



# THE TROUBADOUR EXPRESS

*SCHOOLS OF ACADEMICS, VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS,  
& TECHNICAL ARTS*

Santa Susana High School  
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## ONLINE GRADES



Dear SSHS Families,

I am very excited to talk to you about Edline, a new way that SSHS will be communicating with you. About half of our teachers are now using Edline, which is a tool that parents and students can use to access current grade and assignment information. Parents can log into Edline and check their student's grades, missing assignments, and class information.

*So how do you access Edline?* Teachers are currently sending home access codes with students. Access codes will also be available at Back to School Night. Parents will then register one time, on the Edline website.

Santa School High School thinks this is a great new tool and we encourage all parents to use Edline. Edline will give you up to date grade information for your student. Again, not every teacher is currently using the system, but once you register with one teacher's class, you will not need to register again for any other classes.

Best to all of you!

Sincerely,  
Jason Peplinski

### SANTA SUSANA PERFORMING ARTS BOOSTERS

**Fresh and Easy Fundraisers** - The Fresh and Easy Fundraiser will be **Thursday, October 13** from 4-8 PM at the Fresh and Easy in Simi Valley. The address of the store is 4473 Alamo Street (corner of Tapo Street). The Performing Arts Boosters will get 5% of all purchases made at the store during that time, and we will have 5 of our members in the store during that time (probably two 2-hour shifts of five people).

**Donate Receipts** - In addition to our event in October, we will have a box in the office, like we did last year, where people can drop off Fresh and Easy receipts for purchases made between Sept. 15 through December. For each receipt that is \$20 or more, we get \$1 for every \$20 spent. Last year between the two parts of this deal, we made over \$1,000. With getting an earlier jump this year, we hope raise even more money for Arts Programs at Santa Su!

## KUDOS & CONGRATULATIONS!



**Katheryn Bell**, a senior this year at Santa Susana High School won gold at the USA Taekwondo Nationals in June. As one of the top finishers at nationals, Katheryn was invited to the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs where she fought other nationals medalists to clinch her spot on the Taekwondo Junior National Team. Katheryn will represent the U.S. in the upcoming Pan Am Open Taekwondo International Championships in October in Las Vegas. [www.simivalleyacorn.com](http://www.simivalleyacorn.com). (August 19<sup>th</sup>)

**Ashley Ruiz**, a junior, she performed as Gabriella Montez in High School Musical at The Moorpark High Street Arts Center last summer. She is also giving back to the community through her volunteer work at Simi Valley Hospital as Jr. Volunteer. Ashley works in the Medical Surgical Unit on the weekends and has already worked more than 40 hours!

**Ashlyn Lewis**, former SSSHS student, will be completing her 11th and 12th grade years at Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory in Connecticut. Ashlyn accepted a scholarship opportunity at Nutmeg because of the faculty, the Russian ballet syllabus, and the performance opportunities. The dance program misses her but sends her our best!

*Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. ~John Dewey*

## COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER



**THE CSU System College Fair.** will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, from 6:00 – 8:30 PM.

- Access all 23 CSU campuses at the CSU College Fair
- Meet with representatives from the 23 CSU campuses and have all your questions answered directly

**The United States Marines.** The U.S. Marine representative will be in the CCC at lunch on Thursday, Sept 22, 2011 to discuss NROTC

Scholarships. Juniors and Seniors interested in finding out what an NROTC Scholarship is all about should come to the CCC at lunch.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. JOHN GARNER, ENGLISH TEACHER.

Santa Susana High School congratulates Mr. Garner, English Teacher, for his nomination and Excellence in Teaching Award by the Notre Dame Club of Ventura County. Mr. Garner was nominated for his outstanding teacher leadership. Last year, Mr. Garner guided his department in the revision of the English curriculum which helped raise student performance on last year's CST. He is known for integrating technology throughout his curriculum and having passion which motivates and inspires students. This year, Mr. Garner also serves as a WASC Focus Group Leader. To honor his work, the Notre Dame Club has donated a scholarship to Mr. Garner to attend the Excellence in Teaching Conference at the University of Notre Dame this October.



## LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

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### Deadline to Report Book Damage.

The library would like to remind parents that **Friday, September 16**, is the final day for students to report prior damage to their textbooks. Parents should encourage your son/daughter to examine their text books and report damages to the library either before school, during lunch, or after school on or before the 16<sup>th</sup>.



