

SOPHOMORE PARENTS' NIGHT

February 18, 2010

Welcome!

Please take just one copy of each handout per family.
Thank you.

Sophomore Parents' Night Agenda

- ❑ Life of a Sophomore
- ❑ Academic Planning
- ❑ Course Selection Process Overview
- ❑ Role of the Teacher Advisor
- ❑ What Can Parents Do?
- ❑ Thinking about Post-High School Options
- ❑ Gearing Up for the College Search
- ❑ Question and Answers
- ❑ Tour of College and Career Center (optional)

Sophomore Parents' Night

- ❑ **Kim Diorio, Assistant Principal**
- ❑ **Martha Chan, A.C.S. On Campus Program Director**
- ❑ **Susan Shultz, Guidance Counselor**
- ❑ **Selene Singares, Guidance Counselor**
- ❑ **Ann Deggelman, Co-coordinator of the Teacher Advisor Program**
- ❑ **Christina Owen, Career Advisor & Community Service Coordinator**
- ❑ **Sandra Cernobori, College Advisor**

Martha Chan

A.C.S. On Campus Program Director

- ❑ A.C.S. On-Campus Program**
- ❑ A.C.S. Off-Campus Program**

A.C.S.
Adolescent Counseling Services

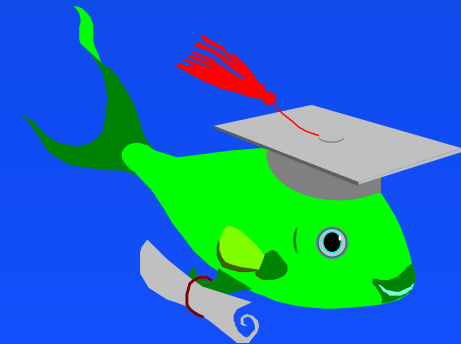
The Life of a Sophomore

Susan Shultz
Guidance Counselor

Academic Planning

Comparing graduation and U.C./C.S.U. minimal subject requirements for admission

The U.C./C.S.U. requirements are typical of 4-year colleges



Graduation vs. 4-yr. College requirements

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Graduation</u>	<u>U.C./C.S.U.</u>
	D- or better required Total 210 units	C- or better required
<input type="checkbox"/> English	4 years	4 years
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies	4 years	2 years
<input type="checkbox"/> Math	2 years	3 (4) years
<input type="checkbox"/> Lab Science	2 years	2 (3) years
<input type="checkbox"/> Phys. Education	2 years	None



() = recommended

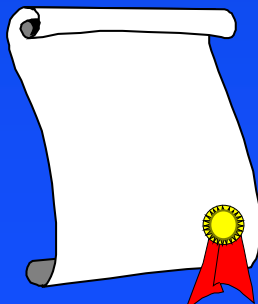


Graduation vs. 4-yr. College requirements

continued

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Graduation</u>	<u>U.C./C.S.U.</u>
	D- or better required.	C- or better required.
<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts	1 year	1 yr-long course
<input type="checkbox"/> Career/Voc. Ed.	1 year	None
<input type="checkbox"/> Living Skills	1 sem.	None
<input type="checkbox"/> World Language	None	2 (3) years- same language
<input type="checkbox"/> Electives	To <u>215</u> units	1 year
<input type="checkbox"/> CAHSEE Pass Eng. & Math (March 16 & 17)		

() = recommended



Typical Junior Schedule

- ❑ **English** - American Lit or Am. Classics + Elective
- ❑ **H/SS** - US History or AP US History
- ❑ **Math** - laned by 10th gr. Math teacher
- ❑ **Science** - Physics or Chem
- ❑ **Wld Lang** - laned by 10th gr Wld Lang teacher
- ❑ **Electives** - Vis/Fine Arts or Career/Tech Ed

The Four Year Plan

Susan Shultz

- ❑ Four Year Plans are unique for each student**
- ❑ Revisited every year in advisory**
- ❑ Valuable tool to assist in the course selection process**
- ❑ Helps students understand the “big picture”**
- ❑ Sample can be found on page 62 of the Program of Studies**

Paly Resources

Selene Singares

- ❑ Academic Resource Center (ARC), 329-3846
- ❑ Math Resource Center (MRC), 329-3845
- ❑ Handbook
 - ❖ Guidance Dept. (pp. 10-15)
 - ❖ Testing (pp. 18-21)
 - ❖ Attendance (pp. 8-9)
 - ❖ School regulations/behavior/academic hones (pp. 27-44)
 - ❖ Suspensions will be reported to colleges that ask



