



# THE PATRIOT PRESS



SEPTEMBER, 2013

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

(By Larry Oshodi)

Dear Parents,

The adopted Common Core State Standards have been in the news quite a bit lately. I wish to inform you that our district and school staffs are working hard to ensure a smooth implementation of the different elements of the standards and associated curriculum frameworks. As you may be aware, the 2012/13 school year concluded the old accountability era. By the way, we finished very strong with an Accountability Performance Index (API) of 836 and also became a California Distinguished School! We remain confident that our students will continue to achieve as we enter the new era next year.

We are excited about the Digital Literacy for Parents presentation to be held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The presentation will be in our College and Career Center and starts at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the presentation is to share information with parents and guardians about the very serious issues related to the uses and abuses of Internet social networking by students, especially in the social media arena. Most of the issues we now face at school come from this source and we find parents are often shocked to find out this information,

usually after the damage has been done. I encourage all parents to attend.

## PATRIOT PARENT ORGANIZATION

(By Cindy Basa)

### Parents of Heritage High, we need you!

Please consider signing up for our Patriot Parent Organization this year. You can make a difference by helping our students and teachers succeed.

We will be hosting a meeting within the next few weeks. Please plan on attending to find out what we're all about.

If you would like to reach out to me directly, you can contact me at [cab1011@msn.com](mailto:cab1011@msn.com).

## Congratulations Students of the Quarter!

### Math

Vanessa Baxley  
Hannah Bowersmith  
Caleb Collins  
Armin Delic  
Garet Kimball  
Caleb Michael  
Sarah Palmer  
McKenna Taylor  
Riley Vernarecci

### English

Raia Cherednikov  
Levi Coren  
Peyton Hamblin

Miguel Leria  
Kevin Marcelo Ruiz  
Lilly Montero  
Janet Nguyen  
Brea O'Boyle  
Ma Carie Oliquino  
Allison Rohlfs  
Cristian Sanchez  
Danielle Tamura

**Social Studies**

Omar Alaniz  
Aaron Larsen  
Amanda Pedersen  
Celia Rivera

**Science**

McKenna Baum  
Miranda Breves  
Xavier Burris  
Trevor Chan  
Esmeralda Esperon  
Landy Gu  
Jenna Morford  
Rigel Matthew Sison

**Motivational**

Nicholas Muse  
Breanna Salgado  
Christopher Shearer  
Julia Twomey  
Christian Urrutia

**Visual & Performing Arts**

Chukwusom Amete  
Megan Boyle  
Edward Gutierrez  
Emily Nelson  
Jacquelyn Rarey  
Catherine Satre  
Margaret Winding

**Career Technology**

Jayla Griggs  
Timmecca Lafayette  
Priscilla Stevenson

**World Languages**

John Chin Jew  
Calvin Cramer  
Tyler James

Ron Dominick Rubio  
Manminder Shergill  
Kayla Sutton  
Justin Van Dicken  
Zachry Wright

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE (ELAC)  
(By Lisa Sullivan)

The next English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Career Center. We hope to see you there.

SENIOR INFORMATION  
(By Heather Harper)

● **October 24<sup>th</sup>** – Please plan to attend an assembly in the gym. Pat Cummins, Jostens Representative will be on hand to discuss ordering graduation announcements, caps and gowns, etc.

● **October 29<sup>th</sup>** – Jostens Representatives will be at Heritage during lunch to accept graduation orders and answer questions.

● **October 29<sup>th</sup>** (5:00-7:00 p.m.) – Pat Cummins will be in the Library to accept orders and answer questions parents may have concerning ordering graduation items.

2014 NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP (PSAT)  
(By Michelle Snyder)

Congratulations to Geoffrey Angus, Victoria Barce, Scott Camara, and Danielle Strock for being named Commended Students in the 2014

National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2014 competition for National Merit Scholarship Awards, Commended Students placed among the **top 5 percent** of more than 1.5 million students.

**DIGITAL LITERACY WORKSHOP**  
(By Cathy Johnson/Crystal Shaw)

Heritage High School is presenting a Digital Literacy Workshop for parents and students on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Use Building. The presentation will provide lots of good information about keeping students safe while making sure they are using digital resources well and ethically. Officer Casey McNerthney, our School Resource Officer, will also be there to discuss the laws around social media. Please plan on joining us for this event. It is sponsored by Verizon and the California School Library Association. Verizon will provide pizza and sodas but you must RSVP to attend the event. Please visit the school website to RSVP at <http://libertyunion.schoolwires.net/cms/module/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=284>

If you have questions, please contact Cathy Johnson at [johnsog@luhsd.net](mailto:johnsog@luhsd.net) or Crystal Shaw at [shawc@luhsd.net](mailto:shawc@luhsd.net).

**HERITAGE PERFORMING ARTS  
BOOSTERS**  
(By Steve Ernest)

The Heritage Jazz Band was invited to play at the Brentwood Art, Wine, and Jazz Festival held at the Streets of Brentwood in August. With many members graduating last year, this young group has hit the

ground running and their musical talents were enjoyed by all.

The Boosters would like to extend a big Thank You to everyone for your support at our Panda Express fundraiser. You helped us raise approximately \$250. Again, thank you one and all.

The Pep Band (composed of Wind Ensemble, Symphonic, and auditioning freshmen) showcased their high energy on September 6th at our first football game. Their enthusiasm is contagious as we look forward to a winning season.

