San Gorgonio High School
Fall Newsletter
2023

Principal's Message

Jorge De La Torre, Principal

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! Our Spartan staff is looking forward to a fantastic school year with our students!

San Gorgonio High School is the Summit of Excellence. Our slogan is: C.A.R.E. for yourself, C.A.R.E. for each other, and C.A.R.E. to make a difference. Even though we are starting this school year with decreased enrollment, the push toward our Spartan Summit of Excellence is still strong!

Our school district is focused on maintaining our students at school and keeping them safe. Our San Gorgonio High School staff is determined to prepare our students for their future and to take on any challenge they may encounter. We understand that there are various struggles for families during our kids' high school years. We are here as a support and will work collaboratively with you for the success of our students.

We have a dedicated and fantastic Spartan staff focused on each student's academic achievement with the goal of having every student graduate with a high school diploma in preparation for college and a career. Special programs such as Advanced Placement, AVID, Cadet Corps, Career Pathways, Jobs for California's Graduates, Extended Learning, and 4-year plans will assist our students with successfully reaching their goals.

This year, our Spartan focus is to increase engagement in **reading, writing, and math** with the assistance of our WASC goals:

1. Grow our professional development team
2. Develop our common assessments
3. Increase student/parent engagement
4. Increase support for our low-performing students

It is imperative that your student maintains regular attendance at school. We certainly understand that COVID is still here and that we no longer have a contracted COVID Liaison, but our current Health Office staff is trained to assist with COVID situations. Please encourage and support your student in attending school every day and completing their daily assignments. If your student is feeling sick, have them stay home, call the attendance office, and get their work from their teachers. We encourage all students to get involved! San Gorgonio High School has a diverse number of clubs, sports, and extracurricular activities. Keeping your students connected to school with additional activities increases their likelihood of a successful high school experience.

Aeries Student/Parent Portal is the fastest way to monitor your student's attendance and progress. Download the app today. ParentSquare continues to be our number one form of communication, and we strongly encourage you to download the app on your smartphone. Aeries and ParentSquare have notification options available if you are concerned with the amount of notifications you will receive.

Having the opportunity to work at other high schools, I absolutely know that San Gorgonio High School is one of the best high schools. We are glad that your student is here. Working together, we can ensure that your Spartan student achieves success.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email.

I wish you a wonderful and successful Spartan school year!

Important Events and Dates

School-wide Testing Calendar
PSAT (Practice SAT)
October 25 – Sophomores

Coffee with the Principal **-** Meetings are held on campus in H2 at 9 a.m. - September 14, November 30

School Site Council (SSC)
Meetings are held on campus in H2 at 3:30 p.m.
September 25, October 30, November 13

English Learners Advisory Committee (ELAC)
Meetings are held on campus in H2 at 3:30 p.m.
September 18, October 23, November 6

African American Parent Advisory Council (AAPAC)
Meetings are held on campus in H2 at 3:30 p.m.
September 11, October 18, November 6

If you are interested in attending SSC/Coffee with the Principal meeting, please email Mr. Keith Langdon at keith.langdon@sbcusd.k12.ca.us

If you are interested in attending an ELAC meeting, please email Mr. Steven Ryser at Steven.Ryser@sbcusd.k12.ca.us

If you are interested in attending an AAPAC, please email Mr. Vincent Warsaw at vincent.warsaw@sbcusd.k12.ca.us

San G Counseling Corner

Stephen Barkley, Head Counselor

Welcome Back from the 2023-2024 Counseling Staff!

The Counseling staff at San Gorgonio is dedicated to providing the services required to meet our student's academic, social/emotional, and post-secondary goals with a relaxed, trusting, and comprehensive approach. We meet with your student in a variety of settings throughout the school year, from one-on-one counseling in our office to classroom lessons on a variety of SEL topics in a more traditional classroom setting.

As the fall gets started, here are a few important things happening in the lives of our students this semester. In August, our seniors will begin filling out college applications. Submissions of the Cal State applications begin in October, while the UC application submission process starts in November. Private school application deadlines differ by school, so it is important to research each institution to see what each individual school requires. While the California State College system (including both the UC and CSU schools) does not require a SAT score for application for the class of 2024, some private colleges might still require the test. Seniors should register to take the SAT before December 31 by visiting their College Board website at www.collegeboard.org/login. Dates of upcoming tests can be found on this Website.