Ways to Make Up Deficiencies – Summer School and Off-Campus Courses

Selene Singares

Summer School

- ❑ The high school program offers students an opportunity to take required classes for credit, and to make-up classes they need to re-take.
- ❑ **Location: Terman Middle School – 655 Arastradero Rd.**
(All high school classes will be held at Terman Middle School due to construction at both high schools).
- ❑ **Dates:**
Session I - June 21-July 9th (3 weeks, holiday July 5th)
Session II - July 12-July 30th (3 weeks)
- ❑ **Tuition:**
Session I - \$515
Session II - \$515
Session I and II - \$850

Summer School cont.

- ❑ **Time: 8:00 am - 1:30 pm (for both Session I and II)**
Grades: entering 9-12
- ❑ **Each session is for 5 credits. Students may enroll in both Sessions I and II to receive 10 credits. For example, students may enroll in World History, Semester I in Session I and in World History, Semester II in Session II.**
- ❑ **Regular attendance is important. Students will be dropped from any course if they accrue more than two absences, per session. Three tardies will be counted as one absence.**
- ❑ **Summer School Registration Packet**
Includes registration and emergency forms, course catalog, and general information about summer school. 2010 Registration Packet will be available in early spring.
- ❑ **Registration begins April 19, 2010.**

Off-Campus Courses

- ❑ **Student must obtain prior approval before taking courses off-campus**
- ❑ **Failure to obtain prior approval will result in coursework not being included on the Paly transcript – no exceptions!**
- ❑ **Prior Approval forms are available in the Guidance office. Registrar Suzie Brown can explain form in more detail if you have questions**
- ❑ **Once students have obtained necessary signatures, a copy of the Prior Approval form is placed in their cumulative file**
- ❑ **Upon completion of off-campus coursework, it is the student's responsibility to have an official transcript sent to Registrar Suzie Brown, if the course is going to be put on the Paly transcript**

Conditions for taking Off-Campus Courses

Selene Singares

- ❑ Of the elected units required to meet the 215 graduation requirement, no more than 40 units may be taken from off-campus producing courses
- ❑ District policy states that only under exceptional circumstances and with Prior Approval from the Instructional Supervisor and Assistant Principal of Guidance can credit be earned off campus to fulfill high school graduation requirements
- ❑ To be put on the Paly transcript, all courses must be taken from a fully accredited institution
- ❑ All Paly students must take a minimum of 5 classes during the school day at Paly. Off-campus coursework is not included in the 5 class minimum.

Course Selection Overview

Selene Singares

- ❑ **2010-2011 Course Selection Form**
- ❑ **2010-2011 Program of Studies**
(www.paly.net/academics/course-catalog.pdf)
- ❑ **Print Student Name and Teacher Advisor on top**
- ❑ **Students check minimum of 5 periods of coursework**
- ❑ **Student rank alternates appropriately**
 - ❖ **English (elective) check first choice, rank 3 alternatives “A, B, C”**
 - ❖ **Science – check first choice, label 1 alternative “A”**
 - ❖ **Electives – check first choice, then choose 4 alternative courses overall and number choices 1-4**

Course Selection Overview

Selene Singares

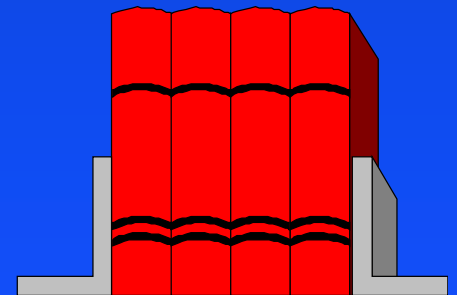
- ❑ **Note – Seniors have first priority in Economics and Social Science electives**
- ❑ **If student is registering for Advanced Placement class, complete the AP Course Application Form and staple to registration sheet (found on page 63 of Program of Studies & on line)**
- ❑ **Obtain parent signature**
- ❑ **Return form to TA by March 10th If applicable, please indicate whether student wishes to take “0” period PE**
- ❑ **If applicable, please indicate whether student is a 2 or 3 sport athlete**

