



Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views

Through others, we become ourselves.

L. S. Vygotsky



Vol. 5 No. 10

The Hallowed Issue

Oct. 24, 2005

From Cynthia Stark

Paper work! Paper work! "It's not my Job! I am a teacher! I am not paid to do this!

These are often the statements the office hears from teachers. Teachers usually know how important their role in the classroom is for our students but they often do not understand how important their role is in accurately filling out registration forms, updates, attendance sheets and turning them in **on time**. Excellent teaching attracts the students, keeps them coming and helps them to succeed in their goals. **Turning in the registration forms, attendance sheets, tests, updates and so on is what makes it possible to have a school in the first place AND IS EVERYONE'S JOB!**

Many of you know this and have heard this before, but for those who are new or have not really heard this: **the student's attendance is what pays for all of our salaries**. We have to turn in attendance reports at specific dates. If your attendance is not turned in on time to be included in that report, **WE PERMANENTLY LOSE THAT ATTENDANCE**. We are essentially paying the teacher

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Persistence:

From the Student's Point of View

At a recent Student Council meeting we were discussing with the students this year's "theme" of persistence. We asked the students to help us, to talk to classmates to encourage them to continue coming to classes. A group of students talked about a class they had in the summer, and how so many students were motivated by the teacher to continue. I asked them to write about what the teacher did to motivate the students, and I promised I would share it with all teachers. Here is the student's unedited report.

Submitted by Esmeralda Sánchez Lugo (translated by Eloisa Sanchez)

Our teacher, Jose Luis Palacios, was a great teacher. He would say "welcome my friends" from the doorstep, and he always made us feel like he cared. I liked it because he followed a system of managing the class and every Thursday he would test us on what we had learned, and what he felt we didn't learn, he would repeat to us. When we finished and turned in the tests, he would ask us questions in English about them.

In reality, he was always motivating us. He always assured us that, regardless of the time we arrived, the door would always be open, and that one hour of learning was better than nothing. Those words, personally, really give me lots of strength. I work picking strawberries, and sometimes we finish work at 5:30 P.M., and since we work in Moss Landing, we sometimes arrive home after six, and I remember: one hour is better than none.

Also, something that I feel motivates me a whole lot is that he would always say "you can do it" because practice makes perfect, and it's great that they remind us that with persistence we can reach our goals.

School Council Recap

(Summary by Elizabeth Cunningham)

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

4:00 – 6:00 pm Porter

In Attendance: Debbie Craig, Karen Reid, Lucila Bedolla, Cathy Jo Diaz, Jane Reyes, Kim Iwasko, Angelyn Redstone, Michael Hillyer, Natalie Carranco, AV Coyle, and Bob Harper

Added agenda items:

- Internship at One Stop – please call the interns to have them practice more phone traffic
- Voting on Propositions
- Start on budget at 5:00 pm sharp
- Nov. 23 date & Oct. 31 - classes or no classes. Poll classes and let Karen know

Agenda Topics:

- **Bridge Activity**
 1. Angelyn facilitated an appreciation activity for all members present at the meeting.
- **What is school council?**
 1. Discussed the importance of coming to school council, commitment to coming to school council and supporting Bob to make difficult decisions in regards to our school.
- **School Improvement Date**
 1. Discussed the WASC – Accrediting Commission for Schools.
 2. How do we structure WASC into our current school year?
 3. School Council members divided themselves into 7 action plans.
 - AP 1: AV and Cathy Jo
 - AP 2: Natalie
 - AP 3: Michael and Cary
 - AP 4: Karen and Cynthia
 - AP 5: Lucila and Bob
 - AP 6: Elizabeth and Debbie
 - AP 7: Kim and Jane
 4. “Focus” groups look at and study assigned actions plans and report back to School Council at next meeting, thinking about these questions:
 - § What does it mean?
 - § What is missing?
 - § Where are we?
- **Safety:**
 1. Emergency kits needed for all outlying sites
 - § Lucila ordered supplies
 - § Discussed having instructions taped to outside of the kits
 - § Discussed having the teachers being responsible to check the kits’ contents
 2. Planning earthquake or lock down drill
 3. Discussed giving subs and new teachers emergency information and safety procedures

