

Director's Report Presented to the GPA Board of Directors January 15, 2019

Academic Events and Achievements

We The People - 8th Grade Debate

The annual debate at Grossmont College for our 8th graders took place on December 18, 2018. The 31 students who participated from Mr. Johnson's history classes represented GPA well and gained powerful skills as they competed in this National event.

San Diego Area Writing Project (SDAWP)- 12th Grade Workshop

Starting in December and continuing through April, twenty-five of our 12th grade students will be participating in a pilot program at GPA. Writing instructors from SDAWP will teach analytical writing skills, in preparation for college and career and to prepare our students for the Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE) they will take in May.

Social/Behavioral Events and Achievements

December Nights: Holiday joy was alive at GPA on December 7th and 8th. GPA had our second annual December Nights showcase. It was a magical holiday event with music and family fun. Our Parent Teacher Student Connection (PTSC) cooked food and treats as our Encore and Musical Production students filled the courtyard with the holiday spirit - singing and dancing the night away.

Staff Holiday Party: On Friday December 14, GPA had our annual holiday luncheon in the Dining Hall. The parents in PTSC created a holiday spread of homemade delights to honor the GPA staff.

Honor Roll: In November we celebrated 105 middle and 121 high school students who made Honor Roll during Semester 2 of the 2017-2018 school year. They enjoyed a "Tostiloco Bar" in the dining hall and received a certificate, medal and pin to commemorate their achievements.

English/Language Arts (ELA)

The ELA department is currently working closely with San Diego Area Writing Project (SDAWP) to learn powerful instructional moves that will positively impact the writing skills and confidence of our students. We continue to use Achieve 3000 to grow our readers in non-fiction

literacy skills and will be administering our Mid-Year Level Set assessment on January 10, 2019. Classroom libraries are a main focus for grades 6, 8, and 10 with the support of literacy consultant Carol Hunter. The Playwrights Project will return this spring to teach our 9th and 10th graders playwriting skills. 50 students were selected to attend Plays written by young playwrights at the Old Globe on January 24th.

<u>History</u>

The History department is working alongside ELA with the San Diego Area Writing Project (SDAWP), with shared goals around impacting student writing skills. Select staff members will be attending workshops this semester through the SDCOE, as well as UCLA and the Museum of Tolerance, on topics ranging from culturally responsive teaching practices to deepening our understanding of the recent CA History Frameworks.

<u>Science</u>

GPA's Science Department has committed to increasing hands-on laboratory experiences for students. As a result, students were seen dissecting specimens ranging from crayfish to rats and conducting water quality experiments outdoors, all in the days leading up to winter break.

<u>Math</u>

The San Diego Math Network has once again included GPA in its Gates Foundation grant funding and related network support. The sub-award funds, designated to support a specified area for improvement in math, will be used for teacher collaboration, peer observation, and feedback, all around implementation of GPA's new high school curriculum, College Prep Mathematics.

Spanish/Language Other Than English (LOTE)

Spanish teachers continue to focus on vertically aligning our Spanish courses so that students are able to matriculate to upper level courses and into AP Spanish as they move through the grade levels 8-12. Our Spanish team works collaboratively to determine the best placements for students each year, and continues assessing throughout the year. We have seen sustained growth in our Spanish program as is evidenced by our enrollment numbers and our AP pass rates.

Wingspan (College Counseling Center)

Financial Aid Applications

The class of 2019 has successfully submitted their UC and CSU college applications are are now in the process of submitting their financial aid applications.

- FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (application for US Citizens and Permanent Residents)
- CA Dream Act (application for undocumented students)

Common Application

Senior students interested in attending a private or ivy league college are in the process of submitting the Common Application.

Scholarships

Students have received monthly scholarships lisingst and are in the process of applying for scholarships such as:

- MKC Gompers Scholarship [for GPA seniors only, provided by the Patricia and Christopher Weil Family Foundation]
- Jackie Robinson Family YMCA Award [local YMCA in Southeast San Diego]

Class of 2019 College Acceptances

22 (17%) out of 124 seniors have already been admitted to a four year college/ university. [1/9/19]

GPA seniors have received acceptances to the following four-year universities:

San Diego State University	Brigham Young University
San Francisco State University	University of Cincinnati
CSU San Marcos	Xavier University of Louisiana
CSU Sacramento	University of Nevada Las Vegas
CSU San Bernardino	Whittier College
CSU Channel Islands	Whitworth University
CSU Humboldt	Montana State University
Penn State University	Grand Canyon University

2018-2019 Enrollment:

As of January 2019, the cap size for GPA is 1322 and there are 1322 confirmed enrollments. There are 210 students on the middle school waitlist and 159 students on the high school waitlist, making the total waitlist number 369. The total number of invited student losses is 99 and returning student losses is 77, 12 of those were in Middle School and 65 were in High School.

Run Date/Time: 1/7/19 1:25 PM												
11/19/2018 to 12/14/2018 = 15 days												
Grade Level	Carry Fwd	Gain	Loss	Ending	Actual Days	OffTrack	Days N/E	Days Ineligible	Days Absent	Days Attd	ADA	ADA %
6	234	0	1	233	3510	0	10	0	143.00	3357.00	223.80	95.91%
SubTotal	234	0	1	233	3510	0	10	0	143.00	3357.00	223.80	95.91%
7	234	0	1	233	3510	0	10	0	155.00	3345.00	223.00	95.57%
8	223	0	1	222	3345	0	15	0	144.00	3186.00	212.40	95.68%
SubTotal	457	0	2	455	6855	0	25	0	299.00	6531.00	435.40	95.62%
9	200	0	2	198	3000	0	30	0	139.00	2831.00	188.73	95.32%
10	159	0	0	159	2385	0	0	0	91.00	2294.00	152.93	96.18%
11	154	0	0	154	2310	0	0	0	115.00	2195.00	146.33	95.02%
12	124	0	0	124	1860	0	0	0	113.00	1747.00	116.47	93.92%
SubTotal	637	0	2	635	9555	0	30	0	458.00	9067.00	604.47	95.19%
Grand Total	1328	0	5	1323	19920	0	65	0	900.00	18955.00	1263.67	95.47%

Gompers Preparatory Academy 119610

Facilities

New Gymnasium and Athletic Buildings

Construction activity at the north end of campus is really starting to pick up! We have successfully moved two bungalow classrooms to the Sixth Grade Village over Thanksgiving break and five bungalows were removed/demolished to make room for new construction. Earth movers are shifting soil to prepare for the building foundations and utilities pathways that will be constructed in the coming months.

Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC)

The HVAC project is wrapping up this month! Students and staff are enjoying central heating in most buildings now and we're looking forward to having central air conditioning available when hotter temperatures arrive in the spring.

GPA Charter Renewal

Our current charter with San Diego Unified School District is due for renewal on July 1, 2019. We have submitted our charter renewal documents to the District and anticipate that we will have our first public hearing at the SDUSD Board of Education on February 5 and second public hearing (Board action) on March 5. We are looking forward to renewing our charter and continuing to serve our community through 2024 and beyond!