



SIERRA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Community Newsletter

VOL 7 NO. 1

For school information please visit the SVHS Website at <http://svhs.ccsd.k12.nv.us>

FALL 2009

A Note from Our Principal

FALL UPDATE:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students, parents, and the entire Sierra Vista High School community for an outstanding start to the 2009-2010 school year.

Sierra Vista High School believes that every student can be successful. Our dedicated staff is committed to challenging students with a rigorous curriculum and active learning strategies to provide an environment conducive to learning. Students are encouraged to continue the development of their educational responsibilities and become accountable for their educational plan. Sierra Vista High School will always provide the opportunity for students to receive a quality education.

As parents, you have played a major role in the positive start to the 2009-2010 school year. Please continue to monitor your child's grades and attendance by using your ParentLink Account, if you have not received your login/password contact the school and one will be provided to you.

Together, we can continue to provide life long learning skills that will prepare students for post secondary opportunities and the global work force. We will make high school a successful and memorable experience. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.



We R Community

AN INITIATIVE OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

By: Taylor Hardy, Messenger staff reporter

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Imagine being given \$5000 to donate to any charity. Which charity would be worthy enough?

A new program called We R Community by the Public Education Foundation (PEF), was adopted by the Clark County School District. It has now begun at Sierra Vista High School.

The program is designed to help teach students to learn about community work and how to donate. Students participate in it for a year and learn to make grants. At the end of the year they have an awards ceremony to present the donation to the winning charity.

The program started in the fall of 2008. It is already at Palo Verde High School, Basic High School, Green Valley High School, and Valley High School.

"It's [the program] helped me realize the importance and helpfulness that charities bring to families and children/teens in need," said Jacque Ortiz, a senior who participated in the program at Basic High School.

Students that have previously participated in the program can join their second year and be a student aid. The student aids also receive a reimbursement from PEF and We R Community for college applications and/or college entrance fees. They will receive up to \$375 per school.

One teacher is chosen from the school faculty to spend one hour a week on the We R Community. The students write a mission statement as a class to describe what their goal is for the year.

SVHS English teacher Pamela Poster will integrate this curriculum into her Journalism class.

"I see these kids thinking 'well, what can I do? I'm just little old me,' but sometimes that's all it takes," said Poster.

The program teaches students that they can actually help the world in a small way.

"The skills the kids are learning are universal," said We R Community program manager Leslie DeVore. "You...see that there are needs out there and you can help them."

The inspiration of We R Community is a quote by Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Notes From Student Council:



The 2009-2010 school year at Sierra Vista High School has definitely started out tremendously! Even before school officially started on August 24th, Sierra Vista's Student Council had been hard at work planning events to make the student body feel welcome. This school year has been a blast so far with all events from Baby Lion BBQ to the Welcome Back Assembly. There are many more interesting things planned, but let's have a little recap of all the excitement so far.

We all know that high school can be intimidating at first, so we like to make the transition of coming from middle school to high school as smooth as possible for our incoming freshmen. An event called, Baby Lion BBQ, was planned especially for the freshmen that took place on August 21st. Here both students and their parents got to enjoy some delicious hot dogs while they received a tour of the school and got information about the various clubs and activities we offer such as Student Council, DECA, and Key Club. It was fantastic to see that the class of 2013 has so much enthusiasm and school spirit. We had a great turnout at the freshmen election meeting on August 31st with 42 freshmen showing their interest in joining student council.



Freshmen weren't the only ones who got to have some fun at the beginning of the school year. We wasted no time at all and started off the year right with the first pep rally on the second day of school followed by the Welcome Back Assembly on Friday. Not all students were ready to leave behind those exciting summer activities, so we gave them one last chance to soak up that summer sun with the Luau themed Welcome Back Pep Rally! Students received free leis and Otter Pops to help beat the heat while watching and being a part of some fun and tropical competitions. The excitement continued with the Welcome Back Assembly where it was "Time to Party!" This first assembly was amazingly filled with great music, competitions and spirit! The student body arrived with outstanding school spirit dressing in their designated colors, but no class compared to the seniors who were seen sporting their senior crowns. Seniors had the chance to make crowns during the first week to show underclassmen what it really means to be senior royalty.

The fun certainly does not stop here, Homecoming Week (October 6th-10th) is guaranteed to be even more fun and exciting! October 6th will be an action packed day with the Homecoming Pep Rally during both lunches followed by both Kick Puff games after school from 3:00-5:00. After the game, come join us for dinner in the Lion's Lounge for some pizza and fun. For just \$5.00, you can come and eat pizza, drink soda, and dance in the quad. On Friday, show off that school spirit at the Homecoming Assembly and support the football team at the Homecoming game against the Western Warriors! Last but certainly not least, dance the night away at "A Masquerade Ball," the Homecoming Dance on October 10th. Tickets are just \$20.00 and can be purchased September 28 through October 8th during both lunches from the ticket booth window. Homecoming Week will surely be amazing, so come join in on the action!

- Walanya Vongsvirates, Student Body Secretary



2009 - 2010 Parent Advisory Committee Meetings

- Wednesday, September 9 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, October 14 - 9:00 A.M.
- Thursday, November 12 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, December 9 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, January 13 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, February 10 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, March 10 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, April 14 - 9:00 A.M.
- Wednesday, May 12 - 9:00 A.M.



