

The NORTH CANYON NEWS

Paradise Valley Unified School District No. 69

1700 E. Union Hills Dr. • Phoenix, AZ 85024 • (602) 449-5000 • <http://cmweb.pvschools.net/nchsweb/>

Carol Pollack, Principal

“Student Learning is the Center of Everything We Do!”

December 2008

Message from the Principal ...

By Carol Pollack

As we evaluate and reflect on the past year and look towards 2009, one thing is eminently clear; in an ever changing world, the goal at North Canyon High School remains the same, the education and preparation of your daughter/son for life after high school.

When I witness the many changes; the volatile economy, the change in leadership in Washington, I am encouraged by the changes and the implementation of different programs to prepare NCHS students to be lifelong learners.

A highlight of some of the programs at NCHS to prepare all students for life after high school include:

- AIMS tutoring for the Reading and Writing test in February, 2009, and Math in April, 2009.
- Cornell note-taking in all classes.
- AVID program (Advancement Via Individual Determination) offered for all four grade levels.
- International Baccalaureate programs - Diploma program and Middle Years Program.
- Freshman First Mentoring Program.
- Advanced Placement Program, with over eighteen course offerings.
- National Honor Society - Free tutoring for all students every Thursday after school in the Media Center.
- Peer Mediation Program. (Continued on Page 2)

PVUSD Early Release Professional Development Days

Professional Staff Development consists of a quality training plan, focused on continuous instructional improvement with concentrated follow-up and support.

NCHS student dismissal will be at 11:30 a.m. for the following three Professional Development Days:

● TAKING
time **OUT**

- January 13
- February 10
- April 28

Tax Credits

To receive an income tax credit, you can contribute up to \$200 (\$400 per married couple). Extra curricular activities such as sports, chorus, band, orchestra, speech, Academic Decathlon, and certain field trips are eligible. Forms are available in the front lobby. You can mail or bring the completed form to the Bookstore for your tax credit.

To receive the 2008 tax credit, it must be turned in to the Bookstore by December 19, 2008, or mailed to NCHS no later than December 31, 2008. Checks should be made payable to North Canyon High School. Please note that the Bookstore is closed every day from 12:35 to 1:35 p.m.



“FULFILL THE PROMISE!”

2009 PVUSD GOVERNING BOARD

Anne Greenberg, President

Nancy Case

Jill Hoogendyk

Tom Ohmart

Sue Skidmore, Ed.D.

Members

Principal's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

As with any effective program, it is the leadership of the program that truly makes it successful. I am extremely appreciative of the teachers and staff members that devote many hours to ensure that the students are successful and able to reach their goals.

Although I have only mentioned seven valuable programs at North Canyon High School, there are many more instructional opportunities for your daughter/son to improve his/her skills to become a 21st century learner. I encourage you to visit our website at <http://cmweb.pvschools.net/nchsweb/> for instructional, athletic, as well as performing and visual arts programs for your student.

I am honored to be your principal and encourage you to call (602-449-5002) or e-mail me with any questions and/or concerns you might have. As the North Canyon marquee states, "Student learning is the **center** of everything that we do." All the teachers, coaches, administrators, and staff members keep this statement at the forefront of their work at North Canyon—it is always about student learning.

I hope that you have a safe and enjoyable holiday season with your family and friends.



Happy Holidays!

NCHS Students Selected for 2009 All-State Jazz Choir

More than 350 students auditioned in November for a spot in the 2009 All-State Jazz Choir. Two of our North Canyon students, Joy Gunderson and Chris Cleveland, were selected for this honor. The vocal jazz ensemble represents the top jazz vocalists in our state. They will perform in conjunction with the Arizona Music Educator's Convention in January.



EXAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 17, 2008

Announcements - 7:30 - 7:35
 Period 1 - 7:35 - 8:36
 Period 3 - 8:46 - 9:48
 Period 7 - 9:58 - 11:00
 Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 18, 2008

Announcements - 7:30 - 7:35
 Period 2 - 7:35 - 8:36
 Period 4 - 8:46 - 9:48
 Period 6 - 9:58 - 11:00
 Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, December 19, 2008

Teacher Workday - No School for Students

AIMS Test Dates

Writing Test → Tuesday, February 24, 2009
 Reading Test → Wednesday, February 25, 2009
 Math Test → Wednesday, April 1, 2009
 Science Test → Thursday, April 2, 2009

Parents of Graduating Seniors: "Class of 2009"

A \$25 graduation fee is required to participate in the commencement ceremony. Cash or checks (made payable to NCHS) may be paid in the Bookstore. This fee will help with the expenses of the ceremony, such as the sound system, chair/stage rental, and security.



Sign up for eScrip to Support North Canyon Area Dollars for Scholars.

It's easy to sign up at <http://www.escrip.com>. From the main page, select "#1 – Sign up" and enter either "North Canyon" to search by Group Name or 2071608 as the Group ID. Choose to donate (at no cost to you) by linking your Safeway grocery card and debit or credit cards. Participating merchants, such as Macy's, Eddie Bauer, Barnes & Noble and Circuit City, will contribute a percentage of what you spend on the registered cards to Dollars for Scholars. If you have previously registered your card(s), check to make sure that your registration is current, as the system requires annual confirmation.

