



ACADEMY NEWS

Volume 12

November 2011

Issue 1

Principal's Perspective by Jill Shenberger

Happy Autumn!

The changing leaves and the shorter days are certainly a sign that fall is here. On the AOC and COC campuses, another sure sign of the season is how well our students are doing maneuvering about the two campuses. Freshmen have adjusted to their combined high school/college schedules while seniors are busily preparing for their next step beyond high school and sophomores and juniors are taking everything in stride. It is a very exciting time!

By now, 1st quarter high school grade reports have been posted and the end of the 2nd five-week progress grade reporting period is Friday, November 18th. Those grades will post to the Infinite Campus Portal on Tuesday, November 22nd. The third college Work-In-Progress forms should be coming home for parent signature over the next two weeks. College and high school final exams will be here before we know it. For your planning, college final exams are the week of December 5, given on the same day and at the same time as the course regularly meets. High school final exams are Tuesday, December 20 and Wednesday, December 21. The AOC final exam schedule is printed inside this publication.

Since the start of this school year, our students and staff have been very busy. Sports Day was September 2nd and on September 9th our students wrote letters to the troops and listened to patriotic music at lunch on Patriot Day. Our freshman class met with COC Chancellor, Dr. Van Hook and were introduced to the Cougar Mentors on September 16th. And, on September 23rd, over 150 students attended our Welcome Back Dance, "A Night in the City." After Fall Break in early October, students enjoyed Nerd and Club Day on the 7th, Visual Arts Day on the 21st, Make a Difference Day on the 22nd, National Honor Society Induction on the 26th, and costumes for Halloween on the 31st. Also, 120 students took the PSAT on the 15th – with morning snacks provided by our PTSA. November is proving equally busy. The canned food drive is here – November 14th through the 23rd. All non-perishable food items will be stacked in my office with the goal being to have so much food in there that I am unable to get out (or maybe it's in?!). Next, AOC students will Mix-It-Up with each other on November 18th as they participate in the nationally sponsored Mix-It-Up Day activities.

And finally, on Wednesday, November 23rd, our fabulous PTSA is providing all of our students with a special lunch to celebrate our students' outstanding API score. As you know, we are the highest scoring school in our District with the score of 941! Students will enjoy pizza and a drink and each will be given a special blue ribbon with our school name and score. (Thank you, PTSA!)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 17** PTSA Meeting 7:00 pm
- Nov. 24-25** Thanksgiving Holiday
No AOC or COC classes
- Nov. 29** Progress Reports
distributed in class
- Dec. 5-9** COC Finals Week
- Dec.19-21** AOC Finals Week
- Dec. 22-Jan. 16**
AOC Winter Break
- Jan. 17** 2nd Semester Begins
- Feb 17** No AOC or COC classes
- Feb 20** Presidents' Holiday
No AOC or COC classes

I want to extend my congratulations to all of our newest members in our National Honor Society. This year 63 new students were inducted. Wow! This is an indicator of the high quality students we have at our school. Congratulations, also, to Mrs. Rubay and the NHS officers for the fine ceremony they provided for our new members and their families. The NHS Officers are: President – Matthew Smalley, Vice-President – Joshua Kimball, Secretary – Shoma Heid, Treasurer – Carolyn Thio, Junior Liaison – Kathryn Duncan and Sophomore Liaison – Shayda Azamian.

On behalf of the AOC staff I want to express my thanks and gratitude to you, our parents, for the opportunity to work with your children every day. It is a pleasure and a privilege. May you enjoy a restful and bountiful Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends. ■

Counselor's Corner

Fall semester is a busy semester for all our students as they adjust to being back in school and, for some, being in a new school or in high school. Now that the first quarter is over, students have "settled in" and are focusing on being successful in their classes. Classes at the high school and the college are challenging and become more so as the semester progresses. Courses are no longer in the "introductory" phase and students are expected to study, to learn, and to remember the content. College mid-terms are over, and as students see the results, many are realizing that they need to spend more time studying or studying in ways that are more effective for their courses. Students should take advantage of their Advisement, Advisory, and 9th Grade Seminar classes to not only complete their assignments, but also ask for help from their teachers and peers. Students with breaks in their days should use them to get help in the TLC or work on their assignments in the library or labs around campus. For some students, this isn't routine; but for a college student, it is. Our students learn to use these breaks as all college students do. As parents, you should see your students studying every night and on most weekends. Time management and focused studying is crucial. Spending four hours on an essay is a good use of time unless three of the four hours were spent being interrupted with texting, chatting, checking Facebook, etc. Please help your students study by providing them with a quiet place with few distractions. ■

