and Kaplan (three respected test prep companies) will all offer test prep classes on our campus for AHS students only. Classes are ongoing throughout the school year, and are offered at varying times to meet a variety of scheduling needs.

Information on class schedules is available at the COD desk, the Career Center, or by contacting the College Counselors – Ms. Hsu or Mrs. Shiroma. Different companies provide different types of services with a varying degree of classroom hours and practice tests for each. Prices vary with each company, depending on the type of classes offered. All registrations are handled directly through the company.

Counselors' Corner

REMINDER

The last day to request a level change or drop a second semester course to Teacher Aide is February 18, 2011. Please note the drop policy for each grade level listed on page 6 of the Curriculum Guide. Level changes will be honored based on space availability. Petition to Drop forms are available at the Counselor of the Day desk in the new Student Services Building.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

FAFSA

Parents of Seniors – Part II of the Financial Aid Workshop was held on Saturday, December 4th in the South Gym. The workshop focused on learning step-by-step procedures to complete the FAFSA form.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA is the first step in the financial aid process. You will use the FAFSA to apply for federal student financial aid, such as the Pell Grant, student loans, and college work-study. In addition, most states and schools use FAFSA information to award their financial aid. For instructions and details about the FAFSA, go to <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

Cal Grants

In addition to the FAFSA, students who will attend college/university in California will need to complete the **Cal Grant GPA Verification Form**. The counselors will be visiting English classes after the first of the year to provide the necessary paperwork

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

for students/parents to sign the authorization. Students will then turn in the signed paperwork to the Counselor of the Day (COD) desk, authorizing the release of your "school certified" grade point average to the California Student Aid Commission. The deadline for Cal Grant filing is March 2nd 2011. The GPA documentation is submitted electronically by our school. Paperwork must be on file with the counseling office **prior** to that date in order to authorize the release of your GPA by March 2nd.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Family Connections:
<http://connection.naviance.com/arcadiahs>

California Colleges:
www.californiacolleges.edu

California Career Zone:
www.cacareerzone.org

AHS Counseling Home Page:
<http://counseling.ahs.ausd.net>

American College Test (ACT):
www.act.org

The College Board:
www.collegeboard.com

Financial Aid/Cal Grant Applications:
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>

CREDIT CHECK

Now that you have received your student's first semester report card, it is an important time to review those grades and the

impact they will have on his/her academic future. Please look over the following notes as they pertain to your child's semester grades:

- If your child received an "F," he/she earned no credit for that class.
- Your child must repeat any required subject course to make up credit if he/she received an "F."
- Semester "F"s in any English and Social Studies course must be made up in the AHS State Funded Summer School to meet graduation requirements.
- If your child earned an "F" in a course that is not a required course (an elective), he/she does not have to make up that exact course. They may earn elective credit by taking a different elective course.
- If your child received a "D," he/she earned credit toward high school graduation, but in all cases, this class will not count toward college admission.
- If your child received a "D" in math or foreign language in the semester and is hoping to advance to the next level in that course (i.e., Spanish 1 to Spanish 2...or Algebra 1 to Geometry), he/she will have to earn a "B" during the second semester so that he/she has a combined "rising 'C' average" for the whole year. (Check the Curriculum Guide for rules on advancement in Honors and AP courses.)
- Semester "D"s in college prep English and Social Studies must be made up in Summer School in order for students to meet college entrance requirements.

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

- In some cases, AHS state-funded Summer School courses may not be available to make up credits and improve grades.
- Students and parents, please consider this information carefully when selecting classes for next year. Programming decisions will be dependent on a student's success during this academic school year.

SENIORITIS

Senioritis is a drop in motivation common among senior students at this time of year. Parents need to be aware of the symptoms which include procrastination, lack of focus, and slipping grades. If you observe these behaviors in your student, we recommend that you stay in contact with his/her teachers and closely monitor his/her daily attendance through the ISIS system. Instructions on signing up for the ISIS program can be found in the Academic Success section of the Curriculum Guide.

