

PLAIN TALK

October 2008
Volume 8
Issue 1
Quarter 1

quarterly news and views from Sierra Vista Junior High

PAC DATES

October 23, 2008

January 22, 2009

March 19, 2009

May 21, 2009

CALENDAR

1st Quarter Progress
Reporting Period Ends:
September 19th

Progress Reports Mailed:
September 25th

1st Quarter Ends:
October 17th

Report Cards Mailed:
October 23rd

2nd Quarter Progress
Reporting Period Ends:
November 14th

Progress Reports Mailed:
November 20th

from the principal

The new school year here at Sierra Vista started with a bang! The California Academic Performance Index results revealed that Sierra Vista went up TEN POINTS for last year. In addition, our school made the 2nd largest increase among the junior highs in the Hart District. There were many factors that led to these outstanding results. Our staff did a tremendous job in preparing our students. These included our Benchmark Boot-camp programs, our After School Academy, new Learning Center program, and most importantly the daily emphasis placed on quality standards based instruction in every classroom. In addition we conducted several test prep mini-sessions and even had pre-testing exercise sessions to get everyone ready to do their best. Our students, based on your message of encouragement, took the tests seriously and gave it their best shot. Over the 8 years of API measurements, Sierra Vista has gone up 108 points, a tremendous record of success. Congratulations to the entire Sierra Vista family for Kicking it Up- Another Notch! In addition, the entire Hart District is celebrating the climb to 804 in API and the ranking as #1 among HS Districts statewide.

Our students seem to be off to a great start to a new year. Our double lunch period keeps lunch lines much shorter, allowing students to actually sit down and eat. Our ASB, under the direction of advisor, Lilly Coronado, has planned a wonderful calendar of activities to accompany a year of learning. Our parent volunteers are assisting as we wrap up our very important Magazine Drive to supply funds for these activities.

Although our modernization plans have been slowed in their passage through the Department of the State Architect, final planning for construction is still progressing. We anticipate work to begin later this fall, with our Library, 200 and 300 buildings being the first on the docket. As the year progresses, the 100, 400 and 500 buildings will follow, and then next summer the rest of the campus will host the final summer sprint of construction and remodeling.

Our Family Resource Program continues in full operation. The Family Resource Room is located at the parking lot corner of our campus in Room 1101. It houses materials and resources for parent use in helping their students academically. Items include learning games, flash cards and other materials that can be used at home. We urge you to stop by and find something that will make your student more successful. In addition, a program of 7 Family Workshops are planned for parents and students. Please check our website for more information.

Sierra Vista is proud to congratulate Lorraine Fulleman, selected as our Teacher of the Year, and Laura Shay, selected as our Classified Employee of the Year.

As we kicked off the 2008-2009 school year, Sierra Vista welcomed 5 new teachers to our outstanding staff. Our new faces for this year include: