

Bowman High School
Bulldog News
Fall, 2011

Robin Geissler, Principal

Carrie Covell, Editor

Donald G. Sanders, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.

---Abraham Lincoln

He conquers who endures.

---Perseus

The news is official! Bowman's Academic Performance Index (API) score skyrocketed 122 points, which is the most dramatic increase within the William S. Hart Union High School District this year! Bowman's API is now an astounding 759 points!

This profound and powerful fact is such a testament to the enduring vision of student achievement which permeates every aspect of the school day. Through collaboration, dedication, and commitment, we have reached a new pinnacle of success. I am inspired by this validation, knowing how hard students, staff, and families have worked to meet this goal. I am humbled by the spirit of "doing whatever it takes to succeed" which represents the quintessential Bowman experience. When you connect a dedicated, talented staff with students who are committed to learning, dreams take form.

Last year Bowman's Professional Development Team focused on formative assessments and writing across the curriculum. Students thought critically, discussed their viewpoints with supporting evidence, and wrote numerous essays and responses to their learning. Bowman teachers taught eleven before and after school Intervention classes to strengthen skills in English and math. Finally, students enrolled in an intensive, test preparation course, which included reviewing skill sets, and even drumming on tribal drums to relieve test anxiety!

This year, our focus is again on writing. Recently, the Hart District won a writing grant, and Bowman students will benefit by school-wide usage of the innovative, individualized, and web-based My Access Writing Program. My strong belief is that if one can write clearly, with organization, and persuasion, the process transfers to higher level thinking skills, including analysis, interpretation, and debate. These critical thinking skills help propel students forward with confidence, ensuring their success in college, technical training, and in their careers.

In these times of economic uncertainty, it is imperative that Bowman students are well-prepared to compete for the most selective jobs and careers. The success that students experience today at Bowman will translate into developing "out of the box," creative, and motivated thinkers who know how to work as a team and who believe in the power of perseverance to achieve stellar results in life. Let's fully celebrate this milestone of success, but keep our eyes clearly focused on the new horizon. I call on us to redouble our resolve and our commitment to climb the next mountain on our quest for endurance and the further achievement of excellence.

Never measure the height of a mountain until you have reached the top.

Only then will you see how low it was.

---Dag Hammarskjold

Bowman High School Welcomes Over Three Hundred New Students

Over three hundred new students grace our campus this year. How is this possible? Our graduating class of 2011 was over three hundred students. The first few weeks of school have been extremely interesting and exciting. Getting to meet and greet so many new faces has been rewarding. This incoming group of students is very respectful, well-mannered, and seems to want to put their best foot forward.

The reason we are so successful with our students, is due to the nurturing environment at Bowman, as well as the commitment of every adult in the building to make a vital connection with the students that we serve. I often ask new students, "What do you like most about Bowman?" I always get a number of positive responses. Some students are taken by the fact that their teachers take the time to get to know them. Other students like the array of instructional strategies that their teachers use to build a better understanding of the subject matter. Many like the attention that they receive from their teachers and the peer relationships that develop in their tenure at Bowman.

Bowman is truly a unique learning community, which is made up of a staff that really cares about young people. Our motto is "Whatever it takes," and so we are committed to making a profound difference in the lives of the young people and families that we serve. We want all of our students to embrace Bowman pride and become contributing members to society.

On behalf of the entire staff of Bowman High School, I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to all of our new students and their families.

This article comes from the desk of Assistant Principal Don Sanders.

Introducing myACCESS to Bowman

The myACCESS Program offers Bowman an amazing opportunity to participate in an online-based writing program that will be used in all of Bowman's English classrooms for the purpose of improving our student's writing skills. The program allows students to type their essays directly into the program, using student laptops, where they will receive feedback as they are writing to help them through the process. Their scores will immediately be available to both, the student and teacher, which will allow them to view what areas of writing they need to work on. This is a wonderful assessment tool that teachers can use to guide writing instruction in an efficient and effective manner. All writing will be saved in an electronic portfolio, so that progress can be monitored throughout the school year and into the next, if necessary.

We will begin to use the program in our English classes and, later, will expand to include all subject areas. In the meantime, your students will be writing essays in their English classes beginning late September. myACCESS is meant to assist in the teaching of writing and in no way replaces the writing instruction that Bowman teachers always provide. We are extremely excited about myACCESS, as it is such an invaluable tool for the classroom, and your Bowman English teachers can't wait to start using it to get your students excited about writing.

Computers with Sandy – Computer Applications & Web Development

New and returning Bowman students were greeted with an updated room 3 Computer Lab this school year! During the summer months, all computers were replaced with new computers and updated software, including the latest Microsoft Office 2010 software. The upgraded computer lab provides Bowman students with the opportunity to develop 21st century skills of global literacy, computer literacy, critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity and innovation. The new computers can easily run the Adobe Design Premium software, including Adobe Photoshop CS3 and Dreamweaver CS3, and will give Bowman students the opportunity to learn the latest in the Microsoft Office 2010 Suite, including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. In addition, all students have improved access to Internet and online library resources due to infrastructure upgrades that increased Internet speed throughout the campus.