School Council Recap

4. Emergency lesson plans – further discussion required
5. Sub issues – further discussion required

Budget Report:

1. Accounts Summary: looked at and analyzed last year's summary, asking questions. Important points raised:
 - § We are in the "red."
 - § The need to inform teachers of our status
2. Discussed Challenges to our Accounts Summary
 - § Reclassification of classified staff – school picks up costs
 - § Extra money spent that does not generate ADA
 - § How can we improve benchmarks?
3. Discussed Solutions
 - § Cut spending
 - § Budget committee – Kim, Cary, Michael, Elizabeth and Bob – Nov. 2 - 4:00 – 6:00
 - § Fundraising
 - § Increase student persistence
 - § If class sizes are not 16 – 17 students, we are losing money
 - § Closing small classes
4. Three Year Month – to – Month Comparison
 - 2004 – 2005 fell short
 - ADA down statewide
 - What are we offering?
 - Review the demographics of our community
5. Out of class hours
 - Looked at out of class time hours

Evaluation and Professional Development

1. CALPRO Specialist's Learning Community and Field-Based Research Initiative – Applications are due on or before November 4. Angelyn and Elizabeth expressed interest.

Recap of Community Advisory Council

1. Attending: 40 people, 3 legislative offices, 4 board members
2. We are more visible and connected to greater community

Reflector:

1. I noticed that communication was good, team work, proactive, looking at the budget, coming up with solutions

Future Dates:

1. Student Councils, GV, Monday 7th Porter, Tuesday 8th
2. Veteran's Day – November 11th (Friday)
3. School Council – Wednesday, November 16
4. Thanksgiving – November 24, 25

ESL Department Communications

From Karen Reid

An important goal of the ESL department has always been better communication. Our new ESL calendar is one way that we are communicating with you regularly about important events, meetings, dates, etc.

Email is an excellent means of communication—it's fast, easy and convenient and, very importantly, saves paper. PVUSD provides free email to all its employees, which can be accessed on district computers or over the Internet from anywhere. Checking your email daily should be as convenient, fast and easy as checking your mailbox in the staff room. (This is especially true if you do not work at Porter or Green Valley and have to drive there to get your mail.) The weekly and monthly ESL calendars and all memos to the ESL department are now being sent to you by district email, both as an attachment and in the body of the email. Hard copies are either being placed in your mailbox or posted in the staff rooms at Porter and Green Valley. Our eventual goal is that all teachers are comfortable with email so that department communications (both to and from teachers) can be exclusively by email, thus eliminating hard copies altogether. Our hope is that you share in this goal and that we can all work together to attain it. If you would like help, have questions, feedback, etc. about email, please see Karen Reid, Cynthia Stark or Bob Harper.

ESL Prod. Development Fall Semester 2005

OCTOBER

Professional Development Release Time Tuesday
October 25

Porter room 27; 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Professional Development Release Time Thursday
October 27

Green Valley room 6; 11:00 a.m.-noon

CALPRO Workshop Friday October 28, 9 a.m. to noon
Salinas Adult School "Enhancing Learner Persistence"
www.calpro-online.com

NOVEMBER

Professional Development Release Time Tuesday
November 1

Green Valley room 6; 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Professional Development Release Time TBA

Porter day

CATESOL Northern California Regional Saturday,
November 5

Conference www.catesol.org Sierra College, Rocklin, 8
a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Paperwork" by Cynthia Stark

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for not working as far as the state is concerned and our budget. We get no compensation for the time those students have attended.

WHAT ARE THE TEACHERS' PAPERWORK RESPONSIBILITIES?