## THE BICYCLE HELMET LAW –

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Wear the helmet flat on the head, not tilted back at an angle!



Make sure the helmet fits snugly and does not obstruct the field of vision. Make sure the chin strap fits securely and that the buckle stays fastened.

High school parents are concerned about Santa Susana students not wearing helmets while going to and coming home from school. Here's why:

**Bicycle injuries and deaths affect children and young people more often than any other age group.**

- In 2005, 44 percent of nonfatal bicycle injuries occurred in children and youth age 5 to 20.
- In 2005, the rate per million of nonfatal bicycle injuries in children and youth age 5 to 20 was 462.17 compared to 153.3 overall.
- In 2005, children and youth age 0 to 20 made up 23.4 percent of bicycle fatalities.
- In 2005, children under 15 accounted for 53 percent of bicycle injuries treated in emergency departments.
- Within a 4 year span, the average annual cost of bicycle fatalities in children and youth age 0 to 19 was \$1.03 billion while the average annual cost of nonfatal bicycle injuries was \$3.6 billion.

**Young cyclists are more likely than adult cyclists to die of head injuries, most of which are caused by motor vehicle collisions. Among children and youth age 0 to 19 in 2000:**

- Head injuries accounted for 62.6 percent of bicycle fatalities.
- Collisions with motor vehicles accounted for 75.7 percent of bicycle fatalities.
- 61.7 percent of motor vehicle collision deaths were due to head injury.

Santa Su students, please wear your bicycle helmet. School staff, parents, and other drivers are watching out for you and are very concerned for your safety!

(Source: <http://www.bhsi.org/stats.htm>)

## FOR PARENTS WITH TEENS

**Helping Teens With Homework, Doesn't Mean Doing the Work.** Parents have always known it's important to help teens with homework. But today, some parents are actually *doing* the homework. Clearly, that's going too far. But what can a parent do?

Teachers say they need to see the teen's work, not the parent's. Only by looking at homework can a teacher judge what a teen still doesn't understand. Teachers often use what they learn from homework mistakes to plan future lessons.

Where should you draw the line between helping and taking over? You can:

- **Make helpful suggestions.** Suggest that your teen add a chart or graph to a paper. It's not okay if you create the chart on the computer while your teen works on math.
  - **Suggest other sources** when your teen is working on a project. But don't take over by going to the library or running an internet search for your teen.
  - **Edit your teen's work.** But don't rewrite a paper. Circle words your teen misspelled, but don't go to the dictionary to look them up. Point out punctuation problems.
  - **Help your teen** see how what she's learning relates to real life. If she's doing math, you can show her how to balance a checkbook. It's not appropriate, though, to do her math homework for her.
- **Encourage your teen to talk** to the teacher if she is struggling with an assignment. Don't rush to call the teacher for her. Show your teen you trust her to handle the situation on her own. If she isn't able to resolve the problem, then step in and make the call.

**Brain Research Shows Teens Take Risks With Friends.** He's a responsible kid. So why did he and his friends get in a car and drive *way* too fast? Or go to a party where they knew there would be alcohol?

Brain researchers now know some things about the teenage brain. And what they're learning is that teens may be wired to make bad decisions and take risks when their friends are watching them. Researchers asked teens and adults to play a short driving game. They were rewarded for finishing quickly, as long as they followed basic traffic rules. While they were playing, researchers monitored their brain activity. Half the time, the teens played alone. Half the time, they were told that their friends were watching in another room. The result? When teens thought friends were watching, they took *many* more risks. They drove faster. They ran yellow lights. They were more likely to crash.

In other words, just knowing others are watching made the difference. The "peer pressure" was simply the presence of peers.

What does this mean for parents? Perhaps most important, parents should *never* assume that their teens will make responsible choices when they're with friends. So before your teen goes out, be sure to review the rules—and help your teen think through consequences.

