



IRVINE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Monica Colunga, Principal

Winter 2011

At Irvine High School, our mission is to enable all students to become contributing members of society empowered with the skills, knowledge, and values necessary to meet the challenges of a changing world, by providing the highest quality educational experience we can envision.

Principal's Message

This fall and the beginning of the winter have been filled with many activities that are highlighted in this newsletter. The energy and excitement that our students produce throughout the school day and then continue through the many evenings of activities have made the weeks go by joyously and quickly. Within no time, the end of our school year will be upon us. Students continue to amaze us with their many talents and their commitment to the Irvine High School values of Integrity, Honoring Self and Others, and Social Responsibility. We are looking forward to the remainder of the school year being filled with similar energy and enthusiasm.

This year our staff, parents and students have begun working on our Self- Study in preparation for our accreditation visit from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) schedule for October 2011. Thank you to all who have been working tirelessly through this process.

As we continue our work through the school year, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to all our parent volunteers for their endless contributions and to our teaching and school support staff for their endless dedication to our students. Together, we form a school community that constantly cares for students and strives for excellence.

Sincerely,

Monica Colunga

School Calendar

The following are highlighted dates for your convenience. Please be sure to link onto the school calendar for more comprehensive updates at: www.irvinehigh.org/schoolcalendar

Unity Week February 28-March 4

Musical "Bye, Bye, Birdie"- March 1- March 5

The California High School Exit Exam (all sophomores in TA's)-March 8 and March 9

The California High School Physical Fitness Exam (all freshman at the stadium)-March 8

Cal State University Early Assessment Program (juniors in Main Gym)- March 9

OCC placement exam (seniors in HLG) - March 8

IVC placement exam (seniors in HLG) – March 9

March 8 and 9 Bell Schedule

Period	Time
Testing Period	8:00-11:00
1	11:10-12:00
Lunch	12:00-12:40
2	12:45-1:35
3	1:40-2:30
4	2:35-3:25

IHS Blood Drive – March 15
Performing Arts Cabaret Night – March 17
Irvine Jazz Festival – March 19
Spring Play – April 5-April 9
Choral Spring Concert – April 12
Students for Social Responsibility (SSR) Benefit Concert – April 15
Spring Break – April 18-April 22
8th Grade Family Night – April 26

Residential Verification Information

It is that time of year again to collect *Residency Verification Information* for the 2011-2012 school year. As we prepare for this process we would like to suggest that you make a copy of your bill with both portions attached prior to tearing off the remittance part of the bill. This will help facilitate the process. Please keep an eye out for further information.

New Immunization Requirements for Students Next Year

New state guidelines now mandate that parents of students starting grades 7 through 12 next year provide proof of immunization against Pertussis or “Whooping Cough.” Proof of immunization will be a condition for registration and attendance for Fall 2011. If your child has received the “Tdap” booster, please bring the original documentation to the health office as soon as possible so that the information can be recorded appropriately in your student’s health records.

National Merit Honorees

Congratulations to our National Merit Finalist, Semi-Finalist, and Commended students. Our Finalist and Semi-Finalist students are now ranked among the top ½ of 1% of all seniors in the nation who took the PSAT in 2010. These students are: Hayoung Baik, Andrea Chaikovsky, Thomas Dang, Michael Ding, Alda Huang, Chris Huh, Alan Hung, Daniel Jin Lee, Jessica Siak, Emily Sturman, Nhat Truong, Mengkang Tsai, Cassie Yeh, Albert Yen, Young Kon Yoo.

Our Commended students are now ranked among the top 1% of all seniors in the nation who took the PSAT in 2010. These students are: Christina Bell, Catherine Crestol, Christopher Dai, Alan Do, Catherine Do, Amy Do-Nguyen, Emily Du, Robert Friedland, Rithwik Hari, Seojoo Hong, Wilson Jeng, Heekyung, Jung, Stephanie Kim, Sneha Kohirkar, Andrew Lee, Katherine Lu, Shan Lu, Logan Ma, Fatima Maqsood, Katie Nguyen, Sara Nishikawa, Eric Nong, Matthew Olney, Yinran Pan, Linh Pham, Brian Pham, Sherry Shi, Eugene Shin, Kevin Sollberger, Daniel Suh, Yasmin Tontat, Catherine Trinh, Chelsea Trinh, Mercy Yang, Wesley Yu, Jana Zaidan, Fan Zhang, Jonathan Zhao, Albert Zhu.

