

# MARSHALL FUNDAMENTAL



Newsletter

Planting Seeds Issue

Fall 2017 Edition



Drone overhead shot.  
Courtesy photo by Steve Miranda

## **School Leadership**

*Principal:*

Dr. Mark Anderson

*Asst. Principal of Curriculum:*

Sandra Rizzo

*Asst. Principal of Guidance & Discipline:*

Lanisha Kelly

*Asst. Principal of Student Services:*

Audrey Green

## **Location**

990 North Allen Avenue,  
Pasadena CA 91104

## **School Contact**

Main Office: 626.396.5810

## **Website**

[pusd.us/marshall](http://pusd.us/marshall)



# Marshall's African American Parent Council

Marshall Fundamental's African-American Parent Council (AAPC) is a coalition of parents, students, and community members. The AAPC respects and embraces the diverse cultures of our communities. We facilitate educational equity and improvements in academic outcomes. We value varied forms of parent involvement to foster the healthy development of all students, and provide the tools and skills necessary for families to access information and to purposefully participate in a rapidly changing world.

Our Mission is to honor and embrace the identity and experiences of Marshall Fundamental's African American families. To advocate for the cultural acceptance for all. To continue to mobilize and engage all stakeholders and to transform the system to ensure a high quality education for every student. To engage in creating a collaborative conversation for all.

We welcome everyone to come join us in establishing a recognized council whose main objective is to build, bolster, and maintain relationships between parents, students, educators, and community partners. We look forward to mentoring, tutoring, and helping all of our children to the highest possible academic success.

Finally our hope is to identify, develop and maintain facilitative African-American leadership, and expand participation in building relationships between all Marshall, the community, and our families.

AAPC meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm in A-126

AAPC Chairperson, Derek Walker  
Email: Derek.Walker@sbcglobal.net

# Marshall Fundamental

# PTSA<sup>®</sup>

PARENTS • TEACHERS • STUDENTS • ASSOCIATION

**Marshall Fundamental School is better...with YOU!**  
**With your PTSA membership, all things are possible!**

## YOUR PTSA EVENTS AND PROGRAMS:

- New Family Meet & Greet
- 6th Grade Potluck
- Campus Beautification
- Four Teacher Appreciation Potlucks
- 2017-Three Scholarships Awarded to Eligible Graduating Seniors (\$500 each)
- Department Wish List for Teachers

"We invite every parent, teacher, and neighbor to join with PTSA, as we work to make MARSHALL FUNDAMENTAL the best it can be for our students...our most precious resource."

**PTSA PRESIDENT:** Lena Bayrakdarian

**PRESIDENT EMAIL:** Marshallptsa1@yahoo.com

## PTSA also means exclusive for YOU!

Google Express ~ Yoobi ~ Aquarium of the Pacific ~ Boxed ~ Comcast Internet Essentials ~ California Academy of Sciences ~ LEGOLAND ~ Enterprise Car Rental

## Support your child and your school – Support PTSA!

### Here's how to join PTSA:

Fill out membership form please include \$9 per person dues

For more information: Email Lena or Denise at  
Marshallptsa1@yahoo.com

# MARSHALL'S STUDENT COMIC STRIP CORNER



# Marshall Curriculum

## AP Capstone comes to Marshall

by Felita Kealing

The 2017 -2018 School Year introduces a new series of Advanced Placement (AP) classes to the Marshall Fundamental campus. This year begins AP Seminar (2017/18) coupled with AP Research starting next fall (2018/19). Each course meets a portion of the requirements students need to attain an AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Ms. Sandra Rizzo, Assistant Principal of Curriculum states, “This program allows us the opportunity to expand our Advanced Placement (AP) courses for students who are nicely progressing on the AP track.” The AP Capstone and AP Research are open to all students who meet enrollment requirements as Marshall recognizes the importance of equity and access in education for students as a necessary element in reducing the achievement gap. According the College Board the AP Capstone Program is one more stepping stone to immerse students in the practice of critical skills needed to distinguish themselves in college and in life.

The College Board conveys it best, as in-

dicated below.

**How AP Capstone Works.** The College Board’s AP Capstone is an innovative college-level program based on two new courses — AP Seminar and AP Research — that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP® courses. The program provides students with an opportunity to engage in challenging scholarly practice of the core academic skills necessary for successful college completion. The ability to think independently, write effectively, research, collaborate, and learn across disciplines is essential for success in college, career, and beyond. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This signifies their outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college-level academic and research skills. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. AP Capstone was developed in response to feedback from higher education and is

easily implemented, affordable, and flexible. It has the potential to differentiate and transform high schools and their students by elevating the learning environment through a challenging, college-level program with high standards of assessment.

