



# Family Partnership Charter School

Bringing the Best Together For Student Success

## March 2017 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

### From The Executive Director's Desk:



Hello FPCS Families, Friends and Community,

Family Partnership Charter School (FPCS) is in the process again of reevaluating our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). In the next two months, FPCS will be collecting and analyzing data that will help the school make the correct adjustments needed in order to fully create a customized, creative and learning environment for both students and teachers. I would like to personally thank our Parent Advisory Committee who has done a wonderful job in giving FPCS feedback regarding its LCAP goals. If you would like to know more about what the LCAP entails for FPCS, we have a specific page on our website that explains what the LCAP is and how it works. For more information please check out our website at [www.fpcharter.org](http://www.fpcharter.org). Best, Dr. Miguel Gonzales



## Upcoming Events/Calendar

### February 24

FPCS Science Fair (Santa Maria Learning Centers), 10-1:00 PM, Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center

### March 7-8

Science Fair at the SLO site.

### March 16-17

Parent-Teacher Conferences – Santa Maria Montessori

### March 22

Parent Advisory Committee Meeting: 9:30 – 11: 00 AM  
Family Partnership District Office

### March 27

PAC, Children's Concert: K-5th  
Morro Bay Montessori and SLO

### Important Contact Numbers

Administrative Office:  
(805) 348-3333

Registrar:  
(805) 348-3333, ext. 1025

Fax: (805) 348-3334

625 S. McClelland Street, Santa Maria, CA 93456  
Website: <http://www.fpcharter.org> T: (805) 348-3333

## Principal's Report:



We have arrived at February and this is the first edition of the Family Partnership Charter School (FPCS) newsletter. I want to take the time to introduce myself. My name is Jules Manfreda and I am the Principal for all of the 6 learning centers for our school. I am a father of three wonderful daughters and believe that every child can succeed when provided a sound, educational system and supported with interventions when necessary. I have had the pleasure of meeting many parents/guardians this school year and look forward to meeting many more of you as I am planning on scheduling "Coffee with the Principal" meetings for each site. For parents who would like to get more involved with the school, I invite you to join me at our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). Our next meeting will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 AM, at the administration office located at 625 South McClelland Street in Santa Maria.

February and March will see FPCS having its first ever school-wide science fair. Santa Maria centers will hold their science fair collectively at the Abel Maldonado Center on Friday February 24<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM - 1 PM. Other learning centers will be having their science fairs at their sites. Please check with your site for specific dates and times. I will be looking forward to sharing the results in our next newsletter.

## Site Highlights

### Morro Bay (805) 348-3333, Ext. 3:

Take a glimpse into the Morro Bay Montessori Learning Center and you will see a colorful tapestry of hands-on learning interwoven with math, poetry, science, and Art! K-3 students have been busy with math and botany studies growing their own garden. 4-5 students attended the Cal Poly Learn-By-Doing Science Lab to explore genetics, extract the DNA of strawberries, study cell structure, determine acidity levels, produce chemical reactions and explore the changing states of matter with explosive results! Science research culminates this week with our Science Fair: Tuesday, February 21, grades K-1, 9:30 AM, Wednesday, February 22, grades 2-3, 1:15 PM, and Thursday, February 23, grades 4-5, 1:15 PM.

625 S. McClelland Street, Santa Maria, CA 93456

Website: <http://www.fpcharter.org> T: (805) 348-3333



## In the Community

### Women's History Month



Allan Hancock College is hosting an "Introduction to Industrial Technology" workshop for girls only age 16 and older.

Applications are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>! For more information, send an email to [industrialtechnology@hancockcollege.edu](mailto:industrialtechnology@hancockcollege.edu)

Or call (805) 922-6966, ext. 3335  
[Intro to Industrial Tech Flyer .pdf](#)



Tail Waggin Tutors – Solvang Library  
Drop in for 10-15 minutes of reading aloud or storytelling to a friendly therapy dog on Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 PM.

Enrollment for fall 2017 Priority is given to current students to enroll by the March 10, 2017 deadline. Open enrollment for new students begins March 13, 2017. Open House is on Wed., March 22, 3-5:30 PM.

