Andrew Hill Faculty Salutes JROTC

Nonnie Pugh, Susan Yambr, Judy Neal, Gil Solano, Merle Boxil, Padma Mani, Joy Moriconi, Terry Griffin, Thien Pham, Dino Certa and Tim Nguyen.

Cadets receiving promotions were: Jose Mexicano from First Lieutenant to Captain; Simon Abundiz from Master Sergeant to Sergeant Major; Jose Beltran from Private to Corporal; Jacob Vo from Private to Corporal; John Tran from Private to Corporal; Cintia Corona from Sergeant to Staff Sergeant; Luan Tran from Sergeant First Class to Second Lieutenant; and Quang Vu from Staff Sergeant to Second Lieutenant.

Cadets of the Month were: Private Thanh Quang from Alpha Company, Private Huy N. Pham from Bravo Company, Private Tina Mai from Charlie Company, Private Hue Pham from Delta Company and First Lieutenant Thanh Hung from Headquarters Company.

At the last Board meeting, the Board of Trustees recognized the contributions of several individuals who have been instrumental in developing a partnership with James Lick High School. These community partners are working on an agreement with business merchants in the Alum Rock Village that would enable them to utilize parking space at James Lick after school and on weekends. The school in turn would receive funds to redesign the parking lot, construct a fence around the lot, and put up an electric marquee on the corner of Alum Rock and White. The project would be a win win for James Lick and the community. This project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2002.

Kudos to the following people for their efforts to make this partnership work: Councilwoman Nora Campos, Executive Director of Redevelopment Agency - Susan Shick, Development Officer, Alum Rock Project Manager- Sandra Escobar, President of the Alum Rock Business Association - Hope Spurgeon, Business Representative, Alum Rock Business Association and long-time East Side supporter Bud LoMonaco, Jr., and Principal Bernardo Olmos.
Santa Teresa Desktop Publishing Staff Featured in Educational Magazine

Linda Sparling, Business Magnet Coordinator, and Diana Britton-Keller, Art and Desktop Publishing instructor, were featured in the December 2001-January 2002 issue of Converge Magazine. This publication focuses on the innovative partnering of education and technology. The article was entitled "Vision-Seekers”, and it highlighted a partnership between Santa Teresa’s Desktop Publishing company and Luther Burbank’s kindergarten class. The two students created Iditarod brochures, a project video, a poster for next year’s race and published editorials on the project. The project also won the Semiconductor Internet Innovation Award last year.

Kudos to Linda Sparling and Diana Britton-Keller on this feature and especially for their efforts to collaborate and use technology to bring the world into their classroom.

Board Recognizes Students’ Success at National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Competition

The Board of Trustees honored the following students—Jilane Williams, (IH), Hershall Birden, (MP), and Barry Jackson, Jr. (YB) for their accomplishments at a recent NSBE competition.

The students competed at the NSBE Region 6 Spring Conference with students from 5 other areas: Denver, Tucson, San Diego, Stanford, and Albuquerque. Their competition consisted of 3 rounds—A Personal Achievement Test (PAT), an Engineering Contest, and 2 rounds of a Jeopardy - Style Quiz Bowl. The Quiz Bowl had six categories: Decimals, Unit Conversions, Black History, Miscellaneous, Algebra, and Exponents. The questions were valued at 10 to 60 points each.

East Side Union High School District’s team was in fourth place after the 25-question PAT test, but they moved into second place after the Engineering Contest. After starting the Quiz Bowl more than 100 points behind the leader, the team caught up by the middle of the first round and took the lead. They team members never relinquished the lead again throughout the rest of the competition. They won first place and the honor of moving to the next level of competition.

They are now preparing for the NSBE National Convention in late March. They’ll compete against 5 teams from the other NSBE Regions.

Congratulations to Jilane, Barry and Hershall and best of luck in Florida.

