



Correia Cougar News

February 2006

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Correia Cougar News
is a quarterly
newsletter of the

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Middle School
Association
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Linda Taggart,
Principal

Kris Spathas,
Association President /
Newsletter Editor

Principal's Message

by Debbie Penfold, Vice-Principal

The first semester ended on February 3, 2006. Report cards were mailed home by the district the week of February 13th. Please take the time to sit down with your child to discuss his/her grades and citizenship. It is a great opportunity to talk about his/her classes, activities and social life at Correia. Middle schoolers tend to keep their school life private but if you can get them at just the right moment they open up and share all kinds of wonderful information. Keep the lines of communication open even if at times it seems like pulling teeth.

We want to congratulate all of our students who worked so hard during the first semester. In March we hold an awards assembly to recognize those students who have excelled in

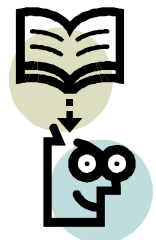
school. Our Awards Ceremony is scheduled for March 14th at 8:45 a.m. If your child is being recognized for superior achievement in his/her classes you will receive a letter inviting you to the recognition assembly during the week of March 6th.

Second semester is the semester of testing. We start with the *Prudential* FITNESSGRAM testing in PE classes during the months of February and March (February 27th – March 31st). This program was developed by the Cooper Institute for Aerobics Research, Dallas, Texas. It is sponsored by the Prudential Insurance Company of America and is endorsed by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

(AAHPERD). The primary goal of the program is to assist students in establishing physical activity as part of their daily lives. Testing will occur in your child's PE classes during the testing window.

All 7th graders will take the STAR CST Writing test on March 7th with make-ups given on March 8th. More information will be sent home the week of February 20th.

Look for information about the STAR CST tests and DRP testing in April.



Crystal Celebration a Sparkling Success

by Kris Spathas



The Crystal Celebration was a fun event and a success in that many teachers, staff and parents attended! Thank you to Lucy DeVito for co-chairing this event and putting in endless hours preparing; Sharlene McKinstry for handling all of the money; our set-up crew, Aly Evans, Sandy Silverman, Cindy Hoppe, Grace Walker, Lisa Bingham, Sue Kennedy, Holly Kirkpatrick, Lucy DeVito and thank you to the clean-up crew, Matt Spathas, Jim and Lucy DeVito, Lisa and Ken Bingham.

The auction items were donated by so many people that I have to do a general "thank you", from alumni to community businesses to many Correia families; without the auction items, we would not have raised money. We raised a fair amount this year, though we were short compared to last year. But, the main goal of this event, to me, is to bring the community together for a fun night. Bobbi Samilson, Linda Taggart and Diane Ryan were all in attendance—all three Principals from the three upper schools in our neighborhood . . . Pretty cool!

It's never too early to start thinking of auction items for next year, so keep that in the back of your mind!! Also, if you would like to make a contribution to our school, donations are ALWAYS encouraged and needed.

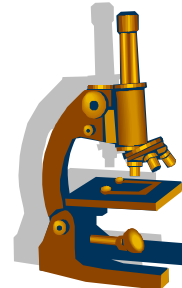
CORREIA'S TOP 16 WHO MOVED ON TO THE NEXT SCIENCE FAIR SCREENING

Ryan Bardelli
Chelsea Clark
Miles Murphy
Julia Greer
Meagan Hanna
Andrew Melone
Chris Hering
Katie Russell
Steven Kennedy
Sten Walker
Laura McKinstry
Kellen Stewart
Davis Callejon
Bobby Ogle
Kaelyn LeClair
Alex Pitta

Science Fair Projects—Exemplary this year! By Go Ozeni

The second annual Correia 8th grade Science Fair took place on January 20th through January 27th. All projects were on display in the library for the entire week ending with an open house on Thursday, January 26th. The quality of work turned in by this year's students was absolutely phenomenal. Some of the efforts that contributed to the outstanding projects included:

- Parent/Student Packet, created to give students and parents multiple examples of science projects from last year
- Websites created by Go Ozeni and Sean Gardinier
- Mock Class Projects – Bridge project and Boat Project
- Staggered due dates to keep kids on track
- Science lessons to support the project
- The “ins” and “outs” of laptop usage
- Notebook template found on the website
- Collaboration with other disciplines