According to Joshua Tornek, Marshall Fundamental Social Studies Chairperson and AP Capstone instructor, “The Capstone Seminar class is designed for students who are up to the challenge of AP coursework, and seek to tie together many of the learning experiences from individual classes. The historical topics of the Cold War and the African - American Civil Rights Movement are being used to explore themes of power and democracy in the modern world.

Students in AP Seminar will be researching and presenting in groups and individually, based on guidelines set forth by the College Board. Many of the scored requirements for this course are graded by the College Board, not at Marshall.

*For additional information on AP Capstone™ please visit their website at: <https://advancesinap.collegeboard.org/ap-capstone/how-ap-capstone-works>*

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## 2017-18 Marshall Math: New and Exciting

by Lewis Watson, Math Department Chair

The opportunities to achieve significant improvement in math during the 2017 -18 school year are exciting.

As we head into the 2017-18 school year, we do so with four new math teachers and new middle school and high school curriculum. These additions to the Marshall Math program will assist continued positive trends in our math success.

Vickie Mach (Math 3 and Calculus), Jason Fukao (Math 1 and statistics), James Schurman (Math 8 and Math 8 Honors), and Avo Ovakimyan (Math

7) are new to Marshall. They bring a new energy and ideas that are contagious. Make sure you stop by and welcome them to Marshall.

The new middle school curriculum is Curriculum Associates’ Ready Math. This highly rated program is aligned to common core state standards (CCSS) and includes both teacher and student support features. One of these features is the iReady component. iReady is an online tool that includes a diagnostic component to

identify math needs for each student. Also, iReady enables teacher lead instruction and meaningful student instruction and practice.

In high school, we are implementing the Carnegie Learning curriculum for Math 1, Math 2, and Math 3 (including honors courses). We are looking forward to the education resources provided by this curriculum. The student resources provide the assistance needed by our students: definitions, explanations, and examples. Also included is

the supporting online program called Mathia. This program allows teachers and students to move forward with both support and accountability. We will also continue to use ALEKS to support our students as they reach their math potential.

As always, we can not reach our goals without the support of our Marshall families. Your feedback and observations are an important part of our continual improvement. We look forward to your opinions on the implementation of the new curriculum.

Engage with the curriculum, talk with your teacher, and support our students. It is the collaboration between families, students, teachers, and administration that will ensure our collective success.



# Marshall Welcomes New Staff Members



**Audrey Green**

**Assistant Principal:**

Has worked at Marshall since 1992. In her new role, she feels her interactions with students hasn't changed, they still feel comfortable approaching her. She enjoys gardening.



**Tom Abich**

**Science and PE:**

Mr. Tom is teaching the Weight Training and Conditioning class. He is a sports fanatic, his favorite sport is football, and his favorite team is the Chargers.



**Tyler Bills**

**Science:**

Attended Cal State Long Beach. He feels Marshall staff members are friendly and have treated him as family. He is a kickboxing martial artist and is interested in art and science.



**Jason Fukao**

**Math:**

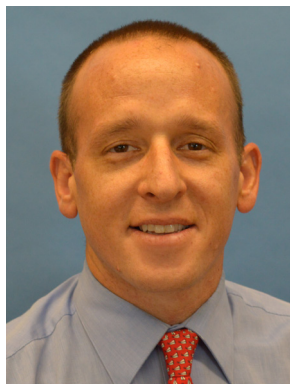
Is impressed with the Marshall's history and culture. He teaches math and likes veggies, running, and food that is organic and natural.



**Jonathan Gould**

**Choir:**

Credentialed at Cal Poly Pomona. He enjoys working in a diverse environment. He is teaching his pet chihuahua puppy, Rupert, how to speak on command.



**Daniel Jarashow**

**Science and AP  
Psychology:**

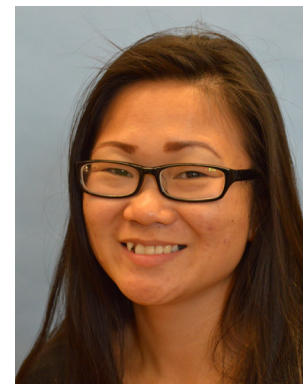
Credentialed at UCLA. He feels the students are friendly and the staff is helpful. He recently participated in the Glitter Run held in Hollywood with his two sons.



