



FIRST AVENUE MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

F I R S T A V E N U E M I D D L E S C H O O L P T S A

FEB/MAR 2011

PTSA

everychild.onevoice.®

FIRST AVENUE PTSA

- ◆ Jeff Wilson, Principal
- ◆ Vicky Stiles, President
- ◆ Maryann Stevens, Editor

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A Safe and Secure Campus

安全無慮的校園

最近一位同僚問我做為校長的第一優先考慮是什麼？

我沉思半晌，是確保對學生的高品質教學水準嗎？抑或，對我們專業的老師和輔導以及職員提供正確的領導方向？

又或許，藉由溝通和領導家長會，學校各級領導層，成為家長和社區之間的橋樑？

這些事情對校長來說固然都很重要，但對我朋友的問題我的回答很簡單。

做為FA 中學的校長，我的最高優先考慮就是對所有學生提供一個安全無慮的學習環境。

安全無慮的學習環境對家長和學生而言意味這什麼呢？

1. 每年更新且執行的學校安全計劃。

這個計畫由副校長Issa女士負責執行。

本計劃由學區領導及教育董事會核准。

藉由集會，學生議程及諸如家長會，

校區自治委員，及學校領導團隊等團體傳達給全體學生和社區了解。

2. 家長訊息之夜。

透過亞市三個中學及中學監督的籌劃，我們持續尋找與學校和學生安全有關的主題提供家長再教育的機會。

今年第二次家長訊息之夜將二月7號在Foothill 中學舉行。主題是

“養育機靈不受網路威脅的孩子”。

再下一次則是二月28號，主題為

“網路欺凌的認識和防範”。

3. 安全進出校園。

本校有一群負責認真的教職員每天在學生上下學處負責指揮交通，確保學生

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Principal's Message

Continued from page 1

出入平安。每年兩次，由家長，學生，老師，職員，警察，市府人員組成的領導團隊研究校園附近交通安全並提出改進報告以進一步保障學生安全。市政府對於落實建議十分配合。

4. 上學時間校園不對外開放。每天早上8:15分遲道鐘聲響後，對外的鐵門就會上鎖。所有到學校的訪客都需要從大門進入，在辦公室前的窗口簽到，如果被允許進入須出示身分證明並全程配戴訪客證件。在校園中任何未配戴證件的成人都會被詢問並送至辦公室。
5. 課前及課後輔導。每週三次，Mimura女士開放圖書館媒體中心給提早到校的同學做功課和研究。週一至週四下午學校提供免費家教給需要的同學。同儕家教為週二及週四下午2:30至3:30。週一及週三下午3:20到4:20 在11號教室有數學家教。在9號教室則有為6年級提供的一般性家教。音樂家教則是每週五下午在音樂教室舉行。亞市公園育樂處則為學生提供豐富的體育活動。
6. 絕不包容惡霸欺凌行為。這一準則在開學時各年級集會時就已加強宣導。學校走廊的16張海報也隨時提醒學生絕不容許惡霸欺凌以及該如何應付處理這種行為。11月份時學校劇團也演出相關戲碼呼應此信息。本校的PALs團隊也被特別教導如何處理各種衝突狀況和可能的欺凌行為並隨時連絡校方高層。惡霸欺凌行為將受到嚴厲處分絕不寬容。
7. 健康教育課程內容含括惡霸欺凌及網路欺凌。學生在健康教育課程上討論此一議題，並須完成作業和計畫。老師有機會和學生討論此熱門議題。
8. 午餐及下課時間與學生之間密切互動。
一天當中我最喜歡的時間是午餐及下課時我與同學們互動的時間。我不但有機會了解我們的學生 – 他們的興趣和課外活動等等，也讓我有機會觀察到可能被判定為侵略或欺凌相關行為並當場糾正。午餐時的各種比賽如籃球或足球，園藝社活動，打扮日，以及各種學生會主辦的活動為我們的學生提供了各種健康又有趣的選擇。

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Principal's Message

Continued from page 2

9. 火警, 地震, 及校園封鎖演習. 我們每月舉行各種演習以防範於未然.
確保緊急狀況或天災發生時校園安全.

身為家長, 我希望並祈禱每天我的女兒平安到校, 在校平安, 回家平安.
我教導她各種安全行為並經常強調這些原則. 身為校長, 我對待學生如同自己的孩子.
對我而言, 沒有比保障FA中學校園安全,
提供安全無慮的學習環境使他們發揮最佳潛能更高的優先次序.

Jeff Wilson
First Avenue Principal

小心駕駛!

家長們 - 校區附近請小心駕駛, 隨時遵守
交通規則, 包括在清早零時段送小孩時間.

請注意, 校區道路禁止迴轉.





President's Message

你知道二月17號是家長會的生日嗎？家長會將過114歲生日！



全國家長教師協會是為單為兒童和青少年請願的最大志願團體。

超過一百年來，全國家長會提倡兒童，青少年及家庭教育，

健康和安議題不遺餘力。創辦人Phoebe Apperson Hearst 和 Alice

McLellan Birney, 以及喬治亞州有色人種家長教師協會創辦人 Selena Sloan But-

ler是極富想像力和勇氣的人。他們明瞭個人的力量，打破當時的藩籬，

用行動改變世界。

他們的理念很簡單 – 改善我們的孩子的生活和未來。

如今美國社會各種情況已有所改變，這個理念則始終如一。家長會仍舊一本初衷。

我們的會員呈顯出我們國家多種族的面貌，來自傳統家庭，單親家庭，混合家庭，

祖父母以及其他照顧成人。我們仍共同為孩童和青少年請命。 (www.pta.org)

亞凱迪亞教師家長協會和個別學校家長會目前在蒐集法案所需投票及發起寫信給加州立法人活動。此外，也將組團參加二月份舉行的加州家長會聯會立法會議。

本人和家長會副會長立法組負責人 Niroo Dev, 及7年級老師Connie Mimura 將代表參加。

本次會議主要議題為加州預算案。

過去幾年來所有加州學區的學校都面臨如何在嚴重預算刪減情形下維持高品質教育問題。

亞凱迪亞學區在整體的努力下，學生仍舊在學科，體育和藝術各方面表現優異。

我們一定要讓我們選出的立法者明白孩子的教育是我們的第一優先。

請加入我們每月家長會會議更多了解這方面的訊息及其他有關學校資訊。

Vicky Stiles

PTSA President 2010-2011

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

FA 大家庭的成員大家好!

