



Arcadia Smoke Signals

A Newsletter for Families of Eighth Graders

A Publication of the AHS PTSA
Editors: Lori Phillipi & Jessica Louie

May 2007

GET CONNECTED!!

Welcome to another issue of Smoke Signals.

If I could bottle the energy and excitement that a teenager has when entering high school, I would be a rich man. I love talking to 8th grade students this time of year and see the anticipation on their face as they imagine their first day of high school in the fall. What teachers will I have? Will I see my friends? Will I get lost on campus?

As parents, we are also excited and anxious, as we look toward the new and unknown. The transition to high school can be a very different experience for each student. One variable I have found to be true for all students is the benefit of being connected to school outside of the regular classes.

The variety and availability of our programs at Arcadia High School are unmatched in the State of California. Through student participation in music, sports, over 55 clubs, extra curricular activities and academic teams, students have the opportunity to connect with more adults and students with similar interests. Having a network of friends and colleagues that share interests will build in a natural support group for your child. Also, participating in activities after school provides your child a healthy balance to the rigorous academics they are engaged in during the day. I encourage you to talk with your children about their interests and how they plan to get connected. Reading through the "Guide to Student Life and Activities" booklet given to your students during registration would be a great start.

As parents, the quickest way to find out about events and activities on campus is through participation in PTSA. Yes! This is your connection. The meetings and newsletters are full of the latest information for you and your child to make their experience at



Arcadia High School a very positive one. Meetings include reports from administration, counselors, Students Activities Director, and parent reps from the various committees. Time is also set aside for roundtable discussions on specific school issues that give you a chance to share your experiences and listen to others.

I look forward to working with you and your child next year and am confident that with the hard work and planning that is happening now, next year will be the best year ever at Arcadia High School.

David Vannasdale, Principal

Parent Tip:

Attend the PTSA meetings. You will meet the Principal, Assistant Principals, Deans, Counselors. You never know who'll be around to speak! Learn from the administration what is going on around the AHS campus. The first meeting is Thursday evening, September 6th, 2007 We'll have an informal dinner at 5:30 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

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The Lunchtime “Drill”

It seems that the one thing incoming students and parents all worry about is lunch. Will there be enough time for my student to eat?



Where will they sit? How can this really work? Well, it does work, and work well. Here are some “tips” to help out during the first couple of weeks.

First, bring a lunch to school for the first week. The lines are long initially as everyone learns what food is sold where. If you have your lunch with you, there will not be a time crunch and you’ll be able to observe the “flow.” Secondly, pick a place to meet your friends at the beginning of lunch and make it *specific*. If you plan to meet in the rally court, good luck because there are hundreds of people in the rally court. Plan to meet at a specific table, bench or tree in the rally court and you’ll have a much better experience. This little bit of planning ahead will help make your first days on the AHS campus much more relaxed and enjoyable.

Apache Wear



Arcadia High School offers an exciting array of clothes called Apache Wear to all students and parents. Clothing is available for purchase during the school year in the Trading Post (the on campus store). It is located at the east end of “B” hall between the snack bar and cafeteria. It is open during

school hours for your convenience. Please check in at the office when you arrive on campus. The friendly staff will be happy to show you the line of sweatshirts, short and long sleeve tee shirts, designer tees for girls, sleep pants and more! Catch the Apache spirit, boost your school pride by wearing logo attire. Roxy, Billabong and Hurley have nothing on us! Clothing may also be available at special events such as Apache Days, football games, Fall Preview Day and more.

ListServ

Want to receive regular e-mail updates of what is happening at AHS? Contact Kathy Yamane at ahspta@ausd.net to be added to the AHS ListServ.

Apache Days (Student Registration)

Here is the Apache Days schedule for 2006. Please plan ahead now. It is critical for students to attend Apache Days prior to the opening of school on **Tuesday, September 4th**.

Seniors	Tuesday, August 21 st	8:00 am - 2:45 pm
Juniors	Wednesday, August 22 nd	8:00 am - 2:45 pm
Sophomores	Thursday, August 23	8:00 am - 2:45 pm
Freshmen	Friday, August 24 th	8:00 am - 2:45 pm
<u>Makeups</u>	Monday, August 27 th	

Seniors	9:00 am—9:45 am
Juniors	9:45 am—10:30 am
Sophomores	10:30 am—11:15 am
Freshmen	11:15 am—12:00 noon

Alphabetical breakdown of times per grade level is not available at this time. You will be notified by mail during the summer months as to what time the student is to report. New students enrolled after the grade level day register with makeup students during their grade level times on August 27th.

