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# San Leandro High School

## April 2008 Newsletter

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2200 Bancroft Avenue  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
510-667-3540

[www.slhs.net](http://www.slhs.net)

[www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us](http://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us)

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## SLHS Calendar

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### March

- Mar 21 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
Mar 24-28 Spring Break, No School  
Mar 31 César Chávez Day, No School

### April

- Apr 3 Report Cards Mailed (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter)  
Apr 3 United Parents Meeting, Staff Cafeteria  
Apr 5 Fitness Testing, Gym  
Apr 7 College Bound Field Trip  
Apr 10 District Orchestra Festival, 7pm, Bancroft  
Apr 11 Junior Prom  
Apr 12 Teen Job Fair, SL Library  
Apr 16 Residency Verification (current 9<sup>th</sup> graders)  
Apr 17 Scholarship Foundation Fundraiser  
Apr 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26 – West Side Story  
Apr 21-May 2 STAR Testing window

### May

- May 3 SAT and Subject Tests (register by Apr 1)  
May 6,7 CAHSEE for 12<sup>th</sup> graders  
May 23 Senior Ball, Galleria, San Francisco

### June

- June 7 SAT and Subject Tests (register by May 6)

\*CAHSEE = California High School Exit Exam

Need to look ahead? Check your student's planner, [slhs.net](http://slhs.net), or the district website <http://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us>

1:55pm Early Dismissal Dates: 4/2, 4/16, 4/30, 5/14.

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## SENIOR NEWS

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Senior After-Grad night Parent committee gets off to slow start! As they say, better late than never! Please come to a parent meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 7pm, Staff Cafeteria. Any questions or thoughts, please write Barbara Barry at [bbarry249@comcast.net](mailto:bbarry249@comcast.net).

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## SAN LEANDRO ADULT SCHOOL

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Register now for these exciting classes at San Leandro Adult School .

Driver Education	March 24-28
First Aid/CPR	April 12
Malaysian & Thai Cooking	April 5
Floral Arranging	April 2-23
Intro to Sewing	April 9-30
Home Decorating	April 15-May 6
Photoshop Elements	April 5-26

To Register: Call 667-6287 or visit San Leandro Adult School, 1448 Williams Street, San Leandro

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## Principal's Letter

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March and April are the times that finds school personnel very busy: we are trying to keep up with programming students for the next school year, preparing for the STAR tests, hiring staff for the next school year and dealing with all kinds of cases of "spring fever!"

I want to thank all parents in advance for your patience in dealing with the transition to a 6 period day. We have been meeting with departments to see which elective classes will become semester classes (1/2 year) and which classes will be full year. We want to ensure that students do have the opportunities to take as many electives as possible so we can help them identify a career pathway of their choosing and find the perfect college/university/trade school for their next step. We will be gradually reducing graduation requirements from 270 to 220 and will send out the new requirements to all parents.

The weeks of April 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> will find our school involved in STAR testing. The STAR tests have historically been used to measure school growth, and many parents (and students) have not been very fond of these tests or seen much value in them. Certainly, the STAR test should never be used as the only way to measure our students' brilliance; however, the test has evolved the last few years in a way that makes it more meaningful and important for students and parents.

This year, the only tests that will be given to high school students are the Content Standards Tests, or CSTs. The CST tests are based on the adopted state standards that our teachers use in their teaching, so the test results will give us a greater indication of how our students are learning the state standards and how well we are doing in teaching them. The data we get from these tests will form an important part of our school improvement plan.

It is more important than ever to encourage your child to take the test seriously. We will be making school wide efforts to encourage attendance and diligence on the test, and I thank you in advance for your support. I am sure that together we can raise student achievement on these assessments!

As always, seniors will not be tested but will be expected to be in attendance for graduation meetings during testing. Their attendance at these meetings is mandatory!

I hope you and your family have a restful and relaxing spring break!

Go Pirates!

Amy Furtado  
Principal

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## Counseling Corner

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The Counseling Department is very busy completing programming for 9th graders going to 10th, 10th graders going to 11th, 11th graders going to 12th, and (at Bancroft and John Muir Middle Schools) 8th graders going to 9th. Student interest and preparation are excellent this year! Sincere thanks to parents/family members, teachers, and coaches for providing ideas and guidance to our students.

The Counseling Department wishes GOOD LUCK!! to all students taking the CAHSEE in early March! As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, excellent preparation can be found at [www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com); available also are study guides: one for mathematics & one for English-Language Arts.

