



What's Good in Education - Briefs

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Castaic Community Learns About Planned Castaic Area High School

The Hart School District provided up-to-date information on the status of plans to build a high school in Castaic at an information meeting held Feb. 15. District administrators provided an overview of the progress of building the school on the preferred Romero Canyon site and shared plans for instructional, academic, sports and other extra-curricular activities. Flo Lawrence, Castaic Town Council member and chair of the Council's ad hoc committee for Castaic area high



school, provided the welcome. James Gibson, Superintendent of Castaic Union School District acted as the moderator to a panel composed of Robert Challinor, Hart District Superintendent; Thomas Cole, Chief Operations Officer; Bob Vincent, Principal, West Ranch High School and Paul Priesz, Principal, Valencia High School. Nearly 200 local residents attended, some with children in tow who will be future students at the school. Following the presentation, questions from the audience were



answered. Projected opening of the school: August, 2014 to 9th graders. For further updates, please sign up for eNotify: <http://www.hartdistrict.org/index.php/community/enotify>. (Photo, all standing, left to right, Flo Lawrence, Thomas Cole, Robert Challinor, James Gibson, Bob Vincent, Paul Priesz.)

Principals and Administrators Participate in Principal for a Day Event



Principals and administrators from throughout the five local school districts participated in the 19th annual Principal for a Day event, sponsored by the SCV Education Foundation. Local business and community leaders, as well as a few involved parents, had the unique opportunity to spend a few hours shadowing a school administrator to learn about the challenges and accomplishments faced at each school today. The purpose of this annual event is to create and enhance partnerships between the community and educators. Funds raised are used for various programs at local traditional public schools, including Student Enrichment Awards for classroom materials requested by teachers, student scholarships and other programs. Following the shadowing portion of the

event, all participants and educators gathered at the City of Santa Clarita Activities Center for a luncheon, featuring a panel of all five local district superintendents. (Photo: Superintendents: Top row, left to right, Marc Winger, Newhall School District, Robert Nolet, Sulphur Springs School District. Seated, left to right, Judy Fish, Saugus School District, Robert Challinor, Hart School District, James Gibson, Castaic School District) (Additional photos: A few of our principals and guests enjoying the luncheon.) For more info on this program visit: www.scveducationfoundation.org.



La Mesa Celebrates Chinese New Year 2011 - Year of the Rabbit



La Mesa Junior High students continued to celebrate diversity on campus, by enjoying a special program that taught them about the Chinese New Year, 2011, Year of the Rabbit. Mrs. Maria Chee, a Chinese-American bilingual instructional assistant at La Mesa taught students the many traditions and celebrations that this festivity brings to the Chinese community

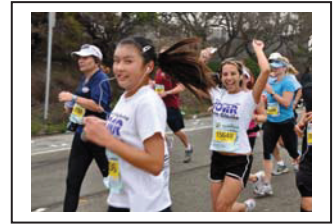


in the United States. This activity was sponsored by Panda Express, Corp.

Students Set Sights on LA Marathon XXVI

Nineteen students successfully completed the 13.1 mile Surf City Half Marathon on Super Bowl Sunday as a second qualifying stage in their quest to take on the 26.2 mile “Stadium to Sea” Los Angeles Marathon slated for March 20, 2011. Now, more than 18 weeks and 250 miles into their training season, students participating in Students Off And Running (SOAR), a Santa Clarita Track Club program, have transformed into running machines. Recent

results continued to lend testament to the power of the SOAR program, with each of the team’s participants placing high in their respective divisions in a field of more than 20,000 runners. SOAR is not about recruiting seasoned high school athletes; the program seeks any high school aged student who is willing to commit to a truly life changing experience. Join the team Saturday March 5th as the Santa Clarita Track Club and Bridgeport Marketplace present “Mardi Gras Madness” at Bridgeport Marketplace in Santa Clarita. This flat, fast, fun 5K and Mini 1K will be a family favorite! All proceeds from the event benefit the students of SOAR. Visit www.soar-sc.org or contact Event Chair Alan Bingham at 661-755-6197 for more information. *(Photos: Sequoia Charter's Alex Mendez kicks in the afterburners at Mile 12. AOC's Carolyn Thio and Jazmin Gonzalez celebrate victory with the finish line in sight.)*

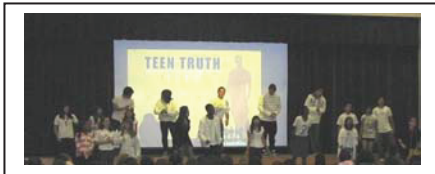


La Mesa Students Experience a Powerful Assembly with a Strong Message

La Mesa Junior High students and faculty witnessed the incredible presentation of Teen Truth Live. Teen Truth Live is a unique student assembly that tackles issues such as bullying, school violence, drugs and alcohol and body image and self esteem. The program is an interactive multi-media assembly experience that

combines motivational presentations with a 22-minute film that was created by students. The award winning film, focuses on social issues that can lead to serious consequences while the presentation challenges students to think about how

their reactions to these issues impact the lives of those around them. Using storytelling, humor, real world examples and audience participation, Teen Truth Live teaches students to identify the different forms of bullying, understand how bullying can lead to serious consequences, and motivate students to stop bullying from happening in their school.



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