



Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views

Through others, we become ourselves.
L. S. Vygotsky



Vol. 6 No. 11

Winter Wonderland Issue

Dec. 13, 2006

Over 90% of WAAE Certified Nursing Assistant Students Pass State Test



CNA Teacher/Coordinator Barbara Miyoshi with some of the students at CNA Graduation in November, 2006.

PVUSD Board of Trustees Approve “Institute of Language and Culture” Name

Last week at the end of a very long board meeting our district’s Board of Trustees heard and approved our suggestion to name our new building Institute of Language and Culture (Instituto de Lenguaje y Cultura).

There was very little discussion, which may have been in part due to the hour, after midnight, in a meeting in which three newly elected members, and one re-elected trustee, were sworn in. The trustees wished us well, and President Doug Keegan specifically mentioned that he hoped our students enjoyed the facility. Our thanks were expressed to Terry McHenry who has helped push the project along, and to trustees leaving the board, Rhea Dehart and Sharon Gray who were actually part of the planning. And now it’s up to us to make this facility something our community can use and be proud of. Fundraising efforts continue, as we try to acquire the instructional technology and furnishings our students and teachers deserve.

CCAЕ Successful Student Conference Focuses on Efficacy



Youth folklorico perform at CCAЕ Central Coast Chapter Successful Student Conference organized by Kim Iwasko and her students in her Office Skills class. Story on page two.



Successful Student Organizers:

Isabel Apaez, Ana Guzman,

Aude Andrade and Minerva

Mendoza listening to presenter

Reporting back from the first student organized CCAE Conference...

On November 4, 2006 approximately 27 student organizers and the Steinbeck Chapter CCAE President, Kim Iwasko hosted a "Successful Student Conference in the board room at Watsonville/ Aptos Adult Education. The conference had a fairly good turn out of around 100 guests. The conference included eight Watsonville/ Aptos Adult Education graduates sharing their stories of success, motivation and encouragement with the attendees. The conference further included presentations from Community Agencies: Watsonville/ Aptos Adult Education, California Council for Adult Education (CCAЕ), The City of Watsonville, Career Works, Second Harvest Food Bank, Migrant Education and La Manzana Community Resources agencies gave brief, ten minute overviews of their program offerings. There was a free, nutritious organic lunch, live music thanks to WAAE's own Jose Humberto Camacho and an amazing baile folklorico dance performance from Watsonville's finest middle school dance troop. The conference also highlighted the professional benefits of joining CCAE and encouraged students to become members. The conference ended with raffle prizes and a commitment to making our community more united.

The conference was unique in that student organizers went out into the community and asked for donations from local business such as: Falcon Trading Company, Longs Drug, Starbucks, Adriatic Travel Agency, Cassidy's Pizza, Earthbound Farms and numerous others. The students received over \$ 3,000 worth of donations. The student organizers did an amazing job with decorating, food preparation, organization and motivation. In conclusion, everyone who attended the conference had a great time, some left with raffle prizes, a new CCAE membership, free organic snacks and all participants left with new founded hope and motivation to help others in our community see the benefits of continuing their education. - *Kim Iwasko*