Financial Aid Information Night

Financial Aid is a topic of interest to parents and students, particularly at this time of year when college applications are being completed and submitted. Students are reminded to be alert to weekly bulletin notices about available scholarships. Students and parents should check the Counseling Office webpage under "Financial Aid" for continually updated information. Students must complete the applications necessary AND meet the deadlines to be eligible for consideration. If you have questions, please contact the financial aid counselor, Mrs. Nossaman at AOC x 27012. ■

What's Been Happening

The month of September was spent giving classroom presentations and workshops. Students have information that they can share with you.

October and November

Every 11th and 12th grade student is meeting with Ms. Cabbage to plan spring semester college classes. Each student has a Student Education Plan Recommendation form to use and to share with their parents.

What's Going to Happen

COC's Spring Schedule of Classes will be available in late November, and COC Spring Registration is in December. Students will learn or review the registration process in their classes, forms will be sent home for signatures, and we'll finish the process with the college.

COC Spring Classes

9th Grade will take PE, Counseling 111 and Counseling 010.

10th Grade will take PE and either an IGETC Area 3 Art/Humanities or Area 4 Social and Behavioral Science course(s). Once we know the course offerings for spring term, we will work with the students on course selection. Students currently in college math will continue in math.

11/12th Grades will choose classes according to their individual plans and use the recommendations made in the individual counseling appointments.

What's Being Planned

9th Grade Parent Night in January: The presentation will explain the combined high school and college educational plan.

Freshmen College Applications

Seniors going directly to college have registered with Ms. Cabbage and attended an application workshop. They should be working to complete their applications by the appropriate deadlines. If they or their parents have questions, please contact Ms. Cabbage via email at icabbage@hartdistrict.org. ■

AOC Counseling Office Hours

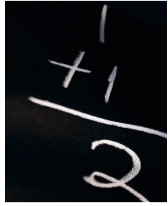


Monday through Friday
Ms. Cabbage
8 AM - 3 PM

Wednesday & Thursday
Mrs. Nossaman
Financial Aid & Career Center
9 AM - 2 PM

Math Assistance Available

Students who are looking for Math tutoring can find it in AOC's Computer Lab Room 110:



Math Tutoring with Mr. Newman
Mon - Fri 7:30-3:00

and in Room 109:

Math Tutoring with Ms. Siemens
Tues/Thurs 11:00 - 11:40

National Honor Society News

The Academy of the Canyons Chapter of the National Honor Society recognizes the academic accomplishments of AOC students and provides a forum for chapter members to increase their involvement in our school and community through a variety of leadership and service activities. Congratulations to the new members who were inducted at a beautiful candlelight ceremony on October 26. 2011-12 NHS new members are:

Jordan Abrams
Edwin Aquino
William Atwood
Shayda Azamian
Zamzama Azizi
Ryan Baello
Carlos Bailey
Melissa Barnard
Melissa Bogart
Daniel Chamberlin
Alexes Ciardi
Kristen Cooper
Kyle Dahlin
Aiden Danahy
Diane Dang
Jessica Espinoza
Kelsey Ferrara
Hannah Ganter
Deanna Garcia
Emily Garcia
Joseph Green
Tyler Gregory
Kyle Hauschild
Kayla Hertzberg
Madeleine Hicks
Jacqueline Hoffberg
Victoria Hoffberg

Evan Holguin
Spencer Honadel
Jessica Horning
Shervin Jalili
Dae Sung Kim
Taylor Kozlowski
Michael Levin
Samuel Lindberg
Megan Malone-Brown
Jenna Maughan
Kathleen Moonitz
Kendra Motoyasu
Ann-Marie Navarro
Joshua Nissenbaum
Dayssy Nunez
Jasmin Oh
Sung Woo Park
Helaina Parks
Mark Rizkalla
Candice Rose
Tambrie Rose
Greck Santiago
Maria Santiago
Sharon Santillan
Johnathan Schaffer
Courteney Shipley

Candice Simon
Jeremy Sparage
Kelsey Taylor
Kent Tran
Marlena Underhill
Nadezhda Valco
Navaneeth Visagan
Jennifer West
Christie Yoc



AOC Student Achievements

Academy of the Canyons is proud to announce that AOC student **Justyn Cason** has been selected by The College Board as a 2011-12 National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) Scholar.



