



Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views

To define is to destroy, to suggest is to create.
- Stephane Mallarme

*All School Meeting.
June 8!! 3:30-5:30
Paid two hours.*

Vol. 6 No. 22

The "Day of the Teacher" Issue

May 7, 2007

Focus on Learning:
**All home groups
were represented
at meetings of the
four Focus Groups
in April.**
**Reports from those
discussions will
be presented at
the ALL SCHOOL
MEETING, June 8.**



Quacking of a Lamé Duck **Our School Culture:** **School Council**

Over the last six years our school has been committed to exploring how decisions, goals, guiding principles can be discussed and agreed upon in a forum of "representative" teachers and staff. In the spirit of Malcolm Knowles, the father of modern adult education, who said "in a dynamic adult education organization, all decisions are experiments", the School Council has, is, and will remain a work in progress. While there are written bylaws, established agenda, norms of meeting, representation of both unions (PVFT and CSEA), and a process of decision making, being true adult educators, we continue to make this up as we go along. The kind of flexibility and adaptability to be able to respond to changing needs is the hallmark of public adult education. Important things are decided at School Council; collaboration and outreach efforts, curricular focus, professional development themes and activities, calendar, some budgetary decisions, and implementing the Action Plan for school improvement. This month all instructional departments will elect their representatives to the School Council for a two year term. These teachers, whose names you see to the left, have agreed to take on a difficult task, to represent the sometimes divergent needs and opinions of the teachers in their departments. In a program of over 40 sites and mostly part time teachers, it's not surprising that many teachers may feel distanced from decision-making. Our school, perhaps unlike any adult school in the state, has committed to build a culture of participatory decision making. It's had mixed success, but as the school crafts a new strategic plan, welcomes a new director, opens a new building, this "work in progress" also means "great opportunity."

Department Chair nominations:
Career Technical Education:

Jack Carroll

ESL:

Edie Trotno

Marta Bechhoefer

Learnng Center:

Sue Colley

Cary Keisler

Lifelong Learnng:

Debbie Lerma/Catherine Hogan

Debbie Lerma/Jane Reyes

Parent Education:

Pam Sexton/Tammy McCroskey

Classes in Spanish:

Elvia Sepulveda



National Teacher's Day - May 8
California Day of the Teacher - May 9

Teachers, opening doors for the adults of our community.
Underpaid, but not undervalued. Thanks for all you do!!



WAAE Calendar

Spring Semester Dates:

Jan. 8 - June 15, 2007

Throughout the month of May

Student Art Show (Bonni Carver and Jane Reyes' classes)
Aptos Roasting Company, Rancho del Mar Shopping Center

Department Chair Elections (VOTE!)

May 7 -May 18

Student Exhibit: Ceramics and Bake Sale
May 9, 2007, 9:00am-1:00pm, Green Valley

School Council (DAY OF THE TEACHER!)

May 9, 4:00-6:00pm, Porter

Agenda: 1) Deciding on content of June 9, ALL SCHOOL Meeting
2) Selection process for new director
3) Report from the Focus Groups

Student Councils

May 22 (Porter), May 23 (GV)

Agenda: Review of student questionnaires

Community Advisory Council Meeting
In the Institute of Language and Culture

May 16, 10:00-noon

Adult Education Graduation!!

Friday. June 1, 7-00 p.m.

ESL Awards Ceremony

Thursday, June 7, Ann Soldo Elementary School

ALL SCHOOL MEETING - PAID

Please save the date and make every effort to attend.

Friday, June 8, 3:30pm - 5:30pm.

GRAND OPENING - COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!!

The Institute of Language and Culture

Friday, June 29

Save the Date!

Summer School

Thursday, July 5 - Saturday, August 4

Back-to-School Meeting

Friday, August 17

(you must be present to get a full day of paid prep time)