### Questions & Answers

**Q: My daughter works hard to get good grades. But already a teacher called to tell me my daughter had cheated. Many pages of a paper she turned in were copied, word for word, from the Internet. My daughter says that everyone cheats and if she doesn't, her grades won't be good enough to go to a good college. How should I handle this?**

**A:** Cheating is cheating. And whether your teen copies off someone else's test or turns in work that she hasn't done, she is cheating. Cheating is very common among teens. In a recent poll by Common Sense Media, 38 percent of teens admitted that they have done just what your daughter did. That same poll shows that you're not alone in being surprised that your teen was using technology to cheat. In the poll:

- **92 percent of parents** believed that *other* kids used cell phones to cheat. But just 3 percent thought their teen was guilty.
- **79 percent of parents** believed that *other* students copied work from the Internet; just 7 percent said their teen had.

Clearly, the math doesn't add up. So support the school. Remind your daughter that your family doesn't condone cheating. And if the only way she can get into a college is by cheating, she's not going to be successful there.

The lesson she learns may be painful and embarrassing. But in the end, she'll be a stronger student—and learn a lot more—by doing her own work.

—Kris Amundson, *The Parent Institute*



# Upcoming Events- September



**SANTA SUSANA PERFORMING ARTS BOOSTERS MEETING – Monday, September 12. 6:30 PM.** The SSPAB will hold their first annual meeting in Room 104. This room is located inside of the inner, cement quad. Fundraising will be the key order of business as SSPAB look to provide even more support to our student programs than ever before. We encourage new parents to attend and get involved.

**SENIOR PROJECT PARENT NIGHT – Wednesday, September 14 at 7 PM.** The senior project is one of the wonderful and unique elements of Santa Susana High School. **All parents of seniors** should plan on attending this introductory night. Learn about the project, mentorship, and Diploma Certifications. Know how to support your child best. Meet the teacher and know what to expect in the upcoming year! Meet and greet in the Cafeteria! Parents of underclassmen may also attend to get a better understand of what this project will entail.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FUN NIGHT – Thursday, September 15. 6 PM.** The Instrumental Music Program hosts this opportunity for music students to get to know one another through video, games, and other fun activities.

**FILM STOCK – September 16-17. 6 PM.** Post-poned.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CAR WASH - Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.** 10- 2PM . Donate to the Instrumental Music Program by Purchasing a Car Wash ticket or by driving through the Parking lot of Stonebridge Church, 4832 Cochran Street.

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT– Wednesday, September 21 at 6 PM.** Parents and students will join teachers and support staff in a night that welcomes to a new year of student learning and achievement.

**DOCENT MEETING – Monday, September 26 at 7 PM.** The Performing Arts Center is looking for parents and community members to come out and support the Arts through volunteerism for the 2011-2012 Docent Program. A Meet and Greet, the Docent Handbook Training, and Sign-ups will be include.

**NO SCHOOL – Thursday, September 29.** School is not in session for the observance of Rosh Hashanah.

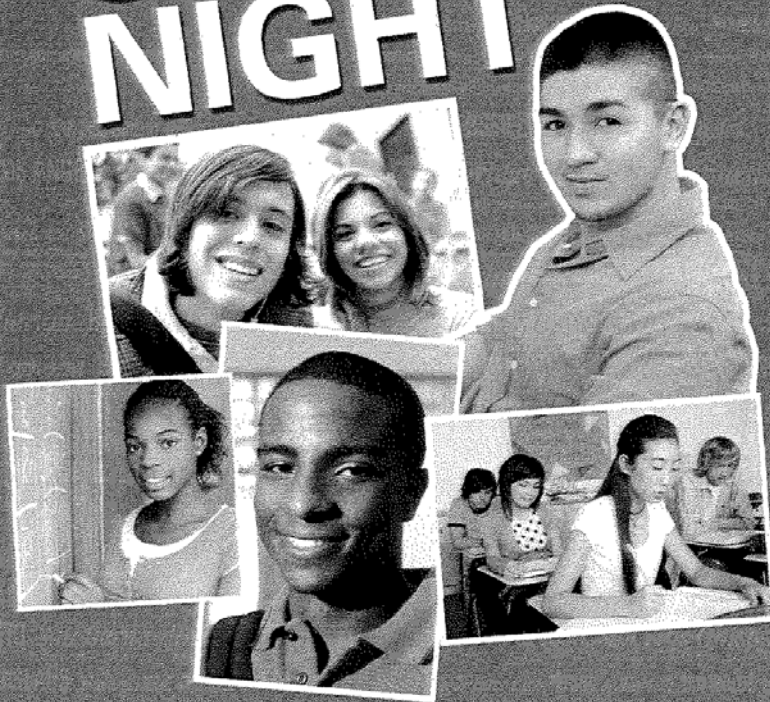


**ROSH HASHANAH - Rosh Hashanah** (Hebrew: ראש השנה), (literally "head of the year"), is the Jewish New Year. It is the first of the High Holidays or *Yamim Noraim* ("Days of Awe"), celebrated ten days before Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah is observed on the first two days of *Tishrei*, the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar. It is described in the Torah as בּוֹי הַעוֹרֶתָהּ a day of "Screaming" or Shouting [the Shofar]

