

Arcadia High School

Smoke Signals

From the Desk of David Vannasdall

AHS
Class of 2010
has
31
National
Merit
Semifinalists
and
57
Commended
Students

I was invited again this summer to the International Conference for High School Principals in the far East. It was a privilege to meet with principals from around the world and to know that Arcadia High School is an internationally recognized and renown magnet for education.

At Arcadia High School, we always look forward to welcoming our new families and students to the school. We have so much to offer and your students only help to make us stronger. More than a decade ago, as a 9th grade counselor in a large comprehensive high school, I learned to appreciate and validate the challenges associated with transitioning from middle school. Each

student leaves middle school with a different experience, and enters high school with different expectations, compounded by various levels of anxiety and fear. The same could be said about us, as parents. Our experiences are very different with each child, and that can be both a blessing and a curse. Our goal is to work with you, as partners, to ensure our kids make a smooth transition to high school.

I invite you to visit AHS to see first-hand the facilities and the programs available to your child. While we are in the midst of a long term construction project, your students will benefit from our soon to be completed Student Services and Science Buildings. Current



Mr. Vannasdall at the Great Wall
2009-Sign reads "Hello Arcadia"

students and staff will be available to speak with you and answer any questions you might have. Preview Day for Eighth grade parents will be Saturday, November 14th, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Arcadia High. We look forward to working with you as we prepare for the arrival of our Class of 2014.

Advanced Placement

Arcadia High School continues to be extremely proud of its Advanced Placement program. Currently AP examinations are offered in 22 subject areas.

Fall Preview Day

You are cordially invited to attend our sixth annual
Apache Preview Day
Saturday, November 14, 2009
2-4 p.m.
Meet in the North Gym
(2-3 p.m. Campus Tours, rain or shine)

How Will My Child Transition from Middle School ?

There are many sports in which our Student Athletes can compete:

Cross Country, Football, Golf, Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball, Water Polo, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Swimming, Track and Field. We range from a nationally ranked XC team to world figure skater. AHS also offers intramural sports for the entire student body!

“THERE ARE OVER 60 CLUBS AT AHS, RANGING FROM LARGE SERVICE CLUBS TO CULTURE CLUBS AND CLUBS THAT COVER A VARIETY OF INTERESTS”



Arcadia Students are accepted to more than 1/2 of the schools they apply to.

Welcome to the Arcadia High School community. We, as parents of current high school students, understand the anxiety of choosing the best high school for your student. We have a transition plan for your family! First, it starts with the Apache Preview day on Saturday, November 14th from 2- 4p.m. There will be tours of the campus and members of many campus organizations.

You will learn about the wonderful opportunities that our students have at AHS. Later in the fall, David Vannasdall, principal, will conduct a meeting with you at the Middle Schools. A parent panel will join in so that you can have the perspective of parents with students involved in a variety of activities. Of course, there will be times for questions and answers. In January or February, we will host Parent-to-Parent meetings. An experienced parent panel will present general information about the transition to high school in an informal setting followed by questions and answers. In February, the coun-

selors with the bridge counselors will go out to each middle school and conduct assemblies covering all the programming options at the High School. The parents will attend their own programming assembly in the AHS North Gym in April. You and your child will then have about a week to review the Curriculum Guide and choose classes for their 9th grade year. The counselors will meet individually with each 8th grade student at their middle school. The student will bring their final class selection sheet home for your approval.

Along the way, we will send more information in these ‘Smoke Signals’ newsletters. We will be providing extra information to the AHS Liaisons as well. The liaisons are:
 Dana–Kimberly McElwee 447-1012
 First Ave. –Amy Resch 446-7964
 Foothills–Karen Wong 445-0444
Questions??
 Letty Chen 358-6189
 lettychen87@yahoo.com

Personal “Family Connection”

Our Award winning Counseling Department uses an individualized personal Web based Software system– NAVIANCE. We are a college prep school and this program is available to our students and families, as a complement to the series of college related speakers, workshops and seminars that are offered for students and their parents. Our College Counselor has direct contact with major College Representatives.

Where is the Class of 2009?

(partial list)

Brown University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Harvard University
University of Pennsylvania
Princeton University
Yale University

University of California

- *Berkeley*
 - *Davis*
 - *Irvine*
 - *Los Angeles*
 - *Merced*
 - *Riverside*
 - *San Diego*
 - *Santa Barbara*
 - *Santa Cruz*
- Cal State*

- *Polytechnic University, Pomona*
- *Channel Islands*
- *Chico*
- *Dominguez Hills*
- *East Bay*
- *Fresno*
- *Fullerton*
- *Long Beach*
- *Los Angeles*
- *Monterey Bay*
- *Northridge*
- *Sacramento*
- *San Bernardino*
- *San Marcos Stanislaus*
- *Humboldt*
- *San Diego State*
- *San Francisco State*
- *Sonoma*

Johns Hopkins
Northwestern

- Cal Tech*
- Brandeis*
- Boston College*
- NYU*
- MIT*
- Scripps*
- USC*
- Biola*
- Brown University*
- Carnegie Mellon*
- Columbia*
- Cornell*
- Harvey Mudd*
- Georgetown*
- Loyola*
- Occidental*
- Stanford*
- US Air Force Academy*
- Washington University*



More than 1/2 of the applications are accepted to the University of California.

