

Diego Hills Charter School newsletter



July 2015



Congrats to Our 2015 Graduates!

The 2014-15 Graduation Ceremony was held at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 6:30PM. The following students successfully completed all of the requirements for graduation. Way to go!

Nabile Acevedo
Alfredo Aguirre
Rajohna Alexander
Catherine Almendarez
Beatriz Alvarado
Juan Alvarez
Wilson Anyanwu
Alec Aros
Sean Bailey
Colton Barr
Alyssa Baugh
Silvester Berdeja
Sonia Bernal
Trent BonDurant-Strong
Yesi Bradley-Perez
Anthony Briones
Marisol Bueno
Mariah Cano
Alejandro Cantu
Mario Carmona
Nathan Carpenter
Jasmine Carrera
Keshawn Carter
Alexis Celis
Jose Cepeda
Ilse Cerrillo
Bridgit Chavez
Gerardo Chavez
Malcolm Cloud
Martel Collins
Olivia Colvin
Destiny Contreras
Jocelyn Corral
Stephanie Creese
Miracle Darnell
Anthony Davis
James Delgadillo
Aitana DeLong
Anthony Diaz
Victor Dontigny
Moises Duarte
Linda Rene Edmundson
Deeqa El-Amin
Jesus Escobosa

Luis Esquivel
Micaela Fields
Delaney Fox
Julio Garcia
Sarah Garcia
Sarai Garcia
Haley Granvold
Priscilla Gray-Flores
Brandon Harrison
Sarah Hecox
Brooke Henderson
Samantha Hernandez
Michael Hunter
Quiana Hunter-Thompson
Salvador Jimenez
Sandy Jimenez
Mary Jimenez-Eyraud
Dominae Johnson
Zandra Jones
Dominique King-Lundy
Lewron Lacey
Omar Lawton
Diana Lopez
Genesis Lopez
Valerie Lopez-Fuerte
Jessica Lopez-Machado
Yesenia Lora
Senka Lorja
Samuel Losasso
Genevieve Luna
Linzee Lyons
Darla Mafnas
Ayaan Mall
Arshjamonea Martin
Sabrina Meza
Jordan Mickens
Hamud Mohamed
Brendalid Morales
Daniela Moya
Nicholas Orchard
Ravshan Otadjanov
Raul Palomino-Valdez
Angelica Perez
Jasmine Phillips

Margarita Plata
Teyana Powell
Rosa Prieto Silva
Juan Puga Perez
Evelyn Ramirez
Rashaan Raspberry
Daviontee Robinson
Aujanae Rodriguez
Emilio Rodriguez
Lesliana Rogers
Hazel Rogoff
Gregory Ruffin
Sierra Salazar-Nieto
Maria Salinas
Sarah Sanchez
Priscilla Sanchez-Rodriguez
Hannah Sanders
Mishay Sanders
Denise Santana
Angel Saucedo
Christine Sengpaseuth
Tommy So
Ryan Soliven
Tomi Stern
Yvonne Taylor
Salena Thai
Belinda Topete
Asia Torres
Ricardo Vallejo
Andrea Velasquez
Gustavo Vergara
Tania Villa
Francisco Villanueva
Barbara Walcher
Kameara Warmasley
George-William Wehrung
Darrion Wicker
Devon Williamson
Devante Wilson
Tyler Woosley
Marco Zagal
Javier Zapien

Important Dates

7/8—Blood Drive

7/9—Healthy Relationships Lunch Bunch

7/15—Parent Meeting 530pm

7/20-24—Check Your Mood Week

8/7—Career Expo Field Trip

9/7—School Closed for Labor Day

9/18—SDOC L4L Summit

9/23—CELDT Testing

10/2—Senior Breakfast

Music Seminars

Tues/Thur @ DH Music Room

Choir, Guitar, Piano, Ukulele

Music Recording Lab

Dance, Hip Hop/Breakdancing

Art Class (starts 8/21)

W 12pm—2pm

Sports

Basketball @ the Kroc Center

Boys—Mon/Wed 10am-12pm

Girls—T/Th 10am-12pm

Insanity® @ the Kroc Gym

Tue 9am-10am

Boot Camp @ the Kroc Gym

Thu 9am-10am

Ultimate Frisbee @ Clay Park

Fri 1pm-3pm

Spirit Team @ Clay Park

Wed 12:30pm-2pm

GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS



On June 2, 2015, at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Diego Hills' campuses proudly celebrated their graduates for the year. Westview High School NJROTC presented the flag to begin, while Diego Hills' Choir Director Gonzalo Ruelas led the choir and band in providing excellent music for the ceremony. Janet Wilson, former Dehesa Superintendent, gave an inspirational commencement address about perseverance and determination ultimately leading to success. She likened her own impediments to those of many of our students, encouraging them to pursue their ambitions, despite what they might encounter along the way. Students