時間飛逝, 簡直不敢相信這個學年已經過了一半. 希望您的寒假為您重新注入活力, 您與孩子共度美好時光.

體育活動更新



新年的體育活動從午餐時的3對3籃球比賽揭開序幕.

由熱心球類運動的校長魏爾森先生主持. 賽事競爭激烈, 中午時分同學們聚集在籃球場上為緊張的比賽加油. 進過第一輪淘汰之後, 冠亞軍賽和季軍賽會接著登場.

健跑俱樂部也在為即將於三月23號在亞市高中舉行的年度田徑賽加強訓練. 他們從一月18號開始每週二四練習. 學生們可以參加的比賽是50, 100及200米短跑, 跳遠, 跳高, 擲壘球比賽. 因此, 如果你不擅長跑步, 卻可跳高跳遠或擲球, 歡迎你參加健跑俱樂部.



Guzman女士是我們的指導老師, 有任何疑問可電郵pguzman@ausd.net.

FA 家事

FA學生一月份進行了視力檢查. 如果您的孩子視力有問題, 您將會收到通知. 八年級的孩子將於一月八號接受聽力檢查.

再次提醒您現在是流感季節, 教導孩子隨時注重個人衛生健康是非常的重要。

本年度第二次舞會將於二月11日晚上 6-8點在Baldwin Stocker 小學多功能廳舉行. 門票4元, 當週販賣. 參加舞會的學生須憑學生證和門票才能入場.

若您願捐贈點心可讓您的孩子舞會當天帶去.

Reck 女士帶領的劇團成員正為公演加緊練習, 保證精彩. 別忘記在您的行事曆上註明, 二月17, 18 號晚上是劇團公演的時間.

AP's Message

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學生假日

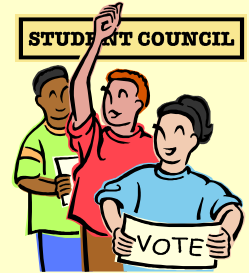
一月31日是學區教職員課程計畫日, 所有學生放假一天.

二月21日是總統節例假日.in staff

學生自治會消息

學生自治會的成員正在提倡清潔校園運動. 他們的努力沒有白費, 我們的校園比以前乾淨許多.

學生自治會下半年度即將改選, 歡迎有興趣的同學參與. 選舉時間是二月4號.



八年紀畢業慶祝會

八年紀的同學已經把畢業慶祝會的主題建議交給家長會了.

目前家展會正在緊鑼密鼓的進行當中.

交通安全

感謝所有遵守交通規則接送孩子的家長. 因著您的合作與協助, 我們的FA大家庭對於交通安全有更多共識. 請大家遵守加州交通法規, 不可在學校所在地街道迴轉. 更不可在學校對面馬路接送孩子, 讓孩子危險違法穿越馬路.

期待有一個更美好的下半學年.

Semeen Issa

First Avenue Assistant Principal

Arcadia Police Department & FACEBOOK

亞市警察局在臉書上

想知道最近亞市發生什麼事情嗎? 可到臉書上查詢亞市警察局最新訊息, 並可學習有用的安全小常識.

Basketball Schedule 籃球賽事

所有比賽皆在Dana 中學的新體育館舉行!

- 2/4 星期五 7:30 p.m. First Ave 6 對 Dana 6
- 2/5 星期六 2:30 p.m. First Ave 8 對 Duarte 8
- 3:30 p.m. First Ave 7 對 Dana 7
- 2/11 星期五 5:30 p.m. First Ave 6 對 St. Ritas 6
- 7:30 p.m. First Ave 7 對 St. Ritas 7
- 2/12 星期六 12:30 p.m. First Ave 女生 對 Foothills 210 女生
- 2/18 星期五 5:30 p.m. First Ave 6 對 Barnhart 6
- 6:30 p.m. First Ave 女生 對 Dana 女生
- 8:30 p.m. First Ave 8 對 Dana 8
- 2/19 星期六 3:30 p.m. First Ave 7 對 Barnhart 7
- 2/25 星期五 8:30 p.m. First Ave 8 對 St. Ritas 8
- 2/26 星期六 1:30 p.m. First Ave 8 對 Barnhart 8



Girls Team



6th Grade Team



7th Grade Team



8th Grade Team

First AveNEWS

第一街中學新聞節目

第一街中學新聞節目 – 由學生現場製作，每天播出的晨間新聞節目 – 剛剛邁入第十個年頭。回想2000年時，我們這個節目是當時獨創（至今在中學裏仍然罕見）。但我們的一些設備的確顯得老舊了。今年2011年開始，我們更新了全套新科技設備。



新的NewTek TriCaster

是由電腦控制的錄影裝置，可以讓學生拍攝出專業水準的製作。附有動畫圖像，綠色螢幕（像專業氣象報告用的螢幕），以及我個人最喜歡的特色：可將我們的新聞播報放置在“仿真”常景。我們的學生站在教室角落的綠色螢幕前面，而TriCaster則神奇地將他們放在一個壹萬呎大的攝影棚中的主播台後面。

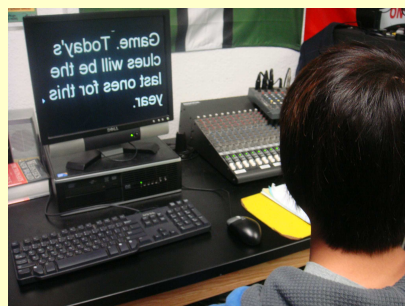
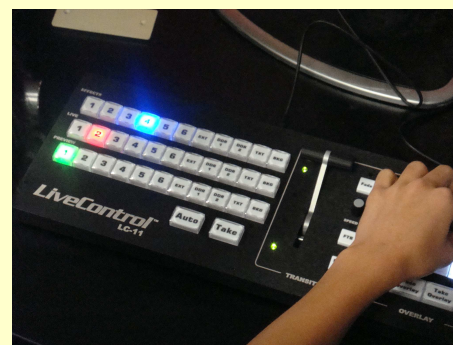


