



Amador Valley Express

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January 15, 2012

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Amador Valley High School
1155 Santa Rita Road
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Principal - Mr. Jim Hansen

Check the calendar in each Amador Express. New dates will be added frequently.



Calendar

- January 16: No School -- Martin Luther King Day
- January 18-20: Finals -- see schedule below
- January 20: Second Quarter Ends
- January 21-22: SAT Bootcamp
- January 23: No School -- Teacher Work Day
- January 25: Principal's Coffee, 9:30-11am
- January 25: PTSA Meeting, 7pm, room G-1 **DATE CHANGE**
- January 30: Challenge Success Information Evening 6:30pm Amador Theater
- January 31: K-12 Homework Forum, 6:00-7:30pm, PMS MPR
- March 28: Third Quarter Ends
- June 8: Fourth Quarter Ends

Finals

AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
1ST SEMESTER FINALS 2012
BELL SCHEDULE

Main Office
925-461-6100
Attendance
925-461-6186
Counseling
925-461-6120

[Pleasanton Unified
School District](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

Quick Links...



Amador Valley High School PTSA. Click on the PTA logo above for PTSA related activities and past newsletters.



Amador Athletic Boosters. Click on the Boosters logo above for information related to Amador Athletics.



[Amador Valley High School Marching Band and Musical Programs.](#)
Click on the picture above for detailed information about each



Wednesday, January 18th, 2012

Period Two- 8:00 -10:00 AM
Brunch- 10:00 -10:15 AM
Period Three- 10:15 -12:15 PM

Thursday, January 19th, 2012

Period One- 7:00 -9:00 AM
Passing Period- 9:00 - 9:10 AM
Period Six- 9:10 - 11:10 AM
Brunch- 11:10 - 11:25 AM
Period Seven- 11:25 - 1:25 PM

Friday, January 20th, 2012

Period Four- 8:00 -10:00 AM
Brunch- 10:00 -10:15 AM
Period Five- 10:15 -12:15 PM

Monday, January 16th = Martin Luther King Day - School Holiday
Monday, January 23rd = Teacher Workday - No Students

SCHEDULING FOR NEXT YEAR'S CLASSES - Save these dates!

It's that time again to select courses for next school year!

Scheduling Calender:

Wednesday, Jan. 18 6-9pm Incoming 9th grade scheduling information night

Thursday, Jan. 26 6-9pm To be 10-12th grades Scheduling Workshops Night

Tuesday, Jan. 31 6-9pm To be 10-12th grades Scheduling Workshops Night

Tuesday, Jan. 24-Sunday, Feb. 5 Course selections for next year may be made on student zangle

Thursday, Feb. 23 7PM theatre College Information Night for Juniors

Letters will be sent home with more information about these nights

[group.](#)



AVHS Daily Bulletin
Click on the bulletin board for more school activities.



[Scholarship Bulletin](#)



[Senior Parents Website click here!](#)



Pleasanton Unified School District Newsletter (E-Connect).
Click on the PUSD logo above to sign up for the PUSD Newsletter

soon.

Principal's Coffee

Our next Principal's Coffee will be on Wednesday January 25, from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Please join us, and bring your questions, concerns, or suggestions, about absolutely anything Amador-related that is on your mind - we learn something new every time! This is an informal and relaxed setting in which to meet our principal, Mr. Hansen, and get to know other Amador parents. Susan Hurley has kindly volunteered to host the event at her home. Please email Nina Borchers (tntrs@comcast.net) by January 23, to claim your spot and get directions. If you're joining us with a friend who already has the address, please still let us know that you will be there, to allow the hosts to plan for seating and refreshments. We warmly welcome you to this unique opportunity to learn, share, and connect as an Amador parent.

AP and Honors Meetings

The World Language AP meetings will be held on the following dates at lunchtime:

AP French in room I-3, **AP Japanese** in room I-2: Wednesday, February 1
AP Spanish 4 in room I-4, **AP Spanish 5** in room I-10: Thursday, February 2

All students who are interested in signing up for Honors and AP Social Studies classes for the 2012-2013 school year are highly encouraged to attend the following informational meetings:

AP Psychology (next year's 11th and 12th graders): Tuesday, January 24th at lunch in the Multi-Purpose room. See Mr. Emerson in H-5, if you have any questions.

