



THE PATRIOT PRESS



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (By Larry Oshodi)

Dear Patriot Family,

We do have much to be thankful for as we approach the end of the fall semester. First, we welcome Mr. Hugh Bursch as the new Assistant Principal for our SLC-C. Mr. Bursch is a Brentwood resident and brings to Heritage a decade of experience as a high school administrator.

Our instructional program remains strong, allowing all our students to continue to achieve academically. We also continue to see a decline in the achievement gap between students in different sub-groups. This is critical as we transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) like all other schools across the state. Talking about the CCSS, I'm currently working with our Patriot Parents Organization (PPO) for an informational session for parents when I can share our immediate and future plans with you. So stay tuned.

I'm also happy to report that the excitement and 'school spirit' on our campus is at an all-time high, with full credit to our Leadership program and our entire school community. It also helps to have a powerful athletic and award-winning Visual and Performing Arts programs. This fall athletic season, we won BVAL championships in 5 of the 8 fall sports: Cross Country (Boys), Golf (Girls), Tennis (Girls), Volleyball (Girls), and Water Polo (Boys)! Our Volleyball team went on to the NCS finals and the NorCal playoffs for the State

Championship contest. Congratulations to all our athletes and coaches.

As always, I want to thank you for your support and for staying involved in your students' education. I wish you all the very best of the holiday season.

Congratulations Students of the Quarter!

Math

Miranda Breves
Emily Carcot
Putri Khoiriyah
Aaron Larsen
Michaela Price
Catherine Satre
Rigel Matthew Sison
Margaret Winding

English

Carla Cernat
Danica Dolle
Amanda Kling
Svetlana Korzhov
Natalie Lara Agraz
Xhoshia Millington
Shanesia Mae Nallas
Brianna Pecknold
Olivia Quadros
Melissa Robbins
Brandon Rubio
Alexis Shodeen
Ryan Vogler
Ryan Volta
Stephanie Younger

HERITAGE PERFORMING
ARTS BOOSTERS
(By Steve Ernest)

Social Studies

Austin Campbell
Deirdre Colvin
Zaire Johnson
Quynh Le
Janet Nguyen

Motivational

Linda Camacho
Samantha Dehmlow
Dylan Ruaro
Breanna Salgado
Kaylie Sasak Scholderer
Edjig Ayehu Sellassie

Visual & Performing Arts

Veronica Caywood
Miraya Finau
Ramy Joseph
Brandon Lopez
Sarah Pardi
Ashley Soto
Mireya Tabasa
Ava Venezia

Career Technology

Anais Gilder
Parker Mace
Sydney Lou Morano
Alexandria Renner

World Languages

Claire Ashcroft
Stephanie Backlund
McKenna Baum
Adriana Baxley
Mindy Cook
Nicole Loeffler
Rey Clyde Villasenor

Physical Education

Nicholas Bonnie
Tanner Cooper
Katie Danielson
Donovan Downey
Kasidee Wiley

Heritage High School Bands

The holiday season is always a busy time for our band families. On Veteran's Day our Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Band Director Steven Ernest, played patriotic music to honor our past and present heroes. The music added another depth to this moving and solemn occasion and the dedication of our members was appreciated by all in attendance.

On Saturday, November 23rd, our Drumline participated in the Brentwood Holiday Parade under the direction of Juan Carreon. Once again, they did a fantastic job and had a great time, and are awaiting the results of the competition.

Also starting last weekend, our Holiday Ensembles were out playing at the Balfour Safeway. We would like to invite all our Heritage families to stop by and enjoy the music while out shopping this holiday season. Our performers will be playing through the weekend of December 21st and 22nd. We would like to say "thank you" to Safeway for their continued support of our musicians and to Laura Steele for coordinating this event.

On December 7th, our Jazz Band will be attending the Delta Jazz Festival until noon. We wish you great success. On the evening of the 7th, our Varsity and JV Drumlines will once again be marching in the Discovery Bay Parade of Lights under Juan's direction again. This year we are hoping for clear skies and another victory.

With the growth of our bands, one night of music is not enough! This year our Winter Concert will be held on two evenings. On Wednesday, December 11th, our Concert Band, Orchestra and Symphonic Band will be performing while on Thursday,

December 12th, the musical stylings of our Wind Ensemble, Varsity Drumline and Jazz Bands will be heard. The Percussion class will be dispersed to accompany the many bands. The concert will be held in the Theater from 7-8:30 p.m. on both nights. The cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 for seniors and students. If you purchased a Concert Card, admittance is free.

