

THE BLACH BANNER

Blach Intermediate School

1120 Covington Road Los Altos CA

650.934.3800

www.blachschoo.org



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Principal's Message

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS ALMOST HERE

The Mountain View Los Altos High School District (MVLA) recently completed a district demographic study that indicated a projected increase of 900 high school students to the district over the next ten years. To keep MVLA schools balanced and right-sized, it is likely that the high school district will not be approving many requests for intradistrict transfers, other than for those who receive a sibling preference. MVLA will continue the practice of not approving any interdistrict transfers. For more information, please call MVLA instructional services at (650) 940-4655.

We are not yet halfway through 8th grade but high school registration is just around the corner. Here are some important dates for you to remember:

December 2009: Course catalog information available on-line (if it isn't there, it will be shortly)

January 28, 2010: Class of 2014 Information Nights at both LAHS and MVHS (6:30-8:00 pm)

Mid-February, 2010: Counselors here to register students for classes.

Your job at this point is to review the course catalogue with your student so you will have input into their class choices. Also, review the college admission requirements so you all understand what must be taken to be competitive for UC, CSU, and private colleges. All students must take English, History, Math, and PE. Most will also take science. The counselors typically recommend one elective as students adjust to the first year of high school. Students have no choices in English, History, and PE as freshmen. They do have choices in science and math (and obviously their electives). As they look at class choices with you, help them think about all of their time commitments when considering honors classes, especially if your student is considering signing up for more than one honors class. Our science and math teachers will suggest what class they think would be appropriate for your student but remember that this is a suggestion. Both high schools have an open enrollment policy.

For those of you with students applying to private school, your child should still compete the high school registration materials "just in case" they do not get in or change their minds. You want them to have the same opportunity to be placed in an elective as any of their peers. If they do go forward to private school, all you will need to do is contact the high school and let them know.

Finally, call or e-mail Dr. Judy if you have any questions. The high school years go by fast and your involvement in their education continues to decrease as they assume more and more responsibility for their education. Enjoy the input you have now!

Ms. Crane & Dr. Judy

Educational Events

* Parent Education*

- **Tues. Jan.12th 2010 7pm-9pm** Po Bronson "Nurture Shock: New thinking about children" Los Altos High School Theater, 201 Almond Avenue
- **Thurs. March 25th 6:30pm - 8:30pm** Ken Ginsburg, M.D. "Building Resilience in Our Youth: Raising Healthy Kids" Gunn Spangenberg Theater, Palo Alto

PTA Announcements

- **The Holiday Faire** was a HUGE success! Nearly 200 student entrepreneurs made their school and community proud with a great selection of handmade products and tempting treats. The Multi was transformed into a vibrant marketplace with non-stop commerce all afternoon! Every visitor left with a treasure and a smile. Total sales for the Faire exceeded \$14,000! Student profit donations plus booth rental fees (minus operating costs) netted the Blach PTA over \$800! Over 20 fantastic parent volunteers helped to make it all happen - from student meetings in October, to advertising around town, to helping on the day of the Faire. A BIG THANKS to all of them. And a BIG CONGRATULATIONS to all the Blach 7th & 8th Graders who made this year's Faire the best yet!

Jill Cook & Joanne Marent
Holiday Faire Chairpersons

- **Spring Hot Lunch** - Spring session begins January 20th. Deadline for placing orders is January 8th. Ordering information will be available on the Blach website soon.
- **Shop locally to support your school and LAEF!** When you buy stylish Tiny Prints holiday cards, announcements and invitations at Birch in downtown Los Altos, 5% of your purchase will be donated to your school's PTA and 10% will be donated to LAEF. By placing your order in person at Birch, you're able to instantly print a proof, receive personalized service and pick up your order up at Birch within 48 hours without shipping charges. You will also receive a card good for 10% off your next purchase at Birch! Birch is located at 357 Main Street, Los Altos and Tiny Prints is located in Mountain View. Offer expires Dec. 31, 2009.

School Sports and Community News

- **LOS ALTOS KIDZ ADVENTURES (LAKA)** is returning to the Los Altos School District at Santa Rita School, June 14 - July 10 in the summer of 2010. Classes are designed and taught by credentialed teachers for students entering grades 1-4 in fall 2010. This year, a new class for entering Kindergarten students, Skills for Kindergarten, is being offered. Program offerings include some great classes back by popular demand (Outrageous Outdoor Games, Awesome Art, etc.) and several new additions (Drama, Puppetry, Young Chefs, etc.). Registration is open now. Go to the website www.lakakidz.com for class selections and information. Questions? contact Niki Mitchell at niki@lakakidz.com
- For more School & Community News [Click here](#).



Happy Holidays to All Blach Families

Send your request to: blachinfo@yahoo.com

