



**ROA Director Update  
Friday, November 18, 2016**

## **General Information**

Hello lovely ROA families,

This is our last Director Update before our Thanksgiving break. Please note that there is no school and there are no classes the entire week of November 21 to allow our staff and families to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will be back on Monday, November 28 for the last two weeks of workshops/classes this semester.

We wish you and your family a beautiful Thanksgiving week. Let's remember all the wonderful things that we can be grateful for and appreciate everything we are fortunate to have.

As a staff, we would like to thank you for being a part of River Oaks. We appreciate you and all you do to make our school be great.

### **VERY IMPORTANT Notes and REMINDERS:**

#### **Timely arrival for workshops:**

We know that workshops will only be going on for two more weeks, however, we would like to ask you to please have your student arrive on time for the workshops. It is very distracting, if students walk in late and it takes away from the learning experience of the rest of the group. Please make every effort possible to arrive a few minutes before class time, so your student can get settled and be ready on time.

**Spring Workshop Schedule Info:** We are already diligently working on the spring workshop/class schedule. We hope to have it ready for you the Friday before Winter Break. Many things have to fall into place to make that happen. But, rest assured that we are doing our best. Classes/workshops will start the week of January 23, 2017 and run through the end of March (10 weeks). Spring Break starts the week of on April 7-16<sup>th</sup>.

We are also happy to announce that for the **spring semester workshop/classes sign-ups**, we will be using a **new system**. The classroom management system is called: iClassPro. This is a very sophisticated system that will make a lot of things easier for our families and our staff. It also allows us to send out email blasts; allow our families to sign-up easily for classes; has a parent portal and so much more. We'll keep you posted on that.



## **Math Information**

---

### **Math Support Information for K-12 students**

Need help with your math assignment? Is an hour of tutoring not enough?

The following resources are available to support our students in their quest to grow their mathematical mindset:

#### **1. Math Lab workshop:**

Come in prepared with your books/laptops/tablets and questions. One of our amazing math tutors will be readily available to help you understand new concepts, or work out any math problems.

Schedule of math labs with math tutors:

Mondays: 11:30-12:30

Tuesdays: 12:45-1:45

Wednesdays: 12:45-1:45

Fridays: 10:15-11:15

### **Problem of the Month blurb**

Calling all students! Join us in solving the "Problem of the Month".

We hope to engage students at all levels of math, to solve the problem of the month.

Put your solutions in the mailbox by Tezo's desk and at the end of the month we'll post the winners!

Together, let's grow in our understanding of the value of problem solving. Let's develop and strengthen our ability to find patterns, solve problems in a variety of ways, and persevere through challenging, engaging tasks. Remember that mistakes are valuable, questions are important, math is about creativity and making sense, connecting and communicating, going deeper, not faster!

Check out the beautifully designed and hand made " Problem of the Month" board outside of Claudia's office.

---

---



## Parent Bootcamp K-5

**Come join us on  
Monday 11/28  
At 12:45-1:45**

**Learn about Graphic Organizers  
Discussion to follow**

Parent Boot Camp

Middle & High school

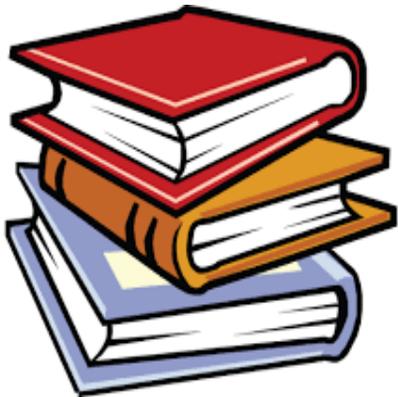


**10:15-11:15**

**Step by Step Essay**

**&**

**“Mindset” discussion  
continues...**



**Join Leslie**  
and discover the art of essay using  
Story of the World

**There will be time to practice and incorporate writing with  
social studies content.**

**When focusing on the skill of writing the content needs to be  
easy**



## Problem Based Learning

Greetings from the PBL Project! My problem-based "Weekly Warm-ups" for Thanksgiving were sent earlier this week, which made me realize how quickly the year is going by. Right before the summer, I started the PBL Project's first Twitter account, which does NOT seem like several months ago. I don't think many of you have had the chance to view the Twitter page, so I just wanted to share an update.

Aside from the usual Weekly Warm-ups, formative assessment ideas, and so on, Twitter gives me the chance to spread other PBL tid-bits and critical/creative thinking ideas that are brought to my attention. For example, this morning I tweeted about a great contest called "StudentCam" that is being hosted by C-Span. This is a film contest where young filmmakers use the huge supply of C-Span videos and pictures to make a 5-7 minute documentary... the theme: "Your Message To Washington: What is the most urgent issue for the new president and Congress to address in 2017?"

Anyway, this is the sort of thing that comes across my desk everyday, but until now I haven't had a way to get it out there! Teachers have also been sharing pictures and ideas on the PBL scenarios they've been working on, so it's a great place to go for inspiration. So, it would be great if you could follow the PBL Project (@pbl\_project) on Twitter, and I'll do my best to make it a valuable tool. Here's the link: [https://twitter.com/pbl\\_project](https://twitter.com/pbl_project)

Lastly, to make sure this step into social media is useful for educators, I've recruited the help of Clarissa Miles (@mylifeasatechie), an instructional technology specialist outside of Nashville. Aside from being engaged in the world of ed tech and offering me guidance on that front, Clarissa is the one keeping her eye out for great things to tweet about and doing so every day, and she can also extend her Twitter expertise into areas such as Twitter Chats and collaboration, and other areas that I'm just learning about.

