PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Bettina E. Batista

Author

Ambrose Bierce once wrote, “Spring Beckons!” At BVH, the arrival of spring means testing. We have begun preparing for several important tests that lie before us in the coming weeks. By the time this edition of the Baron Banner reaches you, some of the major tests will have been completed. Sophomores and some juniors and seniors will have taken the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) in preparation of meeting the state’s requirement for high school graduation.

By the end of April only 11th grade students this year will have taken the new required state’s online school test known as SBAC or Smarter Balanced Assessments. After two years of piloting and testing the SBAC the state will finally release scores to the public. The new round of tests is tied to the new Common Core academic standards. The Common Core curriculum was formally implemented last year and it is a much more rigorous curriculum. The new tests will gauge student performance on the Common Core. In previous issues of the Baron Banner I have included information on what are the Common Core Standards. I encourage you to visit the California Department of Education’s website at http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/index.asp. As in the past, the results of these tests will partially determine our school’s ranking, or Academic Performance Index (API) which had been suspended for the last two years in anticipation of the new state test.

Bonita Vista High School is considered a high performing school primarily because of our high API score. Student and school test results will become available to you via the media, school communications, and a letter home. After receiving these scores, the school’s responsibility is to analyze the data, evaluate our instructional programs, and take the required steps to improve instruction.

This edition of the Baron Banner is the last one for the 2014-15 school year, therefore, for your planning purposes, please note that following SBAC testing, AP/IB testing will commence on May 1st and will continue until May 30th. The last day of school is June 5th and senior graduation will be held on June 3rd at the Sleep Train Amphitheater. The first day of school for students is July 22nd, 2015.

The school campus will undergo major exterior painting over the summer and, unfortunately, BVH will not be in a safe position to host our annual summer school transition program, “Step Up to High School” for incoming freshmen, but I expect to resume it next school year. This unique program was created and implemented nine years ago and has been highly successful. The program was designed to help 9th grade students have a successful transition to high school while providing academic enrichment in English, math and science. Watch for it next year!

The traditional Summer School Program will be held at Olympian High School for BVH students. Opportunities for credit recovery will be available for students who will be sophomores, junior and seniors next school year. Students who have failed a course or received a “D” will receive an application to sign-up for Summer School – Credit Recovery. Summer School will run from June 15th through July 10th (no school on July 3rd.)

The school year is moving along quickly and I encourage you to continue to maintain close contact with the school. I especially encourage senior parents to ensure their children are on track to graduate.

Finally, congratulations to the class of 2015! What an extraordinary group they have been. I have truly enjoyed being a part of their school lives over the last four years. As I have stated several times, I consider myself the most fortunate principal in the world! I am grateful for the gift of watching them become fine young men and women who will go...
out into the world and make it a better place for us all. Congratulations to the class of 2015 Co Valedictorians, Maïlda Hecht and Jessica Huggins and Salutatorian Jasmine Valencia! Lastly, Baron Parents, thank you always for your children.

Yours in education,

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Ms. Chris Alvarez
Mr. Ruben Baeza
Mr. Fernando Delgado
Ms. Ronne Pietila-Wiggs

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)
April 20th – May 1st

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) have replaced the CST’s and is the new state academic testing program. CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and career. Students in grade 11 will receive full-length tests for both English language arts/literacy and mathematics, with approximately four to five hours of total testing time for each student. Every device used for testing must have the secure browser installed. Students will be testing in their English and Social Science classes. Please visit the CDE’s Smarter Balanced Assessment System Web page for additional information about the Smarter Balanced Assessment System.

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/

ASB
Chris Alvarez
Assistant Principal

Prom
May 23rd, 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.
San Diego Zoo

Seniors, get ready for a night to remember! The Senior Prom will be held Saturday, May 23rd at the San Diego Zoo! Don’t miss the chance to dance the night away with your friends! The Senior Class will hold a two day sale on April 27-28, tickets will be $50. Tickets prices will go up the following day to $55.

Dance Rules

1. Students must enter and leave with their guests. Once you leave the dance there is no re-entry.

2. A photo ID is required to enter the dance.

3. Anyone who appears to be under the influence of any controlled substance will be subject to immediate disciplinary and possible police action.

4. No sexually explicit dancing (i.e. freaking, grinding, or dirty dancing) or any dancing which may cause disruption or injury (i.e. slamming or moshing) will be allowed.

5. Any person removed from a dance by school supervision staff will not be entitled to a refund.

6. Middle school students, regardless of age, are not permitted to attend any dance.

7. Guests 21 years old or above are subject to approval by an assistant principal.

8. All students and guests are subject to search by school officials prior to and/or during the dance.

9. All school rules apply at school-sponsored events for both students and their guests. Violations will result in consequences including but not limited to: detention, suspension, expulsion, and police action. Non-student violators may be subject to arrest and prosecution.

