



**Director's Report  
Presented to the GPA Board of Directors  
January 21, 2020**

**WingSpan College and Career Center Update**

**Financial Aid Applications**

Financial aid applications have been open since October 1st, senior students will continue submitting their financial aid applications through March 2, 2020.

- 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 private or Ivy league colleges have submitted and continued to work on the Common Application (*deadline varies by university*).

**Scholarships**

Students have received the December and January scholarships list and will continue to apply for scholarships such as:

- The Weil Family Foundation 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

**College Portals**

Wingspan staff will assist students in creating their college portals for all the colleges they applied to check for the following:

- Admission decisions
- Financial aid packages
- Other: sending required documents to determine admission and financial aid eligibility

**Sending Official Score Reports**

Wingspan staff will assist students in sending their official SAT & ACT score reports to the colleges they applied to.

### **Class of 2020 College Acceptances**

39 (28%) out of 139 students have been admitted to a four year university [1/14/2020]

Senior students have been admitted to the following four year universities:

CSU Dominguez Hills

CSU San Marcos

CSU Channel Islands

Penn State University

University of Arizona

Arizona State University

Northern Arizona University

Philander Smith College

Talladega College

Bethune-Cookman University

Sonoma State University

CSU Maritime Academy

Southwestern Adventist University

### **C/O 2021 March 14, 2020 SAT Registration**

Wingspan and counseling staff went into the 11th grade classrooms to register juniors for the March 14 SAT w/essay administration.

### **Cal-SOAP SAT Preparation Workshops**

Juniors have the opportunity to attend a series of free SAT preparation workshops in Wingspan in preparation for the March SAT.

### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

With AP exam registrations completed and totaling over 348 in number, AP students are now deep into AP course instruction and preparing for May exams with the support of College Board's new AP practice tools. AP teachers continue to hold after-school study sessions as a means of providing extra time with content and study skills.

### **English/Language Arts (ELA)**

The ELA department is currently preparing for Quarter Finals and for the Semester end. Students completed their 2nd On-demand writing assessment for the year, for teachers to analyze the data and make instructional decisions for next Semester. Our Achieve 3000 representative will be observing teachers in January/February to support their ongoing implementation of the literacy program. ELA teachers continue to work on their Designated ELD lessons to support our EL students and ensure they are preparing students for the upcoming ELPAC assessment starting in February.

## **History**

High school history teachers spent the first day back from winter break at an *Albert.io* professional development learning how to better use the system to support students. The History department is currently preparing for Quarter Finals and for the end of the semester.

## **Science**

The Science department returned from winter break and engaged in professional development that supports literacy in the science classroom. The department also discussed safety in the science classrooms, lab protocols, and chemical storage. Teachers were reminded to reference the safety resources that have been available to them, including the Science Safety Handbook, Chemical Inventory Program, and the Safety Data Sheets for any chemicals used during labs. Science teachers were also encouraged to work in collaboration to provide safe and quality labs for our students.

## **Math**

The Math department returned from winter break to a full day of professional learning before the return of students. All middle school math classroom teachers and support teachers attended Let's Go Learn PD on January 6th. In that training, the math team learned to optimize use of the online Let's Go Learn program to differentiate math instruction, connect in-class math instruction to corresponding online reinforcement lesson, monitor progress, and assess growth.

## **Spanish/Language Other Than English (LOTE)**

Our Spanish team is working on preparing for Quarter Finals and the Semester end. They are considering textbooks adoptions this year to align with the new World Language Standards. Decisions will be made for adoption in 2020/2021 school year. The team continues to vertically align their courses to best meet the needs of students in the program, and utilize the resources that help individualize language instruction.

## **Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)**

Students in the Visual and Performing Arts department have been busy with preparing for GPA's annual Lip Sync, working on the yearbook, and creating art. In our Musical Production, program visiting teachers from Hollywood and Broadway have taught Masters Classes on everything from singing to improvisational skills.

## **Professional Development**

On January 6th, teachers returned to a differentiated Professional Development opportunity where all teachers participated in professional learning. High school teachers attended an *Albert.io* professional development focusing on rigor and access to critical thinking, literacy-based supports for all content areas. Middle School math teachers attended a *Let's Go Learn* professional development focused on consistency with program implementation and using data to drive their instruction. Finally, all other Middle School teachers attended a professional development in the GPA library to learn how to best utilize the multitude of digital databases and resources GPA offers to all students and teachers in grades 6-12.

In addition, all staff continues to study *What Great Teachers Do Differently* in our ongoing self-guided professional learning around our mentor text for this year.

### **WASC Self Study**

In preparation for our April 19th – 22nd WASC visit, GPA will be sending the WASC Self-Study document to the WASC Visiting Committee this February. In the months remaining, GPA will be working to develop intervention programs for our students aligned to our self-study findings. In addition, we are coordinating the visiting arrangements: housing, meals, technical and clerical support, word processing and/or copying services, etc. for the visiting committee. GPA is focused on ensuring that our WASC visit is a success.

### **Facilities**

Construction continues on the new \$17M athletic buildings/gym/event center, with estimated completion in June 2020. All buildings now have rooftops and work continues on HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems and interior and exterior fixtures/finishes. GPA has retained a consultant to assist in designing a projection system that will enable us to create multimedia experiences at school assemblies, sports events, and special events such as our one of a kind graduation ceremony. Students and staff are excited to use these new facilities in the coming months and years.