

VUSD UPDATE



Vacaville Unified School District
751 School Street, Vacaville, California 95688

ACSA Superintendent's Academy

John Aycock is quite enthused about the opportunity for Vacaville Unified School District to host an Association of California School Administrators' Superintendent's Academy. ACSA (Association of California Administrators) is an organization that provides professional development opportunities, spearheads legislative actions to maximize education funding, protect Proposition 98, address categorical and special education finance reforms and No Child Left Behind implementation issues. The Academy in Vacaville will be held on various Friday evenings and Saturdays beginning January 11 through May 10, 2008. This intensive seven-week academy provides fundamental skills needed to effectively lead a California school district. Over 30 participants throughout northern California will attend sessions conducted by experienced presenters covering topics including leadership, managing change, facing challenges, district management, developing a positive climate, shared decision making, instructional/management team building, board/superintendent relations, negotiations and collective bargaining, personnel management, improving and evaluating instructional programs, critical curriculum issues, educational technology, and policies and procedures addressing California law, Education Codes and other state regulations. The Academy will conclude with a graduation ceremony on May 10, 2008.

T.B. TESTING

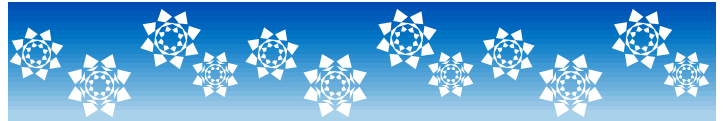
The District will offer
TB testing on Tuesday,
March 4, 2008.
Employees needing new TB tests
will be notified.

CLASS ACT

Supplies still needed! The After School Programs at Markham, Hemlock, Padan and Fairmont can still use STUFF. Do you have extra art supplies- projects you will never get to? How about yarn? Sequins? Fabrics? Popsicle sticks, old crayons, old plaster of Paris, craft paints, that can still be used, embroidery hoops, paper plates, plastic silverware, cups, How about science stuff that is just sitting- old tag, old folders ??? Please email or call Shelley Dally (453-7574) or 4Hsdally@vacavilleusd.org to arrange drop off or pick up.

Enrichment Activities After School- our number 1 choice for who we would love to have teach these classes would be Classified and certificated staff. Do you have something you love to do that you can share with small groups of children for several weeks after school for 1 hour at a time? How about knitting? Chess club? Crochet? Jewelry making? A musical instrument? You can teach it for 3 weeks, six weeks or 8 weeks. We will charge the kids-if we have 6 kids for 6 classes, we charge them \$35 which covers the cost of YOU. If we need more for supplies I will get it from VPEF.

Classrooms for enrichment- Please email me anytime you are willing to share your classroom after school for ENRICHMENT! We have so much to offer the kids- I can pay the teachers, I can get supplies, and I can give scholarships so kids don't have to pay. I can't build rooms. Can you help???? Wednesdays, collaborative days are great for folks who are NOT teaching to use your rooms while you are in meetings (from 2-3?). Thanks.



CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: *Professional Growth Committee Information*

The Classified Professional Growth Committee will meet on February 5, 2008. All "Request for Evaluation of Courses" forms must be submitted to Sharyl Palacio, in Human Resources, by February 4, 2008.

All request forms MUST BE accompanied by a course description...if not, they will be considered incomplete and will be returned. The course description may be hand-written or a copy from a bulletin or catalog. Proof of completion is not considered a course description.

Approved and disapproved forms are returned to the school sites. Approved forms with proof of completion must be submitted to Sharyl Palacio no later than February 29, 2008 for compensation in April.

Common Mistakes:

- Course description not included.
- You CANNOT receive professional growth units if on paid status at the time of the course.

Let's Celebrate!!

Candace Dandini - Staff Secretary (Learning Support) is retiring this January. We want to celebrate with her.

Please join us:

Where: Opera House



Day/Date: Wednesday, January 30th

Time: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Cost: \$20 per person (includes appetizers and gift)

No-host bar will be available (free soft drinks)

The Vacaville Elk's Lodge, # 2638 held its first recognition dinner on Friday, January 11th for five of the elementary students and their families who were honored by the School Board in December. In addition to a certificate, each student received a \$50 Savings Bond. Many thanks to David Navarro, Exalted Ruler, George Nunez, Recognition Chairman and all of the Elk's Lodge members for their generosity and support of student accomplishments!!

