



NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE SAN DIEGUITO
HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION FORUM

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WRITING LAB OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Beginning Monday 9/22/08, the Writing Lab began offering students and teachers the opportunity to get hands-on support and tutoring assistance from our two new writing lab tutors, Kelly Wehrley and Todd Newkirk. Kelly is a writer and recent college graduate, and Todd is currently studying English at Cal State San Marcos and plans a teaching career upon graduation. Both are SDA graduates. They can be reached at sdawritinglab@sduhsd.net if you have questions about the program.

The Lab is located in the Media Center and is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:40am-3:20pm, and Monday and Friday from 7:40am to 1:30pm. Individual students may get help for a class assignment by making an appointment at the Media Center help desk. Students may also leave their draft project in the "Drop Box" located in the Media Center for review and comment by the tutors.

Responding to the need for more intensive assistance with English and other writing assignments, the SDA Foundation sought and obtained a \$20,000 grant to support the Writing Lab program. The grant was funded by the Donald C. and Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to education and health care organizations.

Please encourage your student to visit the Writing Lab and take advantage of this worthwhile program. For more information about the Writing Lab or if you'd like to make a contribution to support this and other Foundation funded programs, please contact Sheila Durkin at 753-1121, ext 5152, or by e-mail at sdafoundation@sduhsd.net.



Todd Newkirk and Kelly Wehrley



SDA senior Asa Puckette demonstrates the mechanics of movement for students at Ocean Knoll.

ROBOTICS REACHES OUT TO OAK CREST AND OCEAN KNOLL STUDENTS

Members of SDA Robotics start their third year of competition in January, but in the meantime they're busy with other endeavors. After winning a \$5000 grant from the City of Encinitas and the Mizel Family Foundation for outreach to elementary and middle schools, the team has begun mentoring four elementary school teams at Ocean Knoll and two middle school teams at Oak Crest. All six teams will compete in the FIRST Lego League, which culminates with a tournament at Legoland in December.

Under the guidance of Marla Strich, former SDAF President, the project was spearheaded by seniors Kelsey Fox, Matt Golman and Asa Puckette.

FROM THE SDA FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Dear SDA Families,

I hope you and your student have made a successful transition back into school this fall.

We wish to thank the families who have already volunteered their time on a variety of projects, and **we thank those of you who have given a donation to the Foundation.** Your contribution of time and resources ensures that your child is getting the best possible education that a public school can provide. Each year, we encourage all families to participate in our school. Volunteer your time or contribute at whatever level is significant and meaningful to you. We accept payments by check or on line at www.sdafoundation.net.

Thanks to all of you who attended **Back-to-School Night**. We were pleased with the turnout and all the classes seemed to buzz with excitement, both from the teachers and the parents! Thank you for bringing in the items that your child's teacher "wished" for. The teachers were very happy to have your support.

I am pleased to report that we have the **Writing Lab** up and running now. A grant from the Donald C. and Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation was secured by our Foundation to fund this project. A teacher may seek tutoring support for a class writing assignment, or your student may go into the library on his own and sign up for a time to work with one of our two instructors.

The **Robotics Team** has started their outreach program with Ocean Knoll Elementary and Oak Crest Middle schools. Our students are mentoring these teams to prepare them to

participate in a Legoland tournament. This was funded by grants that our foundation received from the City of Encinitas and the Mizel Family Foundation.

The **Foundation Board** met on Saturday, Sept. 20th to discuss ways that we can support programs at our school. Along with principal, Mike Grove, we worked together as a team to outline some of the priorities that the foundation may participate in funding this school year. I will share the final details with you in an upcoming newsletter.

As you can see, we have already been busy in a few short weeks. We are looking forward to our **Mustang Magic Fundraiser** to be held on Saturday, Oct. 4th. The proceeds from this annual event will provide the necessary funding to support a variety of programs and activities at SDA.

Thank you again for participating in your child's education by volunteering your time, sharing your knowledge, and making a financial contribution.

Go Mustangs!
Nancy Meisenhelder, SDAF President



Nancy Meisenhelder

UPCOMING THEATRE ARTS EVENTS

Our Fall Show:

Stage Door

October 23-25, 30-31 and November 1
7:00 p.m. Roundabout Theatre

Stage Door is a comedy written in the 1930's and takes place in a New York City boarding house for aspiring, often struggling, actresses. It follows the dreams, aspirations and difficult decisions of these young ladies as they look for work, love, recognition and riches.

