Pine Views

MARCH 2024

Published by the PINE VIEW ASSOCIATION

PYTHON RUN
5K AND 1 MILE

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Saturday, 23 March, 2024
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Search: Python Run

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9th Annual Python 5K and Fun Run

This year's 9th annual Python 5K will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 23rd. The race begins by Building 16 and winds through the roads of Rivendell before finishing on the Pine View track. Each year, the running community comes together to enjoy the cool morning weather of this race and the comradery of the post race breakfast and awards ceremony. There is still time to sign up for this wonderful family event. Go to www.runsignup.com and search "Python Run" to register.

About Pine Views

Pine Views is the official newsletter of the Pine View Association. Five issues will be published each school year. The issues will be mailed to our current families and be available in the Pine View front office. The issues are also available online at www.yourpva.org under the Pine Views tab. To become a PVA Member, which is free and open to all Pine View parents and guardians, go to www.yourpva.org and click on "Join Today."

Publication Schedule 2023-24

First Quarter: August/September
Second Quarter: November/December
Third Quarter: February/March
Fourth Quarter: April/May
Year-End: June

Students, faculty, staff and parents are encouraged to submit articles and photos. **Photos must be high resolution JPEGs or PDFs. Flyers and all other submissions should be high resolution PDFs and all names and grades of students must be submitted with photographs. All submissions are due one month before publication.**

Please submit articles/photos to

pineviews@yourpva.org

Information and articles should be of interest to the Pine View School community.

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On The Cover

At top, Pine View's Selena Shen and Margaret Toth from the Sarasota Music Conservatory perform at Pinnacle.

At bottom, members of the Pine View Jazz Combo (Evan Rollings-Zepponi, Austin Rollings-Zepponi, Wesley Wehlage, Matthew Castillo, Kody Tran, Iganacio Hurtado, Isabella Kulawik) perform at Pinnacle.

Sir Speedy
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About PVA

Pine View Association (PVA) Mission Statement

The Pine View Association is Pine View's own organization of parents, teachers, staff and friends.

The Pine View Association, working with the Pine View community, supports and advances the excellence of Pine View School.

The PVA encourages volunteerism, raises and disburses funds, promotes communication and cooperation with the school, provides input to the school on issues of concern to parents and supports gifted advocacy issues on a local and statewide basis.

PVA Committees & Chairs

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News from the Board Room

The Pine View Association Board of Directors met in January and February. The following are highlights of the meetings.

January:

The Board heard a presentation from Lisa Bechtold, executive director of the Sarasota chapter of Take Stock in Children. The mentoring program serves 380 students county-wide, including 11 at Pine View, and offers scholarships to students completing the program. Parents interested in learning more about the program or about becoming mentors should contact Bechtold at lisa@takestocksarasota.org.

PVA Treasurer Gretchen Lovewell presented a report on PVA's finances and noted that moving PVA funds to a higher-yield account brought in about $1,700 in interest income in one month.

The Board heard a request from Languages teachers Judit Pauling, Dean Ball and Maggie Higgins for $21,000 to purchase Vista Higher Learning textbooks and workbooks, which are much more appropriate for gifted student education than the district's standard textbook line. The Board agreed the books were worthwhile but after learning that a multi-year purchase could be more cost-effective, the Board asked the Pine View administration for more information and a revised request.

The Board approved a request from the student club Business Professionals of America for $1,500 to partially fund the cost of attending the BPA State Leadership Conference in Orlando, and also approved a request from teacher Sara Kolsky for $1,500 for the annual Third Grade Showcase event.

The Board also heard a request from the Class of 2024 for $11,710 to defray costs of the graduation ceremony, senior breakfast, and class trip. The Class has already raised more than $32,000, and the PVA funding will go first to support students who need financial assistance. The Board approved the request.

Peramathon Committee chairs Silke Cuff, Lindsay Sweeting and Katie Padgett reported that Peramathon was immensely successful, raising more than $56,000 and with expenses of just over $9,000 being well under the event budget of $12,500.

The Board discussed plans for the Pine View 55th Anniversary event, scheduled for April 12 (see story on page 15) and approved allocating $2,500 to the event to make tickets more affordable for the entire Pine View community.

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News from the Board Room continued...

February:

The Board approved a request from Pine View Principal Dr. Stephen Covert for $9,879 to fund about half of the cost of a new marquee sign for the school entrance, which would have higher resolution, the ability to display video and wireless connectivity.

The Board approved a request from teacher Shannon Wynne for $5,912.63 to purchase updated equipment, including a camera, computer and Tricaster production system for Pine View News.

Jaime Heath, PVA's vice president of school support, reported that the Pinnacle gala raised about $240,000 before expenses, which were still being finalized.

The Board elected its officers for the coming year: Puja Dhanraj, president; Silke Cuff, vice president of sponsorship; Jaime Heath, vice president of school support; Debbi Wolfinger, vice president of communications; Dana Moretta, recording secretary; Wendy Teague, treasurer.

March:

The March meeting of the PVA Board will be at 6:00 PM Tuesday, March 19 in the Student Union. All members of the Pine View community are welcome to attend.

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Parent to Parent

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VP of School Support:
Jaime Heath
VP of Sponsorship:
Silke Cuff
VP of Communications:
Debbi Wolfinger
Treasurer:
Wendy Teague
Secretary:
Dana Moretta

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Jaime Heath
Cindy Jaramillo
Lilly Thomas
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Robert Dam
Jill Izydor
Gretchen Lovewell
Dana Moretta
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Tatyana Shaitanoff
Jeffrey Steinwachs
Wendy Teague
Debbi Wolfinger
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Elementary:
Andy Vitkus
Middle:
Edwin Stumpf
High School:
David Mannino
Alumni Reps.
Dr. Manav Malik
Ben Turoff
Paige Wyant

Dear Pine View Families,

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with excitement for the remarkable events happening at Pine View! As we navigate through the bustling activities of the third quarter, I am thrilled to share some incredible highlights and upcoming events with you.

Highlights:
Our recent **Pinnacle Fire & Ice Gala**, held on February 10 at the exquisite Westin Hotel in downtown Sarasota, was an absolute success! I extend my heartfelt gratitude to **Cindy Jaramillo**, our Pinnacle Chair, and the entire Pinnacle team for orchestrating such a splendid evening. From captivating fire performances to an enchanting dance act by Future of Dance, and then to the melodious tunes of the Pine View Jazz combo and the Sarasota Music Conservatory, the night was truly magical! Through your generous support, we raised nearly $240,000 for Pine View! These funds will be directed towards our ongoing initiatives in Academic Support & Partnerships, College & Career Counseling, and Community & Culture Building. For a glimpse of the festivities, please visit pages 22-23.

