

VIKING VOICE

MAY 2004 VOLUME '03-'04, ISSUE 6

SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL 310/395-3204

601 PICO BOULEVARD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, *Santa Monica-Malibu Council, 33rd District CCPTS, Inc.*LOUISE JAFFE & CHERI ORGEL, *PTSA Co-Presidents*; ILENE STRAUS, *Chief Educational Officer/Principal*; GRETCHEN GOETZ, *Editor*; MARIA RODRIGUEZ (*Spanish*)

Our last issue this year!

The next Viking Voice will be mailed to families in July with Registration and Back-to-School information.

Message from PTSA Co-Presidents

This is the last issue of the *Viking Voice* for this school year. We hope that you have enjoyed reading it and found it useful. A thousand thank yous to Gretchen Goetz and Maria Rodriguez, our editors, and to Flora Johnson and her crew of parent volunteers for mailing out each and every copy to each and every one of you. Producing and distributing the *Viking Voice* is a huge yearlong effort and we hope you agree it is worthwhile.

We have two more PTSA meetings this year. On May 11th, RAND Senior Education Analyst and Samohi parent, Brian Stecher, will join staff in explaining what's what with state testing. May is full of state testing and it is critical for our school and for our district that at least 95% of our students take these high-stakes tests.

As we go to press neither the California State Budget, the Santa Monica City Budget, nor the SMMUSD Budget has been approved. We are hopeful that next year's school funding levels will not require more painful cuts and we remain committed to doing all that we can to continue to improve Samohi for every student and their family.

We hope that you and your student have had a good year and that you will continue to have a good year, followed by a good summer, followed by another good year. **It has been our pleasure to serve as your PTSA Co-presidents. Thank you for your support.**

Cheri Orgel, 451-1938, clorgel@aol.com

Louise Jaffe, 450-2487, lcjaffe@aol.com, *Samohi PTSA Co-presidents*

Mark your calendars! Last two PTSA mtgs. this year!

Tuesday, May 11th, at 7 p.m.

We will present the results of the **Survey on Samohi Athletics**. **There will also be a presentation and discussion on State Testing** - why it's so important, what the district and the school can learn from the tests, and what YOU can learn about your student's progress. Dr. Straus will also speak.

Tuesday, June 8th, at 7 p.m.

A panel of current seniors and Samohi grads will talk about their college choices: how they chose the college they will(are) attend(ing), what helped them make their decision, how important was visiting the college, any surprises, words of wisdom about living with a roommate, managing money, living in a cold climate, college food and what they wished they had paid attention to while in high school! **Dr. Straus will also speak about this year's progress and plans for next year at Samohi.**

Enclosed in this issue is a special edition newsletter from the SMMUSD and the PTA Council, to help you understand how our schools are doing and how school funding is spent. As California continues to confront a huge budget deficit, our schools become increasingly reliant upon our local commitment to high quality public education. Please read the enclosed report.

Important Summer Registration Dates: Tuesday, August 24 – Friday, August 27

Large white Registration info envelope will be mailed home in July

During summer registration for next year, students will have the opportunity to pick up their class schedules, meet with an advisor to make scheduling adjustments, get their student ID and take care of other important items for the fall. It is highly recommended that students attend summer registration rather than having to deal with a multitude of tasks once school has started.

Each grade will go through registration on a different date:

Incoming 12th Grade- Tuesday, August 24th

Incoming 11th Grade- Wednesday, August 25th

Incoming 10th Grade- Thursday, August 26th

Incoming 9th Grade- Friday, August 27th

Registration time will be based on the month in which students were born; a detailed schedule will be included in a Summer Registration packet that PTSA will mail home to all families in July. This packet will include important registration instructions, forms and first day of school procedures. *continued on page 3*

Message from the Principal, Dr. Straus

Dear Parents,

As you read this newsletter, there is very little time left in the 2003-04 school year. Yet, there are still tests to take, papers to finish and deadlines to meet. The final weeks of the semester are critical for students to complete in a successful and responsible manner. Each day's attendance is essential and each assignment is important to take seriously. We will do everything we can to help your child meet his responsibilities and obligations. **As part of that support, we are mailing all progress reports home. Please make direct contact with your child's teacher if you have questions about progress and ways to improve a grade. For general academic support, our student support advisors can offer support for both you and your child. Our community liaisons are also available to support you in your efforts to ensure success at school for your child.**

Obligations

A letter indicating outstanding obligations that are due to the school is also being sent, so that you will be able to pay or return books that are due, and not have your child be restricted from participation in school activities at the end of this Spring semester, or at the beginning of the upcoming Fall semester. We will continue to collect books and payments throughout the summer in order to ensure a smooth registration process in August for all students. **Students with outstanding obligations will not be able to complete the registration process until they return outstanding materials,** so please work with us to return books that are on your shelves. That way we can be ready for all students who arrive in the Fall needing textbooks.

continued on page 2

Things you need to know *Testing, classes for students and parents, dates*

Message from the Principal, Dr. Straus

continued from page 1

Testing during the month of May is important for individual students and for our entire school and District. The US Department of Education mandates a 95% student participation rate. Students who are absent will be required to make up tests. This year we are going to administer tests in the class where the student takes the course with the teacher they work with. Classes will be blocked in two-hour sessions so students will take tests over more days, but less time each day. This testing situation should improve your child's performance and lower test anxiety. Please help us by being sure that your child attends school everyday. We have published the testing schedule online (<http://www.samohi.smmusd.org/Calendars/testdates.htm>) so you will be aware of regular and AP exams and our schedule. Thank you for your support in getting your child to school rested, fed and ready to show his/her best on these standardized tests.

Finally, during the final weeks of the school year we encourage you to support your child in making the right decisions for school success. Students are responsible for their actions. We have reminded students of the expectation to pass all classes, meet all obligations, as well as to be mindful that some actions could result in loss of privileges and discipline consequences.

