



Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views



The middle class prefers comfort to pleasure, convenience to liberty, and a pleasant temperature to the deathly consuming inner fire.

— Herman Hesse

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The Gemutlichkeit not Weltschmerz Issue

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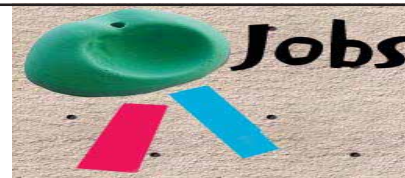
Welcome to our new Office Assitant, Eloisa Sanchez

When you come by Green Valley in the afternoons and evenings now, you will see a young, professional-looking woman at the front. Say hello to our new Office Assistant II, Eloisa

Sanchez, who replaces Leonel Viorato. Born in Mexico City, Eloisa is a graduate of Watsonville High School and has attended both Cabrillo and Heald Colleges. She is also interested in pursuing a professional career in photography. She is new to PVUSD, and most recently worked for Peace Builders for the city of Salinas. She brings a wide range of skills and interests to us and we are fortunate to have her. Say hello to her and give her a WAAE welcome.

Student Council News and Reflections

Through the good work of Marina Candor, Ruben Zambrano, Cathy Jo Diaz, and Michael Hillyer, we now have four groups of active and vocal students who are meeting as "Student Council." In fact, many good conversations with students have happened over the last few years at student council. A lot of the specific planning for the Langendorf building has been in response to the very clear desires of the students, as expressed in discussions at student council. After several recent meetings, a couple things surfaced again. To me it seems many of the expressed needs by students can be grouped into two themes. First is that there is some concern among students about the classroom environment. Some of the representatives say that some students may talk, or make jokes, or speak in ways that bother other students. Partially this may be cultural, or an expectation of what proper classroom behavior is appropriate. But I think the Code of Student Conduct was created to address these concerns, and I would encourage teachers to use this as a tool to remind our students to be sensitive to other students and to choose behavior that is conducive to learning. The second theme that seems often expressed is a desire for "a conversation class", or more time to practice "conversation." Of course this is because the student councils have been attended mostly by ESL students, but I think it is an expression of the desire to actually use and apply what they are learning; practicing conversation, using the language, not just learning about it. Is filling in the blanks in worksheet as useful to our students as using language in authentic communication?



"Overflow" English as a Second Language Classes

We continue to expand our ESI classes because of the influx of new and returning students (and have you seen our spiffy TV advertisements on Galavision and Mun2?). We have added sections this week at Pajaro, Freedom and H.A. Hyde. But we are always interested in talking to new teachers and some teachers who may want a short-term extra assignment. Contact Cynthia Stark for more information.

<http://www.adultedteachers.org/>



State website (maintained by OTAN) with resources for all adult ed. programs and teachers. Resources include lesson plans, classroom activities, Web sites to use with students in the classroom, articles and references on classroom instruction, media, project based learning, and program specific software and software reviews. If you haven't seen this site in a while, check it out... many new features and resources.

An exhortation for adult education by **Bertolt Brecht**, the great German playwright of the 1920's and 30's. Although some of this is a little condescending and dated, most is still a very radical suggestion for adults, learning and a re-distribution of power. The last stanza could well describe the contemporary adult learning theories of Transformatonal Learning.

PRAISE OF LEARNING

Learn the simplest things. For you
whose time has already come
it is never too late!
Learn your ABC's, it is not enough,
but learn them! Do not let it discourage you,
begin! you must know everything!
You must take over the leadership!

Learn, man in the asylum!
Learn, man in the prison!
Learn, wife in the kitchen!
Learn, man of sixty!
Seek out the school, you who are homeless!
Sharpen your wits, you who shiver!
Hungry man, reach for the book: it is a weapon.
You must take over the leadership.

