

Palos Verdes High School



The Wave



PTSA Newsletter

September-October 2010

Volume 9, Issue I

A Letter from the Principal

Welcome to the 2010-11 school year. I am very pleased with the start. The students seem to be ready to get back into the classroom. There is lots of spirit on campus and it always helps when the football team gets off to a great start. Our new freshman class is full of energy and all reports indicate that is a very solid class in every way. I would also like to welcome over 50 families who have had kids transfer into Palos Verdes High School. I think the year is off to a great start.

There will be challenges as there always are. Our test scores dipped last year and the school Academic Performance Index dropped by 17 points. I have already communicated to our parent community that this will be an important area of focus this year. October 13 we will have our first College Day and this will be an ambitious task. Each grade level will be spending the morning with activities involving college admission testing, career assessment or college/career planning. We will be graduating a senior class of about 490 students this year so it is important that we bring in another full sized freshman class. Our Open House preparations for the current 8th graders are already under way. This will also be a planning year for a WASC accreditation review scheduled for the spring of 2011.

On the facilities front we have moved into two beautiful new science classrooms. There is talk from the district about a new wing of 4-5 classrooms at PV which would replace some of our older portable classrooms. The bleachers at the stadium field will be demolished right after our last home football game and new aluminum bleachers will go in on both sides of the field. Soccer fans should start looking for their beach chairs. This project will take 3-4 months. Finally, we have one current capital project underway. We are in the fundraising stage to put in a clubhouse at the baseball field which will include lockers, restrooms and a new snack bar.

We have four new teachers at PVHS this year and I would like to welcome Leanne Weaver, Jennifer Reichert, Allison Klabe and Wendy Uzarski to our campus. The PTSA and Booster Club are off and running once again and I thank Julie Robinson and Tom O'Hern for their leadership. I encourage you to come to these meetings and stay very current on what is happening at PV. I will continue to send out my weekly update every Friday so make sure you are registered on Edline to receive these updates.

Let's have another great year at PVHS. ~Chris Bowles

GO SEA KINGS!



The Wave is a publication of the Palos Verdes High School Parent-Teacher-Student Association.

Member of the PVP Council of PTA's / Thirty-Third District

PTSA
everychild.onevoice

California State PTA.

2010-2011 PTSA

**“A Beacon for
Success”**

President: Julie Robinson
robsons1@cox.net

Palos Verdes High School
Chris Bowles, Principal

600 Cloyden Road
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274
(310) 378-8471
www.palosverdeshigh.net

2010-2011 Co-Editors:
Helle Catallo & Liz Duvall
TheWaveNews@yahoo.com

The deadline to submit articles for this newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Email articles to
TheWaveNews@yahoo.com

The Wave is published bi-monthly.

Approved:
Principal:

C.B.

From the PTSA President:

Two years ago, my husband, my two boys and I were walking over to our neighbor's house for a bar-be-que. My boys, walking directly in front of my husband and I, were busily chatting with each other about something and laughing. As they did, my husband made the comment that we would only have our youngest son with us a few more years as he would be graduating from High School in four years and heading off to college. I brushed off the comment as the four years my husband had mentioned seemed like a lot of time. I was so wrong!

My oldest son has since completed his years at Palos Verdes High School and is beginning his second year at the University of Oregon. There are only two more years for my husband and I to share the youngest son's living at home. To best prepare him for the next step we need to stay informed. That goal however, is made more difficult by most teens' aversion to sharing details of life at school. Most questions are met with the rolling of eyes or a very heavy sigh.

For some of you reading this newsletter, it will be your first experience with having a child in High School. Having a child old enough to attend High School may seem like an overwhelming experience. You will have many concerns and questions during the four years that your child is at PVHS. These questions will range from the trivial to the complex. All can be answered quickly and easily by doing several things.

If you are reading this publication, you are doing one of the best things you can to stay informed. Articles are updated monthly and the calendar of events located online is a helpful reference. Another one of the best ways to stay "in the know" about everything at PVHS is to attend PTSA meetings. Our PTSA meetings are held on the forth Tuesday of every month at 9:15 in the MPR. At every meeting you attend you will hear from the Principal, School Counselors, College and Career Center Counselors, Teachers, Booster Club leaders and ASB Leaders. Our meetings are brief, most only lasting about an hour or so and are meant to be informational for all who come. This is the only opportunity available for parents to ask questions directly to school administrators. A copy of our PTSA meeting agenda is included in this newsletter for you to review. I invite you to join us for these meetings, ask questions and meet other parents who may have similar cares and concerns as your own. Staying informed about the opportunities and activities at school will help ease your cares and concerns about your child's experience at PVHS.