As our first year of redesign comes to a close, we are continuing to work to build student community in each house, provide continued intervention and support for students not experiencing academic success, and at the same time provide opportunities for advanced academic challenges for those who select these courses. Thank you for working with us in this endeavor and for your commitment to quality public school education.

Sincerely, **Ilene Straus, Ed.D.**, Chief Educational Officer/Principal

AP Testing Schedule for May In addition to special AP testing schedules, there is state testing from April 26-May 21, that includes block scheduling, early dismissals and some early starts for A period on late start Wednesdays. Your student should be informed about these schedule changes. For more info, check:

<http://www.samohi.smmusd.org/Calendars/testdates.htm>

If you have any questions regarding testing, please contact

Theresa Luong at (310) 395-3204 ext 333 or luong@smmusd.org

May 3

English Lang AP, 8am
French Lang AP, 1pm

May 4

Computer Science A & AB, 8am
Spanish Lang AP, 8am

May 5

Calculus AB & BC, 8am
Human Geography AP, 8am
Music Theory & World Hist. AP, 1pm
A Period begins at 7:30am

May 6

English Literature AP, 8am
French Literature & German Language, 1pm
Block Schedule (per A, 1, 3, 5)-
State testing

May 7

US History AP, 8am
European Hist AP, 1pm
Studio Art AP, 1pm
Portfolios due
Block Schedule (per A, 2, 4, 6)-
State testing

May 10

Biology AP, 8am
Physics B & C AP, 1pm
Block Schedule (per A, 1, 3, 5)-
State testing

May 11

Chemistry & Environ. Science AP, 8am
CAHSEE Makeup
Block Schedule (per A, 1, 3, 5)-
State testing

May 12

CAHSEE Makeup
Government and US Politics AP, 8am
Gov't & Politics (Comparative), 1pm
Art History AP, 1pm
A Period begins at 7:30am

May 13

Macroeconomics AP, 8am and 1pm
Block Schedule (per A, 2, 4, 6)-
State testing

May 14

Spanish Literature AP, 8am
Latin Literature & Latin Vergil AP, 1pm
Block Schedule (per A, 2, 4, 6)-
State testing

May 17 Block Schedule (per A, 1, 3, 5)

May 18 Block Schedule (per A, 2, 4, 6)

You are invited to attend a talk presented by the
UCLA Mood Disorders Research Program

❖
Mark Frye, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry,
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Director, UCLA Mood Disorders Research Program

❖ **MOOD AND YOU:**

Understanding Depression And Bipolar Disorder

Monday, May 17, 2004, 7pm – 8:30pm
Samohi Cafeteria

For more information call Joni at 310/794-9913

Enroll in a "Hands On" ROP class *(Regional Occupational Program)*

SMMUSD in cooperation with twenty-two school districts and Los Angeles County Regional Occupational Program offers career and technical classes as a public education service to adults and high school juniors and seniors. On the Westside, there is an ROP program at Beverly Hills High, Culver City High and Samohi.

Why should you enroll in an ROP class?

A career/technical course adds a new dimension to learning - "hands-on" in addition to "eyes-on." Many students learn better that way. ROP courses also reinforce basic academic skills and relate them to the "real world", showing students their importance in everyday work situations. Some courses also offer workplace-learning opportunities for students, with unpaid internships.

When can I enroll in an ROP class?

ROP offers a very small summer program with most classes offered in the fall and spring. A list of classes available to adults is included on the Samohi website (www.samohi.smmusd.org), or you can call the ROP office directly. Summer registration begins in May, fall registration in August and spring registration in early January. There are day and evening classes offered.

We offer more than 40 classes in many careers, including:

Art & Communications
Animation Fundamentals - CCHS
Digital Design/Commercial Art - Samohi
Film & Video - BHHS & Samohi

Business & Marketing

Banking/Finance - Samohi
Entertainment Marketing - BHHS
Fashion Merchandising - CCHS

Education & Child Care

Careers with Children - Samohi

Health Sciences

Emergency Medical Technician - Samohi

Gain skills and confidence! ROP courses are fun because you learn by doing. When you complete an ROP course, you will receive a certificate that lists your job skills. We are convinced you will learn skills, gain confidence and lessen your apprehensions about entering the job market. **For more information please contact:**

MaryKay McCray, ROP Counselor, 395-3204, ext 329

Yvonne Strahn, ROP Technician, 395-3204, ext 457

ROP Office (with voice mail) 395-9493

Hospitality, Travel & Tourism
Hotel/Hospitality – CCHS

Industrial & Technical
Auto Technology - Samohi

Information Technology
Computer Applications Level 1 & 2 - All 3 locations
Desk-top Publishing/Web Page Design - All 3 locations

Nursery, Floral

Floral Design & Sales - Samohi

Personal Service

Cosmetology – All 3 locations(at Culver City Beauty College)
Lifeguard - CCHS, Samohi



FOR THE ARTS

A CELEBRATION for the ARTS

May 14th-16th at the SM Pier

Student Arts Festival, Gala Fundraiser, Benefit Concert

Mark your calendars for this weekend festival of the arts showcasing the talents of Santa Monica-Malibu students to promote arts education in the SMMUSD, through the efforts of *For The Arts*, an endowment campaign of the Education Foundation of Santa Monica-Malibu.

Friday, May 14th, 5:30-11:30 pm

A Friday evening fundraiser will include an opening night cocktail reception and live auction, followed by VIP seating at a concert by Rock & Roll Hall of Fame singer and songwriter Jackson Browne. Also performing on the bill is the band Venice.

Saturday and Sunday, May 15th and 16th, 11am -5pm

Weekend daytime events include student performances, displays of student artwork, arts-related workshops, art vendors, community non-profit organizations and food provided by local restaurants. Free and open to the public.