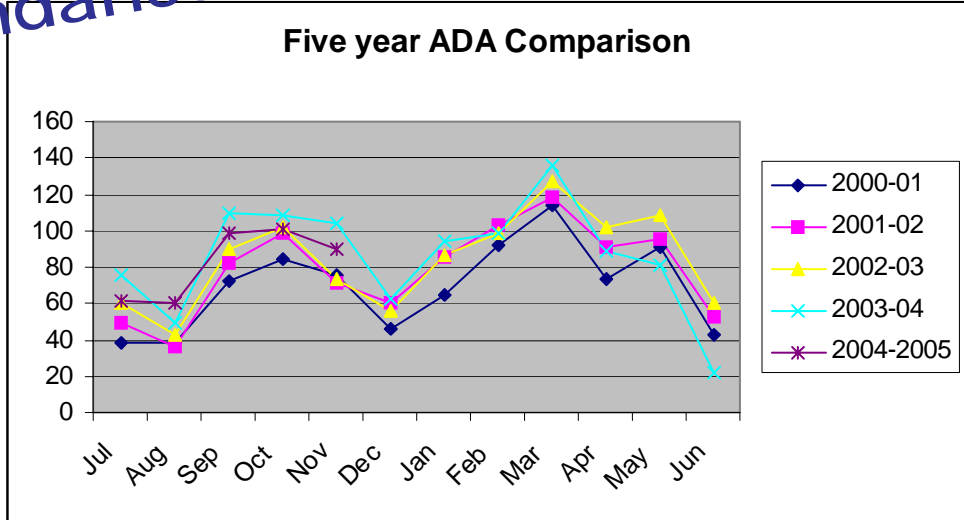
Don't be afraid of asking, brother!
Don't be won over,
see for yourself!
What you don't know yourself,
you don't know.
Add up the reckoning.
It's you who must pay it.
Put you finger on each item,
ask: how did this get here?
You must take over the leadership.



Brecht

(Shared by Frank Bardacke)

Attendance Update



Quite obviously, as you look at the chart above, we have a seasonal attendance pattern. Fortunately the increased attendance in February, March, April and May compensates for the time of the year when our attendance shrinks. This year we are running under last year's totals. If you look at the following table note that even if we match last years "all time high" totals in March and April we will run under CAP. This suggests that, unlike last year, we will probably run a full summer school possibly beginning June 13.

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-2005
Jul	38.07	49.29	60.75	75.93	61.57
Aug	38.56	36.45	42.75	49.02	60.25
Sep	72.8	82.28	89.63	109.97	98.15
Oct	83.99	98.71	101.86	108.74	100.72
Nov	75.7	71.62	73.78	103.69	89.61
Dec	46.48	60.05	56.28	62.6	52.83
Jan	64.75	85.74	86.33	94.62	94.62
Feb	92.29	102.97	98.8	99.17	99.17
Mar	113.92	118.78	127.03	136.23	136.23
Apr	72.98	91.13	102.32	88.97	88.97
May	90.58	95.22	108.81	81.42	81.42
Jun	43.02	52.42	60.26	22.01	22.01
<i>Totals</i>	833.14	944.66	1008.6	1032.37	985.55

Evaluations? Who? When?

Some teachers have asked when they are going to be observed, or what the plan is for formal evaluations. Those teachers who are in Probationary 1 or Probationary 2 status of a full time, permanent assignment (with more than 18 hours a week), are in process and will have "mid-term" meetings with your evaluator this month. Permanent teachers are on a two -year schedule: evaluations for permanent teachers will happen next year, the 2005-2006 school year. Evaluations for all other teachers are also in a two year cycle (a separate memo will describe the details of this negotiated process). Bob, Cynthia, and Nancy will be making appointments with temporary teachers before June to review a self-assessment, make a classroom visit, and a have post-visit meeting.



WAAS Calendar

Student Art Show and Reception
Tuesday, February 1, 10:00am - 12:00 noon
Green Valley

Payroll sheets due: Feb. 8

No Classes - Presidents' Days
Feb. 14, and Feb. 21

Student Councils

Porter Day - Tuesday, Feb. 15, 12:00
Porter Evening - Tuesday, Feb. 15, 9:00
Green Valley Day - Wednesday, Feb. 16, 12:00
Green Valley Night - Wednesday, Feb. 16, 9:00

School Council

Feb. 16, 4:00-6:00, Green Valley

Adult Ed. Student of the Month

Board of Trustees Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 23

March 1, All request for materials, books and equipment must be submitted.
(in order to close books for fiscal year)

Statewide Adult Education Week. March 7-11

Community Advisory Council. March 9, 10:00-noon. Green Valley
Adult Ed. Postive Program Report, Board of Trustees, March 9, 7:00pm. G.V.



... getting payroll and attendance in a timely manner is very important...when payroll is turned in late, teachers have requested "re-volving checks" which are checks produced by the district not the County Office of Education... these checks cost the school almost \$400 dollars to produce, issuing these special checks have cost the school \$4,000 so far this year alone...we plan to do a lot this year to celebrate adult education week, March 7-11... if you know good student success stories please share them, we plan to write press releases for the local newspapers and send information to our local elected legislators...the classes at the One Stop Career Center are still displaced because of the fire on West Beach.. the teachers and students have been very patient...