The NHRP was initiated to identify outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students. This year over 235,000 students taking the PSAT identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino. Students with GPAs of 3.5 or higher are designated as Scholars.

The College Board, which administers the PSAT and the SAT college entrance exams, honors Justyn for excellence in academic achievement and considers him among the top academically outstanding students of Hispanic/Latino heritage. ■



Congratulations to **Lily Choi** who achieved a perfect score of 800 on her Writing SAT I exam! Congratulations also go to **Gerard Boberg** for his perfect 800 score on his SAT II Math exam. AOC is proud to recognize Lily's and Gerard's diligence in their studies that have resulted in their impressive academic achievements. ■



The National Merit Scholarship Program recognizes students for exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the PSAT.

Students who score in the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students taking the PSAT nationwide are named **Commended Students**. Congratulations to **Gerard Boberg, Joshua Kimball, Sarah Preis, and Matthew Smalley** for achieving this very high honor!

The National Merit Scholarship Program has recognized AOC senior **Lily Choi** as a National Merit **Semi Finalist**. Semi Finalists are among the top 16,000 students in the country and go on to compete for the coveted National Merit Scholarship. We wish Lily good luck in the final phase of the competition! ■

Regal MOVIE TICKETS

\$8 each ON SALE NOW!!!

with no restrictions - use any time - they never expire!

Purchase them from ASB in the school office!

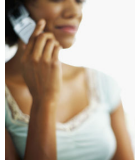
REGAL
CINEMAS

UNITED ARTISTS
Theatres

EDWARDS
THEATRES

Student Attendance Policy

When a student must be absent from school, for any reason, the parent/guardian should call the AOC office (362-3056) on the day of the absence.



Parents may call and leave a message 24 hours a day – please indicate the date and reason for the absence in your message.

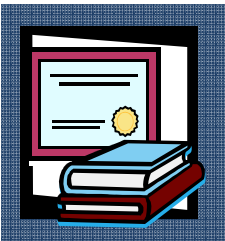
If your child becomes ill at school, he/she must go to the AOC office to receive permission to leave campus.

Remember: There are no excused absences at College of the Canyons. Any student absent from a college class more than 3 times will be dropped from the class and receive a Fail on their transcript. It is recommended that students contact their COC instructor via email to notify them when they must miss class due to illness. ■

AOC Scholarship Fund

In 2005/06 the Parent Advisory Committee established the AOC Scholarship Fund. The AOC Scholarship is available to AOC seniors continuing their education at a community college or a 4-year college or university. This scholarship opportunity is funded solely by parent donations and with your help

we hope to continue to recognize our scholars for many years to come. Please send your donation in any amount, made payable to **AOC**, to Mrs. Browning in the school office. ■



When Can I Expect to See Grades?

1st Semester **Progress Reports and Report Cards** are distributed in class and your child should bring home grades on the following days: **11/29/11** and **1/20/12**. Please be on the lookout for them and remember that parents may check student grades and attendance on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal at any time. The Parent Portal can be accessed from the Hart District website www.hartdistrict.org. ■

ASB Activity Updates

Back to School Dance



AOC held its 2nd Annual Welcome Back Dance on September 23 and it was a huge success with music, dancing, games, and food. The dance was very well attended and everyone had a great time. Thank you to our staff and parents who volunteered as chaperones. ■

Patriot Day



A Day to Honor the USA

We celebrated Patriot Day on 9/9/11 by making cards for our troops and volunteering for community service projects. ■



Halloween



Ghosts and goblins turned out for our annual costume contest in celebration of Halloween. ■

Principal's Scholarship List

Congratulations to the following students who achieved a **3.5 gpa or greater** on their final AOC report card for the 2010-11 school year.

