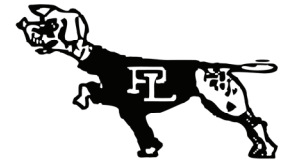


Parent Pointer



Parent-Teacher-Student Association Newsletter

June, 2009 - Volume 49, Issue 4

Dear Pointer Families,

It has been another incredible year at PLHS. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation process went very well. We want to thank all of you and our staff for the commitment to the self study which led to a very positive review from the Visiting WASC Team. A special thank you to Shannon Toyzan, our WASC Self Study Coordinator, for her strong, persistent, and inspirational leadership.

Part of the WASC plan included a creative bell schedule for next year that will include focused intervention time for mentoring, tutoring, and study halls during the school day. We will also have an early release (1:30 p.m.) on most Thursdays for our staff to participate in professional development time with colleagues on site and with teachers from Correia. We continually seek ways to engage students in relevant and challenging learning while making the transition to high school the most successful experience possible for all students. Details regarding the new schedule will come home in the end of the year packet (previously called the summer mailing).

A big change this year will be to send home packets with students at the end of the year with all the information that they will need to start the school year instead of mailing them over the summer. Families will be able to update their information over the summer rather than deal with the MAD rush in the end of August.

One of the most exciting things I've seen this year is the mentoring and role modeling of our students. More than ever students are supporting each other to stay on track, take freshmen year seriously and focus on good grades so they have the most college and career opportunities upon graduation. The new *Naviance* program is giving us early information on how our graduating students are doing. As I am writing this note it is college decision day; many seniors were accepted to multiple colleges and universities or have chosen to attend junior college, and scholarship awards are continuously being reported. Thanks to Pat Baker, we have a first ever Green (as in environmentally conscious) Scholarship. If your senior has received any awards or scholarships please be sure to let our counseling office know.

As always, we are proud of all that our students accomplish in and out of the classroom. *Beauty and the Beast* was a fantastic production; kudos to the drama department. Senior Exhibitions are being held on May 28th; always an exciting day on campus as our seniors share their successes and plans for the future. *Rhapsody on the Point* is still to come on May 29. It will showcase our music

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Point Loma High School PTSA

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The Parent Pointer newsletter is published five times annually

Leslie Rose - PTSA President
Bobbie Samilson - Principal
Sandy Silverman - Editor

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

department with a reception and concert at Point Loma Nazarene. You can get your tickets online.

A large number of PLHS students are actively involved in spring sports. The varsity baseball, boys' tennis, boys' golf, girls' swimming, and softball teams are heading toward championship seasons. The PLHS Sailing Team is one of the best in the nation, receiving the Roy Disney Award and earning invitations to two National Regattas. Congratulations to all of our students actively involved in arts, athletics, and clubs on campus. We encourage all students to get involved. Please let our counselors know if your student needs help connecting to school.

Thank you, parents, for all you do to support and encourage are staff and students as we all work together to *Engage, Empower, and Educate our Students for the 21st Century.*

Bobbie Samilson, Principal

Parents of 2009 Graduating Seniors

If you are attending graduation this year and planning to purchase flowers for a student, please consider purchasing your flowers at the school on the day of graduation. "Flowers of Point Loma," a local florist shop, provides a variety of flowers for our students to sell at graduation and donates a portion of the proceeds back to Point Loma High School. They will also provide a variety of flower lei necklaces in addition to other flowers for purchase at PLHS on graduation day. **Please note that flowers sold by vendors on the sidewalks outside the school premises DO NOT benefit the students of PLHS.**



PLEASE SUPPORT POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL AND PURCHASE YOUR FLOWERS FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL THE DAY OF GRADUATION (INSIDE THE STADIUM GATES)!

POINTER ASSOCIATION

SOMETHING NEW IS STARTING THIS FALL ON CAMPUS

Whether you're a parent who wants to help on the field hockey team, or who takes charge at board meetings, a grandparent or friend who's great in the school office, a current student, or an alum who has exciting ideas for Homecoming, we'd love to have you join the **NEW POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL "POINTER" ASSOCIATION!**

As of fall of 2009, all family/alumni/student/community support for Pointers will now be under the Pointer Association, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. And we'd love to have you join us! Your membership and donations enable a

dedicated group of volunteers to raise funds for the school's Pointer Priorities...

1. Teacher Gifts & Grants
2. 21st Century Technology
3. The new Music Center
4. Scholarships
5. Underfunded Sports

Your personal volunteer time is also very important to ensure the success of Pointers. High school students and the school need lots of support - now more than ever! We're looking for people who want to...