Upcoming Events:
Mark your calendars for another exciting event: our **Annual Python 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run** on **Saturday, March 23**! Join us for a refreshing morning run followed by a delightful breakfast featuring treats from Clever Cup Coffee, Screaming Goat Taqueria, Einstein's Bros Bagels and Siesta Pops. While you unwind with post-race massages by Kinetic Massage, let your children enjoy the new playground. Awards will be presented to the top six runners in each age group. Register now at **https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Osprey/PythonRun**!

We also invite you to **SAVE THE DATE** for our next Community-Building Event! On **Friday, April 12, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM**, join current Pine View parents, faculty, staff, and alumni as we celebrate **Pine View's 55th Anniversary** at Selby Gardens - Historic Spanish Point Campus! Additionally, the Class of 2024 will be hosting a "Kids' Night Out" that evening for elementary students, ensuring parents can join in the fun. Keep an eye out for ticket availability in the coming weeks! (See page 15 for details.)

Lastly, we eagerly anticipate **Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week**, scheduled from April 29 to May 3. Stay tuned for more details on how we plan to honor Pine View's exceptional teachers and staff during this special week.

Before we part ways for the break, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Your dedication plays a vital role in making Pine View the exceptional place it is. I wish you and your families a rejuvenating and enjoyable Spring Break together!

Warmest regards,
Puja Dhanraj

Principal's Perspective

March 2024

Dear Pine View School Parents and Community:

February and March are such beautiful months in Florida, and Spring is quickly upon us! It is almost testing season, as well, and the fast pace of school, instruction, testing, concerts, celebrations, and graduations is definitely here! This is a wonderful time of year, and we have so many exciting activities *in all grades!* We hope that you are able to celebrate the many achievements of our students during the many awards and culminating events in the coming weeks and months ahead. Many of these special and traditional PV events would not be possible without the direct support and critical involvement of our amazing Pine View parents- *thank you for going the extra degree for our students!*

I want to thank Puja Dhanraj for her service as PVA President from the bottom of my heart– she has done an amazing job in bringing all the committees and functions within PVA focused on their mission of supporting our students and school! I also want to thank the other members of the executive board of PVA for their service, as well; a truly amazing team. We recently celebrated our incredible annual Pinnacle event at the Westin, and it was truly a smashing success! Thank you to Cindy Jaramillo as Pinnacle Chair, and the entire Pinnacle team for a wonderful event and evening celebrating our students– thank you for your support. PVA has many exciting plans and ways in which they will be supporting Pine View and our amazing students over the next year, so please, get involved, and support PVA *as they support our teachers and students*!

Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed our 3rd Grade Showcase, our Pine View Variety Show, our annual Jazz Under the Stars, Pine View Valentine's Day Post Office, Elementary Movie Night, AP SPIN Night for parents, the Middle School Cupid Shuffle, and a host of other activities, traditions, and fun events on and off campus- and these help to round out the incredible instruction students receive in classrooms daily! Students are beginning the process of selecting courses for the 2024-2025 school year, and it seems like we just started. Please, reach out to your grade level administrator, school counselor, or our College and Career Center for questions about courses and the Program of Studies, and we will be happy to help answer any questions or share perspectives.

We are gearing up for the Python 5k and Fun Run, planning for a wonderful event and a huge success! Thank you to PVA co-race directors Silke Cuff and Kristy Ochsendorf, and their team of amazing volunteers who put on this special PV tradition, and I believe the students and families will have an invigorating time- I'll be out there to get us started for the 5K, so we will see you there!

On the school website, you will find information about assessment schedules, Advanced Placement (AP) mock schedules, Advanced Placement (AP) exam schedules, End of Course (EOC) exam schedules and end-of-year activities. We will soon be celebrating "grad bash" in Orlando with our seniors and know that we will have a wonderful time. Our students continue to impress me daily, and through their scholarship, their behavior, and their commitment to sharing their gifts with others, Pine View students truly distinguish themselves.

In addition to myriad academic achievements across all curricula, our students and teachers are continuing the tradition of excellence at Pine View *and consistently going 212*- continuing our tradition of excellence in the Sarasota County Schools' Academic Olympic tournament– once again, District Champions, and will be competing at the state competition. Pine View is so proud of the incredible success of our students, and we thank PVA and all our parents for your support!

It is an honor and privilege to serve our amazing students, teachers, and community, and we wish everyone an outstanding spring!

Stephen P. Covert, Ph.D.
Principal

All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.
--Martin Luther King, Jr.

PVA To Hold General Membership Meeting and Board Elections

The Pine View Association will have its annual Membership Meeting at 6:00 PM Tuesday, April 16, in the Student Union. PVA's officers and committee chairs will present reports on the year's activities, and the Elections Committee will conduct an election for members of the PVA Board of Directors.

The election will fill seven open parent representative seats on the Board. Five seats are for full three-year terms. Two seats are for one-year terms, replacing Board members resigning before their term was complete.

Under PVA's bylaws, the Board seeks to achieve balanced representation of five parent directors from each level of the school. For this election, PVA seeks to fill two open seats for elementary school representatives, four for middle school representatives, and one for a high school representative. The Elections Committee coordinates candidates and school level seats.

To run for a Board position, a person **must** be a registered and approved member of PVA at the time of the meeting, and **must** submit the self-nomination form (on page 11 of this issue of *Pine Views* and also available in the school office) to PVA via mail or in person to the Pine View School office by close of business on Monday, April 1. Candidates will be expected to speak for up to three minutes at the election about why they are running for the Board and what their goals as a Board member would be.

All members of the Pine View community are invited to the meeting, and all registered members of PVA are eligible to vote in the election.

Editor's Note

By now you've seen *Pine Views* at least three times, maybe dozens of times. But if you read this little article, I'll let you in on a few of the magazine's secrets.

Let's start with the cover. Even when the magazine focuses on an event like PVA's Pinnacle fundraiser, as this one does, the cover always features Pine View students — because that's what PVA is all about, our kids. (OK, once in a while we'll do a pretty landscape photo.) And all through the magazine you'll see lots of photos. That's on purpose. We love photos.

A few pages later are the "sponsor thank you" listings. Did you know that many, possibly most, are PV parents, alumni or both? We hope you support them, because they help PVA, which helps our staff and teachers give our students the extras that make a PV education special.