最棒的是整個播出可以放在網路上，如此家人就可上網觀賞整個節目了。目前技術問題仍在解決，應可在不久的將來實現。另外，TriCaster 很輕巧，因此學生們可以帶著它到校園各處去拍攝諸如音樂會或戲劇演出之類的表演。

這項新科技只是我們的學生所享有的眾多資源之一，以供學生進行具有挑戰性的真實世界計畫。

David Paszkiewicz

Video Production & English Teacher

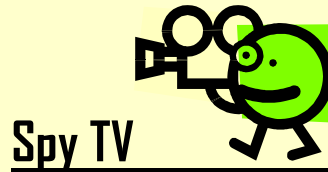




2011 劇團演出



戲碼



及



A Funny Thing Happened
on the Way To Fifth Period



別忘記在你的行事曆上註明!

今年劇團首次公演時間

二月17號和18號

晚上7:00

一票兩看!

只要

\$5.00你就可以買票觀賞這些天才學生演員在本校大禮堂的舞台上表演.

帶你的朋友和家人一起來觀賞!

演出當週午餐時間售票, 也可於表演當天在門口購票.

劇場見!

Fresh & Easy Fundraiser Update

超市募款活動

感謝所有參與Fresh & Easy超市募款活動的家長及學校教職員。

你們一共為FA中學募得\$795.55。這筆款項包括募款日當晚購物回饋及平日收據總和。

實在太棒了! 我們大概五月初會收到這筆金額。

Randa Weir

辦公室總監



Raising Cyber Safe and Savvy Children

Monday, February 7, 2011

6:30 -7:30 PM

Foothills Middle School

Who: Parents of 4th-8th Grade Students

What:

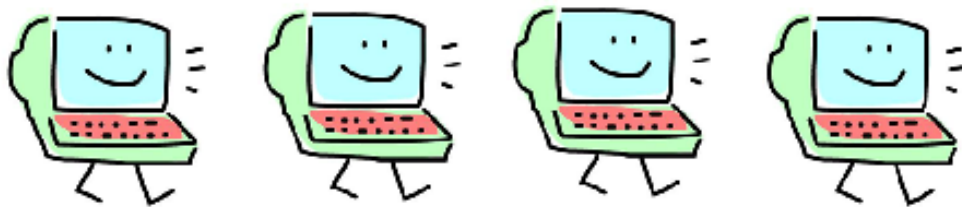
- Provide accurate information about online safety
- Teach strategies for problem solving and making good choices
- Learn how to avoid dangers and pitfalls
- Identify consequences for inappropriate use

Where: Foothills Middle School
Multi-Purpose Room
171 E. Sycamore
Arcadia, CA 91006

When:

- *Monday, February 7, 2011*
- 6:30-7:30 PM

Why: Students today use a wide range of technology constantly for school projects, to communicate with friends, to play games and more. Both school staff and families need to work together to guide student technology use and ensure their safety. Information is the key!



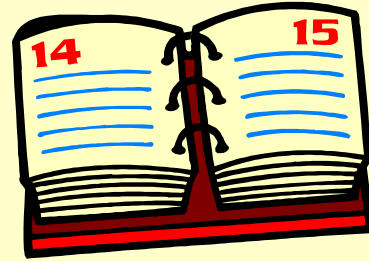
Attention 8th Grade Parents & Students

Mark Your Calendars...

八年級學生及家長請注意

請在你的行事曆上註明

亞市高中重要活動日期



八月 15	新生訓練
八月 19, 22	註冊日
八月 21-26	音樂營* (Idyllwild, CA)
八月 29	開學日

*亞市高中音樂營具有53年悠久歷史! 您的孩子若參加弦樂團, 樂隊, 或旗隊, 音樂營將是在新學年開始之前熟識學校老師和同學的重要途徑!.

家長們, 我們需要監護人! 你可以在這個禮拜中認識其他家長, 又可幫助學生. 保證饒富趣味!

如果你今年無法同行, 你可以在八月24日參加參觀日.

詳細情形可在三月份時到亞市高中音樂社網站查詢: (www.arcdiamusic.org)

若有問題可連絡音樂營主任 Coyla Grumm
cgrumm@ausd.net.

More important dates on page 13!

Arcadia High School Orchestra Benefit Dinner

亞市高中弦樂團贊助晚宴

二月26, 2011

曾入選美國國家廣播公司電視熱門節目"The Sing-Off" 決賽的南加州輕唱團體The Backbeats (<http://www.backbeatsvocal.com/>),

將受邀為2011年亞市高中弦樂團贊助晚宴的表演嘉賓.

晚宴將於二月26日在亞市活動中心舉行.

有關詳情請參考以下網址:

<http://www.arcdiamusic.org/orchestra/benefitdinner/2010-2011>.

明年度9年級學生高中選課注意事項

八年級學生預備高中選課的時間已經接近了。以下是八年級學生及父母須注意的幾個重要日期：

三月30日, 星期三 – 亞市高中的輔導老師將在本校為八年級學生舉行集會, 介紹高中選課程序及亞市高中提供何種課程。出了相關資訊之外, 學生將收到亞市高中課程介紹以及選課單初稿用以初步決定九年級選何種課程

四月14號, 星期四 – 亞市高中將主辦明年度9年級新生及家庭迎新說明會。這是讓學生和家長了解亞市高中各個學科部門和各種不同課程的好機會。相關細節將會郵寄至八年級學生家中。請計畫參加這個說明晚會。

四月26, 27號, 星期一-星期二. - 四月26, 27

兩天本校八年級學生將與亞凱迪亞高中輔導老師就明年選課問題進行一對一面談。面談時間表將張貼於各八年級教室, 學生可自行參考自己的面談時間。學生應帶已填好的白色選課單初稿參加面談。並在上面勾劃出應選的課程。輔導老師會填好粉紅色的正式選課單後讓學生帶回家給家長簽名。

本中學的跨校輔導老師Darr 先生將於三月份與八年級學生會談, 討論高中畢業須符合何種規定以及如何制定四年高中選課計畫。三月和四月份的某些時間, Darr 先生也會在午餐時間於圖書館回答八年級學生有關高中課程各種疑問。確定時間將在FA晨間新聞時間公佈。

如對選課有疑問可與本中學的跨校輔導老師Darr 先生聯絡, 電話是626-821-8362, 分機 6238。或電郵kdarr@ausd.net。

From the Music Club President

How do you know if your child is a leader or will become one? What is a 'leader'? Most parents want their child to be the prettiest, the most famous, the smartest, the best at their hobby, the most popular. Whatever it may be, we want our children to excel and be recognized.