SENIORS

Changes to your second semester schedule or receiving a "D" or "F" in college prep classes during your senior year may negatively impact your admissions status to 4-year universities. Please check the websites of the colleges and universities to which you have applied to see if they have established deadlines for reporting changes. Please note: Contacting the universities with changes to your schedule or reporting a "D" or "F" senior year semester grade does not guarantee that your admissions status is secure. **Remember, the admissions office tentatively accepts you based on reported grades up to 11th grade AND reported senior year courses, along with admissions tests scores and other criteria. The final determination for admissions will be made after the university receives your final transcript.**

Attendance is critical during the second semester of the senior year. **All students are expected to attend regularly.** Good attendance contributes directly to good grades. Poor attendance can result in missed assignments, missed exams, and poor grades. Most students need to pass every class in order to graduate and MUST pass the state mandated English and Government/Economics courses. **Also, seniors who are already 18 years of age may be involuntarily transferred to an alternate educational setting for poor attendance.**

Admissions offices of four-year colleges expect seniors to maintain their GPA. "D"s and "F"s in required college prep courses make students ineligible for college admission. A significant lowering of GPA may result in colleges rescinding a previous offer of acceptance.

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

In most cases, students who are short credits after the first semester of the senior year have the opportunity to make up those credits at the Arcadia Adult School second semester. However, there is no opportunity to make up credits lost during the second semester of the senior year and still be eligible to participate in graduation activities, including the graduation ceremony. The Arcadia High School graduation policy states:

Students must complete 225 credits, as well as pass Algebra 1, the health requirement, the swim survival requirement, and the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) in order to earn an Arcadia High School diploma. If a student ends the senior year short credits for graduation, he/she will be given 18 months in which to make up not more than 15 credits at the Arcadia Adult School to obtain an Arcadia High School diploma.

Please help your child stay focused and finish strong. The single most important factor for a student's academic success is parent support. As always, we are here to support your student with their personal, academic and career/college needs.

Ms. Tammie Tran and Mrs. Toni Fox
Counselors, Class of 2011

FAMILY CONNECTION—NAVIANCE

The Arcadia High School College Counselors recently started our Family

Connection-Naviance College/Career Program in the Career Center. Ninth grade students are scheduled to participate in this program beginning February 10, 2011. Ninth grade students who do not have accounts will be provided with a registration code to activate their accounts.

Family Connection has modules to assist the student with interest inventories that take into account the individual student's needs, values, and abilities, providing them with information about many occupations that match their interests. Students can then access their account from home to connect their career interest to college majors and actual colleges, vocational, or technical schools. Here is what 9th graders can expect from this year's program:

- Learning Styles Survey
- Personality Type Survey
- Career Search

Ninth graders who came to AHS from a feeder middle school (Dana, Foothills, First Avenue) received their username (e-mail address) and password for Naviance sometime during second semester last year: the login information is the same. Both students and parents have access to Family Connection - Naviance. For information on how to create a parent account or to re-set a forgotten username/password, please contact Mrs. Shiroma (A-Lim), Ms. Hsu (Lin-Z), or go to the Counselor of the Day Desk for more information.

**2011-2012
COURSE
SELECTION AND
INFORMATION**

**Counselors’
Corner** (Cont’d)

• Counselors meet individually with all students to review their transcript, graduation status report, future educational plans and options, summer school recommendations, and attendance. Together they will fill out the final Course Selection Sheet and complete a thorough review of their high school progress.

Believe it or not, it’s almost time for students to begin thinking about next year’s classes! Starting the week of February 28, Counselors will conduct Orientation and Programming sessions with all 8th grade, freshman, sophomore, and junior students and parents.