Silver Creek Selected for Outstanding Student Activities Program Award

Silver Creek was selected as a recipient of the California Association of Student Leaders’ Outstanding Student Activities Program award for the 2000-01 school year.

This award is based on a self study of the school’s activities program in the areas of goal setting, effectively providing avenues for student expression, creating a program distinctive from other schools. To qualify for the award, the program must serve a wide spectrum of the student body and have a positive impact on the entire community. Silver Creek High School had demonstrated excellence in each of these areas.

This year’s award is being presented to eighteen high and five middle schools out of over 1600 member schools eligible for the honor in California. Silver Creek will be recognized at the CADA—California Association of Director’s of Activities—State Conference in Reno, Nevada later this month. In addition Activities Director Greg Louie will be presented with a recognition plaque on Sunday, April 14 at the third general session of the CASL Student State Convention in San Jose.

Congratulations to Activities Director Greg Louie, former ASB President Tony Cabrera on their efforts to improve the school climate through excellent student activities.

East Side Selected as Lead in Major State Initiative

East Side Union High School District was selected to become the fiscal agent for the NCS-Pearson Consortium, to support the implementation of the new California Student Information Services (CSIS) project. Due to the leadership exerted by East Side’s Information Systems Department, East Side was selected to work with over 200 school districts in the State.

The California Students Information Services (CSIS) project is designed to get all school districts to submit their data to the California Department of Education electronically. The project began in 1999 with five consortiums. Consortia were established based on the type of student administrative software used by a given district. Approximately eighty districts,
including East Side, are completing the first round of data submission to the State. Upon completion, including extensive validation of data and certification, districts will no longer be required to compile state reports in paper form and will transmit the required information to the Department of Education electronically. Submitting data directly to the CDE will save thousands of hours of data gathering by district and school staffs.

East Side was recommended by the CSIS staff in concurrence with both Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) and the Department of Education. Requirements of becoming the fiscal agent are twofold: (1) to provide fiscal accountability for the consortium, and (2) is to provide administrative support such as training, project management, and direction to participating districts on a continuing basis.

Kudos to Mike Pine, Director of Technology, and Andrea Bennett, Project Director for leading the charge on this major initiative.

Andrew Hill Biotechnology Academy
Selected for National Award
The Andrew Hill Biotechnology Academy was selected as one of five national award winners in the 10th Annual Employment Management Association Foundation School/Business Partnership Awards Competition. The school will receive a $5,000 cash award to continue their successful partnership program with Genetech.

As part of their contest application, the Biotechnology Academy featured their partnership with Genetech. Especially highlighted was Genetech’s employee association called Latinos Unidos. This group has played a critical role with the academy. One of their members, Ruben Diaz, was the first business partner to join the Biotech Advisory Group and has become a strong advocate for the program.

The school and Genetech will be recognized in an upcoming issue of the Wall Street Journal and featured at the Employment Management Association Annual Conference and Exposition in April.

Kudos to Mary Mertz, Director of Biotechnology Academy and Marilyn Bliss, Coordinator of the Health Professions Program, on this award.

Lt. Governor Cruz M. Bustamante Visits Independence

Lt. Governor Cruz M. Bustamante addressed 2100 juniors and seniors at Independence earlier this month. His message was concise; “If you get good grades in high school, and meet financial need requirements the State of California will help pay for your education.”

Bustamante recently launched a major campaign to make students and parents aware of college opportunities and assistance, particularly the State’s new $1.2 billion Cal Grant program. The new Cal Grant guarantees an award to every student who is financially and academically eligible.

It became quite evident that the students heard his message. During lunch, lines of students were waiting to see counselors to pick up Cal Grant application forms.

Most of the major television stations were in attendance and Independence students were featured on the afternoon news programs.

