



Valencia High School

December, 2008

Welcome to the final 2008 edition of the monthly e-communication from Valencia High School. We hope you have a great month and winter break. Don't forget about the school's website at www.valenciavikings.com, where you can find updated information on a daily basis.

GENERAL INFORMATION:



VHS Yearbooks

- ❑ Yearbooks are on sale for \$70 with an ASB card, \$75 without. Get your all-color yearbook **now** before prices go up after Winter Break.



Boys Volleyball Tryouts

- ❑ Boys volleyball team tryouts will be held the week of December 8th through the 12th. Please contact Kevin Kornegay via email at kkorneg@harddistrict.org for more information.



National Honor Society

- ❑ National Honor Society service hours are due on December 12th by 3:00 pm to Ms. Henry in room 505.



Textbook Return

- ❑ All textbooks for classes that are first semester only need to be turned in during finals so we have enough textbooks to hand out for second semester in January. Students are encouraged to check with the textbook clerk to see what textbooks they currently have out and which ones need to be returned during finals.



Helping Africa for the holidays!

- ❑ The ICU club invites you to get into the holiday spirit! You can participate in 2 ways: 1) **Biggest Book Drive EVER!**: clear room for presents! Get rid of your unwanted books by donating them to ICU! All proceeds go toward rebuilding schools in Uganda! We are collecting all kinds of books in room 930, or you can drop them off in the bin in the front office. 2) **Charitable Ornaments!** The ICU club is selling charitable ornaments and stocking stuffers, and ALL proceeds go to rebuild schools in Uganda! Each ornament/stocking stuffer will come with a special message saying that this ornament helped build classrooms and buy books for kids in a war-torn country! The perfect gift for that hard-to-shop-for person! Inquire in room 930 or on our blog, www.ICUclub.WordPress.com. ICU stands for Invisible Children of Uganda. For more about Invisible Children, visit their website: www.InvisibleChildren.com.



Free CAHSEE Test-Prep and Tutoring



- Parents, did you know that you and your student have access to a free, online California High School Exit Exam test preparation program? This program is to help students become more comfortable with the content and gain the knowledge necessary to successfully complete whatever the Department of Education puts on the California High School Exit Examinations. Students can log in to: <http://www.usatestprep.com/front/login.php> and enter the username: valenciaca and the password: newton40 to access this excellent program. Links to this program (with username and password reminders) are also available on the school's website in the "Quick Links" section.

Regional Occupational Program

- We encourage all juniors and seniors at VHS to come in to the ROP office and see the variety of classes that are available for next semester. These classes are an excellent chance to learn about careers while earning elective credits. They are taught by professionals in the field and can give students a great opportunity to learn about a career that they are interested in before spending the time and money on college-level courses. Send your student to see Mrs. Ivey in the ROP office for more information.



DEPARTMENT INFORMATION:

Counseling



- All students will be receiving a copy of their second semester courses on Tuesday, December 16th. If there are any mistakes to be corrected, students may fix these in the counseling office during the week of December 16th through the 18th outside of class time. Changes can only be made by the student in the counseling office. Requests by phone or email will not be able to be answered. Please do not call to make changes earlier than this date, as the counselors are adjusting and finalizing schedules until that time.

- Parents, please remind your students to give their teachers/counselors plenty of time (at least two weeks) when asking for college recommendation letters. Students should request this help in person and provide the writer with an addressed, stamped envelope, as well as a comprehensive "brag sheet" or resume for consideration. (Please put an extra stamp on each envelope, as the packets include many pages and get rather bulky!) Don't forget to encourage your students to write a thank you note to anyone who helps in the college application process.



- For those students who took the PSAT in October, they must attend a "Give-Back Night" on Tuesday, December 9th from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm in the VHS theater. This important, informative night will not only include returning score reports to students, but the president of Princeton Review will help students interpret their scores, discuss the relationship between college testing and college admissions, and share pertinent curricular requirement information regarding college admissions. Contact Mrs. Theresa Long at 294-1188, ext. 425 with any questions.

Roadmap to College



- On January 21st, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Valencia High School gymnasium, the VHS counseling department, in conjunction with the Princeton Review, will be presenting a district-wide program called The Roadmap to College. This informative evening will inform parents and students about the many responsibilities and recommendations that allow students as many college options as possible upon graduation. This evening is free and open to the entire district and is perfect for all ages, including 9th and 10th grade students and families.

Physical Education

- Parents, please remind your child to bring home any and all PE clothes over the winter break.



Have a wonderful month and winter break!

(I will not be able to answer “reply” questions regarding this information. Please contact the person in charge of the specific event with any questions or comments.)