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to PVHS personally at the next PTSA meeting on Tuesday, October 26th. This is going to be a successful and rewarding year for our students at PVHS. With time rushing by, it is important to stay informed in order to stay ahead of the game. In the blink of an eye, it will be graduation day and you too will be reminded of the day your child began High School and of how four years can pass so quickly.

~Julie Robinson

**Palos Verdes High School
PTSA ELECTED OFFICERS
2010-2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**“A Beacon for
Success”**

President:	Julie Robinson
Executive V.P.:	Sue St. Denis
1st VP: (Organization):	Mary Ingram & Heidi Kashyap
2nd VP: (Hospitality):	Julianne Sasso & Ann Thurman
3rd VP: (Education):	Sue Hargrave & Sue Wilkinson
4th VP : (Community Services)	Crysa Brothers & Allyson Decker
5th VP: (Communications):	Helle Catallo & Liz Duvall (Newsletter) Helaine Lopes (School Directory)
6th VP: (Ways & Means)	Kafhy Compton, Pam Secor & Sheila Kafka
Treasurer:	Sarah Stromme
Financial Secretary:	Vicky Mar
Auditor:	Stephanie Galletti & Michelle Mueller
Recording Secretary:	Kathy Hopkins
Legislation:	Sherry Cicchetti & Karen Bird
Historian:	Danielle Boodee & Dolly Reid
<u>APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT:</u>	
Parliamentarian:	Jill Shoemaker Edwards
Corresponding Secretary:	Eunjoo Pacifici
<u>MEMBER AT LARGE:</u>	Kristin Curren

Table of Contents

Principal’s Letter	Cover
President’s Message	2
PTSA Board Members	3
PTSA Next General Meeting Flyer	4
PTSA General Meeting Agenda	5
PTSA 2010-2010 Event Calendar	6
General Meeting Minutes (FEB)	7- 9
PVHS PTSA Proposed Nominees (2010-2011)	10
PTA Council Proposed Nominees (2010-2011)	11
Legislation/Mock Election News	12
PV Drama Department presents a Comedy of Mythical Proportions	13
Quest Parent Meetings	14
PVHS College Councelling Guide Book Information	15
Tid Bits from Collegewise	16
Parent on Campus	17
Schooling for Sustainability	18-19
Annenberg Project	20
Community Emergency Response Training	21
PEF 98%	22
PEF Sketchers Pier to Pier Walk	23
Costume Closet	24

NEXT PTSA MEETING

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 26TH,
9.00AM, MPR

COME AND JOIN US FOR COFFEE !!!



**JULIE ROBINSON (PTSA PRESIDENT) & SUE ST. DENIS (PTSA EVP)
HARD WORKING AT REGISTRATION DAY**

“A Beacon for Success”

Welcome and Call to Order

- **Executive Vice President**-Sue StDenis Pledge of Allegiance
- **President** – Julie Robinson
 - Welcome Chris Bowles
 - Announcements
 - Kristin Curren- PEF Representative
- **1st VPs** – Mary Ingram and Heidi Kashyap
 - College Day Organization
 - Gifting
- **2nd VPs** – Julianne Sasso and Ann Thurman
 - College Day
 - Welcome Back Teachers Luncheon
- **3rd VPs** –Sue Hargrave and Sue Wilkinson
 - Reflections
- **4th VPs** – Chrysa Brothers and Allyson Decker
 - Disaster Drill
- **5th VP s** – Helaine Lopes, Helle Catallo and Liz Duvall
 - The Newsletter
 - Directory
 - Website updates
- **6th VP** – Kathy Compton, Pam Secor and Sheila Kafka
 - Sea King Merchandise Sales
 - Costume Closet
- **Treasurer** – Sarah Stromme
 - Treasurers Report
- **Financial Secretary**– Vicky Mar
 - Financial Secretaries Report
- **Recording Secretary**-Kathy Hopkins
 - Approval of Minutes
- **Corresponding Secretary** – Eunjoo Pacifici
 - Notes to read
- **Parliamentarians** - Jill Shoemaker Edwards
 - Bylaw Committee Report
- **Historians** – Dolly Reid and Daniéle Boodee
 - Pictures on Shutterfly
- **Auditors** – Stephanie Galletti and Michelle Mueller
 - Audit Report
- **Legislation Reps** – Sherry Cicchetti and Karen Bird
 - Mock Election

