



Connecting Waters Charter School

Accredited by the Schools Commission of Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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Volume 7
Lori Porter • Newsletter Layout

September 2008

Issue 2
Roy Shimp • Newsletter Editor

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HQT, What Is It All About?

By Sherri Nelson, Executive Director

We hope that your year is starting off well. Some of you have had questions about highly qualified teachers (HQTs) and what that means to you and your student(s). This is not a new requirement. CWCS has been working for the past several years to become 100% compliant in this area. Information about this requirement is in the Parent Handbook and has been featured in several newsletter articles throughout the years. Your ES can talk to you about ways to fulfill this requirement for your students. The HQT requirement is part of the No Child Left Behind federal mandate and applies to all public schools and students in grades k-12.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 and expands on major reforms, particularly in the areas of state academic standards, assessment, accountability, and school improvement. This federal law requires states to develop assessments linked to these standards for all students.

Our state uses the results of Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) exam to measure how well our school is meeting this requirement.

NCLB sets out several key performance goals for states:

- ✦ All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers
- ✦ All students will attain "proficiency" in reading and mathematics by 2014, including students with disabilities and English learners
- ✦ All English learners will become proficient in English
- ✦ All students will learn in schools that are safe and drug free
- ✦ All students will graduate from high school

Highly Qualified Teachers (HQTs)

The federal requirement is that all students are provided with "highly qualified teachers":

- ✦ Have a bachelor's degree
 - ✦ Have state certification and
- Demonstrate subject matter competence for each core subject they teach

Dates to Remember

Labor Day

September 1, 2008
No School

Picture Day

MLC: September 5
CLC: September 12

Student Council Elections

September 18th

Family Math Night

September 26 ~ MLC

Continued on page 2...

NCLB Core Academic High School Subjects for California

The core academic subjects for California that are to be taught by HQTs are: English/Language Arts, Reading- including reading interventions and CAHSEE English classes, Mathematics- including reading interventions and CAHSEE Math classes, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geosciences, Physics, Social Sciences- History, Government, Economics, Geography, Foreign languages (specific-French, English, German, etc), Drama/Theater (English credential), Visual Arts, Music, Dance (Physical Education credential). What this means to us is that every student taking one of these core courses must receive access and oversight by a person who is highly qualified in that specific core subject area.

Our students are provided access to HQTs in the high school core academic areas:

- ✦ by the student's ES if that ES has the proper grade level credential to teach core subjects
- ✦ by taking courses through an online vendor approved by CWCS
- ✦ by taking courses at a learning center taught by a highly qualified teacher (HQT)
- ✦ by taking a class at a junior college
- ✦ by having a highly qualified tutor
- ✦ by enrolling in an online CWCS Department Course taught by CWCS HQTs



Most administrators and staff of California schools believe that all students will not be proficient or working at grade level by 2014. This is a lofty goal for any school to achieve and presents challenges to a school like ours which is built on parent choice. We are doing our best to meet the federal mandate and continue to provide parent choice in education. We are also doing our best to provide our students with a rigorous course of study that will prepare them to do whatever they choose to do either pre or post graduation. Our ESes are wonderful and are able to work out an individualized plan and provide access to an HQT for your student!

Student Council News!!

I hope school had a smooth start for all students, parents, and school staff. We are on our way to establishing the first Student Council for Connecting Waters. Interviews for Council positions will be held on September 2nd at the Modesto Learning Center. Each candidate will be scheduled for an interview and should be prepared to discuss why (s)he would like to be on the Student Council, what qualities (s)he possess that makes him/her qualified for the job, his/her responsibility level, and any experience that can help him/her fulfill his/her duties. Ballots will then be announced on September 9th, the election will be held on September 19th, and results will be announced on September 24th. For more information on the criteria and requirements for Student Council see:

<http://www.connectingwaters.org/StudentCouncil/stucouncil0809.pdf>

I look forward to a fun and productive year with Student Council. E-mail any questions to Judy Orr at jorr@connectingwaters.org Have a great year!

MEET THE PARENT COUNCIL

Connecting Waters Charter School has twenty-nine (29) parents who are elected to serve on the Parent Council. Each member is elected for a two-year term which is outlined on our charter and the Parent Council By-laws.



Tina Troglione, President; Toni Wirkkala, Treasurer; members are: Bonnie Acree, Lisa Avila, Wanda Azevedo, Rueshan Boone, Kelly Chandler, Bobbie Chimerofsky, Pamela Conway, Tina Davis, Heather Gilchrist, Jeniffer Hamilton, Kathy Jaworski, Laural Kee, Sonja Kluesener, Blake LeBaron, Angel Leverich, Denise Lindvall, Shawna Luciano, Tina Maxin, Laura McCullough, Sheila McGaffee, Terry Nordahl, Melanie Oneth, Holly Sink, Cynthia Soine, Denette Weaver, Lance Wells, and Angela Yee



CURRICULUM NEWS

Lori Freeman • Curriculum Director
lofreeman@connectingwaters.org
1-800-808-9895 Ext 4, then 5

!! Monthly Curriculum Planning Workshop!!

I am hosting a monthly workshop on the 4th Monday of each month at the Modesto Learning Center. This will be a true "workshop" where parents are invited to bring in materials and work... creating pacing calendars, planning lessons, developing units, and so on. Parents are welcomed to work on any grade level or subject area. The goal is to establish a set time to plan, share ideas, and have some fun parent time! Our September meeting will be on the 29th, from 10:00 – 11:30 am. To sign up, please email Lori Freeman at lofreeman@connectingwaters.org.

The year is off to a wonderful start! Seeing so many families visiting our learning center libraries and checking-out the excellent curriculum that is available for our students was great. Fall semester Illuminate and Access classes began at the end of August and are now in full swing. Enrolling in these classes allows students to have access to highly qualified teachers for all core subjects. New this year is the addition of General level sections; most HQ teachers are now teaching four sections of their subject. This is a tremendous undertaking! Having these classes as an HQT option for our students is awesome. Each year seems to bring additional requirements for schools; the choice is ours to see it as an opportunity for growth. Providing students with access to a highly qualified teacher insures our school meets the federal No Child Left Behind mandates. I am looking forward to another fantastic year... my goals are to prioritize, simplify, reflect, and prosper. These ideas can be especially relevant to precious task of home-schooling. Take time to prioritize exactly what you will teach this year, based on your child's interests and abilities, family schedule and values, and grade level standards. Simplify by blending; you can incorporate favorite lessons and meet California standards at the same time! Reflect often; review progress as well as monitor how your student and yourself feel. Replace what isn't working well. Finally, prosper; enjoy the results of a job well done.

Choosing curriculum is both exciting and challenging; there is just so much out there! I have created new suggested curriculum print-outs that include recommendations for all core subjects by grade level. I also included the key grade level standards for each subject so parents can have a "standards snap-shot" to serve as a teaching guide for the year. <http://www.ieminc.org/handbook/curriculum/csuggest/cwcurrsug.htm>

Please feel free to call or e-mail me with any curriculum questions you have at lofreeman@connectingwaters.org . We can also meet in person; my curriculum office hours are on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Modesto Learning Center from 10-12:30, by appointment.