Alyssa Baugh, Cynthia Neria, and Catherine Almendarez spoke with maturity and strength about the obstacles and struggles they overcame, as well as the pride and joy they found in their accomplishments as they reached their goal of earning a diploma. Principals Armando Martinez and Lindsay Reese handed out diplomas while Learning Center Coordinator Joy Taylor read graduates' names. Teacher Jacqueline Sanchez, who had the most graduates walking, handed out white roses for students to give to whomever they believe helped them the most throughout their journey. Mary Jane Almandoz, Board of Trustee Representative closed the ceremony by presenting the Diego Hills Class of 2015. Overall it was an incredibly successful and moving event, sure to inspire this

year's seniors to reach their goal of graduation 2016!



CLASS OF 2015!



GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

GRAD NITE 2015



Diego Hills seniors had the opportunity to celebrate all night long at Disneyland Resort and Disneyland's California Adventure, where the park was open only to graduates. Everyone had a great time!



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to this year's scholarship award winners, selected after an essay application and interview:

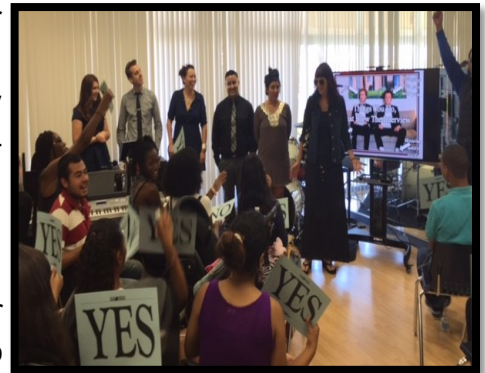
- ~Alyssa Baugh
- ~Roxana Lopez
- ~Zabdy Ramirez
- ~Freddy Schlichtholz-Garcia



ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

INTERVIEW LUNCH BUNCH

In June, Diego Hills Tutor Indira Jimenez, along with other members of the Diego Hills staff, led a very successful Lunch Bunch called “Wings to Success” about interview strategies. Ms. Jimenez talked about proper email accounts, and the importance of proper voicemail greetings when filling out job applications. She covered important tips like how to prepare for a job interview the day before. Students reviewed sample interview questions and then moved on to proper attire. For women, the tips were not to wear too much make up, and not to dress as if one were going out with friends on a Friday night. For men, the suggestions were no baggy pants, no jeans, and a clean-cut, look. No tattoos should show for either men or women while asking for job applications or interviewing. After the review on attire, Mrs. Jimenez, Mrs. Lanstrom, Ms. Ramos, Mr. Mann, Mr. Cortez, Ms. Mason, and Ms. Flaven put on a fashion show. Students were given signs and would put up a “YES” for proper attire, and a “NO” for improper wear. The event was called “Wings to



Success” because chicken wings were served. If students need help with interview practice or resume writing, the counselors Ms. Weldele and Ms. Hubbell are always available on campus.

DIEGO HILLS SPORTS

Coach Shar led the girls basketball team in a very successful inaugural season this spring. The team will break for the summer, but open play coed basketball will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at the KROC. Coach Shaw can answer questions about the boys’ basketball team, which also had an eventful season. New this summer at Diego Hills are Ultimate Frisbee and Spirit Team, as well as Insanity®. For the full sports schedule, see page one.



FIELD TRIPS



Students recently visited Platt College, a design school located just down the street from the Diego Hills San Diego campus, learning about career options in advertising, graphic design, web design, 3D animation, video game design, and film and video. See Ms. Weldele or Ms. Hubbell in the counseling office for more information on arts programs at Diego Hills.

PLATT COLLEGE



LIVING COAST DISCOVERY CENTER

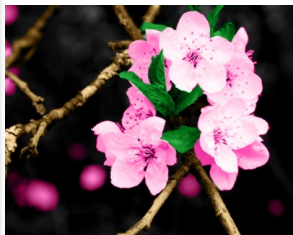


Students also visited the Living Coast Discovery Center on a field trip with Science teachers Ms. Blumberg and Ms. Lopez in June. They received a complete tour of the facility by a docent. She complimented them on how polite and attentive they were! They got to take equipment into the salt marsh and determine the health of the ecosystem by measuring the temperature, PH, turbidity, salt and evidence of life. They also measured wind speed and direction. Lastly, they participated in a scavenger hunt to discover all of the forms of land and aquatic life that live there. Look for info on more field trips to come!