- Serve on the new Pointer Association Board
- Be active with a booster group, such as

(See Pointer Association on page 3)

POINTER ASSOCIATION

(Continued from page 2)

Band, Cheer, Football or others

- Volunteer on campus - regularly or as needed
- Assist with Kick-Off and Homecoming activities
- Help with planning for the school's 85th Anniversary Gala in Fall of 2010



Thank you to those who so far have offered to volunteer for the Point Loma High School Pointer Association next year. We appreciate your time and commitment to

our school, our community and our children. We still, however, are *desperately* in need of some key positions for the Executive Board. This includes: Vice President of Work Groups, VP of Communications, VP of Volunteer Activities, and VP of Program Planning.

We are also looking for volunteers to help organize some key fundraising events. This includes the annual Kick-Off, Banner Solicitation (summer job), and the Membership drive.

These three activities provide the funds that go directly back to Point Loma High School students. (Please see job descriptions following this article.)

Now, I would like to give a shout out to everyone who has helped out this past year, and if I forgot someone, I apologize beforehand. Maureen McGrath headed up Kick-off this year for the third time, which truly is a record! She is also the Class of 2010 sponsor and has almost singlehandedly raised the funds for 2010's class. Chris Pickering and Sandy Silverman were awesome Banner Solicitors, even in this tough time of giving. (That position is still open for next year...) Sandy is also the wiz behind this newsletter, and has graciously offered to continue her creative work next year. Kris Spathas is our communications guru and she also has re-upped for the position next year! Cheryl Louie is our steady and sure Treasurer and Carol Strack our recording secretary - and thanks Carol for also volunteering to stay on in your position next year!

Beth Coyne, Linda Pendleton and Susan Blair made up the Gifts and Grants committee. This is Beth and Linda's last year, but Linda will be continuing her volunteer service at PL next year! Tania Swain once again headed up both Awards Celebration - thanks! Lisa Laube was the person putting up all those banners during football season, and organized the pizza lunch for Teacher Appreciation week. Cathy Edging, along with Steve and Elisa Cusato, headed up the snack shack sales during Kick-Off, and Cathy provided the breakfast during Teacher Appreciation Week, while Susan Blair was in charge of the Teacher gifts.

Thanks also go to Lucy DeVito who helped with Teacher Appreciation Week and is heading up the Honorary Service Awards, along with Susan Blair! Lucy is also the Class Sponsor for the Class of 2011. Marsha Friedman, Eve Morris, Michelle Checkal, and Sally Todter volunteered in the attendance office all year - thanks ladies!

Linda Pendleton, as Class Sponsor for Class of 2009, has been working like a maniac on the Disneyland Trip and Grad Night - so all you parents of seniors, make sure you thank her! I would also like to thank Lucy DeVito, Susan Blair, Linda Pendleton, Jean Peugh, and Maureen McGrath for their hard work on creating a new and improved Grad Night Committee, instead of the traditional Class Sponsors (see the article, *infra*). Finally, a huge thank you to Lisa Laube, Beth Coyne, Darlene Truver, Susan Blair, Lucy DeVito, Gretchen Pelletier and Kim Jessop for their hard work on the planning committee for the new Pointer Association.

Yes, you might have noticed the same names keep appearing. We would LOVE to add your name to this incredible group of volunteers. So if you are interested in getting involved on any level, please let me know. Feel free to contact me directly at 619-696-0284, ext. 32 or lroseadi@aim.com.

Next year's slate will be voted on during our open meeting on June 8, 2009.

Ciao!

Gretchen Pelletier, Foundation President

gretchen.pelletier@yahoo.com

Leslie Rose, PTSA President

lroseadi@aim.com

POINTER ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PRESIDENT: President coordinates the work of officers and committees, presides over meetings of association and executive board, prepares directory of officers and committee chairs, agenda, is liaison between principal, staff and board. (One chair filled - need co-chair.)

VICE PRESIDENT OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: oversees the following committees - *Grad Night* (filled), *College Night* (assists Head Counselor in preparing for and putting on the annual College Night in the fall) (filled, but needs co-chair), & *Hospitality*.

Hospitality is divided into several small activities and we need volunteers for each activity. They are:

Welcome Back Luncheon (coordinates Teacher's Welcome Back Luncheon in August), *College Panel* (coordinates return student college panel in December), *Teacher Appreciation Week* (coordinates Teacher Appreciation activities in May), *Undergrad Awards & Senior Awards* (works with Head Counselor to coordinate Undergrad and Senior awards receptions in the spring), *Volunteer Service Awards* (coordinates Honorary Service Awards luncheon in May, forms committee to solicit and decide on awards, plans food and program for teacher/volunteer luncheon - Positions filled).