Social Studies Department News

The Social Studies Department invites all students to join us as we learn in a classroom without walls! We are offering 8th grade US History, 10th grade World History, 11th grade US History, 12th grade Economics and 12th grade Government. We have two sections for all high school courses; A-G, for students who plan to attend college upon graduation, and General, for students who are not wanting A-G credit. All classes meet weekly online. The Social Studies Department teachers are responsible for assigning all lessons and determining final semester grades. All students enrolled in an online course will follow the class syllabus and must purchase the required textbook so that they can follow along with class activities and complete their daily lessons.

If your student is unable to attend our online class regularly, they can still have access to a highly qualified teacher and receive A-G credit. This year,

students can enroll in "Access Courses". Students enrolled in Social Studies Access courses must use the assigned class textbook and follow the Access class syllabus. In addition, each student must attend a monthly class meeting online, called the "office hour," turn in quarterly assignments assigned by the teacher, and take both the mid-term and final exam or project. Just like with the regular online classes, the Social Studies Department teacher will determine semester grades.

Our online classes are truly a unique opportunity, and we are excited to be able to provide access to a highly qualified teacher in each subject area for our CWCS students. For class times and information, please check out our department links at <http://www.connectingwaters.org/hqt/index09.htm> If you have a student who is interested in enrolling, please let your ES know.

Welcome to our new Literacy Director /LA Specialist

Terry Leppien

Terry Leppien holds a Masters Degree in Education with an emphasis in Reading-Language Leadership from UC Berkeley. Currently, Terry is finishing a doctoral degree in Education with an emphasis in Organizational Leadership from the University of La Verne. Professionally, she began her career as a classroom teacher in Wyoming and California. She has been a special education teacher in Livermore and Tracy. Terry worked in private reading clinics in Livermore and Pleasanton. She owned and directed Readwrite Language Therapy Service for several years. For the past thirteen years, Terry has focused on leadership in reading at the district, state, and national levels. She was the Reading Coordinator for the Tracy Unified School District and served as the State Reading Director for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction in Washington State. Most recently, Terry has been a National Reading Leadership Consultant, which has allowed her the opportunity to support, urban, suburban, and rural school districts with their goal of improving reading achievement for all students. Terry has written and published curriculum in the area of beginning reading.

Terry and her husband, Jim, live in Tracy. They have been married thirty years and have one son, Drew. They have a new Vizsla puppy, Hunter, who keeps them entertained and very busy. Terry enjoys studying and collecting gem stones. Both Terry and Jim enjoy classic cars and going to car shows. They also enjoy collecting and tinkering with antique clocks and watches. The family enjoys retreating to their cabin near Bear Valley for reading and relaxation.

English Department News

Teresa Matranga, English Department Chair
tmatranga@connectingwaters.org
1-800-808-9895 Ext 4, then 4



Happy September from the English Department!

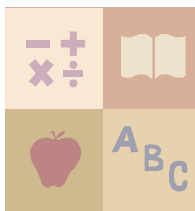
We are moving forward into the new school year. If your student hasn't signed up for HQT courses or HQT Access, please talk to your ES as there still may be room. We are offering a-g classes for grades 9-12, and general English classes for grades 7-12, all of which are taught by our hard-working English Department teachers, Denetrice Howard, Avis Minger, Jeni Richline, and Roy Shimp. If you are still interested in enrolling your student for HQT courses you can find more information about lessons and texts at: <http://www.connectingwaters.org/hqt/index09.htm>. Also important, please ask your ES about the latest attendance and truancy policy for the HQT classes.

CAHSEE PREP courses online and at the Modesto and Ceres Learning Centers may still have openings. If your student's Language Arts STAR test results were low or you think he or she may have difficulty passing the exit exam, please remember they must be enrolled in prep courses, or receive private or online tutoring. Ask your ES for details. All students must pass the CAHSEE to graduate.

New this year, we are offering an online writing class every Tuesday from 2:30-3:30 for grades 9-12 taught by Denetrice Howard, course #13473.

The English Department is here to help you enable your students to become successful readers, writers, listeners, and speakers. If you have questions, please ask. We are happy to help.

MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS



Debbie Kutz, Math Specialist
dkutz@connectingwaters.org
1-800-808-9895 ext.4, then 3

I hope you have settled into a routine and your math studies are off to a positive start this school year. **Drop-In Coaching has begun!** If you need some help with your math homework, bring your questions to me at either of the learning centers. I'm there each week--Wednesdays, 1:45-3:45 at the Modesto center, or Thursdays, 12:30-2:00 in Ceres-- to assist students of all grade levels. Our first of three **Family Math events** for the year is coming up this month, on September 29. We will have a variety of activities for parents and K-6 students to enjoy together. The emphasis for the September event is "Number Sense". Hopefully, you'll enjoy the activities and glean plenty of ideas to take home to help reinforce the Number Sense standards in your curriculum. The event will take place at the Modesto Learning Center from 3:00-5:30pm.

Feel free to contact me with any math-related questions you may have, and I will do my best to assist you. Have a great year!

CWCS ASSESSMENT CALENDAR 2008-09

AUGUST:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
SEPTEMBER:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
OCTOBER:	CAHSEE: <i>Oct. 7- English Language Arts (grades 11,12)</i> <i>Oct. 8- MATH (grades 11,12)</i>	CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
NOVEMBER:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
DECEMBER:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
JANUARY:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
FEBRUARY:	CAHSEE: <i>Feb 3- English Language Arts (grades 10,11,12)</i> <i>Feb 4- Math (grades 10,11,12)</i>	CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
MARCH:	STAR and Physical Fitness Test: <i>Overall Test window is Mar. 19 - April 23 (your specific test dates and location will be mailed to you in January.</i> STAR Writing test for 4th and 7th grade: March 3rd or (4th for make-ups)	CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
APRIL:		CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed
MAY:	CAHSEE: <i>May 12- English Language Arts (grades 11, 12 and only approved makeups due to extreme situations for 10th grade)</i> <i>May 13- Math (grades 11, 12 and only approved makeups due to extreme situations for 10th grade)</i>	CELDT: Initial or Annual as needed	WRAT: as needed	Scantron: as needed

CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam): Grades 10, 11, 12 participate. Beginning with the Class of 2006, all public school students will be required to pass the CAHSEE to earn a high school diploma. 10th graders can only attempt one time per year and it must be in the Spring. 11th graders can only attempt two times per year. 12th graders can attempt three times per year. There are two parts to the exam; ELA (English Language Arts) is administered one day, and Math is administered the next day.

CELDT (California English Language Development Test): This is a State-required test for English language proficiency that must be given to students in grades 2-11 whose primary language is other than English. If the language questions on the CWCS application are answered with any other language than English, those students must be tested within 30 days of enrollment for Initial testing. Annual testing is administered once a year, before October 30th to students who tested the previous year and were placed as an English Learner.

PFT (Physical Fitness Test): Only grades 5, 7, 9 participate. The test window runs from Feb-May. We do the bulk of our testing during the STAR test window for logistical reasons.

Scantron (Online School Pre-Test and Post-Test): Grades 2-12 participate in fall and early spring. This test is used as both a diagnostic tool and as a performance indicator on an individual student basis.

STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting): Grades 2-11 participate.

WRAT (Wide Range Achievement Test): ESs are required to administer the WRAT to their students according to this schedule:

Administer the WRAT to each newly enrolling K and 1st grade student within 30 days of initial enrollment in CWCS and to each returning 1st grader.

Spelling Bee



ATTN: Students in Grades 4-8
Deadline to sign up to participate is October 8th!

Summer is a perfect time to brush up on spelling words for the fall competitions. Last year a CWCS student ranked third in the county competition! Just print out the word list and practice five times a day.

There are two Spelling Bees on October 15 at CWCS: Grades 7-8 and Grades 4-6. The finalists from CWCS's Spelling Bee advance to the Annual County Spelling Bee held in November. Grades 7-8: November 5 and Grades 4-6: November 12 County finalists go to a state competition. (This is where it ends - no US competition) CWCS will use the same word lists and rules that the county and state use.

The CWCS Spelling Bee will be held at the Modesto Learning Center on October 15, 2:30pm Elementary Spelling Bee Grades 4-6 3:30pm Junior High Spelling Bee Grades 7-8.

REGISTER: Call the school office at 209-874-1119 Ext. 6 or email cwcs@connectingwaters.org and provide your child's name and grade.

VOLUNTEER: Parent volunteers are needed to check words - (you won't be checking your own children's words!)

QUESTIONS: Contact Jeni Richline at jrichline@connectingwaters.org



Find information on the county competition and the **word lists** that will be used at the following website. You can print out the list with or without the definitions.

<http://www.stancoe.org/scoe/admin/studentEvents/>



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Attention!

Junior High & High School Students

If you are fascinated with reptiles, rocks and minerals, stars and planets or dream about becoming the next brilliant scientist or doctor...than Science Olympiad is for you! What is Science Olympiad? It is a regional competition in which you compete in various events against other schools. The top 3 schools go on to State competition in Sacramento. Check out the National Science Olympiad website: www.soinc.org (click on SO, then MOVIE CLIP)

We will have a junior high team which consists of 6th-8th grade and a high school team. We will meet once a month at the Modesto Learning Center and on Elluminate for those who live in areas outside Modesto.

If you are interested or would like more information, please e-mail Lisa Avila at valleyreg@clearwire.net.

We Need You!

Picture Day at the Learning Centers

[Please call the center to schedule your appointment](#)

September 5, 2008 Modesto Learning Center
10:00~2:00

209-541-1531 or 1-800-808-9895 Ext. 2

September 12, 2008 Ceres Learning Center
10:00~12:00

209-543-7803 or 1-800-808-9895 Ext. 1

September 18th, Leonard Photography Studio
10:00—2:00

137 Maple Ave., Manteca • Drop-ins are accepted

Retakes ~ Modesto Learning Center Only

October 31, 2008 10:00 ~ 12:00

209-543-7803 or 1-800-808-9895 Ext. 2



We're going to Washington, D.C.!

- When?** April 6-10, 2009, Monday-Friday of Spring Break
- Who?** 8th-12th grade students may travel independently
5th-7th grade students must travel with an adult
All parents/guardians welcome!
- Where?** During this trip we will explore the U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, and Mount Vernon, the Jefferson, Lincoln, and FDR Memorials, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, World War II Memorial, and Arlington National Cemetery.
- Cost?** \$1,932 (quad occupancy) includes the following:
Round trip airfare
Quality hotel accommodations
ALL meals
ALL admission fees
Sightseeing transportation
Course leader
Night chaperones in the hotel
Evening activities
Accident/health insurance
Field journals
Online educational resources
24-Hour Emergency Support

A non-refundable registration deposit of \$79 is due by September 15, 2008!

Hi! I'm Jamie Ulloa, the new program leader for our WorldStrides trip to Washington, D.C. this school year, and I can't wait to travel with YOU! Please go to www.worldstrides.org, check out the trip we're planning, and register today! It's free to "join", and our Trip ID is 18123. There's also a very informative parent meeting online that will answer many of your questions, and you can contact me to answer some more!

Let's live history together this Spring Break!

**Jamie Ulloa, Educational Specialist
(209) 815-3925
julloa@connectingwaters.org**

LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Ceres Learning Center

Melissa Valdez, Program Coordinator
Site Clerks:

Bev Harris & Julie Hutto

3641 Mitchell Road Suite F, Ceres, CA 95307

Hours M-F 9:00 ~ 4:00

209-541-1531 or 1-800-808-9895 Ext. 1

clc@connectingwaters.org

Modesto Learning Center

Lori Porter : Program Coordinator
Site Clerks

**Rebecca Berringer, Debbie Turner
& Micheal Stanion**

4713 Greenleaf Ct, Suite A, Modesto, CA 95356

Hours M-F 9:00 ~ 4:00

209-543-7803 or 1-800-808-9895 Ext. 2

mlc@connectingwaters.org

Welcome back from the Learning Center staff! We hope everyone had a wonderful vacation and you are all ready to start a new school year. There has been a lot going on while students were taking a break: Intake enrollment meetings, new curriculum added, and classes being scheduled. Please take advantage of what the centers have to offer.

Dates to Remember

9/1 ~ Labor Day, All Offices closed

9/5 ~ Picture Day at MLC

9/12 ~ Picture Day at CLC

9/29 ~ Family Math Night at MLC



PICTURE DAY

It's picture taking time at the Learning Centers. If you would like to appear in the CWCS Yearbook, you will need to have your picture taken. Packages are available in a variety of size combinations and prices. You do not have to purchase pictures. You can also come in to get a student ID for \$2.00 without purchasing a package, which will also get your picture in the yearbook. Please note, there is no charge for student IDs if you purchase a picture package; they are included.

You must contact the Learning Centers to make an appointment!

Modesto Learning Center (209) 543-7803: Sept 5th 10:00 – 2:00

Ceres Learning Center (209) 541-1531: Sept 12th 10:00 -12:00

Computer Lab

The computer lab is available to students and parents for school-related activities. Appointments **must** be made in advance to reserve a computer. Walk-ins for the computer lab cannot be guaranteed so please be sure to make an appointment. There is one computer designated for ESEs to research information or to print forms.

Curriculum & Reading Library/Check-out System

The curriculum room and free reading library are stocked with textbooks, novels, science activities, educational board games, CDs, PE equipment, testing resources, and many other items that are available for check out. Parents can find many items that can supplement and enhance their current curriculum. Our school's curriculum director, Lori Freeman, has office hours at the Modesto Learning Center on the second and fourth Monday of each month. She is available to help you choose curriculum or to answer any questions.

A-G Reference Shelf

Each center has an a-g Reference shelf stocked with several school-purchased a-g sample texts and teacher's editions that can be viewed at the Learning Centers. This can be helpful for parents in making decisions about curriculum or be used for correcting course work by parents and ESEs. These items stay at the Learning Center and may not be checked out.

Fall Classes

Both centers have new classes this year as well as many returning classes. Ask your ES to sign you up before classes are cancelled due to lack of interest! In addition to classes, please note that there is weekly math coaching (both centers), curriculum office hours (MLC), Yearbook (MLC), Science Olympiad (MLC), and Student Council (MLC).

Scantron Testing dates for Fall

Both centers will begin Pre-Scantron testing in August. Testing will start on Monday August 4th and End on Friday, October 3. Students take three tests during their appointment: Reading, Math, and Language Arts. Testing takes approximately 60 – 90 minutes to complete all three tests. Please e-mail, call, or stop by the center to make your appointment. The testing schedule will be as follows:

Modesto LC: Tuesdays and Fridays. Testing appointments at 9 am, 11 am, and 1 pm.