Also, for seniors, Scholarship and FAFSA applications open this semester. The FAFSA must be filled out for a student to receive any financial aid while attending college. All students should fill out the FAFSA regardless if they plan on attending a post-high school institution or not, just in case plans change. FAFSA is free but requires parent information for financial award purposes, so please make sure your senior files their FAFSA this October. The FAFSA website is located at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

Scholarship applications are ongoing, so students should check our San Gorgonio Counseling Website at https://sites.google.com/sbcusd.k12.ca.us/sangorgoniohscounseling/home for updated scholarship information. We are excited about all the resources and information we are sharing through the site. You can contact your student's counselor and find useful connections for FAFSA and College applications.

Should you have any questions regarding your student's progress toward meeting graduation requirements, the college application process, or any other concerns, please contact the SGHS Student Services office to schedule an appointment with your student's counselor.

College and Career Center News

Chris Moorman, College/Career Resource Teacher

The College/Career Resource Center is available for all San Gorgonio High School students to help plan their future before and after graduation. The College/Career Center helps students research career options, offers college presentations, writes college inquiry letters, offers concurrent enrollment opportunities with Valley College, hosts military recruiters, offers FAFSA workshops, and updates college/career information.

One tool we will be using is a software program called College Next that introduces 9th graders to the process of assessments, career searches, and comparisons. 10th graders research specific occupations and the educational requirements needed and compare various career options. In 11th grade, students research

colleges/careers based on their specific criteria, whether that is college (including community colleges and technical schools), internships, or the military; so, by the time a student reaches 12th grade, they have narrowed their choices to a few well researched career paths.

Students in grades 9-11 can apply for Valley Now Classes for the January- May semester through our partnership with San Bernardino Valley Community College. Classes are free to our students; generally, the work can be completed online. Credits are earned for both College and high school as long as the student passes their chosen class. Any interested student should see me as soon as possible in B-44 as classes do fill incredibly fast.

This year, we are also proud to present an opportunity for students to earn a Pharmacy Technology Certificate through our partner, San Bernardino Valley Community College. All classes will be either online or offered in person on our campus. Normally, this program would cost about $2400, but it is free for our students. The program consists of just seven classes. Once completed, students will be qualified to work in a pharmacy as a tech in this great state of California.

If your student is looking for a job, a good place to start is the Career Center. Students can stop by the career center or email Christopher.moorman@sbcusd.k12.ca.us for a work permit application. Work permits are available to students under the age of 18. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA (or higher) and good attendance to keep their permits active.

ASB and Student Activities

Jeff Juhnke, ASB Advisor & Activity Director

Members of the Student Council are working hard to plan and carry out another year's worth of activities for the student body. Our focus this year is building up our Spartan Spirit here on campus and encouraging a positive school culture. To do this, the Spartan ASB is putting together activities and events where all Spartans can participate. To help students get involved, they are encouraged to purchase an ASB card. It is the best deal going for only $50; freshmen can get an ASB card for half price $25. The card gets students into all regular season home and many away sporting games for free, discounts on all of the dances and other ASB-sponsored events, free championship sporting patches, discounts on all senior activities and events, and more. It is a great deal for Spartans to save money and get involved.

The 2023 Football Homecoming Game will take place on Friday, October 20th, with a special halftime fireworks show. The Homecoming Dance will be held on campus the next night, Saturday, October 21st, from 6-10 p.m. The Dance costs $30 or only **$5 with an ASB Card!** Students will enjoy a memorable night of dancing to an amazing DJ, games, a photo booth, great food, and so much more.

Students are encouraged to pay attention to the announcements each day during 4th period and posted daily to the San Gorgonio website, https://sangorgonio.sbcusd.com/. Students can also check out the SGHS Instagram page @sghs_asb to stay informed.

We are continuing with our incentive program, 5 Star Students. 5 Star Students is an app students can download or sign into on their Chromebooks. The program rewards students with C.A.R.E. points for positive behavior, actions, and school spirit. Students can earn great rewards just for being a positive Spartan who C.A.R.E.s. Rewards include gift cards, spirit gear, dance tickets, classroom incentives, and even an extra ticket to graduation. The more involved a Spartan is, the more opportunities to earn C.A.R.E. points in the 5 Star Student App.

