



IRVINE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Monica Colunga, Principal

Spring 2010

Principal's Message

Spring semester is well underway and before we know it the school year will be past us. In this newsletter you will find acknowledgements of events that have taken place to date. Also, you will find some very helpful information and updates of activities to come.

As many of you are aware, this is by far one of the worst economic climates we have ever had to deal with. Given the unprecedented nature of this crisis, our District School Board has been forced to respond swiftly and proactively by approving a variety of program budget cuts which include increased class size and a ratified agreement with various school employee organizations to approve four furlough days this spring and eight furlough days for the next school year. The furlough days that will be observed for this school year will be Monday, June 7; Tuesday, June 8; Monday, June 14; and Tuesday, June 15. More information will follow with regards to the observed furlough days for the next school year. It is an understatement when we identify what impacts this budget crisis is having on current funding levels for education in IUSD. I encourage you to log onto the IUSD website at www.iusd.org for the most recent IUSD Budget Watch.

Even considering the effects this budget crisis has on education and on our individual staff members, I continue to be impressed with the commitment of our staff along with the partnership of our parent groups in their effort to afford our students with the best possible educational experience we can envision. I know this commitment is at the forefront of every Irvine High School community member. I cannot begin to express how grateful and fortunate I feel to be a member of such an outstanding community. It is an honor to serve among the students, staff and parents as the principal of Irvine High School.

Thank you,

Monica Colunga

School Calendar: Dates to Remember - Please log on to www.irvinehigh.org to confirm dates and events.

- April 5-9, Spring Break
- April 16, Sadie Hawkins Dance
- April 19, Staff Development 10a.m. Late Start
- April 28-May 1, Spring Play
- April 29, Performing Arts Assembly
- May 5-7 Parent Conferences- Minimum Day Schedule
- May 20, 21, 24, 25. STAR Testing starting at 8:00 a.m. for Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors.
- May 20, 21, and 25, Seniors will have a late start 1st Period begins at 11:10 a.m.
- May 24, the Senior Class Council is planning a Senior Activity Day, details to follow. Seniors not participating in the Senior Activity Day are required to report to school at 11:10 a.m.

School Calendar: Dates to Remember Continued- Please log on to www.irvinehigh.org to confirm dates and events.

- May 20& 21 Dance Concert
- May 26 Spur Awards Ceremony
- May 27 POPs/Awards Concert
- June 3 Staff Mtg. 8:15 a.m. Start
- June 4 In Concert
- June 7 & June 8 Furlough Days No School
- June 9 Heritage Awards
- June 10 Senior Awards Assembly
- June 10 & 11 Voices Concert
- June 14 & 15 Furlough Days No School
- June 21-23 Spring Semester Finals
- June 22 Commencement

Eighth Grade Family Night

On Wednesday, April 21, 6:00 p.m., Irvine High School invites all eighth grade students and their families to "Family Night." The evening will begin with an Electives Fair. Information will be presented regarding the IHS elective programs and athletics. Parents will meet with counselors for an overview of the fall registration process, while 8th grade students will learn about life on the IHS campus. Flyers have been distributed throughout the middle schools.

Summer School Application Forms

IUSD Summer School will be held for all four high schools at University High School from June 28 to August 6. Registration documents are available in our upstairs office or online beginning the week of March 29. Completed registration cards are to be returned to Irvine High School upstairs office April 12-May 7. All fees must be paid with a check or money order. Cash will not be accepted. Students will only be allowed to register for Summer School if all fees and holds have been cleared from their current accounts. A lottery will be administered for impacted classes. Those enrichment courses that do not have sufficient enrollment will be collapsed after the registration deadline. Students will be notified and fees will be refunded.

May Parent Conferences

On May 5, 6 and 7, we will be on a Minimum Day schedule for parent conferences. School will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m. on those days. Each student will be scheduled for a parent conference appointment with their advisor on one of these days.

Graduation time for the class of 2010!

Graduation ceremonies will once again begin at 12:00 noon on June 22. The reason for the early starting time is that the stadium must be shared between Woodbridge High School and Irvine High School on that day. In order to ease the parking crunch and traffic burden, it has been decided that it would be easier for Irvine High School to get into the stadium early.

Teacher of the Year Awards

Teacher of the Year Awards for Irvine High School are being presented to Debra Gala and Tracy Clark at the Excellence in Teaching Awards Dinner, April 23, 2010. Teachers are nominated and selected for this recognition by their peers. Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

PTSA Mini Grants to Teachers

“Thank you” to our PTSA for their generous contributions to Irvine High School Teachers. This year PTSA was able to fund over \$3,000.00 in Teacher Mini Grants. The request for Mini Grants included curricular supplies and supplementary texts that impact large numbers of students. We appreciate their support and encourage all of you to join this important organization.

