

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A GAUCHO

April, 2016

VISION IN ACTION

Message from the Principal

Read all about it! The Gazette Goes Digital



Casa's award-winning and nationally recognized student newspaper has been launcheddigitally. This exciting news was presented by students from the *GauchoGazette* at this week's Principal's Advisory Committee Leadershipmeeting. The new digital platformwill allow student journalists new flexibility in news reporting, which can nowinclude video, blogging, social media, as well as day-to-day updates. The *Gazette*will continue to publish monthly in print form. The *Gazette*website is student-created and is an excellent example of the initiative, sophistication and tech savvy of Casa's incredible students. http://gauchogazette.com/

I stronglyencourage Casa parents and community supporters to read the Gazette

regularly. The newspaper is agreat source of information about important news and events happening on and off campus. It also provides an insightful window into the lives of Casa students and campus culture. --Eric

A message to parents from the *Gazette* staff:

We look forward to digitally reaching outto the community and having an interactive relationship with not only studentsbut also community members of the greater Petaluma area. This new addition to the *Gaucho Gazette* will allow ournewspaper staff to learn the new continuously-advancing art of digital media; they will become better prepared and able to work in our highly digitizedworld. It is our hope that, with the addition of an online tabloid, we will beable to publish articles on a more frequent and updated basis, along with ourup-and-coming broadcast reporting section of our journalism class that willbegin during the 2016-2017 school year. We look forward to further connecting with our eclectic little community, and we hereby formally invite you to checkus out -- online! --Kate Hoover and Michaela Western

What's Going On?

Stay Informed and Get Involved

April 13,14,15 AP Test Bubbling Sessions-OMU during office Hours

April 14 Open House 6-8:30pm

April 18-22 Cheerleading Tryouts-OMU 3-8pm

April 28 Eastside Band Festival-GYM 7-9pm

May 2-12 AP Testing

May 3 Boosters Awards Celebration-NMU 6:30-9pm

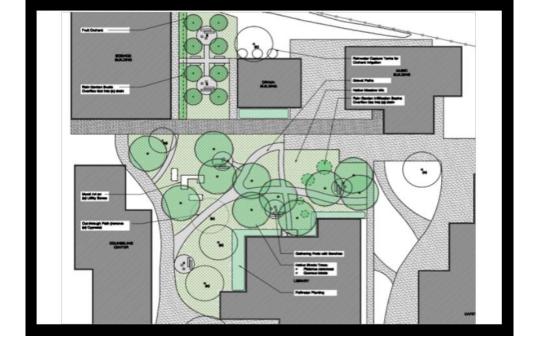
May 9 Boosters Meeting-Staff Lounge 7-8:30pm

May 14 Senior Prom at the Academy of Science 7pm

May 18 PTSA Meeting-Staff Lounge 6:30-8pm

May 19 Casa Grande Band Awards Concert-NMU 7-9pm

On Saturday, April 23, Casa will host another work day to support the development of the newLibrary Garden Space. The work daywill be from 9:00-12:00. Meetbehind the Library. Bring waterand gloves if you have them.



Project SERVE - An Opportunity to Participate!

Casa's seniorsare diligently working to complete their capstone projects. These represent many hours of researchand mentored community service which will culminate in presentations to panelsof community judges on **Tuesday and Wednesday**, **May 24** and **25**, **2016**. If you'd like to be part of thistradition and serve on a panel, please email Brenda Bellinger at bbellinger@petk12.org She will be happy to add you to our list.

PTSA

The final PTSA meeting of the school year will be **May 18th, 7pm**, in the staff lounge. We will go over events planned for next year, elect officers, and prepare next year's budget. We are still looking for a parent or two to chair our Staff Appreciation events next year. Please contact Lisa Allen @ joe3lisa3@comcast.net if you are interested in helping out or join us at our May 18th meeting to find out more.

Casa Boosters

Casa Boosters awards night **Tuesday May 3rd** at the NMU 6:30 to 8:30

Join the Boosters! We need your support. Become a member today and your membership will help drive student activities.