Most attributes, traits, and the temperament of our children, they are born with. I'm sure everyone with more than one child have wondered how their offspring could be so different coming from the same oven and growing up in the same home!

Leadership is the ability to influence others and be recognized for it. It doesn't matter if your child is handsome, intelligent, first or last born, they can influence others. Leadership means others will accept your ideas on how a project should be handled. It means your values for making a decision will be the parameters for the discussion. It means your desires to go here for ice cream or here for vacation, or here for the company retreat will happen. It means you have influence over others.

The ultimate influence is changing someone's life, not where we go for dinner. That leadership is often more subtle, and may not be immediately recognized. Your kids have been in school long enough that there has probably been at least one teacher that has had a major impact (influence) on your student's education, helping to open their eyes as what they are capable of.

Perhaps it has been a coach from the YMCA, the recreation department, AYSO, Little League or somewhere else, that maybe wasn't able to teach your child to hit better, kick farther or run faster, but taught your child to work hard, to persist, and your child is different, better because of it.

A family friend can sometimes tell our kids things that they just don't seem to hear from us.

Parents who donate their time to the food drive, to chaperoning dances, to preparing children for parades and concerts, are influencing lives. And you know what, it's little ways and those little ways add up and count for the broad influence.

Your child has opportunities to influence others: If they are a peer tutor. If they just help a friend with homework. Maybe they work with another student on getting a music piece down right. Perhaps they will come back from high school on a Friday afternoon to reach out to mentor a student on their instrument.

They could become involved in cross age PE. They could volunteer to help coach younger kids



Chaperones at Disneyland!

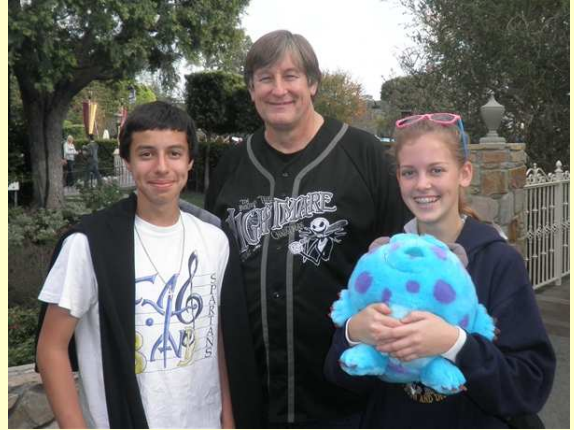
Continued on page 15

Continued from page 14

in their sport. They can become involved in student government. They can influence others. They can be leaders.

Encourage your child to help and serve others. 'Help' and 'serve'? Yes, that's what leadership boils down to and it can be taught, mostly by the modeling of those in the child's life and secondly by the influence (leadership!) of parents helping, directing, encouraging their child in one of the opportunities mentioned or something similar.

The band and orchestra are what they are due to Mr. Danielson's leadership. And part of his leadership is developing student leaders. Your student doesn't develop leadership sitting in a class room or doing homework (it will help indirectly). Your student develops leadership by leading others. Support and encourage your child to lead others consistent with their capability. Give them the opportunity to see they can have an influence...and watch it grow!



Jeff Leonard





The Marching Band, Auxiliary & Flags had a great day at Disneyland playing and marching down Main Street U.S.A.

Student Council 2010-2011 First Term

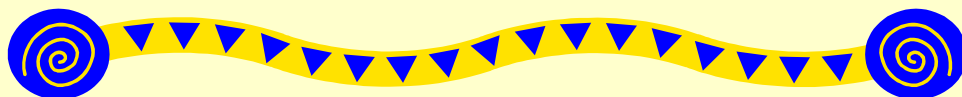
Many people say Student Council is a popularity contest. I half agree. Student Council is an organization run by student leaders to create a fun environment for the student body. Student Council elections on the other hand are total popularity contests. Those who have a good, lightly funny speech or those who are somewhat popular are usually the ones who get elected. But Student Council elections are not *The Student Council*. The point is to get elected by any means necessary, so that you can contribute your ideas and views on reshaping Student Council and the school.

This term Student Council has done a great job of reshaping. We have two types of meetings, morning meetings and lunch meetings. In our early morning meetings, which take place at 7:30 a.m. every other Wednesday, we approve school budgets, school spending and teachers' requests for teaching equipment. We also talk about past events and activities as well as upcoming dances and activities. We conclude our meetings at 8:00 a.m. During lunch meetings we decide what we will do for activity days, on which Student Council holds activities that are based on a particular theme. So far we have had Cartoon Day, where students dress up as their favorite cartoon character. We've also had Holiday Day, which is an activity day where students dress up for the holidays and then compete in races and contests to win prizes. We've had activity days for Halloween, USC vs. UCLA games and several other occasions.

Each term we like to have a big goal. This term we have been promoting a campaign called Campus Clean-Up. Using student announcements, posters, and banners we promote keeping our campus clean. Every Wednesday at lunch, the members of Student Council split into three groups. Each group covers an area where students are most likely to litter, such as the lunch patio, outdoor stage, and the basketball courts. For ten to fifteen minutes we pick up trash and make sure students are doing the same. The first week we did our three group-patrols, Mr. Wilson, our school custodian, was not aware of what Student Council did at lunch. He was taken aback by the cleanliness of the lunch area and was happy to find out that students were cleaning up their mess.