Palos Verdes High School Calendar of PTSA Events

2010-2011

Subject to Change

Oct 3	Reflections Contest begins
Oct 8	Homecoming
Oct 13	College Day-PLAN/PSAT Testing 9-11 th grade, College Essay Workshops 12 th Grade
Oct 13	Last Day to Level Down (not on transcript)
Oct 15	Wave Articles Due (for Nov issue)
Oct 14	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
Oct 24	PTSA General Meeting TBA
Nov 2	Election Day
Nov 9	2 nd quarter Report Cards given out in 2 nd period classes
Nov 10	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
Nov 11	Veteran's Day Holiday-No School
Nov 15	Wave Articles Due (Dec)
Nov 23	PTSA General meeting, 9:15am, MPR (If needed)
Nov 24	Minimum Day
Nov 25	Happy Thanksgiving!
Dec 10	PTSA Executive Board Holiday Brunch, 9:15am, location TBD
Dec 20-31	Winter recess
Jan 3	Back to School
Jan 13	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
Jan 15	Wave Articles Due (Feb) PTSA Nominations for 2012 Executive Board begin.
Jan 17	Martin Luther King Holiday-No School
Jan 25	PTSA General Meeting, 9:15am, MPR
Jan 25-28	Finals
Jan 28	Minimum Day
Jan 29	Winter Formal
Feb 1	Report cards mailed home
Feb 10	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
Feb 15	Wave Articles Due (March)
Feb 21-25	Presidents Holiday Week
Feb	***No General Meeting in February***
March 10	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
March 15	Wave Articles Due (April)
March 16	Last Day to Level Down (not on transcript)
March 22	PTSA General Meeting, 9:15am, MPR. Slate for New PTSA Executive Board presented.
April	Capitol Convoy student legislative lobbying trip, dates TDB
April 4-8	Spring Break
April 14	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, FDR
April 15	Wave Articles Due (May)
April 19	3 rd Quarter Report Cards given out in 2 nd period classes
April 26	PTSA General Meeting, 9:15am, MPR New board election.
May 12	PTSA In/Out Executive Board Meeting, 9:15am, location TBD
May 15	Wave Articles Due (June)
May 20	PTSA HSA/Installation Luncheon, 10:00am MPR
June 4	Prom
June 7	PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9:15 a.m., FDR (if needed)
June 7-9	Finals
June 9	Last Day of School and Class of 2011 Graduation-Minimum Day
June 15	Report Cards in the Mail

“A Beacon for Success”

MINUTES OF THE PVHS PTSA GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 28, 2010 MEETING LOCATION – PVHS MPR PRESIDING OFFICER – JULIE ROBINSON, PRESIDENT

Welcome and Call to Order: 9:20am

Attendance: 62 present

Principal’s Report - Chris Bowles

Positive attitude with returning and new freshman students. Freshman parents showing strong support.

Two new science rooms are open. Another wing is in the planning stage.

Bleachers to be demolished following football season and constructed in time for spring sports

Participation donation is a new challenge this year. So far contributions have been going well and are adequate to meet the needs of our programs.

Back to School night is Sept. 30.

Counseling Department – Trista Ramirez

October 13 is last day to level down.

Meeting with all seniors by end of October. Deadlines set for letter of recommendation requests

College Career Center – Terri Kuwahara

More colleges than ever are coming in for college visits

October 6 – College Testing Information Night

Oct. 13 – College Day (all grade levels included) Freshman take ‘Explore’; Sophomores take PLAN;

Juniors take PSAT and Seniors attend assortment of workshops

Volunteers requested at 9am

Assistant Principal – Nick Stephany

API – PVHS scores dropped from 865 to 848. Many factors are at the cause of this drop. The WASC accreditation review will help get at specific causes and will identify areas needing improvement.

Because the API is determined in part by the Exit Exam taken by sophomores, having a smaller sophomore class than in previous years, was a factor. As the STAR test plays a part in determining API, it is important that our students take this test more seriously. Those tests that are being focused upon by students (AP, ACT and SAT exams) have been on the rise in the most recent years.

Two problem areas have been identified: scores for Students with Disabilities have declined and Math scores have flat-lined.

Continued page 8

Continued from page 7

Activities Director – Kristin Huber

ASB – holiday fundraiser - portraits for the holidays

October 6 – Homecoming – Dance 7:30-11pm; \$16 with ASB card

Challenge Day – non-profit organization focused on breaking down barriers among students. Hoping to introduce this program for continuation each year to help improve the culture of PVHS, improve inclusion among students and help welcome freshman.

Peninsula Education Foundation – Kate Cocke

Pledge raised this year to \$2.5 million

Oct. 24 – Pier-to-Pier Walk, \$25 fee to participate with whole \$25 coming back to the PEF

Treasurer – Sarah Stromme

MOTION MADE by Sarah Stromme to release the following funds as listed on attached release form. Seconded and carried.