VICE PRESIDENT OF WORK GROUPS: oversees the following committees and boards - *Banner solicitation*, *Banner Hanging* (coordinates students and volunteers to put up and take down Kick-Off banners at all home football games), &

Kick-Off at the beginning of the school year (Kick-Off is comprised of sub-committees which stock & run the snack-shack for all three football games on Kick-Off Saturday, decorations & T-Shirts sales).

RECORDING SECRETARY: keeps minutes of the meetings of the association and executive board, prepares meeting highlights for website. (Position filled.)

TREASURER: keeps a permanent accounting and record of all financial business, pays bills, chairs budget committee, prepares monthly report for meeting, maintain insurance and tax status, has books audited annually. (Position filled.)



PARLIAMENTARIAN: attends meetings to provide advice on parliamentary procedure, chairs nominating committee, chairs committee to review bylaws annually or as needed.

PARENT POINTER EDITOR: collects articles for and publishes Parent Pointer (5 times per year). (Position filled.)

COMMUNICATIONS/PR: maintains Association's information on PLHS website; eBlasts. (VP position filled, but need website person.)

GIFTS/GRANTS: chairs gifts and grants committee, coordinates Association's efforts to provide gifts and grants to classrooms/school. (Two positions filled, one person still needed.)

NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING CENTER

REGISTRAR

Our Registrar, Jackie Rosso, will be out for the rest of this school year to recuperate from major surgery. We are fortunate to have Judy Taylor, a retired Registrar with the district, filling in for Mrs. Rosso. Mrs. Taylor can be reached at extension 1120; her email is jtaylor@sandi.net.

WORK PERMITS

Working minors and their employers are reminded of the state law regarding work permits for youth younger than 18 years of age. The minor is responsible for obtaining the permit and the employer is required to terminate the employment of any minor who does not have an active permit or has not made an application for one. All work permits must be renewed at the beginning of each school year. Please see Mrs. Eurich in Room 303 at lunch, before or after school to pick up a new application. A student that changes jobs at a later date will need to make a new application for a new work permit. Permits are good until the end of August 2009. During the summer time, work permits will be processed at the Work Permit Office: 6735 Gifford Way, San Diego, CA 92111. Phone: (858) 627-7355

CRITERIA FOR WORK PERMITS:

10th–12th Grade

- 2.0 Grade Point Average (Based on Progress Reports and semester grades)
- 2.0 Citizenship
- Point Loma High School ID card required
- Adequate progress towards graduation
- Required number of credits for grade level
- Required courses completed for the previous grade level
- Record of satisfactory attendance.
(No truants or excessive tardies/absences)

9th Grade

- No Work Permits will be issued (except for on-campus jobs)

During the summer all students are eligible for work permits.

Congratulations!

The Aaron Price Fellows Program aims to enrich the lives of students by giving them the opportunity to venture outside their “safe-zones” through exercises and workshops that deal with cultural pride, racism, communication, and self-discovery. Congratulations to the following 12 freshmen who have been selected for the Aaron Price Fellows Program, Class of 2012: Adrian Alabayad, Kap Davis, Jasmine Ellis, John-Lancaster Finley, Christina King, Forrest Lutz, Monica Ly, Cody Machado, Samantha Rutherford, Corten Singer, Camille Teasley, and Alex Torres! Way to go! **Boys’ and Girls’ State** are programs that offer young men and women training in the practical purposes of self government. Activities include legislative sessions, campaigning, party rallies, debating, and voting. This year’s Girls State delegate is Sarah Robinson; Sarah Silva was selected as 1st Alternate, and Ada Waelder has been named 2nd Alternate. The Boys State delegate is Alexander Silberman, and Keegan Fitzgerald was selected as Alternate. **The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge** is a youth leadership conference where juniors from different states can interact, learn about history and principles of our country from guest speakers, and visit historical sites. This year’s participant is Sarah Robinson. **The Jenna Druck Foundation** provides inspirational year-round training, empowering thousands of young women each year with the resources they need to realize their full potential as leaders. Iman Al-Kudsy, Olympia Garis, Paulina Mejia Arroyo, Stephanie Navarro, Adriana Pickering, Rachel Rodeheaver, Christina Schlesinger, and Ada Waelder were named participants in the Jenna Druck Foundation’s Spirit of Leadership Conference. Congratulations to all!

TUTORING INFORMATION

Students who are members of the honor society (CSF) are available to tutor PLHS students in most subject areas in the Library after school.

UNDERCLASS AND SENIOR AWARDS PROGRAMS

On Thursday, April 23, 2009 the Underclass Awards Program was held to honor underclass students for their achievements; congratulations to all recognized students! Seniors will receive cash awards, certificates, and honors at the gala **Senior Awards Program on Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 6:30 p.m in Trepanier Gym.**

TESTING

All Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors have completed taking the **Standardized Testing and Reporting Program Tests (STAR)** from April 22 – April 29, 2009. Thanks to all students for their hard work and dedication during this stressful time.

