



San Pasqual Academy

HOME OF THE MIGHTY DRAGONS

Bulletin

As of August 5, 125 youth are living and studying at the Academy.

School Days...

- ◆ Summer school wrapped up on Friday, August 5. Approximately 80 students participated in summer school and are taking a brief respite before school begins on August 29th.
- ◆ Two classes, Woodshop and Horticulture, offered during summer school will continue in the fall term as students demonstrated significant interest in these two topics. Students in the woodshop class built two sheds for use on campus and a concession stand to be used for football season. Horticulture students began work on a five-acre plot on campus, which will be the start of a campus community garden. Once irrigation is in place, students will be ready to plant in the fall.
- ◆ During summer school, the Academy Dragons' football team took a football physical education class in preparation for the upcoming season. Their practice paid off, as they did well in the summer Passing League. The Dragons' first home game will be on September 9th at 4:00 p.m. against Cal Lutheran. **Come on out and support our Dragons!**

Residential Info...

- ◆ July was a busy moving month, as many graduates transitioned into new living situations both on- and off-campus. Similarly, new students were placed at the Academy, catching the Dragon spirit!
- ◆ Six students went to Club Fusion, a teen center to listen to music and dance on July 1st, 8th, and 15th.
- ◆ On July 7th, Girl's Home #6 enjoyed a poker tournament for family night entertainment.
- ◆ On July 16th, five students cooled off at Knott's Soak City. There were lots of laughs and good memories from the day of water adventures.
- ◆ Eight lucky students enjoyed a delicious picnic before watching the "Pirates of Penzance" at the Moonlight Amphitheatre in Escondido on July 21st
- ◆ Several students participated in a Staff Appreciation Day by hosting an ice cream bar for the staff on July 22nd. The students served up ice cream cones and sundaes on a hot San Pasqual Valley day.
- ◆ On July 23rd, 13 students skated the night away at the Escondido Roller Rink.
- ◆ On July 31st, 14 students had the opportunity to learn how to scuba dive in the campus pool. A set of houseparents, who are certified divers, provided the lessons. The houseparents said that all the students were very appreciative of this experience.

WHAT'S NEW

San Pasqual Academy students were shining stars at the 2005 San Diego County Fair's Cinema Summer! Academy students received a total of 51 awards in the categories of Typography, Digital Paint and Illustration, Computer Graphics, and Animation. Two of the students received top honors: **Natasha H.** received 1st Place, as well as Best in Class and Best in Show, for her Typography submission while **Sean T.'s** submission in Digital Paint and Illustration won 1st place and Best in Class. This is the fourth straight year that Academy students have made an outstanding show at the Fair! Looks like the Multi-Media courses offered at the campus Tech Center are really tapping into the students' creativity. **Way to go Dragons!**

Work Readiness and Self Sufficiency...

- ◆ The Career Center continued to offer work readiness activities for the summer, as several youth attended the North County Inland Career Fair at the California Employment Development Department office on July 20th.
- ◆ Twelve students, ages 12 and 13, were involved in a Pre-Employment Traineeship (PET) Program. The students gained employment skills in the workplace, while earning up to \$100 in incentives during the four-week experience. They will also participate in a banquet and awards celebration at the end of the program.
- ◆ On July 30th, two Academy representatives participated in a youth board meeting for Opportunity Passport, a financial literacy program. These youth are working on fundraising projects to help support the Opportunity Passport program. To date, there are 14 Academy students enrolled in the Opportunity Passport program with savings and checking accounts opened.

Health and Wellness...

- ◆ On July 25th, an Internet Sex Crimes training was presented by Detective **Chris Armstrong** in the Tech Center. Thirty-five students and 5 staff attended.
- ◆ The Teen Relationship Violence training presented by the Family Justice Center and the District Attorney's Office took place on July 26th, 27th, and 28th. Approximately 80 students and 20 staff attended this training in the campus auditorium.
- ◆ **Katie Bogue**, a nutritionist with the "5-a-Day Campaign" at UCSD, conducted a nutrition training for 20 students and two staff on July 29th.
- ◆ Academy staff enjoyed a treat on July 29th when the International Professional School of Bodywork provided massages to approximately 30 staff. Ideally, this may become a regular event for both staff and students!

Alumni Housing Program...

- ◆ Sixteen Academy graduates are currently living in the Alumni Housing Program on campus.
- ◆ Eight of the Alumni Housing residents are employed, six are school bound, and several are job searching.
- ◆ Alumni Housing residents are bound for Palomar College, California State University (CSU)-Channel Islands, CSU San Marcos, CSU Fullerton, CSU Chico, and Grossmont College. The alumni have all completed their summer bridge programs, which introduce them to college life.
- ◆ San Pasqual Academy's food services department has hired one of the Alumni Housing residents.
- ◆ The Zonta Club of San Diego, a philanthropic organization, has adopted the Alumni Housing program, and will sponsor the "Zonta House" to enhance the independent living environment and experience of the alumni. The Zonta Club will also sponsor a benefit concert on August 27th and 28th, featuring Guitarras de Fuego, to raise funds for the development of the Alumni homes.
- ◆ Weekend dinners with the alumni continue to be a successful activity, as the residents can share and learn cooking skills, discuss aspects of independent living, budgeting, shopping, and managing their houses.

San Pasqual Academy Neighbors (An Intergenerational Mentoring Program)...

- ◆ In July, another grandparent, **Jeffrey Wheat**, joined the intergenerational program. Mr. Wheat is a Harvard-educated teacher, who is presently teaching at San Diego City College. He is very excited to be part of the program.
- ◆ The SPAN program has become quite popular, as there are three more candidates who will begin the application process in August. Currently, there are 13 grandparents in the program.
- ◆ On July 12th, the grandparents held their first birthday celebration and potluck for students with a July birthday. Six students were treated to dinner, ice cream, cake, and a piñata. What fun!
- ◆ On July 20th, **Grandma Jean** spent the evening playing games and dancing with the students in the recreation room. All had a great time!
- ◆ Several of the grandparents have joined the gardening committee on campus and have expressed interest in working with the students on a new agricultural program on campus. This hands-on activity is sure to lend itself to plenty of intergenerational interaction!



For more information about how you can help the Academy with donations or volunteer opportunities, please call Debby Syverson at (619) 435-4557.

Go Dragons!