MOTION MADE to ratify/approve the proposed budget as attached. Seconded and carried.

MOTION MADE to ratify checks #1002-1005 and other electronic expenses totaling \$20,851.38. Seconded and carried.

Treasurers Report was filed for audit

Parliamentarian – Jill Shoemaker Edwards

MOTION MADE by Jill Shoemaker Edwards to approve the 2010-2011 PTSA Calendar; including the cancellation of the February General Meeting. Seconded and carried.

MOTION MADE by Jill Shoemaker Edwards to elect Sue St. Denis as our 3rd delegate to Council. Seconded and carried.

Financial Secretary – Vicki Mar

Nothing to report

Recording Secretary – Kathy Hopkins

MOTION MADE to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2010 General Meeting. Seconded and carried.

1st VPs – Mary Ingram and Heidi Kashyap

Registration – donations are on track

College Day volunteers needed – clipboard was passed

2nd VPs – Julianne Sasso and Ann Thurman

Oct. 7- Welcome Back Teachers' Luncheon

Back to School Night

College Day Refreshments

3rd VPs – Sue Hargrave and Sue Wilkinson

SAT Prep with Kaplan – 100 students signed up with 80 attending.

Study Skills Workshop – Sold Out

Reflections – Deadline Oct. 15

Sept. 29 – SAT Prep with Kaplan give back night

MOTION MADE by Sue Wilkinson to pay for the deposit for Challenge Day from the Cultural Enrichment line item in the budget. Seconded and carried.

Continued page 9

Continued from page 8

4th VPs – Alyson Decker and Chrysa Brothers
Oct. 21 – Disaster Drill (district-wide)
Parents on Campus – Oct. 5 Orientation @11:30

5th VPs – Helaine Lopes, Helle Catallo and Liz Duvall
The Wave newsletter is on-line
Directory – being compiled, available mid Oct.

6th VPs – Kathy Compton, Pam Secor and Sheila Kafka
Sea King Merchandise - \$35,000 worth has been sold; will be on sale at back to school night and at football games
Costume Closet – volunteers needed; \$10 per hour comes back to PVHS

Auditor – Michelle Mueller

MOTION MADE that we accept the June 2010 Audit Report as prepared by Lauren Phan. Seconded and carried.

Historian – Dolly Reid and Daniele Boodee – Pictures on Shutterfly

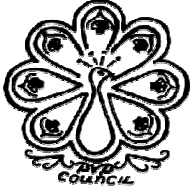
Legislation Representative – Karen Bird

Mock Elections are being planned. Students will be voting on several topics

Adjourned at 11:20am

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Hopkins
Recording Secretary



Palos Verdes High School PTSA STRAW BALLOT for 2011-2012 OFFICERS

The PVHS PTSA Nominating Committee needs your suggestions for next year's officers.
Please submit your nominations by **12/3/10** to the PVHS PTSA Parliamentarian Jill Shoemaker Edwards. (email) jill.shoe.edwards@gmail.com or (mail) 2621 Via Ramon, PVE, CA 90274.

If the individual(s) you nominate have expressed an interest in the position, it would be very helpful if you would indicate that. **THANK YOU!**

PRESIDENT _____

EXECUTIVE V.P. _____

1st VP (Organization) _____

2nd VP (Hospitality) _____

3rd VP (Education) _____

4th VP (Community Service, Safety) _____

5th VP (Communications) _____

6th VP (Ways & Means, Merchandise) _____

TREASURER _____

FINANCIAL SECRETARY _____

AUDITOR _____

RECORDING SECRETARY _____

HISTORIAN _____

Your name (optional) _____ I am interested in serving in the
following position(s) _____.



Palos Verdes Peninsula Council of PTAs
STRAW BALLOT for 2011-2012 COUNCIL OFFICERS



The PTA **Council** Nominating committee needs/wants your suggestions for next year's officers.
Please return by mail or e-mail by **1/3/11** to the Council Parliamentarian Chris Campbell (phone) 310-373-4710, (email) campbellchris123@msn.com, (mail) 5319 Ironwood ST, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

PLEASE LIST ONE OR MORE NAMES ON EACH LINE. If possible, include the nominees' school. If the individual(s) you nominate have expressed an interest in the position, it would be very helpful if you would so indicate that. **THANK YOU!**

PRESIDENT* _____

EXECUTIVE V.P. _____

1st VP (Organization) _____

2nd VP (Hospitality) _____

3rd VP (Education) _____

4th VP (Community Service) _____

5th VP (Communications) _____

6th VP (Ways & Means) _____

TREASURER _____

FINANCIAL SECRETARY _____

AUDITOR _____

RECORDING SECRETARY _____

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY _____

LEGISLATION _____

HISTORIAN _____

Your name (optional) _____ I am interested in serving in the following position(s): _____

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR OFFICERS OR CHAIRMEN: Please list area(s) of interest and school, if known _____

Standing Rule #13-Qualifications for Council President: Must have served two years on the PVP Council Executive Board, one of which must have been as a Unit President, or Executive Vice President and one of which must have been as an elected officer of PVP Council.