K-5 students participate in the Daily Etudes Music Listening Program sponsored by the SLO Symphony. The SLO Symphony Music Van will visit our 3-4 students to explore a petting zoo of musical instruments. 4-5 students have constructed dulcimers and are learning to play music melodies and chords. Music studies culminate with K-5 students attending the annual Children's Concert performed by the SLO Symphony March 27 on stage at the PAC.

#### Annual Montessori Teacher Conference 2017

Teaching staff will join Montessori teachers from across the nation for continued professional development and sharing of ideas at the American Montessori Teacher Conference in San Diego.

#### Orcutt Learning Center (805) 348-3333, Ext. 6:

**Special Guest:** Please join us on Friday March 17, 9:30 AM- 11:00AM as Educator John Jimenez ("Torito"), brother of award winning Francisco Jimenez (The Circuit and other novels), will be presenting a lecture at the Orcutt Learning Center. He will be sharing stories of his childhood and life in nostalgic Santa Maria. Please visit our updated school website calendar to see dates and times for the photography, math, science and project based learning labs and other important events.

**Student Spotlight:** We have exciting news from a 2016 graduate, Stephanie Green. Stephanie wasted no time in pursuing her dream of becoming a licensed esthetician. She was accepted to and immediately began The Design School of Paseo Robles and passed the California State Board examination. Stephanie commuted daily from Santa Maria while she studied in the Esthetician Program. There, she learned techniques and the latest treatments in waxing, facials, and makeup. Her success story does not end here! Stephanie is continuing her education at Allan Hancock College and is completing courses in the Nursing Program. She says that the flexibility FPCS provides, allowed her to attend college while in high school. This gave her the head start she needed. Way to go Stephanie!

#### SLO Vicente Learning Center (805) 348-3333, Ext. 2:

Intent to continue forms are being distributed by your student's advisor.

Please turn these forms in by **March 10** to have priority enrollment. Returning student registration packets for 2017/18 will be mailed thereafter. Expanded math tutoring for high school students is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-12 PM and 12:45-1:45 PM. For middle school students, Fridays from 1-3 PM. K-5 parent math afternoons will be on February 28 and March 28 from 1:15 – 2:00 PM in room 4. For middle school parents, on February 22, March 15, and April 12 from 2:30-3:30 PM in room 2. These workshops are to help parents with their child's math problems and to become familiar with the Common Core approach.

We are also having our annual science fair: K-5 Tues, Mar 7th, 9:30-10:50 AM, MS Wed 8th 9:30-11:00 AM, HS Tues Mar 7th, 11-12 PM & presentations 12:45 PM.

#### Santa Maria BUSD Learning Center (805) 348-3333, Ext. 4:

We are thrilled to announce that Ms. Katrina Homer-Darg has returned to our center on February 6th from maternity leave. She has jumped right into the swing of things and is once again enriching our math and science programs with creative hands-on lessons that the students enjoy collaborating and presenting to their peers.

Science fair preparation has been a huge part of our science curriculum since we have returned from winter break. The students have been busy preparing written reports, demonstrations, experiments, project boards and more! The Santa Maria Learning Center is eagerly looking forward to sharing their individual projects at the all school Science Fair this Friday, February 24.

Hearst Castle here we come!! On April 6, our class will be traveling to San Simeon to tour Hearst's grand estate. The field trip was made possible through a Target Grant.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, our class enjoyed our annual Friendship Sandwich luncheon. The students feasted on yummy subways sandwiches, pasta salad, and tasty desserts. It was a special day to appreciate the close knit friendships that make up our classrooms.

Our center is continuing to grow with 39 fantastic students. We are looking forward to opening the door to many, many more interested students.

[Santa Maria Montessori \(805\) 348-3333, Ext. 5:](tel:8053483333)

Valentine's Day was a celebration of STEAM for the K-1 kids.



4th and 5th grade students are studying the Gold Rush and the methods of transportation settlers employed to get to California. They will be integrating this topic throughout all of their other disciplines. With the rain, we are also experiencing cabin fever - which helps students empathize with these travelers.