Our traditional Breakfast With Santa will be held on Saturday, December 14th at the Shadow Lakes Event Center. There will be 2 breakfast seatings: 8-9:30 a.m. and 9:30 –11 a.m. The Heritage High Jazz Band along with a few smaller ensembles will be performing all morning. **Bricks 4 Kidz** will furnish the building blocks to engage the imaginations of the youngsters as they await their visit with Santa. Tickets are \$10 each (children under 3 are free) and available at Tummies to Tots (3860 Balfour Rd., Brentwood), from your favorite band student, or by calling Cindy Vogler at 516-0832. We would like to thank Santa, the Brentwood Rotary, WinCo, Tummies to Tots, Bricks 4 Kidz, and all our helpers for your continued support. The instrumental class that has the most students selling their two tickets will earn a pizza party. (At least 40% of the total number of students enrolled in the class must participate to qualify.) Yummy!

Just a reminder that our Heritage Performing Arts Boosters (HPAB) meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Band Room. All band families are welcome and encouraged to attend. “Many hands make the work go easier.”

CPR/FIRST AID CLASSES OFFERED
(By Sarah Davies)

The Sports Medicine Club will once again be offering American Heart Association CPR/First Aid classes. The first class is January 21st from 4:00-8:00 p.m. and the second is January 25th from 11:00 a.m. –

3:00 p.m. The cost is \$15 per class. Contact Ms. Davies at daviess@luhsd.net to sign up or if you have questions. All classes will be held in classroom HR-103 at Heritage High School.

BART YOUTH CLIPPER CARD
(By Rose Thompson)

BART is offering an easier way to apply for a Youth Clipper Card. In five quick steps, students can access discounts for BART, Sam Trans, SFMTA/Muni, AC Transit, Caltrain, Golden Gate Transit and Ferry, VTA, San Francisco Bay Ferry and other services.

The Youth Clipper Card provides access to Bay Area youth fares, including **BART's 62.5% discount** for children, ages 5 to 12. To apply, please go to www.clippercard.com/discounts.

PLEASE NOTE: The Youth Clipper Card does not affect the separate BART Orange Ticket Program. Also called the BART Teenage Student Discount Ticket Program or “Teen X-treem”, the Orange Ticket Program allows middle and secondary school students, ages 13 to 18, to receive a 50% discount for weekday student travel. For more information about the Orange Ticket Program, call (510) 464-6406.

BOND REWARDS
A Smarter Way to Fundraise

Turn your everyday spending into money for you and Heritage High School by shopping at over 600 stores through the Heritagehsrewards.com website!

By shopping online at stores such as Target, Nordstrom's, Macy's, Home Depot and Best Buy through www.heritagehsrewards.com, you can save money and make money for Heritage!

You can also donate directly to our school or to various micro-projects and fundraisers.

Want to Play College Sports?

You MUST Know Your Core Course GPA.

Heritage High School has teamed up with CoreCourseGPA.com to provide custom online software to all students enrolled to assist in tracking their progress towards meeting NCAA initial eligibility requirements.

CoreCourseGPA.com calculates core course GPA for both the Division I and II, provides comprehensive electronic NCAACT access, and a detailed report of core course credits earned and needed.

All student athletes are encouraged to activate their FREE membership to begin tracking their core course GPA and learn more about important recruiting topics. The sooner the better - every semester counts!

Activate Your FREE Membership

Step 1: Go to www.CoreCourseGPA.com

Step 2: Click "Free New Member Account"

Step 3: Enter School ID and School Code

Step 4: Complete Registration Form

School ID: 050396
School Code: 737678811

CoreCourseGPA.com
Advancing Learning and Eligibility, at its Core

ABI PARENT PORTAL INFORMATION
(By Gina Kroner)

The Liberty Union High School District has transitioned to a new Student Information System, Parent Portal through ABI (Aeries Browser Interface) for parents. We think you will enjoy the new interface and access to more timely information. The attendance in the portal is updated live-time, as are any assignment updates completed by the teachers.

How do I get an account?

Accounts were generated at the end of the first quarter. Any parent with an accurate email address listed in the student's electronic record received an email with the login process as soon as the portal was opened.

Do I have to have an email address listed to get an account?

Yes. If your email address is not listed in your child's record and/or you did not update it at walk-thru, please contact the school or email hhsattendance@luhsd.net to have that information listed in your child's electronic record. If you do not have an email account, you can create one for free through G-mail.

Can my son/daughter sign up for an account?

Yes, your son/daughter can sign up to access his/her own account. To do so, your son or daughter's email address should be listed in the student's record. The view for a student is identical to that of a parent, so they will want to select "Student" when asked what type of account they want to create.

Are there resources available to me so I know what to do?

The ABI Parent Portal website was completed with FAQs, video instructions, and other documentation to assist you in navigating the portal. The interface is intuitive, so I think you will really enjoy the new service.

AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB
(By Charleen Lovick)

Students: Need help with your homework?
Want someone to proofread your papers?
Need to type a paper but don't have a computer at home?

H.E.L.P. is here!!

(Heritage Extended Learning Program)

3:00-4:30 p.m.

Monday* thru Thursday
Room C-111

(*Exceptions include: 2nd Monday of the Month)

You must follow all school rules and be working on homework in order to come to the HELP program. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and/or receive a referral.



Who do I contact if I need assistance?

If you need assistance, you may contact Heritage directly; however, we request that you first go to the online resources on the **Parent Info** tab to address your questions.

CAFETERIA COMPUTERIZED PAYMENT SYSTEM

The Liberty Union High School District recently adopted the Nutrikids computerized Point-of-Sale payment system for meals purchased in the district's cafeterias. Some parents may be familiar with a similar system that is used by some of the elementary schools.

Each student has their own meal account based on their Student ID number. Transactions will only require that the student swipe their ID card across a scanner that is located at each cashier terminal.

The posting of credits to your child's account is done on the Nutrikids website by using a credit card or via Paypal. A link to nutrikids.com is on the Parent Portal, and also on the HHS website. You will be able to view your child's meal purchases online, by accessing your account on the Nutrikids website. We are encouraging you to create an account for your child, but the system is flexible, so you may still pay for meals with cash.

If your child qualifies for Free-or-Reduced price lunches or breakfasts, this information is securely contained within the system and the transaction will be processed just as it is for all other students.

If you are concerned about a food allergy that your child has, please provide the cafeteria with this information. A warning will appear on the cashier's screen for a quick review of the items on the student's meal tray.

TRANSCRIPTS (By Michelle Snyder)

Need a Transcript? Visit the HHS website at www.luhhsd.net/heritage and visit the Counselor page under the Student Info tab. There are two options for transcript requests - Electronic or Other. The electronic process is quick, easy and provides a tracking system. The other process requires printing out a completed form, turning in the form to the Registrar for processing, then pick up/mail out. There is no tracking method with this process.

COUNSELING CORNER

By C. Dalton, I. Magana, D. Walker

College-bound Sophomores.....

Sign up to take the **PLAN** test on **January 29, 2014**. The **PLAN** is an optional "pre-ACT" test that is used to measure the college readiness for 10th graders.

Why take PLAN??

- * **PLAN** shows your strengths and weaknesses in English, mathematics, reading, and science.
- * **PLAN** lets you know if you're on target for college.
- * **PLAN** helps you find careers that match your interests.
- * **PLAN** helps you prepare for the ACT.

Registration opens on **December 2, 2013**. The cost is \$16 and you can pay at the Student Store.

Course Registration Presentations for the 2014-15 school year will take place on February 10 & 11, 2014.

During our presentations, students will receive information about classes required to meet graduation and college entrance requirements. Parents, expect the course registration form to come home with your student at that time. We recommend that as a family you take time to review our course catalog (available on the Heritage website)

prior to selecting classes to ensure that your child signs up for the most appropriate classes that help support his/her educational interests and goals.

FINANCIAL AID FOR SENIORS!

- **Financial Aid Night**

Attend Financial Aid Night with a parent on January 15, 2014 in the Heritage Theater (7-9 p.m.).

Need help paying for college? Be sure to apply for the following:

- **FAFSA**

(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
Applications can be submitted online from **January 1 – March 2** at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

- **Local Scholarship Application**

Applications can be submitted online through **January 24, 2014**. Go to <http://libertyunion.schoolwires.net/heritage> Look for the “Local Scholarship” application on the College/Career Center page.

- **Other Scholarships**

Check out the College/Career Center page on our school website and look under “scholarships” at least twice a month for new scholarship opportunities.

* * * *

Don't hesitate to see your counselor for personal, academic, college, or career questions. We are here to support you and your goals!

HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTS

(By Rose Thompson)

◆ Congratulations to Nigel Bernard for scoring in the top 3 percent of more than 160,000 African American students around the country. Nigel earned the National Achievement Program honor for his performance in the PSAT/NMSQT. Way to go Nigel!!!

◆ Congratulations to Megan Conder for receiving a 2013 NCS/Touchstone Golf Foundation Scholarship. Megan was selected from numerous applicants from 168 NCS member schools.

SAFETY CORNER

► Due to the amount of traffic in the student parking lot before and after school, Heritage encourages parents to drop off/pick up in the designated areas on American Avenue and to arrange carpools when possible.

► Be careful when driving to and from school in wet and freezing weather. AAA advises people to prepare well in advance for rainy day driving. Leave earlier than usual to account for slippery roads, traffic jams, etc. Slow down and be more aware of your surroundings when driving in wet weather.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF SAFE!