You'll see some of those extras in the reports on elementary, middle and high school activities. (Just middle and high school, in this issue.) You may see a photo of your child's classroom — but it's also a great way to get a sense of what's ahead. If your child is in elementary, definitely check out the Middle School Report — you'll see teachers with some **amazing** lessons.

Keep paging through *Pine Views* and you'll see success stories. Did you know a Pine View sports team won a countywide title? And so did our Jazz Band. And the Speech & Debate team is sending *you won't believe how many* students to their national championships! And **even more** PV students were named National Merit Scholarship finalists!

But *Pine Views* also celebrates the less glamorous but just as important achievements. In the back half, you'll always find PV's 212 Degree Award Winners, not just their names but also their teachers' take on how wonderful they are. And you'll also find our "news you can use," the listing of all key PV staff and whom to call for a particular matter.

We have two more issues of *Pine Views* left this year. I've been the editor for almost three years now, and with my twin sons graduating, it's time for me to pass this 44-page baton. If you'd like to take it from me, email me at daveg@yourpva.org or pineviews@yourpva.org. I've got a few more secrets to share. Thanks for reading.

PVA Board Nomination Form

Your Contact Information:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

2024 - 2025 Names and Grade Levels of Your Children (add information on reverse if needed):

Child 1: _____ Grade: _____

Child 2: _____ Grade: _____

Child 3: _____ Grade: _____

Briefly describe your background experience as it may pertain to your qualifications for serving on the PVA board. Please include activities you have been involved in at Pine View or a previous school.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

What do you think you have to offer the PVA board and/or why do you want to serve?

_____

_____

_____

By signing, I state that a) I am a member of PVA, b) the statements above are correct and true, and c) I am available to attend the PVA Annual Meeting and Elections on April 16.

_____ _____

Full name Date

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55 Years of Pine View: Save the Date to Celebrate!

Pine View School is marking its 55th anniversary and PVA and the school are celebrating with events for all members of the community.

The centerpiece event will be the third of PVA's informal school community socials, which have brought together hundreds of parents, alumni, faculty and staff.

"We are thrilled at how the Pine View community has come together this year and are so happy that our next community-building event will celebrate the 55th anniversary of our amazing school!" said PVA President Puja Dhanraj.

The event will be on Friday, April 12, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Selby Garden Spanish Point Campus, just 1.5 miles from campus on the bay side of Tamiami Trail.

All current Pine View parents, alumni, faculty, staff and administration are welcome. There will be food and drinks available for purchase from food trucks and bars provided by Michael's on East. Tickets will be on sale after spring break and PVA will notify the community when the online sales are open.

This is an adults-only event, but Pine View's Class of 2024 will put on another of its "Kids' Night Out" events at the school, so parents of elementary students can drop off their children on campus and make the short trip to Selby Spanish Point for the celebration.

55 Years of Pine View

What:

Pine View's 55th Anniversary Celebration

Where:

Selby Gardens Spanish Point, 1.5 miles from school

When:

Friday, April 12, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Who:

Parents, Alumni, Faculty, Staff.
(Child care for elementary school students available on campus)

Why:

To meet each other and celebrate our school!

Pine View students also will be celebrating on campus during the school day, with a giant "PV 55" cake from Publix, as they have for other school anniversaries

PVA would like to thank Jennifer Rominiecki, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and a current Pine View parent, for her assistance in providing the venue for the event. Watch for more news and announcements after spring break.

Arsenault
DERMATOLOGY

Mackenzie Mudgett Longueuil, MBA, PA
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Valentine's Day Post Office:
Two hours of fun, learning and chaos!

By: Annabelle Dhanraj and Lyla Ochsendorf, Grade 5 students

Valentine's Day Post Office is a long-running Pine View elementary school tradition, loved by both students and teachers. As soon as the mail starts coming in, however, the chaos starts.

At 9:39 a.m., Mrs. Elliott (who is the head of the Valentine's Day Post Office) says, "There's a small backup with 5th grade, but everything should eventually run smoothly."

At 9:43 a.m., a suspicious number of dead letters started coming in the 5th grade area, in the same handwriting. Mr. Vitkus, a comical 5th grade math teacher, is the one responsible for this mail addressed to his students. He wanted to include math, and to make sure the dead letter officers had a part in the post office. For some zip codes, Mr. Vitkus created a math equation that equaled the zip code of 50270.

Mrs. Lengyel is a 2nd grade teacher who loves it that the kids have fun while working. "Really great team and kids love it, lots of great times." Ms. Tucak, a 2nd grade teacher, thinks that the kids enjoy Post Office every year. She shares, "Kids love it, have a great time every year and it gets better and better."

Mrs. Hoffman, a new 4th grade teacher, loves the idea of Valentine's Day Post Office. At 10:00 a.m., she says, "I love that the kids run it and I'm not telling them what to do." Mr. Maron, another 4th grade teacher, thinks that this is a terrific way for children to work while having fun. He says, "Wonderful experience for youth to learn responsibility and be productive."

At 10:13 a.m, Mrs. Bennett, a 5th grade teacher, describes the whole process as "happy chaos." Ms. Barber, another 5th grade teacher who is retiring after this year shares, "I am excited for the new phase of life, and I am not sad that it's over, just grateful for 22 years of teaching at Post Office."

Ms. Abeysekera, a 3rd grade teacher, thinks that the Post Office is a wonderful opportunity for the children to work together. At 10:29 a.m., she says, "Going beautifully, it is a day to show that the students care about each other, and they are being very respectful." Mrs. Fox, another 3rd Grade teacher, says, "It is chaotic, but it feels like the kids have a learning experience." It seems that both 3rd grade teachers feel that this is a learning opportunity for their students.

By just before 11:00 a.m. the chaos is over. All 10,000-plus Valentines have been delivered!

Everyone loves Valentine's Day Post Office, and some great times happen during this wonderful event. Mrs. Simon (who used to be a 4th grade teacher) created the Post Office many years ago, and ever since then, it has always been an exciting time for both elementary students and teachers.

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Sprinkle Slimed

Elementary Student Council, the service club for Grades 4 and 5 sponsored by Ms. Kolsky, participates in the Mayor's Food Drive each November to collect money to help families in need during the holiday season.

The club made a deal with Elementary Principal Mr. Sprinkle: If members collected over $2,000 for the cause, they could "slime" him. The club met its goal, with Ms. Abeysekera's class contributing the most money. Mr. Sprinkle kept his word, and on Thursday March 7, Ms. Abeysekera's class, Ms. Kolsky and her student council conducted the sliming!