Fashion I & II - Mrs. Connie Petersen

Many students are beginning their first sewing experience. They have taken body measurements in class in pairs. Patterns have been ordered and students need to bring in their lab fee of \$25.00 and fabric for their first sewing machine experience. It won't be long before parents will be able to see their students first finished garment.



A Word from the Ninth Grade Counselor

Planning is the key to future success in high school. Recently I visited your student's freshman studies/health class to discuss what students can do to be successful in high school. All ninth graders received an introduction letter and a list of clubs and athletic programs offered at Sierra Vista High School. I will meet with students again October 20-23 to discuss the A, B, C's of student success, graduation requirements, and diploma options. Students will receive a Curriculum Overview and "Almost Everything You Need to Know to be Successful in High School" (handout); please have them share this information with you. I will meet with students during freshman studies/health classes on the following dates.

- November 17-20, 2009:** Nevada Career Information System/Academic Plan
- December 3 & 4, 2009:** Lessons Learned: Upper classmen will meet with students to talk about their high school experiences. They will focus on academics and extra curricular activities.
- December 8-11, 2009:** Bully Lesson: Topics include facts & myths, what bullying does to one's self esteem and how to deal with a bully.
- February 1-4, 2010:** Ninth Grade Credit Check: Students will receive a copy of their transcript. I will review the importance of student success, grades, Grade Point Average and class rank.

I look forward to continue to work with your student.

- Kathy Bautista, Ninth Grade Counselor



Seniors: Don't Forget to Register for ACT/SAT

CCSD seniors are encouraged to register for the ACT/SAT if they have not done so already! These tests are required by most four-year colleges and universities for admission and placement purposes. Although colleges and universities generally accept either test, seniors are encouraged to take both tests, if possible. The ACT consists of four sections with an optional writing test. Cost for the ACT is \$32.00 plus an additional \$15.00 for students who take the optional writing test. For more information on the ACT or to register, visit www.actstudent.org. The SAT I consists of two sections plus a required writing test. Cost for the SAT I is \$45.00, which includes the writing test. For more information on the SAT I or to register, visit www.collegeboard.com.

College Fair Plus to be Held at Cashman Center

The 32nd Annual College Fair Plus will be held on October 27th and 28th at Cashman Center. More than 200 colleges, universities, trade schools and the military will be available with valuable information on the college admissions and financial aid process. There will also be workshops on Funding College, NCAA Eligibility, Millennium Scholarship, and Scholarship Searches. The event will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. both evenings and is free of charge. Visit www.ccsd.net/collegefair for more details.

Millennium Scholarship Updates

All high school students are reminded that eligibility for the Millennium Scholarship requires successful completion of 14 core units in addition to earning a cumulative 3.25 G.P.A. In addition to the G.P.A. and core course requirements, students must have been a resident of Nevada for at least two of the four high school years, pass all sections of the Nevada High School Proficiency test, and graduate from a Nevada high school. The 14 core units consist of four years of English, four years of mathematics (including Algebra II), three years of natural science, and three years of social science/history. For more information on the Millennium Scholarship Program, visit www.nevadatreasurer.gov.

MISSPELLINGS ON APPLICATIONS: HOW CRUCIAL?

(*"Wall Street Journal," Nov. 2008*)

When Dartmouth College rejected Ramond King's early decision application, he tried to figure out why he wasn't at least deferred to the spring pool. He had a 3.9 grade-point average his senior year, took five Advanced Placement courses and won the headmaster's cup, an award to the student who showed the most personal growth at the Branson School in Ross, Calif. A few weeks later, as he was finishing 13 applications, Ramond's high school counselor called him with a possible explanation. On his application, where he'd described his course load, Ramond had spelled chemistry as "chemestry" and literature as "literatre." The errors appeared six times. In his next round of regular decision applications, the errors were corrected. This time, he was accepted to five schools, including Cornell, where he is now a freshman. He says blatant misspellings can be fatal to an application. Advice: Check every section of an application immediately after finishing it, as well as before sending it. Many college counselors recommend printing out an online application and proofreading the hard copy.

PSAT offered to all on-target sophomores at no cost

CCSD will, again, provide all current on-target 10th graders the opportunity to take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) this October at district expense.

This tremendous opportunity is being offered to help more students become ready for college. Taking the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT exams is considered an indicator of student success and college readiness. Other indicators include enrolling in Honors and/or AP/IB courses; completing four years of math and science; and passing the Nevada High School Proficiency Exams.

The results of this year's PSAT will identify your child's strengths and areas that need improvement. The examination will also serve as a practice for taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and the SAT in your child's junior year.

The PSAT will be administered October 14 to all on-target sophomores at no cost to students. It is important that your student be present that day to take advantage of this opportunity. Juniors interested in taking the exam may pay for the test at Sierra Vista High School for a cost of \$15. Fee waivers are available for qualified students.

Students will be provided in advance with a *PSAT/NMSQT Official Student Guide* to help them become familiar with the style and format of the test. Students may also visit the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com for additional information.