Both of the newly revised and adopted Computer Applications in Business A/B course and Web Development I/II course are aligned with current Career Technical Education Standards, including CTE Foundation Standards in *Finance & Business, Marketing and Sales, and Information Technology*. These courses are offered within the Hart District Business/Computer Technology Pathway; Bowman students who complete computer courses within the Hart District Business/Computer Technology Pathway will be prepared for *Introduction to Computers* and *Website Development I* courses offered at College of the Canyons. All skills learned will support college and workplace readiness.

Kudos to all of my students for their hard work, honest efforts, quality participation in class discussions and readings, and for their amazing attitudes that make every day a good day! Shout out to **Josh Brown, Noel Ramirez, and Nicholas Topper** for their can-do attitude and exemplary work!

Please call or contact me by e-mail at sgeyer@hartdistrict.org if there are questions about the class or to discuss a student's progress ☺

Also check out my Web page at: <http://www.hartdistrict.org/bowman/staff/sandy/sandy.html>

Kathleen's Exemplary English Classes

A huge welcome to my new English 12, ELD and CAHSEE students and a warm welcome back to my former students—you have returned with such a serious attitude about graduating this year—I am so proud of you! I am happy to be back at Bowman this year to work with the best students, teachers, administrators and staff in the district. I am thrilled to be here; I hope that my students feel the same.

What an awesome start to a very productive semester. My students have shown me that they are ready to earn their credits. The motivation is very impressive. I am pleased, too, with the high caliber of work that has been turned in thus far, including narrative essays, reading responses to various types of literature, academic vocabulary and journal writes. Remember, when you put your mind to it, you can do anything, so let's do whatever it takes to earn those credits! Special kudos goes out to the following students for their exceptional ability to start out so strong these last few weeks: **Marcos Meza, Joey Diamzon, Carlos Alan, Paul David, Kate Anthony, Lupe Camacho, Kayla Soles, Isobel Heely, Juana Hernandez, Jessica Dumont, Selena Robles, Richard Escalante, Jane Allen, Gabriella Brooks, Megan Palmer, Christine Todd, Mason Myers, Amanda Ascar and Christian Alonso.**

Marlette's Math Classes

“It is important that students bring a certain ragamuffin, barefoot, irreverence to their studies, they are not here to worship what is know, but to question it”

---Jacob Bronowski, 1908 - 1974

“Our fundamental task as human beings is to seek out connections – to exercise our imaginations. It follows then, that the basic task of education is the care and feeding of the imagination.”

---Katherine Paterson

Greetings and welcome to another school year at Bowman High School. My name is Marlette Price and I teach mathematics. I hope that everyone had a fun, relaxing, and peaceful summer so that students are refreshed and ready to explore the world of mathematics, pose well thought out questions, and feed their imaginations. My current schedule includes, Senior Algebra, Algebra 1B (second semester of first year algebra), and Algebra II (second year algebra). Most of my students are off to a great start and are serious about earning credits. My Senior Algebra classes are currently solving multi-step equations and inequalities; my Algebra 1B classes have just finished a unit on exponents and are beginning a unit on polynomials; and my Algebra II classes are finishing up their first unit which concludes with solving multi-step equations and inequalities involving absolute value.

Course syllabi and suggested web resources for math help can be found on the Bowman website in a link to my name. Please feel free to contact me either by phone (253-4400) or email (mprice@hartdistrict.org) if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student. For students needing extra help, I am available most days from 11:22 to 12:22 after morning session and from 3:00 to 4:00, except Wednesdays, after the afternoon session. Students should make arrangements with me in advance so that I can verify that I am available that day. In addition, math intervention classes are offered before school from 7 to 8 on Tuesdays (with Jose Rosales), Wednesdays (with Mike Nugent), Thursdays (with Ravinder Athwal), and Fridays (with Ravinder Athwal); and after school from 3 to 4 Mondays (with John McCarthy), Tuesdays (with John McCarthy), and Thursdays (with Jenny Dermody).

I want to commend the following students who are here every day and really working hard to not only keep up with assigned work, but are moving ahead, completing extra credit, and helping others: **Barbara Toribio, D.J. Beaman, Dylan Thomas, Chris Trejo, Kate Anthony, Tyler Gibbons, Alexander Griffin, Jose Rodriguez, Victor Miranda, Taalibah Muhammed, Brandon Weir, Brandon Zaldivar, Jane Allen, Diego Funicello, Rudy Orrante, Shayne, Payne-Ballinger, Isabel Heely, Erwin Cruz, and Nico Lopez.**

I look forward to meeting my students' families during Back to School Night on September 20th. Hope to see you then!