The process involves the following steps:

- 1) Course Selection Assembly—students receive:
 - Curriculum Guide
 - Course Selection Draft Sheet
 - Grade level information sheet
- 2) Students and Parents research and review classes:
 - Read class descriptions in the Curriculum Guide.
 - Talk to parents, teachers, and students about classes in which they are interested.
 - Choose carefully – there are very strict policies regarding dropping and changing classes.
- 3) Students meet with Counselors to select classes:
 - Students come to Career Center with their English class.
 - Students receive their transcript and high school graduation status report.
 - Students bring completed Draft Course Selection Sheet to meeting.
- 4) Students take Final Course Selection Sheet home for parent signature.
- 5) Students return the signed Final Course Selection Sheet to the Counselor of the Day desk by due date indicated on the Course Selection Sheet. Students need to make their own personal copy before returning the sheet.
- 6) Eighth grade students return the Final Course Selection Sheet to the Middle School office by stated due date.
- 7) Any adjustments to these selections can only be made during PAW week (Program Adjustment Week), May 2 – May 6.

2010 – 2011 Course Selection Dates

- Assemblies for students:
- February 28 – Current Juniors
 - March 1 – Current Sophomores
 - March 2 – Current Freshmen
 - March 3 – ELD Students
- * *RSP students should attend their grade assembly*

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

All Evening Parent Course Selection Information Meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the AHS North Gym (unless otherwise noted below):

- February 28 – current Junior parents
- March 1 – current Sophomore parents
- March 2 – current Freshman parents
- March 3 – 6:30 p.m. AHS Cafeteria – current ELD parents (*interpreters will be available in various languages*)

**Parents of RSP students should attend their grade level parent meeting*

Counselor PowerPoint presentations used for both the student assemblies and parent evening meetings will be posted on the AHS Counselor website following each presentation: <http://counseling.ahs.ausd.net>.

AHS Course Selection Dates during individual English classes in the Career Center:

- March 7-15 – Current Junior students
- March 16-28 – Current Sophomore students
- March 29 – Current RSP students
- March 30-31 – Current ELD students
- April 18-22 – Current Freshmen students

INCOMING 9TH GRADE STUDENTS

Middle School Course Selection Dates (current 8th grade students):

- April 19-20 Foothills Middle School
- April 21-22 Dana Middle School
- April 26-27 First Ave. Middle School

During the last week of March, counselors will conduct assemblies at the middle schools for incoming 9th grade students to

introduce them to Arcadia High School and the many courses and programs available. Course selection appointments will occur during the last

two weeks of April. During these appointments, a Counselor will meet one-on-one with each 8th grader to assist him/her in choosing classes for 9th grade. There will be a Freshman Orientation evening event for incoming 9th grade students and their parents on Thursday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Arcadia High School North Gym (detailed information will follow). At this orientation, we will provide the student assembly information to the parents as well as have presentations by various AHS departments and programs.

SCHOLARSHIP SCAM ALERT

(Article by Kay Peterson, Ph.D. on fastweb.com)

Guess what? You're a "finalist" for a scholarship. And you never even applied! Too good to be true? Probably so.

The sad truth is that there are scammers out there—posing as scholarship providers or scholarship matching services—who take your money and leave you with nothing. The good news is, you can protect yourself from scholarship scams by following these tips:

Know Your Scams

Scams come in many flavors, but there are a few typical moves you should be aware of:

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

- The phony scholarship: You receive a notice about a scholarship that promises you cash. All you need to do is pay the registration fee. So why not apply? Because there is no award. Or there is one small award used to lure you in.
- The phony scholarship matching service: Pay a fee, and they'll do all the work. They'll find information that you can't get anywhere else! Not only that, they will guarantee that you'll win. The outcome? You never hear from them again or (even more frustrating) you receive a list of inappropriate or defunct awards. And forget your money-back guarantee: The company is long gone.
- The phony educational loan: A low-interest loan in exchange for an up-front fee. You pay the fee, but never receive the loan.
- The phony free financial-aid seminar: A thinly disguised sales pitch for a bogus scholarship search or insurance offer.

Scam Warning Signs:

- The fee. Your best rule of thumb: Financial aid should never cost you. Never invest anything beyond the cost of a postage stamp in your search for financial aid.
- The money-back guarantee—especially if the company tries to guarantee that you will win an award.
- Credit card verification. If they ask for a checking account or credit card number—for verification or to confirm eligibility—stop listening. Scammers use this ploy to get your financial information and then drain your account or run up charges on your credit card.