The first ASB-sponsored Blood Drive took place on Thursday, August 24th. It was a very successful blood drive, and San Gorgonio continues to be one of the area's most giving and generous schools. We will have two more blood drives during this school year. Students 15 years of age and older may donate blood with parental permission. San Gorgonio High School has a proud tradition of community outreach, and the blood drives are a way for us to help those in need.

If you have any questions regarding activities, please contact me by email at jeffrey.juhnke@sbcusd.com, and I will be happy to get back to you as always, care for yourselves, care for each other, and **C.A.R.E. to Make a Difference**!

Jobs for California's Graduates (JCG)

Nicole Vega, JCG Program Specialist

The Jobs for California's Graduates (JCG) program has begun its 6th year at SGHS, and we are anxious to move forward with new projects as our newly elected Career Officers assume their roles. JCG is a school-to-career

transition program recognized nationally and currently establishing roots in California. Currently, 51 Spartans, grades 10-12, participate in the program, and we are filling up to 9 more spots in the 7th-period elective class.

The 6th Annual Initiation and Installation Ceremony will take place on October 4th in the Spartan Theater. All families and community members are encouraged to attend in celebration of our officers and initiates.

Already this year, we have hosted several guest speakers, including former JCG alumni Noraly Sainz and Heather Zappia of Uplift San Bernardino, Kim Benson of the UAS Drone Pilot training program at San Bernardino Airport, and Fermin Ramirez, San Bernardino Valley College Financial Aid Specialist. We also have scheduled several conferences and field trips locally and out of state.

One larger project our JCG students will launch this year is the first-ever California Career Development Conference for JAG students across the state. This project will create cohesiveness and collaboration with other JAG programs and partners in the central California and Los Angeles regions and prepare students for the JAG National event later in the semester.

In April of the spring semester, twenty students and four chaperones will travel to St. Louis, Missouri, to participate in the JAG National Career Development Conference, where students will compete nationally with other JAG programs in areas of employability skills, public speaking, career preparation, creative decision making, business planning, and financial literacy.

JCG staff and students are grateful for another successful year, building upon what was accomplished in previous years. For more information about the program, please visit http://bit.ly/SGHSJ4CG, follow our IG at @jcgsang, or contact Nicole Vega at nicole.vega@sbcusd.k12.ca.us.

Spartan Career Pathways

Marianne Davari, Linked Learning Program Specialist

Starting this school year, we now have three Linked Learning silver-certified pathways: Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Biomedical Science Pathway, Child Care Occupations Pathway, and our latest one, Automotive Technologies Pathway. In addition, all pathway classes are A-G Compliant, and five pathway classes are articulated with a local community college.

The Automotive 2 class is now articulated with both Riverside City College and San Bernardino Valley College. Construction 2 is articulated with Norco College. Child Care Occupations is articulated with both San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College, and PLTW Engineering is articulated with Chaffey College. This means that by taking these classes, students not only receive ten high school credits but will receive three college credits if they earn a "B" or higher. Lastly, our Digital Technology (Digitech) pathway holds an articulation with San Bernardino Valley College, which offers pathway students the opportunity to earn up to 9 college credits in two years.

All of our pathway classes are aligned with a dual enrollment/early college course. Students can register to take a college class through San Bernardino Valley College that aligns with the pathway they are in. In addition, our PLTW Biomedical Science and Engineering pathway offers honors credits as well. Students taking these pathway classes will be eligible to receive a weighted grade for their transcript, which will help their GPA standing.

Our pathway classes are designed to allow students to learn future-ready skills that will help prepare them to follow a career path of their choosing. By taking pathway classes, students can investigate their professional interests by taking industry field trips, earn work-related certifications, hear from experts from various career fields, and do a lot of hands-on tactical learning. The goal is to make this year exciting, innovative, and academically challenging for our pathway students.