SPUR Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as “Fall 2010 SPUR Award recipients”. Each teacher at Irvine High School has the opportunity to name one or two students who exemplify our **IHS** values: Integrity, Honor yourself and others, and Social Responsibility. These fall student recipients will be honored in a Spur Awards Ceremony along with our spring student recipients in the spring. Our fall students are: Alex Mercuri, Alexandra Bichler, Allison Clark, Allison Perry, Alyssa Coy, Angela Chong, Annee Pytlik, Anthony Castellana, Armando Alonso, Ashlynn Kim, Bao Tien Nguyen, Brianne Searl, Casey Page, Cassie Yeh, Chloe Haack, Chris Allmann, Chriss Luvianos, Christiana Lasich, Clinton O’Grady, Cody Hitchcock, Dallas Panusis, David Park, Eric Chen, Eric Chyou, Erik Vega, Frank Zhang, Garrett Jackson, Gordy Hollis, Hayley Deklotz, Ivan Balza, Jennifer Nessler, Jeremiah Carter, Jo Hanna Rocca, Joe Garcia, Jonathan Zhao, Jordan Davis, Julia Walker, Julianne Cook, Julius Isaac, Justin Guzman, Kaitlynn Kim, Kayla Quan, Kenny Chen, Keziah Mortiz, Klarissa Moreno, Lauryn Cornell, Leah Jane Sturman, Lida Aghazadah, Lisa Najarian, Maddie O’Donnell, Maral Amani, Marcus Reid, Margaret Van der Bie, Marilyn Hernandez, Yoshino Matthew, Max Garcia, Max Paulus, Melissa Zimmer, Mercy Yang, Natalie Dickens, Summer Dole, Tasha Miller, Taylor Bey, Tiffany Wong, Tina Yeh, Trent Williams, Trevion Mason, Trisha Nguyen, Vance Tetreault

Principal's Honor Roll

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

Teacher of the Year Awards

Teacher of the Year Awards for Irvine High School are being presented to Greg Grey and Peter Sacks at the Excellence in Teaching Awards Dinner, May 13, 2011. 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.

Fall and Winter Athletic News

Congratulations to all our fall and winter athletes for their hours of dedication as they competed and represented Irvine High School and their respective sports with sportsmanship, integrity, and honor. We are proud of all of their efforts. Postseason highlights include the following:

Our Boys Water polo team placed 2nd in the Pacific Coast League which qualified them for CIF competition. Our team competed in the first round of CIF playoffs.

Amy Lee represented our Girls Golf team at the CIF Southern Section Championship by finishing 17th out of 95 golfers at the CIF Southern Regionals.

Our Girls Basketball team tied for 2nd place in the Pacific Coast League which qualified them for CIF competition. Our team competed through the second round of CIF playoffs.

Our Boys Basketball team earned an At-large entry into the CIF Division 3A competition.

Our Girls Water polo team placed 2nd in the Pacific Coast League which qualified them for CIF competition. Our team defeated Ventura High School in a Wild Card Round and competed in the first round of CIF playoffs.

Our Wrestling team ended their season as Pacific Coast League Dual Meet Champions with six individual League Champions and nine CIF Qualifiers. The team competed through the CIF Semi-final dual Meet Championship. The following wrestlers qualified individually for CIF: Nam Tran, Ramtin Kianiazar, Joe Mercuri, Scott Zane, Dustin Wroten, Nick Dozier, Seiya Ide, Chris Mortazavi, and Adam Huey. Richard Aguilar and Josh Kim qualified as CIF alternates. Nam Tran, Scott Zane, Nick Dozier, and Adam Huey finished as CIF Place winners in the CIF Coastal Divisional Tournament qualifying them for the CIF Masters Meet.

Cheer

Congratulations to the IHS Cheer squad who competed in two regional competitions qualifying them for National competition in March.

Instrumental Music

Irvine High School does it again! The Grammy Foundation released the names of the finalist for this year's Grammy Signature School Award. There were 141 schools selected nationwide, 18 from California including Irvine High School.

The Mighty Marching Vaqueros had another fantastic fall season. Congratulations to all the Marching Band and Color Guard members for their hard work and dedication to the program.

Congratulations to: Jennifer Jo, Andy Yen, Albert Yen, and Justin Kao for making the All-Southern Band/Orchestra this year. They represented Irvine High School and performed in the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center on the campus of CSU Long Beach on Sunday, January 23.

Choral Music

The Choral Music department presented the Holiday Concert on December 6 at 7:30 PM at Northwood High School. The Sweethearts Concert was performed on February 11 in our game gym. The Spring Concert is scheduled on April 12, and the Voices Concert is scheduled for June 2 and 3. Please check the IHS web-site for complete details of locations.