NEW BLENDED LEARNING OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

Did you know that Diego Hills is now offering many elective courses as online/ blended learning options? All classes explore the basic principles, history, and careers associated with a particular field of study, and students work online and with their Supervising Teacher. Introduction to Fashion Design, Principles of Health Sciences, Business, Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Architecture, Web Design, Computer Science, IT, and Law and Public Safety are some offerings. Students do need internet access, but can work in the computer lab at school (open 10am-4pm daily). In the future, Diego Hills is hoping to add hands-on seminars and apprenticeships or internships as part of its advancing CTE program. Now is the time to think about your plans after graduation and to explore career options. Ask your Teacher about signing up today!



ART STUDENTS EXHIBIT AT COUNTY FAIR

Diego Hills Art at the Fair
by Student Sienna Gomez



In June, Ms. Koester and Mrs. Morales took the Art Seminar Class to the San Diego County Fair and it was a great experience. Not only did we get to see our own art work, which we had submitted months earlier, but we also had the opportunity to view other students' work from different schools. Seeing so many art pieces opened all of our eyes to new ways we could expand our own creativity. While walking around the fair and observing the booths and displays, we also noticed the many different elements of art and principles of design we had learned about in our class. We realized there



was art all around us! Some of the art pieces on display were priced very high and it made me feel like I possibly could be selling my own art work at a gallery some day! My favorite part of the fair was just the opportunity to really see where I am with my artwork and how I can grow as an artist. One of my classmates, Raphael Gibson expressed, "The art was really inspirational. There were so many art pieces that had a lot of depth. The food was amazing too, and it also showed texture and creativity."



Overall it was an awesome experience and we were all thankful that Ms. Koester encouraged us to enter our art-work into the fair. We were also thankful that we got to go to the fair as a group to see our accomplishments.



- 1st Place Ribbon:**
Christian Holguin
- 2nd Place Ribbons:**
Sienna Gomez
Christian Holguin
Vanessa Williams
- 3rd Place Ribbons:**
Raphael Gibson
Alyssa Baugh
Breanna Lopez
Stephanie Salazar
Sienna Gomez
Brittany Scott



STAFF HAPPENINGS

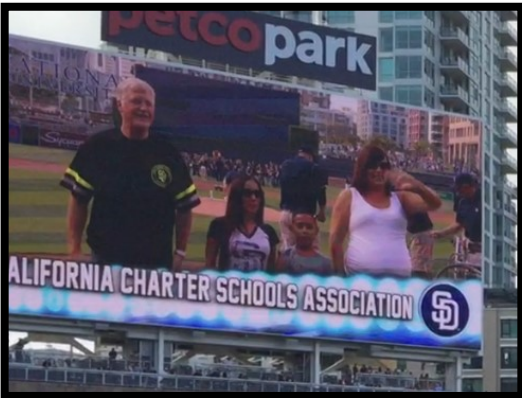
BTSA



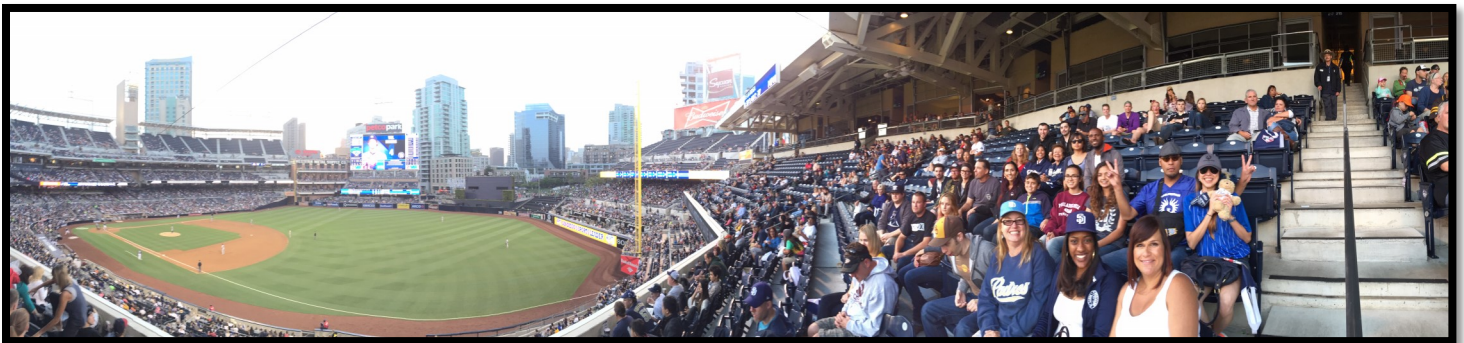
Teachers Michele Harrison, Francisco Mayer, Ryan Warner-Steel, Ken Pride and Amanda Hill finished BTSA requirements.

