

SPARTAN SCRIBE

*SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL
A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL*

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR AMAZING WINTER ATHLETES & PERFORMERS:

Baseball
Softball
Track
Boys' Tennis
Boys' Volleyball
Boys' Golf
Swimming

STAY CONNECTED:

SHS Website

www.tusd.org/schools/shs

Facebook

"South High School"

["South High School PTA"](#)

Instagram

"southhighspartans"

[SHS Parent Handbook](#)

can be found on the
SHS Website under
"South High PTA" link



President's Message

South High Students & Families,

As the weather begins to warm up, your PTA is catching its collective breath after a very busy winter. Last month we hosted a **Practice SAT Test** for South High students and broke our own record for attendance. Nearly 100 students took this important step in preparing for their futures.

A big thank you to the many hardworking volunteers that helped host PTA's annual **College and Career Fair!** Over 1,000 students and family members were able to gather information about universities, test prep, vocational schools, military options, and more. Every year it is an amazingly resourceful event that our PTA, along with TUSD, provides for the community.

In February we recognized our **Reflections** artists at our annual **PTA Awards Night**. Additionally, we celebrated some amazing volunteers through our **Honorary Service Awards** program. Photos of these shining stars can be found below.

Later in the spring, we are incredibly excited to bring a **Financial Seminar** to our graduating seniors. Before these young adults head out into the world, we want to help with their understanding of banking, credit, student loans, and so much more. Former SHS Parent, Jon Spallino CFP, will walk them through the dos and don'ts of the financial world.

If you have any questions regarding the PTA or would like to volunteer, contact me at dcdiederich@aol.com.

Happy Spring & Go Spartans!
Deanna Diederich
South High PTA President

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 4th PTA Board Meeting*, 7pm
- 5th South Area Music Festival, 7pm
- 12th 8th Grade Parent Night
- 13th SHS "Boat Races"
- 16th No School – Staff Development
- 17th "Celebration of the Arts" Week
- 17th School Site Council Meeting
- 20th Honorary Service Awards Dinner*
- 26th Torrance Education Foundation Dinner
- 27th Spring Drama Production, 7pm
- 28th Spring Drama Production, 2pm

April

- 1st Senior Activity Parent Night, 6:30pm
PTA Board Meeting*, 7:30pm
- 3rd Class Comp Lip Sync, 12pm
End of 3rd Quarter
- 6-10th Spring Break
- 13th Classes resume
- 17th Bluegrass Festival, 10am
- 22nd PTA Association Meeting*
College Night, 6:30pm
- 30th Drama One Acts, 7pm
Spring Dance Show, 7pm

May

- 6th PTA Board Meeting*, 7pm
- 12th School Site Council Meeting
- 14th Meet the Coaches, 6:30pm
- 20th Spartan Laurels, 6pm
- 22nd Class Comp, 10:30am
- 25th No School – Memorial Day
- 26th Financial Seminars* (seniors only)
- 27th Baccalaureate, 6pm

*denotes PTA-sponsored event

SACRAMENTO SAFARI

Three Spartans represented South High School and the City of Torrance at this year's Sacramento Safari – an educational and advocacy-training trip to Sacramento that includes scheduled visits with representatives to learn about and engage in the legislative system, advocacy, and pending legislation. They share a little about their experiences below...



Back Row: Ejay Ramos-12th (far left), Harry Kaplan-10th (2nd from left), & Darin Materman-11th (far right)

Ejay Ramos - *One thing that really stuck with me from my trip to Sacramento was something that Senator Steven Bradford told me, "No one owes you anything. If you want something, you have to work and fight for it, and you can't take no as an answer." This quote truly resonated with me and made me realize that I can achieve a lot more and make more change if I work harder and stay persistent.*

Harry Kaplan - *It was incredible to be able to walk the halls of the Capitol building and to lobby to state-wide assemblymen and senators. Probably the best part was when my group talked our way into Governor Gavin Newsom's office. He was at a meeting during this time and while we weren't able to meet with him, we still got a VIP tour of his office. It was an incredible trip and I made a lot of friends to last a lifetime.*

Darin Materman - *I loved getting to know our local representatives and seeing their stances. They shared some really valuable knowledge about how our schools are run that I hope I can use to make change in the future!*

REFLECTIONS

Congratulations to the many South High students that participated in our Reflections Art Program. The winning submissions in each category were celebrated at our PTA Awards Night in February.