Ceres LC: Mondays and Fridays. Testing appointments at 9:30 am, 11:30 am, and 1:30 pm.

ESEs may also make an appointment to reserve a computer on non-proctoring days to administer the Scantron tests to their own students. They will need to proctor these tests themselves.

CERES LEARNING CENTER

FALL 2009 classes as of 8/25/08. This is a TENTATIVE list for FALL. Classes and info are subject to change.

TIME	CLASS	GRADE	START DATE	# OF CLASSES	INSTRUCTOR	COURSE #	APPROX. PRICE	END DATE
MONDAY								
9:00 – 10:00	Institute for Excellence in Writing	3 - 12	9/8/08	14	C. Silva	13401	\$112.70	12/15/08
10:05– 11:05	CAHSEE English Prep	9 - 12	9/8/08	14	C. Silva	13402	\$112.70	12/15/08
TUESDAY								
9:00 – 10:30	Pre-Algebra**	7-12	8/26/08	31	D. Kutz	13379	\$267.38	12/16/08
10:35 - 12:05	General Alg 1**	8-12	8/26/08	31	D. Kutz	13380	\$267.38	12/16/08
12:30 - 2:00	a-g Spanish 1**	9 - 12	8/26/08	32	B. Monroe	13381	\$265	12/18/08
2:05-3:35	a-g Spanish 2**	9-12	8/26/08	32	B. Monroe	13382	\$265	12/18/08
12:30 – 2:30	Drop In Math Tutoring	7 - 12	8/26/08	16	D. Kutz	N/A	FREE	12/16/08
WEDNESDAY								
10:00-11:30	Science Lab Grade 1	1	8/27; 10/1; 11/5	3	B. Harris	13384	\$40.23	11/5/08
10:00-11:30	Science Lab Grade 2	2	9/3; 10/8; 11/12	3	B. Harris	13385	\$40.23	11/12/08
10:00-11:30	Science Lab Grade 3	3	9/10; 10/15; 11/19	3	B. Harris	13386	\$40.23	11/19/08
10:00-11:30	Science Lab Grade 4	4	9/17; 10/22; 12/3	3	B. Harris	13387	\$40.23	12/3/08
10:00-11:30	Science Lab Grade 5	5	9/24; 10/29; 12/10	3	B. Harris	13388	\$40.23	12/10/08
11:30– 12:30	Art Grade 1	1	8/27; 10/1; 11/5	3	B. Harris	13942	\$28.15	11/5/08
11:30– 12:30	Art Grade 2	2	9/3; 10/8; 11/12	3	B. Harris	13948	\$28.15	11/12/08
11:30– 12:30	Art Grade 3	3	9/10; 10/15; 11/19	3	B. Harris	13949	\$28.15	11/19/08
11:30– 12:30	Art Grade 4	4	9/17; 10/22; 12/3	3	B. Harris	13950	\$28.15	12/3/08
11:30– 12:30	Art Grade 5	5	9/24; 10/29; 12/10	3	B. Harris	13951	\$28.15	12/10/08
1:00 - 2:00	Home Ec	6-12	8/27/08	5	B. Harris	13389	\$34.19	9/25/08
THURSDAY								
9:00 – 10:30	Pre-Algebra**	7-12	8/26/08	31	D. Kutz	13379	\$267.38	12/16/08
10:35 - 12:05	General Alg 1**	8-12	8/26/08	31	D. Kutz	13380	\$267.38	12/16/08
12:30 - 2:00	a-g Spanish 1**	9 - 12	8/26/08	32	B. Monroe	13381	\$265	12/18/08
2:05 - 3:35	a-g Spanish 2**	9-12	8/26/08	32	B. Monroe	13382	\$265	12/18/08
FRIDAY								
11:45 – 1:45	a-g Algebra 1	9-12	8/29/08	16	J. Pelczynski	13390	\$184.00	12/19/08
2:00 – 4:00	a-g Algebra 2	9-12	8/29/08	16**	J. Pelczynski	13391	\$257.60	12/19/08

Individual Music Lessons:

Please contact the instructor to work out a day and time. Instructor will then contact the CLC Coordinator to set up the CP for your student and then your ES will be notified that it is ready for sign up.

Piano lessons are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Guitar lessons are held on Fridays.

Piano Lessons: Shawn Smith at 209-496-0406 **Guitar Lessons:** Daniel Harris at daniel_harr@hotmail.com

MODESTO LEARNING CENTER

FALL 2009 classes as of 8/25/08. This is a TENTATIVE list for FALL. Classes and info are subject to change.

Time	Class	Grade	Start/End Date	# of Classes	Instructor	Course #	Approx. \$
MONDAY							
10:00-12:30	Curriculum Hrs.	All	2 nd Mon.	----	L. Freeman	-----	-----
10:00-11:30	Curriculum Planning	All	8/25; 9/27;10/27 11/24; 12/8	----	L. Freeman	-----	-----
8:30 – 9:20	English Coaching	All	Every Monday	----	D. Howard	-----	-----
9:25 – 10:25	General English	9 th – 12 th	8/25 – 12/15	16	D. Howard	13372	\$62.36
10:30 – 11:30	CAHSEE English Prep	9 th – 12 th	8/25 – 12/15	16	D. Howard	13371	\$62.36
11:35 – 12:35	A-G English	9th-12th	8/25 – 12/15	16	D. Howard	13369	\$62.36
12:00-1:00	FastTrack Writing - IEW	3 rd – 12th	9/8 – 12/15	14	C. Silva	13448	\$112.70
1:15 – 2:15	FastTrack Writing - IEW	3 rd – 12 th	9/8 – 12/15	14	C. Silva	13446	\$112.70
TUESDAY							
10:00-11:10	Benchmark Essay Writing	7-8	8/26	16	T. Matranga	13367	\$157.40
12:00-1:10	Benchmark Essay Writing	9-12	8/26	15	T. Matranga	13370	\$157.40
11:30 – 3:30	Individual Guitar Lessons	All	8/26	-----	D. Quilici***	Contact Instructor	\$17.50/ 30 min.
WEDNESDAY							
9:00 – 11:00	Yearbook Class	Jr/Sr High	9/10;10/22;11/19; 12/17;1/21;1/28;2/11	7	J. Severin	13453	—
9:00 – 10:30	a-g Algebra 1	8-12	8-27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13365	\$269.38
10:35-12:05	a-g Geometry	8-12	8/27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13366	\$269.38
12:10 – 1:40	Pre-Calculus	9-12	8/27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13518	\$332.26
1:45 – 3:45	Drop in Tutoring	All	8/27	All Semester	D. Kutz	-----	-----
2:00 – 3:30	Spanish 1	9-12	8-27	16	B. Monroe	13394	\$150.00
THURSDAY							
9:00 – 9:45	Story Time	K – 3 rd	8/28 – 9/25	5	B. Harris	13395	\$40.19
10:00-10:45	Art	K – 3 rd	8/28 – 9/25	5	B. Harris	13396	\$50.19
11:00 – 12:30	Science Lab – 1st	1 st	8/28; 10/2;11/6	3	B. Harris	13397	\$40.23
12:30 – 1:30	Art 1 st Grade	1 st	8/28; 10/2;11/6	3	B. Harris	13943	\$28.15
11:00 – 12:30	Science Lab – 2nd	2 nd	9/4;10/9;11/13	3	B. Harris	13404	\$40.23
12:30 – 1:30	Art 2 nd Grade	2 nd	9/4;10/9;11/13	3	B. Harris	13944	\$28.15
11:00 – 12:30	Science Lab -3 rd	3 rd	9/11;10/16;11/20	3	B. Harris	13405	\$40.23
12:30 – 1:30	Art 3 rd Grade	3 rd	9/11;10/16;11/20	3	B. Harris	13945	\$28.15
11:00 – 12:30	Science Lab -4 th	4 th	9/18;10/23;12/4	3	B. Harris	13406	\$40.23
12:30 – 1:30	Art 4 th Grade	4 th	9/18;10/23;12/4	3	B. Harris	13946	\$28.15
11:00 – 12:30	Science Lab -5 th	5 th	9/25;10/30;12/11	3	B. Harris	13407	\$40.23
12:30 – 1:30	Art 5 th Grade	5 th	9/25;10/30;12/11	3	B. Harris	13947	\$28.15
2:30 – 3:15	Home Ec	6 th – 12 th	8/28 – 9/25	5	B. Harris	13399	\$50.19
11:30 – 3:30	Biology A	9-12	9/4; 10/2;11/6	3	L. Liege	PO	\$300.00
11:30 – 3:30	Biology B	9-12	9/11;10/9;11/13	3	L. Liege	PO	\$300.00
11:30 – 3:30	Chemistry	9-12	9/18;10/16;11/20	3	L. Liege	PO	\$300.00
FRIDAY							
9:00 – 10:30	a-g Algebra 1	8-12	8-27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13365	\$269.38
10:35-12:05	a-g Geometry	8-12	8/27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13366	\$269.38
12:10 – 1:40	PreCalculus	9-12	8/27	31 Wed & Fri	D. Kutz	13518	\$332.26
10:30 – 12:00	Ed. Planning	9-12	8/29;9/26;10/24; 11/21;12/12	5	M. Cripe	13298	No Fee