The results of the STAR testing program are important to everyone in the Point Loma community. They are used to calculate the Academic Performance Index (API) for Point Loma High School, which is used to rank us against other high schools. The API ranking is published for the public to see, and is a direct reflection on the school and the community.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS

AP Exams were given in May. All students enrolled in an AP course must take the AP Exam in order to receive AP course credit.

PARENT ALERT

Just a reminder that it is illegal to contribute to the delinquency of a student. According to Penal Code 272, it is illegal for an adult to supply alcohol or drugs to any minor. You will be responsible for their welfare and held accountable for their actions.

NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

Families that attended the **National College Fair** on April 14, 2009 were able to get a head start on college planning. This year we had two buses available for students to attend the fair from 9:00-10:30 a.m.; juniors had priority. **Junior presentations on college and graduation** took place on February 24-25, 2009 in the PAC. Spring is the time for your student to begin working with their counselor on college search.

Three helpful links are: the Naviance website, <https://connection.naviance.com/fc/signin.php?hsid=pointloma>, www.campusprogram.com which offers free access to our 50,000 US/Canadian Universities and college programs/department sites covering 300 fields of study, and www.degreesearch.com.

SUMMER SCHOOL Monday 6/22-Friday 6/31/09 (Six Weeks)

This program is for our students who received a "D" or "F" grade in a previous English, Science, Math, or History course. The purpose of this program is to give the students an opportunity to earn a higher grade and/or high school credit.

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

A representative from Mesa College was on our campus to provide information and allow students to participate in their community college orientation. Students who plan on attending City or Miramar also met with the Mesa rep. If a student missed orientation, they should to go to Mesa either on June 6 or 13. More information will be posted our school website, www.pointlomahigh.com, the school bulletin, and Naviance in the future.



SENIORS

Senioritis is a disease of second semester seniors. They think that colleges will not see their second semester grades so they stop studying. Please note that if you have been admitted to a college or university, admission is provisional until you graduate and we send them your final transcript. If your grades have fallen, the college has the right to revoke your acceptance and/or scholarship. Seniors, KEEP STUDYING!!!

COLLEGE NOTICES

Spring is a very rewarding time as our students begin receiving their college acceptances. It is very gratifying to hear students joyfully exclaim they were accepted to X, Y, or Z College or University. In all the excitement, it is easy for seniors to forget to follow all procedures from the college in regards to securing student housing. Many colleges require students to take English and/or Math placement tests prior to enrollment. It is important to read all information sent to them from the colleges so they don't miss out on important deadlines.

Seniors will continue to have the opportunity to apply for many scholarships. Notification is given to students on Naviance.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

LET THE COUNSELING OFFICE KNOW WHERE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE!

Graduation! Final report cards are mailed to each Senior's home around the end of June. Final transcripts will be sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse at the very end of June, if the NCAA forms were filled out and a copy was given to Mrs. Hurl. Final transcripts will be sent to colleges the first week of July if you gave the request to the Registrar and have paid any/all fees. Have a GREAT SUMMER! Email your counselor in the fall to let her know how things are going!

TIPS FOR SENIOR PARENTS ON LETTING GO

The Emotional Roller Coaster: Recognize your student's conflicting emotions. Your student, like you, is being pulled between past, present and future. One day exclaiming, "Leave me alone; I'm 18 years old, and independent," and the next complaining, "You're never around when I need you!" Your student's ups and downs are a sign of the ambivalence of the transitional time. This summer: make a financial plan and discuss expectations with your student. Develop a tentative budget and be clear about who will pay for what. For example, some parents pay for tuition, room/board, books and supplies, while their student is responsible for incidental expenses such as snacks, movies and CD's. Other students are responsible for earning a percentage of their tuition. Teach your student about responsible use of credit and debit cards.

Communication: Keeping in touch once they're at college - Ask about courses, rather than focusing on grades. Invite your student to share with you the discovery of new ideas, academic interests and intellectual passions.

TIPS OF THE MONTH

\$\$\$\$: Students get into the habit of working with a financial budget. Set a spending limit and savings goal based on your monthly income (allowances, after-tax pay, etc.). Put your savings amount away. Then prioritize how you want to use the rest of your money. That way, you can have what you really want and still save money! Look for a summer job or internship to offset the cost of college.

THE SOCIAL TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

Teens in high school are drinking more than ever and starting drinking at even younger ages. The incidence of high-risk drinking only increases in college when children find themselves with new freedom away from watchful eyes of parents. Consider these facts:

- * Students who chose not to drink during high school will often start during their first year of college. Moderate high school drinkers often become heavy drinkers in college.
- * Teens who use alcohol before the age of 15 are four times more likely to be alcohol dependent than adults whose first drink is at the legal age of 21.
- * Each fall, 15 million students enroll in college. Nearly 160,000 of today's first year college students leave school every year for alcohol and other drug-related reasons.

