

AV SOAR High School Quarterly Newsletter



3041 West Ave. K
Lancaster, CA 93536
Ph: 661-722-6509
Fax: 661-6583

Administration and Staff

Principal	Mr. Michael Dutton
Counselor	Mrs. Nancy Speaks
Secretary	Ms. Patty Campbell

Math, Science & Engineering Club

The iClub, SOAR High School's Math, Science & Engineering Club, has just crossed an extremely significant milestone. Since its inception at the beginning of this school year, the iClub has focused on preparing students with the necessary skills to succeed in college and in their careers in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) fields.

One of the ambitious goals set by the iClub was to provide at least one hands-on activity in each of the aforementioned STEM fields before the end of the year. Just recently, the iClub has been able to cover each of these fields. In science, the iClub organized the guest appearance of Mr. Carlos Hernandez, an AVC Chemistry Professor. The members were extremely delighted to learn more about chemistry through the various live demos which included the use of liquid nitrogen, electrolysis, and the combustion of magnesium metal.

In technology, Lancaster High School's Eagle Robotics Team 399 was invited to demonstrate their incredible Tin Man robot; also, some iClub members were able to visit Eagle Robotics' remarkable machine shop and animation studio. In engineering, students engaged in a spaghetti-and-marshmallow building competition and in the examination of a computer chip.

Lastly, in mathematics, iClub members had a fun time creating a linear regression to predict a safe height from which to drop a doll on a bungee cord without it hitting the floor. However, the remarkable achievements of the iClub do not stop there. With just two fundraisers, the club has raised enough money to pay for tickets and travel expenses for 30 members to attend the Six Flags Math & Science Day on May 15. In addition, the iClub's advisors are currently working on implementing Robotics into the AVID curriculum in order to keep with SOAR High School's focus on the STEM fields.

The iClub's founding student and President, Joshua Mendoza, could not be happier when he stated, "It is thanks to all of the hard work and dedication of all our wonderful members and advisors that we have been able to achieve these incredible milestones... and the year isn't even over".

From the Principal's Desk...



Parents and Students,

A belated **Happy New Year!**

By now you have received a phone call to check for this newsletter, our new online publication. Mr. Kirkwood, one of our parents, is our newsletter editor and will welcome any information sources for our publication. Mr. Kirkwood is also our School Site Council president and is actively involved in SOAR. He and his wife have two students in our program and the family is deeply committed to the school.

In the past year plus since our last newsletter we have experienced many changes. One change was the "Teleparent" system which we use quite often to communicate with all of you. We have also gotten a new data management information system called Power School. It offers many features and allows you as parents to access information about your child at any time. I hope it has been helpful to all of you.

We have been in our new location just over a year now. With so much construction around us it has been a chore. But as projects begin to reach

completion stages, there appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Things are beginning to look rather nice.

Spring will be upon us very soon and I want to remind the sophomores of the High School Exit Exam in March, the freshmen of the P.E. Testing in April, and the entire school of the California Standards Testing in April.

Spring is always a challenge with busy schedules and good weather. We are also looking forward to our first senior class graduating ceremony at Littlerock High School on June 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

Have a great spring and the end of a very productive and successful year.

Mr. Dutton
Principal
SOAR High School

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Students, public displays of affection (PDA) have become a problem at SOAR. In your student handbook on page 14, it is spelled out that a warning is the first and minimum action taken in the discipline phase. The next or maximum consequence is suspension. If behavior is determined to be flagrant enough to be suspended, you could be removed from the program. With H1N1 flu virus a serious concern - **STOP** all hugging and be mindful of personal space along with the health of yourselves and of others. You are considered **on-campus** when you are on either the SOAR campus or AVC campus. Both are part of your program. **Let it be noted, you have been officially warned.**

Students Corner

Starting fall semester 2009-10, if you register for a college class – then withdraw or drop the class – there will be a fifty dollar (\$50) book charge. This will be payable to AV College in Dr. Zimmerman’s office and must be paid before you can be registered for any other college classes.

If you only have one college class and you drop/withdraw you will be considered out of compliance with the curriculum and may be removed from the program.

We are a **Closed Campus**, which means you may not go off campus for any reason until your parent/guardian picks you up at the end of the day or signs you out through the office. Leaving campus could result in your receiving a truancy ticket.

