



# WINDSOR OAKS ACADEMY

*A Quality Alternative High School  
Serving the Students of the Windsor Unified School District*

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July 2009

Summer greetings from Windsor Oaks Academy! As these hot summer days move toward the start of another school year, I hope this letter finds you enjoying your break and provides you with news and information about changes to our learning community.

## **Alternative Education Program & Staff Changes**

Cal-SAFE Teen Parent Program ~ Congratulations to **Jessica Borland** who will serve this year in a new role as the Cal-SAFE Teen Parent Program Coordinator and Instructor. Ms. Borland joins the teaching staff, which expands services to our teen parents by providing many resources and expertise, while still overseeing the program as she has for the past few years.

General Equivalency Program (GED)/California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE)  
Our new GED/CHSPE program will focus on core subjects (Math, English, Social Studies, Science) and electives as well as skill-building in preparation for passing the exam while still earning high school credits. The program also includes a work-readiness and experience component where students will secure a job and improve upon resume-building and interviewing skills for life outside of high school.

Drop-Out Prevention Program (DPP) ~ In order to provide other alternative programs for students with attendance concerns, this program offers a shortened-day, short-term solution in a small setting that focuses on core subjects (Math, English, Social Studies, Science) to recover credits and transition students back to a regular program.

We welcome **Neil Smart**, a current teacher from within the District for nine years, who will be teaching both of the above-listed programs. Mr. Smart has several degrees, including a Masters in Business Administration, and has had experience in both the regular classroom and in intervention programs.

We also welcome a new English teacher to Windsor Oaks Academy, **Pat O'Connor**. Ms. O'Connor has 23 years of teaching experience, including work at charter schools, with Special Education students, and within a teen parent program. She brings with her high expectations for students through having them identify realistic goals and then providing the instruction, resources and support needed to see them through.

In addition to our teaching staff, we welcome back **Paolo Breschi**, a bilingual counselor who we will be sharing with Windsor High School. Mr. Breschi has been a counselor with the District for many years, including time here at Windsor Oaks Academy! Mr. Breschi will serve Windsor Oaks Academy for 50% of the time, sharing support of students with our staff and counseling interns from The Ananda Institute and Sonoma State University.

## Site & Parking Changes

To accommodate for the growth of our alternative education programs, a building will be added to the Windsor Oaks Academy's parking lot. While it is exciting to provide new programs and resources for students, this additional building means **less parking spaces**.



***More than ever, it is critical that students who drive arrive early to assure parking!***

In an effort to provide a safe and secure campus, Windsor High School is requiring that every vehicle driven to school by a student have a **Parking Permit Decal** displayed on the driver's side front windshield at the cost of \$2.00 per decal/vehicle. Student drivers will need to complete the enclosed **Parking Permit Application**; if you are unable to afford this fee, please also complete the enclosed **Waiver Request for Parking Permit Fee**.

## Parent/Student Orientation

Please join us for an orientation where we'll have the opportunity to socialize over dinner and learn more about Windsor Oaks Academy's programs and guidelines as well as pick up student schedules and tour the campus. **REGISTRATION PACKETS ARE DUE** at this Orientation!

Monday, August 10, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Windsor High School Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)

## Other Important Dates

Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>-----First Day of Instruction  
Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.-----Back-to-School Night

## Final Thoughts

As summer winds down, I hope that this time of year finds you rested, rejuvenated, and ready for the start of school and the important work we do throughout the school year. I look forward to welcoming you to Windsor Oaks Academy for the 2009-2010 school year!

Patricia Law  
Principal