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### SCHOLARSHIP/FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

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**Scholarship Bulletins** are posted at [www.slhs.net](http://www.slhs.net) and in the counseling office. New bulletin updates are also read over the morning announcements. Students are also encouraged to check with English, Economic and Government teachers for postings in their classrooms. **#8 Now Available.**

-Anna Katherine Boscacci, Counselor

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## Art, Drama and Music

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The Advanced Placement Studio Art class is having a great art show at the San Leandro Museum & Gallery, 320 W. Estudillo. Over 140 people showed up for the opening reception and everyone was so impressed with the talent here at SLHS. The show continues throughout March.

Please have your artistic student check with any art teacher in our department regarding contests and scholarships. We can help!

Summer school at an art college is a wonderful way to spend the summer. CCA and the Academy of Art have classes for students in almost every art practice. Photography, Jewelry, Fashion, Drawing & Painting, Animation and more. Check on-line for details. Scholarships are available but you'll need to apply right away. College credit is usually earned by taking these classes.

Fun news: Ms. Brown won a contest, sponsored by the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. She saw a fantastic runway show in Los Angeles, all created by 3rd year FIDM college students, she also got a makeover and the best part.. she was invited to be on the Advisory Board for the College. If there is enough interest, we may be creating a Fashion class here, with the help of FIDM.

Please support the Arts. Visual & Performing Arts contributes so much to the California economy. Jobs with great pay are available, but most students still have to submit a portfolio to get into art schools, or submit auditions for music and drama. Let's keep the arts alive at San Leandro High School. Parents, we need your support !

A. Brown, Dept. Chair



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## Student News, Clubs and Academies

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Breakfast of Champions was held on March 7th block 1 to honor the 250 Pirates that had a 4.0 GPA or higher. A special thanks to the Notables for providing entertainment and to Ray and his cafeteria staff for providing a yummy breakfast as well as the senior ladies in Ms. Renarios Graphic Arts class for designing the invitations. A true Pirate effort.

The Junior Prom is April 11th at the Scottish Rite Temple, located near Lake Merrit. Tickets go on sale for \$60 from March 17th to 21st . Prices go up to \$65 on March 31st to April 4th and then \$70 from April 7th to the 10th . All bills must be cleared and Saturday Schools served before a ticket can be purchased. The time of the prom is from 8-12 p.m.

Pirate items are in sale in the Student Center at lunch and afterschool. Pirate IPOD covers for \$6, keychains for \$2 and let's not forget you can special order a Pirate sweatshirt for \$40 (cash or check only)

The Pirate Madness 3 on 3 basketball tournament has been a success. Students and staff have been playing in a tournament for the past week. It has been great seeing staff and students competing and having fun in the gym during lunchtime. Thanks to Gene Felise, Commissioner of Athletics for this exciting week of basketball. Way to go Gene!!!

Seniors who are going on the Senior Grad Trip to Disneyland need to turn in their final payments by the end of March.

Reminder to all seniors that you must order a cap and gown from Josten's. If you did not purchase your cap and gown reminders have been sent out and you must send your order form and payment directly to Josten's in Danville. Time is running out. If you have any questions please call the Activities Director, Nancy Boissevain.

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### AVID NEWS

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**AVID is Changing SLHS** - AVID began at SL as a class of 30 students in January, 2000. AVID has become 10 classes of 300 students and five teachers. Over the last three years, every AVID senior has been admitted to a four-year college. If you look at completion of A-G requirements over the past 20 years, you'll find about 30-35% of San Leandro High students successfully complete them. But you'll also find that more SL students complete A-G requirements now that SLHS is more diverse than in 1992 when SLHS was mostly white. You'll also find that AVID graduates are driving the A-G completion rates upward so much so that, if AVID growth is fully supported by SLUSD, SLHS A-G completion rates will reach, because of AVID, roughly 60%. For parents, teachers and students this rise in A-G completion rates will mean more honors classes, more AP classes, more students who are serious about school, a safer school, a better school. By the time the AVID freshman class reaches its senior year, about 60% of SLHS students will be on track to go to four-year college. AVID seniors, who will make up roughly 50% of all of those college-bound SLHS seniors, will transform San Leandro High into one of the top high schools in the East Bay!