Deans' Digest

The school year has gotten off to a great start. Sierra Vista has some of the very best students in Clark County and that is clear without a doubt as soon as you walk onto our campus. The few problems that have come up are understandable anytime there are over 2400 people in one place. In an effort to maximize student success and to keep the campus safe and secure, Sierra Vista is asking our parents for help. The below items are some of the more frequent issues that arise in the deans' office. **Parents- Please ask to see your student's white Back To School Folder for detailed information on the below issues and all other school rules.** If there are questions or concerns, please call the deans' office at 799-6820 ext. 4500.

Tardiness:

Parents, please stress the importance of promptness to your student. The greatest problem we see with tardiness occurs at the start of the school day. **Students must be in class before 7:00** or they are issued a Tardy Violation. If a student receives a Tardy Violation, a parent or guardian needs to sign the student back into school the following morning. *Students- Please be on time every day and to every class.*

Dress Code:

Some of the most recent concerns have been related to short shorts and skirts, torn pants and hats. Shorts and skirts need to be at least finger tip length when the student has their hands down at their sides. Bandanas and wallet/belt chains have also been a topic of concern. Hats, bandanas, chains, etc. are confiscated and require a parent pick up. When available, loaner clothes are provided to students that have clothes that are out of dress code. Occasionally, parents have had to bring clothes to the school for their student to change into before he/she can go to class. *Students- Please dress for success.*

Nuisance Items:

Cell phones are the only electronic communication or entertainment device allowed on campus and are only allowed to be used before school, during lunch, and after school. **Cell phones used inappropriately will be confiscated** and will require a parent or guardian to pick it up from the deans' office. **All other electronic items (ex. iPods, video games, PSP, MP3, etc.) will be confiscated at any time they are seen** and a parent or guardian will be required to pick the item up from the deans' office. Every year, dozens of these items are brought to school and they are misplaced or stolen from backpacks, lockers, loaned out and never returned from friends, etc. **The school is not responsible for these items** and strongly recommends that they are kept safe and left at home. *Students- Please keep your electronics and valuables at home.*

Subject: Text Parties – From Superintendent Walt Rulffes and Sheriff Doug Gillespie

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Clark County School District and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department are contacting parents to inform them of the dangerous connection between texting and parties.

It has become very common for young people to text each other the location of a party. Unfortunately, these texts often get forwarded to uninvited guests, causing large numbers of people—including gang members—to arrive. These out-of-control events are referred to as "text parties."

Recently the LVMPD Gang Crimes Bureau has responded to 28 text parties that ended in violence. Several of these incidents involved stabbings and shootings, and one resulted in a homicide. Some of these parties started out as innocent private birthday gatherings, while others occurred when the parents were absent. In all of these cases, however, the violence stemmed from the arrival of uninvited guests who learned of the event in a text message.

As a parent, you need to be aware of this alarming trend. Please talk to your children and warn them about the dangers of text parties.

Here are some tips you may want to consider:

- If the location of a party has been widely texted, advise your children to not attend.
- Tell your child to never text party information.
- Advise your children to stay with their friends and avoid parties for strangers.
- Remember that you are responsible for any parties at your residence.
- If you have any information about a text party, please report it to the police.
- Be aware that the LVMPD will be taking the necessary enforcement actions to shut down these types of parties.

On behalf of the Clark County School District and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, thank you for talking with your children and doing your part to ensure a safe community.

Sincerely, *CCSD Superintendent Walt Rulffes and Sheriff Douglas C. Gillespie*

Asunto: Fiestas por Mensajes de Texto – De: Superintendente Walt Rulffes y el Sheriff Doug Gillespie

Estimados Padres/Tutores,

El Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark y el Departamento de Policía Metropolitana de Las Vegas se están comunicando con padres para informarles de la peligrosa conexión entre los mensajes de texto y las fiestas.

Es muy común que los jóvenes envíen mensajes de texto con la ubicación de una fiesta. Desafortunadamente, con frecuencia estos mensajes de texto son enviados a personas no invitadas, causando que un gran número de personas—including miembros de pandillas—asistan. Estos acontecimientos sin control son conocidos como "Fiestas por Mensajes de Texto".

Recientemente el Departamento de Crímenes de Pandillas de LVMPD ha respondido a 28 fiestas por mensajes de texto con fines violentos. Varios de estos incidentes involucraron puñaladas y disparos, y uno resultó en un homicidio. Algunas de estas fiestas comenzaron como reuniones inocentes privadas de cumpleaños, mientras otras ocurrieron cuando los padres estaban ausentes. Sin embargo, en todos estos casos, la violencia provino de la llegada de personas que no fueron invitadas y se enteraron del acontecimiento por un mensaje de texto.

Como padre, usted necesita tener conocimiento de esta tendencia alarmante. Por favor hable con sus hijos y avíseles sobre los peligros de las fiestas por mensajes de texto.

Aquí tenemos algunos consejos que usted podría considerar:

- Si la ubicación de la fiesta ha sido enviada por mensaje de texto extensamente, pida a sus hijos que no vayan.
- Diga a su hijo que nunca envíe por texto información sobre una fiesta.
- Pida a sus hijos que permanezcan con sus compañeros y eviten fiestas con extraños.
- Recuerda que usted es responsable de cualquier fiesta en su residencia.
- Si tiene alguna información sobre una fiesta por mensaje de texto, por favor informe a la policía.
- Tenga en cuenta que LVMPD tomará las medidas de cumplimiento necesarias para acabar con estos tipos de fiestas.