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Pine View Basketball Wins County Championship

The Pine View boys basketball won the Sarasota County Middle School championship by a 38-29 score over Venice Middle School. The team went 9-1 this season, outscoring their opponents by an average of 22 points a game.

Stephen Morrison was the team captain and led the team in scoring and assists, while Blake Wood led the team in blocked shots and rebounds. Oliver Mankovich led the team in steals as the Pythons gave up the fewest points per game in school history.

This is Pine View's first boys basketball championship since 2010, and the fourth in school history. Coach Scott Wolfinger would like to thank everyone who made this season a big success.

Pine View Boys Basketball Roster

0 Stephen Morrison
1 Preston Brooks
2 Oliver Mankovich
5 Griffin Lisk
11 Kian Manzano
13 Will Wooden
14 Truman Serine
15 Lucas Tong
20 Tyler Wolfinger
23 Victor Ivanov
24 Blake Wood
25 Max Majorsky
35 John Mahrous
Manager – Tristan Treadway
Videographer – Tej Atluru

Pinnacle G

Pinnacle, PVA's biggest annual fundraising

ala 2024!

g event for Pine View's students, staff and faculty.

Pinnacle 2024 "Fire and Ice" Recognition

PVA would like to thank all the people who made this year's Pinnacle a tremendous success, especially:

Decor: Liz Sandburg, Cristina Suh, Anna Nesanelis, Karina Vishnevsky
Donations: Mihaela Raicu, Ariana Haxhiaj, Kyla Weiner
Event Volunteers: Dorina Fera, Marian Tega, LeeAnn Marano, Anne Mullin, Jingjing Cannon, Patricia Morgerson, Geraldine Fernandez-Calienes, Laura Lewis

PVA
Pinnacle Chair Cindy Jaramillo, and board members Silke Cuff, Puja Dhanraj, Jaime Heath, Wendy Teague, Ben Turoff and Debbi Wolfinger.

And a special thank you to the sponsors of:
The Inferno Table: The Padgett Family and The Famiglio Family
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Pine View School
2024 National Merit Scholarship Program
Finalists

Congratulations to Pine View's **22** National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists for 2024!

Andrea Ciccone
Patrick Collins
Claire Critchett
Tian Doherty
Samantha Fineman
Lana Ghamra
Devin Gulliver
Amy Kim
Cyrus Kuhn
Sonia Legare
Andrew Lo
Sophia Lopez
Adriana Maiotti
Ava Pappas
Ella Pappas
Abigail Pereira
Niklas Pinto
Tristan Rans
Hannah Schuh
Kody Tran
Ethan Wang
Kathleen Wu

Pine View Bands Score Top Marks in Competitions and Reviews

Wind Ensemble at MPAs.

Pine View School's bands, under the direction of Victor Mongillo, took home top ratings this month in the Florida Bandmasters Association's Music Performance Assessments (MPAs).

At the MPAs, the bands play three pieces that they have prepared in advance, and then in the "sight reading" section, they play two pieces they have never seen before. A panel of judges assess the bands on a broad array of criteria and then give them a rating.

On March 1, the Wind Ensemble performed for the MPAs, held at Riverview High School. The MPA judges rated the band as "Superior," the association's top ranking, in all assessment categories. On March 8, the Middle School Symphonic Band also performed at the MPAs and like their high school counterparts, also received "Superior" ratings across the board.

"Every judge, including the sight-reading judges, recognized what great performances these groups achieved," Mr. Mongillo said.

In February, the Pine View Jazz Band competed in the Jazz Club of Sarasota's "Battle of the High School Bands." Evaluated by professional jazz musicians and instructors, the Pine View band took first place over bands from Booker High School and Riverview High School.

And in early March, Pine View also had 15 students selected to the Gulf Coast Honor Band. "I am incredibly proud every year of the outstanding achievements by our young musicians!" Mr. Mongillo said.

Pine View Jazz Band at "Battle of the Bands"

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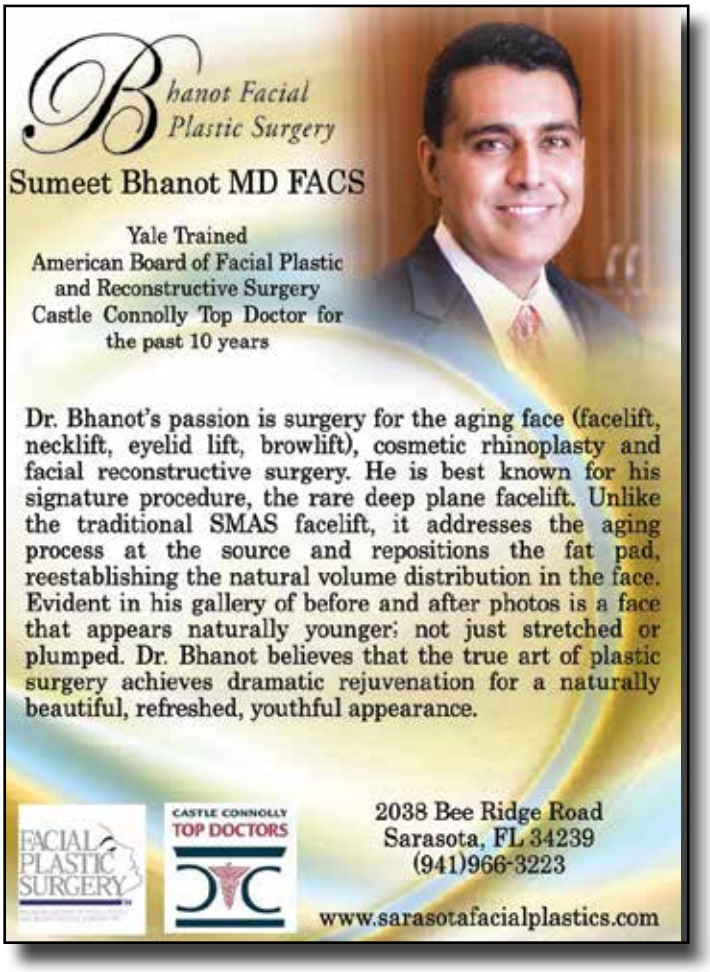

20 Members of Pine View Speech & Debate Qualify for National Championships

Pine View's Speech & Debate Team excelled at two spring tournaments that serve as qualifiers for the championships of two national debating leagues.