- **For any new class or beginning of semester, turn in accurate registration forms to Debbie the first day so she can start the attendance sheet and subsequently every week for new students.**
- **Turn in attendance sheets every Friday. We have up to 8,000 students. Debbie needs time to do this.**
- **When you receive a note of a deadline that all attendance is due, turn it in on time because Debbie or Marina has to turn in a report.**
- **Turning in your pay roll doesn't seem to be a big a problem but for any new teachers it is due the 8th of every month. Do not forget or you will have to wait until the next month.**

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Fiscal Highlights (or Lowlights) from 2004-2005

Accounts Summary FY2004-2005

		Revenue	Expenditure	
9900	ADA	2,347,859	2,333,706	
9902	DL		83,109	-68,956
9904	GED	17,576	11,730	5,846
9905	Driver's Ed	52,525	53,438	-913
9906	Community	26,719	16,768	9,951
9907	Contract	29,000	12,745	16,255
9910	EL Civics	122,290	122,290	0
9913	231 Fam	2,475	2,475	0
9914	231ASE	18,963	18,963	0
9915	231 ESL	148,880	148,880	0
9917	EL Civ CIT	2,700	2,700	0
9918	EL Civics Supp	48,150	48,150	0
9930	Corrections	50,919	54,863	-3,944
9931	CBET	298,000	322,062	-24,062
9932	SOS	86,128	86,128	0
9940	Ladders	5,179	5,179	0
9941	El Jardin	18,901	18,901	0
9945	First Five	20,000	20,000	0
9948	Lottery	101,160	119,813	-18,653
4140	Carl Perkins	9,800	9,800	0
		3,407,224	3,491,700	-\$84,476

Challenges

- Classified 10-15% increase for some positions
- Increased rent
- Payments started for COP (100,000)
- Revenue defcited (27,000)
- Unknown raise in certificated salary
- Benchmarks will mean a substantial decrease in 231
- New "non-ADA generating" assignments

"Paperwork" by Cynthia Stark

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4. **DO NOT KILL THE MESSENGER**, who in this case may be the attendance specialist, Debbie Lerma, who is doing her job by calling you about doing an important part of your job-turning in registration forms or Marina, who is calling for CASAS tests and updates.

Thanks to all of you who are really conscientious about performing these duties accurately and punctually. You keep this school solvent. Thanks in advance for those who will recognize the importance of doing the paper accurately and promptly from now on.

*Article XVII. D.1.a.
Teachers are responsible for maintaining accurate attendance reports and for submitting such reports to the Adult Education office on specified due dates.*

*-From the current PVFT/
PVUSD contract.*



WAAE Calendar - Fall, 2005

ESL Professional Development Release Time
Tuesday, October 25
Porter room 27; 8:30-9:30 p.m.

*Class on Halloween night?
Check with your Dept. Chair*

ESL Professional Development Release Time Thursday October 27
Green Valley room 6; 11:00 a.m.-noon

CALPRO Workshop Friday October 28, 9 a.m. to noon
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ESL Professional Development Release Time Tuesday November 1
Green Valley room 6; 8:30-9:30 p.m

CATESOL Northern California Regional Saturday, November 5
Conference www.catesol.org Sierra College, Rocklin, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Student Councils, GV, Monday 7th. Porter, Tuesday 8th

Budget Taskforce Meeting - Wednesday, November 9

Veteran's Day – November 11th (Friday)

School Council – Wednesday, November 16

Thanksgiving – November 24, 25

WATSONVILLE DIGITAL BRIDGE ACADEMY (Presentation in the Student Support Center)



The Bridge presentation in the Student Support Center on October 12 was very interesting. It caught my attention because director Diego Navarro and former student Michael Cordova talked about getting you ready for college. College was not something I was thinking about 1 year ago. I never went to high school, so the thought of going to college was that it would be too hard. But listening to Diego and Michael talk about preparing you and motivating you to succeed in college I felt much more confident and excited. I would recommend looking into the Bridge program for anyone interested in a college education.

Mike Silva
GED Preparation student