Board Honors Santa Teresa High School’s Distinguished Educational Team

Superintendent Joe Coto congratulates Santa Teresa student Derrick Hansen

At the annual State of the District ceremony, Santa Teresa High School’s Educational Team was awarded the Board President’s Distinguished Educational Team Award. They were recognized for the leadership they displayed to bring their community together. Cited as just one example of their efforts was the organization of a Town Hall meeting to address their community’s brewing sensitive issues in a constructive manner. They engaged several hundred participants - students, parents and staff - in a thoughtful and collaborative process that resulted in positive solutions, improved communications and better relationships among all participants.

Kudos to the team honored at the ceremony: Fredella Stewart, Principal; Anna Guzman, student; Derrick Hansen, student; Beth Remy, student; Susan Guzman, parent; Peggy James, parent; John Remy, parent; Michael Payne-Alex, teacher; Kathy Gonzalez, teacher; Traci Preble, Testing Coordinator; Martha Rios, Principal’s Secretary.
Santa Teresa Students Honored Nationally and Locally

Over the last few weeks, several Santa Teresa students received national or local recognitions.

Nicholas Rice-Sanchez, 9th grade, was selected to represent Santa Teresa at the National Youth Leadership Forum on Defense, Intelligence and Diplomacy. He will be participating in national security strategy seminars, visiting the Department of State and gaining insight into the fields of defense, intelligence and diplomacy. Nicholas initiated the Santa Teresa Patriotism Committee which is responsible for conducting a patriotic gesture each day at school.

Two seniors, Esperanza Garcia and Kristin Brand were selected for the United Spirit Association staff. They were chosen out of hundreds of students throughout Northern California. Once they join the USA staff they will travel to all the different camps throughout the summer teaching technique and skills. They will also travel to Paris, Florida, Australia, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington and a few other western states. This assignment begins after graduation.

Tenth grader Tim Kerr won a gold medal at the Vocational Clubs of America (VICA) regional competition earlier this month. VICA provides an opportunity for students to interact with peers from around the State and fine tune their occupational skills.

Congratulations to these students on their accomplishments.

East Side Board President Recognizes Excellence

Anytown USA, a program of the National Conference for Community & Justice, was honored as a Distinguished Education Program by the East Side Union High School District. The recognition award was presented by Board President J. Manuel Herrera and Superintendent Joe Coto to students, teachers, and principals of the ten district schools participating in the Anytown program.

Anytown USA builds community through an intense retreat that breaks down stereotypes, biases, and prejudices, and increases understanding and respect for differences in race, ethnicity, religion, culture, and other factors that act to divide us. Each Anytown retreat focuses on one high school. Student delegates, both traditional achievers and those who exercise non-traditional leadership in gang activities and anti-social behaviors, are selected as peer leaders in their circles.

During the retreat, students gain a deep understanding of the false and destructive nature of stereotypes, bigotry, and prejudice, and they leave equipped with tools to lead and create a new, inclusive community. By their own testimony, students emerge transformed and ready to change the world.

Teams that have attended Anytown have rated the program as one of the most effective life-changing experiences they have ever had. Critical to the success of the program in our district have been the champions at each school who recruit students and staff to attend the camp. These champions go above and beyond the call of duty to get their delegates and school team to Anytown USA. They participate in this intensive retreat and work during and after the camp to support their students. Kudos to the following individuals honored for their efforts to improve race relations: Viet Trinh, Andrew Hill; Harriet Garcia, Independence; Mary Ann Andrade, James Lick; Roberta Cabigas, James Lick; Jim Dediego, Mt. Pleasant; Monica Schneider, Oak Grove; Kerry Forster, Piedmont Hills; Cathy Broussard, Piedmont Hills; Michael Payne-Alex, Santa Teresa; Kathy Gonzalez, Santa Teresa; Greg Louie, Silver Creek; Ron Cueba, W. C. Overfelt; Paz Rocha, Yerba Buena

Kudos was initiated to promote the many achievements of East Side family, members, schools, staff, students, parents and alumni. If you are aware of special recognitions given to members of our family please send the information to:

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