National Merit Finalists

Congratulations to our 2010 National Merit Finalists. These seniors have joined the ranks of the top seniors in the nation who scored in the top ½ of 1% of all seniors on their PSAT exam: Andrew Bain, Razleen Brar, Benjamin Brown, Sarah Chang, Elice Leung, Kenneth Tham, Victoria Tran, Tiffany Wang, Benjamin Weon, Jun-You Wu, and Andrew Yoon.

Principal’s Honor Roll

Sincere congratulations are given to all of the students who have earned the distinction of being placed on the Principal’s Honor Roll for the fall semester. These students have worked hard and have earned a 3.5 Academic GPA or higher. Their names will be posted on the web at www.irvinehigh.org

Science Olympiad Team

The Irvine High Science Olympiad Team competed at Golden West College on March 12. This year’s team finished 4th qualifying them for State competition. Congratulations to the following team members: Kenneth Tham, Emily Du, Alda Huang, Wilson Jeng, Annie Lu, Daniel Schwartz, Eugene Shin, Cassie Yeh, Albert Yen, Matthew Yoshino, Wesly Yu, Jason Fang, Bill Yeh, Kai Yang, and Jason Yi.

Spring Athletic Programs

Our Spring Athletic is well underway. Please consider joining us for one of Spring sport competitions. Spring sport schedules are available on line at www.irvinehigh.org

Boys Track is 4-0 and won the Earl Engman Relays

Girls Track is 3-1

Boys and Girls Lacrosse has a large squad with many new players. Although we struggled in preseason, we are showing improvement as we progress through the year.

Boys Volleyball is 7-4 in preseason play

Baseball is 1-9-1 but has been close to wins in the last 3 league games

Girls swimming is currently 1 – 0 in League and 3 – 1 overall. We have set 3 meet records at the F/S Southern Section Relays finishing 2nd overall losing to Edison by 2 points. League Finals will be Hosted by Beckman HS this year.

Boy’s golf is currently on a 3 match winning streak including 2 league victories vs Laguna Hills and San Juan Hills. Irvine continues to be led by medalist Spencer Verrill and two outstanding freshmen, Eugene Won and Jason Yi.

Congratulations to Thien Tran who capped off our winter season by representing Irvine High School and earning All American honors by capturing 7th Place in the 21st Annual NHSCA Senior Wrestling Nationals at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia.

Performing Arts

On April 28th to May 1st at 7:00 PM the Irvine High School Drama Department will be performing *Is He Dead?*, a play by Mark Twain and adapted by David Ives. This recent Broadway hit is a hilarious farce about a painter who fakes his death in order to receive fame and fortune.

IHS Chorale Update

On Tuesday, April 20, the IHS Chorale will give the West Coast premiere performance of a new piece by internationally-renowned composer Eric Whitacre, “little man in a hurry”. The poem is by E. E. Cummings, who famously eschewed capital letters and punctuation in his poetry. Director Richard Messenger arranged for \$1500 in funds to be paid to Chorus America (an organization of professional

choirs) and joined a consortium of choirs from around the world which arranged for the commission. The IHS Chorale will partner in this premiere performance with the Madrigal Singers from Villa Park High School. The concert will be given at Irvine Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. and will include additional performances by the Bass Chorus, Treble Chorus and Irvine Singers. Admission is \$5 for students and \$10 for adults; tickets may be purchased at the door.

Music Department Update

Once again this fall, the Irvine High Music Department was named a 2009 GRAMMY Signature School finalist, ranking it in the top high schools in the nation. We are anxiously awaiting an announcement of the 2010 award winners.

Instrumental Music

Irvine High School once again hosted the largest school Jazz Festival in the state on March, 20, 2010. Please be sure to join us for future spring concerts. Dates for these concerts have been identified on the "Dates to Remember" section of this newsletter.

Many of our musicians have been selected for the IUSD honors band and orchestra and will be performing on April 27 with students from other IUSD high schools for a combined performance in OCPAC's Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall as part of the yearly IPSF/IUSD Honors Concert. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Ticket prices range from \$15-\$35. For more information you may log on to www.ipsf.net/pl_02.asp

Dance Department Update

Spring 2010 Dance Concert, May 20-21 at 7:00 p.m.

IHS Theatre

More Information to Follow

EL VAQUERO NEWS

Journalism Convention:

Eight newspaper staff members will attend the JEA / NSPA Spring National High School Journalism Convention April 15-18 in Portland, Ore. Delegates include seniors Vivi Chen, Rachel Kim, Suji Pyun, and Adrianna Wu; juniors Michelle Kim, Stephanie Kim, and Rilla Peng; and sophomore Trisha Nguyen. Student representatives will participate in workshops, issue seminars, write-off competitions, Best-of-Show, and a critique session. El Vaquero earned Best-of-Show honors at the Anaheim convention in 2008, as well as in past years at such venues as Seattle, San Francisco, Phoenix, and San Diego.