Please contact **Lauri Crane** to volunteer at 395-2665 or ojai5@aol.com. For questions about the *Education Foundation*, please contact Samohi's Education Foundation liaison, **Debbie Mulvaney** at 828-3708 or mulv99@aol.com.

News from the Library

New Hours: Monday-Thursday from 7:30am-5pm, Friday until 4pm

Bibliographies—the new "Citation Machine"

Students are writing research projects by the bundle at this time of year. Librarians' tip for making a bibliography:

1. Go to Google and type in "citation machine."
2. Open the first item that appears.
3. Look at the yellow column on the left. You can click on any type of resource listed (book, website, database, newspaper, etc.) A form for that type appears.
4. Fill in the blanks on the form.
5. The Citation Machine formats the citation for you. Just highlight it, copy, and paste into a Word document.

Please Return Overdue Text and Library Books

Hundreds of library and textbooks are overdue. Other students need them. Please make sure they get returned or paid for.

Summer Reading List Announced

Following the *Santa Monica Citywide Reads* concept, this year's Summer Reading List will consist of a minimum of one book for everyone: "A Yellow Raft in Blue Water" by Michael Dorris. Some classes will have additional required summer reading books. For the complete list, go to: www.samohi.smmusd.org/english/htmls/summer_reading.htm

Ann McKechnie, 395-3204, ext 437 mckechnie@smmusd.org
Dana Bartbell, ext 262 bartbell@smmusd.org, *Samohi Librarians*

Congratulations to PTSA Reflections Arts Contest winners!

Winners at Samohi:

Literature: Jimmy Bromberg - 1st, Jeremy Cohen - 2nd
Music: Paul Graboski - 1st, Zach Van Pelt - 2nd, Skylar O'Connor - 3rd

Visual Arts: Emily Grossman - 1st, Simon Hanna - 2nd
Winners at the Santa Monica-Malibu PTA Council level:

Literature: Jimmy Bromberg - 2nd
Music: Paul Graboski - 1st, Zach Van Pelt - 2nd

Visual Arts: Emily Bromberg - 1st, Simon Hanna - 2nd
Winners at the 33rd District PTA level:

Music: Paul Graboski - 3rd

The Viking Voice, May '04

Summer Registration Information *continued from page 1*

Some tips to make your student's registration process as smooth and productive as possible:

1. **Clear obligations.** The registration staff will work with students and parents and give any assistance possible, however, remember no schedules will be issued if obligations are not cleared. You should receive a letter listing your student's outstanding obligations in advance of registration.
2. **ID photos and Binder Reminders:** Cost is \$5.00 each; you must purchase a binder reminder.
3. **Schedule pick up:** Students will not be permitted to pick up schedules before the date assigned for your grade level. Schedules for your grade level will not be available until the assigned date. You may come during your assigned date but at a different hour, if necessary. It is best to pick up your schedule on your grade's assigned date; however, you may also pick up your schedule on a subsequent registration date. If a student is not available on or after his/her assigned date, a parent or guardian may pick up the schedule. Someone other than a parent may also pick up your schedule if he or she brings a signed note of permission from you and goes through all the registration stations.
4. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Fall enrollment is expected to exceed 3,400 students. In order to handle this volume we will need at least 50 volunteers per day. If you can help please contact:
Karen Dickerson, 216-6723, akiwest2000@yahoo.com
Cynthia Cottam, 452-0578, c33cottam@adelphia.net. *Thank you!*

Finals are coming...

It's not too late to get tutoring

After School Drop in Tutoring with Samohi teachers!

Mondays through Thursdays, from 3:30-4:30 in room E101 (*new location*). This valuable resource is currently under-utilized.

Tutoring in AP subjects Afterschool tutoring in AP Chemistry has been added along with sessions for students in AP Calculus, AP History, and AP English. Attendance has been good for Chemistry and Calculus but space is still available for History and English. Please encourage your student to take advantage of this support.

AP Chemistry	Mondays	3:30 – 5:00	Room T202
AP Calculus	Tuesdays	3:30 – 5:00	Room H215
AP History	Wednesdays	3:30 – 5:00	Room H218
AP English	Thursdays	3:30 – 5:00	Room L206

Extended after school library hours The Samohi library, home to **30 computers**, is now open until 5pm on Mondays - Thursdays and staffed with a Samohi teacher who can help students with questions and research.

Tutoring by Samohi students available in Math, Science, English

Students can come to Room S207 at Lunch on Thursdays to be tutored by National Honor Society volunteers.

For more information about tutoring services at Samohi, please contact **Wendy Wax Gellis**, *Advisor/Administrator*, 395-3204 ext 133 or email at gellis@smmusd.org.

Save the Date! Tuesday, June 15, 7pm, City Hall

City Council Meeting to Adopt Budget

This year's contribution of \$5.25 million from the City of Santa Monica enabled our schools to maintain vital services including class size reduction, library support, nursing, and music. The quality of all SMMUSD schools including Samohi remains dependent on continued funding from the City of Santa Monica. Santa Monica City Councilmembers need to hear from you. Please write, call, fax or email Council and urge them to continue to support our schools!

Santa Monica City Council
City Council Office #200, P. O. Office 2200, SM, CA 90407-2200
Phone: (310) 458-8201 Fax: (310) 458-1621
Email: Council@santa-monica.org

Thank you... for donations and countless volunteer hours! With more opportunities to volunteer...