I have been on Student Council since 4th grade and I have never seen such an eventful term. Usually terms start off slow and things never get up to speed. This term we started off slow, but as we progressed I started to see members turn from followers into leaders. Maybe at the beginning some members were too shy to contribute. Others might have wanted to start off in the shadows to see how things worked in Student Council. Or maybe the pressure of being a member and the desire to help out the students made our officers rise to the occasion as a leaders.

Ishaan Dev
Student Council President



Student Council Info

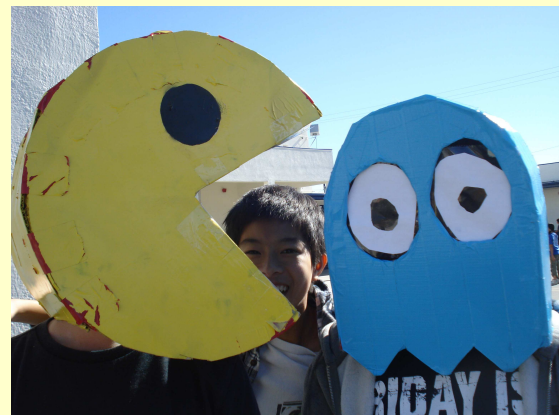
學生自治會訊息

學生自治會努力為FA中學籌畫數個主題日。一月21日是卡通日，邀請大家打扮成最喜歡的卡通人物！各種人物都可出現。除此之外還有好玩的“抓壞人”遊戲表揚卡通英雄人物，以及卡通插畫比賽。

二月份學生自治會將慶祝情人節。我們將邀請大家穿著紅色，粉紅色，或紫色衣服並參加午餐時的精彩節目。生會將在午餐時間準備各種好玩的遊戲並播放好聽的情歌把情人節的氣氛帶入高潮。

Kristen Mora
Co-Advisor Student Council

Photos from Cartoon Day!



Small Team

操舞小隊

FA中學操舞小隊正忙著為軍樂隊型競賽編舞和排練。
他們興致高昂地為即將於三月五號在亞市高中舉行的比賽演練。
希望大家來為這群有才華的女孩加油。

Tiffany Crosby & Kristen Mora
Co-Advisors



紅色, 橘色, 黃色, 綠色, 藍色, 紫色, 黑色 以及 紫紅色?

這是什麼?

新的彩虹顏色嗎?

不是!

這些是每個隊伍的顏色

八年紀



斯巴達奧林匹克運動會!

一年一度的盛會是2011年班的高潮活動之一。

八年級學生將被分成由老師帶領的八個隊伍。

去年的冠軍隊伍是由 Ms. SooHoo 和 Mrs. Isabella領軍的藍隊。

比賽項目從籃球到接龍,

從排球到餅乾裝飾。

每個人都可一顯身手!

斯巴達奧林匹克運動會提昇八年紀團隊精神

也給學生們機會實踐 "公平競爭, 全力以赴" 的銘言

今年的比賽將於三月10號星期四舉行。

希望最佳隊伍獲勝!



2010 8th Grade Spartan Olympics Champions!

FIRST AVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Date: Saturday Feb 19 & Sunday Feb 20, 2011

Time: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM (all day)

Location: Panda Express inside Pavilions

Present this flyer and **20% of your purchase will be donated** to First Ave Middle School.

Panda Express (Pavilions)

745 W Naomi Ave
Arcadia, CA 91006
(626) 821-9407

回饋

(giving)



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回饋

(giving)



我們很榮幸的宣佈FA中學達成了

100% 加入家長教師聯會會員



特別感謝所有家庭, 學生, 及教職員的支持, 成為 '10-'11 年度會員.

100% 參加會員的教室贏得比薩派對:

Adams - 11 教室

(第一學期, 第三節課)



感謝以下教室在家長會會員募集期間全力支持:

Zeuli - 37 教室

K. Mora - 25 教室

Nelson - 28 教室

Crosby - 9 教室



- ★ First Avenue Middle School PTSA
- ★ Proposed Slate of Officers for 2011-2012 School Year:
- ★ President: Vicky Stiles
- ★ Executive Vice President: Doris Hayata
- ★ 1st VP - Legislation: Connie Mimura
- ★ 2nd VP - Ways and Means: Glenda Chi
- ★ 3rd VP - Membership: Karen Acosta
- ★ 4th VP - Newsletter: Suzanne Davis
- ★ Recording and Corresponding Secretary: Liza Tedford
- ★ Treasurer: Michael Tom
- ★ Financial Secretary: Nora Wilson
- ★ Auditor: Violet Htoon
- ★ Historian: Michelle Ganis



E-Waste Fundraiser Huge Success!

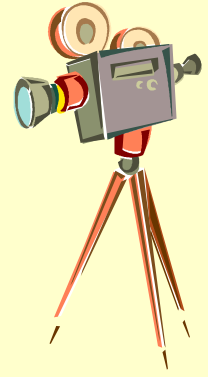
電子垃圾回收極其成功!

園藝社感謝所有在一月份參與電子垃圾回收的人員! 此次募款活動極為成功 – 我們裝滿了三卡車回收電子產品. 園藝社共募得款項 \$ **\$2,645.29!**



Movie Reviews – the Best of 2010

Hello! I'm Garrison Pena, an eighth grader at First Avenue Middle School. I love watching movies because it's a hobby of mine, and I have been watching films since I was five years old. I try to understand how films are made, how the director sees each frame, and the actors act, but mostly, I just enjoy them. Some of my favorite films of all time are *Titanic*, *The Godfather*, *The Hurt Locker*, *Lord of the Rings*, and *The Two Towers*. I have been given the opportunity to give you my take on my five favorite films of 2010. Grab some popcorn and enjoy my reviews.



The Social Network

The story of this film is a story which must be told. It is a story that reflects our culture and our world today, the story of the creation of Facebook.