**For the seventh year, Jepson Middle School will present their
USO-style dinner show and fundraiser
February 29 and March 1, 2008**

WHO: Willis Jepson Middle School Music Department - Vacaville, CA
WHAT: Annual USO Style Dinner Show
WHEN: February 29 and March 1, 2008 at 6:00 pm
WHERE: Nut Tree Airport - 301 County Airport Road - Copart Hangar
DINNER: Provided by Pasta City - Chicken, Meatballs, Pasta, Vegetable Medley, Salad, Bread, Dessert, Beverage

TICKET INFO: Adults - \$30 each
 Veterans/Active Military - \$20 each
 Children under 18 - \$20 each

The USO-style dinner show involves approximately 100 middle school students who perform music, skits, and monologues related to the 1940s and the USO programs. Throughout the evening, students perform their acts while guests enjoy a catered meal served by students. A dance floor is available for guests to dance the Jitterbug/New Yorker, Fox Trot, Waltz, Rumba, Tango and Charleston. It is a lively evening full of entertainment, history and joy exuded by many veterans who attend this special event. Past memories are shared and new memories are made. It is a chance for young people to share in a piece of important history as well as honor those who have served and protected our country.

The event will take place in the Copart Hangar at the Nut Tree Airport. Guests will be dining with a view of not only a wonderfully entertaining 1940's style show, but also a 1943 Consolidated Vultee BT-13B military aircraft, straight out of World War II.

The Jepson USO-Style Dinner Show provides students with opportunities for growth as performers and is chock-full of music, humor, and moments that will touch your heart. It is the department's biggest fundraiser of the year, funding instrument purchase and repair, the purchase of new music, and making it possible for students to study jazz techniques and go on field trips.

For more information, to make a donation, or to purchase tickets, please contact Janet Dosker, Jepson Music Boosters President, at 707-330-7130 or jdosker@vacavilleusd.org. Tickets are currently on sale from Gail Fay at the Jepson Middle School Office.



News from Our Schools

Alamo

Alamo's Chorus Program presented "Frosty's First Adventure" with singing and dancing that brightened our holiday spirit in December! During the winter break our campus underwent a landscaping transformation between portables that looks good enough to be pictured in Sunset Magazine! Our candle fundraising efforts funded this eye-pleasing project!

We are pleased to offer Alamo students intervention classes and PTA sponsored "Homework and Accelerated Reader Clubs" for the next six weeks. On Saturday, January 26th we will be sponsoring the GATE Enrichment Program from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Browns Valley

Browns Valley would like to invite everyone to drive by our school to see our new mural. We are very proud of how it has enhanced our campus beautification project.

Buckingham Charter Magnet High School

Happy New Year!!!! Congratulations to Grandpa Chuck Robbins! Chuck's son, Geoff (a former Buckingham teacher) and Geoff's beautiful wife, Francesca, are the proud parents of Lucia Bianca! (2 year old brother is also very excited about his new sibling)! Lucia was born December 13th, weighing in at 7 lbs. 1 oz., 19" long, with a full head of dark hair. Buckingham wishes all a very bright January and Happy Valentine's Day in February!

Cooper

Congratulations to Xuong Fell who is a proud grandma! Gwenyth Mai was born on January 7, 2008 weighing 7 lbs. 6 ozs. and measuring 20½ inches.

Fairmont

Fairmont Staff wishes everyone a healthy and happy New Year.

Hemlock

Hemlock Elementary held their school Spelling Bee on Thursday, January 10, 2008. Twenty-eight contestants from grades 3-6 competed. Fifth-grader Greg Harvey was declared the Hemlock Spelling Bee champion. Sixth-grader Alan McMurdie was the second place winner and fourth-grader Morgan Kim came in third place. These three students will go on to compete in the Grace B. Powell City Spelling Bee on February 7, 2008. Greg Harvey will also compete in the Solano County Spelling Bee on April 2. Congratulations to all of our contestants and special congratulations to our winners!

Jepson

SAVE THE DATE! Jepson's 7th Annual USO Show will be held on Friday, February 29 and Saturday, March 1 at the Copart Hangar at the Nut Tree Airport. Don't miss out!! Limited seating this year!!! Contact Patty Phillips at pattyp@vacavilleusd.org for more information.