Ann Deggelman

Co-coordinator of the Teacher Advisor Program

What 10-12 Teacher Advisors Do

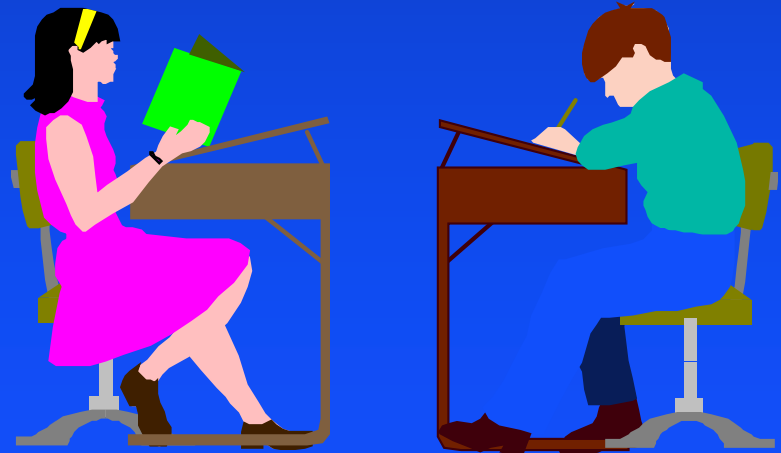
- ❑ Primary contact person
- ❑ Academic Advising
- ❑ Get to know their advisees.
- ❑ Monitor graduation requirements.
- ❑ Advisories (10th grade) include:
 - ❖ Paly Map (Sept 23)
 - ❖ How to read your transcript (Oct 24)
 - ❖ Time Management activity (Nov 18)
 - ❖ Academic Planning (4-year plan)
 - ❖ Registration for next year (due Mar. 10)
- ❑ Write college recommendations.



Ann Deggelman

What 10th Graders Do

- Take appropriate courses
- Attend advisories
- Do the best work possible
- Seek help when needed
- Enjoy high school



Ann Deggelman

What Can Parents Do?

- ❑ Stay involved
- ❑ Monitor activities, homework, general academics
- ❑ Know child's friends
- ❑ Be prepared for **THE DRIVER'S LICENSE**
- ❑ Enjoy your child's sophomore year



Christina Owen

College Advisor & Community Service Coordinator

Post High School Options

- ❑ 4 year college
- ❑ Community College: Vocational and Certificate Programs; 2year degrees
 - ❖ Transfer Agreements
- ❑ Specialty schools
- ❑ Year-Off (Gap Year) Programs and Activities
- ❑ Work

Post High School Options

- ❑ **Meet students Junior year to go over many options**
- ❑ **Career Month (March)**
- ❑ **Job Fair**
- ❑ **Community College Forum (April)**
- ❑ **Community Service & Summer Programs**

Career Month at Paly Excellence! Finding Passion in Work and Life

- ❑ Paly students were recently surveyed regarding their career interests, and 20 jobs stood out as the top selections.**
- ❑ We have invited dynamic and inspirational speakers from the community to talk about their career paths and how they got there.**
- ❑ They will share their stories of how they chose their careers, how passion affects their work, and what it really has taken to accomplish their career goals.**

Career Month at Paly Excellence! Finding Passion in Work and Life

- ❑ Students are invited to attend as many sessions as they wish to learn about passion in work, no matter what their dreams are for the future – there is something for everyone!**
- ❑ Sign-ups are taking place now on the front page of Paly.net.**
- ❑ Pizza/lunch will be provided for students who sign up ahead of time, see Paly.net this week for deadlines.**
- ❑ Students are encouraged to login to Naviance and complete the Do What You Are assessment and further career exploration**
- ❑ Volunteers and donations still needed for this event! Please see the Paly Link to sign up, contact either volunteer coordinator Beth Martin, bmartin@pausd.org, or Lori Miley: lori@miley.org**

Sandra Cernobori

College Advisor

- ❑ **Each year is a building block for the next year**

- ❑ **Common Elements**
 - ❖ **Building your transcript**
 - ❖ **Meeting new people**
 - ❖ **Getting involved**

- ❑ **10th Grade**
 - ❖ **Exploring career interests**
 - ❖ **Being an involved member of your community**
 - ❖ **Getting to know your Teacher Advisor**

CSU & UC Minimum Eligibility Requirements

❑ California State University (CSU)

- ❖ Minimum GPA for eligibility is 2.0; only UC-CSU approved courses in A-G subject areas, from grades 10-11, are used
- ❖ SAT Reasoning (CR and M sections only) or ACT required

❑ University of California

- ❖ Minimum GPA for eligibility is 3.0; only UC-CSU approved courses in A-G subject areas, from grades 10-11, are used
- ❖ SAT Reasoning or ACT
- ❖ SAT Subject tests NOT required (though recommended for some majors)

