

# Tiger Family News

San Fernando High School . 11133 O'Melveny Ave. San Fernando, CA 91340 . (818) 898-7600



October/November 2009

- 11/3.....CAHSEE Retake 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>
- 11/4.....CAHSEE Retake 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>
- 11/11.....Veteran's Day Holiday
- 11/16.....Midterm Grades
- 11/19.....Parent Conference
- 11/20....Shortened Day, 1:52 Dismissal
- 11/25...Minimum Day, 12:34 Dismissal
- 11/26 & 27.....Thanksgiving Holiday

**Professional Development Day  
1:46pm Dismissal Every Tuesday!**

**Upcoming Meetings**

**English Learners Advisory Council:**

- Nov. 9 @ 8:30am

**Leadership Council:**

- Nov. 17 @ 4pm

**School Site Council:**

- Nov. 17 @ 4:45pm

**Title I (Compensatory Education  
Advisory Committee/CEAC)**

- Nov. 10 @ 4:30pm

**SFHS Webpage/ Family Module**

We encourage you to log onto our school's website to keep informed about school events. The web-site is: [www.sanfernandohs.com](http://www.sanfernandohs.com). In addition, we encourage you to fill out the ISIS Family Module application to enable you to view your student's attendance and grades from home. You may print the application from our school's website, fill it out and have your child return it to the Parent Center, Room 008, from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

**Come Visit the Parent Center!**

The Parent Center personnel, Ms. Martinez and Ms. Serrano welcome you to the Parent Center (Room 008). This month we are offering a parent workshop, "Parents in Control." This workshop is recommended for all parents who want to have more control over the well-being of their children.

Dates of Workshop: Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17

Time: 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Location: Social Hall/School Library

We encourage you to call the Parent Center with any concerns that you may have regarding your child. The Parent Center number is (818) 898-7640.

**Message from the principal.....API/ AYP data is now available**

Thank you to all parents who attended our Back to School Night. I encourage all parents to attend our Parent Conference on November 19 so that you have the opportunity to meet you child's teacher and ask any pertinent questions that you may have regarding the academic progress of your child.

The Academic Performance Index (API), which is an indication of how our student's performed on the California Standards Tests are now available. The state requirement was to increase by 11 points. Due to the hard work of our students and of our teaching and support staff, we increased by 20 points. We are very pleased with these results.

In terms of our Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), we met our API requirement as explained above, we met our Graduation Rate requirement, we tested at least 95% of the students in all relevant sub-groups. However, our students did not meet the required proficiency rate- 44.5% proficiency in English Language Arts and 46.5% in math. Therefore, we are now in PI 3 status. Our teachers will continue to implement best practices, use our school-wide teaching strategies, and continue to meet the needs of our students so that our students improve their proficiency rates.

We are going through the WASC Accreditation process this school year; this will consist of a three day visit in the Spring semester from the WASC committee, where we will show that we are meeting established standards and are achieving our academic objectives. Our teachers have formed sub-committees to address all WASC areas. You are invited to participate in our meetings. Please call the school at (818) 898-7600 if you would like to participate in one of the sub-committees.

We are considering adopting a Balanced Calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. This calendar would allow us to offer Intersession classes to our students during the Winter Holiday and another Intersession during the Summer. Students would start school in August and end in late June. We will bring this proposal to all stakeholders, including school staff, students, parents, CEAC (Title I), ELAC, School Site Council, and of course, Leadership Council.

We are committed to ensuring the safety of all students. Therefore, I ask that you please not double park when dropping off or picking up your child. Please pull up to the curb and park. We have a special drop off/pick up zone on the north side of the school, on Fox Street. Also, I remind you that there is a parking limit of 2 hours on O'Melveny Ave., right in front of the school.

We will continue with our Coffee with the Principal Meetings. We will call you to inform you of the meeting dates, times and location.

Sincerely,

Kenneth H. Lee  
Principal

**FREE AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING &  
SAT PREPARATION CLASSES**



Title I, Project Grad and Educare are once again offering FREE after school tutoring services! If your child has received Ds or Fails, we highly encourage you to have your child stay after school to receive academic help. Your child may also stay for tutoring if he or she needs help on a specific assignment. Students do not have to pre-register to receive help after school. They simply sign in on the days they stay after school.