Honors and AP World History (next year's 10th graders): Wednesday, January 25th at lunch in the large gym. See Mr. Murphy in Q-204, if you have any questions.

AP United State History (next year's 11th graders): Wednesday, January 25th at lunch in room L-6. See Mrs. Wohlgemuth in L-6, if you have any questions.

AP Macroeconomics/AP Government and Politics (next year's 12th graders): Wednesday, January 25th at lunch in J-5. See Mr. Ladd in J-5, if you have any questions.

AP Human Geography (next year's 11th and 12th graders): Thursday, January 26th at lunch in Q-211. See Mrs. Deenihan in Q-211, if you have any questions.

AP Competition Civics (next year's 12th graders): Friday, January 27th at lunch in J-5. See Mr. Ladd in J-5, if you have any questions.



If you do not have the Adobe® Reader® application, to open and view many documents contained in this Newsletter, please download it free from Adobe's Web site by clicking the Adobe Reader logo above.



Zangle Connection--
[Parents Click Here!](#)
[Students Click Here!](#)

Need help with your Zangle Account?
[Click here!](#)



Lunch Accounts
 -- Add money to your Students' lunch account -
 - [click here!](#)

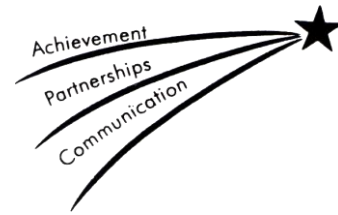
Volunteer Clearance Forms
 -- New form needed each school year.
[Click here!](#)

Resolving Concerns or Complaints

The Pleasanton Unified School District has a process and policy related to the handling of concerns and complaints. Often concerns or complaints are the result of an unintentional

miscommunication or a lack of needed information. That is why it is very important to first discuss concerns directly with the teacher or staff member in order to share information, problem solve, and attempt to resolve the concern together. In most cases, the concern can be resolved and, if needed, a plan of action can be developed together.

For your information, here are some reminders concerning the steps to follow should a more serious concern arise.



- Every effort should be made to resolve concerns at the earliest possible stage. If the concern regards a staff member, parents are asked to contact the staff member as soon as possible in order to meet and attempt to resolve the concern with the staff member personally.
- If the concern remains unresolved after discussing it directly with the staff member, parents may contact a school site administrator for further assistance in resolving the concern. In many cases, the school administrator will facilitate and participate in a meeting with the parent(s) and the staff member in order to discuss and attempt to resolve the concern.
- If these steps do not resolve the concern to your satisfaction, the district has a formal complaint process that can be initiated. Complaint forms are available in the school office and also in the district's Human Resources Department.

Energize for the Prize

[January 19 Information Event!!](#)

Alameda County/ Stop Waste is promoting energy efficiency upgrades to homeowners now through May 2012. They are offering up to \$4000 in rebates. The City of Pleasanton has also kicked in additional



PTSA Member Perks



PTA/PTSA Members Get Discounts With Local Businesses

The Pleasanton PTA Council is joining with local businesses for PTA Shops Ptown. The program is an opportunity to support local businesses using your PTA membership. Just show your PTA card to receive discounts from participating downtown merchants. By buying in Pleasanton, not only are you helping the local economy, you are helping our town protect important city services. For example, by spending \$100 with a locally-owned business, \$68 stays here in town. With a retail chain, \$43 of that same \$100 stays in the area. For more information, click on the box above.

Need Help?

Student Support Line



The anonymous Student Support Tipline will be monitored throughout the school year. Call or

savings. For every home in Pleasanton that has the energy assessment done (\$99, although there is a rebate to reimburse you) and then signs a contract to have all or a portion of the recommended work done, PPIE will get \$100. This will all go towards the Giving Fund!! The city within Alameda County that has the most contracts will then earn an additional \$5000!! If all 15 schools get just 20 homeowners to do some energy upgrades.....we earn \$30,000 to the Giving Fund! Not to mention the chance at the added \$5K!