UC Eligibility Changes

Same number of “a-g” courses and the same GPA as current policy. The key differences are:

- ❑ **Two SAT Subject Tests will no longer be required for admission.**
However, students could still choose to submit their scores for consideration as part of their application, just as they do now with AP scores. The Subject Tests also could be recommended for certain majors.
- ❑ **All applicants will need to complete 11 of the 15 “a-g” courses by the end of their junior year.**
Currently, this is required only of students who are designated eligible by ranking in the top 4 percent of their high school class.
- ❑ **Eligibility in the Local Context will increase from 4 percent to 9 percent.**

UC Eligibility Changes cont.

All California high school seniors who complete the requirements will be invited to apply and will be entitled to a comprehensive review of their applications at each UC campus to which they apply.

Within this “entitled to review” pool, two categories of applicants would be guaranteed admission somewhere within the UC system:

- ❖ those who fall in the top 9 percent of all high school graduates statewide, and
 - ❖ those who rank in the top 9 percent of their own high school graduating class.
-
- ❑ **Together, these students would make up about 10 percent of the state’s high school graduates. The remaining admissions needed to make up the full 12.5 percent pool of top students would be drawn from the broader “entitled to review” pool.**

 - ❑ **A new eligibility index is being developed.**

For more info, go to:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/eligibilitychanges/>

SAT vs. ACT

SAT:

- ❑ 10-section aptitude exam
- ❑ Content:
 - ❖ Math – basic geometry and Algebra 2
 - ❖ Reading – sentence completions, short and long critical reading passages, reading comprehension
 - ❖ Writing: an essay, and questions about grammar, usage and word choice
- ❑ Penalty for wrong answers

* Score Choice Options – some colleges require scores from all sittings

* Some colleges are test-optional (www.fairtest.org)

* Students should take the “optional” writing section if applying to UCs or private colleges

* The CSUs (and many private colleges) don’t require or consider the Writing portion of the SAT or ACT

ACT:

- ❑ 4-section achievement test
- ❑ Content:
 - ❖ Math – up to trigonometry
 - ❖ Science – charts, experiments
 - ❖ Reading – 4 passages of prose fiction, social science, humanities, and natural science
 - ❖ English – stresses grammar
 - ❖ Writing – (optional*)
- ❑ *No* penalty for wrong answers

SAT Subject Tests (a.k.a. SAT IIs)

- ❑ 1 hr. test; may take up to three tests at one sitting
- ❑ Private colleges may require 0-3 subjects
- ❑ NOT required for UC but recommended for some majors
- ❑ If considering math for UC, take Math 2C
- ❑ Subjects offered:
 - ❖ Literature
 - ❖ Biology
 - ❖ Chemistry
 - ❖ Physics
 - ❖ Math- level 1 and 2
 - ❖ U.S. History
 - ❖ World History
 - ❖ Languages
 - ☞ French
 - ☞ Spanish
 - ☞ German
 - ☞ Modern Hebrew
 - ☞ Latin
 - ☞ Italian
 - ☞ Chinese
 - ☞ Japanese
 - ☞ Korean

Advanced Placement (AP) Classes

- ❑ College-level course (i.e. 20-30 pages of reading nightly)
- ❑ Grade earned in class (C or better) gets an additional grade point in CSU/UC GPA
- ❑ AP test is good preparation for SAT subject test in related area
- ❑ Score earned on AP test may enable student to earn course credit at college
- ❑ If enrolled in AP classes, some colleges ask for AP test scores (when available) on their applications and may consider them in the application review
- ❑ Must complete AP Contract

Parental Role

- ❑ Paly History
- ❑ Parental Role
 - ❖ You are a part of your student's support team
 - ❖ Educate yourself about the college process
 - ❖ For more information:
 - ☞ <http://www.paly.net/guidance/>
 - ☞ <http://www.paly.net/college>
 - ❖ College-related guidance services
 - ☞ Teacher Advisor
 - ☞ College and Career Advisors
 - ☞ *Reporter, Daily Bulletin*
 - ☞ Parent Evenings and College Fair
 - ☞ <http://www.palylink.paloaltopta.org>
 - ☞ Naviance (demo Mar. 31)

SOPHOMORE PARENTS' NIGHT

Any Questions?

(Please fill out an index card)

**Thank you for coming and
please join us now for an open house
in the College & Career Center**

This presentation will be available on the web at <http://www.paly.net>