Karl Debro - SLHS, AVID Coordinator

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## **BUSINESS ACADEMY NEWS**

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On Valentine's Day, every Business Academy student presented their business and/or marketing plans to civic and business leaders from San Leandro and the greater Bay Area. Many of our Juniors and Seniors took their projects on to the State DECA Competition in Irvine, CA. Check out those winners who qualified for the International Competition in the DECA section! Sophomores will be competing in the NFTE semi-finals for business plans they created earlier this year. The top winner will compete in the Northern California Regional Competition and could qualify for the National competition in New York. Competitors are:

Beatriz Marquez	Mariah Haynes
Dominique Bansil	Jonathan Regalo
Robert Crayton	Rhigel Vargas
Jamie Huynh	Christina Henriquez
Delena Truong	Abby Lagasca
Jeanne Marie Marasigan	Danika Pabilona
Taj Simmons	

### **MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE TRIP**

In addition, juniors and seniors recently traveled to Santa Monica to visit the Museum of Tolerance and Cal State Long Beach. The trip was eye-opening to both students and teachers and very inspirational.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Academy Awards Night – April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Marina Comm.Ctr  
Relay for Life – May 17 & 18<sup>th</sup>  
End of the Year Trip – May 27<sup>th</sup>  
Academy Graduation – June 5<sup>th</sup>

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## **DECA NEWS**

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### **GREAT NEWS FOR SLHS DECA – STUDENTS TO COMPETE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION**

Over the weekend, San Leandro High School's DECA, an association of marketing students, participated in California's Career Development Conference in Irvine, California. This conference offered students the chance to compete in different areas of marketing including written projects, role plays, tests, and trivia. The following students earned a spot in DECA's International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia on April 23-26:

#### **Community Service Project**

Sophie Grajeda, Jessica Barajas, and David Ramos- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### **Retail Merchandising Market Research Paper**

Victor Holanda and Abdulamelek Ali-3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### **General Marketing Research Paper**

Brain Lee, Maia Estropia, and Tara Bituin-1<sup>st</sup> Place

#### **Buying and Merchandising Series Event**

Jessica Barajas and Sophie Grajeda- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

In addition, the following students were also recognized at the conference for an outstanding job:

#### **Apparel and Accessories Marketing Series Event**

David Ramos- Top 8 Written Event & Top 8 AM Role Play, Top 8 Overall; Ashley Getti- Top 8 Overall

#### **Retail Merchandising Marketing Series Event**

Amy Klein- Top 8 PM Role Play

#### **Hotel and Lodging Series Event**

Amy Royal- Top 8 PM Role Play

#### **Buying and Merchandising Series Event**

Jessica Barajas- Top 8 Written Event

Sophie Grajeda- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Written Event

#### **Food Marketing Series Event**

Jonathan Regalo- Top 8 AM Role Play

#### **Automotive Services Series Event**

Alyssa Felicitas- Top 8 Written Event & Top 8 PM Role Play,

Top 8 Overall; Iveliz Rodriguez- Top 8 PM Role Play

Tim Leong- Top 8 PM Role Play, Top 8 Overall

#### **Hospitality Market Research Paper Top 8 Overall:**

Liz Escobar, Ashley Getti, and Maggie Quintanilla

Ismael Munoz, Emilia Gomez, and Rebecca Miller

**State Officer Essay Finalist-** Sophie Grajeda

### **FUNDRAISING EFFORTS**

Students are actively fundraising for the estimated \$800 per student trip. Any donations would be appreciated and are tax deductible. Forward to San Leandro DECA, C/O Mary Styner, DECA Advisor, 2200 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, 94577.

### **RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM - DECA: DETERMINED TO EDUCATE for CANCER AWARENESS**

Our DECA chapter is getting on board to form a Relay for Life team. We will be promoting and fundraising for cancer awareness throughout the months of March, April and May.

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## **COLLEGEBOUND NEWS**

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CollegeBound Studies the SAT Test!

February was SAT month for our CollegeBound Club at SLHS: over 70 students took a practice SAT test and essay followed up by a blitz prep seminar where we studied questions, tips and strategies. Congratulations to those Juniors who took the SAT Test in March!!

April 7 is our second CollegeBound field trip to UC Berkeley and UC Davis--every student needs a permission slip signed off by all four teachers and parent for this Monday field trip. Signups at this point are still possible but our bus is almost full! Questions? Barbara Barry at bbarry249@comcast.net.

