



# San Pasqual Academy

## Bulletin

As of January 14, 2005, 120 youth are living and studying at the Academy.

### School Days...

- ◆ With the first half of the school year nearly completed, the Academy students welcomed a two-week break in December for the holidays.
- ◆ Senior students have been assigned project advisors for their senior projects, which are a graduation requirement at the Academy. As part of their senior project, the students will make a presentation prior to the end of their senior year.
- ◆ The County Television Network (CTN) is highlighting the Academy Dragons' football team in the "County Chronicles" program. The segment features the Dragons' outstanding playoff run, with a final record of 10-2.
- ◆ Funding has generously been donated by the Friends of San Pasqual Academy for the students to start a comedy improv team. The Academy's social studies teacher, Jeffra Becknell, will supervise the enthusiastic students in this new venture!
- ◆ For the first time in the Academy's history, both boys and girls' junior varsity basketball teams join the varsity squad on the court! There are approximately 35 players in the basketball program, and the teams are doing well. In fact, the girls varsity team won two games in the Borrego Tournament in December, and one player earned a first team All Tournament Award averaging 24 points per game. Go Dragons!

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

### WHAT'S NEW

Programming at the Sulpizio Family Health and Wellness Center is taking off! Collaborative partnerships are quickly forming and leading to on-campus seminars such as the "Sexually Transmitted Infections" class offered by Vista Health Teen Clinic on January 10. Approximately 60 students attended this informative seminar. Future programs include a ten-week alcohol and drug prevention seminar offered by the North County Inland Community Prevention Program, a "Teens Take Care" series focusing on abstinence offered by Neighborhood Healthcare, and nutrition workshops through UCSD.

## Residential Information...

- ◆ During the December holiday break, several students enjoyed off-campus visits with their families. For those who remained on campus, there were plenty of activities to keep them entertained and busy!
- ◆ Pick-up basketball games, arts and crafts, and local outings were among the activities students participated in during the hustle and bustle of the season.
- ◆ On December 8, the Friends of San Pasqual Academy put on a Christmas party in the auditorium. In addition, they held "Shop 'til You Drop" after the party, and helped fulfill many of the students' holiday wish lists.
- ◆ The band "Shock of Mighty," featuring the Academy's own Josh Brown, entertained the students and staff on December 12 in the auditorium. The students enjoyed rocking out to the tunes!
- ◆ On December 17, the campus nurses hosted a Christmas Party in the Health and Wellness Center. Students enjoyed delicious, healthy treats and had an opportunity to dance away the extra calories!
- ◆ To round out the year-end celebrations, San Pasqual Academy staff hosted a New Year's Eve party, where students danced until midnight and then welcomed 2005!

## Work Readiness...

- ◆ The YES Program initiated a weekly Essay Writing Workshop on December 8 to assist students with writing and critiquing skills.
- ◆ Graduating seniors continue to receive on-going support with the submission of their college and scholarship applications. Deadlines are fast approaching!
- ◆ Fifteen students are currently gaining work experience through paid employment and internships both on and off campus.
- ◆ The YES Program maintains contact with more than 70 Academy alumni, checking in on their housing, school, and employment situations as well as offering assistance with community resources as needed.

## Community Involvement...

- ◆ Eight graduates are currently residing in the Alumni Housing program on campus.
- ◆ New Alternatives, Inc. welcomed back several Academy graduates attending college out of state for the holidays. The graduates enjoyed visiting with their former peers, campus staff, and SPAN senior volunteers.
- ◆ SPAN senior volunteers kept busy in December helping Academy students with last-minute holiday shopping and hosting Christmas dinner on campus for some of the students.
- ◆ On December 24, twenty-three students shared the spirit of the holidays by performing community service at a downtown homeless shelter. The experience proved to be enlightening, as well as rewarding, for all the students who participated.