**** Contact Instructor before submitting the PO's****

Lori Freeman:
lofreeman@connectingwaters.org
Debbie Kutz:
dkutz@connectingwaters.org
Leica Liege:
lliege@gmail.com
Denetrice Howard:
dhoward@connectingwaters.org

David Quilici:
davidquitar@yahoo.com
Bev Harris:
bharris@connectingwaters.org
Melissa Cripe
mcripe@connectingwaters.org

YEARBOOK NEWS

Yearbooks are \$30.00 this year. The price will go up to \$35.00 on October the 31st. Please buy your yearbook early so as to take advantage of the discount. Also please try your hardest to be present for picture day. If you do not wish to buy a picture package then you have the option to buy an ID card which will cost \$2.00 and will secure your picture in the yearbook.

Custom Yearbook Cover Contest

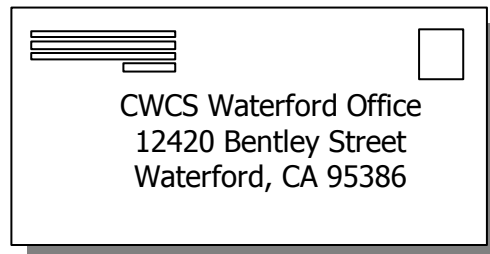


We will be having a custom cover contest again. We want as many students to participate as possible. Finished art work should be vertical, not landscape. Pictures should be of our school mascot the Tiger.

The winner will receive a free yearbook!

Activity Pictures

Parents, the yearbook committee needs your help! We can not make this yearbook with out your pictures. Activity photos will be accepted until January the 23rd. Photo prints can be mailed to the



Please make sure pictures include students name, grade and the activity featured. If you wish to send digital pictures please send them to cwyearbook@connectingwaters.org . Make sure to rename your pictures with the students name, grade and activity featured.

Yearbook Class

Yearbook class will be starting in September. This is a great opportunity for high school students to receive credits. Students will become familiar with digital yearbook software. This would be a great experience! Class dates are Sept. 10th; Oct. 22nd; Nov 19th; Dec. 17th; Jan. 21st; Jan. 28th; Feb. 11th

CP# 13453

We need YOU to help make this yearbook the best one yet!

If you have any questions you can reach the yearbook advisor, Janie Severin at cwyearbook@connectingwaters.org

Fundraisers!!

Raleys/Nob Hill Quality Of Life Card Fundraiser

Connecting Waters is enrolled in the Raleys/Nob Hill Quality of Life Program. Raleys will give our school 1-4% back on your total when you show the Quality of Life Card at time of purchase. Cards are available for pick-up at the School Office or the Learning Centers. Cards must be activated over the internet. Money raised will be used for incentives for school activities.

Boxtops for Education Fundraiser

Connecting Waters is enrolled in the Boxtops for Education Program. For every Boxtops coupon sent in, General Mills pays us 10¢. Coupons are located on products from General Mills, Chex, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Yoplait, Ziplock, Scott, Kleenex, Cottonelle, Hefty, and many more. Collection boxes are located at the School Office and the Learning Centers. You may bring in your coupons or mail them to the centers. Money raised will be used for STAR testing incentives or other school activities.



Accelerated Reader & MathFacts News

Due to the fact that we use Accelerated Reader and MathFacts in private homes instead of a site, Renaissance Learning will no longer allow CWCS students to access these programs. Their site license policy requires that the programs only be used at one site, which is not feasible for a school like ours. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Cathy Moretto
CWCS AR Coordinator

OUTDOOR SCIENCE SCHOOL

We are tentatively set for the week of March 16-20, 2008. We will again be going to Mount Hermon, located in the mountains above Santa Cruz. The cost will be approximately \$275 and will come from 2nd semester funding. For more information about the camp, visit <http://www.mounthermon.org/outdoor>. (When viewing the site, note that we are NOT attending homeschool camp).

To reserve your space for this activity, please have your ES sign you up in FRED (GEA #13140) and then e-mail Cathy Moretto, cmoretto@connectingwaters.org the following information:

Parent Name
Student Name(s) and Grade(s)
Home Phone Number
ES Name

In the Spring, Cathy will send you an enrollment packet with information and directions through your ES.

Erica Tong, a senior, was recently awarded the Congressional Award Gold Medal, a "non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive" award from the U.S. Congress. Starting from her fourteenth birthday, Erica set her personal goals in the four required areas--Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Expedition/Exploration, and Physical Fitness-- for the Congressional Award. On June 19th, 2008, her fulfillment of her goals according to the program's rules and requirements was acknowledged during the Congressional Award Gold Medal Ceremony in Washington, D.C., along with 237 other gold medal recipients from across the nation.

In earning her award, Erica dedicated over 400 hours of Voluntary Public Service to her local community and its lower income residents. She helped to provide meals to senior citizens and also to supervise the local library's public education events. For Personal Development, she strove to improve her own writing fluency by taking a writing class, reading more difficult works of literature, and expanding her vocabulary, among other methods. Her Physical Fitness goal was to decrease her mile time, walk 350 miles, and improve her overall fitness performance. For her Expedition, she decided to choose a country in Europe to study and immerse herself and planned an entire two-week trip to Italy for herself and her family.

A week before the ceremony, Erica participated in the Congressional Award Week-Long program and toured the nation's capital with 50 other gold medal recipients. Although she initially did not want to attend this program, she is now extremely glad that she did. Getting to know some of the other medal recipients beyond their easily accessible written and spoken accolades turned out to be an unforgettable experience.