And remember: Don't be fooled by an "official sounding" name. Just because a

company uses words like "National," "Federal," "Foundation," or "Administration" in its title doesn't mean it is a legit operation.

<i>What's Legit:</i>	<i>What's Not:</i>
A legitimate scholarship provider sends information about awards only after you request it.	A scammer offers you an award for which you did not apply.
A legitimate scholarship organization makes its contact information available, including a telephone number and address.	A scammer refuses to release the company's telephone number, and provides only a PO Box where you can mail your check.
A legitimate scholarship-matching company never guarantees that the student will win an award, and they never promise to "do all the work" for the student.	A scammer promises to do all the work for the students—filling out the application, contacting the scholarship provider, securing the award. A scammer guarantees you <i>will</i> win an award.
A legitimate scholarship-matching company knows that financial aid information is FREE and readily available in financial aid offices, libraries, and on the Internet.	A scammer will tell you that you can't get the information they supply anywhere else.
A legitimate scholarship application requires only information that is relevant to the award.	A scammer requires personal financial information—such as credit card numbers or checking account numbers—to verify or hold the scholarship.
A legitimate educational loan company deducts fees from your disbursement checks; they don't collect the money up front.	A scammer charges an up-front fee for a loan.

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

There are numerous ways to finance a college education:

It is important to understand the different types of

financial assistance available to students. One typical type of financial assistance is **Student Loans and/or student Grants** through the federal government. This type of assistance is based on the financial need of the family - the income of the family and the number of dependants in the family. **Grant money** is basically **"gift" money**. Loan money **MUST BE PAID BACK** by the student, and the loan starts coming due after the student has graduated from college.

Another type of financial aid includes **Merit scholarships**. There are many different types of Merit based scholarships. Merit based implies that the student has earned a certain level of academic achievement or "performance," so this type of gift money is based on the student's academic "merit." We hear a lot about the "National Merit Scholarship Program," which is based on a student's PSAT scores, however there are many Academic Merit scholarships available to students which are made available through local businesses, larger corporations, and even individuals who sponsor these scholarships. Often, someone will leave money in their will at the time of their death which is to be donated as a "scholarship" to a student who earns a certain criteria. Those criteria can be set up specifically by the person donating the money. You might even find local scholarship that is so specific that it intended only for a student who earns a

particular grade point average AND attended Baldwin Stocker Elementary School, AND attended First Avenue Middle School. Scholarships can be very specific, so it pays to investigate.

Colleges themselves can award "merit" scholarship. For individual colleges these "merit" scholarships can have different names or titles. It might be called a **"Scholars Program"** at one school - and it **might be named for a specific donor** at another school. For example, these types of awards can reduce your tuition based on your having earned a certain grade point average in a certain breadth of class work (types of classes chosen, and their respective level of difficulty). Not all colleges do this - but some do - and it is each individual student's responsibility to check with each college to which you are applying to find out if that school offers any merit scholarships.

Some public colleges and universities around the country offer a type of "merit scholarship" called the **"Good Neighbor Discount,"** meaning that if you live in one state and have earned a certain level GPA, and are applying to a school that borders your home state - then possibly you can attend the "out-of-state" school for a lower tuition price. Colleges differ with this type of award, and the GPA requirement also differs. Not all "neighboring" colleges around the country have such a program, but it can pay to find out if they do. You need to do you homework on this one. Contact the office of admissions directly for any school which you may be

interested in. If you have your sights set on a particular "out-of-state" school, you may need to start working on improving your overall GPA now!

Counselors' Corner (Cont'd)

At times when you hear that someone is attending a particular college on a "full ride" – that "ride" could be a compilation of scholarships (merit and other based), grants, etc., all which combine together to pay for the full college/university expense.


Other types of scholarships include those awarded for **achievement (skill, expertise, etc.)** in Arts (visual and performing) and Athletics. Athletic scholarships are governed by the NCAA (the National Collegiate Athletic Association). Some of the athletes who play sports in college attend their college on this type of scholarship. There are very few "full rides" when it comes to NCAA scholarships. Different athletic Divisions (D1 schools, D2 schools) have different requirements to earn these scholarships. For scholarships in the Arts, it is common for the student to have produced a Portfolio, and/or photographs and videos of work and performances.

