

Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views



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



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The New Harvest Home Issue

Oct. 21, 2006

State Visits to Give Guidance to our Testing System

Last week we had a visit from our CDE Consultant, Gloria Guzman, as a part of our being selected for a pilot project. We are being asked to reflect on why our standardized test scores (CASAS) are so far below state averages. The state is very keen on raising all test scores in the state, given that we are below national scores. Gloria met with our "team", Cynthia, Edie, Tersita, Amy, Marta and Marina, to explore how we administer CASAS, how we plan instruction around CASAS and why our school, a good school, has such low totals. One thing we did find was that with 74% of our students in ABE, ASE, ESL and Citizenship not having paired scores, the test scores themselves are not a good gauge of our students' learning. In short, we must do everything we can to capture more students at intake and exit with the CASAS test. As Director I want to 1) underscore the warped thinking of using a single measure to judge a program and 2) strongly encourage ALL of us to do more to get more students with paired CASAS scores.

Saturday Activities for Students

Saturday, October 28th from 1-3pm Porter Building (room 6)

*Your vote is your voice and other aspects of democracy:
A workshop led by Ramon Gomez*

This workshop will also be in Spanish. It won't tell anyone how to vote, but how to get information to be able to decide, as well as various ways to actively involve oneself in civic life. Again, below is more information:

¡Su voto es su voz! Temas sobre la democracia

Este taller no le dirá como votar, pero le ayudara a entender como puede tomar sus propias; como ser activo en cualquier forma posible y cómoda para usted.

Please encourage your students to attend. Babysitting is available

CCAЕ STUDENT CONFERENCE

Dear WAAE Staff,

Come and join the students at WAAE at our first CCAE Student Conference! This three hour conference will focus on students giving mini-presentations about the positive influences that WAAE has had on many lives. We will share our successes and accomplishments. Community resources will prepare brief informational presentations regarding their program offerings and their eligibility guidelines. There will be information given to everyone involved in adult education regarding the benefits of joining CCAE. We will try and encourage students, teachers, classified staff and community members to become members and to one day create our own WAAE student CCAE chapter. This completely free conference will further include: childcare, a delicious organic lunch, music with our own Jose Camacho Humberto and band and dancing. There will be two door prizes thanks to John Basor. Please promote to all your students and encourage them to attend! We hope you will join us! Thank you.

The Students of WAAE/CCAЕ 11/04/06 planning committee

What: CCAЕ Successful Students Conference

When: Saturday, November 4, 2006 Time: 10:30

a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Where: Board Room - 294

Green Valley Road (back of the building) Why:

Motivation, Information, Delicious organic food,

Networking and Fun!



WAAE Calendar

Porter Site Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 25, noon
Discussions about the new building

Active Citizen/Ciudadanos Activos Seminars

Wednesday, Oct. 25, noon
See the front page of this newsletter

Our FOUR Student Councils, Morning and Evening

Please encourage your class to have representation, our students' participation in decision-making is more important than ever.
GV: Nov. 27, Porter: Nov. 28

School Councils

ALL are welcome. Tell your chair your concerns and have them put things on the agenda.
Nov. 8, 4:00-6:00, GV
Dec. 13, 4:00-6:00, GV

Note the New Date:

Watsonville-Aptos Community Advisory Council
10:30am – noon, November 1, 2006
Green Valley

CCAE Adult Student Conference

Saturday, November 4 (See front of this newsletter!)

Information for Spring Schedule due in to Eloisa Sanchez

November 6... any input you have should be suggested to your chairs BEFORE then

Veteran's Day (no classes)

Friday, November 12

ESL Recognition Ceremony and All School Holiday Dance

Thursday, Dec. 14, 7:00pm



As the WAAE World Turns:

... we are still looking for teachers in the older adult program (especially music and exercise) and in the nursing program... if you know any candidates, send them to Nat... the new building is coming along on schedule... this Monday (Oct. 21) we'll be able to see the inside of it at 3:45... almost all groups who have reviewed the nominated names seem to like "Institute of Language and Culture"... we've been fortunate to be part of the initial meetings to plan on a response to the BirdsEye lay offs.... our school and student councils all were unanimously in favor of directing the "one time site grant" money to getting furniture for the new building... Cathy Diaz and AV Coyle both have had to spend time with loved ones who have had heart problems... our thoughts are with them

Halloween night....
there will be classes in most sites
check with your students
this week to see what they
want to do...