College and Career Center News

COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER NEWS:

*Open Monday ~ Friday, 9am - 1pm
(Center will be closed 1/19, 2/12)*

GetSet: January ~ field trip "iFLY", workshops "Electricity: That's Shocking" and "Mutli-hued Chemistry"

Sign ups start January 9th at 12:30 in the Career Center. *SPACE IS LIMITED!*

Join Medical Explorers! ~ It's FREE! Medical Explorers is a co-ed club, open to all students ages 14 - 20 interested in pursuing careers in medicine. For further information, see Ms. Walker or the flyer posted in the Career Center window.

Career Center Visits: Sign-ups at Career Center (no sign-ups cancels visit)

✦ **Edu-Culture International:** educational summer study abroad programs in Spain and France Feb 6th ~ Lunch

Attend a Sleepover at UC Irvine: Two sessions available for a one night stay over and day of shadowing a student! *Only \$25!* Sessions start in January. Download an application at housing.uci.edu/sop/ today!

Academic Summer Programs:

✦ **Santa Clara University:** Engineering for Sophomores and Juniors - Spring and Summer workshops

✦ **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory:** 2012 High School Summer Internships ~ runs from June 13 through August 3, 2012 For more information: csee.lbl.gov Some restrictions apply.

✦ **CSSSA:** California State Summer School for the Arts ~ four week program in Valencia Applications must be postmarked before Feb 28, 2012

✦ **UC Davis: COSMOS** program, California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science will accept applications February 1 - March 1, 2012. **COSMOS Open House** at UC Davis on Saturday, January 28, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Please RSVP by emailing cosmos@ucdavis.edu or calling 530-754-7326

Scholarships & Grants: General information is available

✦ Asian Pacific Fund scholarship application deadline March 15, 2012 (open to all ethnicities)

✦ FAFSA applications due March 2, 2012

Is Your Future On Time? Come by for your academic planning



text 417-5199.

Quick Help



2-1-1 is a free, non-emergency, confidential, 3-digit phone number and service that provides easy access to housing information, and critical health and human services.

2-1-1 operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with multi-lingual capabilities.

For more information, [click here](#)

Pedestrian Safety Tips



[Click here!](#)

Go PUSD!



[Positively Pleasanton Schools](#)

District Info

Disclaimer:

checklist ~ Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors

[Click here for the latest Scholarship Bulletin -- with due dates and eligibility requirements.](#)

SAT Prep Course

Outsmart the SAT

with Catalyst's SAT Bootcamp at

Amador Valley High School!

One Weekend. One Guru. Every Strategy You Need to Know.

Taking the upcoming SAT or PSAT?

Enroll by THIS THURSDAY, January 19th at 6pm PST!

DATE: Saturday, January 21st & Sunday, January 22nd • 9am – 1pm

COST: Just \$165 for the entire weekend course & prep materials

This event is a fundraiser for the AVHS PTSA

To enroll, visit www.CatalystPrep.com & click on Bootcamp Sign-Up.
For more information, email info@CatalystPrep.com or call **800.235.0056**.

[Click here for more information](#)

K-12 Homework Forum

Date and time: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Pleasanton Middle School Multi-Purpose Room

We value your feedback! There will be a special forum on the Homework Policy, revised in June 2011. Please come and share your thoughts and experiences regarding implementation of this policy.



All parents, students, district staff and community members are welcome to attend.

Pleasanton Unified does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the content of any written or electronic material displayed or provided. This information is provided for your convenience. Parents/guardians are responsible for determining the potential merits of such providers.

We hope to gather input regarding the benefits and challenges of implementing the policy. Feedback may include how well the policy is being followed, effects on student learning, and what additional changes may need to be considered.

Please pre-register with Amador Valley Adult & Community Education: 925.426.4280 or go online:

www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted

Pleasanton Unified School District and Amador Valley Adult & Community Education, in partnership with Pleasanton PTA Council

PPIE Foundation Giving Fund

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am pleased to support the PPIE Foundation's Giving Fund 2012-2013 effort and wanted to pass along additional information for you in support of this initiative as well.