Students – please be sure to read the dress code in you planner. Flip flops, spaghetti straps, short shorts/skirts, pajama bottoms, low cut tops, anything depicting death/drugs/violence, etc. will result in a call home for either different clothes to be brought to school for you to change or being sent home for the day.

Cell Phones – Must be turned off during school day (both high school and college days). They are not allowed during lunch, to check the time, etc. They may be confiscated and may require parent pick-up.

Penny War – The Penny War is here!!! The AVID class with the most money at the end of three weeks gets a game day and no binder checks for a week! So start donating your loose change and dollar bills.....pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills are all acceptable. Good luck and may the best AVID class win!

Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors Only! – If you have not done your Reading & Writing AVC Assessment, please make sure it is done by November 10th. We must have updated assessment scores for registration tentatively set for Monday, November 16th.

Yearbook – Get your yearbook now! Almost one-hundred (100) pages, all color, and hard cover! Purchase a yearbook in the office for the presale price of \$50.00. Your yearbook can be personalized by having your name, nickname, or symbols stamped on the cover for an additional five dollars (\$5).

Bulletin Announcements (Students and Staff) need to be to Mrs. Campbell by noon on Thursday to be in Monday Bulletin. If it is a club or class announcement, it must be signed by advisor.

Protect Our Planet!!!!

- Take the Edison Challenge!

Interested in participating in an ecological challenge? Need an advisor – I can advise up to five (5) teams.



Informational meeting will be held on Monday, October 5th at 12:00 noon in S-1. All grade levels are eligible.

“Do you want to be a marine biologist; A dolphin trainer; or an ecologist?” You can get a preview of life as

a scientist on our Dive-In: Life in the Field program, where you will interact with Florida’s rare animals and unique environment. Stop by the office and pick up a packet. View the online presentation at www.worldstrides.org/parentpresentation. Stop by S-1 before or after class! Next meeting will be October 6th at 12:00 noon in S-1, come join us.

The Debate Club meets every Tuesday at 4:30 in room S5 (Mr. Small’s room). It’s not too late to join. If you have any questions ask Hadrian Kirkwood or Ashley Benn. JOIN NOW!!!

The program offers students in grades 6-12 in Southern California Edison service territory the opportunity to take a hands-on approach to improving K-12 science education. Students are challenged to create projects focusing on an area of environmental science to compete for great prizes. Project topics must be based on the theme of “Energy and the Environment” and must include a community service component, create and teach a lesson plan for the topic, develop a creative presentation for the project, submit a research proposal and a portfolio of the completed project.

All freshmen are completing Edison Challenge projects as part of their AVID elective. Several of the sophomore, junior, and senior students are working on Edison Challenge projects independently.

The top projects will be given the opportunity to be submitted to the Edison Challenge competition this spring. Last year a team from SOAR took second place in the Edison Challenge and won a week-long trip to the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

SOAR Ambassador’s – Ambassador’s are needed to volunteer for the college’s “Making It Happen”. This is an event that gives 7th and 8th grade students a chance to know what college is all about. This event is being held on Saturday, October 31st from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be a table set up for SOAR to explain our program. If you attend this event, breakfast and lunch will be provided. You also will be given a t-shirt and volunteer hours for working the event. Please contact Mrs. Speaks for more information.

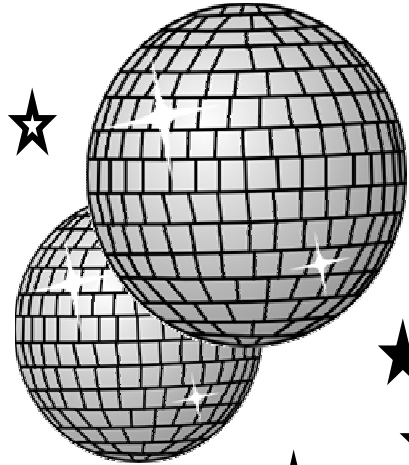
**AVUHSD ANTELOPE VALLEY
UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**



"Where Education Meets The Flight of Reality"

The Edison Challenge is an exciting educational program created by Edison International, the parent company of Southern California Edison, and the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies.

