



Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Dear Parents of High School Students:

We welcome you to the 2009-2010 school year! As the fourth week of classes closes, we find ourselves happily settled into the rhythm of academic exploration and rigor. We are quickly reminded of the tremendously important and fulfilling task at hand - educating the leaders of tomorrow, our high school students.

Open House

It's my great pleasure to invite all high school parents to Open House 2009 this Friday, September 11 at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium. At the general session we will briefly present Week Without Walls 2010, our goal of Oral Proficiency and the new home-school communication website PowerSchool. Thereafter, parents will follow their child's schedule attending all 7 subjects through 13-minute classes. Remember Open House is a time to meet the teachers and learn about the educational objectives of their classes. Our teachers would be very happy to discuss individual learning needs at scheduled parent-student-teacher meetings in the coming weeks. Please call Irma Fonseca in the high school office (3817 3377) if you wish to set up such a meeting. Finally, remember that parking on the basketball courts is provided through the Filadelfia entrance.

Power School

ASFG has adopted a new student information system called Power School. Aside from internally managing all important student data, this web-based application is a great tool for school-home communication. Parents and students are able to check assignments, grades, bulletin announcements and more from their home internet connection. Login IDs and passwords will be distributed to parents at Open House on Friday.

Oral Proficiency

Our school-wide goal for the 09-10 school year is oral proficiency in both English and Spanish. The ability to communicate effectively and convincingly through oral expression has been ranked in the top three most important 21st century skills by [business leaders](#). Furthermore, speaking a foreign language fluently was identified by the same group as the most important "emerging skill" as job markets become more globalized. We are excited to focus on oral proficiency this and in future years with our students and teachers.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL FOUNDATION OF GUADALAJARA, A.C.

A BILINGUAL SCHOOL ACCREDITED BY THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS.
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WWW

Planning for our Week Without Walls program 2010 is well underway. The WWW Workshops which run at ASFG are the backbone of this stellar program. Our students and teachers are working on interesting proposals. Planning for the overnight trips started over the summer. We're happy to present the 4 generation [curriculum-based trips](#):

- 9th Grade: "Texas – from the Alamo to Space"
Informational Meeting – 8:00 a.m. on Tue, Sep 15 in Room 13
- 10th Grade: "Germany and Czech Republic – Standing in The Shadows of WWII"
Informational Meeting – 7:00 p.m. on Mon, Sep 14 in Room 18
- 11th Grade: "Washington D.C. & Philadelphia - The U.S. Past, The Present And Your Future"
Informational Meeting – 2:00 p.m. on Mon, Sep 14 in Room 4
- 12th Grade: "Chiapas – Step Into The Mystical World of the South"
Informational Meeting – 10:30 a.m. on Tue, Sep 15 in Room 16

Please visit our WWW website, created and managed by our WWW coordinator, Jocelin Diaz at www.asfg.mx/highschool/www2/en/trips0910.php.

New High School Staff

We are honored to present 9 new staff members in high school. An ASFG graduate and doctoral candidate in Wood Science at Oregon State University, Ms. June Mitsuhashi is our new Pre-Calculus and Applied Math teacher. An ASFG veteran formally in the Support Services department, Mr. James DeMarco is our new English 9 teacher. A veteran teacher and genuine Tapatia, Ms. Karla Vidrio is our new Spanish 10 and Spanish as a Second Language teacher. An experienced art teacher and Yoga instructor, Ms. Jana Padilla now teaches our high school art classes. Ms. Jocelin Diaz, an ASFG alumnae and logistics expert, is our new substitute teacher and WWW coordinator. Mr. Mariano Cortese, originally from Argentina but now with 7 years at ASFG is our new high school PE teacher. Ms. Lorena Paredes, an experienced chemistry teacher from Guadalajara is helping us with one class of 9th grade science. A certified English teacher from Canada, Ms. Micelli is our new English Workshop teacher. Finally, Teresa Herce, a veteran of the hotel business, is using her many skills in the educator sector as our new high school secretary. Please join me in welcoming these new staff members to our ASFG community.

Career Fair

Our Career Fair will be held on Friday, October 2 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with a keynote address from Lic. Miguel Agustin Limon Macias, former Jaliscan Secretary of Education and current

president of the “Comisión Nacional de Libros de Texto Gratuitos”. Sustainability is the theme of this year’s fair but in a very broad sense. Our focus on sustainability includes but is in no way limited to ecological careers; we invite all types of professionals who, in their own way, contribute to making a better, more sustainable world for future generations. As always, we rely upon the generosity of our parents to present their professions during three 20-minute sessions. These presentations are made to small groups of 10 -15 students. If you would like to volunteer, please email me at david.mcgrath@asfg.mx. I thank you in advance for your participation in this important event.

Progress Report

All high school students receive a Progress Reports midway through each of the four quarters. The first is on **Wednesday, September 23**. Please be sure to ask your child for this report and access your account in PowerSchool if you have any questions about the work s/he has done.

College Fair

Our annual College Fair will be held on Monday, October 5th. Representatives from college and universities will visit ASFG to provide information regarding their institutions. Some of our visitors will also conduct workshops for students on topics related to career orientation and university preparation. All of our high school students will attend these morning workshops and the college fair. A list of college and university participants will be shared with students in the coming weeks.

We are excited about the productive and successful year ahead of us in high school. With your participation, support and constant feedback, our high school will continue to excel. Welcome back to ASFG High School!

Sincerely,



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