A quarter of the students who applied to the Ivy League schools were accepted in 2009

Arcadia High School is the number one feeder school to the University of California, Berkeley

Arcadia students have a high pass rate in the Advanced Placement exams and have around 30 National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists a year.

What are some of the Enrichment Programs my Child Can Participate In at AHS?

- Carnegie Mellon– A Summer of Exploration
- UCSD-Academic Connections
- ACIS Travel
- ACE-Cal State LA
- Academictreks-North Carolina
- Boston College Summer Experience
- FALCON Program
- Freshman Frontier Program
- Global Explorers
- Global Works
- GW Summer Scholars
- Harvard Summer School
- Intern Exchange International
- International Seminar Series
- Madrid Campus HS
- Marlborough College Summer School
- Oxbridge Academic Programs
- Sail Caribbean
- School of Visual Arts
- Scottish Studies summer programme
- Summer Institute for the Gifted
- The Hotchkiss Summer Portals
- UCLA Extension
- UCSD Academic Connections
- Summer Leaders Seminar-West Point

Arcadia High School is the number one feeder school to the University of Southern California.



Our Student Services Building is scheduled to open in 2010

Do you want to get a jump starting knowing what goes on at AHS? Sign up for our List Serve and receive regular e-mail updates of what is happening at AHS? Signup at <http://listserv.ahspta.com>

AWARD WINNING PERFORMING ARTS!

- Two Nationally acclaimed Show Choirs, Chanteurs and New Spirit
- 8 award-winning academic teams
- 48-member Pep Squad
- 900 students participate in the athletics program
- Arcadian Yearbook and Apache Pow Wow Newspaper Staff of over 115 students
- Video Production and Apache News Team
- 250-student Choral Department Program
- Nationally recognized 386-member Apache Marching Band and Colorguard
- 350-student award winning Symphony Orchestra program
- Approximately 90 students involved in the three Percussion Ensembles
- Dance and theater production groups

Arcadia is also home to several powerhouse academic teams; including Physics Team, Math Team, National Ocean Sciences Bowl, National Science Bowl, Quiz Bowl, Science Olympiad, Academic Decathlon, Destination Imagination, We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Team, Speech and Debate

We are on the Web!!!
<http://www.ausd.net/ahs/#>

"Arcadia is a big school but WE play small"....McQuaid

WE are small because people know your name, Our counselors work with you one on one. WE are big, because we have more opportunities and enrichment classes.

AHS Calendar of Events for Incoming 9th Graders

October 2009

- 1 PTSA Meeting - 8:45 am @ Church of the GS
- 1 Varsity Football Game @ Glendale HS - 7:00 pm..
- 2 Chinese Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 3 Speech and Debate Fundraiser Car Wash - 9:00 a.m. -
- 7 Pigskin Rally, 6-9 pm, Rally Court
- 7 Korean Parents College Seminar - Off Campus
- 8 Hispanic Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 8 Color Guard Fund Raiser at Baja Fresh
- 9 Varsity Football Home Game (Pasadena HS) - 7:00
- 10 Placentia Band Review
- 16 Varsity Football Game @ John Muir HS - 7:00 pm..
- 17 PSAT testing 8:00 am-12:00 pm
- 17 Homecoming Dance 8:00 pm-12:00 am
- 19-23 Red Ribbon Week
- 23 Varsity Football Home Game - 7 pm - Homecoming.
- 23 Pep Squad Haunted House 8:00-11:00 pm, (AHS)
- 24 Mt. Carmel Band Review & Field Tournament
- 26 - Nov 6th PLAN Sales during lunchtime at the Quad
- 27 Orchestra Fall String Concert 7:00-9:00 pm..
- 30 Varsity Football Home Game (Burbank HS) - 7:00

November 2009

- 5 PTSA Meeting - 8:45 am @ Church of the GS

- 6-7 Fall Drama Production, 7:00-9:00 pm..
- 6 Varsity Football Game @ Hoover HS - 7 pm..
- 6 Chinese Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 7 Chino Band Review & Field Tournament..
- 11 Veteran's Day Holiday - No School
- 12 Korean Parents Booster Club Meeting - Off Campus
- 12 Hispanic Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 12 Varsity Football Game @ Crescenta Valley HS - 7:00
- 14 **Fall PREVIEW DAY, 2-4, North Gym**
- 14 La Palma Band Review/Field Tournament..
- 14 PLAN test (Practice ACT exam)
- 21 Arcadia Festival of Bands
- 25 White Christmas Drive (CAN U Help?)
- 26-30 Thanksgiving Holiday - No School

December 2009

- 1-4 White Christmas Drive (CAN U Help?)
- 3 PTSA Meeting - 8:45 am @ Church of the Good Shep
- 4 Chinese Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 7-11 Apache Jacket & Toy Drive
- 9 Orchestra Winter Concert, 7:00 pm
- 10 Hispanic Parents Booster Club Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -
- 16 Music Holiday Concert, 7:00 pm.
- 17 Orchesis Charity Show, 7:00-9:00 pm, (N. Gym)