Because many of the projects were done so well, the 8th grade science teachers decided to snazz up the open house with several awards that students could win. In each period, five awards were given out. Students won Construction Engineer, Most Unique, Best Display, first place for the highest grade, and second place for the second highest grade. To top it off, sixteen students were selected by judges to move on to the next screening at Mission Bay High School. On February 2nd, the county judges selected fourteen of the sixteen Correia students to attend the San Diego County Science and Engineering Fair held on March 28th thru April 2nd at Balboa Park. The county was so impressed with the quality of our work we were given twenty-five spots for next year's screening at Mission Bay. With so much recognition in our second year, we cannot wait to see what the future holds for Correia.

Last but not least, the 8th grade science department would like to thank everyone who played a role in this year's science fair

Watch Out for MySpace!

Written by Rick Colandrea,
8th grade counselor

There are a lot of websites on the internet that allow people to chat, set up profiles, network, and meet new people. One of these websites is MySpace.com. Recently, I have heard a lot of buzz about this website from friends and students. Therefore, I decided to check it out for myself. A lot of what I discovered I feel to be inappropriate for our Correia population, students aged 12 -14.

This website was designed for people ages 18 and older, and yet it is estimated that 75 percent of our school population are members. Therefore, students are lying about their age to join. Once a member (I am not, but was able to view profiles, postings, pictures and communities), students can write whatever they want in their profiles, download pictures (no matter how inappropriate) and post them on their profile page, send messages (and pictures) to their friends saying whatever they choose and have access to the 20 million plus members (pages can be blocked by members, most aren't), most



of whom who use this website for romantic purposes.

I am writing this article to make you aware of the dangers this may pose to our students, your sons and daughters. If I am able to view all of this information and send messages as if I were a member, and I have seen some of our students' pages, that means anyone can, member or non-member. Due to the increase in these type of websites and chat rooms over the years, there has been an increase in adults seeking out minors via the internet. *Dateline*, a news show on NBC, aired a hidden camera investigation in November where adults posed as young teenagers chatting with adults on the internet. The outcome was 20 plus adults showing up to what they thought was a teenager home alone, but turned out to be a reporter confronting them on their actions and intent.

If your son or daughter is part of an online community or chats online, you should monitor their use and be aware of what is discussed and what content is being displayed. There are some Internet Providers that have Parental Controls which can keep kids from accessing

online communities, but MySpace.com seems to be the most popular right now. And just so you know, MySpace is blocked from use at Correia.

The following message is from the www.myspace.com under Safety Tips:

“Parents should know that no one under the age of fourteen is allowed to use our site. While we can't always tell if someone is lying about their age, we try to keep them off of our site. If you discover that your child is posing as someone older and using our site, please let us know.”

Internet Safety Sites:

www.wiredsafety.org
www.kidssafe.org

Instrumental Music Program Update

Written by Kathy Tappero

Our next team competitions are: The District Band Festival on March 4 and the District Orchestra Festival on March 18. District festivals are great not only for the experience of performing in an adjudicated event and the following clinics but to push each team member to do their very best and improve as a musician.

Smack in the middle of the Festivals the whole group is off on March 16 to Disneyland for a day of Music Training Sessions (and a little fun in the park too!) But when they return home they will have to take what they learned there and get to training even harder.

We invite you to join us for the Peninsula Bands in Concert at PLNU. This annual event features musicians from Dana, Correia, PLHS and PLNU. It is a free event that showcases the vast amount of talent we have here on the Point.

Correia will then host two weekends of Music Festivals prior to traveling to Magic Mountain May 6 to compete in Music in the Parks. These regional festivals include an adjudicated performance and then afternoons free for fun in the park. Upon our return from the competition we get to ease up on the training, play a little more fun stuff and enjoy playing in events like the Portuguese Festa (June 4,) our Spring Concert June 8, Correia Open House May 18 and Promotion June 20.

We have a great team of kids this year and are looking forward to a semester of music, travel, friends, fun, and award winning performances!