Even though the time and efforts required for this award were long and sometimes seemed unattainable, Erica feels that the experiences attached to working toward and receiving the Congressional Award Gold Medal are something that she would never trade.

Three Tips for Developing Writers

Brought to You by Your Special Education Department

- 1) Always provide examples of the types of writing that a student is working on. Students should be exposed to writing from their peers (other students) as well as established authors who can serve as models for what constitutes good writing. Discuss the examples, focusing especially on what works well in the writing.
- 2) Focus on the strengths of the writing and provide concrete feedback. Rather than saying "this is good," say "I like how you use strong adjectives to describe the night sky."
- 3) Teach with mini-lessons. Focus on one skill at a time and have students complete writing exercises applying that particular skill. After a few short exercises students can develop longer pieces incorporating the new skill.

**Check out an excellent list of fifty mini-lessons to download or listen to as a podcast at <http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=78&aid=103943>.



Writing an Essay



Title: _____

¶1. **Topic Sentence:** _____

¶1. **Extra Detail & Information Sentence:** _____

¶1. **3-point Sentence:** _____

¶1. _____

Now let's 'Brainstorm' words &/ or sentences to use in building our paragraphs !!

¶2. _____

¶3. _____

¶4. _____

¶5. General Concluding Sentence

Summary Concluding Sentence



Education and Career Planning Course UPDATE!!!

Semester one Elluminate and Modesto Learning Center courses are **FULL**, and students are being wait listed. Remember, the course is 5 units, so your student can take the course either semester. Course information can be found at <http://www.connectingwaters.org/Guidance/guidcourses09.htm>

NOTE: As of August 4th, any new 9th graders (true Class of 2012) that come through intake will have to take the course during semester 2. Please assign new 9th graders to Health or another 5 unit life skills or special interest elective for semester 1.

2009 - 8th Grade and Senior Graduation Information



Congratulations to all of those who will be graduating in 2009; you're almost there! How fast the years have flown by and this one will be no exception. CWCS is planning an 8th grade graduation to be held May 12th at 7:00 pm and a senior graduation to be held May 14th at 7:00 pm at the Waterford High School gym. It is the goal of the staff to make these events truly memorable for the graduates, their families, and their friends.

In order to help us achieve our goal there are some important dates you will need to remember. All students and parents should plan to attend the graduation planning meeting.

- Dec. 12 - 8th grade & senior graduation participation information forms due
- Jan. 2 - Senior graduation announcements order forms due to Academic Affairs
- Feb. 3 - 8th grade graduation information meeting for parents and students*
- Feb. 6 - 8th grade & senior graduation participation information forms due for late enrollees
- Feb. 10 - Senior graduation information meeting for parents and students*
- Feb. 13 - Senior graduation cap & gown order due **(They will only accept money orders for payment!)**
- Mar. 13 - Deadline to sign up for student performances
- Mar. 13 - Senior Speeches Due
- Apr. 2 - Graduation helpers meeting in Waterford at 2pm
- May 12 - 8th grade graduation practice 4:30 pm and 8th grade graduation at 7:00 pm
- May 14 - Senior graduation practice 4:30 pm and senior graduation at 7:00 pm

*Each of the information meetings will be held at the Modesto Learning Center located at 4713 Greenleaf Court, Suite A, Modesto, CA 95356 at 3:00 p.m.

We are making available the opportunity for one or more of the graduating students to give a short, three to five minute, speech or performance. All speeches must be submitted by March 13th to the Waterford office. Please notify Mary Vinnedge at the Waterford Office (209-874-1119 Ext. 6 or e-mail mvinnedge@connectingwaters.org) by March 13th if you wish to perform at the graduation. The graduation performance committee will choose and approve the performances for the graduation. May this year be an exciting and productive year for all of you! If you have any graduation questions or comments please contact Mary Vinnedge at the CWCS Waterford Office at 209-874-1119 Ext 6.

Participation forms can be obtained online:

8th Grade Graduation Form

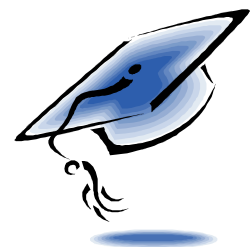
<http://www.connectingwaters.org/CWforms/8thgradpart.pdf>

12th Grade Graduation Form

<http://www.connectingwaters.org/CWforms/sengradpart.pdf>

Senior Cap & Gown Form

<http://www.connectingwaters.org/CWforms/capgown.pdf>



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Greeting from the Guidance Department

We are here to help you determine your future academic and career goals!

Mary Halter, School Counselor
mhalter@connectingwaters.org
1-800-808-9895 Ext 4, then 2

Melissa Cripe, School Counselor
mcripe@connectingwaters.org
1-800-808-9895 Ext 4, then 6

“College Basics 101” Workshop

Tuesday 9/23 @ 9:30am via
Elluminate***

Thursday 9/25 @ 1pm via
Elluminate***

Friday 9/26 @ 12 noon –
Modesto Learning Center

***Must have high speed internet access,
headset preferred

Please contact Mary Halter via
mhalter@connectingwaters.org for the link to
the Elluminate session.

Not sure where to start? Find out! This workshop will focus on getting prepared for college, how to research your options and what it takes to get in. What courses should you take? How do you begin finding a college? Where do you want to go? Learn all about it!

**To reserve your space and to register for the
9/26 workshop, call the School Office at
1-800-808-9895 ext.6**



High School Social at Boomers!

Friday September 5th @
1:00p.m.

meet at the front gate
sponsored by your CWCS CSF club members

Unlimited Wristband only \$15!

includes Video Games, Mini Golf, GoKarts,
LazerTag, Bumper Boats, Rock Wall, and
Rookie Raceway!

**(EXCLUDING: games that reward prizes or
tickets) this is an out of pocket expense,
IF cannot be used**

Boomers! Modesto
4215 Bangs Avenue
Modesto, CA 95356
(209) 545-5248

For more information call:
Mrs. Halter (School Counselor)
1-800-808-9895 ext. 4 then 2



PSAT test

**PSAT test
for 9th, 10th, and 11th
graders!!!!**

WHEN: October 15, 2008

Ceres Seventh-day Adventist Church

9am to 1pm

FEE: \$13

Please register with your ES, CP #13651

If you are a college-bound student, please make sure to take the PSAT during your Sophomore and Junior year. You could qualify for the NMSQT scholarship program which is only available to juniors who score well on the PSAT.

PLAN (pre-ACT) test for 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th graders!!!!

Why take the PLAN? It's great preparation for the ACT – it covers the same subjects! It gives an estimated ACT score! It helps you know what high school courses you should be taking!

It helps you identify careers that match your interests!

(You can find more information about the PLAN test at www.act.org)



WHEN: November 7, 2008 Modesto Learning Center

9am to 1pm

FEE: \$10

Please register with your ES, CP # 13652

CSF and NHS!!!

What is CSF? The California Scholarship Federation (CSF) is a statewide organization whose purpose is to recognize students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement. Qualifying for membership is on a semester basis following a point system that requires A's and B's in mostly "a-g college prep" level coursework.

What is NHS? National Honor Society is a nationwide organization that seeks to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to demonstrate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. Qualifying for membership is yearly and students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA in the most difficult curriculum as well as demonstrated community service.