Information from: *Next Step Magazine*

INSURANCE COLLEGE COVERAGE

If your kids are heading off to college, especially for the first time, you probably need to **fine-tune your insurance coverage**. Your auto premiums should drop if your child doesn't take a family car to school, assuming the college is more than 100 miles away. For students with cars on campus, notify your insurer of the new location. If it's out of state, make sure you comply with that state's laws for minimum coverage. If your child has at least a B average, ask for a good-student discount.

For a child living in a dorm, your homeowner's policy may cover personal belongings up to 10% of your own content coverage. If you need more, you can purchase a rider. Students in off-campus-housing will need renter's insurance for property and liability. Roommates often can share a policy. Your health insurance covers unmarried children who are full-time students up to age 20 to 25, depending on the insurer. If you're in an HMO, make sure the college is within your service area. When your children reach the age limit, or get married, they qualify for COBRA coverage through your employer.

Point Loma Students in Leukemia Cup Race



NEWS FROM THE CLASS SPONSORS

Next year, the class sponsors have decided to work with a group called Activities SoCal. They have been very successful planning Grad Night parties for schools in Orange County and recently started working in the San Diego area. They plan innovative parties at different locations that are safe and exciting. Another change for Senior Activities is there will no longer be a Disneyland trip. This way we can put all our efforts into one Graduation Activity and really make it a special and memorable time for our seniors.

As some of you already know, senior year is a fun but expensive time. To help families and students start saving now for Grad Night activities, the Financial Office at school will be setting up "Grad Night Accounts" for the entire student body. Our goal is to streamline the way we have been doing things and get the students personally involved in raising money for their Grad Night Party. Information will be sent out to all the families with your student registration packet for next school year.

Thanks to all the parents and students that have volunteered and helped support our fundraising efforts.

Have a Great Summer!

Maureen McGrath – Class of 2010 Sponsor
Lucy DeVito – Class of 2011 Sponsor
Jean Peugh - Class of 2012 & 2013 Sponsor
Susan Blair - Class of 2012 Sponsor

* * * * * JUNIORS * * * * *

PLAN AHEAD FOR YOUR COLLEGE FUTURE!

Yes, even underclass students can take action to prepare for college. Here are some tips high school students can take during the next few months provided by the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

If you haven't logged into the Naviance program yet, now is the time to start. Write, telephone, or use the internet to request admissions literature and financial aid information from the colleges on your list. There is no charge and no obligation to obtain general information about admission and financial aid. Register for the May/June SAT Reasoning Test and/or the May/June SAT Subject Tests. Register for the June ACT if you want to take that test. Continue to evaluate your list of colleges and universities. Eliminate colleges from the original list that no longer interest you and add others as appropriate. Look into summer jobs or apply for special summer academic or enrichment programs. Colleges love to see students using their knowledge and developing their skills and interests.

May: Get a jump start on summer activities—consider enrolling in an academic course at a local college, pursuing a summer school program, applying for an internship, working or volunteering. If you work, save part of your earnings for college. Begin visiting colleges. Phone to set up appointments. Interviews are always a good idea. Many colleges will tell you they are optional, but an interview will show interest, enthusiasm, and initiative on your part and provide an excellent opportunity to have your questions answered. Do a practice interview with your family, employer, or a senior who has had college interviews. Set up interviews as early as possible—interview times become booked quickly! Take the SAT Reasoning Test or the SAT Subject Tests. Go to Naviance for free SAT/ACT prep, and summer enrichment programs.

COLLEGE CAMPUS VISIT ADVICE: Juniors should visit during spring and summer months. If you're considering a summer visit, check with the college first. Some campuses are dead in the summer; others have summer program for juniors or summer school. Attend an information session and/or interview, tour campus, visit classes, talk with students and faculty, meet with a coach, and

eat on campus. Consider staying overnight in the residence halls. Ask questions and learn as much as you can about the university community. Look up US news online for more information at www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/find/covisits.htm

Make good use of the summer. Consider taking a course that you can apply toward college. Explore volunteering, internships and job possibilities. Spend time with your family and friends.

June: After school ends, get on the road to visit colleges. Seeing the college firsthand, taking a tour and talking to students can be the greatest help in deciding whether or not a school is right for you. Although it is ideal to visit colleges during the academic year, going in the summer will be valuable. Admission offices employ their students to give tours and answer questions from prospective students and their parents. Take the SAT Reasoning Test, the SAT Subject Tests, and/or the ACT.