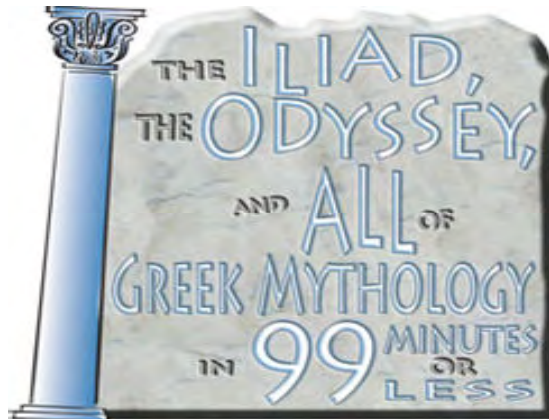


Newsletter submission
Legislation Reps (Sherry Cicchetti and Karen Bird)
September/October 2010

PVP Council of PTAs will sponsor the Mock Election, conducted among grades 3-12 at all PV schools this October. AT PVHS on October 19 and 20, students will be voting on real state candidates and issues: U.S. Senator, Governor, Lt. Governor, Superintendent of Public Education, Propositions 19 and 23 and Local Measure P. We encourage parents to review the packet provided to teachers by the PTSA on edline and use this as a resource to discuss the issues/candidates at home with your student.

State PTA has taken a position on three propositions. They are “neutral” on Proposition 19 (legalization of marijuana), and “support” Propositions 24 (repealing some business tax cuts) and 25 (changing the vote required to pass a state budget from 2/3 to simple majority.) State PTA does not take an official position on candidates, just issues that relate to the education, health, safety and general well-being of children and youth.

Please remember that for the November 2, 2010 election, the last day to register to vote (or re-register if you’ve moved) is October 18. Students that reach the age of voting, after Oct. 18, but on or before Nov. 2, may vote at their precinct, showing I.D. and asking for a provisional ballot. To register, request an absentee ballot or for election results, visit the L.A. County Registrar’s election page: <http://www.lavote.net/Voter/Default.cfm>



PV DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS A COMEDY OF MYTHICAL PROPORTIONS

November 12-20

A comical play about the great Greek myths, "The Iliad, The Odyssey, and all of Greek Mythology in 99 Minutes or Less," will be presented by the drama department November 12-14 and 17-20. The play pokes fun at all of classic mythology, from the tragic love stories and follies of the gods, to the epic tales of famous heroes such as Hercules, Achilles and Odysseus.

Set on a simple stage, with the clock ticking in front of everyone's eyes, the cast of this offbeat play will race through updated, easy to understand and completely absurd versions of the famous Greek myths, including "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey," in just 99 minutes. Playwrights Jay Hopkins and John Hunter deliver sidesplitting comedy in every scene as the Greek tragedies are shown as sports highlights; vain gods walk the red carpet; great lovers appear on a dating show; and the creation of mankind becomes a botched subcontractor's job. All the silly decisions, outlandish destinies, and goofy characters are presented lightning-bolt fast with hysterical results, as the clock is stopped with only seconds to spare.

Since early mythology contains a multitude of characters, each actor in the production plays many roles, and all must quickly transition between as many as 15 different characters. Drama teacher Nicole Thompson directs the eight versatile cast members, which include Gillian Bozajian, Chris Chenoweth, Matt Fedler, Annie Pfohl, Jeff Pielago, Allie Reidy, Monica Souty and Spencer Tanner.

"Greek Mythology is the foundation of all storytelling, and everyone will recognize these timeless stories, even though they are told in a modern, hysterically funny tongue-in-cheek style in the play," says Nicole Thompson. "This will be a wild and zany evening of theater unlike anything audiences have ever seen before, and every age group will be in stitches."

Performances of "The Iliad, The Odyssey, and all of Greek Mythology in 99 Minutes or Less," are November 12 – 13 and 17 – 20 at 7 p.m. and November 14 at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at the drama department website www.pvhsdrama.com after October 18; they will also be available at the door. Prices are \$12 for students and \$15 for adults. For further information visit the website, or call (310) 378-8471, ext. 237.

