



San Pasqual Academy

Home of the Mighty Dragons!

Bulletin

As of December 31, 132 youth are living and studying at the Academy.

School Days...

- ♦ The basketball season is underway, and the Dragons are predicted to place first in their league this year, due in part to the return of five starters and two other juniors who played varsity. Led by a new coach, Bryan Moore, the Boys' Varsity team has already made a powerful statement, bringing home the first place trophy for winning the Challengers Bracket of the San Diego Small Schools Tournament. The Dragons also did well in the La Jolla Country Day Holiday Classic and Linfield Christian Tournament.
- ♦ The Lady Dragons Varsity basketball team earned their first win of the season beating Lutheran, 35-13, in the Calvary Christian Tournament. Despite their 1-3 record so far, the team looks promising for the 2006 season, as they are fast and enthusiastic.
- ♦ The school's new counselor, Adrean Askerneese, has jumped right in to help strengthen the academic program by creating Student Success Teams and meeting with all students to build and review their individual academic plans.
- ♦ All seniors are busy working on their graduation portfolio, which consists of four major components culminating in a research paper and a project presentation. Each student has a teacher assigned to him/her as a mentor.
- ♦ The Class of 2006 is a strong one, with six seniors already accepted to four-year colleges and universities! More acceptances are expected in the coming months.

WHAT'S NEW

- ♦ The San Pasqual Academy Agriculture (Ag) Program on campus continues to take off! Three students are working in the vocational training program as interns. The Student and Community Garden is ready for planting, and Scott Murray, Agriculture Teacher, is working to have the avocado groves, the one-acre Student and Community Garden, and the 15-acre student vegetable farm certified as organic. Beginning in February, campus-grown avocados will be for sale, and the profits earned will be re-invested in the Ag program. For more information on purchasing tasty, Academy grown avocados, contact Scott Murray at (760) 805-1380. Stay tuned for more information on how you can support this budding Ag Program!

Residential Info...

- ◆ Students participated in numerous outings during December:
 - One student and her houseparent attended the Coastal Concert Band's Annual Benefit for Meals on Wheels at the Escondido Performing Arts Center on December 4th.
 - Four students and staff played putt-putt golf and video games at Boomers! on December 10th.
 - Students frequented the mall for last minute holiday shopping the week before Christmas.
 - On December 8th, the health educator and the campus nurses provided training on asthma and allergies to 30 staff and students.
 - Three boys and their houseparents joined Mickey Mouse at Disneyland to celebrate Christmas.
- ◆ Throughout the month, several students enjoyed movies at the theaters.
- ◆ On December 7th, the Friends of San Pasqual Academy hosted a wonderful Christmas party in the auditorium for the students. The students received beautiful monogrammed robes, Christmas stockings, gift cards, and the chance to “shop 'til you drop” with other items. A raffle was also held with great gifts such as a TV and an iPod. The students all had a great time decorating cookies and getting into the holiday spirit!
- ◆ Other holiday activities included: a holiday luncheon hosted by the Rotary Club on December 15th; a lovely Christmas Eve dinner for Academy students, their families and friends served by the Cyber Café kitchen crew; and a Christmas party, complete with dancing and holiday goodies, on December 25th in the auditorium for all students who remained on campus. The Christmas party was hosted by Academy staff and funded by the Friends of San Pasqual Academy.
- ◆ All students were invited to the New Year's Eve party on campus, sponsored by the Friends of San Pasqual Academy. The students spent the evening dancing, watching a movie, enjoying great food, and ringing in the New Year with a sparkling cider toast.

Work Readiness and Self Sufficiency...

- ◆ On December 8th, two Marines spoke to the Career Planning Class and shared information about life and opportunities in the military.
- ◆ Students had a chance to tour the 91X radio station on December 9th, and learned about the various jobs available in the radio industry.
- ◆ In December, 22 students were working on- and off-campus in internships and paid employment.
- ◆ Students participating in Opportunity Passport, a financial literacy program, received portfolios and gifts for the holidays.

Health and Wellness...

- ◆ Students enrolled in the Health Class were busy in December with the following assignments and activities:
 - Played an on-going game of the Drug Safety Board Game.
 - Worked on a drug journal and poems to express their feelings toward drugs and drug use. Some really powerful poems were created.
 - Viewed “The Truth about Drugs” film.
 - Worked on a poster project on how inhalant drugs damage the brain.
- ◆ On December 8th, the health educator and the campus nurses provided training on asthma and allergies to 30 staff and students.
- ◆ On December 13th and 15th, Efran Sloano from North County Health Services presented a Healthy Relationships training to Girls’ Houses 1, 2, 3 and Boys’ Houses 1, 2, 3.
- ◆ Other activities offered during the month included: a walking group, showing of “The Emperor’s Club,” a Dance Dance Revolution contest featuring a physically interactive video game, a pool tournament, a scavenger hunt, and an Open Dance Hour.

San Pasqual Academy Neighbors (An Intergenerational Mentoring Program)...

- ◆ Winter break provided extra opportunities for students to visit with the Academy grandparents.
 - Three to four students stopped by Grandma Jean’s house on a daily basis to hang out and talk or watch a movie. Grandma Jean continues to introduce the students to classic movies and films that center on the arts.
 - Grandpa Bob continued to visit with students in the recreation room.
 - Grandma Joan continued to make treats while visiting each house. In December, smoothies, cheesecake, strawberry shortcake, chocolate covered strawberries, and wontons with sweet and sour sauce were on the menu.
 - Grandma Jane and Grandpa and Grandma Nichols had a full house for Christmas Day, as they invited students over for a holiday dinner.
- ◆ The grandparents celebrated a successful year with a Christmas dinner at Grandma Jean’s house. The grandparents exchanged gifts, and welcomed two new additions to the SPAN program -- Grandpa Jeffrey and Wendy Rangel, the new administrative assistant.



For more information about how you can help the Academy with donations or volunteer opportunities, please call Debby Syverson at (619) 435-4557.

Go Dragons!