Please refer to the attached flyer for our After School Tutoring hours and room locations. In addition, we have SAT preparation classes (on Mondays and Wednesdays in Room 523) for those students who need help studying for the SAT exam. We encourage all students to take the SAT during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. The next SAT test is Nov. 7; students should visit the College Center to register for the SAT. You may call the Title I Office at (818) 898-7658 for additional information on After School Tutoring and SAT prep classes.

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## Celebrate Good Character!

Dear Parents,

To help us work together in strengthening the character of our students, we want you to be aware of the values we will be encouraging and learning about as we use CHARACTER COUNTS!

National CHARACTER COUNTS week is a celebration of the values that form the core of this program: The Six Pillars of Character plus effective decision-making.

**Trustworthiness.** Be honest. Be loyal—stand by your family, friends and country. Don't deceive, cheat or steal. Be reliable—do what you say you'll do. Have the courage to do the right thing. Build a good reputation.

**Respect.** Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule. Be tolerant of differences. Use good manners, not bad language. Be considerate of the feelings of others. Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone. Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

**Responsibility.** Do what you are supposed to do. Persevere: keep on trying! Always do your best. Exercise self-control. Be self-disciplined. Think before you act—consider the consequences. Be accountable for your choices.

**Fairness.** Play by the rules. Take turns and share. Don't blame others carelessly. Listen to others. Don't take advantage of others.

**Caring.** Be kind. Be compassionate. Show you care. Express gratitude. Forgive others. Help people in need.

**Citizenship.** Do your share to make your school and community better. Cooperate. Stay informed; vote. Get involved in community affairs. Be a good neighbor. Obey laws and rules. Respect authority. Protect the environment.

We encourage you to follow the TEAM strategy at home. It is the same one we will employ at school.

**Teach** children that their character counts.

**Enforce** the Six Pillars of Character.

**Advocate** character.

**Model** good behavior.

We also encourage you to offer opportunities for students to act in accordance with these values and to experience them in a meaningful way to help shape their character and strengthen their abilities as learners. (Courtesy of CharacterCounts.com).



### Admissions Office Update

We encourage students to come to school everyday! When students are absent they miss out on important instructional time. As part of our attendance campaign, each month we are rewarding Advisory classes (with a Fast Pass that students may use during lunch time) within each Small Learning Community that have the best attendance percentage. We remind you that students must be seated and ready to learn before the tardy bell rings. Period one starts at 8:00am; if students are tardy to period 1 they will receive detention.

Should you need to take your child out of school early for doctor appointments, etc. please request early leaves from your child's Small Learning Community Office.

You will be receiving Emergency Card packets. Please fill out the paperwork and have your child return the forms

to his/her Small Learning Community office. Also, we ask that you please make sure that your contact information is up-to-date. Should any of your information change, please contact us at (818) 898-7617.



### Freshman Advisory Program

Freshman will be presented information that will be pivotal towards their academic success at San Fernando High School in an exciting and interactive format this year. Every other week they will learn key information during their advisory periods. The format will include skits, music, student testimonials and other proven forms of communication that interest our students. Student mentors will review the information with the Advisory teacher in each individual Advisory later in the week. We want your child to grasp this information because it is vital for their success.

This month ask your child what the requirements of high school graduation are. How many credits are needed to obtain a diploma? Ask your child if they know what A-G means; question them about San Fernando's Academic Assistance and Enrichment programs. As always, we will be happy to give you the responses personally at our Parent Center if you call or come in person.



### Career-Technical Education Classes Offered at SFHS

Every student must take at least one year of Career-Technical Education (CTE) classes in order to graduate. At SFHS, we offer a wide variety of CTE opportunities for students, including: Automotive Mechanics, Health Science, Culinary Arts, Building and Construction, Finance and Business, Graphic Arts, Child Development, Drafting, Media Arts, and Metal Technology.

CTE classes provide students with fun, hands-on activities, practical skills, and real-world experiences. Our goal is that interested students will continue to pursue one of these career fields after graduating, through an internship or apprenticeship, community college, trade school, occupational center, or a four-year college.

Students interested in enrolling in a specific CTE class should consult their counselors. They can also see Mr. Kazdoy, the CTE Advisor, in Room 024.



### Annual Assessment Results and

No Child Left Behind mandates that parents/guardians of English Learners be notified annually of their child's most current CELDT and CST results as well as their Master Plan instructional program and English class. These notices were delivered directly to students on Wednesday, October 3, 2009 through their Advisory teachers.

Parents/guardians should review the information and return the signed form to their child's Advisory teacher or to the Bilingual Office, Room 026, as quickly as possible, as these letters must be filed into students' cumulative records.

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