**Congratulations to
Correia 8th grader,
Jarod Finley,
who earned a spot on the
District Honor Band and
went on to the Southern
California Honor Band.**

Dave Brubeck Concert

Wednesday March 29 at 6:30 PM in the Dana Auditorium
come hear renowned Jazz Musician Dave Brubeck and his tal-
ented brother
as they play and host an evening of performances by
Dana Jazz Band, Correia Jazz Band
and PLHS Jazz Band
Tickets \$5.00 at the door or may be purchased online at
danamusic.com

All proceeds will benefit the PLHS Band Room construction project.

Correia Teacher of the Year, Suzanne Olsen! Written by James Jimenez, Vice-Principal

Suzanne Olsen –Teacher of the Year! Congratulations to Ms. Suzanne Olsen who has been nominated by her fellow Correia teachers as the 2006/2007 Teacher of the Year. On May 9, 2006, San Diego City Schools will recognize the Day of the Teacher. At that time, the Board of Education will honor Ms. Olsen and other teacher representatives from each school site and announce the district's Teachers of the Year.

Ms. Olsen teaches Spanish 1-2 and Spanish 3-4 at Correia. She has a true passion for teaching the Spanish language and always finds ways to incorporate intriguing lessons on the cultures of Spanish language countries such as their literature, music, and history. Upon entering her classroom, Ms. Olsen's room environment is rich with Spanish language print, literature and other cultural connections. She uses a multitude of strategies for her students to provide a fun and fulfilling experience in Spanish class.

In addition to teaching Spanish, Ms. Olsen has showed great leadership in supporting her fellow staff members and students at Correia. She was worked diligently to lead a discipline committee whose work has helped to build a safe and productive learning environment. Ms. Olsen has shared many successful strategies with the staff and helped to bring consultant Mark Boynton to our campus who provided a workshop on powerful discipline strategies. She continued her dedication by leading an effort to set up positive behavioral reinforcement programs as well detention programs and other alternatives to help reduce behavior problems. Her work is respected by colleagues and has helped to make Correia Middle School a better place for children. Please congratulate Ms. Olsen when you see her on campus.

Next Correia Association Meeting . . .
March 2nd, 6:00 pm
in the Correia Library

OUR GUEST: Bobbi Samilson,
Principal, Point Loma High School

For 8th Graders:

From PLHS Head Counselor, Laurie Hurl
Point Loma High School
Cheer Try-Outs:

Cheer tryouts -April 10-28th Information meeting on April
5th @ 6 P.M. in the PLHS cafeteria. Clinics on Feb 8th,
March 8th & April 6th in the PLHS dance room.
\$20 per girl/per clinic.

If you have questions, contact coach Kati Enea
858-731-1018 or plhsvarcheer@yahoo.com

Regarding articulation:

If parents did not make the family orientation evening, they
may pick up the catalog and articulation card from Correia
counseling office or PLHS counseling office. Counselors
will be at Correia the week of Feb 27th and will meet with
all students individually.

TO: Future Point Loma High School Families

Needed: An enthusiastic parent who will have a
child attending PLHS in the fall and would be interested in
volunteering to be the parent sponsor for the class of
2010. It is a four year commitment. The primary function is
"fund raising" for their senior activities; assisting the class
with their homecoming float; working with the teacher class
sponsor; the ASB, administration and other teachers. It can
actually be a shared responsibility between 2 or 3 people if
that is preferred. It will be a real advantage to the volunteer
(s) to have this summer to get organized. It is a really fun job
and a great way to stay connected to the school during your
child's high school years.

If you are interested, please contact Vickie Kerley, 619-226-
7770

**Create a Lasting
Memory at Correia**



Buy a brick, write a
message, and the message will be engraved and
set in concrete outside the beautiful Correia li-
brary for you to view for years to come! Go to
the Correia homepage and get a brick fundraiser
form or pick one up at the
Correia office.

Attention 8th Grade Parents!

**The Academy of
International Business and Technology**

For the 2006-2007 school year, Point Loma High
School is introducing a new program which gives students
the opportunity to develop knowledge of International
Business and Technology. Students will enter the program
in the 9th grade and continue on until graduation.