Students who don't qualify for scholarships can still finance a college education through numerous **"work-study" programs** at the college itself. Work-study programs might include working in the schools' **book store, admissions office, cafeteria**, or even in the **dormitory** (just to name a few!). Students who become a "Resident Assistant" in a dormitory generally earn their full college room and board for providing this leadership duty to the Residence Hall System. It is common practice to be "paid" for your work study by the school, defraying (reducing) some of your college expenses instead of being paid cash for your work.

Orchestra News

The Fall String Concert was well-attended, and the students all performed very well for their first concert of the school year. Canned goods were collected at Orchestra One's Winter Concert and donated to the White Mountain Apaches. The Holiday Concert was equally festive, including the choral groups, Orchestra Two, and Symphony Orchestra. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered with the concerts and to everyone that came out to support the Orchestras!

Our major fundraiser of the year, the Orchestra Benefit Dinner, will be on February 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Arcadia Community Center. Please contact the Orchestra Benefit Dinner Chairs, Alison Wilcox (awilcox40@yahoo.com) and Letty Chen (lettychen87@yahoo.com), to purchase ad space, donate a silent auction item, and/or purchase tickets.

 Pin Chen and Tom Forbes
Orchestra Directors

ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL PTSA
HONORARY SERVICE AWARD
NOMINATION FORM

The Honorary Service Award Selection Committee requests that members of the Arcadia High School PTSA assist in the selection of deserving recipients for recognition at the May 2011 Honorary Service Awards/Installation of Officers Luncheon. Nominated individuals or organizations are to have made significant contributions to the well being of children, youth, or families in this school and/or community.

If you know of someone or an organization that deserves recognition, please complete this nomination form. Please do not assume that someone else will nominate your candidate. It is important that each truly deserving candidate be nominated for consideration.

The Honorary Service Award Program includes the Honorary Service Award (HSA), Continuing Service Award (CSA), Golden Oak Service Award (California's highest honor), and the Very Special Person Award (VSP).

Name of individual or organization nominated: _____

If an individual, title or position: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Reason for nomination (please present a brief history of involvement or service and any other information that you feel would be helpful to the committee; use additional paper if needed):

Name of person submitting the nomination: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

NOMINATION DUE DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

Please return this form to the PTSA box in the Administration Office or to:

Kathy Yamane
115 Santa Ynez Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007

You may also submit your nomination to mikatyam@aol.com.

All nominations will be considered. The HSA Selection Committee will select the recipient.

REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM

(ROP)

What is the ROP Program?

ROP is an exciting part of the public education system in partnership with 23 school districts which includes Arcadia high school. ROP classes offer career preparation and high standards for students planning to enter the workforce or attend college. Many classes at Arcadia are UC approved and offered to students in a variety of formats. Instruction varies from classroom only training, unpaid community classroom experience (internships), and paid cooperative vocational education (work experience) classes for students who are employed. ROP supports students in learning skills, gaining confidence, and reducing apprehensions about entering the job market. The Los Angeles County Regional Occupational Program (LACOROP) is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and is governed by the Los Angeles County Board of Education.

ROP Classes incorporate three positive learning environments:

- 1) *Classroom only* instruction which takes place in a classroom setting with hands-on-skills with training using industry-standard equipment.
- 2) *Community classroom* (CC) instruction is a combination of classroom instruction and unpaid on-the-job (internships) training at business, industry, or public agency sites.
- 3) *Cooperative Vocational Education* (CVE) or more commonly known as work experience instruction which is a combination of classroom instruction and paid on-the-job training. Students participating in CVE must attend related classroom instruction a minimum of 2.5 hours per week.

Why should your student enroll in ROP?

ROP will expand your teenager's educational options.
 ROP will "re-test" career interest before college.
 ROP will help your son/daughter pay for college.
 ROP will help your teenager acquire lifelong skills and habits.

ROP will help improve problem solving and decision making skills.