The Drum Line participated in the Homecoming Parade at the Streets of Brentwood on Thursday, September 19th. Everyone there showed school pride and support for our Drum Line, football teams, clubs, classes, and Homecoming Court. Also, don't forget to stay after the game against Liberty High School on Friday, November 1st for our annual Drum Line Face Off. This is a very spirited competition and we are planning a repeat performance of last year's victory.

With the addition of Orchestra and the growth of all bands, we are adding a second night to our Winter Concert. This year the concerts will be held in the theater on Wednesday and Thursday nights, December 11th and 12th beginning at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 per adult, \$3 per senior citizen/student and free with the purchase of the Band Concert Card. (Concert Cards are still available.)

Our annual Breakfast with Santa fundraiser will be held at the Shadow Lakes Event Center on Saturday, December 14, 2013. The Brentwood Rotary Club and the Heritage Performing Arts Boosters are sponsoring this fun event with Santa and the Heritage High School Jazz Band, under the direction of Band Director Steve Ernest, will provide the entertainment. There will be 2 seatings; 8-9:30 and 9:30-11. Tickets are \$10 per person (children under 3 years of

age are free) and are available from your favorite band student.

**GRAD NIGHT**  
(By Deanne Perkinson)

Another year has passed and we are already preparing for our 2014 Grad Night. Several board and committee members had seniors who graduated last year so we are looking for new parents to get involved. You do not need to have a senior to be involved with Grad Night. In fact, the best time to get involved is when your student is an underclassman. Grad Night is not a school sponsored event, it is an event that is put on solely by parents and other volunteers. The purpose of Grad Night is to keep our graduates in a safe and sober environment, away from parties after graduation that could result in drinking and driving. This event is not possible without parent participation and your help is needed in order for it to be successful. We need parents with a variety of skills; there are no special skills needed to be involved.

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the HHS teachers' lounge in the Administration Building.

If you would like additional information, please email us at: [info@hhsgradnight.com](mailto:info@hhsgradnight.com).

**CPR CLASSES OFFERED**  
(By Sarah Davies)

The Sports Med Club is offering two CPR classes after the October break. The cost is \$15. All are welcomed.

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
October 26<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**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](http://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.



**Want to Play College Sports?**

**You MUST Know Your Core Course GPA.**

Heritage High School has teamed up with CoreCourseGPA.com to provide student-athletes software for all student-athletes 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 corresponding minimum SAT/ACT scores, 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 eligibility topics. The process is fast and easy - simply register online!

**Activate Your FREE Membership**

**Step 1:** Go to [www.CoreCourseGPA.com](http://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: 050196  
School Code: 737678811

**CoreCourseGPA.com**  
A Member of the University of California, Berkeley

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**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.luhسد.net/heritage](http://www.luhسد.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.

#### 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](http://Heritagehsrewards.com) website!

By shopping online at stores such as Target, Nordstrom's, Macy's, Home Depot and Best Buy through [www.heritagehsrewards.com](http://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.

#### CHEER & DANCE YOUTH CLINIC By Anna Perales

There will be a Cheer & Dance Youth Clinic on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. with a performance during the Varsity Football Game on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Girls and boys, ages K-8 are welcome and the cost is \$40.00 per participant which includes instruction and a t-shirt. To pre-register, please visit the Heritage High School Rally Squad website at [www.luhسد.net/hhsrallysquad](http://www.luhسد.net/hhsrallysquad) or email Advisor/Coach Anna Perales at [hhsrallysquad@gmail.com](mailto:hhsrallysquad@gmail.com). Hope to see you there!

#### COUNSELING CORNER By C. Dalton, I. Magana, D. Walker

##### **How Parents Can Monitor Grades**

- Sign up on the Parent Portal. Codes can be obtained through the SLC Secretaries.
- Communicate with the teacher directly if you have a concern about your child's progress.
- Use a daily planner to monitor your student.
- Use weekly progress reports to obtain updated information.
- Grades are provided to your child 5 weeks into every quarter and then again at the end of each quarter. Please ask your child for them.

##### **Los Medanos College**

LMC courses are available for students in grades 9-12. If your child is interested in taking a Fall/Spring course, he/she will need to see their counselor first to obtain a signature. He/she can submit the completed concurrent enrollment form (see website below).



For more information about the application process and concurrent enrollment form, please visit:

<http://www.losmedanos.edu/concurrent/>

### **Attention Juniors**

#### **College Eligibility Checklist for Current Juniors:**

- Sign up to take SAT/ACT beginning this spring if planning to attend a 4-year college.
- Use our breaks to visit college campuses.
- Narrow down college choices to 4-6 campuses.
- Maintain grades of C or better for college eligibility.

■ Able to start community service hours (20 hours), for next year's American Government class as soon as June 7<sup>th</sup>. Please check with the Career Center for community service opportunities.

■ Consider volunteering in the community as a way to show colleges that you give back to society. (More than 20 hours!)

### **SAFETY CORNER**

In this section of our Parent Newsletter, we cover topics related to campus safety and how you can assist. The Safety Corner will also be available on the school website where you can make comments and ask general safety questions.

▶ All visitors, including parents who need to drop off items for their student, must park in a visitor parking space (located near the front of the school) and report directly to the Administration Building.

▶ Students have been doing a great job wearing their school ID allowing us to better identify potential non-students on campus. Please continue to help your student remember to wear his/hers everyday.

▶ On Professional Development Days (specific late start Wednesdays), all staff members are required to collaborate and supervision is unavailable until 9:15 a.m. Therefore, we ask that students not be on campus until then.

▶ Heritage High School complies with State law, coordinating and practicing fire, earthquake, and intruder drills at least 4 times a year.

▶ 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.

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