Spartan Cadet Corps

Kristopher Knutson, SGHS Cadet Corps Teacher

The California Cadet Corps objectives are to develop leadership, citizenship, patriotism, promote academic excellence, encourage personal health and wellness, and teach basic military subjects. It has trained over a million young people since its inception in 1911. Its primary goal is to help develop leadership and pride from within each student using peer-led instruction. The cadets of the 308th Battalion, 11th Brigade will learn these objectives and many more skills to serve them over their entire lives.

We have had our first cadet events of the year, Basic Leadership School and Drill Academy. Our spartan cadets placed 1st and 2nd in Basic Leadership School and at Drill Academy, earned 2nd in Unarmed drill and 2nd in Armed drill.

The Spartan Football season is in full swing, and cadets are again needed to present the colors and help at the games, assisting school security and district police. At each home game, cadets assist with gate supervision, fan access, and general help with seating. These hours count for school service and meet the requirements for earning the School Service Ribbon. These hours can also be used for AVID and in other classes for community service.

We have a bivouac camping trip planned for 28 September 2023 to 1 October 2023 at Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation in Lake Arrowhead. Cadets will learn basic field skills and have the opportunity to participate in Ziplining, Archery, and Rockwall Climbing.

Cadets will be attending the San Bernardino Veterans Day Parade on 11 November 2023 and the nighttime Redlands Christmas Parade in December. Cadets will have the opportunity to tour the historic USS Iowa and the Maritime Museum in November during school to help learn about the contributions of our military and our veterans.

This semester, cadets will be going through the intensive American Heart Association training on adult child and infant first aid and CPR, culminating in a district-wide certification on 20 January 2024. You can follow us on Instagram @**CACC.SPARTANS**

Spartan Athletics

Matt Maeda, SGHS Athletics Director

Welcome back, Spartans! Our fall sports of football, boys' and girls' cross country, cheer, girls' tennis, girls' volleyball, and boys' water polo began competition in August, along with our newest CIF sport, girls' flag football. Most of our teams will compete in the Arrowhead Athletic Conference, which is a combination of 14 schools from SBCUSD, Colton Joint USD, Fontana USD, Rialto USD, Notre Dame, and Rim of the World.

As always, we strongly encourage our Spartans to buy their ASB Card to take advantage of all the savings offered at SGHS, including FREE admission to regular season home sporting events. Our home football opener was September 1 vs. Ontario as our Spartans returned home after two big wins on the road to begin the season at Canyon Springs and Chaffey. This year, our other home regular season games are Sept 7 vs. Citrus Hill, Sept 29 vs. Notre Dame (Hall of Fame Game), and Oct 20 vs. Fontana (Homecoming).

Football general admission tickets are $9, and student tickets are $5, but once again, our Spartans get in FREE if they have an ASB Card. Game tickets may be purchased online at GoFan.co and are digital only. There are no cash sales at the gate!

With our return to SGHS, we are urging all of our Spartans to JOIN a sport... There is a sport for everyone, and many sports do not cut athletes, so if you come out and stick with it, you will be on a team. Some of our no-cut sports include cross country, E-Sports, football, tennis, water polo, wrestling, swimming, and track; however, even our other sports of baseball, basketball, girls' flag football, soccer, softball, and volleyball are looking to increase their numbers and need players to come out. Tryouts for the winter and spring sports begin as early as September, so pay attention to the daily announcements or drop by our athletics office in the tunnel (D-6) for updates.

All athletes need to complete a doctor's physical, insurance affidavit, and online physical packet in order to go out for a sport. Please visit our Spartan athletics website at www.sangorgonioathletics.org for our sports schedules as well as the physical form and insurance information, which may be found via the "information/forms" tab on the menu board at the top of the page. Our online physical packet is the same as last year and may be found at www.athleticclearance.com.

Stay healthy, safe, and strong, Spartans... and remember to always "CARE... to Make A Difference!"

CAPS at SGHS

The CAPS Expanded Learning Programs are offered to all SBCUSD students and operates daily from the dismissal bell to 6:00 p.m. The vision of CAPS is to provide exemplary before and after-school experiences that will enhance each student's academic, social, emotional, and physical development. Programs include homework time, food, academic, recreational, and enrichment activities. CAPS at SGHS is located in rooms H3, H4, and H5 from 3:35 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and can be reached at 909-388-6524 Ext. 289.
Click to ENROLL in the CAPS after-school program.