En nombre del Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark y el Departamento de Policía Metropolitana de Las Vegas, gracias por hablar con sus hijos y cumplir con su parte para garantizar una comunidad segura.

Atentamente, *Superintendente Walt Rulffes de CCSD y Sheriff Douglas C. Gillespie*

Yearbooks!

Yearbooks are now available for sale. Please don't miss the opportunity to have a fabulous collection of Sierra Vista 2009-2010 memories! Yearbook prices start at \$75 with the option of personalizing your book with your name, your motto, or icons that illustrate who you are. Payment plans are available at Sierra Vista's banker office. Lock in this price now!

Jamba Juice will be on campus during first and second lunches on Thursdays for the remainder of the hot fall afternoons. The cost is \$3 per serving.

Senior Ad spaces are limited so please reserve your page now. Ad pages range in cost and size. Please check your mailboxes for price sheets and further information.

The Pride yearbook staff has spirit, yes we do. We've got spirit, how 'bout you? Show your school spirit at the first home football game. The Pride will have temporary tattoos and #1 blue and gold hand clappers for sale to make sure all those who oppose know who we are!

DECA

DECA

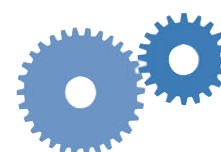
An Association of Marketing Students®

By: Chelsea Polastri, Senior, DECA Reporter

DECA is the premiere organization for student leaders interested in careers in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship. DECA is a great way to get involved in something in high school. Not only will DECA open many doors for you during your years as being a high school student, but it will carry on out of high school. DECA is not only a great way to get involved but an excellent way to make a new friend, and make memories that will last forever.

Through out the school year, Sierra Vista has blood drives which DECA members coordinate. We do things like signing the kids in, and giving them food after they have given blood. We also have a fashion show each year. It's a ton of fun to watch and be backstage, or to even be one of the models on stage! This past summer we even had the chance to go to San Diego for a conference about DECA. We are looking forward to going to Reno this November also for a conference. A big thing coming up on October 15th for DECA is "SV's Got Talent." This is a chance for all of Sierra Vista's fine talent to come and show it to everyone!

This year DECA is aiming to expand our members, we want you to join the fun! Mrs. McCombs is the advisor of DECA, and we meet in her room every other Monday of the school year. Our first meeting is September 14th at 1:30 after school. If you have any questions or can not make the meeting make sure to stop by Mrs. McCombs room to still join DECA. Hope to see you there!



National Honors Society News

National Honor Society is starting up again for the 2009-2010 school year! National Honor Society is a service organization for students who have the desire to give back and promote leadership. These students have to uphold good grades and good behavior in order to stay in the club, maintaining a 3.5 GPA and averaging 25 hours of individual community service a semester. Some of the upcoming events have already been planned for the new year. We will be volunteering at the Greek food festival once again and we will be helping out more elementary schools this time around. We're starting with Forbush Elementary School, volunteering at their Fall Festival. With the first meeting on September 8th for the returning members and another one on September 14th for the new members, we are expecting a very good turnout. A hundred and fifty new members were invited to join us, along with the thirty seven already inducted. We are all anticipating a very exciting, eventful, and productive year!



Jostens Renaissance Sierra Vista High School

Jostens Renaissance started on the East coast and now has made it nationwide. Renaissance focuses on recognizing students in High School for their effort and performance and it represents a different type of "club". Renaissance is here to revive educations. We here at Sierra Vista High School are involved in this great organization because we want students who are "average" to show improvement on their GPAs, raise our graduation rate, instill discipline and at the same time have fun!!! Renaissance represents all of the above. In order to be a part of renaissance, the students must have to earn at least a 2.5 GPA, have 4 or less absences, dean's approval, and fill out the proper application. Jostens renaissance, offers many scholarship programs, for teachers and students. These scholarships are only offered once a year. Renaissance makes sure that we don't leave anyone out, so throughout the school, 2009-2010 school year renaissance award, many people who are a part of our school community, including, teachers, students, and staff. Teachers will also receive an, extra special thanks during teacher appreciation week. So, what does renaissance really stand for...

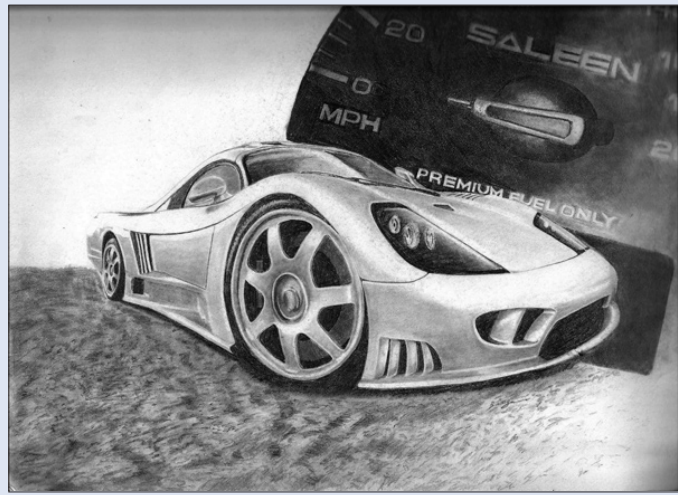
- Responsibility, Excellence, No Excuses, Academics, Involvements, School Spirit, Success,
- Attitude, Nobility, Commitment, and Enthusiasm.