ROP is 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 goals of School to Career are to make classroom learning more relevant, inspire students to commit themselves to lifelong learning. ROP helps prepare students for successful, high-skilled, well-paid career options with today's competitive job market.

During the month of March, the counseling staff will begin scheduling students for Fall 2011-2012 classes. A fall schedule of ROP classes will be given with the scheduling materials in March. ROP classes do fill quickly and space is limited, so if you are choosing an ROP class be sure to include it in your selection of classes. Look for our summer class schedule in our upcoming newsletter.

Greatest Hits on the Web for Career Planning:

www.cacareerzone.org – The California Career Zone is an interactive Web site designed with students in mind. It provides self assessment instruments, 15 industry sectors with 900 occupations and 300 career videos, a reality check section for financial calculations, a search option for finding your favorite career, and a variety of additional resources.

www.californiacareers.info – This site provides career information and resources, including self-assessment for Californians.

Work Experience:

If your student is currently working in the Retail Industry, he/she can receive elective credit for working. Come to the Career Center/ROP office for work permit and credit information.

Cindi Franz
 ROP Counselor

ARCADIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM (R.O.P.)



Arcadia High School
180 Campus Drive, Career Center/ROP Office
Arcadia, CA 91007
(626) 821-1775



CLASS SCHEDULE – SPRING SEMESTER 2011

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>UC APPROVED</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>	<u>PERIOD(S)/DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
<u>SCHOOL DAY CLASSES (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY)</u>						
Advanced Video Production	UC	AHS C7	Citrin	Per. 4	1/24	5
Animation*	UC	AHS	Mu	Per. 3	1/24	5
AP Computer Science	UC	AHS A224	Reiske	Per. 0,3,4,5	1/24	5
Beginning Dance*		AHS Dance Stu	Tedford	Per. 3,4	1/24	5
Biotechnology	UC	AHS F4	Pal	Per. 1	1/24	5
Business Management		AHS A217	Stallings	Per. 6	1/24	5
Civil Law	UC	AHS C3	Harrington	Per. 3	1/24	5
Computer Hardware/Network Eng*		AHS B5	Chapman	Per. 1	1/24	5
Computer Program JAVA*	UC	AHS A224	Reiske	Per. 1	1/24	5
Computer Science*	UC	AHS B5	Chapman	Per. 6	1/24	5
Computer Science*	UC	AHS A217	Shen	Per. 2	1/24	5
Criminal Law	UC	AHS C3	Harrington	Per. 2	1/24	5
Cross-Age Literacy		AHS P14	Frontino	Per. 3	1/24	5
Digital Photography*	UC	AHS A233	Fujiwara	Per. 1,2,3,4,5,6	1/24	5
Digital Photography*	UC	AHS	Mu	Per. 4,5	1/24	5
Food Science		AHS G3	Edwards	Per. 1,2,3,4,5	1/24	5
Graphic Design*	UC	AHS	Mu	Per. 2,6	1/24	5
Intermediate Dance	UC	AHS Dance Stu	Tedford	Per. 2,5	1/24	5
Intermediate Video Production	UC	AHS C7	Citrin	Per. 5	1/24	5
Medical & Therapeutic Principles	UC	AHS	McCoppin	Per. 4	1/24	5
Office Technology*		AHS A217	Stallings	Per. 5	1/24	5
Orchesis	UC	AHS Dance Stu	Huang	Per. 0,1	1/24	10
Robotics/Engineering*	UC	AHS B5	Chapman	Per. 4	1/24	5
Sports Medicine*		AHS	McCoppin	Per. 5	1/24	5
Web Page Design*	UC	AHS A217	Shen	Per. 4	1/24	5
<u>AFTER SCHOOL AND EVENING CLASSES</u>						
Advanced Robotics	UC	AHS P7	Fretz	Monday+TBA	5:00-8:00	1/24 5
Advanced Video Production	UC	AHS C7	Citrin	T&Th	3:00-5:30	1/25 5
Culinary Arts		AHS G3	Huffaker	M&W	3:00-5:30	1/24 5
Law Enforcement*		AHS D4/5	Johnson/Lear	Saturday	7:30-3:30	2/5 5
Retail Marketing		AHS A217	Stallings	T&Th+OJT	3:00-5:30	2/1 10
<u>ELECTIVE CREDIT FOR EMPLOYED STUDENTS (WORK EXPERIENCE)</u>						
(Students must be employed and work a minimum of 10 hours per week for 5 credits OR 20 hours per week for 10 credits)						
Retail Occupations		AHS A217	Stallings	Tuesday	3:00-5:30	2/1 5/10