On a fall night in 2003, Harvard undergrad and computer programming genius Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg) sits down at his computer and heatedly begins working on a new idea. In a fury of blogging and programming, or should we say hacking, commences what we know today as a global social network that revolutionized our social communication. What began in a dorm room at Harvard, Zuckerberg continues today developing a website that is used by millions of people. A mere six years and 500 million friends later, Mark Zuckerberg is the youngest billionaire in history. However, the path to get to this billionaire status was not easily paved, because his success came at a heavy price, and that price was money and friendship. Both personal and legal complications to create Facebook, is the storyline for the *Social Network*.

The Social Network's three main characters are young and their roles in the film are well acted. Jesse Eisenberg's portrayal of Mark Zuckerberg was excellent! His lack of social skills became his friend, yet it destroyed his ability to hold his true friendship. Being a computer genius, he would act as if he was the smartest person in any room he entered. He tarnished people's reputations, and he destroyed his friendship with his most important friend, Eduardo Saverin, who was portrayed by Andrew Garfield and played the part sensationally. Eduardo was Mark's friend and his balance, and stood beside him when he needed help. Mark never realized Eduardo was his friend and he abused the friendship. However, Eduardo knew that Mark was different, and even until the end Eduardo knew someone had to watch out for Mark's well being. Mark betrayed Eduardo's friendship in the creation of Facebook, by befriending Sean Parker. Justin Timberlake played Sean Parker, who wanted to help Zuckerberg expand his company and network globally. Parker help take Facebook, from a college campus website, to world phenomena. Once Zuckerberg connected with Parker, you could see the end of Eduardo. Timberlake was a great choice for Sean Parker because he did a good job of portraying Sean Parker as a cool fast opportunist. When we see the friendship of Eduardo and Mark start to unravel, we begin to consider Sean Parker as a villain!

The Social Network has many messages. Before Facebook was created, we relied on leaving our homes to socialize, like restaurants, friend's homes, and outdoor settings. When Facebook was created, it changed us and the world. Millions of people, including family mem-

bers and we students use Facebook. We went from socializing in person to communicating digitally. Facebook is now being used by industries to communicate with people. Some of these industries are: AMC, Apple, and car manufacturers. Facebook is now an important part of our culture. Mark Zuckerberg created a powerful website that is the storyline of a sensational film. Good or bad, Facebook is us, and *The Social Network* is one great movie, which earns it one of my top five of 2010.

Inception

The story of this movie is one of the most interesting and exhilarating films of 2010. Director Christopher Nolan delivers a masterpiece of directing. Nolan has shown his direction in great films such as, *Memento*, *Batman Begins*, *The Prestige*, and *The Dark Knight*.

Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a skilled thief in the art of extraction. Extraction means, stealing valuable secrets in one's subconscious while they are in a dream state. Cobb is being hunted by the law, but he is given a chance to clear his name by taking on a job of extraction. Cobb is given the task to accomplish the impossible, inception. *Inception* is not stealing an idea or secret, rather he must plant one. Cobb and his team provide the adventure and storyline of this film. They are to initiate inception.

How do actors pretend they are in different levels of a mind? Each actor in this movie is part of a team that is taken to different levels to help perform the goal of inception. However, four actors are the focus of good acting performances; Arthur (played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt), Ariadne (played by Ellen Page), Saito (played by Ken Watanabe), and of course, Cobb (played by DiCaprio). Guided by the direction of Nolan, these actors worked hard to visualize every level of a dream. The physical acting along with their words, made me believe I could go down to the dream level too! The cinematography at each level was awesome. The lighting and backgrounds changing while acting was taking place, made the film interesting. My favorite scenes were the layers of images in France.

The music score of Hans Zimmer helped the mood of each scene in the movie. From the solemn and slow paced beginning to the more dramatic intense levels of the dream, the music score made the interesting scenes more interesting.

Inception's production, direction and story makes this film one of the years most brilliant made movies. When you walk away from this movie, you may have a visual brain overload. You may even consider that the whole movie was on a dream level and you haven't left Cobb's dream. You might even pinch yourself to make sure you are not dreaming yourself. However, one thing is for sure, after you see *Inception*, you will agree it is one great piece of movie making and it is one of my top five of 2010.

True Grit

Joel & Ethan Coen have directed really good films during their directing careers. In 2007, they won Academy awards for Best Director and Best Picture. The awards were for *No Country for Old Men*. In 2010, the Coen Brothers are back. They directed a remake of a true classic, titled *True Grit*, a pulse-exhilarating western drama.

With her sights to avenge the murder of her father, 14-year-old farm girl Mattie Ross played by Hailee Steinfeld, sets out to capture the killer. To aid her on her quest, she hires the

toughest U.S. Marshal she can find, a man with "true grit." His name is Reuben J. "Rooster" Cogburn, played by Jeff Bridges. Mattie joins Cogburn to seek out Tom Chaney, played by Josh Brolin, who is her father's killer. When we are introduced to Rooster, we find out that he is a drunk, but once the adventure starts, we realize that we'd rather be next to Rooster than to any other character in the movie. Joining Mattie and Rooster on this adventure is Texas Ranger LaBoeuf, who is played by Matt Damon. All the acting in this film was superb, and it shows how Jeff Bridges can push the limits of his acting. Although he is a drunk and sarcastic old man, he had true grit inside himself to handle the western country.

True Grit was filmed beautifully. The lighting techniques used to show landscapes during the daylight, and landscapes during the night moon, made me believe I was part of the adventure as well. There were many excellent camera angles such as low angles of the horse fight between Cogburn and Pepper's gang, to the wide-shot of LaBouef showing off his rifle while aiming at his target. How do you make a hole and a small log cabin interesting? The Coen Brothers accomplish this by shooting this film with different unique camera angles.

The adventure or journey to capture a murderer during the Western days was probably not easy, and not pretty. The Coen Brothers cinematography and unique way of telling a story make this film interesting and enjoyable. I felt I was there, and that isn't a bad thing when a movie makes you feel this way. Saddle up and join the adventure of *True Grit*. It's one of my favorites of 2010!