Write-Off Competition:

El Vaquero won 2nd Place at the Orange County Journalism Education Association (OCJEA) Write-Off Competition on Feb. 20 at Fullerton College. Twenty-two staffers participated in the 14-school event. Individual winners included: Razleen Brar and Trisha Nguyen in news, Michelle Kim in sports, Sarah Chang and Vivi Chen in editorial, Rilla Peng in feature, Audrey Lazzara and Jonathan Zhao in critical review, Suji Pyun in layout, and Helen Baik, Amna Ejaz, Rachel Kim, Bhavna Nakum, Ani Pochiraju, and Cassie Yeh in novice news. Winners in news, sports, editorial, and feature will advance to state competition May 22 at Fullerton College.

Yearbook Update

Yearbooks are still on sale! Visit www.jostens.com to order your 2010 Yearbook/DVD! You may also pay with check or cash in the downstairs office. The cost is \$110, and will go up again once the books arrive in June (no guarantee that extra books will be available once they arrive). Give your child the gift of memories! Buy yours today! For more information email Mrs. Perales at: eperales@iusd.org
Congratulations to the "Citadel Yearbook" staff The 2009 Irvine High School Yearbook "Expressions" is featured in the Jostens Gotcha Covered Look Book Vol. 8 for an outstanding spread design! Our yearbook is 1 of 520 that were selected by a team of experts to be published in the book, and 1 out of more than 3,000 that were considered.

The Yearbook Staff will be accepting applications for the 2010/11 school year beginning April 12th. Becoming a part of this program looks great on college/career applications and is a unique opportunity to document the events of the year in a publication that will be cherished for a lifetime. Students learn life-long skills in journalistic writing and photography, as well as taking part in the planning and production of a professional publication. Applications can be found in the downstairs office or with Mrs. Perales in UA3. Applications will be due on April 20th and an interview will be scheduled for the following week.

Video Production Recognition

The Orange County Film Festival is an award show honoring top student-film makers in Orange County. This year students from the ITV Broadcast Crew and the video Yearbook Staff earned six nominations across nineteen categories, including an early win in the "Show Open" category.

LIFE Center News

Students applying for spring break or summer employment must see Mrs. Voisinet in the LIFE Center for a work permit. The LIFE Center has many applications for various jobs, as well as application worksheets to fill out before job hunting. Students have a great opportunity through the LIFE Center to take time in filling out applications and brush up on proper interviewing skills. Mrs. Voisinet is available to help students through this process.

COUNSELING NEWS AND NOTES - SPRING 2010 **GET TO KNOW YOUR IHS COUNSELOR**

MS. JUDI CONFREY	7013
MS. LINDA DAVIS	7012
MS. CONNIE FRANKS	7014
MRS. AMY KLAMBERG	7158

Parents...for questions or concerns, contact your child's counselor at the telephone extensions listed above. For voice mail, leave a brief message and include your child's student number. IHS counselors look forward to talking with you.

OFFICE HOURS FOR STUDENTS

Students are invited to visit the Counseling Office to see their counselor during Office Hours before school from 7:30 – 7:55 a.m. and during break between period 1 and 2. Counselors schedule additional times to meet with students as needed.

SUMMER SCHOOL

It is time for students and parents to review past academic progress to determine the need for enrolling in summer school. IUSD summer school for high school students will be held at University High School from June 28 – August 6. Enrollment in summer school is helpful for students wishing to make up required courses for graduation. Also, **to meet eligibility for four-year colleges and universities, college preparatory courses must be completed with a grade of C or better.** Information about IUSD summer school and applications may be viewed at www.irvinehigh.org

NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

Save the date of April 25 at the Anaheim Convention Center, hosted by the National Association of College Admission Counseling. The fair will be held 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Further details will be available in the Counseling Office or Life Center.

SENIORS

Counselors are interested in hearing about college acceptances. Let us know once you have heard the results and if we can assist you in thinking about your decision.

COMING SOON...the annual Senior Survey. The survey will include questions about post-high school plans, scholarships/awards received and counseling and guidance activities which students have participated in throughout high school. Responses from the senior survey will be used to recognize achievements at the Senior Awards Assembly and to create the Senior edition of El Vaquero ("El Seniorio").

The IHS annual **SENIOR AWARDS ASSEMBLY** will be held on the morning of Thursday, June 9, 2010. Details will be available at a later date.

JUNIORS

IHS Counselors have presented a 90-minute Guidance Lesson in the LIFE Center to Juniors through U.S. History or AP U.S. History classes with a focus on the future and research. Students were asked to consider the question, "What's next?" Academic, personal/social and college/career topics included completion of IUSD graduation requirements, college preparatory A-G requirements and research on post-high school options. Students reviewed their transcripts and were assigned a Junior/Senior Planning worksheet and a College Comparison worksheet.

