

Pursuing Educational Excellence in a Caring, Positive Environment.

Helix Charter High School PTSA

HELIX HI-LITES

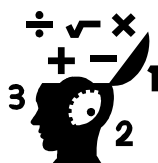
Volume XLXII, Issue 3
Principal: Douglas D. Smith

Foothills Secondary Council, Ninth District, Inc., CCPTS
PTSA President: Lori Free-Trout

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Editor: Pam Davis

Does Your Student Need Help In Math?

Mathematics tutoring is offered after school by Helix Math teachers. Tutoring is every Monday - Thursday from 2:50 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Two Helix math teachers are available each day to help.



President's Message

Dear Friends,

Make sure that your students are getting the most out of Helix that they can. The school is rich in clubs, sports, Band, Choral Groups, spirit events and extracurricular activities. One way to get more out of education is to become involved in activities outside the classroom.

Inside the classroom, Helix continues to be a leader in offering help to students who can benefit from more attention from their teachers. Most teachers are available either before or after school, during their lunch or prep period and on Wednesday morning for tutorial. The Library is open after school and there is help for your students there too. The Math department has a set schedule for after school tutoring also.

Other tools to aid you in helping your student are the PTSA Handbook and the Helix Website.

Don't forget that your student has an advisor and meets with that staff member every Wednesday. Often times, the advisor can assist you if you need additional help.

The point is, if you feel that your student needs help, seek it early, before a problem escalates out of control. Good luck.

Lori Free-Trout
Helix PTSA President

Crime Stoppers Comes to Helix High School REWARDS OFFERED!

Up to \$1000 can be earned for information leading to arrests. Students, Parents and Community Members are encouraged to report information of wrong doing or potential violence.

Other attempts to create a confidential means of reporting rumors, threats and other crimes have gone unused or unnoticed by the Helix Community. A 911 campus hotline and anonymous tip boxes are not being used according to Office Wood, Helix's School Resource Officer.

Crime Stoppers was first called to assist Helix last spring when several Video cameras were taken from a locked closet in the Technology classroom. This non-profit organization has recently gone district wide by developing a partnership with the Grossmont Union High School District. The goal is to work together with law enforcement to solve crimes, through a tip hotline and rewards for information.

Creating a culture on campus that encourages students to report information about potentially violent behaviors is extremely important. In all cases of school violence someone knew something ahead of time that could have helped avert disaster. To keep students safe on campus is a priority and the Crime Stoppers Hotline is a great tool for students and community members who may not feel comfortable reporting to adults on campus.

(888) 580-TIPS

It's easy, It's effective, It's 24 hours and It's for everyone's safety!!!

Thanks To All the Staff Members Who Have Joined the Helix PTSA!

We really appreciate your support. If you haven't had a chance yet to join, just drop by the front office and Doris will give you the form and take your membership dues. Again, THANKS! Brian Andersen, Jim Arnaiz, Giff Asimos, Jeff Babbitt, Bill Bible, Jody Brown, Russ Buckley, Rosie Cech, Elena Christian, Sharon Church, Tina Colera, Martha Foncecerra, William Hethcoat, Carole Hutchins, Denise Hume, Kris Irving, Aleen Jendian, Gerry Kirk, Judy Kirk, Maya Kruglyak, Beth Leighton, Carrie Lintvedt, Frank Lueke, Julie McGuffin, Leslie Messier, Paul Messier, Christine Moretti, Ann Morgan, Michele Mosteller, Wendy Paff, Scott Patton,

Colleen Robinson, Steve Sick, Doug Smith, Mimi Test, Russ Sperling, Trampus Thomason, Paula Ann Trevino, John Vanderpot, Debbie Vickery, Doris Whiteing.

CALENDAR UPDATES

Nov. 11 Veteran's Day—NO SCHOOL
Nov. 18 Progress Reports Due
Nov. 20 Eat at Chevy's (Fundraiser)
Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 11 PTA General Meeting
Dec. 19 Final Exam Schedule
Dec. 23-31 Winter Break
..... Return January 13

Please visit these parent-friendly and informative web sites.
<http://www.foothillscouncil.org> • Helix High School: helixcharter.net

7323 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91941 • 644-1940 ■ HOTLINE Ext. 911

Junior Class Update

The junior administrative/guidance team is made up of:

Martha Foncerrada, Vice Principal ext. 127 (Habla español) • mfoncer@helixcharter.net

Amy Levy, Counselor Hi – Z (Habla español) ext. 141 • alevy@helixcharter.net

Cathy Singer, Counselor A – He, ext. 141 • csinger@helixcharter.net

Kathy Gunion, Academic Advisor, ext. 146 • kgunion@helixcharter.net

Reminders:

This year is a critical year for graduation and college admissions. Your student needs to maintain a C or higher in all classes to ensure he/she remains on the track set forth with the counselor. If your student is struggling, have him/her take advantage of the many tutoring opportunities on campus.