Want to get a jump start for next year?
The theme for 2020-2021 is, **“I Matter Because...”**



Be advised, email scammers have recently targeted PTA members, requesting donations of gift cards, money, and personal information. Please verify all email addresses and know that South High PTA will never request donations or your personal information in this way.

Here are some best practices to keep in mind if you get an email that doesn't feel right:

- Contact the person directly. Call them or text them to check and see if they sent you the email in question.
- PTA always requires a paper trail for financial dealings, and we never wire money or pay for things using gift cards. If you are in doubt, contact your president and/or treasurer to ask about the validity of the request.
- Often you will notice that the email address mimics those used by our PTA, but that it isn't quite the same, perhaps only a few letters off.
- Trust your gut. If you think it doesn't sound right, then it is probably a scam.

HONORARY SERVICE AWARDS

The recipients of this year's Honorary Service Awards have gone above and beyond for the students of South High and the greater community. Each were nominated by their peers, including South High staff, and were celebrated at last month's PTA Awards Night. We thank them for and are humbled by their incredible contributions – donations in their names have been made to California State PTA scholarship and grant programs.



Mary Roberts – Very Special Person Award

For her efforts in beautifying our campus with new, drought-resistant landscaping. It was a massive project, including 100+ volunteers, and it looks fabulous!

Ms. Carly Shultz – Outstanding Teacher Award

An incredibly dedicated teacher, she finds time to make an impact outside of the classroom through Ted Talk Club, Connect Club, and more. She is a role model for students and teachers alike and we are lucky to have her at South High.

Michelle Briggs – Honorary Service Award

She has more than 10 years of PTA service under her belt, including multiple stints as PTA President. She is currently planning this year's Grad Night which is sure to be a great time!

SENIORS

- GRAD Night tickets are still available...order form & permission slip below. Full payment is due by May 15th!
- Senior Activity Parent Night is Wednesday, April 1st at 6:30pm. You may check your GRAD Night balance and/or make payments at this event...cash or check only.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS

As winter comes to an end, it's time to gear up for our spring activities, including:

- Spring Sports Pep Rally
- Spring Drama Production
- Celebration of the Arts Week
- Scholar Quiz
- Marine Science Boat Races at the Torrance Aquatic Center
- South Area Music Festival
- South Area Choir Festival
- Prom Court selection and assembly
- Auditions for Baccalaureate & Commencement performers and speakers
- Annual Bluegrass Assembly & Picnic for incoming 8th graders
- 2020-2021 ASB & Class Council Elections
- Class Competition Lip Sync

March and April promise to be busy months in the Activities Office with the selection of the Baccalaureate & Commencement performers, the election of next year's ASB Officers & Class Officers, and oversight of the entertainment provided by each of our classes at the annual Class Comp Lip Sync. Additional activities include Senior Activity Parent Night and Yearbook/ID pictures for next year. The end of April brings our 2020 Prom Court Assembly during lunch at which all the members of the court will be celebrated. Voting for Prom King and Queen will take place at Prom on June 6th.

With the end of the school year in sight, things only get busier. May offers many activities, such as our Spring Dance Show and Pep Squad, Drill, and Dance Team tryouts. Our Spartan Laurel program will take center stage to honor our seniors and highlight our students' many achievements. This special program will be held on Wednesday, May 20th in the main gym at 6pm. I would like to extend an invitation to community members to attend this memorable event in support of the collective achievements of South High students. Additionally, Prom preparation will continue in May with tickets sales beginning May 27th. This year's Prom will be held at the House of Blues in Anaheim.

Stay tuned for our end of the year edition of the Spartan Scribe in which senior activities will be highlighted.

Vicki Hildreth
Activities Director

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN TORRANCE

-Bring the World to You. Be the World to Them-

The Torrance Unified School District International Student Program enrolls high school students from countries all over the world for up to one year. Hosting an international student is an incredibly rewarding experience. Families who open their hearts and homes to international students develop lifelong bonds and gain a better understanding of the world around them

HOST FAMILIES

- Offer a caring environment
- Want to share American Culture
- Provide room and meals
- Receive a monthly stipend
- Local and National Support

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- Are 15-18 years old
- Enrolled in a TUSD High School
- Speak English
- Carefully Screened and Interviewed
- Fully Insured
- Required to maintain good academic records and performance

Torrance Unified School District accepts students from agencies that place international students in US schools. These agencies find host families in the community and are solely responsible for all aspects of the host family selection and placement of students.

For More Information on Hosting an International Students, Please Contact one of the Agencies listed below.

WEP-USA

310-683-9665

jamie.wep@gmail.com

Educatus

818-456-7436

rusty.silva@educatius.org

SMG United States

310-683-9665

jgomez.esi@gmail.com

For More Information About the TUSD International Student Program, Please Contact Geri Lynn Mauch at mauch.gerilynn@tUSD.org

GRAD Night 2020

(Graduates Resisting Alcohol & Drugs)

WHAT: A supervised, all-night celebration for our 2020 South High graduates. It is sponsored by the South High 2020 GRAD Night Committee with support from the school and community. This event is completely funded by ticket sales and fundraising events. 300+ graduates enjoy this event each year.

WHEN: Thursday, June 11th; 9pm—Friday, June 12th; 5am

WHERE: The location of GRAD Night has always been kept secret from both students & parents. It will be held in the Los Angeles area...students must arrive and depart by bus.

COST: Price includes transportation, unlimited food & drink, entertainment, t-shirt & prizes.

- \$150—submit \$50 deposit by October 1, 2019 to lock in this discounted rate.
- **\$165—ticket price without the initial deposit by due date**
- Full payment must be received by May 15, 2020
- Cash or check, made payable to SHS PTA
 - Fill out form and return with payment & permission slip (copies on the SHS website under “Seniors, or mail any time to Michelle Briggs 4828 Macafee Rd. Torrance, CA 90505
 - Full refund if requested by 2/1/20
 - 1/2 refund if requested by 4/1/20

QUESTIONS: Contact 2020 GRAD Night Chair, Michelle Briggs at michellebriggs1@gmail.com

GRAD Night 2020

SENIOR NAME: _____

PARENT EMAIL: _____

T-SHIRT SIZE (circle): S M L XL XXL
 (Sizes needed no later than 5/15/20. All students MUST wear this t-shirt to GRAD Night!)

FOOD RESTRICTIONS (circle): Y N
 Returned checks will be subject to a \$20 processing fee.

South High 2020 GRAD Night – Medical & Liability Release Form/Permission Slip

This form MUST be completed by all parents/guardians and seniors attending the South High 2020 GRAD Night on June 11-12, 2020. ALL FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 15, 2020.

Student Name _____ Birthdate _____
 Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

List phone number(s) where parent/guardian can be reached during GRAD Night hours, 9pm-5am.
 Parent/Guardian Emergency Phone(s) _____

Please provide the following information for the above-named student:

1. List any allergies: _____
2. List any known health problems: _____
3. List any medications currently being taken: _____
 All medication must be checked in and held by South High 2020 GRAD Night Chaperones.
4. Emergency contact if parent/guardian cannot be reached:
 Name _____ Phone _____

We understand that South High graduates will be under the supervision of the South High 2020 GRAD Night adult chaperones or their authorized representatives. We give our permission to the adult chaperones of the South High 2020 GRAD Night and PD Special Events staff to obtain medical aid or assistance and the administration of medicines or treatment as might be ordered or administered by a licensed physician as might be required for the care of me/my son/daughter in the event such help becomes necessary. In no event shall the South High 2020 GRAD Night Committee, its officers, chaperones, or agents (including but not limited to PD Special Events staff) be held liable for any aid rendered, treatments, drugs and medicines, or surgical procedures performed pursuant to this contract. **Initial** _____

We further understand that this event is an all-night event, and we acknowledge being aware of the inherent risks with an event of this type. We release and forever discharge the South High 2020 GRAD Night Committee officers, employees, South High School, South High PTA, PD Special Events staff, vendors and/or agents for the foregoing, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action on account of death or any injury which may occur by reason of attending the South High 2020 GRAD Night. We also agree to allow South High School Administration (or their assignee) to sign any additional liability waivers as required by this event. **Initial** _____

We further acknowledge that this event is an alcohol, drug, and cigarette free event, and we understand that if me/my son/daughter arrives at the South High 2020 GRAD Night event under the influence or in possession of alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, a parent/guardian will be called to pick them up and that no monies will be refunded against fees paid by myself or my son/daughter to attend this event. We understand that the School Zero Tolerance Policy and Code of Conduct rules will be enforced. **Initial** _____

Student signature _____ Date _____
 Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____

This form is to be completed in full or student will not be admitted – due by May 15, 2020
 Drop in designated PTA box or mail to: Michelle Briggs, 4828 Macafee Rd. Torrance, CA 90505