(Source: Wikipedia.com)

CSU The California State University

# CSU COLLEGE NIGHT



All Students, Parents and  
Educators are invited to attend

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011  
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Meet with  
CSU Campus  
representatives  
.....

Receive answers  
to your specific  
questions  
.....

Participate in  
admission and  
application  
workshops  
.....

Obtain information  
and brochures on  
both freshmen  
and transfer  
requirements

ACCESS  
ALL  
23  
CAMPUSES  
IN ONE  
NIGHT

Location:  
**PASADENA  
CONVENTION CENTER**  
300 E. Green Street,  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**PARKING \$9**

**SANTA SUSANA  
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

PRESENTS A FUNDRAISER EVENT AT

**the  
Habit<sup>®</sup>**  
**BURGER GRILL**  
**Simi Valley**

Located in the El Paseo Center, Tapo Canyon

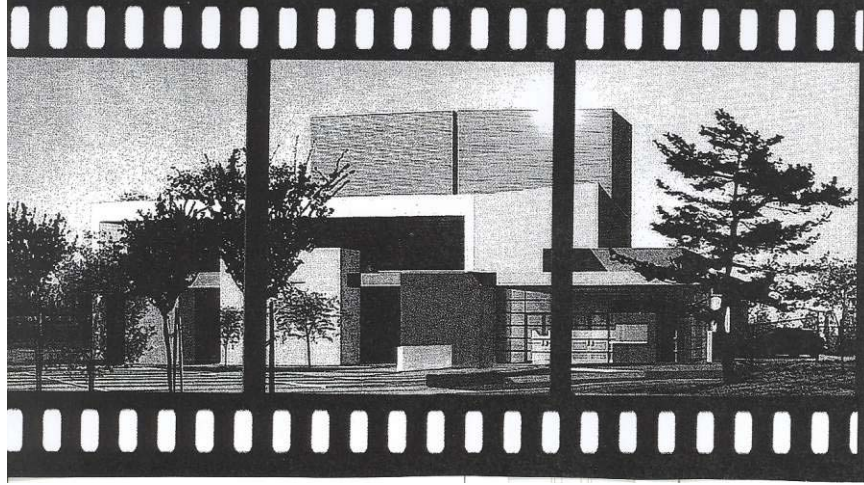
**September 19<sup>th</sup> ,2011**

**5:00pm-9:00pm**

JOIN US AND ENJOY DELICIOUS CHARBURGERS,  
SANDWICHES, SALADS AND SHAKES

PRESENT THIS FLYER WHEN YOU ORDER AND WE WILL  
DONATE 20% OF THE RECEIPTS GENERATED  
TO YOUR ORGANIZATION!

# SANTA SUSANA HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS AUDITORIUM



Providing a building is only half the goal. An additional \$1.5 million is needed to create a state-of-the-art facility with a professional stage, curtains, sound, lighting and the seating the students and community deserve.

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The Performing Arts Center Team "PACT" is selling theatre seat sponsorships for the new auditorium. For \$150 you or a loved one's name will be on a plaque on a seat in the new SSHS Troubadour Auditorium.

*(You sponsor the seat, but are not guaranteed the seat at performances)*

## TO CONTACT US OR FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON "PACT" OR OUR CAUSE:

President - Sue Martinez: [suzie10000@aol.com](mailto:suzie10000@aol.com)

Or call SSHS: 805-520-6800

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**There are only 100 seat plates available, hurry before they're gone!!!**

Yes, I want to help. Here is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ seats at \$150 each. The name(s) on the seat(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: PACT  
c/o Santa Susana High School  
3570 E. Cochran Street  
Simi Valley, CA 93063

***Santa Susana High School PACT thanks your for your support***