Memberships can be purchased online with Pay pal now! See us on the Casa Web page or contact Janet Kinahan at lkranch@comcast.net

Mark your calendars! Only three meetings left for the 2015/2016 school year

April 11th, May 9th and May 31st. Hope to see you there.

Every year the Booster Club sells fireworks to raise funds for our students. We are always in need of volunteers to help staff the booth. Sales begin around June 30th and run through July 4th. For more information please contact casaboosters@yahoo.com

Project Grad

Seniors: If you have are in need of an extra copy of Project Grad reservation form or guidelines, you can find them on our website at www.cghsprojectgrad.com/grad-night-info.html)

and remember to sell those raffle tickets! It's a win, win!!! Sell 50 and get half off your ticket price. Sell 100 and get your ticket to Project Grad free!

Unfortunately the "**Drive for your School" fundraiser,** that was scheduled for this weekend, has been **cancelled** due to a glitch with scheduling.

Hello Seniors! Prom is approaching and for all of you Seniors in need of a tux - Louis Thomas on Kentucky Street is your source for a great deal. In fact, for every rental made Louis Thomas will donate \$5 to CASA Projec Grad! Plus, you will get \$40 off - Click here to download coupon.

It's that time again for Project Grad to start planning for the biggest party of the year! As many of you know, this is the last night that all graduating Seniors get to spend together having fun, winning prizes and MOST importantly - staying sober. Every year it takes a whole team to pull this off for the kids. We have many opportunities available for those that want to help make this a night to remember.

Sonoma County Project Graduation is a 100% volunteer organization.

So please take a moment to see if there is a way you and your family or friends can lend a hand and be part of this valuable project and email Vicki Olivas Navarro at mom4dlon@sbcglobal.net) with your interests and any questions. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in volunteering to be part of this nearly 30 year community tradition, so that we can give our graduating seniors a *safe* celebration that they will remember always. You can find the volunteer form on the Project Grad web site (http://www.cghsprojectgrad.com/contact-us.html)

Committee Chairs needed for 2016-17. We have a number of parents on the Committee Board who have seniors this year that are winding down. We need many parents to make Project Grad work and encourage those with underclassmen to get involved now! This is a chance to make a difference not only for your own child but for all of the kids at Casa. Please contact Beth at princesssparkles24@yahoo.com

iPads

THE end is coming

Parents and Students,

We will be collectingIPADS from students in mid May. We will be expecting to collect the ipadin working order with its case, and both parts of the Apple manufacturedcharger (cord and brick). Students may be billed for missing or damagedequipment. Replacement cords and bricks are available now in the mainoffice for a fee of \$22 per piece.

Open your home to an exchangestudent and open your world!

Looking for amazing & caringCasa Grande families that would like to host a foreign exchange student forthis upcoming 16/17 school year. Coming to Casa in the fall are the followingstudents:

Andrea- 17 year old Italian boywho loves basketball, pets, hanging with friends and interacting withfamily. He would love to share his culture with his new host family.

Elena- 17 year old Italian girlwho loves swimming and having a positive attitude. She loves making jokesand having fun with family and friends.

Morten- 17 year old Norwegianboy who loves to play soccer and wants to try out for football. He lovesbeing involved in family activities and spending time with friends. He isexcited to come to Petaluma.

Fiona- 17 year old girl from the Netherlands. She loves children, cooking, playing sports like fieldhockey, and would like to travel and help others.

Camilla- 17 year old Norwegiangirl who loves cooking, hiking and exercise. She would like to join ourcross country team. She would like to experience time with, and become part of an American family.

EF High School Exchange has manyother students ready to experience a year abroad and to have an American familyexperience. If you are interested, the host family is responsible forroom and board. The student has spending money for all other expenses. It is truly an amazing experience that will change your life!