Quest Parent Meetings 2010-2011

Monday, October 18, 2010

7:00-8:00 p.m.

"Teen Truth Live"

An inside look at Alcohol and Drug Abuse Presentation: focuses on the Social issues that can lead teenagers to use drugs and alcohol and the serious consequences teenagers may face when using illicit substances.

To be held in the MPR at Ridgecrest intermediate

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

7:00-8:00 p.m.

"When Capable Kids Can't Perform"

Helping Your Child Achieve to their Maximum Potential

Dr. Corinne Hickson and Dr. Christine Lawson

To be held in the MPR at Palos Verdes intermediate

Tuesday, January 18, 2010

7:00-8.00 p.m.

"The Overindulged Child"

Dr. Paul Dorin

Marriage, Family Therapist

To be held in the MPR at Miraleste intermediate

*Quest Parent meetings for 2010-11 will be held from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Indicated intermediate schools' MPR

Quest Parent Meetings are free and open to all parents who are enrolled in The Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District

Questions? Call Amy Herbst
310-54+2717 ext. 204

No Children Please
No R.S.V.P. is necessary

NOW AVAILABLE
ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE



COLLEGE COUNSELING GUIDEBOOK

Sophomore through Senior Year

Head Counselor Trista Ramirez and CCC Director Teri Kuwahara have compiled a guidebook for Palos Verdes High School students and parents on the college admission process. This guidebook was made possible with funding from the PVHS Academic Committee of the Booster Club.

Included in the guidebook are monthly checklists by grade level and 15 detailed sections that include Testing (PLAN, PSAT, SAT, ACT and Subject Tests), Course Selection, Searching for Colleges, Visiting Colleges, How to Apply to College, Writing Your Essay and much more.

To access the College Counseling Guidebook, go to the school website: www.pvhigh.com
The guidebook is found under Counseling and CCC.

The PVHS Booster Club is looking in to printing the guidebook alleviating users the task of printing out over 100 pages. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please email: pvhsccc@pvpusd.k12.ca.us or call Robin Millar at x 239. Your name will be added to an email list and information will be sent out as soon as details are finalized.

Tid Bits from Collegewise

People talk a lot about how hard college admissions is on kids these days. But it's no picnic for parents, either. You want to be supportive and do whatever you can to make sure your kids are happy with their college choices. But these good intentions can sometimes lead parents to unwittingly hurt their kids' chances of admission. So this month, our Collegewise counselors are sharing five common college admissions mistakes parents must avoid.

1. Don't get involved with the college essays.

When a parent helps too much with a college essay, it is almost always glaringly apparent to an admissions officer. Parents think and write differently than kids do. And colleges want to hear your kids' thoughts and perspectives, not yours. In fact, our experience has been that parental involvement in college essays almost never leads to better essays (or better family relations). So let your student take the lead and write what she wants to write. And while you stay hands-off, encourage your kids to seek feedback from an English teacher or counselor who knows them well.

2. Don't contact colleges on your student's behalf.

When a parent repeatedly calls or emails an admissions office to ask questions, it's natural for admissions officers to wonder why the student isn't mature enough to call on his own. That's why we recommend that any communication with an admissions office come from the student, not the parent. This is the time for these young adults to begin developing the ability to show initiative and take care of themselves. The one exception to this rule is when it's time to discuss financial aid, as the admissions offices don't expect kids to carry on discussions about family finances.

3. Don't secure activities for your student.

It's easy for colleges to spot the applicant who volunteered at the hospital after his mother made all the calls, filled out the paperwork, and physically wrestled him into the car to get him there. That mother has shown a great deal of initiative (and a surprising amount of strength). But the student hasn't really shown much of anything. It's perfectly OK to help guide your student and offer advice, but let her decide what she'd like to do and how she's going to start.

4. Don't always listen to what your friends say about admissions.

We're consistently surprised by the amount of inaccurate college information that parents get from other parents at dinner parties. The truth is that while many people claim to know a lot about colleges admissions, very few actually do. So unless the person giving you advice is a counselor or an admissions officer, check with your high school counselor before following any free advice from your friends.

5. Don't lose perspective.

Don't forget that your son or daughter's future success and happiness are not dependent on the admission to one particular college. We're not psychologists, but we've watched over 2500 families go through the college admissions process, and we've noticed that the parents who seem to enjoy the best relationship with their kids during this stressful time are those who make it clear they will proudly wear the sweatshirt of any college their kid chooses to attend. Kids today are feeling an enormous amount of pressure about college admissions. They need you to be the voice of reason who knows that good kids who work hard and have supportive parents will always turn out just fine.

So be a supportive partner, but let your kids take the lead. That will give you back some time to, say, plan a picnic?