Thanks for your Direct Donations to the following additional families that have contributed to Samohi as of March 23, 2004 through PTSA's Direct Donation:

Acosta	Ferrell	Holzman	Ortega
Becker	Fisher	Kuntz Stevens	Roberts
Berookhim	Forman	Landau	Rothschild
Melamed	Foster	Lazowick	Garf
Brownstone	Friedman	Lee Lipka	Smith
Burkenroad	Goldey	Maki	Strauss
Cisneros	Green	Mandanici	Valle
Cohen	Greene	Markus Weir	Vo
Cottam Early	Guttler	Martinez	Walters
Cowan	Himes	Mc Intyre	Wells Hajjar
Cruz, A.	Hoffing	Moeschler	Weltman Field
Cruz, C.	Ireland	O'Neill	Williams
Ender	Javaraiah	Sardella	
Felton	Justin	Orellana	

Direct Donations make a huge difference at Samohi (see below)! Please continue to give to the Direct Donation Drive, it's not too late. Make checks of any amount payable to *Samohi PTSA* and mail to 601 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

How your Direct Donations and the PTSA have made a difference at Samohi this year:

- produced and mailed home *Registration Packets* to all Samohi families in July
- organized and staffed *4 Registration days* in August
- hosted a *Welcome Staff Luncheon* for all staff in August
- organized and staffed the *Samohi College Fair* in October
- produced and mailed home 6 issues of the *Viking Voice newsletter* to all families
- produced and mailed home the *Samohi Information Handbook* to all families in October
- produced and mailed home the new *Samohi Course Catalog* to current 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students in April
- hosted *7 parent information/PTSA meetings*
- provided funds for the *Samohi webmaster* stipend for full year
- provided *funds for classroom supplies* to all classroom teachers
- provided *grants for the Athletic, Music, Drama, Art, English, and Science Departments*
- provided *grants for the Library, Parent Center, Advisors, and Nurse's Office*
- provided *funds for House Support, the Principal's fund, and office supplies*
- provided *funds for financial aid for AP tests*
- provided *funds for scholarships*
- provided *funds for Tech Support and to keep the Library open after school*
- provided *funds for after school Tutoring*
- provided *funds for custodial supplies and bathroom upgrades*
- provided funds for postage to mail home *6 week Progress Reports* to all families
- purchased and helped coordinate installation of *20 new outdoor tables and 10 new benches*
- *organized campus workdays for bathroom clean ups and beautification efforts* including graffiti removal, kiosk painting, planting, weeding, and bathroom tile scrubbing
- hosted a *Staff Appreciation Luncheon* and *Honorary Service Awards* ceremony for staff in May
- worked with PTA Council and the Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) to *secure \$6 million* in City of Santa Monica funding for our public schools
- *sent representative to Sacramento* as part of advocacy for adequate state funding for our public schools

A huge thank you to all who donated and volunteered!

The Viking Voice, May '04

“Jammin’ in Jamica” at Grad Nite

Senior parents should have received an envelope of Grad Nite info in February (due to expense, we mail only to Senior parents) including:

- **Volunteer forms** (This was your **FIRST** opportunity to sign up for the event night. **You can still fill it out now and send it in!**)
- **Reservation reminder** – Tickets are \$60 now (\$75 cash at the door!)
- **General Information about Grad Nite**

If you did not get it, your address may be wrong in the District Database – please fix it! **All the forms are on the Grad Nite Webpage:**

- www.samohi.smmusd.org/Grad_Nite/volunteer.htm
- **Ticket Sales** (www.samohi.smmusd.org/Grad_Nite/tickets.htm)
- **Volunteer sign-up form** (all parents are invited to volunteer!)

We can still use a few more volunteers, especially for the early morning hours. Senior parents have priority, but we need to hear from you ASAP (download the form, see above for the web address). Parents are meeting on Saturdays near the tennis courts to paint and refurbish the decorations. All are welcome – artistic talent not necessary!

Additional help is needed:

- **Painting sets** (email announcements beginning in May and June)
- **Preparing meals** for hard working parent construction crews, dropping them off.
- **Gathering Prizes and Gift Certificates from the community** (We need over 700 to give to the grads!)
- **Donations!** We need financial support as well – we keep costs down to encourage grads to attend, but still need to fundraise alot! Send a donation, it's tax deductible!

All volunteers for event night, June 17, will receive a written confirmation via the mail in early June. Thanks in advance to all for helping make this event a night to remember for our graduating seniors!

Important GRAD NITE contact info:

Volunteer Coordinators: Val, 392-5970 / fiveluck@aol.com and Kim, 391-0782 / eyler6@aol.com

Grad Nite Message Phone: 310-395-3204 x 977

Grad Nite Webpage: www.samohi.smmusd.org/Grad_Nite

Grad Nite Committee Chairs (with emails):

www.samohi.smmusd.org/Grad_Nite/committees.htm

AAPSSSG 1st Annual Executive Board Retreat

The *African American Parent Student Staff Support Group* is planning an Executive Board Retreat for May 14-16. If you have any input on topics for discussion for next year, please call:

Pam Allen Jones, *Community Liaison*, 395-3204, ext. 482, allen@smmusd.org

Barry Snell, 310/621-9961, bsnell-cpa@earthlink.net

Robbie Jones, 399-8575, AAPSSSG3@aol.com, *AAPSSSG Co-presidents*

Do you want to get more involved?

Next year's PTSA Officers have been elected and will assume office in June. **Please note however that there are still committee chair positions open and we are always in need of interested parents.** Please contact Cheri Orgel or Karen Dickerson if you would like to be more involved with next year's PTSA. Please also be sure to fill out the Volunteer Form that will be included in your summer registration packet. We look forward to working with you!

Karen Dickerson, 216-6723, akiwest2000@yahoo.com

Cheri Orgel, 451-1938, clorgel@aol.com, *PTSA Co-presidents 04-05*

Did you receive your first-ever Samohi Course Catalog?

Samohi Course Catalogs were sent home to all families in March. Please look for your blue catalog in the mail and plan to keep it. A big thanks to parent volunteers Lynn Naliboff, Inese Verzemnieks, and Diane Kuntz for researching, compiling, editing, formatting, and overseeing production. Thanks too to Randi Hutchinson for coordinating the bulk mailing. PTSA extends a very special thank you to Dr. Kathleen Martin, I House Principal, for her essential and gracious help in getting out the Course Catalog. Dr. Martin has announced her plans to retire and we will miss her.