10. All students and guests are expected to dress appropriately. Anyone dressed inappropriately (which is determined at the discretion of the administration) will be denied admission to the dance.

Senior Clearance Days
May 26th – 27th Library
(Cash Only)

Seniors who still have outstanding fines will not receive their cap and gown and will not be allowed to graduate until the debt is paid. Make sure all fines are cleared prior to May 27th.
GRAD NITE
May 27th

Grad Nite buses will depart Wednesday, May 27th at 4:00 p.m. and will return on Thursday, May 28th at around 4 a.m. Ticket prices are $125 and will include round-trip bus fare and admission to Disneyland. Tickets will go on sale in the ASB April 29th. Don’t delay—space is limited! Be sure to abide by all of Disneyland’s Grad Nite rules (especially the dress code)—you don’t want to be denied admission at the gate!

RULES FOR THE ROAD

1. All students and their belongings will be searched prior to boarding the bus.
2. No food or drink of any kind will be allowed on the bus (1 bottle of water will be provided to each student on the bus if requested).
3. Students MUST show photo ID to board the bus.
4. Students MUST show RECEIPT to board the bus.
5. BVHS is not responsible for transporting students who miss the bus (either departing from school of departing from Disneyland).
6. Only BVHS students will be allowed on BVHS buses.
7. Students must board and return on the assigned bus—no switching buses!
8. Anyone who appears to be under the influence of any controlled substance will be subject to immediate disciplinary and possible police action.
9. All school rules apply for this event. Violations will result in consequences including but not limited to: detention, suspension, removal of senior privileges, etc.
10. BE SAFE SMART and SAFE! Have fun!

SENIOR PARENTS WANTED

If you are a parent of a senior at BVHS and would be willing to help chaperone Grad Nite at Disneyland, please contact the BVHS ASB at (619) 397-2050 for information. The seniors would also appreciate any help preparing for their Prom and for the Senior Banquet.

Senior Scholarships/Awards
May 28th at 6:00 p.m.
BVHS Gymnasium

Please join us as we honor our outstanding Seniors and recognize their achievements. This event will take place in the gymnasium. Light refreshments will be served.

Senior Breakfast/Cap and Gown Distribution
June 2nd, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
BVHS Quad

The Senior Breakfast/Cap and Gown Distribution will be held on Tuesday, June 2nd in the Quad from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Eat, sign yearbooks, pick up your cap and gown and enjoy this chance to all be together before Graduation! Herff Jones will distribute caps and gowns during the Senior Breakfast. You must have a photo ID to pick up your cap and gown!

Do not use gowns from prior years as these will vary in color and sheen. Remember to lightly iron your gown prior to graduation to get all those creases out!

SENIOR CAPS AND GOWNS

If you have yet to order your cap and gown for graduation, do so immediately!! Please contact Herff Jones ASAP, 619-440-5426.

Graduation Rehearsal
June 2nd at 1:15 p.m.
BVH Football Field

Seniors need to report the BVH football field by 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2nd for Graduation Rehearsal. You must have already cleared all fines in order to participate.

Graduation Ceremony
June 3rd at 9:00 a.m.
Sleep Train Amphitheater

BVHS Seniors will graduate on Wednesday, June 3rd, 9:00 a.m. at the Sleep Train Amphitheater. Participating seniors must arrive by 8:00 a.m. Graduates need to have all ASB and Library fines cleared in order to participate in the Graduation Ceremony.
COUNSELING CENTER

Community Service

Community service hours are due no later than Monday, May 4th. Thirty hours are required and must be turned in to the social science teachers ASAP.

Students taking Health online through BYU or SWC must turn in their transcripts to their counselor no later than Monday, May 11th.

Seniors planning to attend a four-year college must order their final transcript through the Registrar’s Office. All seniors will be given an order form in their English class in late May and the transcripts will be sent out as soon as final June grades are available.

2015-2016 Classes

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors have already registered for next year’s classes. Parents should have reviewed their student’s course selection form by now and students should have returned it to the Counseling Center with a parent signature if any changes were made. If a schedule change is desired, your student should notify his/her counselor now. The next and final opportunity to request a change will be at Orientation in July. Once school begins in July, changes can only be made by counselors for the purpose of balancing class size. Teachers may also make a recommendation for a class change by level; for example moving a student from a regular class to an accelerated course.