Cheers,
Collegewise



Parents on Campus

Are you interested in spending some time on the PVHS campus this year? If so, please consider getting involved in the **Parents on Campus** program! It's easy and does not require a significant time commitment.

What is Parents on Campus?

“Parents on Campus” is a lunch-time school safety program dedicated to promoting a safe and friendly environment for all members of the PVHS community. The Parents on Campus program is based on the belief that increased adult visibility on campus will reduce safety-related distractions and provide our students with a positive sense of security and stability.

How does it work?

“Parents on Campus” brings volunteer parents to school during the lunch period. Volunteer parents walk the campus, keeping eyes and ears open. If you observe minor misbehaviors, such as students throwing trash on the ground, please feel free to intervene by requesting students to pick up after them. If you come across a situation that needs stronger attention, you may bring it to the attention of the staff. Staff personnel will always be available to handle any situation. And if you notice good behavior, a positive compliment is always good.

What are my requirements?

- 1: Come to PVHS during lunch time: 12:15 – 12:46
- 2: Go to the main office to sign in the “Parents on Campus” notebook. Put on a volunteer badge from the notebook. Make sure you have on file your Tuberculosis skin test result. Blank forms are in notebook and need to be stamped by a physician and updated every four years.
- 3: Be a friendly adult presence on campus.

How do I sign up?

Please contact Janet Barber via email (janetpv@cox.net) or via phone 310-265-9960 and let her know:

- 1: How often would you like to come? (For example: once a month, once a week, etc..)
- 2: Do you have a preference for a specific day of the week? (For example: only Tues, etc..)

Thank you very much for your help. The faculty and staff at PVHS appreciate all your support!



Schooling for sustainability

PVPUSD is proud to announce a new Sustainability Task Force (“STF”)– teaching our kids how to make sustainable choices while modeling those choices through our school environment. All projects are planned with a view to the impact in the four areas of focus, and are linked to program in those areas. The four areas of focus are:

- Food/nutrition
- Campus/facilities
- Curriculum
- Community involvement

Current efforts being undertaken by the STF include:

- Executing recycling programs at all school sites
- Implementing the new Energy Education Contract
- Facilitating the new smart water controllers projects with the water district
- And more...

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please contact us:

www.sustainablepvschools.org

Sharona Byrnes 310-567-2705 or Tina Quinn at 310-213-9555

Please check out additional information on page 18

Sustainability Task Force

CURRENT EFFORTS

- Executing recycling programs at all school sites.
- Implementing the new Energy Education contract.
- Facilitating the new smart water controllers project with the water district.
- Performing a feasibility study for the PV School Farms project, including pilot gardens/orchards at Cornerstone and Ridgecrest.
- Executing the "Recess Before Lunch" concept in two elementary schools for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Planning for future capital projects to include sustainable choices.
- Developing curriculum to address California's Energy Education Initiative.



Sustainability - meeting today's needs today while allowing tomorrow to meet tomorrow's needs in three areas - environmentally, economically, and socially.



SCHOOLING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The PVPUSD Sustainability Task Force is working to introduce Schooling for Sustainability into our schools.

Schooling for Sustainability means teaching our kids how to make sustainable choices, while modeling those choices through our school environment.

All projects are planned with a view to the impact in four areas of focus, and are linked to programs in those areas.

The four areas of focus are:

- Food/Nutrition
- Campus/Facilities
- Curriculum
- Community Involvement

Problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that created them.

- ALBERT EINSTEIN





THE ANNENBERG PROJECT
at Lower Point Vicente, Rancho Palos Verdes

For the High School newsletters:

Annenberg Project Would Provide Wide Range of Educational Experiences

The Annenberg Foundation, working closely with the Rancho Palos Verdes community, has proposed creating a discovery park on Lower Point Vicente, a place where people of all ages can learn about their links to marine habitats, terrestrial life and domestic animals.

The park, which would build on the work already established by the Point Vicente Interpretive Center (PVIC), would be beautifully landscaped, providing a combination of exhibits and programs on topics relevant to the region and community: a Tongva village; an archeological dig; flora and fauna; geology and weather; local pioneers, including whalers and ranchers; and much more. A new education center would provide a wide range of exhibits, classes and programs.

There would be scores of opportunities for student and adult volunteers, and internships in a wide range of professional areas, from public relations to operations, education, veterinary science, and more. Much of the content that would be part of exhibits, workshops and classes for school-age learners would dovetail with and expand on the California K-12 curriculum.

The construction of the project would be a charitable gift from the Annenberg Foundation under the leadership of Wallis Annenberg. Ongoing operations and maintenance would be underwritten by the Foundation as well.