Twelve Pine View students qualified for the National Catholic Forensics League Grand Nationals Championship with their performance in the league's regional tournament, held Feb. 23-24 in St. Petersburg. Two students were named alternates. The qualifying students and their competition divisions are:

PVSD members after the NCFL Qualifier

In Duo Interpretation, Marin McLeod and Joe Calleja; in Extemporaneous Speaking, Mira Carpenter, Rohan Dash, and Terry Shen; in Student Congress, Ben Butakow, Audrey Hwang, and Saket Rao; in Policy Debate, Natalie Claybaugh/Harry Xu; in Public Forum Debate, Lola Delbridge/Brooke Wolfinger. All can attend the NCFL Championship in Chicago in May.

(continued on page 31)

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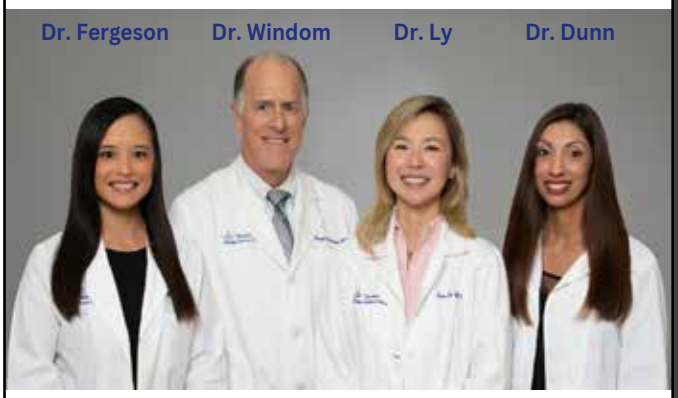

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Pine View Speech & Debate *(continued from page 30)*

Pine View School was also named the winner of the tournament's Bill Gibron Award for Excellence in Debate.

Two weeks earlier, the team also dominated at the regional qualifier for the National Speech and Debate Association's national championship. Out of 33 team members participating, 15 qualified for the nationals and seven were named alternates. They are:

Duo Interpretation, Marin McLeod and Joe Calleja; Congress (House), Saket Rao; Informative Speaking, Anjali Mayor and Natalie Claybaugh; International Extemporaneous Speaking, Mira Carpenter and Niranjana Jayendran; Lincoln Douglas Debate, Bowie Lee; Original Oratory, Shalini Nair and Aashima Goswami; Public Forum Debate, Stephen Fancher/Jack Zhou; Senate, Rushi Patel, Presiding Officer; U.S. Extemporaneous Speaking, Terry Shen and Rohan Dash. All can attend the NSDA Nationals in Des Moines, Iowa in June.

Pine View also dominated the team awards, named Debate Sweepstakes Winner, Speech Sweepstakes Winner, Congress Sweepstakes Winner and Tournament Sweepstakes Winner.

"I'm a proud coach, and so thankful for the support of our Pine View Association, school faculty and staff, parent judges, families, and the abundance of alumni coming back home to guide this year's members to new heights," PVSD Coach Jym Froelich said.

From left, PVSD's Lola Delbridge, coach Jym Froelich and Brooke Wolfinger after the NCFL qualifier.

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WALL OF FAME — JANUARY

Grade 2: Scarlet Traverso is a kind, helpful and loving student! She works hard every day to try her best and be the best version of herself! She is a supportive and understanding friend; I am so lucky to have her in my class this year!

Grade 3: Amy Lu goes the extra degree in the classroom by being a quiet leader, always being on task, and participating in class discussions. Her attention to detail is demonstrated in her schoolwork every day. She excels in her artistic capabilities and enjoys helping others with their art as well. She is a kind and welcoming friend to all and is always willing to help a friend in need. Amy is new to Pine View this year and truly exemplifies what it means to go the extra degree.

Grade 4: George Skhirtladze is a remarkable student who truly exemplifies the Pine View 212 philosophy as a role model student and one who goes above and beyond both in and out of the classroom. George is a student who is always eager to help his peers and teachers. He demonstrates exemplary character traits like commitment to academics and kindness towards fellow students. George has a huge heart and shares his thoughtfulness regularly with others.

Grade 5: Ariana Vishnevsky is a diligent worker in class and takes time to help others. She is kind and thoughtful to the people around her and always reaches out to those who are in need of a friend. She goes out of her way to make people smile and spreads positivity everywhere she goes. Congratulations for going the extra degree representing our 212° philosophy!

Grade 6: Aniket Sarkar is an amazing young man who truly exemplifies the Pine View 212 philosophy. Aniket's teachers state that he is an exemplary student who is kind, thoughtful and hard-working who impresses his teachers as well as his peers. He consistently completes and submits class work, homework, and assignments on time. An enthusiastic participant, Aniket works well in small groups and responds positively to the ideas, points of view, and feedback of others. He is an amazing problem solver and scientist as can be seen in his commitment to Pine View's STEM Fair. Aniket always contributes to classroom discussions and answers questions with detailed explanations.

Grade 7: Isabel Georgieva is the epitome of 212. She is always asking for opportunities to enrich the curriculum, specifically to challenge herself. She enters essay contests and reads books in order to participate in an ELA independent novel study quarter 2. Her work is exceptional and mature. Additionally, Isabel taught herself the 6th grade Chinese curriculum over the summer so she would be prepared for the 7th grade Chinese class. She is very creative and works well with her classmates. Even though she is very involved in clubs and activities, she manages her time well and acts proactively. It's a pleasure to see a child striving for excellence in her areas of interest.

WALL OF FAME — JANUARY

Grade 8: Meyer Sachs consistently demonstrates a commendable commitment to excellence in his academic pursuits. His diligence is evident in his approach to science assignments, where he not only puts forth considerable effort but also enriches his work with meticulous details, examples, and sketches. Beyond his academic achievements, Meyer's positive attitude fosters a collaborative environment, allowing him to effectively work with his peers. Meyer's positive demeanor extends beyond the academic realm; he remains attentive, pleasant, and approachable to everyone in the class. Meyer's exceptional artistic talents are evident both inside and outside the classroom. Over the past three years, he has produced stunning artworks in both 2D and 3D mediums, with his sneaker designs standing out as personal favorites. A dedicated creator, Meyer has cultivated a unique artistic style characterized by a brilliant use of line and color in his compositions.