Contact <u>kelly.rankin@efexchangeyear.org</u>for more information. There will be a \$200 donation made to the schoolfor each family that decides to host. This also helps Casa with numbers as weare experiencing a drop in enrollment and brings a broader cultural awarenessto our school.



We are PPAD- Petaluma Parents Against Drugs, born out of concern for our students. PPAD is a grass roots organization that has started a partnership with our school, city, board of education, community and law enforcement to bring continuing drug education to our students creating a safer and smarter school experience that will allow students to focus on the their student success.

We are Kathleen Stafford, mother of 3 and local businesswoman and Heather Elliott-Hudson, mother of 3 and local businesswoman. Our eyes as parents have been ripped opened to the fact that there is a huge health crisis among our teens. Prescription drugs run rampant among our Petaluma schools. Something that many parents may not know or even know to look for. We would like to thank Mr. Backman, Mr. Owens, and Mr. Rose for taking a very active approach with partnering with us, Casa Grande supports our organization and they are going above and beyond to keep their students on the right path. We consider ourselves lucky to have our children at Casa under the direction of these great administrators. Please take the time to go to our <u>Facebook page</u> and join our circle and let's all "Start Talking."

PPAD invites your concerns, success stories, and challenges.

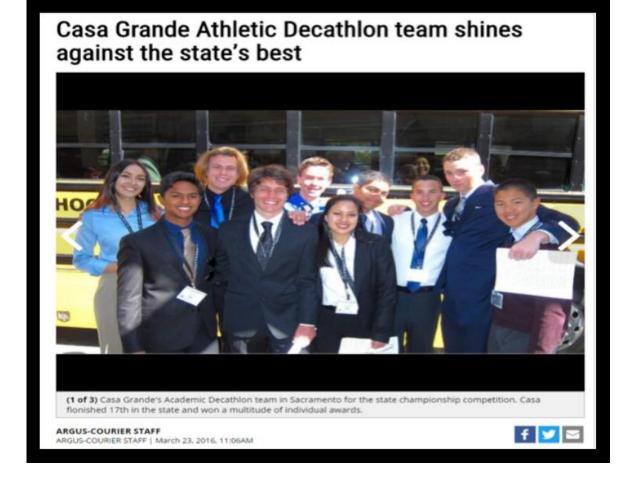
Thank you,

Kathleen Stafford and Heather Elliott-Hudson, Co-founders Petaluma Parents Against Drugs

Casa In The News

During SpringBreak, Casa Grande had an incredible week in the press. The stories covered Casa's AcDec victories at the statechampionships, a record-setting relay on the new track, Greg Raiewski's international television debut on the *TalkingDead*, and, finally, student feminists who are working for equal rights forall. Casa's students and teachers are making their mark in the Petaluma community and beyond. What an incredible school!

What a Team!



Equal Rights For All





Casa Runners Set New School Record



Achievement



Casa's top tenranked seniors were honored this week at the Harold and Connie MahoneyCommunity Achievement Awards Ceremony, along with other students from PetalumaHigh School and St. Vincent. Theevent included members of the PCS school board, the superintendent, businessand community leaders, and hundreds of others. Casa juniors and sophomores who are the top ten of theirrespective classes were also honored at the event. Casa's top ten seniors for 2016 are the following: Reilly Cannon, KarinaCastillo, Yin Mei Chan, Ram Goli, Lauren Gonzales, Claire Killian, Harry Koos,Alyssa Pearson, Kiana Shibata, Navi Sidhu, David Yee, Anzi Zhu.

Watch this video!



On the morningof their departure to the Disneyland music competition, Casa's choir, directedby Sean Millard, made a guest appearance in the main office. The performance brought a tear to manyan eye. Check out the youtube video at Main Office Mini Concert with Casa's Choir. Go Gauchos!

Casa Grande High School • 333 Casa Grande Road • Petaluma • CA Website

The Casa Grande Times is published monthly to inform parents of important news and updates related to our school community, and to unify our parents and community stakeholders in support of Casa students, teachers and staff.

Connect with us