Jepson Music

January 23 at 7:00 p.m.	Jepson's Wind Ensemble and 6 th graders from Northside Elementary Schools will perform at VPAT (Ulati)
February 29 and March 1 at 6:00 p.m.	Jepson's Annual USO-Style Dinner Show and Fundraiser at the Nut Tree Airport
April 16 at 6:00 p.m.	Spring Concert at VPAT for Jepson's Orchestra and Chorus
April 17 at 6:00 p.m.	Spring Concert at VPAT for Jepson's Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz groups
May 24 at 9:00 a.m.	Jepson's three bands will combine into one mighty marching band for the Fiesta Days parade
May 29 at 6:00	Patio Concert - Enjoy a casual meal and music from all of Jepson's fine musical groups

For more information, please contact Patty Phillips (patty@vacavilleusd.org) or Nancy Sanchez (nancys@vacavilleusd.org)

Orchard

On December 20 we held our Spelling Bee. Mrs. Adams did a great job organizing the event. We had a wonderful turn out. Orchard is sending the following students to the Grace B. Powell Spelling Bee: Callie Austin, Breanna Sewell, and Tiara Gilmore-Gaddy.

On February 29th, we will be holding a Spaghetti Feed/Talent Show at Three Oaks Community Center. Talent will be provided by Orchard students and the Spaghetti Feed/Silent Auction will be provided by our PTC.

Padan

Padan Elementary School takes special pride in recognizing academic achievement. Recently, we awarded 151 honor roll students from fourth, fifth, and sixth graders with a presentation from Will C. Wood's High School girls' and boys' varsity basketball teams. These high school athletes were hand selected to visit with our students because of their own outstanding achievements. They came to applaud our honor roll students for their commendable academic performances

Padan's Student Council, under the direction of Kevin Davis, had a very, very successful canned food drive prior to the holidays. We collected more cans than we had in any previous year.

We would like to express our appreciation to very own Joy Alden and the CLASS ACT program for the wonderful STOMP Christmas musical presentations. How wonderful it is to see our children with performance opportunities.

Padan is extremely happy to welcome our new Speech and Language therapist, Nanc Woodbury.

We extend a fond farewell and best wishes to Jolynda Carrasco. Jolynda has accepted a new position at with the ISP. We will miss her positive attitude and her warm smile.



News from Our Departments

Central Office

The District Office employees have been busy with grandparent duty this past month. Grandpa Burton Crinklaw, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources welcomed the arrival of grand daughter Madeline who weighed in at 9lbs. Madeline was born to Jennifer and John on December 19, 2007.

Proud grandma Shereene Wilkerson, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Support is thrilled with the arrival of her newest grandson, Joshua Braeden Wilkerson. Joshua joined his parents J.R. and Danielle Wilkerson on December 19, 2007 and weighed in at 8lbs. 13 ounces and is 21 inches long.



English Learner Department

Rigby and Santillana training dates for using the new K–6 ELD materials have been selected. The dates are January 31 for grades 4–6 teachers and February 4 & 6 for grades K–3 teachers. The trainings will be held after school and the principals have been asked to contact the teachers who need to go. If you have questions, please contact your principal.

The ELD CAMP (English Language Development Curriculum Assessment & Mapping Process) groups are off and running! There is a Grades 7–12 group and a Grades K–6 group. Both groups have developed ELD theories of action and have begun the process of identifying priority standards. This work will continue throughout the semester and will help us determine the best ways to focus our ELD instruction and assessments.

The Focused Approach staff development trainings for Grades K–6 teachers will start on Saturday, January 12. Four additional meetings will take place during January and February. This training uses “frontloading techniques” that help K–6 English Learners better understand the Houghton–Mifflin reading program and provides teachers with strategies that can be used throughout the instructional program.

The CELDT (California English Language Development Test) results will be available soon and will be sent to each school site. Parents will receive a copy of the results and the results will also be available in the Aeries data base and in the students’ cum files. The results show the ELD levels for listening, speaking, reading & writing (listening & speaking only for K–1 students) for each EL student who took the test last summer or fall. The five levels of scoring are Beginning, Early Intermediate, Intermediate, Early Advanced and Advanced.





GATE

The next event is **Saturday, January 26, 2008** at Alamo Elementary. It will be guided by IES Language Foundation. It is entitled, *"We are going all around the World"* and is entrenched in the culture, customs and language of China, Spain+

GATE will administer the Academic Talent Search Test [sponsored by Sac State] on **Saturday, February 23, 2008** at Vaca Pena Middle School for any interested 6th- 9th grader.