"Just for Juniors" seminars will be held on the following dates during the lunch period. Additional information including location and opportunities to sign up will be provided through the digital bulletin and Teacher Advisement.

Wednesday, April 28: College Application Process
Wednesday, May 12: Applying to Private Colleges and Letters of Recommendation
Wednesday, May 26: Financial Aid and Scholarships

SOPHOMORES

The 4th annual **High School Planning Conferences** for all sophomore students and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) are taking place during spring semester. Notification of conferences is mailed home, designating the prescheduled conference date and time. The conference includes a comprehensive academic review, high school planning and discussion of post-secondary goals. IHS counselors look forward to meeting you.

FRESHMEN

IHS Counselors have presented a 90-minute Guidance Lesson in the LIFE Center to Freshmen through English classes with a focus on transitions. Students were asked to consider "Why Does 9th Grade Count?" Academic, personal/social and college/career topics included adjustment to high school, IUSD graduation requirements, college preparatory A- G requirements, study skills, counseling services and other available support and 4-year planning. Students were asked to begin career exploration on www.cacareerzone.org and to complete a Career Activity worksheet.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM DATES & DETAILS

www.collegeboard.com
www.act.org

View additional information about College Board and American College Testing, including suggested timelines for PSAT, PLAN, SAT and ACT, go to www.irvinehigh.org and click on Program of Studies.

SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are beginning or continuing your search for scholarships, this is a reminder to use caution if you are asked to pay for a scholarship search service. Scholarship opportunities may be researched free of charge - in publications, on the World Wide Web, in the IHS digital bulletin and scholarship binder in the Counseling Office. Below are some useful web sites:

FAFSA - www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/express.html

California Student Aid - www.csac.ca.gov

Financial Aid - www.finaid.org

Financial Aid - www.fastweb.com

FINANCIAL AID

If you are a senior who applied for financial aid, once you receive your financial aid package, the financial aid offices of the colleges and universities to which you apply will assist you in understanding your package. It may be helpful to consider the following questions when speaking with the advisors in the financial aid office.

- How much will we be expected to pay at this institution?
- Why does the aid package offered by this institution differ so much from another college when the costs at the two schools are so similar?
- If the financial aid offered is insufficient to make it possible for our child to attend this institution, will the financial aid office reconsider the offer?
- What are the terms and conditions of the aid programs included in the financial aid package we have been offered? For example, how do outside scholarships affect the package, what are loan repayment policies and what are the renewal criteria?
- How will the financial aid package be affected from year to year?

Information on IPSF “Cinco de Mayo” Half Marathon on next page.



IRVINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION



Sunday, May 2, 2010

The Event:

For the past 11 years the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation has held a very successful run-walk event in the Irvine Spectrum area for its donors and participants. This year IPSF is proud to team up with PCRF to help raise funds for the 27,000 students of Irvine Unified! The event in 2009 had more than 4,000 registered participants, 450 volunteers, 75 exhibitors, 55 fundraising “teams”, one huge Kids’ Fun Zone, a VIP hospitality tent, and more than 6,500 in total attendance.

The 2010 running events are:

~ Half Marathon ~10K Run ~5K Run ~5K Walk ~1K Kids’ Run

**Chip timing for all events*

Steps to Join the IPSF Team:

- 1. Form a Team:** Get donors and supporters to participate and solicit pledges from their friends, neighbors, colleagues, etc. Each group or individual can register completely online as part of the IPSF Team.
- 2. Earn Money:** All the money Team IPSF raises through pledges (minus Kintera’s processing fee) will be sent directly to IPSF within 4 weeks of the event. Additionally, IPSF will receive \$5.00 for each half-Marathon, 10K or 5K participant registered on our team (excludes Kids’ 1K).
- 3. Festival Expo:** Team IPSF will have an exhibit area at the Festival Expo. This is a great way for us to connect with our current supporters and to introduce IPSF to new donors. Festivities will include: Live Mariachi band, face painting, kids bounce house, sea life tide pool, petting zoo, prizes, refreshments and much more.

4. Registration: Each school can register as a team, or multiple teams, or individuals.

Please make sure to register under Team IPSF so that our students receive the proceeds!!

1. Go to www.pcrf-kids.org to register.

2. Click the colorful Cinco De Mayo Icon on the lower left hand side.

3. Click the orange “Register Now” button on the lower left hand side, then click “Continue”.

4. On the right side of the page is the “Group Rank” list. Select Irvine Public Schools Foundation, then “Join Team.”

5. You can join the IPSF Team or join any of the other school specific teams listed under IPSF.

5. Questions: Call Cheryl Braun (949) 265-6410 or email cbraun@ipsf.net