

The MATADOR Messenger

San Gabriel High School Parent Resource Newsletter

Winter Edition 2006-07



Principal's Message

How nice it is to be writing the first Matador Messenger! San Gabriel High School has not had a newsletter in over 10 years. The Matador Messenger is designed to improve communication with our community. In each issue we intend to highlight upcoming events on our calendar, share information to strengthen our growing academic culture and let you know what has been happening on campus. I hope you find this issue informative.
—Marsha Gilbert

Disaster Preparedness

The Alhambra Fire Department visited campus last week for a Fire Drill and inspection. We passed with flying colors. It took only 15 minutes to evacuate all the classrooms. Once the classes were at their evacuation areas, teachers took roll to account for all the students. When all were accounted for, students were dismissed for lunch.

What will happen at school if there is an earthquake or other disaster? How will I pick up my child?

In early October we practiced our 'Field Evacuation'. We would use a field evacuation in the event of an earthquake. In this situation, all classes report to a specific place on the football field. Our disaster plan includes a search and rescue team, and a medical unit. The release gate for students will be set up at the south parking lot. Upon presenting proper identification, parents, guardians, or those listed on the emergency contact sheet will be allowed to take students off campus. The calm, coordinated, release of students is a critical function, and our multilingual personnel assigned to the release gate are prepared to make it happen in an orderly fashion.

California High School Exit Exam

Every student must pass the CAHSEE in order to receive a high school diploma. The CAHSEE is administered to all students in 10th grade. This year the test dates are February 6 and 7. Last year 74% of the 10th graders passed Math and 82% passed English on the first try. We expect this year's 10th graders to beat that record!

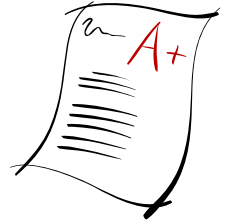
What help is available for students who didn't pass the first time?

The test is given to 11th and 12th graders several times each year. The next test is for seniors on Saturday December 2 and 9. Before taking the test again, students are placed in a special class during the day or right after school. Saturday review sessions are also offered. Counselors have information on enrolling in these classes. If your child needs help, it is never too late to ask!

Growing Academic Culture

Come to school prepared!

Always bring: backpack, pencils and pens, paper and a notebook. Text books are heavy, and full of information that every student needs!



Over 1500 conferences were held by staff on Parent Conference and Report Card Night. This was a wonderful opportunity for parents and teachers to celebrate a student's academic success or plan for improvement if needed. We will be hosting conferences again on Thursday March 15, the end of third quarter.

Is your child absent, tardy or truant? Regular attendance is the first defense against poor grades. Parents receive a courtesy call from our phone message system (PhoneMaster) each time a student is absent. If your child's report card indicates absences, but you've not been contacted by the PhoneMaster, call our Attendance Office manager, Mrs. Pat Cerros, at 308-2544. She has some ideas to help you keep up with your child's attendance.

Student Services Reminders

Our focus for this semester is "Electronic Devices"

If an I-Pod or cell phone is brought to school, it needs to stay buried deep in a student's backpack during class time. If these items, or other electronic devices,

are seen, they will be confiscated. A parent contact is required for returning the item on the second offence.



Senior News

Seniors are expected to attend every day during the last week of school.



Date	Schedule	Activity
June 11, Monday	Regular	Attend all classes
June 12, Tuesday	Finals (8am-12pm)	Field Trip till 4pm
June 13, Wednesday	Finals (8am-12pm)	Award Assembly and Distribution of Cap & Gowns
June 14, Thursday	Finals (8am-12pm)	Practice & Grad Nite
June 15, Friday	Minimum Day	Graduation Ceremony 6pm