**Sang Lee**

**English:**

Is the head Volleyball Coach. Credentialed at Loyola Marymount, he is excited to be at Marshall and appreciates the team's commitment. He has a Rubenesque cat who is subconscious about her figure.



**Vickie Mach**

**Math:**

She was a tutor across Southern California. She feels Marshall students are engaged. She enjoys the outdoors and likes to hike and explore National Parks with her family.

# Marshall Welcomes New Staff



**Jessica Maker-Bilandzija**  
**8th grade English:**

Also coaches the tennis team. Coaching extends her connections to the high school students. She adores Broadway musicals and swing dancing.



**Dolores Martinez-Barcenas**  
**Special Ed:**

Cal State LA graduate. She is excited about teaching at Marshall with supportive teachers. She teaches believing all students can succeed with the right support.



**Avetis Ovakimyan**  
**Math:**

Credentialed at the University of La Verne. He enjoys working with the students and feels they are enthusiastic. He likes to play video games and he hikes to stay in shape.



**Rosa Ramirez**  
**Graphic Design:**

Is a freelance Graphic Designer and is working towards her Masters. Ms. Ramirez loves music and attending concerts. She also enjoys art galleries and fashion



**James Schurman**  
**Math:**

Graduated from Ohio University. He can see how the students find joy in learning. He is a musician; plays the guitar, piano, drums, and likes to sing.



**Yuanyuan Schvartsman**  
**Mandarin:**

Is working on building the Mandarin program. She has previously taught in China. She likes to travel and garden. Her favorite flower is the sunflower.



**Avetis Ter Grigorian**  
**Special Ed:**

Marshall Alum and Credentialed at Cal State LA. He is happy to give back to PUSD, the city and the community. Mr. Ter Grigorian likes to travel, play sports and is a huge foodie.



**Maria Torres**  
**ACI Counselor & ASB Advisor:**

Is ten years tenured at Marshall. Her move has had positive response by staff and students. She enjoys quad riding with her son in the outdoors.



**Corey Whitt**  
**Music/Marching Band:**

Completed his Master's at Harvard. He says Marshall is now his second home and feels everyone is supportive. Originally from Wisconsin, he is a die-hard Packers fan.



**Ismael Castro**  
**Attendance Clerk:**

Is the Attendance Clerk. He gives Marshall two thumbs up and feels it's a community oriented school. He can make great impersonations of three public figures.



**Rocio Carillo,**  
**Psychologist:**

Marshall staff has made my transition easier. She attended UC Santa Cruz, played water polo in high school, and loves pizza.



**Ricky Cortez**  
**Marshall LEARNs Coordinator:**

Runs the after-school program offering enrichment, leadership, and learning opportunities for both Middle and High School Students.



**Maria Montero**  
**Psychologist:**

Feels the staff has been supportive and welcoming. The students also seem to be very approachable. She is a pet-lover owning various dogs, cats and turtles.



**Fernando Pacheco**  
**Speech Language Pathologist:**

Feels a sense of inclusion with a positive campus vibe. He loves to read, his favorite book is The Giver.



**Sulamita Salguero,**  
**Community Liaison:**

Is a Marshall Alum returns to work with students and families. She is a Certified Translator and Interpreter. In her spare time she reads and workouts.



# Summer Days

## Let Me Introduce You to Boys State

by Atticus Moats

My name is Atticus Moats and I want to introduce you to Boys State.

Last spring, I was selected from a panel of Marshall parents to represent Marshall Fundamental in Sacramento, California at Boys State's annual summer meeting. It was all the toughest baseball and football players, Stanford and Harvard commits, model United Nation students, volunteers who worked with Barack Obama, National speech debaters, heads of their own non-profits, scientific researchers, writers, leaders, and coders all into one place; the State Capitol for seven days. For these seven days, we were not only citizens; we be-



Courtesy Photo

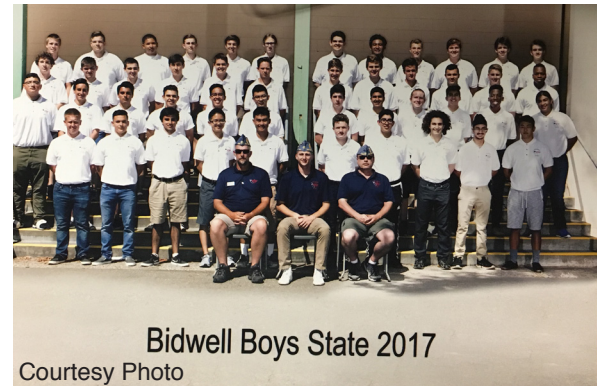
came lawyers, governors, city councilmen, county chairs, voters, non-voters, and represented every bit of California's government that implemented into every big and small action. In the end, there was a total of 1,000 students, assigned to different parties, Federalist or Whig. Assigned to five counties and to one of over 20 cities. We were assigned a roommate of the opposite party, who instantly became our Instagram and snapchat friend.