Samohi 395-3204

From our Future Center Advisors

9th, 10th, and 11th graders

• It is important that the 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students spend the summer productively in an enriching activity. There are numerous opportunities available. Please come and check the resources in the Future Center.

Attention Seniors!

• The graduating seniors have one last step in the college process.

You must have a FINAL transcript sent to the college you will attend. Please submit a business envelope addressed to your college with a 37 cent stamp.

The return address is Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. In the lower left corner of the envelope write, "Final Transcript for..." then your name and Samohi Student ID#. You must submit this with \$2.00 to the Future Center, see Ms. Fairchild. Please make this request by June 1st, in order to keep your name off the obligation list. We are open at lunch to accept your envelopes.

• If you are not going to attend a school or go into the military next year, please write us a note describing your plans.

It has been a pleasure working with the class of 2004. Please keep us informed about your progress next year!

Clara Beard (last names A-L), 395-3204, ext 324

Ada Hollie (last names M-Z), ext 328

Samohi Future Center Advisors

Stressed for Success?

excerpted from New York Times Op-Ed Column, March 30, 2004

by David Brooks

Submitted by Samohi parent Joyce Smith (collegecompass@aol.com)

Many of you high school seniors are in a panic at this time of year, coping with your college acceptance or rejection letters. Since the admissions process has gone totally insane, it's worth reminding yourself that this is not a particularly important moment in your life.

You are being judged according to criteria that you would never use to judge another person and which will never again be applied to you once you leave higher ed.

For example, colleges are taking a hard look at your SAT scores. But if at any moment in your later life you so much as mention your SAT scores in conversation, you will be considered a total jerk. If at age 40 you are still proud of your scores, you may want to contemplate a major life makeover.

More than anything else, colleges are taking a hard look at your grades. To achieve that marvelous G.P.A., you will have had to demonstrate excellence across a broad range of subjects: math, science, English, languages etc.

This will never be necessary again. Once you reach adulthood, the key to success will not be demonstrating teacher-pleasing competence across fields; it will be finding a few things you love, and then committing yourself passionately to them.

There are a lot of smart, lively young people in this country, and you will find them at whatever school you go to. The students at the really elite schools may have more social confidence, but students at less prestigious schools may learn not to let their lives be guided by other people's status rules – a lesson that is worth the tuition all by itself.

As for the quality of education, that's a matter of your actually wanting to learn and being fortunate enough to meet a professor who electrifies your interest in a subject. That can happen at any school because good teachers are spread around, too.

So remember, the letters you get over the next few weeks don't determine anything. Picking a college is like picking a spouse. You don't pick the "top ranked" one, because that has no meaning. You pick the one with the personality and character that complements your own.

The Viking Voice, May '04

Class of 2006, should you be worried about the new SAT?

The SAT I is changing again. Why is the test changing? The UC system felt that the SAT did not accurately reflect student performance in their first year of college and they threatened to remove the test from their admission process. Eager to please its largest client, the makers of the SAT changed the test. The new test will be administered to the class of 2006, with the First offering being March 2005. As such, the UC system will not accept the current SAT from the class of 2006 for admissions purposes.

How is the test changing? It is getting longer. They are adding a new section onto the SAT I, that is similar to the SAT II Writing test which asks students to write an essay and correct grammar. This means that the top score will be 2400, rather than 1600. Also, the Math section will be adding Algebra II and Trigonometry to the already difficult Geometry and Algebra I. Finally, analogies will be eliminated from the Verbal section and replaced with smaller critical reading passages. This is why the Verbal section will be known as the Critical Reading section.

When is the best time to prepare for the SAT?

The SAT is given 7 times per year and you can take the test as often as you like. On average, students take the test 3 times before they apply to colleges. Unfortunately, a lot of students are under the misconception that schools average their SAT scores – this is not true. While some schools (like the UCs) take your highest score in an individual sitting, while other schools (like USC) take your highest math and highest verbal score regardless of the sitting. As such, there is no penalty for taking this test numerous times.

So when should you prepare for it? Some students use the summer before their junior year as a chance to get a head start. These students take the PSAT and SAT in October of their junior year. Other students wait until the spring of their junior year to take their first SAT. It is offered at the end of March and at the beginning of May and June, so students can prepare in winter. The last group of students prepare over summer and take the test in the fall of their senior year. The test dates in the fall of senior year are the last chance before college applications are due.

excerpted from a letter to the PTSA from Eureka, One-on-One Review (636-0100 or www.EurekaReview.com)

College Entrance Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

Online registration (payment by credit card) for:

SAT I & II tests: www.collegeboard.com **ACT test:** www.act.org

The Future Center has practice materials and paper applications and can help you determine which tests to take.

Upcoming Tests*	Test Date	Registration date ends	Late Registration with late fee by
SAT I & II	June 5, 2004	April 29, 2004	May 12, 2004
ACT	June 12, 2004	May 7, 2004	May 21, 2004

Are you done with your old calculator?

If your student no longer needs their TI83 graphing calculator, please consider donating it to the Samohi Math Department. Many students who are now taking higher math courses cannot afford to purchase their own calculator. We would like to have calculators that can be checked out (like library books) to these students. Please bring in no-longer-needed graphing calculators to Sue Kuwano in the main office or to Beverly Gleason. Thanks so much!

Mensaje de la Directora, Dr. Straus

Estimados Padres,
Las semanas finales del semestre son críticas para que los estudiantes terminen con éxito y responsabilidad. La atención de cada día es esencial y cada asignación es importante tomar seriamente. Estamos enviando todos los informes sobre las calificaciones a casa para estar seguros que usted los vea. Por favor haga contacto directo con el profesor de su niño si usted tiene preguntas. Para la ayuda académica general póngase en contacto con el consejero de su estudiante. Nuestras Intermediarias de la Comunidad están también disponibles para apoyarle.