Jordan Abrams
Rebekah Aguirre
Edwain Aquino
Aaron Argueta
Lia Asprer
William Atwood
Shayda Azamian
Zamzama Azizi
Aramais Bagmanian
Carlos Bailey
Charos Bakhromova
Gracie Bauer
Jeffrey Beebe
Ardgene Berdin
Luiz Blanco
Gerard Boberg
Melissa Bogart
Paul Boxler
Vanessa Brintrup
Erick Campos
Justyn Cason
Daniel Chamberlin
Allison Chang
Theo Chapman
Akhil Cherukupally
Lily Choi
Karianne Chung
Erin Cleveland
Keitan Cloud
Amy Coffin
Nicholas Conant
Robin Connally
Kristen Cooper
Samantha Corcimiglia
Michael Cosley
Aaron Cramer
Caitlin Creekmore
Nathan Crookston
Kyle Dahlin
Aidan Danahy
Diane Dang
Sarah De Herrera
Julia De La Torre
Susana Delgado
Carson Downs
Kathryn Duncan
Hanna English
Jessica Espinoza
Sol Esquivel
Shaw Falco
Kelsey Ferrara
Michelle Field
Sabrina Frazier
Georgina Fuentes
Daisy Galvez
Ramon Garcia
Makenna Geurts
Darien Glave
Casey Graff

Joseph Green
Tyler Gregory
Peter Gwynn
Cassidy Hall
Courtney Hall
Kevin Hambleton
Jonathan Hatamoff
Shoma Heid
Aliyah Hicks
Madeleine Hicks
Jacqueline Hoffberg
Victoria Hoffberg
Evan Holquin
Spencer Honadel
Jessica Horning
Johnzel Iniba
Colleen Jackson
Joelle Jacobs
Noah Jacobson
Rebecca Jensen
Shelby Jirikils
Karina Johnson Castorena
Savannah Juhan
Tiffany Julian
Max Jung
Dae Sung Kim
Nathan Kim
Brandon Kimball
Joshua Kimball
Suman Kumar
Aravind Kumaraguru
Stacy Lee
Michael Levin
Brittany Licari
Victoria Limbean
Samuel Lindberg
Zeinab Maaz
Allison Mack
Kathleen Mack
Craig Manalo
Jenna Maughan
Matthew Mazie
Andrew Mc Haddad
Cole Mc Namara
Alexandra Medel
Alyssa Meijer
Rosa Melendez
Brianna Mendoza
Kathleen Moonitz
Nia Moore
Samantha Morlan
Madison Motoyasu
Diana Munoz
Ann-Marie Navarro
Joshua Nissenbaum
Rebecca Nissenbaum
Dayssy Nunez
Jasmin Oh
Brandon Osorio

Kelly Osorio
Jeremy Pargas
Sung Woo Park
Helaina Parks
Alana Pasion
Amanda Phillips
Jessica Pineda
Kennedy Poirier
Sarah Preis
Dhruv Rajyagor
Ariana Ramos
Brittany Richardson
Mark Rizkalla
Melissa Robles
Christiahn Roman
Candice Rose
Tambrie Rose
Risa Rubin
Andres Ruiz
Daniel Ruiz
Matthew Ruiz
Shelby Ryan
Brian Sagocio
Harsitha Sakhamuri
Faraz Samsami
Greck Santiago
Marja Santiago
Sharon Santillan
Loni Sarhad Moradkhan
Jesse Savelli
Jonathan Schaffer
Jeremy Scruideri
Sudayisi Sebina
Candice Simon
Timothy Simon
Matthew Smalley
Jeremy Sparag
Rachel Stanik
Jayme Tan
Kelsey Taylor
Kian Taylor
Katrina Tayo
Carolyn Thio
Samantha Townsend
Kacie Traina
Kent Tran
Ashwin Trisal
Breanna Tucker
Marlena Underhill
Jacqueline Varela
Hannah Walker
Andrew Wathen
Sofia Weiss
Jesse Williams
Marlis Yurcisin
Morgan Yuvienco
Eric Zhang
Taya Zoomandan
■

A Job Well Done!

AOC in the Community

Senior, **Madison Motoyasu**, is a member of the USA Taekwondo National Team. She is #1 in the sparring welter weight division at the junior level and is the only member in her weight class on the USA National Team. She competed at the PanAm Junior Taekwondo Championships in October and will represent and compete for the USA in events over the next year.