Enhancing a public space for community education, enrichment and recreation is something the Annenberg Foundation has done many times and such public-private partnerships are a cornerstone of the Foundation's philanthropic work regionally. Examples of other exciting projects led by the Foundation include the Annenberg Space for Photography, the Annenberg Community Beach House, the Universally-Accessible Treehouse, in Torrance, and the Malibu Legacy Park Project.

To learn more about the project, visit annenbergfoundation.org, or contact Jackie Jaakola at jjaaakola@annenbergfoundation.org, or Julie Beckman at julie@beckmanprojects.com



Community Emergency Response Training

Training Classes starting
Sunday, November 7, 2010

**C.E.R.T. TRAINING IS COMING TO THE PENINSULA
SIGN UP NOW!
FREE!**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is proud to present this training to the public.

Following a major disaster, police, fire, and medical personnel may not be able to fully meet the demand. People will have to rely on each other to meet immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.

Developed through FEMA, the L.A. County Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) program provides basic training in safety and life saving skills for the public.

The course curriculum covers the following modules:

November 7, 2010	November 14, 2010	November 21, 2010
1. Disaster Preparedness 2. Disaster Fire Suppression 3. Disaster Medical Ops 1	4. Disaster Medical Ops 2 5. Light Search & Rescue 6. Disaster Psychology	7. CERT Organization 8. Terrorism 9. Course Review & Disaster Simulation Exercise

The training course will be a series of three classes on:
November 7, 14, and 21, 2010, from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**Hesse Park
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes**

C.E.R.T. training is free

To sign up, please e-mail us at: cert@fire.lacounty.gov
or call (888) CERT-939.

Please include your name, phone number, and email address.

Class size is limited. Sign up today to reserve your seat.

CERT Class information is also posted on the Fire Department website: <http://fire.lacounty.gov>

*Students must complete all 20 hours of the course to receive a certificate of completion. If you must miss any units, you can make them up anywhere CERT is taught to receive your certificate.

98%

That's how many PVPUSD seniors go on to college. That's what a generous donation to PEF can do for your child.

A lot of parents think that by the time their child gets to high school, the schools don't need them any more. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

We need your help to pay for teachers. For cutting-edge programs. For college and career counseling. To help make sure your child winds up in that 98%.

Give a little. Give a lot. Just give. To learn more, and to donate, go to www.pvpef.org today. Thank you.



PENINSULA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

To support the Schools
and the Friendship Circle,

WALK THIS WAY.

One fun walk. Two great causes: PEF, to support our schools, and the Friendship Circle, to help kids with special needs.

Everyone's welcome. Young. Not so young. Kids. Parents. Teachers. Even your four-legged friends.

Registration: \$25 per person on-line, \$30 the day of the walk. Kids 3 and under, free.

Sponsors are welcome! And be sure to designate PEF when you register. That way, the funds will head straight for the Hill.



PENINSULA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

Manhattan Pier to Hermosa Pier

THE SKECHERS PIER TO PIER FRIENDSHIP WALK

Sunday, Oct. 24. Register today at www.pier2pierwalk.com





Need a boa? Period costume? Hat? Wig? Gloves? All of your Halloween needs can be met right here in PV at our very own Costume Closet. Located on Paseo del Mar in Malaga Cove, the Costume Closet will rent you just about anything you need for Halloween. Lots of new costumes in stock. With extended hours during October, stop by or call 310-378-5005. The money you pay for costume rentals benefit PV schools. Remember, cash and checks only, no credit cards.

Volunteers always needed – it’s fun and raises money for PV High!

Reserve **Halloween** costumes **NOW!** The Costume Closet is your source of costumes for Halloween, themed parties, special events as well as book reports, historical representations and other school projects.

Regular operating hours are: **Mon., Thurs. and Fri. 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.**
Weds. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Tuesdays

These are the dates for the Costume Closet **Halloween Hours:**

October 18- 23	Mon.- Sat.	10:00-6:00
October 25-30	Mon.- Sat.	10:00-6:00
November 1-6	Mon.- Sat.	10:00-6:00

Please remember that the Costume Closet accepts **CASH and CHECKS ONLY.**

There is a deposit fee and a rental fee so you may want to bring at least one check for the deposit. **Two checks** are preferred!

We are located at 300 “D” Paseo Del Mar, Palos Verdes Estates.

Funds raised through the rental of costumes benefit the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District via the PTA/PTSA units! The Costume Closet is a project of the PVP Council of PTAs.

Please call Judy or Peggy, 310-388-5005, for questions regarding the Costume Closet or speak with your PTSA Costume Closet Representative Pam Secor.