The King's Speech

This movie was a breathtaking cinematic drama masterpiece! The film's setting is in England during the 1930's, and tells the story of England's King George VI, played by Colin Firth. It is King George's story to overcome his speech impediment, and to become a great leader. Suffering from a stammer from the age of 4, the young Prince dreaded any public speaking engagement. A great example of his dreading to speak was in the opening moments of the movie, when he tries to give a speech at the closing of the 1925 Commonwealth exhibition, fails in his attempt to speak into the microphone. After trying many different speech therapists, he meets Lionel Logue, who is played by Geoffrey Rush. Logue helps the Prince overcome his speech impediment by befriending him and showing him unconventional techniques to help him overcome his stammer. Logue also helps him to be brave and to take on the challenge of becoming a King.

The overall filmmaking of the *King's Speech* is very remarkable. The lighting and cinematography used to film England during this time, makes the dark contrast and exposure level look like really old photos. The outside scene of Lionel Logue standing while King George VI is walking away is one of the best shots in this film.

This film is rated R, which means you need your parents to go see it. There is no nudity in the movie which gave me permission to see it with my parents. However, there is a lot of bad language. But, when you hear the bad language, it's in context of the movie.

What makes this movie is Colin Firth. His struggles with his stammer made the audience and I feel very emotional. You feel for his character because he had to deal with his stammer and his family. His burst outs of frustration made me laugh and made me appreciate my

voice. It also made me appreciate Colin Firth's performance. Firth delivers a towering performance. The King's drive to speak better, and to overcome the problems that will be coming with war against Germany, is filmed in one of the most memorable scenes in film history. And that scene is *The King's Speech*, which makes it one of my top five for 2010.

127 Hours

127 Hours is a stunningly-made drama to the highest degree! The nerve-racking suspense combined with the claustrophobic feeling makes this film a must see for movie goers and an important lesson to outdoorsmen.

127 Hours is the true story of Aron Ralston. Ralston is a mountain climber and hiker. On an April afternoon in 2003, at 2:41 PM, Aron was hiking a narrow slot crevice of the Blue John Canyon, located in Utah's Canyonlands National Park. While climbing down off a wedged boulder, the rock suddenly came loose. Before he could get out of the boulder's way, the rock pinned his right arm and wrist against the canyon wall. And so began six days of hell for Aron Ralston, with little water and no food. Aron was stuck literally between a rock and hard place. His decision to survive is the story that mesmerized a nation!

127 Hours is beautifully filmed. Academy Award Winning Director, Danny Boyle, of *Slumdog Millionaire*, films the heroic story of Aron Ralston stuck in a canyon, pinned against wall by a rock. How do you make a claustrophobic scene interesting for most of the movie? Boyle succeeds in this by using interesting angles, clever animation, and gets a lot help from James Franco. The angles from inside the canyon to the angles above that show the vast landscape, shows the power of nature. The quick-paced editing from switching to position to position and angle to angle builds intense and creates a palm-sweating feeling. Sound mixing and effects make your ears believe you are really there, especially when Aron decides to break the bones of his arm.

To help Boyle film this story, he needed someone who could portray Ralston. Much like Colin Firth in *The King's Speech*, James Franco's portrayal of Aron Ralston was marvelous and one of the best performance of the year. Franco brings Ralston's ordeal to life, and it is what makes this movie great. Franco's cries and rants of being stuck are truly heartfelt. I wanted to climb into the movie and move the rock for him. It's a performance that you will remember.

The most important scene of the movie is the most memorable I probably will ever see. The music and the acting of Franco making the decision to survive will leave you breathless. Days after I saw this movie I asked myself if I could have enough courage to do the same as Ralston. I think so. I sure hope so.

127 Hours is rated R. The rated R is mostly for realistic images that involve some blood. There is no nudity. My father read the book, and when he told me the story, I was hooked! I wanted to see the movie. If your parents let you see it, and you can stomach the amputation scene, than go see it. Most of you have seen worse!

127 Hours is a story of survival. It's a story of Aron Ralston forgetting everything he had learned and almost paying the ultimate price for that mistake. It's a story of courage to do what you have to do to live. *127 Hours* may be gory and off limits for you to see. But for me, *127 Hours* is one of my top five movies of 2010.★



Fundraising Never Tasted So Good.

Meet your friends and family at BJ's and enjoy our delicious flavors while earning funds in support of:

First Avenue Middle School PTSA

DATE: Wednesday, March 23, 2011

TIME: 5pm - 10pm

BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, Arcadia

400 E. Huntington Ave.

626.462.1494

PLEASE PRESENT FLYER TO SERVER AND BJ'S WILL DONATE

15% OF FOOD SALES TO YOUR ORGANIZATION.

CALL AHEAD SEATING & ONLINE ORDERING AVAILABLE

Valid for dine-in or take-out. Not valid towards alcoholic beverages or happy hour specials. Please do not distribute flyers on-site during the event.

WWW.BJSRESTAURANTS.COM

輔導室角落

您的孩子擁有選擇權!

鼓勵您的孩子發掘他們的職業選項

使用以下網址 **Choices® Explorer – CX Online**

下面幾週我們的輔導老師會為七八年級學生介紹一個有關職業選項的網站，家長和學生可以在家使用。 *Choices® Explorer* 是一個網上的資源可以幫助我們的孩子了解更多的職業選項，讓他們能夠為達成目標而計畫。事實上，網站上有些資源對家長而言也是很有用的。我們誠摯地鼓勵您和孩子一起上網探索這個有趣的網站。

Career Explorer - CX Online 快速開始步驟

♪使用 Choices Explorer

1. 到以下網址: **www.access.bridges.com**
2. 打入你的 Site ID 和 Password

Site ID: 0104273

Password: firstams

♪設立一個檔案以儲藏有興趣的職業搜索結果

1. 按以下鍵 **Create a Portfolio**
2. 輸入需要的資料並建立一個檔案名字和密碼。

♪使用你的檔案

1. 到你的檔案上登錄
2. 輸入使用者名稱和密碼

♪可以開始探索了!