The renaissance committee is not just made up of teachers and administration, the students have a voice too, this is what it is all about, not excluding. Be sure to listen for announcements to join renaissance. Don't miss out on all the fun!!!!

Ms. M. Golino, Autism-Special Education Teacher
Renaissance Committee

Key Club:

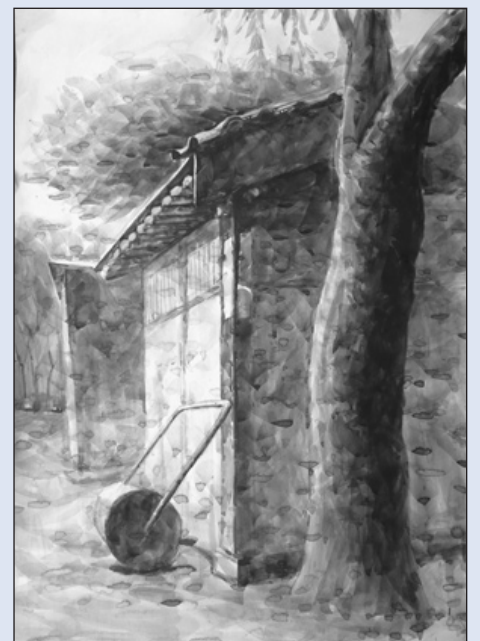
Sierra Vista High School Key Club is up and running, and now is the perfect time to join. Key Club, which stands for "Kiwani's Educating Youths", is the largest club at our school and aims at helping the community through volunteer work. We also find ways to incorporate having fun and showing spirit. In the coming months, Key Clubbers will also be traveling to Six Flags Magic Mountain for their annual Fall Rally. We will also be assisting at the Greek Food Festival and helping beautify the Las Vegas Wash. If you want to get involved and make a difference come to Room 200 after school on Thursdays for our general meetings, or see Mr. Meyers in room 220 or Mrs. Russell in Room 207 for more information. And remember, in Key Club we don't make keys, we make change.



The Art Gallery

Sierra Vista High School welcomes the returning artists, as well as all new aspiring artists to the Visual Arts programs. Last year, five students from the Advanced Placement program sent off their portfolios to the College Board to be examined for college credit. Four out of those five students received passing scores earning college credit. One of the students gained a perfect score of five, the highest score on an AP Drawing exam in the history of Sierra Vista H.S.

All interested students should take notice of upcoming mural painting events for 2009-2010. SVHS has been chosen to display 20 works of art in the CCSD Education Office during the months of March - May. Any student may stop by room 308 and talk to Ms. Foster about displaying artwork, taking AP Drawing or Design classes, and/or becoming part of an exciting mural painting project (held on the campus art patio).



Oil Changes and Car Detailing Help Support SVHS Auto/Wood Shop



Who: Students, Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Community

What: Auto detailing and oil changes

Where: The back parking lot of SVHS, near the auto shop garage

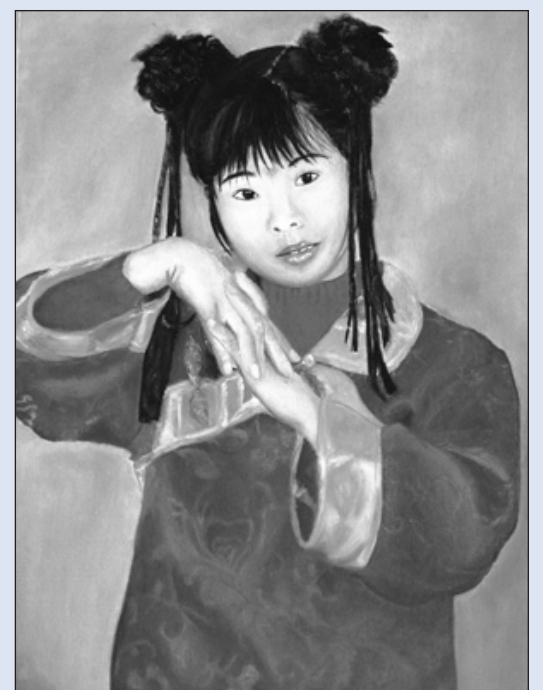
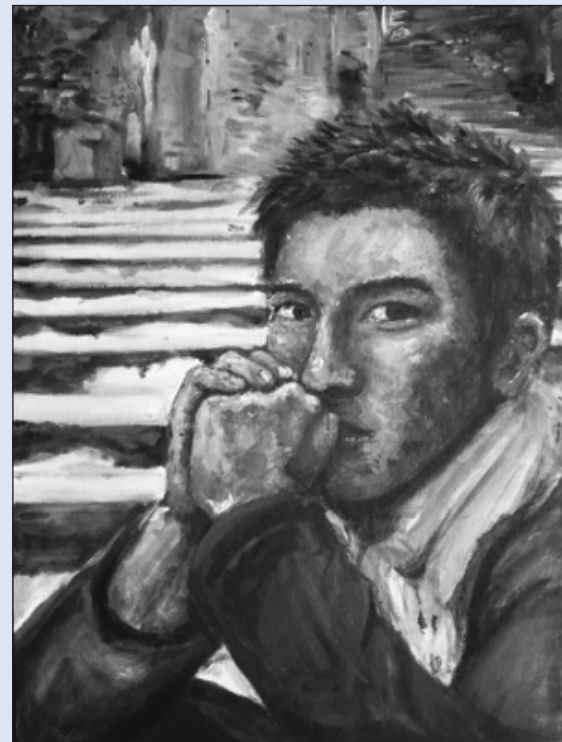
Why: To help students with shop fees/supplies

**When: Thursday October 8th.
8am-4pm**

– Bring own oil and filters (RSVP three days prior for oil changes)

How much? \$15
Detailing &
\$10 oil change

– Contact:
Mr. Thomas at glthomas@interact.ccsd.net
Or Mr. Ferguson at asferguson@interact.ccsd.net



Dear Parent,

With the breathtaking pace of technology comes unanticipated consequences that can negatively impact the learning environment. One such example of this is the potential inappropriate use of cell phones.

Inappropriate cell phone use impacting instruction may include:

1. Cheating on tests/class work via text messaging and cameras;
2. Circulation of inappropriate photos taken in restrooms and locker rooms;
3. Video game distractions;
4. Ringing/text messaging distractions during instructional time;
5. Signaling for leaving class/ditching;
6. Loss of instructional time to address cell phone interruptions;
7. Time spent investigating thefts of cell phones rather than focusing on student instruction.

Of greater concern is the use of the cell phone to compromise your child's safety. Nationwide, incidents of this nature include:

1. Setting up fights and fight locations;
2. Electronic threats/harassment;
3. Making drug deals;
4. Impeding emergency efforts through rumors and incorrect information;
5. Overloading phone systems severely limiting emergency communication.

To address these issues, the Clark County School District is reminding parents/guardians of the following guidelines:

- Phones must be turned off and remain off during the instructional day and passing periods in compliance with CCSD Policy 5136. Phones left on vibrate/silent modes are subject to seizure.
- Cellular phones may only be used prior to the first bell, after the final bell, or during scheduled nutrition breaks or lunch periods.
- Cellular phones should be stored in a non-visible location (backpacks, purses, pockets).
- Phones confiscated in violation of these guidelines will only be returned to a parent/guardian during non-instructional hours.
- Cellular phones must remain off during a school evacuation, lockdown, or drill. During these situations tell your child NOT to try to contact you by cell phone until given the okay by school staff, thus allowing emergency communication channels to remain open. The Parent Link communication system has the capability of contacting parents/guardians in an emergency.
- As a condition of possessing a device on campus, the student agrees to a search of the device's content if reasonable suspicion of violating the cell phone use policy exists.

Additionally, parents are asked to silence their cellular phones while at the school. This ensures both compliance with the above guidelines and serves to set a positive example for students.

Communication regarding your child's safety will in no way be hindered through these guidelines. Please be reminded that each school has intercoms and loudspeakers and the majority of our classrooms have hardwired telephones. Additionally, administrators and safety personnel are prepared with two-way radios and cell phones.

We understand how families have come to rely upon cell phones and other electronic devices to maintain the lines of communication; however, we have an ethical and legal responsibility to ensure that technology is used in a way that won't be harmful to others or create unsafe conditions in our schools, or undermine our educational purpose. We seek your support and hope that you will speak with your children so they too fully understand the importance of following these guidelines. Thank you.

Estimado padre de familia:

Con el paso impresionante de la tecnología vienen consecuencias inesperadas que pueden afectar negativamente el ambiente escolar. Un ejemplo de esto es el uso inadecuado de los teléfonos celulares en las escuelas. La instrucción en las escuelas puede impactarse negativamente cuando los teléfonos celulares son utilizados inadecuadamente para:

1. Hacer trampas en las pruebas/trabajo de clase vía mensajería y cámaras fotográficas de texto;
2. Circular fotos inadecuadas tomadas en baños y cuartos de cambio de vestuario;
3. Jugar juegos de video;
4. Usar la mensajería de sonido/de texto durante el tiempo educacional;
5. Hacer señales para dejar la clase/pintarse de la escuela;
6. Perder tiempo de clase para corregir interrupciones causados por el teléfono celular;
7. Utilizar tiempo educacional para investigar hurtos de estos teléfonos.

Más preocupante aun es el uso del teléfono celular que afecta negativamente la seguridad de su niño. Incidentes de esta naturaleza a nivel nacional incluyen:

1. Planear peleas y lugares para pelear;
2. Enviar amenazas electrónicas/hostigamiento;
3. Planear el reparto de droga;
4. Impedir esfuerzos de emergencia esparciendo rumores y la información incorrecta;
5. Sobrecargando los sistemas de teléfono que limitan seriamente la comunicación de la emergencia.

