

ACACIAWOOD SCHOOL NEWS

2004-2005 Issue 5

March 11, 2005

REGISTRATION DEADLINE APRIL 5TH

The deadline for registration for the upcoming 2004-2005 school year is April 5th. Registration contracts have been mailed to all AWS families. Please submit your contract with the \$175 fee for each student. Parents will notice an increase in some of the fees to cover the actual costs incurred. In addition, family dues for the Parent Support Group have been added to the payment schedule. If you know someone who is interested in having their children attend AWS please inform them that now is the time to contact the office to register.

ABSENCES: THREE OF A KIND

One area of common misunderstanding in the Parent-Student Handbook is the matter of absences (see pages 5-6). Although there are many causes of absences, they all can be categorized into three kinds of absences: excused, unexcused, and pre-arranged. Parents should review the handbook to be clear about the classification of their student's absence and the responsibilities related to each kind of absence. Summarized below are some key facts about each absence.

- *Excused absences* are limited to: Personal illness, death in the family, emergency situations due to natural or man-made disasters. Parents should state one of the three reasons when they call in to report an excused absence. Students will be given a reasonable period of time to make up the work missed due to the absence. Please note that long-term projects are still due on time.
- *Unexcused absences*: Absences that are not excused or pre-arranged are this category. School work and tests may **NOT** be made up for unexcused absences and suspensions.
- *Pre-arranged absences*: Please notify the office at least **one week in advance** when your child must miss a day or more of school. Reasons for the absence may be for any reason that the family deems important enough to miss school for. The school will review all requests and make a ruling on whether or not the absence is excused or unexcused on a case-by-case basis. Pre-arranged absence forms are available in the office.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

On Monday, April 25th through Wednesday, April 27th we will be conducting standardized ITBS testing for grades 3 thru 8 and Stanford 9 testing for grades 9 and 11. Since it requires over five hours to administer the entire battery of tests, they will be given in several sessions over three school days. Tests will be conducted first thing in the morning while students are rested. Please do not schedule any appointments, such as doctor or dentist appointments, from 8-11 AM on these days. (If your student needs to schedule a judging appointment on Wednesday, April 27th for the Orange County Science Fair, please schedule after 11:30am.)

Punctual arrival at school is absolutely necessary. Students will go directly to their assigned test room. **TEST ROOM DOORS WILL BE LOCKED WHEN THE TEST BEGINS AND STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER UNTIL THAT TEST TIME IS OVER.**

The following are some practical hints which you can reinforce at home:

- Get plenty of sleep. A tired body means a tired mind.
- Eat the right foods. Skipping breakfast or eating "junk food" causes stomach aches and sluggishness. Healthy foods give adequate energy for test taking.
- For each test section, listen carefully to the teacher as to how long you have to complete it. If you get stuck on a question, go on. **DO NOT** dwell on one question. Finish the test first, and then go back to the unanswered questions.
- **You will not be allowed to leave the room during the test.**
- Following instructions is essential. Misreading a single word or filling in a different answer from the one you really intended can make errors mount.
- Keep calm. Don't let another student's pace rush or panic you. Work at a rate comfortable for you.
- Your first answer is usually the correct one. Think twice before you change it. Don't make changes without a fairly good reason.
- If you finish before the time is up, go over the test **CAREFULLY**. Proofreading may help your score. Bring a book to read if you still have more time.

SPRING SCHOOL PORTRAITS / CASUAL DRESS

April 5th is Spring Portrait Day. Parents are under no obligation to buy. They can see the portraits first, then select only what they want.

All students should be dressed nicely in casual business attire which consists of nice slacks, skirts at least 3 inches below the knee and shirts that have a collar and are not fitted too tightly. School uniform may also be worn.

TEACHERS NEEDED

We are seeking a number of teachers for the 2005-06 school year. An immediate need is a substitute teacher for Mrs. Reymer (combination grade 5/6) who is taking maternity leave in early April. Other areas where teachers are always needed are: physics, upper level math, junior high and elementary school.

Candidates do not necessarily need a teacher's credential or have to be meeting among the local churches, but they must have experience teaching. From time to time, teachers leave AWS so the office is always collecting resumes of qualified teachers in all subjects. Anyone who is qualified and has an interest in teaching is encouraged to contact the office. Please have them e-mail a resume to the office at: office@awschool.org.

TALENT SHOW APRIL 11TH

The Associated Student Body (ASB) will host the annual AcaciaWood Talent Show at 7:00pm, Monday, April 11th, in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR). The program includes a wide variety of performances by participants from every grade and is expected to last approximately two hours. Attendance is not mandatory, but those who attend will find themselves both amazed and entertained by the "hidden" talent at AcaciaWood School. Please invite your relatives, friends and families interested in sending their children to AWS for a fun-filled evening of entertainment!

SUMMER CAMP 2005

Dates for Summer Camp 2005 have been set for July 25 to August 20. We anticipate 50 students from South Korea and Taiwan. Host families are again needed for lodging and care of the students. The host families are a priceless part of the experience of living life in America and learning English.

Host families must be able to provide students lodging, transportation to and from school, dinner Monday through Friday, and total care of the students on the Lord's Day. Host families will be remunerated. Please contact the office if you are able to be a host family.

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS 2005

Winners from the AcaciaWood School Science Fair:

5th and 6th grade

1st place	Crystal Allison
2nd place	Jessica Miao
3rd place	Rachel Nash

7th grade

1st place	Sam Park
2nd place	Eric Romero
3rd place	Ruby Chen

8th grade

1st place	Michael Jones
2nd place	Steven Saffron
3rd place	Jordan Permantier

The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade winners go on to compete at the Orange County Science and Engineering Fair. Student registration and set up will be held on April 24th and 25th at the Orange County Fairgrounds. Judging and student interviews will take place on Wednesday, April 27th. Because of student testing on April 25-27, parents must make science fair appointments after 11:30am.

BASKETBALL BANQUET

The 2004 basketball season was concluded with a banquet attended by around 80 friends, family, and Golden Eagle fans at a local restaurant. The 2004 *League Champions* were recognized with medallions, plaques, trophies, and a 2004 league champion cap. We commend the boys on their hard work and thank the coaches and their "staff" for the extraordinary season!

UPCOMING CALENDAR

- Mar. 19 NHD, County
- Mar. 28-Apr.1 Spring Break
- Apr. 5 Spring Portraits
- Apr. 5 Registration Deadline
- Apr. 11 Talent show, 7:00pm
- Apr. 25-27 Standardized testing
- May 13 Last PE, 3:10 dismissal
- May 15 Senior Banquet, 6:00pm
- May 20 1:10 dismissal all students
- May 27-30 Memorial Day Holiday
- June 3 1:10 dismissal all students
- June 6-8 Finals, 1:10 dismissal
- June 8 Last day of school
- June 9 Graduation 7:00pm
- July 25-Aug. 20 Summer Camp 2005
- August 25 Orientation Night, 7:00pm
- August 30 Back to school