Failure to register on the days above will result in the student not being able to register until the first day of school, **Tuesday, September 4th**. Please avoid this if at all possible. If you have any questions, please contact the ASB Office at (626)821-1749.

All seniors who have not yet passed the swim proficiency test must take the swim test before receiving their class schedule. Bring a swimsuit and towel to Apache Days if needed.

Student Tip:

Get to know each of your teachers. If you have any class issues, go to them first!



“Experienced parents agree, when driving to school, get there BEFORE 7:40 a.m. and pick up after 3:05 p.m. It makes life a lot easier!”

Drop Off and Pick Up Rules

All Drivers who drop-off and pick-up students at Arcadia High School are requested to comply with the following procedures:

1. Please never use the student parking lots on El Monte Ave (south lot) or at the Stadium on Campus Dr. to drop-off or pick-up students. This is very dangerous to students walking in the lots and adds to traffic congestion.
2. Please do not drop-off or pick-up students in the staff lot (north lot) on El Monte Ave. This lot is controlled by a gate and will not allow you to exit onto the street.
3. The South gym parking lot on Duarte Rd is for staff parking with permit only. This area is also not to be used for student drop-off and pick-up.
4. There are designated curb locations around the campus that are painted white for student drop-off or pick-up. They are located on Duarte Rd., El Monte Ave., and Campus Dr. Please keep in mind white curbs are never to be as a parking location and if you leave the vehicle you may be cited.
5. Red curbs are never to be used for drop-off and pick-up.
6. Please respect the police car parking only stall located at the turn in on Campus Dr. and the “Keep Clear” markings at the entrance to the staff lot on El Monte Ave.
7. We have parking for visitors to the school on Campus Dr. between the high school and district office (2 hours only) and two 20 minute parking stalls at the turn in on Campus Dr.
8. If it is necessary to come onto the campus and all street locations are full- you may park in the staff lot (north lot) on a space available basis on El Monte Ave. and request a token to exit from the school receptionist.
9. We respectfully request you do not double park to exit students from your vehicle for the student’s safety. U-turns on El Monte Ave. are extremely dangerous.
10. Students dropped off on El Monte Ave between Duarte Rd and Campus Dr. must access the school campus via the walkway between the two parking lots- please do not have your student walk across the staff parking lot.

Thank you very much for your consideration to these important safety issues.

Academic Success

The single most important factor for a student’s academic success is **parent support**. The outcome is positive for all involved when students know that parents value education and help them to develop study habits that suit their style of learning.

The following services are available at AHS:

Teacher Conferences – students are strongly encouraged to work with their teachers to improve their grades. Formal student/parent conferences can be scheduled by calling Mrs. Harvey at 821-1754.

Friday Cards – a Weekly Progress Report is available at the Counselor of the Day desk, on the Counseling website, or on the Attendance Office counter.

Free Peer Tutoring – available every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the AHS Library from 3:00-4:00 p.m. All subjects are covered. Starting dates to be announced.

After School Study Hall – Arcadia Youth Master Plan provides “The Zone”, a study hall with certificated teachers available to help students Monday through Thursday in the AHS Library from 3:00-6:00 p.m. All subjects are covered.

Private Student Tutoring – a list of student tutors is available by calling Mrs. Nichols in the Counseling Office at 821-1795.

ISIS – access to grade reports, progress reports, attendance and teacher e-mail through the Internet by registering on-line at www.ausd.net/ahs. For questions, contact Mrs. Harvey at 821-1754.

E-mail – teachers have been assigned an e-mail address and can be reached via e-mail at www.ausd.net/ahs.



ARCADIA APACHE ATHLETICS

2007 – 2008 Sport Teams

Academics/Integrity/Athletics

Pursuing VICTORY with HONOR

TEL 626 821-1733

FAX 626 445-8465

<http://teachers.ausd.net/athletics/>

<http://highschoolsports.net>

Fall Season – August 20st – November 9th

Boys/Girls Cross Country: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Football: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Freshmen

Girls Golf: Varsity

Girls Tennis: Varsity – Junior Varsity

Girls Volleyball: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Boys Water Polo: Varsity – JV

Winter Season – November 10th – February 8th

Boys/Girls Basketball: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Boys/Girls Soccer: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Girls Water Polo: Varsity – Junior Varsity

Spring Season – February 11th – May 9th

Boys Baseball: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Boys Golf: Varsity – Junior Varsity

Girls Softball: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Boys/Girls Swimming: Varsity – Junior Varsity

Boys Tennis: Varsity – Junior Varsity

Boys/Girls Track and Field: Varsity – Frosh/Soph

Boys Volleyball: Varsity – Junior Varsity – Frosh/Soph

2007 Cross Country Team

All three teams of Cross Country (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Frosh/Soph) were 2005 Pacific League Champs!
Come and join this award winning team of athletes.

Tryouts are

August 20-24 at the Arcadia County Park, meet at Peacock Fountain Monday—Friday 4:30—6:30 p.m., Saturday 8:00—10:00 a.m. If you miss the initial tryout period, we will hold a secondary tryout opportunity September 4-7 at 3 p.m. Please report to my office at the west end of the girls locker rooms. Make sure you are dressed and ready to run!

Coach O'Brien—jobrien@ausd.net or 821-8370 (extension 6270)



How to Get Involved in Arcadia HS Athletics Program

1) AEF Summer Sports Program: Many sports offer a 4 to 6 week program in the summer sponsored by the Arcadia Education Foundation. Athletes are encouraged, but **not required to participate in the AEF summer program in order to tryout or make an athletic team at AHS.** These classes run from late June until the end of July.

2) Tryouts ***** to tryout for a team you must be cleared by Operations/Athletics Office (see below)*****

Check the athletic web site @ <http://teachers.ausd.net/athletics/index.html> or student bulletin for dates

3) Clearance Procedure - The following must be done before an athlete is allowed to tryout:

A) Go to the Operations/Athletics Office and pick up a Clearance Packet from the Athletic Secretary.

B) Complete the required cards:

(a) White Card Health Certification: must be signed by parent and a medical doctor after performing a physical.

(b) Informed Consent Agreement: must be signed by parent and student

(c) Athletic Parents Code of Ethics: signed by parents

(d) Code of Ethics-Substance Abuse Policy: must be sign by parents and student

(e) Code of Ethics for Participation in Extra-Curricular Activity: must be signed by parents and student

(f) Yellow Transportation Permission Card (one for each sport): must be signed by parents and include current health insurance information

C) Clear Transportation at the ASB office: \$110.00 for 1st sport - \$80.00 for 2nd sport - \$300 family cap - Refunds – If an athlete does not make a team, they must go to the Athletics Secretary to process a transportation refund. Failure to do this prior to the end of the school year will result in forfeiture.

D) Take Clearance packet cards and transportation receipt to the Athletic Secretary in the Operations/Athletics Office.

E) The Athletic Secretary will give the student a white clearance slip and yellow transportation card that **must be given to the coach before the athlete is allowed to tryout.**

4) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: (*incoming Freshmen must meet eligibility requirements with the June Middle School report card*)

A) Minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average

B) No more than one “F” in 6 classes, or zero “F’s” in 5 classes.

C) No more than one “U” in 6 classes, or zero “U’s” in 5 classes.

Probation – a Student who falls below 2.0 GPA but does not have more than one “F” or one “U.”

Counseling Department

All of our documents and PowerPoint presentations are on line! Access the information by following these steps:

- www.ausd.net/ahs
- Click on Counseling
- Look for Grade specific documents (at left of screen)
- Click on the grade level of your student
- Click on the document!



Calendar of Upcoming Events

May

22/23 Pops Concert – 7 p.m. (Note Date Change!)
30/6/2 Choral Show

June

7 **PTSA Meeting – 8:30 a.m. – Apache Pit. Come and meet the PTA members and AHS administrators. Parent involvement is key to your student's success.**
19 AEF Sports Summer Program begins
19 Summer School Year Classes begin (M-F) through 8/3
19-23 **New Marchers Camp, MB1 from 6-9 pm**
25 Summer School Semester Classes begin (M-Th) through 8/2

July

4th Holiday
17-19 Summer Mailer stuffing (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

August

3 Summer School Ends
20 **New Student Orientation Day—Be There!!**
21-25 **New Marchers Camp** from 9 to noon at the band room.
21 Senior Apache Day (8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.)
22 Junior Apache Day (8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.)
23 Sophomore Apache Day (8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.)
24 **Freshman Apache Day (8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.)**
26 Band Camp begins (Sunday, 8/26/07 to Friday 8/31/07 about 3 p.m.)
27 Makeup Apache Day (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

September

4 **School starts**
6 **PTSA Welcome Dinner – 5:30 -6:30 p.m. – Apache Pit**
6 **PTSA Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – Apache Pit**

Athletic Events - A complete calendar is available at www.ausd.net/ahs under Spring Sports schedule.

AEF Summer School

Finish the Job!

By now you should have received the AEF High School Summer School Brochure. Register early for a better chance at getting the class you want and avoiding additional late fees, which are effective in May. Please use the envelope enclosed in our brochure to mail your registration form and payment directly to our payment processing center. If you are interested in participating or trying out for a sport next year, it is highly recommended that you sign up for the summer sports program. This is an excellent opportunity for the coaches to become familiar with the student's athletic abilities and for students to become familiar with the systems used by that team during regular season. Questions??? Email us at ArcadiaEducationalFoundation@gmail.com or call our office (626) 821-6606.