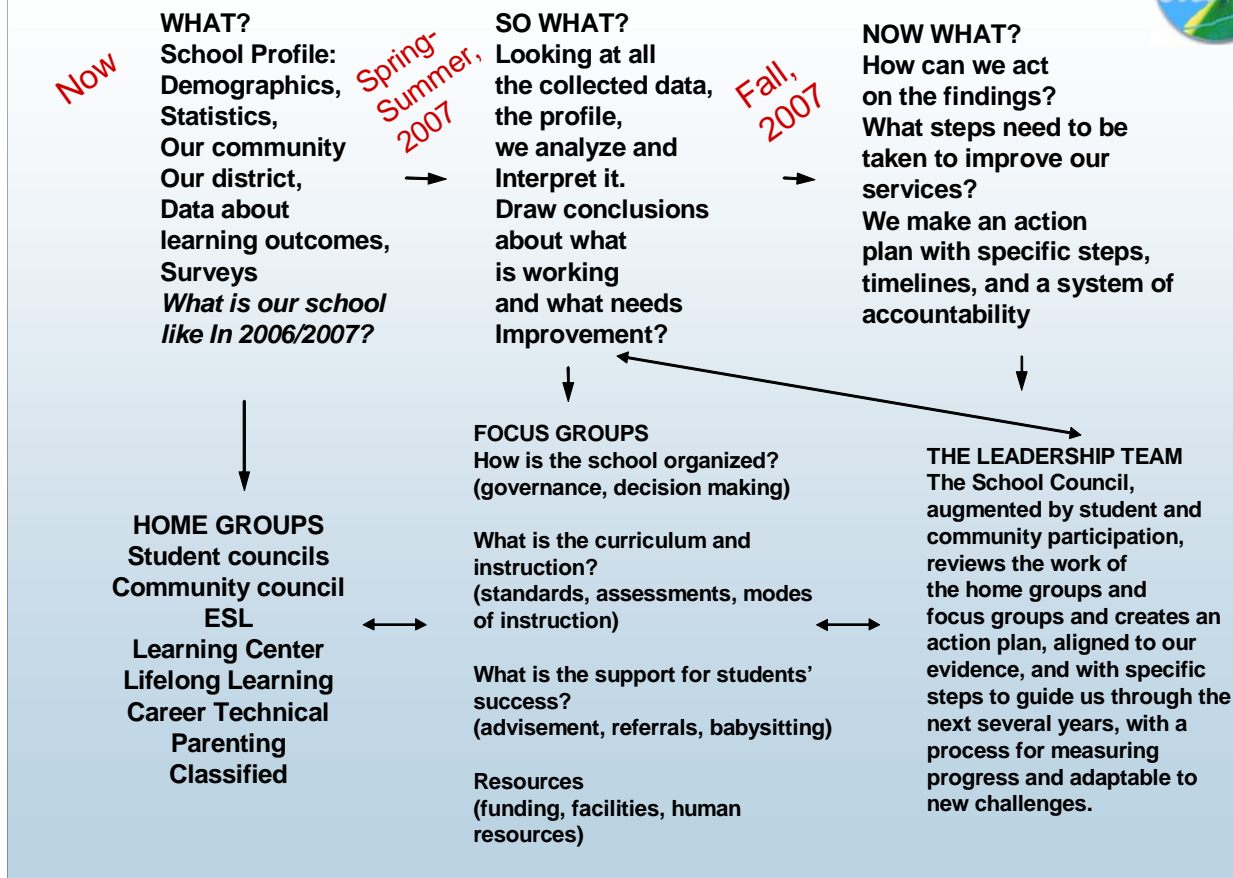
Claudia, Ana, Aude and Marisela

making the sandwiches

for the conferences...



WAAE Focus on Learning: Self study 2007-2008



School Council met this week, and among the things we talked about was the self-study process that forms the core of our WASC accreditation. We are at the stage of gathering information, or “evidence” about where we are as a school. What are our student outcomes? CASAS tests? Jobs obtained? Personal goals met? Family literacy activities? Older adult self-assessments? Beyond the documentation of what is happening in our community, how we are responding to the community’s needs and changes, and what evidence we can identify about learning gains, it is usual to survey students about what they think about our programs. At school council we discussed what should be on a broadly distributed student survey. (If you have any ideas about this, please share them with me, AV, or your department chair).

But as we think about the survey process, a question I ask is “how do we use the student satisfaction surveys?” All classes should be using them, having students complete them and returning them to Bob or the department chairs. I read most of the surveys, and I especially value the students’ written to some of the open-ended questions. I also wonder: who looks at these? Who aggregates what they are telling us? Are the surveys still adequate in their design? That we use student satisfaction surveys every semester is a great practice, but maybe we should think about better ways to use the information that they provide us with. This is exactly the critical look at our practices that can make the Focus on Learning process meaningful.



WAAE Calendar

Holiday Potluck,
Friday, Dec. 15
Green Valley, 4:00-7:00

All student updates should be turned in
In ESL CBET classes, in addition to the student updates
teachers should be turning in the home reading records and the pledge forms,
if this doesn't make sense to ESL/CBET teachers, talk to Mariana
and Cynthia

Winter Break, Dec. 18 - Jan. 8

Focus on Learning Leadership Meeting
Thursday, January 4
Porter, 3:00-5:00

TAMALES DE ELOTE

(choclo, mazorca tierna)

- 15 elotes grandes y medio duros
- 1/4 de kilogramo de mantequilla (1/2 Lb.)
- 1 cucharadita de polvos de hornear
- 2 acitrones partidos en pedacitos (cristalizados)
- 200 gramos de pasitas sin semillas
- azúcar granulada, al gusto
- color vegetal rosa o verde
- Hojas frescas de los elotes



Los elotes se lavan, se desgranar y se muelen en crudo con un poquito de leche. La mantequilla se bate hasta cremarse y se agrega el elote molido y el polvo de hornear. Todo se bate hasta que la masa se pruebe (se conocerá que está en su punto, cuando en un vaso con agua fría se ponga una bolita de masa y se suba sin que se quede en el fondo); entonces se endulza al gusto y se pinta con el color vegetal.

Se untan las hojas de los elotes, se rellenan con las pasitas y el acitrón y piñones, si gusta. Se envuelven con cuidado y se dobla la mitad de la hoja. Se acomodan paraditos en una vaporera y se ponen a cocer a baño María durante media hora. Se conoce que están cocidos cuando el tamal se desenvuelve y se desprende de la hoja. Se sirven calientes. Para recalentarlos se ponen en baño María como si se fueran a cocer. Tardan aproximadamente 1 hora en cocerse.

Variaciones: Se suprime el azúcar, las pasas y el acitrón y se pueden rellenan con carnes de pollo, res, cerdo, con salsas y con quesos.



As the WAAE World Turns:

*May 2007 find you in bright spirits,
good health, and close to those
you love. Happy Holiday Season
to all the WAAE Family.*