I feel the best way to show who I am and what I learned is through an email I sent to Dr. Anderson after the completion of the camp. This took guts. I felt nervous and queasy writing this. I hope reading this will explain and show my character a little better:

*"Hi Dr. Anderson,  
I just want to say thank you for the outstanding opportunity to attend Boys State. I met amazing, generous students from all over California. They taught me not only to be more humble, but also to pursue my passion with*

*pride. I learned that wearing beat up shoes or flip flops tells nothing about a person and wealth is simply a factor in how you currently live, but not how dedicated you are to your goals.*

*The American Legion set up a mock government of California and students were encouraged to actively participate. Forums were held on topics like taxation on corporations/business, free speech at Berkeley, if hate speech was free speech, US foreign policy, and immigration. These were my favorite moments during the stay. I was assigned citizenship in the City of Bidwell (or Litwell, to us citizens) and aimed high. I attempted to go for the position of Governor, but lost in an impromptu election proposed by our county. I ran for Superintendent of Public Instruction of California and gave a speech focused on nationalizing*



Bidwell Boys State 2017

Courtesy Photo

*private schools and getting rid of the Common Core.*

*\* I lost. But luckily, I found a job as Staff Attorney for one of the Supreme Court Justices, introducing me to law and cases presented by student lawyers. The experience was, to be honest, life altering. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity.*

*On a side note, I want this program to be more recognized among Marshall students in order to create healthy competition to strive in school and outside of school. If anything, I would love to interview next year's students.*

*I gave the speech to a 1,000 people. Go Eagles!"*

Thanks, Atticus Moats

## Inspiring the Next Generation of Storytellers

by Sarah Williams

At the end of the school year, students have one thing on their minds, summer vacation. Summer is the time for relaxation, carefree attitudes, freedom from the pressures of school, and fun. With this in mind, my whole 2017 summer experience was far from ordinary, as I got accepted into GFS LA(Ghetto

Film School Los Angeles). Ghetto Film School is a non-profit, dedicated to educating and inspiring the next generation of storytellers (Me :-D). 8 weeks of my summer break was spent at GFS, where I would get a college/industry level education on writing, shooting, directing and editing a movie. My class and I were challenged to complete a

non-dialogue 6 min short with the skills we have learned in class. GFS also included daily workshops, screenings, production assignments, and talks for top film makers. Some of the places I visited were the Universal Plot, CAA (Creative Artist Industry), The Theater at Ace Hotel, and the Sundance Film Festival. Without a single dull



Sarah Williams. Courtesy Photo by D. Johnson / MVMC

moment, my 2017 summer has surpassed all the summers before. Even though my summer is over, my GFS experience has just begun.

# Clubs & Organizations

## Middle School Chess Club

Every Tuesday during Middle School Lunch 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students gather in A10 to analyze, build skills, and problem solve while learning the game of chess. This activity is free and available to any interested Middle School student at all levels of play. Students with no chess experience are encouraged to participate. A student is welcomed to come periodically, however, those dedicated to regular attendance increase their skill level and are more likely to become one of the grade level Chess Tournament Champions.

Mr. Curtis Joiner, retired teacher dedicates his Tuesday afternoons teaching Marshall Fundamental Middle School



students chess moves, strategies, and game play. Before retiring Mr. Joiner was Marshall's Bilingual Resource Teacher and prior to that the French Teacher in the Academy. His teaching career expands 34 years in PUSD with 21 years here at Marshall. After 12 years of retirement Mr. Joiner also dedicates his summers teaching students chess at the Pasadena Educational Foundation (PEF) Summer Enrichment Program.

Middle School Chess is also thankful to volunteer, Evangeline Kowalyk now entering her third year as the Tuesday afternoon parent volunteer. After years of retirement why does Mr. Joiner continue teaching chess to kids? Because he enjoys when he see's kids enjoying themselves. So encourage your kids to participate.