Para confrontar estas consecuencias, el distrito escolar del condado de Clark les recuerda a padres las siguientes pautas para utilizar teléfonos celulares en la escuela:

1. Los teléfonos deben mantenerse apagados durante el día educacional y los períodos de pasar de acuerdo con la regulación 5136 de CCSD. Los teléfonos que puedan oírse o queden en espera y vibración pueden ser confiscados
2. Los teléfonos celulares se pueden utilizar solamente antes de la primera campana, después de la campana final, o durante el tiempo de nutrición o del almuerzo.
3. Los teléfonos celulares se deben mantener fuera de la vista (petates, monederos, bolsillos).
4. Los teléfonos confiscados por violación de estas pautas serán devueltos solamente a los padres durante horas no-educacionales.
5. Los teléfonos deben permanecer apagado durante una evacuación, un aviso de queda, o un ejercicio de prueba. Durante estas situaciones dígame a su niño no intente usar el teléfono celular hasta que se le haya dado autorización por el personal de la escuela, para permitir que los canales de comunicación de emergencia se mantengan abiertos. El sistema de comunicación del acoplamiento del padre (ParentLink) tiene la capacidad de ponerse contacto con padres en caso de una emergencia.
6. Como condición de tener el teléfono en la escuela, el estudiante tiene que acceder a una búsqueda del contenido del teléfono si existe una alguna sospecha de violación la política del uso del teléfono celular.

Además, se les pide a los padres silenciar sus teléfonos celulares mientras que visiten la escuela. Esto asegura su cumplimiento con las pautas antedichas y sirve como un ejemplo positivo para los estudiantes.

La comunicación con respecto a la seguridad de su niño no será obstaculizada de ninguna manera a través de estas pautas. Recuerde por favor que cada escuela tiene intercomunicadores en todas las clases y que la mayoría de nuestras salas de clase tienen teléfonos. Además, los administradores y el personal de seguridad están preparados con radios, teléfonos de dos vías, y teléfonos celulares. Entendemos que las familias han venido confían en los teléfonos celulares y otros dispositivos electrónicos para comunicarse rápidamente; pero las escuelas y sus administradores, tienen la responsabilidad ética y legal de asegurarse de que la tecnología está utilizada de manera que no sea dañosa ni cree condiciones inseguras en nuestras escuelas, o reste de nuestro propósito educativo. Buscamos su ayuda y esperamos que usted hablará con sus niños para que entiendan completamente la importancia de seguir estas pautas. Gracias.

2009-2010 Sierra Vista Testing Calendar

Test Date	NHSPE Subject	Test Grade Level
October 14, 2009	PSAT Testing	10 th grade (optional for 11 th)
November 16, 2009	Math	non-proficient students in grade 11, 12 & adults
November 17, 2009	Reading	non-proficient students in grade 11, 12 & adults
November 18, 2009	Writing	non-proficient students in grade 11, 12 & adults
November 19, 2009	Science	non-proficient students in grade 11, 12 & adults
March 8, 2010	Science	Grade 10 & non-proficient students in grade 11,12 & adults
*March 9, 2010	Math and Reading	Grade 10 & non-proficient students in grade 11,12 & adults
March 10, 2010	Writing	Grade 10 & non-proficient students in grade 11,12 & adults
May 3, 2010	Math	Non-proficient students in grade 12 & adults
May 4, 2010	Reading	Non-proficient students in grade 12 & adults
May 5, 2010	Writing	Non-proficient students in grade 12 & adults

* No school on March 9, 2010, for all ninth graders and proficient 11 and 12th grade students.

See your counselor for additional testing information.

Adults wanting to participate in testing should contact the Curriculum office at 799-6820 x 4200 at least two weeks prior to the test administration date.

OPENING THE LINES FOR PARENT COMMUNICATION

Parents/Guardians, your commitment to your children's education drives the success that our schools are working hard to achieve. Your help is needed for us to maximize learning opportunities for all of our students. Please consider the following guidelines to assist you when you have questions, concerns, or ideas that require the attention of school district personnel:

Classroom Issue, Question or Idea? Contact the teacher. Arrange a conference to discuss concerns or to obtain information. If the situation is not resolved, contact the principal.

School Issue, Question or Idea? Contact the school and request to speak with the responsible administrator. If the situation is not resolved at this level and you have not yet spoken with the principal, please contact him/her. Issues or questions that are not resolved at the school level may be addressed to the appropriate area office. Please contact our area office at 799-2640.