I'm very excited about this, so please let me know if you have any questions or comments, or if there's anything else I can do!

Thanks,

Ben



## **Career Pathway Updates**

### **Pathway Courses, 2016**

**1. College & Career Seminar class - (articulated class; possible 3 units of college credit)**  
Calling All High School Students!!! This is a fun and interactive class that is designed to help you discover more about yourself. You will use this information to explore career options and build a 10-year plan for your life. If you are a high school student, please make sure to sign-up for this foundational class and you could even earn college credit. Details to be provided on the first day of class. Classes will be held when workshops begin on Friday's from 11:30AM - 1:00PM.

**2. Chanti Niven's Life Launch - (pre-req CCS class)**  
In an increasingly digitized world where the art of communication has been reduced to emojis and emoticons, Chanti and her team of award-winning coaches show students how to take their interpersonal/social communication skills to the highest levels in every area of life both professionally and personally. Young people come out of this program more expressive, more confident, more compassionate, and more excited about life than ever before!

**3. Chanti Niven's Captivating Speakers - (pre-req CCS class)**  
This original, one-of-a-kind program offers young people an introduction to the most effective and captivating communication, leadership, and life-skills training in the world! Presented in innovative and enjoyable ways (with a focus on FUN!), students come out of this program definitively transformed into better communicators, better listeners, better students, and, over-all, better people!

**4. Networking Pathway (ACE Charter High School)**  
All networking pathway courses are being offered at ACE Charter High School. If you are interested in this pathway, please enroll through your teacher. (Pre-requisite - 10th grade math)  
1st class - Math for Programming  
2nd class - Intro to Computer Science  
3rd class - Computer Science Principles

### **ROA (CTE) Pathway Courses**

- 1. Legal Pathway - Intro to Law (TBA)**
- 2. Hospitality Pathway - Intro to Hospitality (TBA)**

=====



## **OXNARD Resource Center**

We continue to meet at the Courtyard throughout the end of the workshop/class block in December. We continue to grow and would like to thank you for referring your friends to us. We have started our work on the workshop/class schedule for the spring and hope to publish that to you the last Friday before Winter Break.

If you have not had a chance to give us your thoughts about considering an alternative site (possibly The Palms off the 101 Fwy between Rose and Rice), please don't hesitate to email me or your teacher.

We won't have sign-ups on sign-up genius for picture days, but just a first-come-first-serve sign-up the day of picture day.

Please remember to participate at our **Parent Boot Camp on Mondays from 9:00-10:00**. We have great discussions and valuable information on all kinds of things related to your homeschool journey.

Please don't hesitate to let me know, if you have any questions or concerns.

=====



## **Counselor's Corner**

✓ **Seniors!!!** Are you planning to apply to a four-year university for the fall of 2017? Make an appointment with Richard Intlekofer, Counselor, as soon as possible, to receive assistance in the application process. And, be sure to take your ACT or SAT by December of this year! Seniors who plan to attend a community college after graduation will be offered assistance in the application process in the spring.

✓ **The financial aid process** for seniors has changed. You may now file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) beginning October 1, 2016, for the 2017-18 school year. Seniors and parents should make appointments to see Richard for information and assistance in the process of applying for financial aid and scholarships for college.

## **Registration for Community College Courses for Spring,**

**2017:** Students interested in taking a community college course in the spring of 2017 may enroll soon! Each community college system has its own process and calendar, so see your teacher and/or Richard Intlekofer, Counselor, for information. Students need to complete an application for admission, as well as a concurrent enrollment form, as well as other documents. For those interested in attending classes at Moorpark, Oxnard, or Ventura College, registration dates are drawing near! Take advantage of this opportunity to earn college and high school credits at the same time! And, don't forget that registration fees are waived for our students!

**Career Education Center:** The Ventura County Career Education Center offers a wide variety of courses for high school students. While many of the CEC courses are yearlong, there are a few that are offered on a semester basis. Check the catalog at the Ventura County Career Education Center website, or in paper form in the River Oaks front office. If your student is interested in a semester CEC course, see your teacher.

**PSAT Results:** The results from the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test) that a number of our students took in October will be emailed directly to students in December. Be sure to take advantage of the many SAT preparation opportunities provided with your results by the College Board. Make an appointment with Richard for in depth analysis of your student's results. And, for sophomores and freshmen, we will be offering the **PSAT 10** right here on our campus in April. Watch for further information on this terrific chance to see what the SAT is like!

**SAT Test Center:** River Oaks Academy has been approved as an SAT test center! We offered our first SAT in October, and we have another scheduled for June 3, 2017. If your student is planning to take the SAT in the spring (primarily juniors), visit the College Board website at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). We do not register students for the SAT, and we cannot save seats for our students. We only have 40 spaces available, so register soon! Again, contact Richard at [richard.intlekofer@roavc.com](mailto:richard.intlekofer@roavc.com) for further information!

Richard Intlekofer

Counselor

[richard.intlekofer@roavc.com](mailto:richard.intlekofer@roavc.com)

---



## Important Dates

Thanksgiving Holiday	November 21-27—no school
December 15	Holiday Pot Luck and Art Showcase (11:30-1:30) everybody is invited—in Westlake
Winter Break	December 19-January 2, 2017 (we will be back on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
January 11	Tinker/STEAM Night at Westlake (everybody is invited)
March 15	Tinker/STEAM Night at Oxnard (everybody is invited)
June 7	High School Graduation and Year End Party (11:00- 2:00)-At the Conejo Creek Park, Thousand Oaks

---

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