If you plan to play Division I or II athletics in college, you will need to visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website, ncaa.org, to fill out the NCAA Clearinghouse form. You should print three copies, one for your records and two to give to Mrs. Hurl. See Laurie Hurl if you have any questions.

Continue doing community service (forms are available on our school website under "students".) If you plan to attend a 4-year college and have not taken the SAT/ACT do so now! (The test is usually the first or second Saturday in June; "normal" registration is in May. See www.collegeboard.com or www.act.org) Visit colleges you are interested in attending. If planning to attend any type of college and you haven't started a free scholarship search do so! Visit Naviance and www.collegeanswer.com. Create/Update a Scholarship file(s) at home for necessary papers.

July: Visit colleges, take tours, have interviews, and ask questions. Make college visiting a family event. Involve your parents and siblings in every step of your application process. Choosing the right college is a tough decision; the opinions of those who know you best can provide helpful insight into which college is best for you.

(See Juniors on page 10)

SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

April: Register for June SAT Subject Test. These are one-hour exams testing you on academic subjects that you have already completed. Among the many to choose from are biology, chemistry, foreign languages, physics, and world history. Many colleges require three SAT Subject Tests. Some colleges recommend/require Math Level 1 or Math Level 2; UC's only accept Math Level 2. Not all SAT Subject Tests are given on every test date. Check the calendar carefully to determine when the Subject Tests you want are offered. Continue to research career options and consider possible college majors that will help you achieve your career goals.

June: Take the SAT Subject Tests that you registered for in April. Consider electing score choices so you can see your test scores before deciding whether to release the results to colleges. It's a good idea to plan on taking the SAT Subject Tests again in the spring of your junior year or the fall of your senior year. You then have the option of releasing only your best scores to colleges. If you work, save some of your earnings for college.

July: During the summer, you may want to sign up for a PSAT/SAT prep course, use computer software, or do the practice tests in books designed to familiarize you with standardized tests.

August: Make your summer productive. Continue reading to increase your vocabulary.

FRESHMAN YEAR COLLEGE PLANNING

1. Start strong and post solid grades
2. Get involved in after-school activities - this is your opportunity to try out a few different options. At least one should be social or community service.
3. Plan your 10th grade schedule - if you have done well in your freshmen classes, consider honors or advanced courses
4. Plan to work, travel, or volunteer over the summer

JUNIORS *

(Continued from page 9)

Continue doing community service. Visit any type of college(s) near any vacation sites! Search different career/interests possibilities for the future – use websites, books, talk with people, etc. Update your profiles from the scholarship searches on Naviance. Create/Update a Scholarship file(s) at home for necessary papers.

August: If you plan to play Division I or II athletics in college, you will need to visit the NCAA Clearinghouse website, ncaa.org, to fill out the NCAA Clearinghouse form. You should print three copies, one for your records and two to give to Mrs. Hurl. See Laurie Hurl if you have any questions.

Continue doing community service. Arrange all accumulated college info at home into 2 piles: #1 = keep for further consideration and #2 = do not keep. Later in the month take another look at college info and separate in 2 piles: #1 = a definite maybe! and #2 = don't keep. View college websites and go on a few more college visits. Narrow college choices to about 5. Create a file folder for each of the colleges and an extra file for add-on's. Do a college comparison sheet for these 5 colleges. If you think there needs to be a change in your schedule due to a change in your future plans email your counselor. Get and stay organized!



A mother/daughter community service organization providing gently-used stylish clothing to foster and disadvantaged teen girls in San Diego.

SEEKING NEW MEMBERS!



Check out our website
www.mygirlfriendscloset.info
or call Barbara Greiert at 619-884-0844

AP SUMMER ENRICHMENT CLASSES AT POINT LOMA

The Advanced Placement Incentive Program is excited to provide AP Summer Enrichment courses for Point Loma Students. Students need not be enrolled in an AP course for the fall of 2009 in order to participate. This experience is designed to give participants the following benefits:

- Students who are apprehensive about committing to AP courses will have the opportunity to become familiar with the text materials and the current instructors
- Students will have a more structured environment in which to do the summer reading assignments
- Those who have already signed up for an AP course in fall 2009 will have the opportunity to get a head start by familiarizing themselves with the coursework, text, and teacher
- Students will add value to their college applications by reporting participation in a summer enrichment program
- Other activities include college tours, giveaways, and guest speakers
- There are 4 course offerings to choose from:
 - Two sections of AP Human Geography: June 22 - July 3 & July 6 - July 7 from 7:50 - 10:00.
 - AP English Language : July 6 - July 17 from 7:50 - 10:00
 - Pre-AP Chemistry: June 22 - July 17 from 7:50 - 12:00
 - AP Physics: July 20 - July 31 from 7:50 - 10:00

Applications are available in the Library and Counseling Center. Enrollment will be on a first come, first served basis. If you have any questions you may email Mr. Ballard at cballard@sandi.net or call 619-223-3121 x 1169. Busses are not available for summer school.