--Marlette Price

Kevin's Classes

I am so impressed with the 2011/2012 Bulldog students. Already this year, they have proven themselves to be diligent, serious scholars who care about their academic success.

In my Algebra and CAHSEE math review classes, we have tackled a frustrating concept—decimals. And much to my surprise, every student in my math classes has conquered the concepts in the same way that an All-Pro linebacker sacks a quarterback. With tenacity, toughness, and mental resolve, these students have succeeded in remembering the different tricks associated with decimals. Up next: fractions. Star students: **Aldair Aguilar, Sarah Barker, Alex Benedicto, Otis Burkes, Guadalupe Camacho, Daniel Carbajal, Robert Cruz, Lea Di Giovanni, Joey Diamzon, Alex Estrada, Joelle Grimshaw, Tania Hernandez, Chay Huddleston, Hayden Lenier, Anthony Messner, Noel Ortega, Evelyn Paniagua, Nohely Ramirez, Sarah Reynolds, Robert Shartzter, Tyler Smith, Vanessa Vasquez, Carlos Alan, Alex Cabrero, Paul David, Stephen Hain, Candice Lewandowski, Alex Martinez, Stephany Mercado, Marcos Meza, Dora Perez, Oscar Rincon, Jerry Rodriguez, Cari Rojas, Eddie Antimo, Jazmin Aramas, Melissa Barnett, Gabby Chavez, Cassidy De Leon, Ricky Escalante, Isobel Heely, Lizette Hernandez, Edward Moon, Shane Payne Ballinger, Allison Ramos, Taylor Tabet, Alec Zeritoun, Jackie Arechar, Desteney Autry, Nathan Chabolla, Jessica Dumont, Aaron Grandchamp, Matt Hubbard, Alex Juarez, Julia Pascual, Wyatt Phillips, Garrett Sanders, Jacob Schreier, Destiny Sterling, Frankie Vazquez, Abby White, Gabby Zimmerman.**

In my Psychology class, we investigated an age-old, still-unanswered question: How is the mind connected to the brain? To do this, we first differentiated between the biological organ (the brain) and the holographic-like world that it creates (the mind). We then asked ourselves, “How do the electrical impulses of the brain create the mind?” In our confusion, we resided with some of humanity’s greatest thinkers. Aristotle, Plato, and Freud (and many, many more) have been confounded by this question. This week, we will begin to explore dreams. Top students: **Britlin Abbot, Amanda Asker, Ken Bedford, Eric Ciplickas, Mike Downs, David Estey, Kelly Gorman, Lindsey Griffith, David Guerrero, Genevieve James Lecoq, Liz Johnson, Paul Lopez, Amber Osby, Megan Palmer, Brittany Stevens, Abby White.**

Government with Stacey

I look forward to working with the government classes this year. Students will be learning information about the United States government along with other countries governments. Every week will be filled with individual, group and whole class discussions. Debating in our Senates will be a unique part of our week that will give the students the opportunity to argue and express their points of view. Students will be working in partners and as individuals to form opinions based on facts to debate issues that effect everyday life. The past couple weeks I have been getting to know the students and seeing how they react to how our government is set up. The students seem to be really interested and ready for amazing discussions!

Students are currently creating their own countries. Their country projects are designed to show students how difficult creating and running a country truly is. They have taken a Conservative or Liberal quiz to find out how they truly view the world. Countries are complete with Constitution, national anthem, flag, and of course a campaign speech for the leader of the country.

Shout out to students who have really been working double time to finish: **Giancarlo Ciccone, Jae Lim, Diana Lopez, Mike, Maness, Danielle Plough, Marissa Ramirez, Chase Resendiz, Albert Varela, Anthony Vasquez, Jake Webb and Sam White.**

Mike Mansfield's Classes

The students in Mike's American Literature class have sure been busy! We've continued our studies by studying the first forms of American Literature by re-telling Native American Legends. We've also boarded ships destined for the Americas and read the journals of Oloudah Equiano, a slave who bought his freedom and Cabeza de Vaca an explorer who just wanted to go home. We've then landed with the puritans and studied their language and poetry. What's next for us? Pirates! September 19th is International Talk Like a Pirate Day and to commemorate the event Mike's class will be teaching with a pirate theme! Arrrrrrr! After that what could be better? How about reading Edgar Allan Poe in Octobarrrrrr and Bret Harte in Novembarrrrrr!

Big Shout Outs to the following top credit earners!