Obligaciones

Una carta que indica las obligaciones de deudas del estudiante hacia la escuela será enviada los estudiantes con obligaciones de deudas no podrán terminar el proceso de matriculación hasta que regresen los materiales que deben. Los exámenes durante el mes de mayo son importantes para los estudiantes individualmente y para nuestra escuela y el distrito. El departamento de Educación de los E.E.U.U. asigna una tarifa de participación por los estudiantes por mandato de 95%. Requerirán a los estudiantes que están ausentes tomen los exámenes cuando regresen. Por favor ayúdenos asegurándose de que su niño asista a la escuela diariamente. Estos Exámenes son mandados por regulaciones locales y nacionales.

Les hemos recordados a los estudiantes que nosotros esperamos que ellos pasen todas sus clases, pongan al día todas sus deudas, y a la vez que tengan en mente que ciertas acciones pueden resultar en pérdida de privilegios y consecuencias disciplinarias. Por favor recuérdelo a hijo/a de su esperanzas de logros académicos y comportamiento apropiado en la escuela.

El primer año del Nuevo Diseño ha dado lugar a una nueva organización para la responsabilidad del estudiante y del personal y a un foco en el desarrollo profesional para mejorar habilidades de enseñanza educacionales. Continuaremos trabajando para construir una comunidad para el estudiante en cada casa, proporcionar intervención y la ayuda continua para los estudiantes que no tienen éxito académico, y a las mismas ofrecer oportunidades para los estudiantes que desean más clases académicas avanzadas. Estamos trabajando para fortalecer toda la comunidad de estudiantes de la escuela Samohi, conocer mejor a los estudiantes, y asegurarnos que todos los estudiantes tengan éxito académico. Muchas gracias por trabajar con nosotros en este esfuerzo y por su dedicación a la educación pública de calidad.

Atentamente,

Ilene Straus, Ed.D., Directora Ejecutiva Educacional/Directora

Mensaje de las Presidentas de la PTSA

Tendremos dos reuniones más de la PTSA este año escolar. El 11 de mayo, el Principal Analista de Educación de la organización RAND y padre en la escuela Samohi, Brian Stecher, presentará sobre los exámenes estatales. Tenemos muchos exámenes durante el mes de mayo y es importante para nuestra escuela que por lo menos el 95% de los estudiantes participen.

Ni el presupuesto del Estado de California, ni el de la Ciudad de Santa Mónica o el presupuesto del distrito de SMMUSD han sido aprobado. Esperamos que el presupuesto del próximo año no requiera dolorosos cortes y nos dediquemos a continuar a mejorar a la escuela Samohi para todos los estudiantes y sus familias.

Esperamos que usted y su estudiante hayan tenido un buen año y que lo sigan teniendo. Ha sido nuestro placer haberle servido como Presidentas de la PTSA. Muchas gracias por su apoyo.

Cheri Orgel, 451-1938, clorgel@aol.com

Louise Jaffe, 450-2487, lcjaffe@aol.com,

Presidentas de la PTSA de Samohi

Please note: Incluido en esta edición es un boletín de noticias de SMMUSD y del Consejo de la PTA, para ayudarle a entender cómo nuestras escuelas están haciendo y cómo gasta el presupuesto escolar. A medida que California continúa enfrentando un déficit del presupuesto enorme, nuestras escuelas llegan a estar más dependientes de la dedicación local a la educación pública de alta calidad. El informe incluido le deja saber cómo le está yendo al distrito SMMUSD.

The Viking Voice, May '04

¡Marque su Calendario!

¡Las últimas reuniones de la PTSA este año!

Martes, 11 de mayo, a las 7 p.m.

Martes, 8 de junio, a las 7 p.m.

Horario de los exámenes de AP para mayo 2004

Vea la página 2.

Además del horario de los exámenes especiales de AP, tendremos los exámenes del estado desde el 26 de abril al 21 de mayo.

Tendremos un horario especial que incluirá periodos en bloques, salidas tempranas y algunos días que se entrará temprano para el periodo A los miércoles. Les informaremos a su estudiante de los cambios en el horario. Para más información consulte:

<http://www.samohi.smmusd.org/Calendars/testdates.htm>

Theresa Luong, Coordinadora de Exámenes

395-3204 Ext 333, luong@smmusd.org

Los invitamos a una presentación de UCLA del Programa De Investigación De los Desórdenes Del Humor

❖
Mark Frye, M.D.

Profesor Asistente Psiquiatra, David Geffen Escuela de Medicina en UCLA Director, del UCLA del Programa De Investigación De los Desórdenes Del Humor

❖ **El Humor y Usted:**

Lunes, 17 de mayo, 2004, 7pm – 8:30pm, Cafetería de Samohi
Para más información llame a Joni al 310/794-9913

Inscríbese en las clases de ROP

(Programa Regional de Ocupación)

El Programa Regional de Ocupación ofrece un programa muy pequeño en el verano con la mayoría de las clases que son ofrecidas en el otoño y la primavera. Una lista de las clases disponibles para los adultos es incluida en la Red Municipal de Samohi (smmusd.org), o usted puede llamar la oficina de ROP directamente para más información. La inscripción del verano comienza en mayo, la inscripción del otoño comienza en agosto y la inscripción de la primavera comienza a los principios de enero. Se ofrecen clases de día y de tarde. Ofrecemos más de 40 clases en muchas carreras.