Tickets are \$12.00 for adults,
\$9 for students without ASB, and \$7 with ASB.
Tickets are sold at the door. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center Fundraiser Oct. 22nd

Sneak Preview of Stage Door, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased on-line through the Foundation website, sdafoundation@sduhsd.net.

**Proceeds from ticket sales
will go to the Performing Arts Center.**

Who we are:

Theatre Arts Council encourages our student actors, techies, singers, and musicians at the Academy, and supports programs affiliated with the Theatre Department. Please join us at our monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Next meeting: October 15th, 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room
Contact: Terri Lerager – tlerager@aol.com

SDA SPEECH & DEBATE HOSTS TOURNAMENT

The SDA Speech and Debate Team started their season on September 13th by hosting a Varsity Tournament at SDA. SDA was the Sweepstakes Winner of the tournament, scoring the most overall points. The tournament results were as follows:

Parliamentary Debate - This is an impromptu debate, everyone has a partner. Students are given 15 minutes to prepare on a specific topic.

- ◆ 2nd Place- Chris Jones and Jake Novack
- ◆ 6th Place- Tanner Curtiss and Megan Gaffney

Policy Debate – 2 person teams debate another team on the topic of whether the US Government should substantially increase alternative energy incentives in the United States.

- ◆ 2nd Place- Leslie Nesser and Marc Lococo
- ◆ 3rd Place- Jake Novack and Megan Gaffney
- ◆ 4th Place- Bryan Cheng and Rachael Graft
- ◆ 5th Place- Sam Housekeeper and Ali Borcher

On September 20th the varsity team competed in a **Speech Tournament at Carlsbad High School** and recorded the following results:

Congress

- ◆ 2nd Place P.O. – Marc Lococo
- ◆ 6th Place – Bryan Cheng
- ◆ 16th Place – Rachael Graf

Duo Interpretation

- ◆ 5th Place – Bryan Cheng and Jake Novack

Humorous Interpretation

- ◆ 5th Place – Megan Gaffney

Original Prose and Poetry

- ◆ 4th Place – Marc Lococo

Oratory Interpretation

- ◆ 6th Place – Megan Gaffney

SUPPORT YOUR STUDENTS AT SDA, BECOME A VOLUNTEER.

There are many rewarding opportunities.

Please download a form from the parent foundation website at sdafoundation.com and bring it to the foundation office at school, or e-mail me at sdavolunteers@gmail.com and let me know how you want to help.

Here's to a great year!

Marla D'Avanzo, Volunteer Coordinator

MEET OUR NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, JOHN LABETA

Please join the SDA Foundation board in giving a hearty Mustang welcome to our new Athletic Director, John Labeta. We are fortunate to have such a highly experienced professional supporting and guiding our young athletes.

In addition to his previous experience working as an AD for six years in San Diego City schools, John has also served in a number of different capacities in high school sports including AD representative for the CIF San Diego section on the board of managers, on the Playoff Selection committee for girls field hockey and softball, and as a board member of the High School Sports Association.

For the past twenty-five years, John has enjoyed coaching a variety of sports - varsity basketball, varsity softball, junior varsity volleyball, frosh volleyball.

He holds a Master degree in Education and is a member of the California State Athletic Directors association and a Registered Athletic Director with the National Interscholastic Administrators Association.

If you haven't had a chance to meet John, please stop by the Athletic office to say hello. Oh and don't forget to ask him about those two grandchildren that he and his wife Kelley are so proud of. He'll be happy to show you his photos!

RUMMAGE SALE

BENEFITING THE
SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM
AND AVID

Oct. 11th 8 am—noon
in the front parking lot at SDA

We have lots of items for sale -
Clothes, shoes, toys, books,
household items, sporting goods
and much more.

Everything is priced to sell!!

Drop off donations in Rm. 120,
or contact Nancy Gaffney
at 760-845-1350 or nancy760@adelphia.net

San Dieguito Academy Foundation

**Presents a
Family Night Out**



RESTAURANT & SPORTS BAR

**Meet your friends for dinner at
Boston's Pizza
294 N. El Camino Real
Encinitas**

**Wednesday, October 22, 2008
5:00 – 9:00 pm**

**& then join the
SDA Theater Council
at 7:00 PM**

A portion of all proceeds will benefit SDA...

please bring this flyer with you!