Students on Academic Rise



SOAR High School's

First Annual Prom!!!

PROM NITE



Mark Your Calendar and Save This Date

April 23rd

All SOAR Students are invited to an evening of dinner and dancing!!!

Working with Teenagers

Helping your Teen to Succeed in School

Disclaimer: Neither The Antelope Valley School District, SOAR High School nor Antelope Valley College makes nor representations whatsoever about the information provided in the article below and cannot guarantee the quality, content, accuracy, or completeness of the information



To succeed in school and work, teenagers need to know they are capable of doing a good job.

Teachers working daily with middle school and

high school students report that the most important "school supply" a teenager can bring to school is a "Can Do" attitude. As a parent, you play a major role in building confidence in your children. Here are some ways to do that:

- Be generous with praise -- Try to make five positive comments for each negative one. Don't be insincere, but look carefully for things your teen does right. Comment on these first -- then approach the negative in a positive way.
- Encourage "personal best" -- Help by encouraging them to do their "personal best" in school and at home. Remember: "personal best" does not mean "Perfect;" learning is not the same as high grades; and children, like adults, must be free to make mistakes and learn from them.
- Let your priorities show --Your attitude toward school attendance, education and involvement in the school makes a strong and lasting impression
- Keep skeletons in the closet --If you want your youngster to succeed don't provide such excuses as, "I was never any good at math either."
- Show interest in schoolwork --Talk about school each day. Ask to see class work,

encourage your teenager to discuss new ideas and defend his or her opinions. Express your pride in their expressed views and demonstrated skills. Show interest and appreciation.

- Don't pressure your teen --Pressure results from comparing one person with another. Inspire a young person to perform to his or her own "personal best." Have specific suggestions on how to do better:
 - Reading the assignment when it's given.
 - Keeping a list of new vocabulary.
 - Proofreading material to catch errors, before writing a final draft.
 - Outlining a chapter to prepare for a class.
 - Reviewing notes before a test.

- Help set goals --At the beginning of each quarter or semester of the school year ask your teenager to identify three or four goals (You could settle for just one!) Put the goals where the teenager can refer to them often.


(The refrigerator is a good spot.) Make sure goals are more specific than just "better grades.

<http://pmct.org/helpsucceed/teens.html>



All students are required to wear their lanyard and ID when on campus. This is required both when attending high school or college classes.

SOAR On with The SOAR High School AVID Club

 As a part of their AVID class community service component, SOAR freshmen Leah Stanley and Kai Hicks recently cleaned up the area around Lake Elizabeth during last fall semester. Way to go girls!

SOAR freshman have read *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers and are participating in a class debate concerning the ethics of the lead character's actions. Adelaide Crocket and Daryan Blas's closing comments included these: Even if Steve didn't give the signal, he still had intentions of participating in the robbery. Once he got into the store, if he



changed his mind and no longer wanted to be involved, then he should have informed the store owner or the police about the intended robbery.

After the debate, for homework, students researched accomplice law and used the information they gained to write a paragraph explaining whether or not Steve holds any responsibility for the death of store owner, Alguinaldo Nesbitt.

The Junior Class held a fundraiser at the Brunswick Bowl and raised over \$500 for SOAR High School's first prom. Kritika Misra and Leo Liwag spearheaded this exciting fundraiser and a good time was had by everyone

The SOAR High School AVID club helped put on a successful Parent Information Night on September 10th. AVID club members volunteered their time to work at a registration table, snack table and as assistants to the workshop presenters. Mrs. Speaks presented information about high school graduation requirements, A thru G requirements, and Antelope Valley College IGETC requirements. Mrs. Norman, the AVID Coordinator and English 10 teacher presented a basic overview of the AVID program and how it supports SOAR students. Mr. Small, the US History teacher and Dr. Beyer, AVC faculty, presented the expectations and differences between attending high school and college. Thanks AVID Club!

The SOAR High School AVID Club completed a fundraiser for Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF. They presented a short video in AVID classes explaining UNICEF and the work they do to provide food, water and immunizations to the world's most needy children. All proceeds collected will go directly to UNICEF to support their lifesaving efforts.



Six Flags Trip Coming Soon!!!
March 19th

Students on Academic Rise