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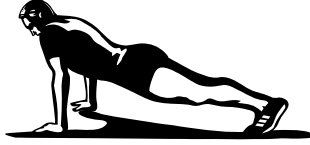
## **SAN LEANDRO PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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**Teen Poetry Workshop** at the San Leandro Main Library: Saturday, April 19, 2pm to 4pm - Celebrate National Poetry Month with this FREE poetry workshop! Poet and musician Raymond Nat Turner will help students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades create and perform original poems. Space is limited, so register at the Main Library, 300 Estudillo, or by calling 577-3960.

**Teen Job Fair:** Sat April 12 10:45am to 1:00 pm, San Leandro Main Library – Remember to dress for success, bring your résumé, and be prepared for on the spot interviews.

## ATTENTION ALL FRESHMEN!!



### PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST:

As you all know by now, all **Freshmen** must take a State mandated physical fitness test. Students will be tested on their cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, body composition, upper body strength, as well as abdominal strength. The Fitnessgram is a set of tests designed to evaluate health-related fitness and to assist students in establishing lifetime habits of regular physical activity.

**STUDENTS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS MUST COME AND TEST ON SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH (9:00 TO 3:00).**

Students must come **ON TIME** with their ID card and check-in in the gym lobby. Breakfast will be provided. Please note that students are required to wear athletic clothes and shoes.

To find out more about the Fitnessgram test and passing requirements, visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/>

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### United Parents News

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UP United Parents is pleased to announce that this year we have awarded nearly **\$6,000 in grant funds** to our teachers and staff to support education at SLHS. Award recipients include:

**Carolyn Salisbury, M.R. Germar, Carey Wilson, Linda Thurston, Linda Morrison, Deborah Reinerio, Laurie Appling, Sean Tobin (SLAM), Emily Pigott, Dion D'Amico, Lynda Campfield, Theresa Wilson, Dian Dove, Audrey Brown, Cynthia Schulz, Isabelle Wettergren, Brad Bowers, Nancy Boissevain, Dr. Ammar Saheli, Fabiola Fernandez, Katherine Kinne, Roberta Weisbard, Steve Holcombe, Sam Lucero, Ruby Smart.**

Our awards were given to teachers from all departments and funded class supplies, books, technology equipment, field trips, weights, art models, and more.

United Parents appreciates all the "extras" our teachers and staff do to support our children in their learning and growth. We thank you as a community for joining United Parents. Your membership dollars help fund these grants as does your **free** participation in the **E-Scrip Program**. By registering your Safeway Club Card and other credit cards with E-Scrip, United Parents receives added funds. Joining E-Scrip is easy and safe. It is a painless way to support San Leandro High School. Go to **[www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)** and find United Parents. Our account # is **136952255**. The website is easy to navigate. Join today!

We welcome you to our next United Parents meeting on **Thursday, April 3rd at 7:00** in the Staff Lunchroom. We will hear from **Dan Martin** as he discusses our **English Language Development Program** at San Leandro High. We will hear about a student art program in our community as well. More details will be posted on the SLHS website and will be sent out via the United Parents e-mail list group. Join fellow parents at our April meeting and bring a friend.

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### Message from Superintendent Christine Lim

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#### **More Investment in Public Education, Not Less**

Our district – like all districts in the state of California – is struggling with making tough choices regarding programs, services and staffing, due to the state's current fiscal crisis and the Governor's proposed 2008-2009 budget, which again hits education especially hard.

The Governor's proposed education budget cuts would be catastrophic to California students, and will decimate critical programs and services to students that are already woefully under-funded.

California is the eighth wealthiest state in our nation, and yet our ranking of per pupil spending is 46 among our fifty states. We recently received a D+ in school funding in a report from Education Funding, and this was before the Governor announced his proposed cuts to education. California spends \$2,000 less per student than the national average.

**Education is key to revitalizing California's economy. It is critical to the economic health of California's future that more investment in public education is made; not less.**

I am not without hope. In San Leandro, we have made great strides in student achievement and narrowing the gaps of our student subgroups. As our District, and districts across the state, are having difficult discussions about programs and services, I am moved by the passion and commitment of the teachers, staff and families who believe as strongly as I do that public education plays the most critical and fundamental role in a democratic and just society. We must continue to make our voices heard!

SLUSD food services is in need of substitutes. If anyone is interested, please call 667-3508 or come down to the Human Resources department at the District Office (14735 Juniper St.).