Grade 9: Aadi Bhensdadia truly exemplifies the 212° philosophy both in class and about campus. Aadi's insight and understanding of academic material stand out as remarkable. His ability to articulate complex concepts in understandable terms makes the subject matter more accessible to his peers. Aadi's written expression is characterized by a level of sophistication and clarity that sets him apart, showcasing a mastery of both the content and the art of effective communication. In the academic setting, he consistently raises the bar, creating an intellectually stimulating environment for his classmates. His teachers remark that they benefit from his contributions by gaining valuable insights that enhance their own perspectives and understanding. Aadi's impact extends beyond personal achievement, positively influencing the collective learning experience in his classes. Aadi raises the bar in class and beyond, embodying the 212° philosophy and inspiring others to do the same.

Grade 10: Lanie Fineman embodies the 212° philosophy 365 days of the year. She actively and thoughtfully participates in class discussions and inspires her fellow students. Her AP World History teacher remarks that Lanie makes her a better teacher with her thought-provoking questions. Lanie's work is always excellent, and her creativity in her project work shines through as well. Lanie consistently demonstrates herself to be a vital and helpful member of her classes, participating actively, helping others with any struggles, and guiding her teammates to success on group projects. She demonstrates an upbeat attitude that is uplifting to all around her. What makes Lanie truly exceptional is her kindness towards her classmates. She fosters a positive atmosphere, inspiring those around her. Lanie extends a helping hand to those in need, making her an essential part of our Pine View community.

Grade 11: Chiwen Lo is an accomplished and respected member of the Pine View Speech and Debate Team. She and her PVSD Team partner are active public forum debate competitors, having placed highly at both local and national invitational tournaments since 2021. Chiwen has been extremely dedicated to the team, serving this year as Historian and entering more tournaments than most of her peers in the public forum event. This involvement clearly demonstrates her loyalty, grit, personal drive, and the leadership qualities that continue to propel her to boundless success!

Grade 12: Grant Burroughs is very engaging, genuine, and highly personable. He has a passion for the Social Sciences and enjoys delving into the complexity of topics covered in history and economics classes. This past summer, Grant participated in an intensive Mock Trial Summer Institute at University of South Florida. He also continues to enjoy his involvement with the local Sarasota Teen Court Program, having served as juror, clerk, and bailiff over the past three years. Grant's interpersonal skills are exceptional, having perfected his ability to add to a discussion while validating and respecting all points of view.

WALL OF FAME — FEBRUARY

Grade 2: Sara Lopez exemplifies the spirit of going 212 degrees in everything she does. She is an excellent student and a role model for her classmates academically and behaviorally. She is always respectful and kind and consistently gives 100%. Sara is also a fluent Spanish speaker, spends many hours every week swimming with the Sarasota Sharks, plays the piano, and is involved in gymnastics. She is an exemplar of Pine View, and we are proud of her.

Grade 3: Rylee Parker exemplifies the 212 ideal! She is constantly trying to work that extra bit to be successful and grow. You can see this effort in everything she does. You can see it when she is studying in the classroom, and you can see it when she is playing soccer on the soccer field. You can also see it in the way that she supports others in the classroom. She collaborates in a very kind and caring way and is always respectful. She has grown so much this school year, and it is not over yet! Outside of school she dedicates much of her time to being a Girl Scout. In class she is a wonderful role model.

Grade 4: Sophia Huang. The famous Greek storyteller AESOP is quoted as saying, "No act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted." This 4th grade student exemplifies that quote. On a daily basis, she consistently displays acts of kindness and never expects anything in return. Whether it's a small gesture like lending a pencil or offering kind words to a distressed classmate, she is always modeling thoughtfulness and compassion in her own subtle way. Through her empathy she exemplifies the fact that kindness is not only embodied in grand gestures, but also in the subtleties of day-to-day life. Her teachers can always count on this student when one of her classmates needs a bit of cheer, needs a hand, or just a partner to work with. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that Mr. Maron Mrs. Elliott and Mrs. Delaney nominate Sophia for the 212 award.

Grade 5: Alexander Nguyen has many unique qualities that make him a 212 student. He is always happy to help others and will stop what he is doing to ensure others are taken care of. He brings intriguing conversation points to the classroom to make others engage their mind. Alexander has the ability to make you smile with his charm and love of learning. He is such a pleasure to have in the classroom, as he is so passionate about learning and makes our job as teachers so rewarding!

Grade 6: Caroline Wu is an amazing young lady who truly exemplifies the Pine View 212 philosophy. Caroline's teachers state that she is very passionate about learning and consistently demonstrates dedication to her studies. Caroline is new to Pine View this year, but already has shown that she has a 212-degree attitude! She is an active participant in class discussions and often adds fascinating information as she loves to share her knowledge with her peers as well as learning from them. If a peer is struggling in class, Caroline is one of the first students to reach out to help. Caroline is also an exceptional artist with an advanced understanding of delicate details that bring together a composition. Her artwork contains stunning narratives that engage the viewer and leave them wanting more. Caroline's ability to grasp new languages and concepts is nothing short of remarkable. She does not only excel in the content area but also brings a spirit of kindness and cooperation to the entire class. Your teachers are so proud of you, Caroline! It is our pleasure to nominate Caroline for this honor.

WALL OF FAME — FEBRUARY

Grade 7: Victoria Petrova is an amazing student and classmate, and she goes the extra degree on a daily basis. She strives to do quality work in her classes as well as in her participation in chorus. Victoria is a great friend to others, shows honesty and integrity, and is respectful to everyone around her. She is polite, friendly, hard-working, and humble. You will never hear her brag about her exemplary grades; rather, you will see her quietly and steadfastly working towards building upon her already impressive wealth of knowledge. She is such a pleasure to have in class due to her 212 effort and attitude!

Grade 8: Dominic Myers' dedication to academic excellence shines through in his unwavering effort and curiosity. Not only does Dominic excel in his studies by consistently striving for his best, but he also demonstrates a genuine passion for learning and exhibiting the 212 philosophy: a willingness to go further, to seek greater understanding. Dominic's willingness to share knowledge and assist others underscores his collaborative spirit, making him a valued member of the Pine View community!

Grade 9: Jay Grove is a wonderful student who truly embodies the 212 philosophy daily. Jay is polite and respectful. In Biology, Jay works well with lab partners and excels in problem-solving. Jay consistently produces quality work and maintains a high level of motivation. Jay's attitude is contagious, inspiring other group members in English. Jay always brings in higher-level thinking skills to complete challenging assignments and has more of a grasp on history than many adults! Jay is a complete joy to have in class, and indeed, on Pine View's campus!