Several members of the Diego Hills staff finished their first or second year of the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Induction Program with a celebration attended by administration and support providers this spring. BTSA is a requirement of all California teachers and must be completed within five years of receiving a preliminary teaching credential. Teachers conduct research, evaluate curriculum and assessments, and provide extensive reflection on their teaching philosophy, environment and practices before clearing their credential.

CHARTER SCHOOL APPRECIATION NIGHT



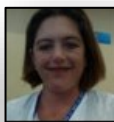
In May, Diego Hills staff organized an outing to PETCO Park's Charter School Appreciation Night with the San Diego Padres. Principal Lindsay Reese was honored on the field (and on the jumbo-tron) before the game as a member of the California Charter School's Association. Staff sat together for a great night of baseball and family fun.



NEW FACES



Counselor Ms. Hubbell



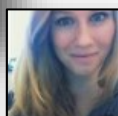
Math Teacher Ms. Hill



SPED Teacher Ms. Maggay



Math Teacher Ms. Watson



SPED Teacher Ms. Dort



History Teacher Mr. Bradley



Math Teacher Ms. Branham

Principal's Corner

July begins Diego Hills' 2015-2016 school year. The new year started with an influx of summer intersession students. Diego Hills serviced 150 intersession students, who primarily took Science and Social Studies courses. Diego Hills looks forward to enrolling more new students this fall.



The school's main focus for the 2015-2016 school year is to increase all students' core and elective credit completion and to increase the overall student graduation rate. Student incentives and awards will be given to those students who complete 8 credits per learning period (2 per week). Graduating seniors will be supported by their teacher, counselors, and a graduation coach. Seniors will be able to participate in a number of events throughout the year. Those events will include a senior breakfast, field trips, college/career/military events, and mentoring sessions. The goal is to support all students in moving toward their graduation goals.

I look forward to supporting the school these next few months, while Mrs. Reese is on leave. It is an honor to help facilitate this process.

-Joy Taylor

My Name is Quincy Hollings and I am a senior here at Diego Hills. I used to go to Hoover High, where in my freshman year I joined a program called Aaron Price Fellows. This summer the Program took us on a trip to Washington D.C where I had the opportunity to meet a variety of different people, all very important to our everyday lives.



Student Quincy Hollings meets Congressman Lewis

While in D.C., the fellows and I met with the researchers who observe and investigate how different social classes are affected by certain bills and acts before being passed through legislation. We got a chance to speak with them and explain how we felt about topics including public school quality, tax reforms, and equality reforms and debates. This was special, considering teenagers don't normally have a voice in our nation's decision making.

Also on the trip, we went to the National Mall where we visited the Capitol Building. There we met with Congresswoman Susan Davis, Congressman Scott Peters, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, and Congressman John Lewis. We also met the first ever Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

While in the Budget Center, we collaborated with members who control, introduce, and reform government assistance programs (Pell Grants, Medi-Cal, Medicaid, Food Stamps, and WIC) to gain better understanding of how each affects different age ranges of people.

My favorite part was meeting Congressman John Lewis because it gave me a great sense of how far minorities have come in closing the inequality gap since the start of the Civil Rights Movement. John Lewis was one of the 'Big Six' civil rights activists during the 60's. Martin Luther King Jr., Jon Wilkins, and Malcom X being a few notable others. As the head of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, he participated in and helped organize key points of the Civil Rights Movement, including sit-ins, freedom rides, The March On Washington for Equality and Jobs (where MLK gave his 'I Have a Dream' speech), and he stood along side MLK Jr. over the bridge in the march to Selma.

Created in 1991 by the Price Family, the Program selects 9th grade students from four public high schools in San Diego for an in-depth look at government, business, non-profit and cultural institutions. For more information visit the website www.aaronpricefellows.org.



Student Spotlight



San Diego Campus

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San Diego, CA 92115
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Murrieta Campus

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Phone: 951-249-7641
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Diego Hills Public Charter School