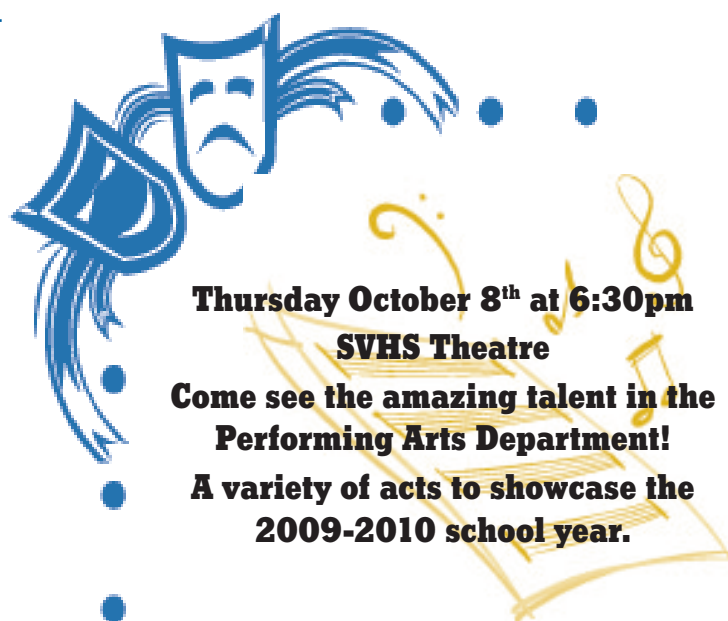
Area or District Issue, Question or Idea? Contact the area office at 799-2640 or the Deputy Superintendent of Instruction at 799-5475.

Public Concern forms may be filed at any time; however, as issues and questions are usually resolved and answered at the level at which they occur, it is strongly recommended that you avail yourselves of the opportunity provided to discuss situations first with school personnel. Public Concern forms are available at all CCSD schools, the Greer Education Center located at 2832 E. Flamingo, the Area Office located at 4760 W. Desert Inn Rd., the Sahara Administrative Offices located at 5100 W. Sahara Ave. or by calling 799-5438.

It is important to work together to support the education of our children. In the spirit of working together, the Clark County School District is committed to acknowledging your inquiries within a 24-hour time frame in terms of initially informing you that the appropriate office is in receipt of the information provided. There may be times in which other classroom, school or district responsibilities may prohibit the individual you wish to speak to from being available immediately to address your concerns or questions; however, your concern will be fully communicated and addressed in a timely manner. Additionally, there may be times in which your inquiry will be re-directed to a more appropriate individual to address given the nature of the concern and/or steps that have not yet been taken to resolve the matter. We are committed to strengthening the lines of communication. As the school year unfolds, we want to ensure that you receive the assistance you need through the various contact options available to you.

Mission Statement

The mission of Sierra Vista High School is to graduate students who possess strong character and who demonstrate skills necessary to succeed in continuing education, the work place, and the home.



ABRIENDO LAS LÍNEAS DE COMUNICACIÓN PARA PADRES

Padres/Tutores, su compromiso con la educación de su hijo motiva el éxito que nuestras escuelas se están esforzando en alcanzar. Su ayuda es necesaria para poder maximizar las oportunidades de aprendizaje para todos nuestros estudiantes. Por favor, tenga en mente las directrices siguientes para ayudarle cuando tenga preguntas, preocupaciones o ideas que requieren la atención del personal del distrito escolar:

¿Asunto, Pregunta o Idea de la Clase? Comuníquese con el maestro. Programe una conferencia para hablar de preocupaciones u obtener información. Si no se puede resolver la situación, comuníquese con el director.

¿Asunto, Pregunta o Idea de la Escuela? Comuníquese con la escuela y solicite hablar con el administrador encargado. Si el asunto no es resuelto a este nivel y aún no ha hablado con el director, por favor comuníquese con él/ella. Asuntos o preguntas que no se puedan resolver a nivel escolar, podrán ser tratados en la oficina del Área apropiada. Por favor comuníquese con nuestra oficina del Área al 799-2640.

¿Asunto, Pregunta o Idea del Área o Distrito? Comuníquese con la oficina del área al 799-2640 o con el Superintendente Diputado de Instrucción al 799-5475.

Los Formularios de Preocupaciones del Público pueden ser completados en cualquier momento; sin embargo, ya que generalmente los asuntos y preguntas son resueltos en el nivel donde ocurren, se recomienda totalmente que aprovechen la oportunidad provista de hablar sobre las situaciones con el personal escolar primero. Se pueden conseguir Formularios de preocupaciones del Público en todas las escuelas de CCSD, en el centro Educativo Greer ubicado en 2832 E. Flamingo, en la Oficina del Área ubicada en 4760 W. Desert Inn Rd., y en las Oficinas Administrativas de Sahara ubicadas en 5100 W. Sahara Avenue, o por teléfono en el número 799-5438.

Es importante trabajar juntos para apoyar la educación de nuestros hijos. Con este espíritu de cooperación, el Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark se compromete a tomar en cuenta sus preguntas dentro de 24 horas para informarle inicialmente que la oficina ha recibido toda la información proporcionada. Podría haber ocasiones en las que las otras responsabilidades de la clase, escuela o distrito podrían impedir que el individuo con el que usted desea hablar esté disponible inmediatamente para tratar sus preocupaciones o preguntas; sin embargo, sus preocupaciones se comunicarán en su totalidad y se tratarán lo más pronto posible. Además, podría haber momentos en los que, debido a la naturaleza de su pregunta, su inquietud podría ser re-dirigida a un individuo más adecuado para tratar su asunto y/o llevar a cabo los pasos que todavía no fueron tomados. Estamos comprometidos a fortalecer las líneas de comunicación. A medida que se desarrolla el año escolar, queremos asegurarnos de que recibe la ayuda que necesita por medio de las varias opciones de contactos disponibles para usted.