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

AGE REQUIREMENT: Sophomore, Junior or Senior students may enroll in ROP classes. Freshmen are eligible to take classes noted with an asterisk above. Enroll now in the Career Center/ROP Office. If you have any questions regarding school day classes, contact Cindi Franz, ROP Counselor in the Career Center/ROP Office.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTING
2010-2011
IMPORTANT DATES**

Event	Dates	Duration
*College Board Fee Reduction Packet available in the Curriculum Office	Monday, January 31, 2011 – Friday, February 18, 2011	15 Days
AP Sale of Exams \$95.00 ASB Office	Monday, January 31, 2011- Wednesday, February 16, 2011	13 Days
AP Exams Late Sales \$120.00 ASB Office	Thursday, February 17, 2011 – Wednesday, February 23, 2011	5 Days
Compile AP sales list for posting	Thursday, February 24, 2011 – Friday, February 25, 2011	2 Days
AP Sales lists posted for errors/ corrections and refunds	Monday, February 28, 2011 – Friday, March 4, 2011	5 days
Mandatory Pre-Administration Workshops Science Lecture Hall Mon/Tue – Juniors Wed/Thu – Seniors Friday – Make Up & all others 10 th graders in Bio classes	Monday, April 18, 2011 – Friday, April 22, 2011 Monday, April 18, 2011	5 Days
AP Exam Administration Locations: TBA	Monday, May 2, 2011 – Friday, May 13, 2011	10 Days

***Advanced Placement Test Fee Waiver Program, Student Eligibility Verification**

ATTENTION Arcadia High School students and parents:

Due to California’s budget crisis, Arcadia High School will no longer be able to offer the California AP test Fee Waiver for \$5.00.

Each year, the College Board provides fee reductions for academically qualified candidates who are unable to pay the full \$95.00 fee for each Advanced Placement (AP) Examination. The basic guideline for financial need is membership in a low-income family based on the Federal TRIO Programs Annual Low-Income Levels. Please refer to the Federal Eligibility Criteria chart.

Please see Mrs. von Kriegenbergh in the Student Services Building for more information and applications.

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEST FEE REIMBRUSEMENT PROGRAM
STUDENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION
IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

ATTENTION Arcadia High School students and parents:

Due to California's budget crisis, Arcadia High School will no longer be able to offer the California AP test Fee Waiver for \$5.00.

Each year, the College Board provides fee reductions for academically qualified candidates who are unable to pay the full \$95.00 fee for each Advanced Placement (AP) Exam. Therefore, for the upcoming AP Testing that will occur in May of 2011, we will only be offering the College Board fee reduction of \$35.00. Income eligible students will be paying \$57.00 per exam for the May 2011 testing.

The basic guideline for financial need is membership in a low-income family based on the Federal TRIO Programs Annual Low-Income Levels.

Eligibility Criteria

Students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunches at your school (under the National School Lunch Act) qualify for the College Board fee reduction on all AP Exams that they take in a given year.

A student is eligible for a free or reduced price lunch if his or her family's income is at or below 185 percent of the poverty level issued annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The table below lists annual family incomes, by family size, at 185 percent of the poverty level. If the AP student's family's income did not exceed the amount listed in the appropriate row and column, he or she qualifies for a College Board fee reduction.

Size of Family Unit	Annual Family Income*
1	\$20,036
2	\$26,955
3	\$33,874
4	\$40,793
5	\$47,712
6	\$54,631
7	\$61,550
8	\$68,469

*The figures shown under family income represent amounts equal to 185 percent of the 2010 Federal income poverty guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These levels were published in the Federal Register, Vol. 75, No. 148, 8/3/10, pp. 45628-45629.

