

ROA Director Update
Friday, April 29th, 2016

Hello lovely ROA families,



We have our first week of our state mandated testing behind us and would like to thank all of our amazing students (and parents) for their diligent participation. We are thrilled to hear such comments like “this was fun”; “I feel accomplished”; “math was so much easier for me, since I was tutored and understood it”. Yes, those were comments that we heard in the hallway from our students.



Next week, we are heading into testing our 9th and 10th grade student ACT Aspire testing and will continue with the CST (Science) for our 5th, 8th and 10th grade students. For more information, see below.



Please note that our 5-week short session of workshops starts Monday, May 2nd.



Upcoming Board openings—Parents please take a moment to cast your votes—read below

We have 3 parents interested in our two upcoming board openings. The openings are for outgoing board members, Theresa and Michelle. These are positions 2 and 4 as per our Addendum B, dated September 3, 2015. They are parent nominated positions. All 3 applicants’ short bios and pictures are listed below and you will also get a yahoo group email with the info. We are asking that **parents send in their nominations for 2 of the 3** applicants to Benny (please email Benny at: Benmartinez@vcoe.org).

Parents will have one vote per student enrolled at the time of the vote. The window for voting closes on Monday, May 2nd. If you have not voted yet, please do so asap☺

Benny with the Business Services Authority (our Chief Business Official) will tally the votes and then let us know at the next board meeting what the outcome of the nomination is. As per the Bylaws, the **board will then make the final appointment** for the two positions that will open up in August.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact either Kay DeGennaro (kay.degennaro@aol.com), Board Chair; Denise Filz (dfilz@sbcglobal.net), Board Vice Chair and/or Claudia (claudia.weintraub@roavc.com).

Bio for board position applicants:

David Hunt

My name is David Hunt, and I am just about to complete our first year (6th grade) as a River Oaks Academy family. I have been with the Los Angeles Police Department nearly 25 years and I have been a Sergeant of police for nearly half of that time. I am currently an assistant scoutmaster with my son's Boy Scout troop in Simi Valley. Prior to this, I was an active member of the United States Air Force during Desert Storm with two tours of combat duty. My interest in becoming a board member is to help inspire and coordinate with others to better our children in a positive and goal-enriching environment.

Anna Steele

I believe that I would make a great addition to the Board at River Oaks Academy for a variety of reasons. To start, I have been homeschooling for 7 years and I continue to have a great passion for it. I believe that my passion can be contagious when connecting with others; helping them to find a new curriculum, a fun new way to approach what has been a challenging area, or just confessing that I face or have faced the same or similar challenge(s). I am motivated to help find the right solution to educate a student based on his or her individual needs and interests. I believe it's also important to provide engaging opportunities to develop areas that are challenging to a student. I also believe it's important to embrace technology and it's many uses in education, as it plays an imperative roll in today's world.

With my previous work history, managing small offices, I tend to be an organized person. The many skills I have acquired over the years have taught me to be a big picture, forward thinker. When a challenge arises I work to find various creative solutions and evaluate those solutions for what works best to achieve the goals at hand. As a home schooling mom today, I enjoy the opportunity to always be learning new skills alongside my son.

A few fun things I've done in the past 8 years; helped with school functions and fundraisers, created a school directory, and coordinated and prepared meals for 120+ women for a Women's Retreat.

Jennifer Berryhill

My name is Jennifer Berryhill and I am seeking a position on the River Oaks Academy School Board. Our family has always been passionate about education, so 14 years ago, we began homeschooling our oldest son, Andrew. When our daughter, Sophia, began Kindergarten, we decided to continue with her as well after discovering the benefits and joys of tailoring a curriculum to our own children's needs. The journey has been challenging and immensely rewarding.

Almost three years ago, my husband and I decided to move our family from Texas to California and discovered River Oaks Academy Charter School. Having previously taught our children as independent homeschoolers, we found the benefits to be incredibly enriching for our daughter. Our youngest son, Charlie, has been a student

this year and I can honestly say that it has made a life-altering positive impact in terms of social growth and having such a lovely school to call his own.

My goal in seeking the position on the school board is to give back to the school in ways that help support its mission statement and to share my skills for organization, listening, and practicality. Having been dedicated to providing our children with the best education that suits their particular learning styles and respects them as individuals, I feel that ROA is a place that shares those goals and gives us so much more in terms of social interaction, access to workshops, counseling services and record keeping, and also a community of like-minded people. I would like to help ensure that the school continues to thrive and grow.

I have a B.S. in Political Science from the University of Houston ('94) with a minor in Psychology.

It would be an honor to serve on the board, and I would be diligent and careful to fulfill my responsibilities. I think of myself as someone who is a logical thinker, has a calm disposition, and who cares deeply about the issues that ROA faces in its future. I am a quick learner and I would work hard to learn the processes and procedures that the job requires. Thanks so much for your consideration.

A local opportunity: Film This 2016!

My name is Carina Morgan and I am serving as an education specialist at the Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. I am excited to share an upcoming opportunity for high school students with you! The Reagan Library is offering our third annual summer film-making program for all interested high school students, (flier and additional information below).