What is the PPIE Giving Fund 2012-2013 and how is this different than CORE?

- The PPIE education foundation is proactively raising funds to support valued programs at risk of being cut each school year rather than reacting to budget cuts each spring.
- The scope of programs and services being supported for HIGH schools through the PPIE Giving Fund 2012-2013 are as follows. The CORE initiative will no longer be occurring.
 - Literacy/Student Support (Additional Sections)
 - Science and Technology (Technology)
 - Health and Well Being (Counselors)

I gave a donation to my school's parent club, do I need to give to PPIE as well?

YES - both efforts are critical to provide a solid education to our children. PPIE's Giving Fund will support the district's **broader goals to ensure district wide equity** yet meet unique needs of each school site. PPIE has and will continue to fund district wide programs and staff, such as teachers, specialists, library and technology aides. The parent clubs (PTA/PFC/AABC/etc) raise money for school specific expenses such as equipment, teaching supplies & support, computers & technology. PPIE works in partnership with each school site and it is important and necessary to support both organizations.

How does PUSD's foundation request compare to other high achieving districts?

* PPIE is requesting a donation of only **\$150** per student to support programs and services that will likely be eliminated in 2012-2013.

* Surrounding Bay Area education foundations request an **average of \$570** per student. For example:

- Pleasanton - \$150
- Walnut Creek- \$300
- San Ramon- \$350
- Livermore - \$365
- Orinda- \$575
- Los Gatos - \$600
- Palo Alto- \$650
- Moraga - \$750
- San Carlos - \$750
- Lafayette- \$800
- Los Altos - \$1000

Public Education should be free, why am I being asked to donate to pay for programs and services?

Yes - public education should be and is free. Unfortunately public financing alone can no longer provide the high quality education we expect or are used to here in Pleasanton.

Donations are 100% voluntary and tax deductible and you can donate on-line directly or via monthly installments (\$15/month/student). To donate by check, [click here for the donation form](#). For credit card, PayPal; or to make monthly payments, please visit www.ppie.org

Questions? Visit www.ppie.org, or please contact [Toni Hume](#) or contact Debi Covello / PPIE at mail@ppie.org

Sincerely,

Jim Hansen, Principal
Amador Valley High School

Stanford's Challenge Success Student Survey Results and Information Evening

Monday, January 30, 2012, Amador

**CHALLENGE
SUCCESS**

Theater from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Earlier this year the community of Amador, asked the students to participate in a student survey to help us learn about our students' social, emotional, and physical well-being, their educational goals, and their views on the academic climate and expectations at their school and at home. 1,982 students chose to participate in the survey. Save the date and join Amador's Challenge Success team to hear the results from the Stanford's Challenge Success Survey and what steps we can take.

Reflections Arts Program News

PLEASANTON PTA COUNCIL ANNOUNCED PLEASANTON STUDENTS ADVANCING TO NEXT LEVEL OF NATIONAL ART COMPETITION



PTA REFLECTIONS
40 Years of Achievement in the Arts

Twenty two Pleasanton students have moved on to the next level of the National PTA Reflections Art Competition. Entries advancing from Pleasanton were announced on December 13, 2011 at the Pleasanton PTA Council's ninth annual Reflections Arts Recognition Program at the Firehouse Art Center. These entries are currently being judged and those advancing to the State level of the competition will be announced at the Peralta District (Alameda County) PTA Reflections Ceremony to be held from 2pm - 4pm on January 14, 2012 at the Ruby Bridges Elementary School in Alameda.

Amador High School has 5 students advancing! They are:
Anuja Joshi, (10th Grade), Photography
Arany Uthayakumar, (11th Grade), Literature
Yuchao Xie, (11th Grade), Visual Arts
Amy Tilson-Lumetta, (11th Grade), Musical Composition
Marie McCoy-Thompson, (12th Grade), Film/Video Production

Congratulations to all these young artists!

To read the full Press Release, [click here](#).

Shmoop!

Students, please be aware that through the Pleasanton Library we have access to Shmoop which helps students with access to AP Prep, CAHSEE prep and SAT Prep resources. This is a newer resource that is expanding all the time and should be very valuable to our students. Here's the link:

<http://www.shmoop.com/signup/pleasanton>

Students only need their Pleasanton Library card. If they don't have a card, they can pick up an application from us in the AVHS library.