Freshman, **Hayden Matheus**, will be competing in figure skating in Salt Lake City this month for the Sectional Championships, a step towards Junior Nationals. Good luck Hayden! ■

AOC Teacher of the Year

Douglas Labus has been named the 2011-12 AOC Teacher of the Year. Mr. Labus is our Math Department Chair and teaches Algebra II, Honors Algebra II/Trig, and Beginning Programming. Mr. Labus came to AOC from Hart High School in 2008. He is known at AOC for his "Oh Yeah!" greeting and positive attitude. "The challenge of being a math teacher today is not merely found in communicating the curriculum. Success means breaking through the anxiety and fears of math that plague our students. My goal is to help students rise above their feelings and see that with some hard work, good study habits, and a systematic approach to learning, they can win this battle within themselves, and that is why I love being a math teacher. Mr. Labus is also the Bible Club Advisor. ■



AOC Classified Employee of the Year



Joe Garcia has been selected by the AOC staff as the 2011 Classified Employee of the Year. Joe is the custodian at Academy of the Canyons and is responsible for keeping our school spic-and-span. Joe takes great pride in doing a good job and his presence on our campus has had a big impact on the AOC

school and work environment. Thanks for all your hard work, Joe! ■

PTSA News

The PTSA provided a light breakfast to the students taking the PSAT on Saturday, October 15. The students really enjoyed the goodies. ■

AOC achieved an API score of 941, topping our highest score from last year! To celebrate this wonderful achievement, the PTSA will be providing a pizza lunch to all the students on Wednesday, November 23. ■

Reflections

The topic for the PTA Reflections competition for 2011-12 was "**Diversity Is...**" AOC students entered and won the following awards: **Jonathan Ford**, Literature Award of Excellence; **Liza Kuznetsova**, Literature Award of Merit; **Yuji Heid**, Visual Arts Award of Excellence, Photography Award of Excellence, Film Award of Excellence, Music Composition Award of Merit, Dance Award of Merit; Literature Honorable Mention; **Shoma Heid**, Visual Arts Award of Merit; Dance Award of Excellence; **Janny Zhang** Photography Award of Merit, Photography Honorable Mention, Music Composition Award of Excellence; **Shehan Fonseka**, Literature Honorable Mention. Congratulations to all our winners!


All Award of Excellence winners go on to compete at the SCV Council PTA level. A special thanks to Suzan Solomon, Pam Trammell, Holly Diaz and Mr. and Mrs. Pievac for judging the entries. ■

AOC COMPUTER LAB

OPEN HOURS

Monday - Friday
7:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Supervisor
Mr. Newman
Math Tutoring Available
Room 110



Students need to attend ONLY classes listed for FINALS

	Monday Dec 19	Tuesday December 20	Wednesday December 21	Thursday Dec 22	Friday May 27
Pd 1 7:45 - 9:15	Regular Day	<u>Pd 1 Final</u> Eng 10 - Engerran 102 US Hist - Herrick 106 Biology - Musella 101 H Econ - Rubay 107 Govt - Ruiz 105 H US Hist - Walker 104	<u>Pd 1 Final</u> H Eng 12 - Blake 108 Eng 11 - Engerran 102 Eng 12 - Heath 103 Biology - Musella 101 Mod Civ - Ruiz 105 H Chem - Siner 107 H Eng 11 - Wilhelm 104	No AOC Classes	Enjoy your Winter Break
Pd 2 9:25 - 10:5 5	Regular Day	<u>Pd 2 Final</u> Eng 9 - Garvar 103 H Alg 2/Trig - Labus 104 Geom - Siemens 109	<u>Pd 2 Final</u> Health - Herrick 102 Alg 2 - Labus 106 Biology - Musella 101	No AOC Classes	AOC classes resume on January 17, 2012
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
Pd 3 11:4 5 - 1:15	Regular Day	<u>Pd 3 Final</u> Eng 9 - Garvar 103 Eng 12 - Heath 102 US Hist - Herrick 106 Mod Civ - Ruiz 105 Alg I - Siemens 109 Chem - Siner 107 H Govt - Walker 101 H Eng 11 - Wilhelm 104	<u>Pd 3 – Final</u> H Eng 12 - Blake 108 Eng 11 - Engerran 102 Eng 9 - Garvar 103 Health - Herrick 101 Alg 2 - Labus 106 Econ - Rubay 107 Geom - Siemens 109 H US Hist - Walker 104 Eng 10 - Wilhelm 105	No AOC Classes	Enjoy your Winter Break
Pd 4 1:25 - 2:55	Regular Day	<u>Pd 4 Final</u> H Mod Civ - Rubay 105 Chem - Siner 107	<u>Pd 4 – Final</u> H Eng 10 - Blake 108 H Alg 2/Trig - Labus 104 H Chem - Siner 107	No AOC Classes	AOC classes resume on January 17, 2012

**Students should report to regular room at the regular time for Finals listed above.
No other AOC classes are in session on Finals Days.**