Melissa Alley
DJ Beaman
Carter Bonn
Giancarlo Ciccon
Elvis Contreras
Monique Garcia
Luis Gonzalez

Sandy Hernandez
Candice Lewandowski
Brianna Martinez
Andre Millan
Cassandra Okonczak
Michael Perez
Robert Shartzter

Ashley Sherlock
Landon Sorenson
Sipriano Vigil
Nathan Walker
Jake Webb
Jonathan Willingham

Mike's CAHSEE English Class is writing better than ever! In our preparations for the California High School Exit Exam, we have studied thinking maps, such as bubble maps and double bubble maps, as well as our writing skills. Not to mention some unorthodox, but extremely effective strategies like "Adopt a Four-Year-Old" and "Peanut Butter and Jelly Time!". Our students are confident and ready to maintain the highest CAHSEE passage rate!

Creative Writing

Many Creative Writing students are still scratching their heads and wondering what creating Writing is. A few weeks from now their knowledge and confidence will blossom as they engage their lives and the language of self expression. Here is just a taste of some of the incredible things that all of our students have been writing in class so far!

It is green like a ripe lime
As sharp as a new puppy's tooth
As metallic as a new dime
As small as a moth baby
It is small enough to vanish
As useful as a stapler
The perfect thing to have
It is small and huge on "uses"
It is brilliant
It is a perfect design

It is really hard to see
The shadow of an upside-down tree.

-Jeremy Aronson

Modern Civilizations with Geoff

Already three weeks into the school year, and I find myself the student, and my students the teachers as we are all showing enthusiasm towards the quest to learn from our past and grow into our future. Currently, 90% of Modern Civilization students who have been enrolled in class from day one has earned credit, and earned credit in their own unique style. I am extremely excited, proud, and honored with all classes. Please come to Back to School night on Tuesday 9-20-11 to see for yourself the amazing work achieved by your son, daughter, or loved one.

Currently, the class is examining the catch phrase “Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes” and how our physical and cultural geography has a daily impact on our lives. In the following week we will examine the idea of democracy and oppression and how we should embrace fear as our friend to overcome tyranny. The students of Modern Civilizations have **all** worked very hard and have been a pleasure to instruct.

Economics with Geoff

In the last three weeks our class has discussed the simple ingredients to Economics: choices, decisions, time, and money. The above will lead to a unit project on “Understanding Opportunity Costs and Trade-Offs.” An opportunity cost is when the most highly valued opportunity or alternative is forfeited when a choice is made. The students through art, collages, and poems described their current “poor choices / decisions” on one half of a poster board. On the second half of the poster board students focused to the future with “what they could be doing,” demonstrating their hopes and goals in life. The goal was for them to see how their current decision-making may be keeping them from their dreams, or their maximum potential. Students are off to a fast and very successful start as I have been proud of every individual’s unique effort.

Lindsey’s Classes

It’s been so nice to see returning students and to meet all those who are new to Bowman after a restful summer. I am looking forward to a fun and productive school year and it seems that students are ready to work hard and earn those credits. In American Literature, we have been exploring the oral tradition of literature as we look at various Native American tales and the cultures from which they have come. In the next week, students will retell their version of an inspirational tale with an understanding of the purpose of oral literature to not only entertain, but as well, to pass on valuable knowledge about life from one generation to the next. Our next unit will allow us to get to know the explorers, Christopher Columbus and Cabeza De Vaca as they go head to head in a “mock” trial, which will determine who the better man was. Our puritan unit will follow; here students will gain an understanding of how social, political, and cultural influences contribute to American literature and its movements. In English 10 we have been exploring the elements of the short story. We will be reading a variety of short stories as a means of exploring and analyzing literary elements. We have started this unit with, *The Monkey’s Paw*, by W.W. Jacobs. As students read this story, they will focus on irony and foreshadowing as they read this horrifying and fascinating tale of three wishes gone awry. After the short story unit, students will be putting use to their knowledge of literary elements as they write literary analyses on one of the stories we have read during the unit.

Jamie's US History and Government

For all of my new students I would like to say, welcome to Bowman and room 8. My hope is that you and your family will fall in love with our school the way I have. For returning students, welcome back for another great year! It was so nice to see your smiling faces again.

To my US History classes, this grading period we will be covering early US History, including topics that range from the Columbian Exchange, to the Foundations of America, and the Civil War to the beginnings of the Gilded Age.

My Government students have been learning about the basic ideas and structure of our American Government. Students have been given the opportunity to create their own country. I am excited to see the outcome of the Create a Country project.

I'm looking forward to this year and getting to know my new students. Good Luck to all of you.

April's English Classes

My name is April Soria and I am filling in for Maggie Harbour as she welcomes a new addition to her family. I am excited to start the year with a great group of motivated students. The positive energy I am feeling in my English classes brings the promise of an AMAZING school year. Students started off the new year by making personal goals, and then ultimately, creating a goal statement. I could see their motivation abound as they worked on their future plans. They are well on their way to meeting and exceeding their goals!!

