

GATE Parents Group Newsletter

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**San Mateo Union High
School District**

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Upcoming Board Meetings

Board meetings will be held
at the SMUHSD Offices
at 7pm on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Greetings,

The 2005-2006 School year is off to a great start. Our Kick-off meeting on September 6th was a success with approximately 325 people attending, including 32 teachers. The event met two of our goals of providing increased educational opportunities for parent education as well as increasing teacher participation.

On March 20th we'll co-host an evening with Dr. Barbara Clark, author of **Growing up Gifted** with the Peninsula Advocates for Gifted Education (PAGE). Plans are also underway for an event in February.

We expanded our Grant Program this year by increasing the funding level. Dawn Reid is coordinating grant application activities. Recently funded projects can be found on the website.

We welcome Vicky Morris who has replaced Bob Silva as the District GATE Coordinator. Vicky works with the GATE Parents Group as well as the School GATE Site Coordinators who provide on-site programs. Vicky has introduced new and exciting programs such as the sold out **CSI on the Peninsula** and **College Financial Survival 101**. Both programs will be offered again in the spring.

Parent participation is what makes our program a success. We can use your skills and advice. We're currently looking for someone to coordinate the Returning College Student Panel in January and a parent with graphics or publicity experience to help publicize our upcoming educational speakers. Please contact me at Smgabe@sbhsi.com if you'd like to get involved.

Sandi Gabe
GATE Parents Group President

December 7, 2005

Upcoming Events

Barbara Clark

An Evening with Barbara Clark

March 20, 2006

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Bayside Performing Arts Center 2025 Kehoe Avenue, San Mateo

Barbara Clark is Professor Emeritus, California State University, Los Angeles and the author of the widely used text, *Growing up Gifted*, now in its sixth edition.

The event is co-sponsored with PAGE (Peninsula Advocates for Gifted Education) and San Mateo-Foster City School District

Cost:

No charge for GATE Parents The public is welcome. Tickets are \$5.00 before March 1, \$10.00 at the door

Check us out on the web at www.gateparents.com

Upcoming Events

TWO CLASSES OFFERED

Class 1 - Winter Class

Capuchino High School
Mr Jonnard's Classroom - Portable B5

Monday - Friday
January 2-6 2006
9am - 12 Noon

Registration Deadline

December 16, 2005

Class 2 - Spring Class

Capuchino High School
Mr Jonnard's Classroom - Portable B5

5 Saturdays
February 25 - March 25, 2006
9am - 12 Noon

Registration Deadline

February 7, 2005

SAT Preparation Courses

Get prepared for the SAT Test by taking the popular five session SAT Test Preparation Review Course. The course will provide comprehensive classroom study in verbal and math skills and test-taking strategies and will cover the new PSAT & SAT tests. Student study materials are included in the course fee. Additional information on improving your SAT scores can be found at <http://www.percentilepress.com>.

The first class will start at 8:00am to cover an orientation meeting, class registration and material distribution.

Cost: The fee is \$225 for S.M.U.H.S.D. GATE students. "Open spots" will be offered to non-GATE students at \$275.00.

Completing the Financial Aid Form

Wed, January 18, 2006
7:00 PM

Little Theater, Hillsdale High School

Dr. Wrubel Workshop

The second workshop by Dr. Wrubel will cover both the FAFSA and Profile financial aid forms, and a line-by-line review of both documents. The evening includes an overview of why one files a financial aid form (regardless of current need), and a review for the follow-up paperwork and how to deal with it. The primary audience is parents but students are welcome to find out the correct answers when speaking to financial aid officers. A more detailed description is found at www.paulrwrubel.com

Do not wait until your students are Seniors. Attend this workshop now! Understand financial planning for college years in advance. Change your financial picture. Do not wait!

This workshop is sponsored by the GATE program, but parents of students from SMUHSD may attend.

R.S.V.P to Harriete Estel Berman 650 345-4078 or Shelander@att.net

Arrive early before 7:00 to get the best seat. **Bring pens or pencils and a writing surface.** We will not have tables to write on. The large audience expected for this informative evening means *we are holding the lecture in an auditorium.*

How can you become involved?

- Attend a Board Meeting to participate in setting the agenda for future programs and decide how school grants are funded
- Volunteer your time - even a few hours help
- Become a Parent Site Liaison - get to know your on-site Gate Coordinator
- Become a Board Member - We're currently looking for volunteers to shadow this year's Board Members in anticipation of holding an office in the 2006-2007 School year

Board Member

Shadow a current Board Member to "learn the ropes" this year and transition to a position next year.

GATE Parent Site Liaison

As a parent representative of the school and member of the GATE Parents Group Board of Directors play an integral role by providing input to the Board in helping to frame the GATE Parents Group activities.

We are currently looking for parents from all high schools to serve as Parent Site Liaisons, especially parents from Capuchino, Hillsdale, San Mateo and Mills High Schools. If you're interested, please contact Sandi Gabe at SMGabe@sbhsi.com or 650-589-1836.

Responsibilities of the GATE Parent Site Liaison

- Liaison to school GATE on-site coordinator
- Participate in GATE Parents Group Steering Committee monthly meetings (optional)
- Establish communication with students (GATE and non-GATE) and parents at school site (i.e. PTO meetings and PTO communications)

Road to College Series Coordinator

- Coordinate selection of dates and locations for 3 events with Dr. Wrubel
- Publicize events

Three grants were approved at the October Meeting

Naomi Tuite/Patricia Riek from Capuchino High School were awarded \$281.71 for curriculum enhancements for the IB Theory of Knowledge class. A video and DVD will be purchased to enhance two educational units, the video *Water Night, Touch Light* explores art and creativity through the work of three painters who are blind. The DVD *Rosencranz and Guildenstern are Dead* retells Shakespeare's Hamlet through the eyes of two other characters.

Mills High School instructor **Grant Paul** was awarded \$800 to purchase a Digital projector for use in his AP Chemistry classroom. The projector will be used to show information from the web, Powerpoint presentations and visualize a variety of digital information. This technology is becoming an integral part of instruction in our schools.

Ken Crowell, a music instructor at Mills, was awarded \$500, to bring professional musicians to tutor small groups of students on their specific instruments.

The GATE Parent's group is pleased to award funds to the teachers in the San Mateo Union High School District. The grants allow for additional worthwhile projects to become a reality. Teachers who are interested in applying for a grant should go to the website for details. The deadline for submission is the 25th of each month.

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SAT Test Preparation Class REGISTRATION
 Return this completed application with your check

Make Check payable to: "GATE Parents Group" <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 2-6 Class <input type="checkbox"/> Feb 25 - March 25 Class INDICATE WHICH CLASS ABOVE	Mailing Address GATE Parents Group GATE 650 N. Delaware Street San Mateo, CA 94401	You must provide both parent's/guardian's & student's email address or a self-addressed stamped #10 size (9" wide) envelope for a confirmation notice.
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Student Information		Parent/Guardian Information	
Name		Name	
Email Address		Email Address	
Signature		Signature	
School	Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> I can assist the class with refreshments at break time	
<input type="checkbox"/> GATE(\$225) <input type="checkbox"/> Non Gate (\$275)		<input type="checkbox"/> I can assist with orientation and class registration	
Address		City/Zip	Home Phone Cell Phone (optional)