Become a "Permanent Fixture" at Amador! Here's How:

Want to be a part of Amador's traditions for "eternity" and help fund important student and teacher programs at the same time? Here's your chance! It's called the Brick Fundraising Program from PTSA, and it's easy and inexpensive.

For \$60, you can imprint a brick with your family name, and/or your student(s)' name(s) and class, and it will be installed on the brick walkway just outside the Activities Desk (on the south side of Amador's main office). You can also add a logo that reflects your family's and/or your students' best times at Amador, such as a sports or music logo. Seventy-five percent of the proceeds go toward funding student and teacher grants, Crisis & Caring needs, technology, library, Amador's graduation ceremony, or other essentially needed items and programs. Just [click here](#) to obtain the Bricks form. [Click here](#) and [click here](#) to see lists of available logos. Follow the instructions on the form to turn in your Brick request, and become a permanent part of Amador's foundation!



Minimum Day Announced

A second Minimum day has been added to the school calendar for High School students: **March 9th.**



Minimum Day bell schedule will be as follows:

1 st Period	7:16 - 7:56 a.m.
2 nd Period	8:00 - 8:40 a.m.
3 rd Period	8:46 - 9:26 a.m.
4 th Period	9:32 - 10:12 a.m.
Brunch	10:12 - 10:22 a.m.

5 th Period	10:27 - 11:07 a.m.
6 th Period	11:13 - 11:53 a.m.
7 th Period	11:59 - 12:39 p.m.

Yes, We're on Facebook

Here's something you'll really "Like"! If you haven't yet become a member of the Amador PTSA's Facebook group, do so today. Just search for "Amador Valley High School PTSA" and our page will pop up. (Or, click here:



<https://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=189908542628>). Our page is "open," which means anyone can join. You can view photos of our events and members in action, and once a member, you will receive regular up-to-the-minute updates on PTSA events and other important issues. What's not to like?

PTSA Open Volunteer Opportunities

Fundraising Committee Chair and Co-Chair: Vet out and coordinate fundraising opportunities in support of the PTSA.

Environmental Education Co-Chair: Work with Environmental Club and Leadership to promote and educate environmentally safe behavior and programs..

Contact [Lisa Campbell, PTSA President](#) if you are interested in any of these open positions.

Gene's Fine Foods Contest

Gene's Fine Foods would like to give you an update of the current scores for our competition. The current points for each participating school are:

1. **Amador Boosters** **4292** In the running for **\$1,000**
2. **Foothill Boosters** **3796** In the running for **\$500**
3. **Walnut Grove** **3433** In the running for **\$250**
4. Vintage Hills 2095

5. Amador F.O.M.	2049
6. Donlon	1581
7. Harvest Park Library	1365
8. Foothill Band	1025
9. Alisal	846
10. Lydiksen	765
11. Valley Christian	583
12. Hart	458
13. Hearst	452
14. Village	436
15. Valley View	250
16. Fairlands	225
17. P.M.S.	160
18. Carden West	132
19. Quarry Lane	111
20. Sunol Glen	83
21. St. Michael	35

There is still time to make a difference for your school. This competition will continue through January 31, 2012.

Gene's family is looking forward to supporting our town's families.

Student Support Line

The anonymous Student Support Tipline will be monitored throughout the school year. Call or text 417-5199.

This newsletter is produced and paid for by AVHS PTSA for the benefit of all our AVHS community members. Although we make every effort to provide you with the most accurate and complete information, please be aware that some mistakes can happen. We combine information from different sources as they may be pertinent to you while they may not have any association with the PTSA organization.

Beth Limesand

Editor of The Amador Valley Express

email: avexpress@comcast.net

web: <http://www.amadorvalleyptsa.org>

The Deadline for article submission to the Amador Valley Express is one week prior to the send date. The Amador Valley Express will be

e-mailed out on the 1st and 15th of each month. All articles must be e-mailed to avexpress@comcast.net

[Forward email](#)



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