LET'S ALL HELP MATT ALCANTARA

As many of you know we recently received devastating news of our dear friend Matt Alcantara's diagnosis of bone cancer. He is a ninth grader at Point Loma High.

Matt is a strong young man and is going to overcome this challenge with spirit and courage . . . and lots of laughter. His chemotherapy began a few weeks ago and will continue for approximately one year. He will also undergo surgery this summer in Houston, Texas.

HOW CAN WE ALL HELP?

In an effort to show support and raise money for Matt "MATT" wristbands and stickers are available for purchase from Wendy Eifert and Will Herrin at Point Loma High School on Thursdays & Fridays.

A donation account has been opened for Matt at the US Bank on Chatsworth. A web site has been created to allow families to buy wristbands, stickers and donate directly to the Matt Alcantara Fund at www.mattalcantara.com.

Blood donations in Matt's name are also welcome. Donations can be made at any SD Blood Bank. The code to donate to Matt is: MA05

Thanks for your consideration and for keeping Matt and his family in your thoughts.

Parent-Teacher-Student Association Newsletter

Point Loma High School PTSA

Ninth District PTA, Inc., CCPTS
San Diego Unified PTA Council
2335 Chatsworth Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92106-1699



Phone: 619-223-3121

The Parent Pointer Newsletter is
published four to five times annually.

www.pointlomahigh.com

CLASS OF 2012

It is hard to believe we are already at the end of the school year. It's been great getting reacquainted with families, getting to know new families and their students.

Through our fundraising efforts this year we have raised \$1300 for our grad night activities. We appreciate all the parents and student who volunteered to help sell Fun Cards and seat cushions at the football games, and the students who gave up their Saturdays selling Fun Cards at Fresh and Easy. We could not have accomplished this without you!

Just to remind everyone, another way of supporting the class of 2012 is by purchasing your floral needs from Flowers of Point Loma. Ten percent (10%) of all your purchases will be generously donated back to the Class of 2012! Graduation Day is June 15th, so please help get the word out to your friends and family to purchase their boutonnieres and corsages from Flowers of Point Loma. All they need to do is tell the salesperson they are attending the Commencement Ceremony at Pt. Loma High School and they will take care of the rest.

Thanks go out to the following families and students for their donations of time and financial support: Lisa Huff, Vicki and Chris Sullivan, Erin and Jim Alcantara, David and Barbara Hass, James and Carol Smith, Jerry and Debora Sherman, Dean and Rosemary Sutter, Steve and Elisa Cusato, Brad and Lisa McKay, Judge Ryan Properties, Inc., Mary and Bruce Paul, Peter and Mary Wheeler, William and Olga Holland, Robin and Valerie Butcher, Stephen Sutherland, Ruth and Darrold Davis, John and Andreia Barbosa, Kenneth Pickle and Barbara Meserve, Brian and Ofelia Paloa, Sally and William Stephens, Tgnacio and Lillian Montano, Constance Paine, Bruce Fernbaugh, Mary McEachern, Ernest and Rosa Arias, Thomas and Susan Rutherford, Diane Clay, Matt and Kris Spathas, Jean and Colin Peugh, Ann Herrin, Kim Hecht, Lillian Montano. Jim Blair, Sandra Teasley, Liza Oviedo, Bill McClelland, Kim Calloway, Michelle Ellison, Candy Snell, Mary Noble.

Student Volunteers: William Wright, John Lancaster Finley, Cullen Peugh, Jake Blair, Wesley Clinton, Ryan Shoemaker, Forrest Lidell, Nina Teasley, Tori Touhill, Sara Fisher, Kathy

Pickle, Will Herrin, Matt Alcantara, Keegan Wade, Anthony Cusato, Nia Rowland, Krya McClelland, Alex Blea, Evan Fenison.

We would like to thank the following restaurants for donating gift Certificates for our Fun Card Fundraiser: Hodad's, Nick's at the Pier, The Vine Bar & Café, Craves Café, Pepe's, The Venetian, The Brigantine, Phil's BBQ, Old Venice, Outback Steakhouse.

Thank you to Penn Bryan, owner of Flowers of Point Loma for sponsoring the Class of 2012.

We would like to give a special thanks to Ann Herrin, our Volunteer Coordinator, and Kim Hecht for recruiting the volunteers to sell merchandise at the football games, and Fresh and Easy Fun Card Sales.

We hope everyone has a great summer and we will see in September!