Grade 10: Ava Lenerz truly embodies the spirit of the 212 philosophy through her leadership, her compassion, and her dedication. Ava leads by demonstrating a sincere interest in every undertaking, whether it is a class presentation or creating sets for a production. She is dedicated, responsible, and can be trusted to finish her projects in a timely and organized way. Ava demonstrates bravery through taking on difficult tasks. For example, in Journalism, she chose to write a piece for the Torch on a sensitive subject and did it with professionalism and objectivity. Her contributions to the recent production of *Beauty and the Beast* resulted in a spectacular show. When working in a group, her compassion and fairness often help her to keep people motivated and involved. Ava Lenerz is such an important part of our Pine View community!

Grade 11: Matrick Thorpe is an exceptionally gifted and passionate musician. His love for music is contagious, his gift for working with people of all ages is ever present, and his ability to speak to large and small groups of people is exemplary. Matrick enjoys performing all genres of music and feels equally comfortable performing as a soloist, with chamber groups, as well as with large orchestras. He especially loves playing impromptu music with others and has performed all over the world with a number of like-minded musicians. Matrick was nominated and invited to speak at a TedTalk event. His presentation took place earlier this month, and we look forward to seeing the video once it is released.

Grade 12: Sanya Patel is an impressive mentor and role model to all the younger journalism students. She talks to all of them and makes them comfortable enough to come to her with questions. Through her use of humor and sincere caring, Sanya is able to offer constructive criticism that is well-received and appreciated. Sanya is also very involved with the school's drama performances and talent shows. She recently served as the stage director for *Beauty and the Beast*, a task which she completed with grace and finesse. Congratulations Sanya for going the extra degree!

Pine View Information

Administration

Stephen P. Covert
Principal

Roy Sprinkle
Asst. Principal, Gr. 2-5

Melissa Abela
Asst. Principal, Gr. 6-8

Lana Marcotte
Asst. Principal, Gr. 9-12

Tricia Allen
Asst. Principal of Curriculum

Lance Bergman
College Resource Advisor, Gr. 12

Dr. Lori Wiley
College & Career Advisor, Gr. 8-11

Kelly Hawking
Guidance, Gr. 2-5

TBD
Guidance, Gr. 6-8

Ashley Byington
Guidance, Gr. 9-10

Lynn Halcomb
Guidance, Gr. 11-12

Eileen Cabrera
ESE Liaison/Admissions

Kristin McCombie
ESE Liaison/ESOL, EP

Eugene Williams
School Resource Officer

Office

Denise Valentine
Admin. Assistant
Principal

Gena Bufkin
Admin. Assistant
Asst. Principal Gr. 2-8

Nadine Feraco
Admin. Assistant
Asst. Principal Gr. 9-12

Laura VanHorne
Admin. Assistant
College & Career Advisors

Rebecca Kochenderfer
504 Coordinator

Sue Manders
Registrar

Deana Sandefur
Registrar Assistant

Teri Fisher
Bookkeeper

Faith Kona
Bookkeeper Assistant

Angie Wittstruck
Student Union Manager

Misty Wells-Wimbish
Health Room LPN

Alicia Poteralski
Health Room Aide

Carole McLaughlin
Admissions Secretary

Gina Verdino
Attendance Secretary

Amy Cleveland
HS Guidance Secretary

Mary King
MS Guidance Secretary

Laura Valek
ES Guidance Secretary

Jesse Cortez
Receptionist

Beth Houghtaling
Head Custodian

Aides

Library/Media Aide: Pat Morgerson; Media Monitorial Aide: Alexis McLaughlin
Technology Support: Hugo Guardado Henriquez, Eddie Yefremov

If You Need ...

PVA provides this list to help you know whom to call when you need assistance on a specific topic. When in doubt, ask the wonderful staff and volunteers at the front desk. They are always there to help.

Main Phone Number: 941-486-2001
Main Office Hours: 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Media Center Hours: 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Activities Calendar ..... Nadine Feraco
Activity Bus ..... Denise Smith
Admissions ..... Kristine McCombie
Announcements ..... Nadine Feraco
Attendance ..... Gina Verdino
Custodial Assistance ..... Front Desk
Deposit/Withdrawal of Funds ..... Teri Fisher
Intramural Information ..... Joe Digiacomo
Medical Attention .....Misty Wells-Wimbush, LPN; Katherine Servidio, DOH RN
Student Parking ..... Denise Smith
Student Sign In/Sign Out ..... Front Desk
Student Activities ..... Pat Morgerson
Student ID Badges ..... Guidance Dept.
To Report Theft or Vandalism ..... Officer Eugene Williams
Bus Transportation 941-486-2141
Transcript Request ..... Sue Manders
Withdrawal from School ..... Sue Manders

Regular Class Schedule

Period 1	7:21 AM - 8:13 AM
Period 2	8:18 AM - 9:10 AM
Moment of Silence	9:15 AM
Period 3	9:15 AM - 10:10 AM
Period 4	10:15 AM - 11:07 AM
Period 5	11:12 AM - 12:04 PM
Period 6	12:09 PM - 1:01 PM
Period 7	1:06 PM - 1:58 PM
Period 8	2:03 PM - 2:55 PM
Period 9	3:00 PM - 3:52 PM

Advisory Day Class Schedule

Period 1	7:21 AM - 8:13 AM
Period 2	8:18 AM - 9:10 AM
Moment of Silence	9:15 AM
Advisory	9:15 AM - 10:01 AM
Period 3	10:05 AM - 10:46 AM
Period 4	10:50 AM - 11:31 AM
Period 5	11:35 AM - 12:16 PM
Period 6	12:20 PM - 1:01 PM
Period 7	1:06 PM - 1:58 PM
Period 8	2:03 PM - 2:55 PM
Period 9	3:00 PM - 3:52 PM

Pine View School Mission Statement

The mission of Pine View School is to provide a qualitatively different learning environment that nurtures a passion for intellectual curiosity, encourages risk-taking, independence and innovation, and is committed to a tradition of academic excellence and social responsibility.

ABSENCE EXCUSE FORMS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On the following page are two blank, absence request forms for future use. This form includes all the necessary information that attendance needs should your child be late to school, is absent or requires an early dismissal. (High school students with a driver's license, a registered parking space and a signed note from a parent may leave early and drive themselves.) The 'passport' category can be used to request a Passport for a FUTURE FULL-DAY absence.