Theater and Dance

Congratulations to our Drama department for their successful presentation of the Shakespeare classic *A Midsummer Nights Dream*.

Congratulations to our Dance Ensemble for their successful production of their Fall concert *Rewind* which was performed on January 13-January 15. Please be sure to check our IHS website for our Spring Dance Concert dates.

El Vaquero News

Twenty-three newspaper staffers will attend the Orange County Journalism Education Association (OCJEA) write-off competition Saturday, Feb. 26 at Fullerton College. Write-off participants will compete in the areas of news, editorial, feature, and sports as well as in critical review, newspaper layout, cartooning, and photography. Students attend mock press conferences which serve as the basis of their pieces.

Students who place in the top 10 in the categories of news, editorial, feature, and sports advance to the state level in May at the Southern California Journalism Education Association (SCJEA) write-off competition.

Irvine High placed 2nd in Sweepstakes last year and won Best of Show in the Division I category. Sweepstakes are determined by overall points earned in the categories of news, editorial, feature, and sports categories.

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 the "Show Open" category and teacher Peter Abe was recognized as "Mentor of the Year."

PTSA Reflections Contest

Congratulations to IUCPTA Reflection Winners: Sang Yoon, Sophia Tsau, and Kerry Hughes. The PTSA theme this year was "Together We Can..."

Homework Club

This year members of Link Crew, national Honor Society and Students for Social Responsibility are providing free peer tutoring to students who need assistance on Wednesday's afterschool from 3:30-5:00 in the upstairs staff lounge.

Attendance Procedures

State regulations require that all absences be cleared through the Attendance Office by parents or legal guardians ONLY. Either call 949 936-7001 on the day of the absence or send a note within 3 days of the absence. You can call the attendance line 24 hours a day. All notes have to be written in ink and signed by parent or guardian. We do not accept e-mails to excuse absences.

The note or the phone call must contain:

- Student # (not the permanent ID #)
- Last name (spell it if you are calling)
- First name
- Date of Absence
- Periods missed including TA (not the classes, but the periods)
- Reason for the absence

PLEASE NOTE: We make every attempt to minimize the amount of classroom disruptions by not pulling students out of class for personal appointments. Please make all arrangements with your student for them to leave during breaks or lunch. Students can bring a note to the attendance window before the class starts stating the time they need to leave and what periods they will miss. You can also leave a message on the attendance call line.

If your student comes to the attendance window and does not have a note and there has not been a phone call, they will be issued an "unexcused" re-admit. This is NOT a detention at this time. They have 2 days to clear the absence and after that it will become a detention and cannot be cleared.

Remember you can use myUSD.org to check your student's attendance, grades, etc..

Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF)

We wish to thank IPSF for their contributions to our schools. This years funding at the high school level has allowed us to opportunity to add four teaching sections or the equivalent of 1 teacher. Please consider supporting this organization

OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF DESERVE "P.A.T.S." ON THE BACK!

THE IRVINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION PRESENTS

PARENTS APPRECIATING TEACHERS AND STAFF

Thank your child's teachers and special staff members for all of their hard work through the **Parents Appreciating Teachers and Staff** (PATS) program.

There are many reasons to participate in PATS:

- It is a great way to recognize those individuals who make a difference in your child's education.
- Your tax-deductible donation goes directly back into the classroom through the Innovative Teaching Award Program (ITAP).
- Your child's teachers and staff members receive a personalized certificate of recognition with a small gift expressing that you think they are special and how much you appreciate them.

**APPRECIATE YOUR FAVORITE
TEACHER OR STAFF TODAY!**

\$25.00 donation recognizes one (1) teacher or staff

\$50.00 donation recognizes three (3) teachers or staff

\$75.00 donation recognizes five (5) teachers or staff

\$100.00 donation recognizes seven (7) teachers or staff

\$125.00 donation recognizes nine (9) teachers or staff

All Donations Must Be Received By March 4, 2011

Please make checks payable to IPSF

Mail check with this page to IPSF

18552 MacArthur Blvd., Suite 200, Irvine, CA 92612.

Please write "PATS" on your envelope!

Teacher/Staff Name: _____

If you are recognizing multiple teachers or staff, please include the necessary information on a separate sheet.

School or Location: _____

Student's Name: _____

Optional Personal Message to be printed on certificate (20 words or less only, please): _____

Parent's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Irvine Public Schools Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