**Please contact Mary Halter at mhalter@connectingwaters.org for an application.
Applications are due by September 15, 2008**

Guidance Department Educational Series

Title	Date/Time	Location	Description
"College Basics 101" Workshop	9/23 9:30 am 9/25 1 pm 9/26 12 noon	Illuminate Illuminate Modesto Learning Center	Not sure where to start? Find out! This one hour workshop will focus on college information...What courses should you take? How do you begin finding a college? Where do you want to go? Learn all about it! To reserve your space for one of the workshops call the School Office at 1-800-808-9895 ext.6.
College Tour: UC Merced and CSU Stanislaus	Friday October 10 th All Day: 8am-depart from MLCReturn 5pm GEA #13653	Meet at Modesto Learning Center, travel via bus to UCM and CSU Stanislaus	Do you want to know more about California's system of colleges? Want to know what they have to offer and what you need to do to get there? Meet representatives from the Community Colleges and the Universities. Learn what they have to offer!
PSAT – Practice SAT	October 15 th 9am to 1pm \$13 fee GEA # 13651	Ceres Seventh – day Adventist Church 1633 Central Ave Ceres, CA	High school students are invited to take this practice test to prepare for the SAT exam. College-bound students should take the PSAT during your Sophomore and Junior year. You could qualify for the NMSQT scholarship program which is only available to juniors who score well on the PSAT
PLAN – Practice ACT	November 7 th 9am to 1pm \$10 fee GEA #13652	Modesto Learning Center	High school students are invited to take this practice test to prepare for the ACT exam. The Guidance Department explains the test results and assists students in understanding their academic strengths and weaknesses
Financial Aid Workshop: Presented by MJC!	January 13 th 1pm 6:30 pm	Ceres Learning Center Modesto Learning Center	Class of 2009 parents and students are invited to attend this very important event regarding financial aid for: <u>junior college, trade schools, colleges and universities.</u> Topics: FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), GPA Verification Forms, California State Grants/Pell Grants, Scholarship Information, other ways to access free money for college and much more! To reserve your space for one of the workshops call the School Office at 1-800-808-9895 ext. 6.
High School Orientation Meeting <i>For 7th and 8th graders!!!!</i>	Feb. 12 7pm Feb. 13 10am Feb. 26th 10:30am	Illuminate Illuminate Modesto Learning Center	A very important meeting to discuss the importance of high school and the courses you should take. Do you want to attend college? A trade school? How about Junior College? Now's the time to plan for your future!! A must attend event! To reserve your space for one of the workshops call the School Office at 1-800-808-9895 ext. 6.
Career Expo	February 20 th	San Joaquin County Office of Education, Stockton	Junior High and High School students! Many college and vocational school representatives will be present to explain their programs. More Information to come in our newsletters and online via the parent listserve.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Free scholarship search services - Look for scholarships by type, name, location or field of study at www.anycollege.com , www.iefaf.org and www.scholarships.com. Register at www.fastweb.com , www.collegeboard.com , www.collegebound.net , www.findtuition.com/ and <http://www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp> for free scholarship matching services and college and career planning tips. **Never pay for a scholarship search service!**

WARNING – If you receive an invitation in the mail to attend a financial aid seminar or personal interview to “maximize your eligibility to receive financial assistance” for college, please contact the Guidance Office at guidancecounselor@connectingwaters.org before attending. There are several companies in our area who are selling this service, which can cost you over \$1,000. **The information being sold can be obtained for free.**

QuestBridge is a non-profit program that links bright, motivated low-income students with educational and scholarship opportunities at some of the nation's best colleges. Check out this amazing opportunity at: <http://www.questbridge.org/>

\$11 Billion in merit-based scholarships is available from colleges. The problem is, it's never been easy to find...until now. Go to www.meritaid.com and see what your college has to offer!

The following scholarships are being offered by www.scholarshipexperts.com for students 13 and older who must submit a written response. Check it out:

["Education Matters" \\$5K Scholarship](#) (October 31, 2008)

["All About Education" \\$5K Scholarship](#) (Apr. 30, 2008)

[\\$1,000 Superpower Scholarships](#) (March 31, 2008.)

[\\$1,000 Do-Over Scholarships](#) (June 30, 2008.)

[\\$1,000 Shout It Out Scholarships](#) (September 30, 2008.)

[\\$1,000 Top Ten List Scholarships](#) (December 31, 2008.)

Are you left-handed? Check out this site for some unusual scholarships! <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/unusual.phtml> Deadlines vary.

Veterans Fee Waiver Program: Children of disabled veterans may be eligible for the College Fee Waiver Program. Waiver only applies to California State Universities, University of CA campuses, and CA community colleges. Details may be found at: <http://www.cacvso.org/>

Arts Recognition and Talent Search is open to high school **seniors** in the performing, literacy and visual arts. Many cash awards will be given. For details: www.NFAA.ARTSawards.org . **Deadline is October 1.**

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Continued.....

Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans provides **\$2,500** scholarships to **seniors** who have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity and who aspire to pursue higher education. **Two hundred** scholarships will be awarded in California. Eligibility requirements include: must plan to enroll full-time in Fall 2006 at a 2 or 4-year college, have a strong commitment to pursuing a bachelor's degree, have demonstrated financial need, a record of involvement in co-curricular and community activities, minimum 2.0 GPA, must be a U.S. citizen or in the process of becoming a U.S. citizen. Apply online or download a paper application at:

<https://www.horatioalger.com/scholarships/apply.cfm> **Deadline to submit your application is October 30.**

The **Ron Brown Scholar Program** awards scholarships to academically talented, highly motivated African American high school **seniors** who will pursue an undergraduate degree. Applicants must show exceptional leadership potential and make an impact on their communities through service to others.

A minimum of **ten \$40,000** scholarships will be awarded each year. For details and to apply, go to:

www.ronbrown.org .

Postmark your application by **November 1** to be considered for additional scholarships.

Gates Millenium Scholars Program provides substantial scholarship awards to exceptional high school **seniors** of Hispanic, African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Asian Pacific Islander ancestry.

Eligible applicants must have a 3.3 GPA, demonstrated leadership skills, and significant financial need. More information and applications are online at <http://www.gmsp.org/> .

The application is extensive, so don't wait until the last minute to begin. **Deadline is January 12, 2009**

Christermon Foundation Beverage Industry College Scholarship Program has awarded 3.1 million dollars in college scholarships since 1987. Scholarships ranging from **\$1,500** to **\$5,000** will be awarded to **seniors** whose parent, grandparent or legal guardian currently hold full time employment with, or who are owners of, a company holding a valid **California liquor, beer or wine license**. This includes **restaurants, hotels, retail & wholesale grocery establishments, airlines, breweries, wineries, distributors, etc.** Must be planning to attend a 4-year college in Fall 2006, show evidence of community service and a strong academic record. Apply online at: <http://www.christermon.com/scholarship/applications.php> .

Deadline to submit application is February 1, 2009.