We have turned our focus to working on making our words come alive through vivid description. Some of the promising writers include: **Jesse Galvan, Jonathan Willingham, Alexander Rosales, Vicky Garcia, John Lucewich, Sipriano Vigil, Joshua Brown, Steven Naillieux, Matthew Duran, Rudy Orrante, Suary Guerra, Joseline Barrera, Edward Antimo, Jesus Franco, Andrea Salazar, Ian Griffith, Christine Montgomery, Taylor Tabet, Emilio Barraza, and Alexis Parker.**

I can't wait to see what great essays they all produce this quarter.

Mike's U.S. History

Where did it all begin? My students know Paul Revere, they know George Washington, and they probably have heard of the places Lexington and Concord. My challenge to them this fall is to go deeper in their understanding of the events and issues that lead to the formation of what was a unique political unit in 18th century history. The one group of colonies, the only group of colonies at the time that both tried and succeeded in throwing off their mother country and establishing a new nation, was us! This, and more as the semester rolls on. Foundations to the end of WWI, is where this ship is headed this semester.

Mary's Classes

Theatre Arts:

Choral Reading, Reader's Theatre, and Oral Communication have been the focus for the first unit of school. Using voice, through projection, breathing, and articulation were skills the class picked up easily. Many of the students have had experience in the Performing Arts and are eager to share their talents. Some of their favorite activities have been Charades, Who's Line Is It Anyway and Taboo. Our "Break a Leg" theatre shout-outs go to: **Christopher Ramos, Justin Tchamkertenian, Dora Perez, Alexander, Lee, Paul LeBlanc, Mikey Harrison, Micheal Evans, and Katherine Anthony** for active participation.

Art:

Do you think you are born with artistic talents or do you think that artistic talents can be learned? Most believe it is a combination of both. Hard work, dedication, and a trained eye are lessons being learned during the first five weeks of class. Using resources from the book Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain, art students in period 3, 5, and 8 have been honing their drawing skills using techniques requiring them to "See" things differently. Stop by during Back to School Night to see the "before" and "after" drawing of student's own hands, without ever taking an anatomy class.

Yearbook:

After several weeks of creating a collaborative environment using various team building activities, the yearbook staff is ready to begin recording the 2011-2012 Bowman Bulldog school activities, accomplishments and highlights. The students will be learning Photo-shop, brushing up on Micro-soft word 2007, and Illustrator. Our wonderful yearbook staff is: **Sarah Baker, Deanna De La Crus, Jacqueline Flores, Sandy Hernandez, Tania Hernandez, Genevieve James Lecoq, Diana Lopez, Melanie Manrique, Esmeralda Ontiveros, Paul Pineda, Sanielle Plough, Oswald Sandoval, Barbara Toribio, and Heidi Tuerck.**

Jenny's Senior Algebra Students

I am blessed with a fantastic group of students this year. Everyone has already completed the first unit 1 test, and most did very well. I am surrounded by overachievers who are self-motivated and hard working.

I want to recognize my A+ students: **Jannette Burton, Kevin Cuartas, John Fauquier, Suary Guerra, Nicholas Kurt, Moises Monarrez, Nixie Morales, Kevin Munn, Ashley Sherlock and Christine Todd.**

I encourage my students to push themselves to get the highest score on tests, because this will translate into good scores on the math placement exams when they go to college. Read my article on COC's Math Placement Exam for more details.

John McCarthy's Classes

Algebra classes:

Algebra students are really working to understand math and to move themselves to the next level. Some of the class time is spent using direct lessons. Some of the class time is for individualized work so students have the opportunity to learn concepts according to their specific needs. As long as students are getting to school every day on time, they are learning. Some students that are really putting in the extra effort are: **Connor Bathan, Albert Guevara, Emily Freyberger, Shawn Allison, Eli Castaneda, and Roxie Nadjarian.**

History, Government, and Economics classes:

This is a class of many topics. Students are chugging away, learning about the world from local government and economics, the beginning of civilizations, and the history of the United States. Again, some of the class time is spent using direct lesson. Some of the class time is for individualized work so students have the opportunity to learn concepts according to their specific needs. Some students that are excelling are: **Agustin Sandoval, Daniel Aragonex, Robbie Gray-Gordon, Justin Waldrop, Michael Harrison, Alyssa Bartley, Marco Gomez, Maria Arriaga, Wesley Fecske, Tim Martin, Andrew Stanford, Eli Castaneda, Sherman Heinig, Brenda Martinez, Devon Stewart, Agelo DeGlenna, Sal Aguayo, Jon Schmerber, Tamara Lovelady, Roxie Nadjarian, Javier Sanchez, Brandon Anciola, Hey-Jai Carter, Adriana Negron, and Texty Andrea Salazar.**

Science elective is a new and exciting class for all students. We are finishing up researching interesting environmental adaptations of sharks of all kinds. Students presented to the class their projects on basic anatomy, teeth, body shape, skin, liver, coloration, eye, tail & fins. Since it is a science elective, students have chosen to study human anatomy next.