Annual Silent Auction and Casino Night

The Eighth Annual Silent Auction and Casino Night will be held in Spring, 2009. This adults-only event is the primary fund-raiser for the organization, with all proceeds benefiting the NCADFS scholarship foundation. It will be an entertaining evening, including cocktails, dinner and silent auction. In previous years, a variety of items have been auctioned, ranging from theme baskets and restaurant or travel certificates to locally produced works of art. Contact us to receive an invitation or purchase tickets—see contact information below. We also need auction item

donations—if you work at a company that contributes to nonprofit activities or would be able to contribute items to be auctioned, such as restaurant or theater gift certificates, hand-made crafts, certificates for services, such as tutoring, car wash, or spa, etc., let us know using the contact information below or leave a note in our box at NCHS. We would be happy to pick up any auction items.

Do you have a used laptop you could donate?

We are looking for someone who can donate a laptop to NCADFS to create a centralized and mobile location for storing our organization's financial software and data. If so, let us know using the contact information below or leave a note in our mailbox located in the NCHS office.

Does your employer offer United Way or match contributions?

You can assign your United Way contributions exclusively to North Canyon Area Dollars for Scholars by choosing agency #1247 on your donor form. If your employer offers matching contributions (like The Capital Group), your contribution may be eligible for matching employer donations.

Reminder.

Applications for NCADFS scholarships will be available in the Guidance Office in February, 2009.

Phone: 602/363-3487
E-mail: ncadfs@cox.net
Fax: 602/494-2688

North Canyon Dollars for Scholars is a tax-exempt, charitable organization under IRS code section 501(c)(3).

Direct Phone Nos.

Front Desk.....	602-449-5000
Carol Pollack, Principal.....	449-5002
Arthur Greenway, Asst. Principal - Grades 11-12.....	449-5022
Craig Lahlum, Asst. Principal - Grade 9.....	449-5032
Anita Stulc, Asst. Principal - Grade 10 (L-Z).....	449-5042
Eric Comer, Dean of Students - Grade 10 (A-K).....	449-5001
Robert Black, IB Diploma Program.....	449-5073

Jean Davis, Middle Years Program Coordinator.....	449-5074
Athletics.....	449-5023
Attendance.....	449-5001
Bookstore.....	449-5019
College & Careers.....	449-5051
Counseling.....	449-5015
Media Center.....	449-5010
Nurse.....	449-5003
Special Education.....	449-5046
Yearbook.....	449-5028

2008-09 PVUSD Calendar

THIRD QUARTER

Jan. 5 Third Quarter Begins
Jan. 13 Staff Development Day -
Student Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
Jan. 19 MLK/Civil Rights Day - No School
Jan. 26-30 K-8 Parent Conferences
Jan. 29-30 K-8 Early Dismissal
Feb. 10 Staff Development Day -
Student Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 16 Presidents' Day Recess - No School
Feb. 20 Senior Panoramic Picture - 10 a.m.

Mar. 13 Third Quarter Closes

FOURTH QUARTER

Mar. 16-20 Spring Break - No School
Apr. 10 & 13 Spring Recess - No School
Apr. 28 Staff Development Day -
Student Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
May 25 Memorial Day Recess - No School
May 26-27 Gr. 9-12 Early Dismissal/Exams
May 27 Last Day of Classes
K-12 Early Dismissal
Commencement - 7:30 p.m.
NCHS Football Stadium

PVUSD Technology Prepares Students for the Future

PVLearners provides on-line communication and collaboration for the PVUSD community as a result of a partnership with Google. The web site address is: <http://www.pvlearners.net/>, or the link can be found on the NCHS web site. Each student and teacher in the District is provided a g-mail account, which will be used for communication with each other. Students and teachers log in using their pOGB (grade book) user name and their external password. The external password can be found by students when logging in to their pOGB account using their internal password. Each person's g-mail address is: pogbusername@pvlearners.net.

PVLearners provides many useful tools for teachers and students in addition to e-mail. There are calendars, blogs and wikis, as well as the ability to create documents, spreadsheets and presentations that can be shared for collaborative projects. The log-in page has training videos on how to use the Google applications. It's a tremendous opportunity to prepare students for the future.

Faculty Follies

Winter season, basketball season, even flu season can't compare to Faculty Follies season, where your faculty shows everyone that there is no business like show business. The proceeds go to senior grad night. Don't miss out; come to the Faculty Follies at 7:00 p.m. on January 22, 2009, in the NCHS Auditorium.

NCHS Presents It's First Book Club Evening

North Canyon presents its first Book Club Evening on Monday, January 26, 2009, from 6-7:00 p.m. in the NCHS Media Center.

There has been a general decline in reading among teenage and adult Americans. Reading is a powerful tool that promotes academic achievement. We would like to encourage our students to join their teachers to discuss the following four books: *Nineteen Minutes*, by Jodi Picoult; *Friday Night Lights*, by H. G. Bissinger; *Twilight*, by Stephenie Meyer; and *If I Die in Juarez*, by Stella Pope Duarte. Please sign up in the Media Center.

Parents/Faculty/Staff—If you would like to donate a copy of one of these books, please drop the book(s) off at the front desk. Thank you for your support.

PTSA MEETING—Supporting and representing all parents, students, teachers, and staff at NCHS.

Monday, January 12, 2009
4:00 p.m.

For more information, please check the "Parents" link on the school web site.

<http://cmweb.pvschools.net/nchsweb/>

GET INVOLVED!