1. 先到 CAREER FINDER 填寫問卷回答有關性向和能力的問題。
2. The RESULTS 結果會展示出一系列符合性向的職業建議。
花點時間研究哪些是你有興趣的職業。

Continued on page 30

Continued from page 29

幾種你在 Choices Explorer 可以探索的酷功能

工作

- 在職業領域 **Career Zones** 裡發掘上千種職業.
- 高中成功秘訣 **Succeeding in High School** 裏提供有用的功課幫手和讀書秘訣.
- 發掘和你最感興趣的學習科目 **Your School Subjects** 相關的職業 .
- 更多了解職業尋找, 職業計畫, 實習等等.

學習

- **Choose a Major Zone** 了解有多少課程可供選擇.
- 選擇 **Major Finder** 查看那些主修符合自己的興趣..
- 使用 **The Student Planner** 確保你的基礎含括高中和大學學習計畫. 準備好, 選課, 並在 **Preparing for College** 申請獎助學金.

生活

- 發掘如何利用空閒時間, 例如做志工或休閒.
- 讀休閒專家寫的問題和解答.

你的資料夾

- 儲存你的計畫 **Your Plans** 和資料, 如技能, 興趣, 履歷, 修習課程等.
- 檢驗你的活動 **Your Activities** 看看那些任務已經完成那些還未完成.
- 在你的日誌 **Your Journal** 裏記錄你的想法和問題, 並制定高中之後的計畫.

搜索

Choices Explorer 完整的搜索引擎可以幫助您找到所有關於職業方面的資訊和教育規劃.
只要輸入鑰字就可搜索!

我們希望您會喜愛這個網站的服務. 讓我們知道您探索的結果: nmartin@ausd.net 或 kdarr@ausd.net.

祝探索愉快!

Nancy Martin, 學校輔導老師

Kevin Darr, 跨校輔導老師

Cyberbullying Awareness & Prevention

Monday, February 28, 2011

6:30 -7:30 PM

Foothills Middle School

Who: Parents of 4th-8th Grade Students

What:

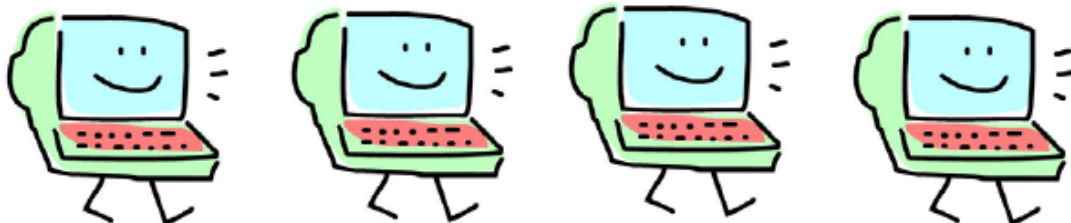
- Define cyber bullying
 - via E-Mail
 - via Cell Phones
 - via Text Messaging
- Understand roles of school and home related to cyber bullying
- Learn strategies for talking to your children about cyber bullying
- Identify consequences of cyber bullying

Where: Foothills Middle School
Multi-Purpose Room
171 E. Sycamore
Arcadia, CA 91006

When:

- Monday, *February 28*, 2011
- 6:30-7:30 PM

Why: Cyberbullying is the 21st Century version of bullying. Instead of face-to-face harassment, bullies now hide behind *computers and cell phones* to inflict willful and repeated harm. Research has identified the importance of ongoing discussions among parents, educators and children about online interactions. Please join us in the conversation.



Upcoming Events

February

- 1 School Site Council & School Leadership Team Mtgs., 2:30 p.m.
- 1 PTSA Meeting (Library) 7 p.m.
- 1 Music Club Meeting (Music Bldg.) 8:15 p.m.
- 2 8th Grade Promo Planning Meeting, 7 p.m. Faculty Lounge
- 7 Parents: Cyber Safe Seminar at Foothills Middle School, 6:30 p.m. (see page 11 for details)
- 11 School Dance at Baldwin Stocker, 6 – 8 p.m.
- 14 PTA-Sponsored Valentine's Day Treats for Teachers & Staff
- 17 Production 2011 (see page 9 for more information)
- 18 Production 2011 (see page 9 for more information)
- 19 Panda Fundraiser (see page 21 for flyer) – all day
- 20 Panda Fundraiser (see page 21 for flyer) – all day
- 21 President's Day – No School
- 26 Camellia Parade in Temple City (Marching Band to Compete)
- 26 AHS Orchestra Benefit Dinner at the Community Center (see page 12 for details)
- 27 FA Orchestra to Disneyland to perform (6:20 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.)
- 28 Parents: Cyberbullying seminar at Foothills Middle School (see page 31 for details)



March

- 1 School Site Council & School Leadership Team Mtgs., 2:30 p.m.
- 1 PTSA Meeting (Library) 7 p.m.
- 1 Music Club Meeting (Music Bldg.) 8:15 p.m.
- 2 8th Grade Promo Planning Meeting, 7 p.m. Faculty Lounge
- 3 Orchestra Vertical Concert (Pasadena High School) 7 p.m.
- 5 Small Team Competes at AHS
- 10 8th Grade Spartan Olympics
- 10 Minimum Day (12:15 p.m. pick up)
- 10 Rock Band Concert
- 11 Minimum Day & End of Second Trimester (12:15 pick up)
- 14 Student Free Day, Teacher Non-work Day (No School!)
- 15 Current 6th Grade Parents Math Mtg, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Foothills Auditorium
- 17 Zero Period Potluck (5:30 p.m.)
- 17 Honorary Service Awards & Zero Period Music Concert
- 22 AUSD Profiles in Excellence Recognition, 7 p.m. Auditorium
- 22 Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m. Auditorium
- 23 BJs Restaurant Fundraiser (see page 28 for flyer)
- 24 5th Grade Parent Orientation, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium
- 25 Spring Photo Day
- 28 Current 7th Grade Parent Math Meeting
- 30 Band Vertical Concert (Pasadena High School) 7 p.m.
- 31 Open House, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. (5th – 8th Graders)