2008-09 SAT and ACT

College Entrance Exam Test Dates and Deadlines

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
ACT (with optional writing)	Sept 13	Aug 12	Aug 22
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests	Oct 4	Sept 9	Sept 16
ACT (with optional writing)	Oct 25	Sept 19	Oct 3
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests including Language with Listening (only date offered all year)	Nov 1	Sept 26	Oct 10
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests	Dec 6	Nov 5	Nov 18
ACT (with optional writing)	Dec 13	Nov 7	Nov 20
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests	Jan 24	Dec 26	Jan 6
ACT (with optional writing)	Feb 7	Jan 6	Jan 16
SAT Reasoning Test Only	March 14	Feb 10	Feb 24
ACT (with optional writing)	April 4	February 27	March 13
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests	May 2	March 31	April 9
SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests	June 6	May 5	May 15
ACT (with optional writing)	June 13	May 8	May 22

ACT Fees – Basic Registration Fee \$31 (with optional writing add \$15)

SAT Fees – SAT Reasoning \$45; SAT Subject Tests are \$20 for basic registration plus \$9 per subject (Language tests with listening are \$20)

To Register:

SAT – www.collegeboard.com ACT – www.act.org

School Code : 053706 NOTE: test results are posted onto high school transcripts

Need help preparing for ACT, SAT and ASVAB exams? Check with your local library! There are many resources available..just ask! Practice exams usually include: SAT, ACT, ASVAB, Basic Skills, AP, EMT, Cosmetology, Firefighter, GED, etc.

Did you know that nearly 50% of the fastest growing jobs in the next ten years will be in the health and medical sciences? (According to the U.S. Department of Labor.) In response to this growing demand, the National Institutes of Health has created a web site, **Life Works**, to allow students and parents to explore over 100 career possibilities. Check out this free career information resource at: www.science.education.nih.gov/LifeWorks .

Looking for some online tools to help your child? Check these out:






www.cacareerzone.org – discover your interests, research jobs

www.cappex.org – college matching tools, find the right college!

www.zinch.org – another college matching site, find the right college!

REVISED - 2008/2009 EVENTS TO REMEMBER

Please note: there are no CAHSEE testing days in March”

August	September	October
<p>4 School Office open</p> <p>4/5 Learning Centers open for new and AESS students</p> <p>8 Learning Centers Open for all students</p> <p>13 First Day of School</p> <p>13 Student Council Election contracts available in school office (Waterford) & learning centers (LCs)</p> <p>15 Back to School Field Day at Matt Equinoa Park in Stockton, 10am-1pm</p> <p>18 All Staff Meeting at SJCOE</p> <p>21 Back to School Night at MLC 3-7pm</p> <p>22 Student Council Election contracts due by 3:40pm to school office or LCs</p> <p>25 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>25 On-line and learning center classes begin</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<p>2 Student Council (SC) Interviews at MLC, 12:30-3:00 pm</p> <p>5 Picture Day at MLC, 10am-2pm</p> <p>9 SC ballots announced/put up SC posters</p> <p>9 Parent Council Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>11 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>12 Picture Day at CLC, 10am-2pm</p> <p>15-19 Benchmark Exams</p> <p>18 Picture Day at Leonard Photography in Manteca, 10am-12pm</p> <p>19 Student Council Election</p> <p>23 College Basics 101 Workshop via Elluminate, 9:30am</p> <p>24 Student Council results announced</p> <p>25 College Basics 101 Workshop via Elluminate, 1pm</p> <p>25 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>25 Senior Pics at Leonard Photography in Manteca, 10am-1pm</p> <p>26 College Basics 101 Workshop at MLC, at 12pm</p> <p>29 Family Math Night: Number Sense at MLC, 3-5:30pm</p> <p>29 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p>	<p>6 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>7-8 CAHSEE (11th & 12th grade)</p> <p>9 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>10 College Tour: UC Merced & CSU Stanislaus 8am-5pm</p> <p>15 Spelling Bee at MLC, Grade 4-6 at 2:30pm Grade 7-8 at 3:30pm</p> <p>15 PSAT Practice SAT at Ceres Seventh-day Adventist Church, 9am-1pm</p> <p>23 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>27 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>31 Picture retakes/make-ups, at MLC, 10am-12pm</p> <p>31 Senior/school pictures should be done</p> <p>31 Yearbook orders due</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>
November	December	January
<p>3 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>7 PLAN (pre-ACT) Test at MLC, 9am-1pm</p> <p>10-14 Benchmark Exams</p> <p>13 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>24 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>26-28 Thanksgiving Break</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<p>1 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>1 Family Math Night: Algebra and Functions at MLC, 3-5:30pm</p> <p>4 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>8 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>9 Parent Council Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>11 Jam Session at MLC, 9-10am</p> <p>12 8th & 12th Grade Graduation Participation Information Form Due</p> <p>22 Winter Break Begins</p>	<p>2 Senior Graduation Announcement order due to Academic Affairs</p> <p>5 School Resumes/ 2nd semester begins</p> <p>5 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>13 Financial Aid Workshop at CLC - 1pm, at MLC - 6:30pm</p> <p>23 All yearbook pictures due</p> <p>26-30 Benchmark Exams</p> <p>26 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p>
February	March	April
<p>2 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>3-4 CAHSEE (10th, 11th, 12th grade)</p> <p>3 8th Grade Student/Parent Graduation Meeting at MLC, 3pm</p> <p>9 Family Math Night: Measurement & Geometry at MLC, 3-5:30pm</p> <p>10 Senior Student/Parent Graduation Meeting at MLC, 3pm</p> <p>12 High School Orientation Meeting for 7th & 8th graders via Elluminate, 10am and 7pm</p> <p>13 Senior graduation cap & gown orders due to Academic Affairs</p> <p>19 All Staff Meeting at SJCOE</p> <p>20 Parent Training Workshop/Career Expo at SJCOE, 10am-3pm</p> <p>23 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>23-27 Benchmark Exams</p> <p>26 HS Orientation Meeting for 7th & 8th graders at MLC, 10:30am</p>	<p>2 SC Mtg at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>3-4 STAR Writing Test & Make-up 4th & 7th grade</p> <p>3 Open House, 6:30pm in Waterford</p> <p>9 Curriculum Planning Workshop at MLC, 10-11:30am</p> <p>10 Parent Council Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>10 STAR Prep at MLC *</p> <p>12 STAR Prep at MLC *</p> <p>13 Deadline to sign up for student performances</p> <p>13 Senior speeches due</p> <p>17 STAR Prep at MLC *</p> <p>19 STAR Prep at MLC *</p> <p>3/19-3/27 Mandatory school assessment</p> <p>3/19-4/23 2nd - 11th grade STAR test window 3/19-4/23 5th, 7th, 9th grade PE test window</p> <p>* 2nd - 3rd grade @ 9:30am – 10:30am 4th - 5th grade @ 10:45am – 11:45am 6th - 8th grade @ 12noon – 1:00pm</p>	<p>2 Graduation Helpers Meeting at school office (Waterford), 2pm</p> <p>3 Parent Council Nomination forms due</p> <p>6-10 Spring Break</p> <p>13 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>23 STAR Testing ends</p> <p>27 Awards Ceremony and Dessert at MLC, 7pm</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>
May	June	July
<p>4 Student Council Mtg. at MLC, 10-11am</p> <p>5 Parent Council Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>12-13 CAHSEE (10th, 11th, 12th) grade makeup's</p> <p>12 8th Grade Graduation, 7pm</p> <p>14 Senior Graduation, 7pm</p> <p>15 Yearbooks received</p> <p>15 Last Day of School</p>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>