What income verification is needed to qualify for the reimbursement?

For pupils seventeen years of age or younger or who qualify as dependents within the meaning of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, a signed financial need statement must be submitted by the pupil's parent or legal guardian. Verification of financial need is also required from another governmental entity, or a photocopy of the current year's federal income tax form (1040) filed by the pupil's parent or legal guardian. Make sure to file your 2010 federal income tax forms early.

Please see Mrs. von Kriegenbergh in the Student Services Building for the documentation forms and for any questions you may have.



2010-2011 Reflections Program Winners

“Together we can...”



Congratulations to all who participated in the 2010-2011 PTSA Reflections Program, a national art contest sponsored by the PTA, which offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. The following students' entries were selected as the most creative expression of "Together we can..."

- Literature – 1st-3rd place and Honorable Mention: Helen Chou, Alison Fu, Yuqi Li, Alwynna Lau, Phebe Chew
- Visual Arts – 1st-3rd place and Honorable Mention: Yoying Eng, Run Nan, Katherine Bay, Vanessa Lou
- Photography – 1st-3rd place and Honorable Mention: Elliott Lee, Danielle Lee, Ray Chao, Jeremy Chau
- Musical Composition – 1st-3rd place: Nathan Chou, Keith Harmel, Joanna Liao
- Film Production – 1st place: Jeffrey Wu
- Dance Choreography – 1st place: Rhiannon Yee

On November 30th, Arcadia PTA Council held the Reflections Awards Ceremony at the Arcadia Community Center where all the winners of AHS received Awards from Council and AHS PTSA. First place winners will go on to the next round of judging of the First District PTA, which includes other San Gabriel Valley schools. Good Luck!

Thanks to all the students who participated in this year's Reflections Program. You are all winners!!

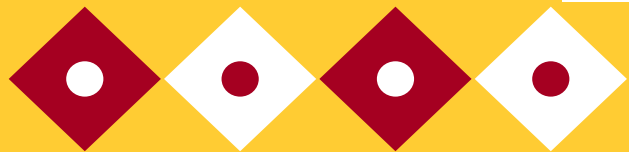
Jessie Chen
Reflections Chair
(626) 574-0115
mightymiceusa@netzero.net

SCRIP

The SCRIP order form is at <http://www.ahspta.com/f/SCRIPOrderForm.pdf>. You will see that you can use the cards for everything...movies, gas, Sam's, Walmart, Amazon.com-internet shopping, iTunes, home improvements, and so much more. And our students' school will benefit!

Let us know and we can get orders for and to you! We have started coming on campus every Thursday, except for the first Thursday when we are at the PTSA meetings.

For more information, email: scripmom@att.net



AHS Grad Night 2011



Each year, the senior parents host a grad night party for their students from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., the night of graduation—Friday, June 10, 2011. It is a big project, but well worth the work. The graduates enjoy their last event as a class (only seniors attend) and many teachers and administrators join in. This can only happen with the help of SENIOR PARENTS! Please offer your time and ideas to this worthwhile celebration. You will not want to miss it.

Please attend our 1st meeting on **Monday, January 10th, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Lecture Hall of the new Science Building on campus. Join us to find out about theme ideas and activities offered to our seniors, and to sign-up for volunteer opportunities. Monetary donations are also appreciated (checks payable to AHS).

Grad Night will be a wonderful and memorable evening for our children. If you have questions, call or email the Grad Night Chairs: Lisa Lucas at (626) 355-9254, mmooney@email.com or Mary Brockmeyer at (626) 355-1135, marylbrock@earthlink.net.

Yearbook Ads

Any interested parents may purchase an ad in the 2010-2011 Arcadian. Ad space is available for parents to pay tribute to their graduating senior or to advertise their business.

Our advertising rates after January 1, 2011:

Size:	Price:
1/8 page	\$85
1/4 page	\$150
1/2 page	\$250
Full page	\$450

Please contact the advisor, Mrs. Naughtin for more information.

Email: tnaughtin@ausd.net

Phone: (626) 821-8370 ext. 1164