We are beginning a biography project. Students are selecting an individual and will explain pertinent facts about their person. They will teach classmates about their individuals through an oral presentation and project board. Students presented Science Fair Projects using oral, visual, and experiential methods. Classmates asked pertinent questions and offered suggestions for further study. We also are using technology to write and share our final product. Students just completed their muscle tests where they learned how the body moves. Students have been engaged in the final phase of Science Fair Projects. Teachers are enjoying the opportunity to be "the student." Students have taught us about electro-magnetic fields, naturally produced power, erosion, and the mechanism by which a bullet works! Second and third grade students produced beautiful opinion essays about homework and sports. They are hanging in the classroom for all to admire. We would love to have you stop by and read them.

[Solvang Learning Center \(805\) 348-3333, Ext. 7:](tel:8053483333)

The Solvang Learning Center is bustling with activity in preparation for the upcoming science fair on Friday, March 10 from 11:30 – 1:30 PM. In addition to the students working on their science projects, they are participating in weekly labs for art, English language arts support, math tutoring, writing and technology, physical education, preparing for the STAR fitness test, and senior projects. This month alone we have experienced an increase in our enrollments by 7 students ranging from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We are currently full, but do have a waiting list for interested new students. Also, we are happily accepting students for pre-enrollment for next fall.



For seniors, this is the time of year when you are waiting patiently for your college admission letter or email to arrive. For those seniors who applied to any of the UC and CSU campuses, admission letters will be sent out in March for fall admission. Always check your email messages. Most students are now notified through email. Private colleges will send their admission notifications starting in February until April. Each private college has different admission acceptance dates. If you do not hear from your college, look on their student portal to see the status of your application. Check with their college admission counselor if you do not hear by April.

FASFA deadline for California is March 2!! For more on FASFA information, you can go to the following web site: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/deadlines.htm#>. Anyone attending college in the fall needs to complete a FAFSA to qualify for financial aid or scholarships.

A college workshop will be held on March 24 from 10:30 to 12:30 PM at the Solvang site for all high school seniors graduating this year. Information will be provided regarding college admission and career advisement. All are welcome.



May 1 is national college decision day. Make sure to submit your college acceptance by this date to secure a spot at your accepted college.

Below are links and information about college admission for our local community colleges:



Anyone interested in attending AHC, there are new student orientation workshops happening every week: <http://www.hancockcollege.edu/counseling/advisingworkshops.php>. The following is a link to the steps required for new student admission: <http://www.hancockcollege.edu/counseling/newstudents.php>

College Now!! Program at AHC allows for local high school and home school students to attend AHC while they are in high school. For more information about this program, please go to the following web site: [http://www.hancockcollege.edu/admissions\\_records/college-now.php](http://www.hancockcollege.edu/admissions_records/college-now.php)

Career Cruising helps you find what career pathway to pursue. Go to the following link to start exploring and planning your career goals: <http://www.hancockcollege.edu/cjpc/careercruising.php>

AHC has a number of transfer workshops to assist students in getting into a university. You can go to the University Transfer Center site for more information: <http://www.hancockcollege.edu/utc/calendar.php>.

FAFSA workshops: [http://www.hancockcollege.edu/financial\\_aid/workshops.php](http://www.hancockcollege.edu/financial_aid/workshops.php)



College application assistance will take place on February 27 from 2-3:30 PM at the SLO site. Assessments for math and English will take place on Monday, March 6 from 2-4 PM. In person orientation will be on Monday, May 22 at Cuesta College, time TBD. The college's web site link for student information is at <http://www.cuesta.edu/student/>.



Anyone interested in enrolling at SBCC can go to the following link: <http://www.sbccc.edu/prospective/>

If you are a high school student interested in enrolling in courses at SBCC, you can go to the following link: <http://www.sbccc.edu/prospective/High%20School%20Students.php>

Santa Barbara City College has an excellent web site on college admission and transfer information at the following link: <http://www.sbccc.edu/transfercenter/>

### Editor's Desk

This newsletter is published monthly sent out at the beginning of every month to the FPCS community. If you would like to submit a story or event to this newsletter, please send it to [submit@fpcharter.org](mailto:submit@fpcharter.org). Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month. Newsletter can be found at the following URL:

[www.fpcharter.org/apps/pages/newsletter](http://www.fpcharter.org/apps/pages/newsletter)