A few of our sophomores and juniors are choosing to attend summer classes at Southwestern College in order to take advantage of courses not offered by the high school to advance in their studies, or to earn college credits. To enroll in a college class, students must obtain a “High School Special” form from their counselor. The summer schedule of classes can be found on the Southwestern College website: www.swccd.edu

Summer is a great opportunity for students to complete their community service requirement of 30 hours of volunteer work. The Community Service Verification forms are available in the Counseling Center and on the school website. They should be returned to the student’s social science teacher. Community service opportunities can be found at: www.volunteermatch.org

Approximately 40% of our senior class each year will apply for admission to a four-year college. In preparation for the fall application cycle, juniors need to be mindful of several vital facts. The SAT Reasoning or ACT exams are required for admission to all 4-year colleges, preferably taken in the spring of the junior year. We recommend having at least one attempt at a test prior to the college application period. You can choose to take the test again in September or October, but you should have at least one attempt to put on your college applications. It is important to note that beginning with the Class of 2012 and beyond, the SAT Subject exams are no longer required by the University of California campuses. However, some campuses recommend that students vying for slots in competitive majors take the tests to demonstrate subject proficiency (ex: Math or Science major). Some private schools may also use the SAT Subject exams for admission.

Students may register for college entrance exams through these sites: SAT and SAT Subject Exams: www.collegeboard.com

ACT website: www.actstudent.org

If a student has earned a “D” or “F” grade in a college preparatory class (English, social science, math, science, foreign language, visual or performing arts) then that class must be repeated for a higher grade. A rigorous schedule of classes in the senior year demonstrates to a college admissions officer that the student is serious and hard-working: a good indicator of how successful he/she will be in college.

Enrolling in transfer programs from community colleges to 4-year colleges is another popular choice for many seniors. Southwestern College works closely with BVH seniors in assisting them in the application process, taking the English and math placement tests, and choosing classes to meet the transfer requirements. For students who do not require remediation in either math or English, the transfer program can be completed with two years of full-time study at Southwestern. The best way to avoid remediation is for students to take rigorous course work in the senior year, including math and science classes.

Summer is also a good time to tackle the first draft of the college essay. All campuses of the University of California and many private colleges require one. To get some ideas and
view sample essays, students can access a free online course: www.essayedge.com

University of California Eligibility in the Local Context for Bonita Vista High School Students

Although Bonita Vista High School is home to many exceptional students, there are only a few who are ranked in the top 9 percent of their class. Many of these top students will be applying to various universities including those that are within the University of California system. The University of California has created the Eligibility in the Local Context Program in order to assist these high achievers.

Within this program, Bonita Vista High first determines which students rank in the top 12.5% of their class at the end of the fall semester in their junior year. In May, these students receive a letter requesting parental permission for BVH to release their transcripts to UC. The permission slips are due by May 15th, 2015. During the summer, UC will evaluate those transcripts according to classes taken as well as GPA earned, and will determine which students are ranked in the top 9 percent.

Sometime in September/October of their senior year students who are accepted into the program will receive notification.

At this point one might ask what students will gain from the ELC Program. Students that are accepted into the program are guaranteed admission into a UC campus although not necessarily at the campus of their choice. Additionally, students who are not accepted into the program may still apply to UC, by the November deadline of their senior year.

For more specific information about the ELC Program please see the following website: http://www.ucop.edu/sas/elc, or you may contact Ms. Lorena Serrano in the BVH Counseling Center at (619) 397-2020.

California Scholarship Federation (CSF) News

Congratulations once again to our 72 CSF Lifetime Members and 29 Potential Members for the 2014-2015 school year. The CSF Potential members will be notified on the last week of May if their final semester grades qualified them as Lifetime Members. All CSF Lifetime Members will be invited to a special reception on June 1st in honor of all the students’ hard work and dedication to their studies. At the CSF reception, students will receive their CSF stoles, pins, and certificates which they will wear at the graduation ceremony where they will also be recognized.

IB/AP COORDINATOR
Thomas Dunn

Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Testing
May 5 - 22, 2015

As AP/IB testing approaches, students will find the need to study just a bit more in order to review and prepare for their exam(s). These exams may determine their status for college admission, or reward of college credits, for their respective universities. Students will be feeling the stresses and enormity of these exams and we must be as supportive and encouraging as we can in order to help our students prepare. An all-night cramming session will NOT yield better results; in fact, studies show the contrary. Students can best be prepared by doing the following:

- Get plenty of rest the night before
- Eat a breakfast (yes, food is fuel for the mind!)
- Arrive at the test site early; be prepared
- Have a healthy snack between tests
- Exercise, or do some other type of release from test preparation, to reduce stress
- Don’t cram a year’s worth of review into one night!

Good Luck!

On another note, during testing all students must adhere to attendance policies. If a student will be missing school to prepare for exams, a parent-signed note must be submitted to the attendance office. Morning testing sessions will begin at 7:10 a.m. (Period 1). If a student needs to be excused after the test, an Off Campus Permit will be granted with a signed parent note. If a student arrives late to school for the
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afternoon testing sessions (which begin at 1:15 p.m. Period 6) again a note excusing the morning absence must be submitted. All unexcused absences will result in truancies.