Para más información contacte:

MaryKay McCray, Consejero de ROP, 395-3204, ext 329

Yvonne Strahn, ROP Técnico, 395-3204, ext 457

ROP Office (mensaje electrónico) 395-9493

La Donaciones hacen una gran diferencia en la escuela Samohi

Se les da las gracias a las familias que contribuyeron a la Donación Directa de la PTSA y que llegaron antes del 23 de marzo, 2004 (la lista está en la página 5):

La Donaciones hacen una gran diferencia en la escuela Samohi (Mira la página 5 y vea cómo su Donación Directa ha hecho una diferencia en la escuela Samohi este año) Por favor continúe haciendo las Donaciones Directas, todavía no es tarde. Haga los cheques por cualquier cantidad a nombre de la PTSA y envíelo al 601 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Muchas gracias a todos los ejecutivos nuevo de la PTSA y a los muchos voluntarios que ya terminan en Samohi

Felicitemos a los ganadores de la competencia de Arte de la PTSA Reflejos:

Los ganadores de Samohi (vea la página 3)

No es muy tarde para recibir ayuda

Asistencia para el trabajo escolar después de clase con maestros de Samohi! Lunes a jueves, de 3:30-4:30 en el salón E101 (nuevo sitio). Este recurso tan valioso casi no es utilizado.

Asistencia con las Clases de AP

AP Cálculos	martes	3:30 – 5:00	Salón H215
AP Historia	miércoles	3:30 – 5:00	Salón H218
AP Inglés	jueves	3:30 – 5:00	Salón L206
AP Química	viernes	3:30 – 5:00	Salón T202

También hay ayuda por estudiantes de Samohi en matemáticas, ciencia, inglés. Los estudiantes pueden venir al salón S207 en la hora del almuerzo los jueves para recibir asistencia de voluntarios de la Sociedad Nacional de Honor.

Para más información sobre estos servicios en Samohi, por favor contacte **Wendy Wax Gellis**, *Consejera/Administradora*, 395-3204 ext 133 o vía correo electrónico gellis@smmusd.org.

Noticia de la Biblioteca

Nueva Horas: Lunes - jueves de 7:30am-5pm, viernes hasta las 4pm
Por favor regrese los textos y libros que se han vencido. Hay cientos de libros que se han vencido otros estudiantes lo necesitan. Por favor regréselos lo más pronto posible.

Se Anuncia la Lista de Lectura para el Verano

Siguiendo el concepto de la Ciudad de Santa Mónica donde la ciudad leyó, este verano la lista de lectura consistirá en un libro para todos: "A Yellow Raft in Blue Water" por el autor Michael Dorris. Para la lista completa puede ir a:

www.samohi.smmusd.org/english/htmls/summer_reading.htm

Ann McKechnie, 395-3204, ext 437 mckechnie@smmusd.org

Dana Bartbell, ext 262 bartbell@smmusd.org,

Bibliotecarias de Samohi

?Cuál es el mejor tiempo de SAT?

Class of 2006, El SAT está cambiando otra vez. El sistema de universidades UC pensó que los SAT no reflejaban exactamente la capacidad del estudiante en su primer año de la universidad y amenazó quitar la prueba de su proceso de la admisión. La nueva prueba será administrada a la clase de 2006, el primer ofrecimiento siendo en marzo 2005. Por lo tal, el sistema UC no aceptará los SAT corriente de la clase 2006 para propósito de entrada.

?Cuál es el mejor tiempo de SAT?

Los SAT son ofrecidos 7 veces al año y pueden ser tomar tantas veces como quiera. En Normalmente, los estudiantes lo toman 3 veces antes de solicitar a una universidad. Algunos estudiantes usan el verano antes de su tercer año como una oportunidad de adelantar. Las fechas para los exámenes en el otoño del último años del estudiante es la última oportunidad antes de que las solicitudes se venzan.

Exámenes Estatales CAT 6 2004

Los exámenes del estado llamados CAT6 van ha dárseles a los estudiantes **del miércoles, 28 de abril al viernes 21 de mayo**. Tenemos un horario especial para no interrumpir las clases demasiado y darle más tiempo de instrucción al estudiante. **University Early Assessment Program (EAP), un programa de evaluación temprano para las universidades del estado de California.** Esto le provee a los estudiantes la oportunidad de no tener que tomar el examen de entrada a los Cal State.

?Terminó con su calculador viejo? Si su estudiante ya no necesita más de su calculadora de representación gráfica T183, considere por favor el donarla al departamento de matemáticas de Samohi. Muchos estudiantes que ahora están tomando cursos más altos en matemáticas no pueden comprar su propia calculadora. Quisiéramos tener calculadoras que puedan prestarse (como los libros de la biblioteca) a estos estudiantes. Si ya no necesita su calculadora de representación gráfica T183, por favor tráigala a Sue Kuwano o Beverly Gleason.

Información de Matriculación en el verano

FECHAS DE MATRICULACIÓN:

Martes, 24 de agosto – Viernes, 27 de agosto.

Durante la matriculación los estudiantes tendrán la oportunidad de recoger su horario y reunirse con el consejero para ajustar el horario.

Cada grado se matriculará en diferentes fechas:

Grado 12º- martes 24 de agosto

Grado 11º- miércoles, 25 de agosto

Grado 10º- jueves, 26 de agosto

Grado 9º- viernes, 27 de agosto

No se le permitirá recoger su horario antes de la fecha asignada a su nivel de grado. La hora de la matriculación estará basada en el mes que nació el estudiante. Para que pueda tener matriculación sin problemas, por favor resuelva las deudas de obligaciones.

¡NECESITAMOS VOLUNTARIOS! Puede ayudarnos con cualquier cantidad de tiempo que tenga, por favor contacte a: Karen Dickerson @ akiwest2000@yahoo.com o Cynthia Cottam @ c33cottam@adelphia.net. (should we mention that Cynthia speaks spanish and include a phone number?)