The Regional Competition for *Odyssey of the Mind* will take place on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at Natomas High School. We will have as many as six teams this year!

Artstravaganza II will occur at *A Stroke of Magic* Art Studio on Wednesday, March 12. The students will experience a multitude of art media in the studio!

The **Novel Knowledge Site Competitions** will occur just prior to Spring Break – March 17 – 21st. The District Competition will occur at Borders on Friday, 9 May '08.

A fieldtrip to Travis Air Force Base will be confirmed for late March or Early April --- details to follow soon.

The Spring Testing Cycle for GATE will occur in May this year for most sites. More information will be forthcoming regarding deadline dates soon.



A WORD OF THANKS

Thanks and congratulations go out to Cheri Lincoln and Candace Dandini for the wonderful job they have done re-creating the break room at the district office. The break room has such a welcoming appearance and feeling of relaxation, it is actually hard to leave. Thanks again for all the unselfish work to make such a wonderful place for employees to go to relax and or eat lunch.



Announcements and Services

Beanstalk Tutoring

- Help your child succeed
- One-to-one tutoring with a credentialed teacher
- All subjects and ages
- Customized instruction to meet your child's academic needs
- Assistance with homework, school projects and test prep
- SAT prep and college admission's essay instruction
- "Helping Parents Help Their Kids" workshop series

Jennifer Kile 707-280-4023
BeanstalkTutoring@yahoo.com

Upright piano.
Free to a good school! ☺
Call Padan @ 453-6235

**Barnes & Noble Educator
Appreciation Week**

January 19th-27th

Pre K-12 educators save 25% on classroom and personal purchases, including 10% on DVDs & CDs. For more information contact the store manager at 707-435-0484.



Advertisements

Bison meat for sale. (Buffalo) 100% natural, no injections, grass fed at our ranch, no feed lot. Meat comes double wrapped, labeled and frozen. Free delivery. Halves and quarters @ 6.50/lb. (roughly 100-200 lbs.) Variety packs also available. Call Mark Nelson 707 319-2594

Items for Sale: Set of dishes-\$25 Full/Queen Solid Oak Headboard and frame-\$150 Table (world map on it) and 6 reupholstered chairs-\$80 If interested please e-mail IlanaS@VacavilleUSD.org

1969 green VW Bug for sale. It is garaged. 36,000 miles on a rebuilt engine. Asking 3,000.00 firm. Vehicle in excellent condition has new stereo system. Does have a cracked windshield, but that has been taken into consideration in price of vehicle. Contact Jackie at JackieJ@vacavilleusd.org

Bike: GT Mountain/Road bike. Like new. One year old. Excellent condition \$100.00.
Stereo: Aiwa five disc CD/Stereo System. Excellent condition. \$75.00.
Call Rita Francis
718-4039

For Sale: 3 bedroom 2 bath main house (1600 sq ft.) and 2 bedroom, 1 bath newly remodeled guest house (1100 sq ft.), four car garage, large in-ground swimming pool with retractable cover and 3 out buildings on two level acres of land. Located just off of Cherry Glenn Road. Guest house has separate address and P.G. & E account, excellent rental possibility. If you are interested in purchasing this property, please call Jim or Patty Wasielewski at 707-447-9040. \$850,000

**1993 Chevy Silverado-2500
4WD, lifted, new tires (33's), tow
package. Call Sean 455-0463.**

I'm selling my 2000 GMC Sierra 4.8 v8 it has tons of extras: \$3500 in 20" tires and rims with locks on all 4 rims, brand new Toyo tires with less than 1000 miles on them, K&N air filter, leveling kit Flomaster exhaust system, \$500 spray on line-x bed liner, \$2000 stereo with 2 ten inch power acoustic subs 1600 watts each and a 2 channel 1000 watt amp and in truck boxes. I have \$1200 in alarms on the truck; a marksman alarm with tilt sensor on the bed and a radar detector in the cab so you know when anyone walks by the doors, it has blue under-glow all the way around the truck with a controller inside the cab. I am asking \$8500 or best offer. The truck has a lot more, if you would like to know more about the truck you can call me anytime (707) 673-3581 and ask for Matt.