Students who are granted an Off Campus Permit must retain the pass on their person at all times. The Chula Vista Police Department is often out in force and will ticket truancy up to fines of $275. Only senior FULL IB Diploma Candidates will be allowed an Off Campus Permit for the duration of their examination session, but a parent signed note MUST still be provided to Mr. Dunn prior to testing. If you have any questions, please contact Thomas Dunn at 397-2006.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
Mary Anderson

The library is open until from 7 am to 3:30 pm when school is in session. The Library Homework Center remains open until 4:30 pm Monday and Wednesday with other days as staffing permits. Studies show that students who read achieve higher standardized test scores. Please encourage your students to read. The LMC has a wide selection of new books and forty online computers for homework and research.

End of Year Book Return

All students must return all books in good condition no later than the day of the final for that class. Books that are not needed for finals can be returned earlier; students should check with their teachers to determine when to return books for a given course. Any lost or damaged books must be paid for with cash or money order prior to the final.

Seniors must have a clear library record to participate in graduation and to get their BVHS diplomas. Seniors should clear outstanding debt and return books already overdue as soon as possible to avoid placement on the Options list. Students returning to BVHS next year should also return books no later than the day of the final and pay for lost/damaged materials prior to the final.

NOTE: Ask Mrs. Anderson for details about book replacement. It might be an option that could cost less.

End of the Year IPAD Return

All 9th graders must return iPads in good condition. If a student has a cracked screen, the cost is $49 cash or money order to get the screen replaced. Do not wait until the end of the year to return it if you know that an iPad screen is cracked!! The exact details for iPad return will be sent home as soon as the procedures are finalized districtwide. Watch for more iPad info after May 1!

ONLINE RESOURCES

*Proquest Databases
http://www.proquestk12.com
Username: bvistahs
Password: chulavista
1. Click on My Products Page.
2. Click on the database that you want to access and follow the directions: elibrary Curriculum edition, CultureGrams online, History Study Center, Proquest Learning, Literature, & SIRS.
NOTE: Choose one type of source rather than all at once.

NoodleTools
This is a tool to guide students through the research paper. Students who used this resource at Bonita Middle School can access their account from previous years.
http://www.noodletools.com
Username: bvhsstudent
Password: crusader

Book Donations
Looking for donations. Special thanks are extended to parents and students who have donated books and magazines. Teachers appreciate getting age-appropriate magazines for classroom use. Contact librarian Mary Anderson 619-397-2030 if you have items to donate.

Library Volunteers

Parent and community volunteers are welcome in the library throughout the school year. We have many tasks ranging from simple shelving of books to barcoding and data entry. The last two weeks in the spring and the first two weeks of the school year are especially busy times. Call 619-397-2030 if interested in volunteering in the library.
Notes from the Nurse
Paola Garcia

Medications

Any medications brought to the Nurses office should be picked up at the end of the school year. The new Physician’s Authorization for Medication at School forms are also available for pick up for the next school year. Students are not allowed to carry any meds on campus – except asthma inhalers, Epi-pen and diabetic supplies.

Immunization Records

If you have a graduating senior it is very important that you have at least a copy of their Immunization record. Once students exit high school all health files are taken to storage and accessing them becomes extremely difficult. If you need a copy, contact the school nurse by the last week of school.

Sport Physicals

If you have a student participating in a fall sport, its highly recommended they get the sports physicals done in the summer.

PTSA

Aloha from PTSA! Our current membership total is 148, an increase of 29 from last year. Every member counts and we would be thrilled to have you join us! Only ten dollars. (Thank you to all who have come out to support our Association Meetings.)

Last year we were happy to present 7 Senior Scholarships along with 2 Teacher’s Mini-Grants. We’re excited to see what this year brings. The deadline for applications was April 24, 2015.

We have hosted three Most Improved Breakfasts so far. The fourth is scheduled for April 29th. These are special opportunities to celebrate the hard work from Bonita Vista High students. (PTSA membership is not a requirement for recognition.)

We love our teachers and staff, and we try to find ways to express our gratitude. Wednesday, May 6th we will offer our wonderful staff a scrumptious salad bar luncheon. PTSA will supply green salad along with toppings. Donations of other salads and desserts would be appreciated. Please contact bvhsptsa@gmail.com or phone (619) 482-8426.

Corsages and boutonnieres will be available for prom. Only $20 for a set. (Individually $15 & $8.) Orders and payments will be collected Monday, May 11th and Tuesday, May 19th during lunch in front of the ASB office.

This year we were blessed with an eight hundred dollar grant to increase students participation in the Reflections program. The theme is “Let your imagination fly.”

We had a glitch with our website at bvhsptsa.org, however, information about PTSA is posted at bvhs.sweetwaterschools.org.

Have a glorious summer, and we’ll see you back again in July.

Thank you,
Connie L. Struiksma