All of these students are working when they are here. The only place where improvement can be made for some students is in improving their attendance. A student, who is on time every day, ready to learn, will do great.

Aaron's Classes

The Physical Education Department of Bowman High School makes every effort to improve the individual fitness level of each student. It is our belief that the mind and body are interdependent; the body must be fit if the mind is going to function at its maximum potential. We believe that good fitness habits, started at a young age, have a better chance of carrying over into adulthood, improving overall health and quality of life.

With this in mind, the school year is off to a great start! We have been playing softball, basketball, football, soccer, Frisbee and Speedminton. The kids have been very active with a lot of great performances & effort

We look forward to the weather cooling down and being able to play without sweating so much!!

Physical Education Department!!

Sylvia's Classes

Sylvia's Work Force Prep class is currently working on career exploration, Interest Inventory, and completing a Power Point presentation on their career of choice. They are also working on effective communication, group process, collaborative problem solving as well as goal setting. Students are continuing to develop their writing fluency, reading comprehension, and math calculation skills. The Kate Kinsella method is being utilized with the integration of vocabulary development strategies. Congratulations to our top credit earners: **Richard Aguilar, Marco Gomez, Maria Arriaga, Connor Bathan, Alyssa Bartley and Elijah Mathews.** In the afternoon, **Kenny Bedford, Tamara Lovelady, Amber Osby, and Sean Walker.**

In my CAHSEE class students worked very hard to prepare for the exam. Students worked on paragraph writing, reading comprehension and vocabulary development. I know our passage rate will be high. Students who deserve special recognition for all the hard work they've been doing are: **Devon Stewart, Issac Campa, Andrew Stanford, Salvador Aguayo, Sherman Heinig, Brenda Martinez and Chase McClean.**

Jose's Classes

Welcome back all returning and new "Bulldogs". I am glad to be back at Bowman to discuss with students some of life's battles and challenges. So far, we have read "A Survival Guide for Teenagers" and touched on some interesting topics such as moving out, the law, alcohol and drug prevention, money matters, and consumer protection. In addition, we are reading Who Moved My Cheese? by Spencer Johnson, which teaches self improvement. Looking forward to a successful year!

I would like to acknowledge several students that have done an outstanding job this month: **Aaron Gonzalez, Christopher Trejo, Jorden Stegall, Victor Salgado, Anthony Messner, Tyler Alexis, and Vicky Garcia.**

Welcome back "bulldogs". It's great to be back and face a new goal for my *CAHSEE class*. Our goal is to solve problems and to solve more problems. These past few weeks we have been working in building a strong foundation (multiplication, orders of operation, fractions) to battle the biggest problems on the CAHSEE exam. Students are getting ready for the challenge!

I want to acknowledge the following students for their hard work and dedication to the class: **Isaac Campa, Lea, Di Giovanni, Christian Gilman, Elijah Castaneda and Abigail White.**

Always remember "Math is just logic with numbers attached" –Marilyn Vos Savant

Students in *Study Skills* have really been working hard on their core subjects. In this class we start off with a warm-up on a current topic. I want to acknowledge the following students for their hard work and dedication to the class: **Christian Alonso, Gennifer Ritona, Kiyle Goldman, and Maria Arriaga.** Looking forward to a successful year!

ASB Needs Your Help

Bowman ASB students can use your help in a variety of ways:

We are doing a Book Drive until September 20th. Children's books and coloring books will be put in a care package that's given to the kids coming in to the Domestic Violence Center to ease their trauma just a little bit. Other books will be given to our military men and women serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. The remaining books will be distributed to our families at Back To School Night because we want all of our students to be lifelong readers.

We are doing a Food Drive in November and will donate what we collect to the Food Pantry.

We need grocery gift cards so that we can feed our students breakfast on the morning on the California High School Exit Exam. We often have activities on Fridays, and like to give \$3 fast food gift cards to participants. We collect used ink cartridges, which the teachers turn in for store credit at Office Depot, Office Max and Staples. Budget cuts mean fewer classroom supplies, and our teachers need help to run a quality program. We always need classroom supplies such as copy paper (white and colored), notebook paper, pens, pencils, scotch tape, white out, staples, paper clips, and manila file folders.

Finally, we are raising money to purchase a vending machine, which will provide a steady revenue stream. Checks should be made out to "Bowman ASB" and mailed or hand-delivered to the address on the letterhead, and are tax-deductible.