STUDENTS 18 YEARS OF AGE MUST STILL HAVE NOTES FROM HOME TO EXCUSE ABSENCES, TARDIES AND TO LEAVE CAMPUS EARLY

Please feel free to detach and copy this form for use throughout the school year - more copies can be obtained in the front office. This form is not required to excuse an absence but is simple to complete and will help assure that you've included all the necessary information for your child. Handwritten, signed notes are still accepted and doctor notes are always **strongly** recommended when available.

Thank you,

Pine View School Attendance

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PINE VIEW SCHOOL
1 PYTHON PATH, OSPREY, FL 34229
PHONE (941) 486-2001 FAX (941) 486-2042

ABSENCE EXCUSE FORM

Student Name_____ Grade_____

☐ Is **LATE**, Reason_____

☐ Is **LEAVING EARLY**
Time of early dismissal_____
Individual picking up_____
Reason for early dismissal_____

☐ **HS STUDENT LEAVING EARLY** and has permission to drive themselves off campus.
Time of early dismissal_____
Reason for early dismissal_____
Registered Parking Space No._____

☐ **ABSENCE (Full Day Absence)**
Date of absence_____
Reason for absence_____

☐ **Passport Request (Future Full Day(s) Absence)**
Date(s) of future absence_____
Purpose of absence_____

_____
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

RET: Master, 30 days aft grade period, GS7, 1
Dupl., OSA

007-17-0021
Rev. 6-7-18

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PINE VIEW SCHOOL
1 PYTHON PATH, OSPREY, FL 34229
PHONE (941) 486-2001 FAX (941) 486-2042

ABSENCE EXCUSE FORM

Student Name_____ Grade_____

☐ Is **LATE**, Reason_____

☐ Is **LEAVING EARLY**
Time of early dismissal_____
Individual picking up_____
Reason for early dismissal_____

☐ **HS STUDENT LEAVING EARLY** and has permission to drive themselves off campus.
Time of early dismissal_____
Reason for early dismissal_____
Registered Parking Space No._____

☐ **ABSENCE (Full Day Absence)**
Date of absence_____
Reason for absence_____

☐ **Passport Request (Future Full Day(s) Absence)**
Date(s) of future absence_____
Purpose of absence_____

_____
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

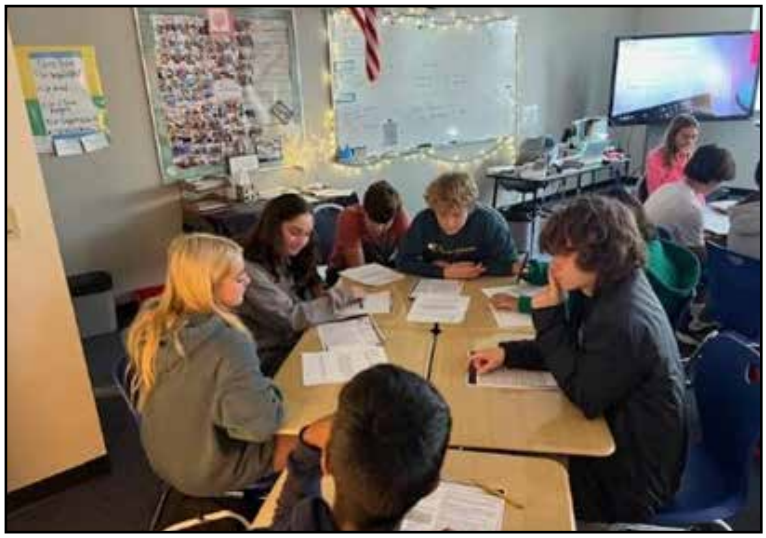
RET: Master, 30 days aft grade period, GS7, 1
Dupl., OSA

007-17-0021
Rev. 6-7-18

Middle School Report

Compiled by Edwin Stumpf

8th grade ELA students had a busy January building historical context for their quarter 3 novel, To Kill a Mockingbird. Students honed their writing skills with an expository essay and journal responses to the novel, and participated in activities including identifying and analyzing characters and conducting small group discussions that explored the exposition of TKAM.



Students in Grade 6 Earth & Space science were busy learning about the Universe and of course spent lots of time in Pine View's Star Lab! They did a fun lifecycle CER (claim, evidence, reasoning) lab where students picked the materials they used based upon if it was a low or high mass star.

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Grade 6 World History completed their Ancient China unit and celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon. Students were introduced to the DBQ (document-based question), a technical process of analyzing primary and secondary sources (maps, letters, charts, poems, etc.) and using those documents as evidence to support a position they take when answering a question in a five-paragraph essay. This builds skills for when students are presented with DBQs in later grades and high school AP courses. Here, students are collaborating and organizing ideas for the question "The Great Wall of Ancient China: Was it Worth the Costs?"

Grade 6 celebrated Literacy Week by making bookmarks and participating in a school wide D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) period, bringing blankets and favorite books to read outside on a beautiful day!

High School Report

Compiled by David Mannino

AP French students created and delivered presentations in which they expounded upon the first three of the six themes to be covered on the exam. They explored in depth La Famille et la Communauté (The Family and Community), La Quête de Soi (The Search for Oneself), and L'esthétique (The Aesthetic). Each student chose an African country that has French as one of its official languages. They were required to speak entirely in French and develop an engagement activity utilized to assess the comprehension of their classmates.

Ms. Suchora's AP Pre-Calculus students finished their unit circle projects, which turned out amazing, she said: "We have really creative students at Pine View!

In the second performance task for AP Seminar, Ms. Loyer reports that students had to read seven stimulus sources and select a thematic connection between at least two of them to inspire a research question, which they investigate and then turn into a written argument. They read and analyzed the sources and then made a chart finding specific connections between each pair. We take those connections and make them physical in a College Board-recommended activity, the "yarn conspiracy board." Students work in pairs or teams to set up posters around the room representing each source. As they share connections between sources, they add them to their posters and toss a ball of yarn to show which sources have been connected so far.

Ms. McLeod reports that in AP World History, students created review games for their midterm, and also attended Napoleon's funeral, having to portray a contemporary and act accordingly (depending upon that contemporary's relationship to Napoleon.)

Beauty and the Beast

In January, Pine View Drama Club proudly presented a student production of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast." This musical incorporated students from grades 7 to 12 in all aspects of production. "From running the technical booth, to directing, to performing (and so much more) our students outdid themselves in all areas of this production!" Ms. O'Mahony said. Look for the club's tribute to Shakespeare coming in April.

All photos by Timothy Nesanelis of The Torch except center photo by Matthew Castillo of The Torch.

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