News From Your Counselor

1. **PSAT 10 Results Coming Soon!** If you took the PSAT 10 here at River Oaks on February 25, you may view your results online by April 22. You should have received an email a while ago with instructions as to how to set up your account at www.collegeboard.com. Once you have done so, you will be able to access your scores as soon as they are available. We will conduct test interpretation sessions in May. Mr. Intlekofer will be sending out information regarding these sessions. If you have any questions, email Mr. I. at richard.intlekofer@roavc.com.

2. **ROA High School Info Session!** 8th grade students (and anybody else who would like to attend) mark your calendar for May 25 @6:00 for our High School Info Session. Hear from our teachers and our counselor about high school, a-g courses, jr. college courses, career pathways, and much, much more and have all your burning high school questions answered. We look forward to seeing you all there.



CAREER PATHWAY UPDATE:

1. Interested in the field of Engineering? Cal Lutheran is hosting an introductory summer course for high school students. Each student earning a passing grade will receive John Hopkins University credit. This is an intensive, "hands-on" summer school course that offers an opportunity to think and problem-solve like an engineer. (Prerequisites: As and Bs in high school math and science courses; successful completion of Algebra II and knowledge of Trigonometry; successful completion of Biology, Chemistry or Physics and knowledge of spreadsheet application, such as Excel.)
Tuition: \$2300 (Need-based scholarships are available!)

2. High school students - please make sure to schedule an appointment with Richard to look over the numerous course offerings at the CEC. They have so many classes to offer in various pathways and careers. Take advantage of these resources and add something that appeals to you and your strengths for the Fall.

3. Entree to Employment - Information Technology (5/3 @ CLU) and Engineering is on (5/23 @ CLU)

4. Captivating Speakers - we are thrilled with the response to this pilot program and we're happy to bring them back for the Fall.

5. CCS - this cohort is about half-way through their semester. We will be offering one class for next year, in the Fall. If you're an incoming freshman, please make sure to sign-up for this valuable class. It counts as the first course in our pathway program and you can receive college credit with a passing grade.

Summer School Career Exploration Workshops - CEC

There are 31 career camps and courses for students to explore this summer. There will be speakers, field trips and other project-based work opportunities to experience incorporated into each workshop. Attached below is a link to these amazing options - space is limited, so reserve your spot soon. Make an appointment with Richard and he will assist you with the registration process. (5 credits available)

<http://www.vcoe.org/Career-Education-Center/Summer-Camps>



State Mandated Testing Info, ACT Aspire and i-Ready

It's that time of the year. As you know, having your students participate in our testing is a matter of our charter staying open and our school being funded. Our charter is dependent on our test results, and our authorizer, the County Board of Education, will review not only the results, but will hold our school accountable to make sure that our students make academic progress. We hope that these assessments show a true reflection of our students' efforts and abilities.

Testing days are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each testing week. We are starting at 9:00 and are asking that you be there at least 15 minutes early. We will have snacks for your student. Please know that these tests are not timed (other than the ACT Aspire), and we very much encourage your student to work at his/her own pace and let us know when he/she wants to take a break and/or finish for the day.

We will have make-up days available for your student, if he/she needs extra time.

Please talk to your teacher about the details, any questions you might have and/or accommodation requests, during your next week turn in meetings.

The following is a list of tests and grade levels:

3rd-8th and 11th grade students: Smarter Balanced (computer online CAASPP test) administered at ROA

3rd-8th grade students: i-Ready (taken at home)

9th and 10th grade students: ACT Aspire

5th, 8th, 10th grade students: CST Science (paper and pencil)

5th, 7th, 9th grade students PE test

Testing Schedule

Smarter Balanced (CAASPP), ACT Aspire and CST Science

Week of:	Grade Level	What Tests
May 2	5, 8 10	CST Science (paper and pencil)
May 2 and 3 (only)	9, 10	ACT Aspire
May 9	5, 6	CAASPP/Smarter Balanced (online)
May 16	7, 11	CAASPP/Smarter Balanced (online)
May, 23	8, 11	CAASPP/Smarter Balanced (online)

PE Test Info (Grades 5,7,9)

Monday, May 9 th	10 or 11 am
Monday, May 16 th	10 or 11 am
Monday, May 23	10 or 11 am

Nick will administer the PE test again this year. Please make sure to note the new location below. Testing will be at **Oakbrook Park**. The park is located at 2787 Erbes Road (at Pederson) in Thousand Oaks. Please make sure that your student wears comfortable clothing and shoes.

Please let your teacher know, which day you will be attending, so we can have a roster ready.



State mandated Testing

Continuing through the week of May 23

(see details above)

Board Meeting

May 5; 6:00 pm

DC/New York Spring 2017 trip

Information evening scheduled for 5/17 @ 6:00 pm

High School Info Session

May 25 @ 6:00 (8th grade students and anybody who

wants to attend and learn about ROA's high school)

Memorial Day
closed

May 30th

School Holiday/no school/office

Graduation and Year-End Party
earlier time)

June 8th; 11:30 am-2:30 pm (**make sure to note the**

Last day of school

June 9th

Have a wonderful weekend...



Your River Oaks homeschool team,
Leslie, Nick, Maria, Michal, Kathy, Amylynn, Leina, Teri, Sherri, Nadia, Marni
Tezo, Beverly, Gina, Richard
and
Claudia