Thank you,

Christian Alonso, Jazmin Armas, Beatrice Barsoum, Briana Benner, Gabriella Brooks, Thomas Cornelio, Kevin Cuartas, Deanna De La Cruz, Kristoffer Dominguez, Matthew Evans, Alejandro Garcia, Johnny Garcia, Courtney Johnson, Diana Lopez, Seth Loudon, Charlotte Orlove, Ross Shields and Jenny Dermody (ASB Advisor)

Mike's Guitar Class

This fall has been a fun and challenging time for my period 5 guitar students. Many are learning the basics of music and the guitar and others are challenging themselves to become better artists. "What I Got" by Sublime is one of the most commonly heard strains coming out of the door of room 9. Many students are finding the guitar a real challenge, much harder than the video game! Two stand out students in my music class this fall has been **Cornell Rogers** and **Ian Griffith**, both of who show a strong focus on improving their playing. What a pleasure it has been for me to be able to offer our students this vehicle for their creative potential to be realized.



Seniors, it's time to start thinking about College Next Year

It is time to starting thinking about what you plan to do after high school. The counseling staff at Bowman would like to help you get a jump-start on attending college. We would like you to consider several options, not just College of the Canyons. If you would like to apply to colleges other than COC, there are several steps you need to take this fall. The following are some helpful hints to get you ready to attend college. Please feel free to come in and talk to Lori or Suzy about attending college or other post secondary options.

Step One: Taking the SAT or ACT

Colleges accept both the SAT and the ACT. Both tests are given several times a year. Colleges will use the highest score a student receives on either test. Details including time and room will be available soon.

The SAT: For information on the SAT go to www.collegeboard.com

The ACT: For information on the ACT go to www.actstudent.org

Step Two: Apply to College

If you would like to apply to a **California State University (CSU)**, you will need to:

1. Make an appointment with counselor to review your coursework.
2. Take the SAT or ACT by December
Have your scores sent to the CSU of your choice
3. Pick up a copy of your transcript from Colette, the Registrar.
4. Fill out the online application at www.csumentor.edu
Application period runs from October 1st to November 30th
Application period for the spring semester starts August 1st
5. Complete the FAFSA application starting in January in order to secure financial aid. Apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
6. Information on the CSU system can be found online at www.calstate.edu

Applying to other colleges follows the above format. Check the college's website for specific application information.

California High School Exit Exam

Passage of this exam is required in order to receive a diploma from the state of California. **If your student does not pass this test, they will not graduate from high school no matter how many credits they earn.** They have multiple opportunities to take the test. As of this time, this test is given three times per year, November, March, and May. Students who have not passed are scheduled to be tested at Bowman on **November 1st (English/Language Arts) and 2nd (Math)**. Students will be notified as to specific testing session times.

Since the beginning of school, students who have not passed the exit exam have been in specifically designed math and English classes to prepare them for this test. For this next 8 week period preceding the test, we are asking for your support in making sure your student attends school regularly and completes whatever assignments are necessary.

We also have classes Monday through Friday from 7 – 8 am and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 – 4 pm in English and Math. Students who need extra help with these subjects can earn credit for attending, working and taking home homework. We will also be holding test prep Saturday classes on October 22 (English) and Oct 29 (math). If you have any questions, please contact either Suzy or Lori in the Counseling office.

COC's Math Placement Assessment

When you register for college, you will be given a Math and English placement exam. The higher you score, the more classes you get to skip. A student who gets A's in Algebra, and A's/B's in Algebra II Prep can place as high as Math 070 at College of the Canyons. Math 070 is a degree-applicable class, meaning it actually counts towards your degree. There are lower math classes you could get placed in, but they don't count towards anything.

So the COC Math Placement exam is something that you want to take seriously. Getting a low score on the test means you will be placed in a remedial math class. Each class takes 18 weeks to get through, and can cost as much as \$280. See the breakdown below:

\$70 for a used textbook
\$130 for a new textbook

\$30-50 for a solutions manual
\$100 for a 5-unit class

So, what will help you to do well on the test? Doing well in Algebra A, B and C is a start. Pushing yourself to get an A on every test is going to translate into a higher test score later.

The test is computerized and is timed. Despite this, take your time, because it's always better to get the questions correct, than to work quickly and make careless mistakes.

The test is adaptive, which means if you get too many of the easy problems wrong, the computer will stop giving you more challenging problems, and you will be placed in a lower class.

Students can retake the test in April and September, which means if you didn't do well on the test in March, you can retake it starting April 1st. If you don't do well on the test in April, you can retake it starting September 1st.

You can go to the COC web site and find out more. There are some links there that you can try out. I have included some others below that the COC Assessment Center people gave me.

Online Previews, Study Guides, and Practice Questions for the English, Math, and ESL Accuplacer Assessment Test

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/cpt/example_test_questions.asp

This is the College of the Canyons official Accuplacer preparation site. We offer a small number of sample questions as well as a guide to how the test works.

http://www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer_practice.htm

This site offers sample questions from the Accuplacer test including. Arithmetic, algebra, sentence correction, and reading comprehension can all be found here. Students can take the test and check their own answers with the answer keys provided.

http://www.wtamu.edu/academic/anns/mps/math/mathlab/thea/math_help.htm

This is the website for West Texas A&M University. It offers free math tutorials in algebra and geometry which are good preparations for the Accuplacer math placement test.