The academy will offer elective courses such as:

Computer Applications in Business,
Accounting, Business Law, Computer-
ized Graphic Design, and International
Trades

The benefits will include:

Participating in field trips, job shadows,
and internships (11th, 12th grade)

Students may also attend:

Conferences and workshops where
they can develop leadership and per-
sonal success skills

Each student will have access to new
media and technology in order to
acquire the skills needed to enter the
work force

Students will be a part of a small learning com-
munity and have the potential to earn college credit for
many of their courses (credits may exceed one semester)
Core and elective teachers will develop real world pro-
jects with international business themes in order to pre-
pare students for college and successful careers
Rigor, relevance and relationships will be emphasized in
core and elective classes.

For application or information contact:

Wanda Davie, Program Coordinator and Teacher, PLHS,
619-223-3121 X 4410 or Gini Holcomb, Counselor, PLHS,
619-223-3121 X 1126

Library Corner

By Marcia Abbott

The library is operating full speed ahead with classes booked into the main library space as well as the 40-station computer lab. We proudly display recent artwork designed by our students, and have our newly framed "Hall of History" (8th grade class photos from the 1960's, 70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's) hung in the computer lab. The reframing was a project graciously funded by the Correia Association, and the "historical" pictures receive much attention from our students! Our Parent/Student Book Club, the Correia Connection, is growing! If you enjoy reading with your student, and are willing to come together for a few snacks and a good discussion once a month, please join us!

We continue to collect General Mills' BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION, and appreciate the great numbers of them that are brought in by students and parents. In return for submitted boxtops, the library receives a check twice a year from General Mills. During this time of minimal funding (\$0.71 per student from the state this year for replacement of library books), every dollar is welcome! A big THANK YOU goes out to Robyn Owen for her time and effort as Boxtops Coordinator.

GOT BRICKS?? Have you seen our commemorative brick plot in front of the library? Would you like to see your family name or your student's name engraved there to remember years at Correia? Don't miss out! Applications are available online via www.correiamiddle.com or at the library.

Cleaning out your student's bookcases? We would be happy to receive gently used young adult books that you wish to share!

Need answers? Please don't hesitate to contact me at mabbott1@sandi.net or by phone, 619-222-0747, ext 2902.

Thank you for your continued support of our beautiful new library!
Marcia Abbott, Library Media Teacher



"Our greatest glory is not in never failing,
but in rising up
every time we fail."

Ralph Waldo
Emerson

ACCOLADES TO OUR ARTISTS and Art Teacher, Lilly Rosa

Be sure to stop by the Art Gallery Wall at Correia. There is fabulous art displayed each week on the front of the auditorium. One of the most recent displays was "Learning how to Shade using Oil Pastels". The previous two art projects were "A Floral Still Life Using Crayons and Watercolor" and "Be a Graphic Designer, Create your own cereal box".



CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED:

If you would like to donate items at any time to Correia, here are some ideas:

Baby wipes for the art class, plus paper plates, disposable cups and plastic pitchers are needed. Pants and shorts, khaki, navy or black, for boys and girls, all sizes needed

Your items will be welcomed at the main school office.

NEW CORREIA WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING!

If you haven't had an opportunity to look over the new website you'll want to do it soon! Dana, Correia and Point Loma High School all have similar formats now, but with individual looks. When your student(s) move from one school to the next, you will have no problem maneuvering through the websites. Thank you to Matt Spathas for making this happen after many years of planning! www.correiamiddle.com
www.pointlomahigh.com www.danamiddle.com

Students earn Correia Cash for exemplifying Team Work, Excellence, Responsibility and/or Respect. The Correia Cash can be spent on "treats" each Friday at the booth manned by Correia Association volunteers. Thank you Lucy DeVito and Chris Pickering for organizing this booth!!

*Team Work
Excellence
Responsibility*



Steven V. Correia
Middle School Association
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San Diego CA 92107

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CORREIA CALENDAR

March 2	Thursday	Correia Association Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Library
March 14	Tuesday	Awards Ceremony at Correia	8:45 a.m.	Auditorium
April 6	Thursday	Correia Association Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Library
April 7	Friday	Spring Pictures		
April 10-14	Mon-Fri	Spring Break		
May 4	Thursday	Correia Association Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Library
May 18	Thursday	Spring Open House	6:00 p.m.	

www.correiamiddle.com . . . It has a NEW LOOK . . .

Sign up for weekly e-mails from Correia by e-mailing Kris Spathas, kspathas@cox.net, and ask to be added to the list. Informational e-mails go out weekly.