You might think that just because your time at middle school is coming to a close that you can coast a little as you enjoy your final middle school days. Guess again. The high school uses many of your academic results from middle school as indicators of your success when you transition to the high school. For example, many of our classes depend upon seeing your California Standards Test (CST) results so that we may properly place you. Also, if you are interested in playing on an athletic team or in an extra-curricular program like band, orchestra or drama, we use the final grades from your 8th grade to determine if you are eligible for these extra opportunities. So in short, finish your 8th grade year strong so you will have everything in place to succeed when you join us in the Fall.



ASB Cards . . . Why Bother?

Why support the Associated Student Body (A.S.B.) of Arcadia High School by purchasing a membership card?

You may be asking yourself – Why is this article being written at the end of the school year after I have already purchased all of the school related items last summer? Well the answer is- so you have detailed information on where this membership money goes in preparation for registration for Apache Day-2007.

ASB Card sales have declined over the past 3 years. Only 40% of all AHS students purchased a card in 2006-2007. Part of this is due to the fact we can no longer require the card in order to participate in extra-curricular activities. This has direct financial impact on our extra-curricular programs. Cuts have been made to the budgets of Athletics, Performing Arts, and the other school groups. In this day of rising costs and reduced revenue- it is virtually impossible to continue to offer the same services we have been accustomed to in the Arcadia Unified School District with our extra-curricular programs.

With their portion of ASB money- Athletics has paid for officials, supervision, game expenses, dues and memberships, tournament entry fees, and awards for all sports teams at all levels. The reduction in revenue has resulted in the Athletic department having to prioritize cuts and as an example not have the funds to purchase athletic letters for students. The Performing Arts groups have suffered similar reductions in their programs and similar decisions in prioritizing where money is to be spent. Unfortunately fundraising is a way of life these days. The membership money from ASB was never intended to replace fundraising activities but only supplement them.

What most students do not realize is this- **Your membership money to ASB will go back on a percentage basis directly to your sports team or performing arts group. This means you help your own team or group by purchasing a membership.** Now, what could be better than that? More money! - Potentially less fundraising to do!

An ASB Card costs \$55 and has a tremendous savings value to students who like to:

1. attend games or dances
2. purchase a yearbook

3. attend performing arts events on campus such as Drama, Orchestras, or Chanteurs

The savings alone for these events is over \$150- a good return for the investment!

However even if the student does not go to games or dances there are privileges that extend to those holding this card. Currently ASB cardholders get early picture pickup privileges for dance pictures and priority for parking permits. Cardholders also have access to speed lines for the purchase of tickets, A.P. test fees and PSAT results. We are exploring converting the student parking lot into an ASB cardholder's lot. This means you have to have ASB membership in order to purchase a permit to park there and you will be able to do this at Apache-days and not wait for school to open in September. We are also exploring speed lines for ASB cardholders for CSF/NHS membership dues. This privilege brings a tremendous value in and of itself. Students have told us two things will motivate them to purchase an ASB card- savings and time and the ASB card will accomplish both.

So, I would encourage parents who read this article to speak to their student about helping support the Arcadia High School ASB by purchasing the card.

John Tipton, Assistant Principal

Helpful Links

Helpful links for information!

AHS Web site, including Summer School Info, phone numbers, ISIS, Library, ASB, student bulletins, teacher email, counselor web page, etc.

<http://www.ausd.net/ahs>

PTSA link: <http://www.ausd.net/ahs/ptsa/>

Music Club <http://www.arcdiamusic.org>

Arcadia Choral <http://www.arcadiachoral.com>

Sports Info <http://teachers.ausd.net/athletics>

Chinese Booster <http://www.arcadiachineseparents.org>



Save the

AHS Orientation Day!

Monday August 20th, 2007

**For all Incoming Freshmen and
New Students**

Dana	9:00 - 11:30
First Ave.	12:00 - 2:30
Foothills	3:00 - 5:30
New Students	3:00 - 5:30



- Meet your Senior Big Sisters & Big Brothers
- Campus Tours
- Question and Answer Sessions
- Group Activities
- Free Popsicles

For Parents—There will be a Parent Orientation Meeting for the first hour of the orientation at 9 am, 12 noon, and 3 pm. Please come and learn about the high school experience.

Sponsored by SCOC & AHS PTSA
(Student Council Orientation Commission)

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Arcadia Council PTA
Arcadia High School PTSA
Arcadia High School
180 Campus Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007