<http://www.mccfl.edu/Pages/1484.asp>

Offers practice tests in English and Math in which students can answer questions that can be submitted and graded.

<http://wcb.neit.edu/asc/prctctst.htm>

This site offers sample tests in reading, sentence skills, arithmetic, and algebra that can be submitted and graded.

Remember, to take the test, students must have applied to the college and should bring picture identification.

Home School Returns

Students wishing to return to their home schools for the spring semester should meet with either Suzy or Lori, Bowman's counselors, during the next month to plan what they need to do.

Students must meet 4 district requirements in order to return.

Have attended Bowman for a minimum of 9 weeks

Have grade level credits

Have excellent attendance

Have no discipline problems

Seniors must have a minimum of **190 credits** completed with all of their 9th, 10th, 11th, and first semester 12th grade finished.

Juniors need to have a minimum of **130 credits** completed with all 9th, 10th, and first semester 11th grade courses finished.

Counselors will be meeting with students over the next months to discuss remaining requirements. If you have any questions about your student's progress, please contact one of the counselors.

Extra Credits

Before and After school Academic Tutorials in Math and English are being offered to students to add additional opportunities for credit earning and to address knowledge and skills necessary for graduation and to be successful after high school. Morning classes are **Monday through Friday from 7 – 8 am** and Afternoon classes are **Monday/Tuesday/Thursday from 3 – 4 pm**.

The Regional Occupation Program is a fun way for students to earn elective credits at the same time they are exploring career possibilities. For over 30 different occupations, these semester long classes offer classroom instruction and hands on experience at the job site. Classes start January 11th and signups are being taken now for Spring ROP classes, see Mike Nugent, the work experience coordinator, to sign up.

Now is also the time to start the registration process for COC special admissions classes.

The sooner the process is started, the earlier registration date students will receive. Bowman students can attend COC classes while still at Bowman. Students should pick up an application form in the counseling office and go over the registration, orientation, and concurrent enrollment process with a counselor. Reminder, COC classes count double, for both college and high school.

Mike's Econ Minute

Gold pays \$1800 and ounce! Gas prices are up, and unemployment is over 9% in California This is a day in Mike's Econ class, where students are paying close attention to economics indicators like the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the Standards and Poor's 500, Oil Prices, and current news regarding the state of our counties economy. We just finished a unit on supply and demand and how they work to produce equilibrium in the market and are now examining real life situations of shortages and surpluses and how the market will correct itself in order for exchanges to occur. We will also be doing a stock simulation very soon that is sure to wow the students.

Work Experience



If you are under 18 years old, you need a **Work Permit**. See Mike in the Work Experience Office for the paperwork. If you had a Work Permit from your former school then you will need a new one issued from Bowman. All work permits issued last school year or over the summer are invalid as of 8/31/11. Get your new paperwork NOW!

Work Experience is an elective class. Turning in pay stubs and doing class assignments earns credit in the Work Experience Class. Every thirty hours of pay stubs, and three assignments are equal to one credit. You can earn up to 10 credits per semester. For “Morning” students’ class meets on Wednesday during 3rd period. For “Afternoon” students’ class meets on Wednesday during 6th period. All Classes meet in room #10.

Career Day – Friday Oct. 21, 2011

Bowman’s 17th annual “Career Day” is going to be held on Friday Oct. 21st this semester. Lots of interesting occupations will be highlighted for you. Local schools as well as business leaders will be attending. Lots to learn by attending and participating in this unique event.

Connecting to Success - Nov. 14, 2011

This VIA sponsored program will be held on Monday Nov. 14, 2011. Spots are limited to 40 students to attend this all day activity. Please see Mike Nugent if you are interested in participating. It will be a very interactive learning experience to better prepare you for the world beyond high school!

Bowman Welcomes Ravinder Athwal

My name is Ravinder. I am the new science teacher, and I am so glad to be joining Bowman. I have been impressed with the drive the students have to achieve at Bowman. I love the artistic as well as academic talent that I have seen at this school.

In our Earth Science Class, we have been learning about how the earth was formed, why we have seasons, and why we have day and night? I have been impressed with all of the students, but some of them that have especially impressed me include **Jorden Stegall, Joseph Chapela, Brittany Stevens, and Helen Macri.**

In our Biology Class, we have been learning about the scientific method of inquiry and cells and cell parts. Some of the exemplary students include **Samuel Evans, Guadalupe Camacho, Talibah Muhammed, Jesse Galvan, Amber Villalobos, Erwin Cruz, Genevieve James-Lecog, and Vanessa Gutierrez.**

In our Physics Class, We have been learning about the Motion, Velocity, and Acceleration. I have been impressed by their creativity when tackling new subjects. Some of the exemplary students are **Eunice Talentino and John Lucewich.**