## ELAC English Learning Advisory Council

Our job is to work with our school principals and instructional coach to ad-

vice on programs, services and resources for English Learners. Parents have the opportunity to express their concerns and ideas in order to bring positive changes. Some of our accomplishments for the 2016-2017 school year include: tutoring on Monday mornings for E.L students, the E.L Eagle newsletter aimed to connect parents to resources in the



school and community and parent workshops including a basic computer skills class. As a result, with the help of our ELD teachers and support staff, last year Marshall had a total of 50 students who reclassified. This year we are looking forward to working with returning and new parents to continue to contribute to our student's academic achievement and success.

## Marshall Music Booster Inc.



The Marshall Music Boosters (MMB) are a non-profit group of volunteers dedicated to helping support the performing arts faculty and students at Marshall. Meetings are held every fourth Tuesday of the month. You can reach them [marshallmusicboosters@gmail.com](mailto:marshallmusicboosters@gmail.com)

Mighty Eagles Marching Band The marching band program is an optional, self-supporting, extracurricular activity. This program has established itself as a high quality organization and source of pride for the school district. This year's field show is entitled "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde". was first performed on Friday, August 25th at the PHS football field. None of this could be possible without the dedicated musicians and Booster volunteers.

## The 2017 Solar Eclipse

by Liam and Sasha Krestow

To get to the eclipse we had to drive for 14 hours which was a pain to get through! We started in California then



Courtesy Photo by Dr. Gwen Rudie.

we visited Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and finally after many suffering hours, Idaho. TO SEE THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE!!!

The town we went to was Mackay (Pronounced Makee). The population was 447 normally but another 2000 people came to see the eclipse. So the town was very stressed about it. I would be too if it were me!

The eclipse itself was quite amazing. The sky slowly darkened during the partial eclipse. When totality finally struck, both Venus and Mercury were visible. In addition, the moon was much darker than we had originally expected. Instead of being a gray-ish circle only somewhat dimming the sun, it was



The Krestow-Burns Family: Chris, Sasha, Jenny, and Liam Courtesy Photo.

a pure black sphere blocking it out. Also, the corona was crystal clear and extended at least as far as the sun was wide. And the entire corona was crystal clear. Not to mention, the feeling of being able to look directly at the sun, even when it was blocked, was absolutely breathtaking.



# 2017 Graduation Acceptances

## Marshall Fundamental Graduating Class of 2017.

There were 247 candidates for graduation. 138 completed with a GPA greater than 3.0; 76 finished with a GPA greater than 3.5; and 31 had a GPA greater than 4.0. 95% enrolled in 43 different college/universities. 91 earned Athletic Varsity Letters while maintaining a 3.3 GPA and 35% actively participated in Visual and Performing Arts. There were 1106 AP Exams administered. They collectively completed 19,000 Community Service Hours. Four students have beat the odds graduating while in the foster care system. Four overcame significant physical and learning disabilities receiving their Certificates of Completion. We had four National Merit Commended Scholars, one National Merit Finalist, one National Merit Scholar, and three students joined the Armed Services.

2017 Awards include: US News & World Report, the Washington Post, the California Business for Education Excellence, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals have named Marshall one of the top schools in the nation.

The Class of 2017 gives our future hope; they are going to make our world a better place.

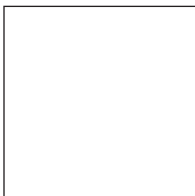
**Arizona State University • Azusa Pacific • Boston College • Cal Poly Pomona • Cal Poly San Luis Obispo • Cal State Bakersfield • Cal State Channel Islands • Cal State Dominguez Hills • Cal State Long Beach • Cal State Los Angeles • Cal State Monterey Bay • Cal State Northridge • Cal State San Bernardino • Cal State San Francisco • Chaffey Community College • Chico State • Citrus Community College • University of Duke • Glendale Community College**

**• Howard University • Marines • Mt. San Antonio Community College • New York University • Occidental • Oregon State University • Otis College Of Art And Design • Pasadena City College • Point Loma Nazarene College • Pomona College • San Diego State • San Francisco State University • Santa Monica Community College • Spelman College • Syracuse University • Tufts University • U.S. Army • U.S. Navy • UC Berkeley • UC Davis • UC Irvine • UC Riverside • UC San Diego • UC Santa Cruz • UCLA • UCSB • University Of Oregon • USC • University Of Washington • Wagner College • Wesleyan University**

Thanks to the parents and families for the support and encouragement they have given; Marshall is better because of their legacy.



Valedictorians of the Class of 2017. Courtesy Photo by F. Kealing



Marshall Fundamental  
Secondary School  
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