All Classes Wednesday Mornings Various Rooms

Math	After School	M-TH	RM 204
Science	After School	T/TH	RM 440
English	After School	M-TH	Library
Social Studies	After School	Daily	Library

If a student needs to repeat a class, remediation is done in 5th period classes or summer school. Students will not be re-enrolled into the course during the regular school day.

Sophomore Class Info

The Sophomore Class admin/guidance team consists of:

Al Love, Assistant Principal (ext.125)	*	alove@helixcharter.net
Mark Faulk, Counselor (ext. 142)	*	mfaulk@helixcharter.net
Debbie Vickery (ext.144)	*	dvickery@helixcharter.net

Quarter 1 grades just came out and are a part of your official transcript. We hope you passed all of your coursework. Any failures of core classes will need to be retaken in either Period 5 (3:00-4:30PM) Quarter 3 or during summer school. Remember that we have only one opportunity to make up a single quarter of failure during summer. So, if you failed more than one class, you need to get that taken care of ASAP. Set up an appointment to speak with your guidance team so that we can plan the remediation into your schedule.

Sophomore Project is coming up in February. You will need to present your desired career plan to an audience. More importantly, selecting your career path also entails making choices about upcoming coursework. The electives you choose for next year's classes will probably include career path options. So, CHOOSE CAREFULLY! It does make a difference in what your next two years (+) will look like. As you complete this year, you should be on track to move into Division 2 requirements. Have a look at what you have successfully completed. Remember, your grade in school (9th, 10th, etc) is determined by the *number of credits you have earned and the coursework you have completed not* the number of years you have attended. By the end of this year you should have completed the following:

Division 1 requirements

English 1C/2C/3C/4C

Geography 1C/2C

World History 1C/2C

Geometry 1C/2C (which comes after Algebra 1C/2C)

Coordinated Science 1C/2C or Biology 1H/2H

PE 9 & Team Sports

Keyboarding & Tech Discovery

PLAN YOUR WORK & WORK YOUR PLAN =-}

Golf News

Helix Charter H.S. is now selling discount tickets (\$12ea.) for the 2003 Buick Invitational at Torrey Pines Golf Course (Feb.10-16). 100% of all ticket sales go directly back to Helix for support of extra-curricular programs. These make for a great gift or "stocking stuffer." Contact Frank Theroux at 644-1940 x136 or ftherou@helixcharter.net for purchase information or if your group is interested in raising funds for a Helix program.

What is School Health?

School health doesn't just mean an occasional trip to the nurse's office. Nor does it mean how your body feels. School health is a combination of things. You see, health means the well being of one's body, mind and spirit. A delicate balance to be sure, because if your body isn't feeling well, most likely your other two "pieces" (mind and spirit) aren't feeling well either.

School health means many things, including the health of the whole campus. That includes the well being of the staff, students and faculty. We are all pieces of the health puzzle of our school. Let's take care of each other to keep the puzzle together.

Look for more topics on health
in future newsletters.

ON-LINE

The daily bulletin, school calendar and the teacher phone list is on-line.

Check it out at

www.helixcharter.net

Lots of information on this site.

Sophomore Corner

The Sophomore Class would like to wish you all a HAPPY TURKEY DAY and HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!! Please be safe during the holidays.

Sophomore Class Officers:

President Ashley Aldrich
Vice President Lindsey Ajello
Secretary Michelle Hoeger
Treasurer Andrea Newell
Advisors Jeff Babbitt
 & Michele Mosteller

Parents Needed to Work In the Gym Snack Bar

Parent volunteers are needed to work in the snack bar during home games in our gymnasium. Proceeds from the snack bar are split between ASB and PTSA - organizations which support the entire school population. If you are willing to work in the gym, please e-mail Lisa Hamann at lhamann@cox.net or call her at 466-7230. Thank you!

SOCIAL STUDIES

Dear Parents,

This month the Social Studies Department is spotlighting the academic achievement of Helix students who are enrolled in European History. Helix is one of 41 schools in the county who offer AP European History to students. One interesting point to consider is that Helix students taking and passing this exam are in the 10th grade. The majority of other district and county schools have students in the 11/12 grade taking AP European History. Based on the results of taking this course and passing the AP Exam, Helix ranks 7th in the county. Students who pass this exam earn college credit in addition to high school credit.

Mr. Robert Berg and Mr. Ben Stone