FOR THE ARTS

UNA CELEBRACIÓN para las ARTES

14-16 de mayo en el Muelle de Santa Mónica (SM Pier)

Festival de Arte de los Estudiantes, una Gala para Recaudar Fondos, Concierto de Beneficio

- Marque su calendario para el festival de las artes ese fin de semana, mostrando los talentos de los estudiantes de Santa Mónica-Malibú.
- Viernes, 14 de mayo, 5:30-11:30 pm
- El viernes en la noche habrá un concierto por el cantante y compositor Jackson Browne. También se presentará la banda Venice.
- Sábado y domingo, 15 y 16 de mayo, 11am -5pm
- En el día los eventos el fin de semana incluirá actuaciones de los estudiantes, exhibición de arte y talleres relacionado con el arte, habrá comida de los restaurantes en el área. Estacionamiento gratis.
- Por favor contacte a Lauri Crane para hacerse voluntario 395-2665 or ojai5@aol.com. Para preguntas sobre la Fundación Educativa, por favor contact a Debbie Mulvaney al 828-3708 o mulv99@aol.com.
- please contact Samohi's Education Foundation liaison, **Debbie Mulvaney** at 828-3708 or mulv99@aol.com.

¡Cuarde esta fecha! Martes, 15 de junio, 7pm en la municipalidad de la ciudad (City Hall)

La Junta Directiva de la Ciudad se reunirá para adaptar el presupuesto.

La contribución de este año de \$5.25 millones de la ciudad de Santa Mónica permitió a nuestras escuelas mantener servicios vitales incluyendo la reducción de tamaño de la clase, la ayuda de la biblioteca, el oficio de enfermera, y la música. La calidad de todas las escuelas de SMMUSD incluyendo Samohi sigue siendo dependiente en el financiamiento continuo de la ciudad de Santa Mónica. Los miembros de la Junta Directiva de la ciudad necesitan de oír de parte de usted. ¡Escriba, llame, fax o envíe correo electrónico para animarlos a que apoyen a nuestras escuelas!

Santa Monica City Council
City Council Office #200, P. O. Office 2200, SM, CA 90407-2200
Phone: (310) 458-8201 Fax: (310) 458-1621
Email: Council@santa-monica.org

Important Summer Registration info . . . 1
 Last PTSA mtgs of the year . . . 1
 AP Test Schedule . . . 2
 Career/technical ROP classes . . . 2
 Summer reading . . . 3
 Finals are coming, get tutoring . . . 3
 Important college info for seniors . . . 4
 The New SAT for the class of 2006 . . . 4
 Grad Nite update . . . 5
 En Español . . . 6-7

Inside:

May 2004

WIKING VOICE

Parent Teacher Student Association



Calendar Please check the Samohi website at www.samohi.smmusd.org for more complete and updated information.



May

- 1 SAT I & II test given, 8 am (various locations, not Samohi)
Incoming 9th Grade Orientation, 9:30-11:30 am
- 3 AP testing begins (see page 2 for specific tests and dates)
- 4 **AAPSSSG Meeting, 6 pm, Cafeteria**
Grad Nite General Mtg, 7 pm, Cafeteria
- 5 CAT 6 Testing begins (May 5-21)
- 11 **Coffee with the Principals, 6:30 pm, cafeteria**
PTSA Meeting, 7 pm, Cafeteria
- 14 "Goodbye Charlie", Humanities Center, 3:45pm
- 14-16 Santa Monica-Malibu Ed Foundation "Celebration for the Arts" at the Santa Monica Pier
- 15 "Goodbye Charlie", Humanities Center, 8pm
- 16 "Goodbye Charlie", Humanities Center, 7pm
- 17 Mood and You: Understanding Depression And Bipolar Disorder
7pm – 8:30pm, Cafeteria (see page 3)
- 18 Site Governance Meeting, 5 pm
- 19 PTSA Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- 20 Senior Art Show, Roberts Gallery 7-9pm
Board of Education Meeting, City Hall, 7pm
- 21 "Goodbye Charlie", Humanities Center, 8pm
- 22 Senior Prom
- 24 **SOL/BAC Meeting, 7pm, Cafeteria**
- 27 **Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am, cafeteria**
Campus Tour, 8:45 am
- 29 Last Night of "Goodbye Charlie", Humanities Center, 8pm
- 31 **Memorial Day – no school**

June

- 3 **AAPSSSG Rites of Passage Ceremony, 7 pm, Cafeteria**
Seniors Honors Ceremony, 7 pm, Barnum Hall
- 8 **Coffee with the Principals, 6:30 pm, cafeteria**
PTSA Meeting, 7 pm, Cafeteria
Seniors Finals Week
- 9-11 **Seniors Finals Week**
- 14-17 **Finals Week**
14: Period 1 Final, regular day
15: Period 2 & 3 Finals, shortened day
16: Period 4 & 5 Finals, shortened day
17: Period 6 & A Finals, shortened day
- 15 Site Governance Meeting, 5 pm
- 16 Grad Nite Preview, 6-8pm, parents and community, no students!
- 17 Commencement 5:30 pm, Greek Theater
Grad Nite 9:30 pm to June 18, 5:30 am
- 18 **Last day of school**
- 28 **First day of Summer School (ends August 6)**

Fall Registration Dates (more info to be mailed home in July)
 August 24: **incoming Seniors** August 25: **incoming Juniors**
 August 26: **incoming Sophomores** August 27: **incoming Freshmen**

SOL/BAC* Latino Parent Group *Spirit Of Love/Bilingual Advisory Committee SOL/BAC's next meeting is May 24th.
Tere Viramontes-Gutierrez, Community Liaison, 395-3204, ext. 375

AAPSSSG (African American Parent Student Staff Support Group)
 Upcoming AAPSSSG meeting dates are the first Tuesdays of the month at 6 pm: *May 4, and June 1.*
Pam Allen Jones, Community Liaison, 395-3204, ext. 482, allen@smmusd.org
Barry Snell, 310/621-9961, bsnell-cpa@earthlink.net
Robbie Jones, 399-8575, AAPSSSG3@aol.com, AAPSSSG Co-presidents

Senior Art Show opens May 20 in Roberts Art Gallery
 Join us in our celebration of Samohi artists (who have completed at least four semesters of art). If you would like to contribute to our award program, please contact
Amy Bouse, Art Department Chair, 395.3204 ext 443, bouse@smmusd.org