Susan Blair & Jean Peugh

CLASS OF 2011

I can't believe it is already May. That means summer is right around the corner and next year our kids will be Juniors!!! Our class has enjoyed a great year and we have stayed on track with our money raising efforts. To date our class has a grand total of \$8060.39 - Fantastic!

Next year there will be changes in the Class Sponsor position, it won't exist anymore. In its place will be "A Grad Night Committee." Our class is lucky because we have a nice nest egg (which will help with expenses), but as of next fall each family in the Class of 2011 will share the responsibility of their student taking part in grad night. See the article from Class Sponsors included in this newsletter.

Thank you to all the families who have helped make this year easy for me. Knowing all I have to do is ask for help and you are all there. Again thank you to all the families and our class sponsors who have made donations to our class. To our very special and helpful Sophomore Class President, Sarah Wassem – THANK YOU So Much!

Enjoy the summer!

Lucy DeVito

FROM THE LIBRARY AND TEXTBOOK CENTER

This has been an exciting year for the library and its patrons. The year has flown by with class research and many individuals accessing the many information resources we offer for both academic and recreational pursuits. The visiting accreditation team offered many accolades for the library program as they were very impressed with the services available to staff and students. Their report recognized the PLHS Library Media Center as a "well-managed, active learning environment" and "a warm and inviting place to study, get help or conduct research". It is now time to wrap up the 2008-2009 school year, and to get that process started all library books are due on or before May 29th! Check the due date stamped in the book to avoid late fees.

Also a quick reminder that students are responsible for the return of all school items on or before the last day of school. Students should not give materials that are individually checked out to them on their ID card to teachers to return. When an item is returned the name of the person who checked that item out on their ID is displayed. To avoid potential misunderstandings, students have been instructed via their English teachers to verify that each item they are returning is the one they checked out. English classes will visit the library on June 9th and 10th for the return of any books not needed for finals.

Please note that lockers will close on June 10, 2009. Textbooks required for half-day final exams, (underclass: June 11th, 12th, and 15th), need to be taken home and returned to the library before or after the final exam. Please note that there is a \$5.00 per book late fee for any books left in lockers or books returned after 12:30pm on the last day of school and the library/text windows will close at 12:30pm each 1/2 day. The instructional materials inventory has to be taken immediately and to be as accurate as possible it is greatly appreciated when students return school items as soon as they have finished using them.

SENIOR CLEARANCE SLIPS are required for cap and gown pickup at the NJROTC windows at 2:30pm on June 11th. The slips will be available at the TEXTBOOK WINDOWS beginning Weds., June 10th. Seniors need to return all materials and clear any outstanding debts (athletic, club, or other non-text debts) that they may have at the FINANCIAL OFFICE in order to receive their clearance slip for cap and gown pick up. Please be aware that May 29, 2009 is the last day the school is able to accept checks for any type of payments.

Thank you for reminding your student(s) to take care of these important end of the year activities. Thank you for your support and enjoy a wonderful summer break!

Shannon Toyzan, Library Media Teacher

Honorary Service Awards

The Point Loma High School Parent, Teacher, Student Association Honorary Service Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009. Many thanks to Miguel's Cocina Mexican Food, Vons and Trader Joe's for their food and drink donations, and to Susan Blair for her extraordinary hospitality skills, for the fabulous luncheon in celebration of all the HSA recipients. AND THE WINNERS ARE

GINI HOLCOMB; SHANNON TOYZAN; BERT CAMERON; ANTHONY PALMIOTTO; JOHN MURPHY; DEBRA BRALLA; MAUREEN MCGRATH; LINDA PENDLETON; and SALLY TODTER.

MICHELE JOHNSON was presented with a special award known as the Wrennie Sponsel Award, given to a teacher new to Point Loma High School, with one to three years of service who has exhibited excellent teaching skills and has been involved with students in extracurricular activities.

Congratulations to all recipients! And a very special thank you to Lucy De Vito for coordinating the entire event.

FUND-RAISER SUPPORTING PLHS CLASS OF 2012

For all your floral needs, please bring this flyer to



Flowers of Point Loma!

10% of your purchase will be generously donated back to the
PLHS incoming Class of 2012's senior year activities!

Calling all students....
Plan ahead for GRADUATION!!

Boutonnieres ~ Corsages

Your choice of flowers: Roses, Orchids, Gardenias, so many more
Your choice of ribbons: Many shades to match your dress

Parents, need a gift?

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Holidays, Client Appreciation, Graduation floral
arrangements, bouquets, potted plants...
You design or pick up and go!

Name: _____

Phone Numbers: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Amount of Purchase: \$ _____

Amount Donated to PLHS 2012: _____

Thank you to Flowers of Point Loma for your support!!