



HSA Howler: Student Edition

HSA Movers and Shakers—people who go above and beyond for the Academy

Monica, pictured right, is meeting with former HSA Department Chair, Ms. Choitti. Pictured below are Monica and Mr. Sabbara along with their officer team.

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A Day in the Life of President Brizuela by Austin McCullah

When she's not working to better the Health Science Academy she presides over, you may find Monica Brizuela learning how to play the piano, or even bettering her skills as a dancer. If there is one word that describes Monica best, it would be "involved." Since her freshman year, she has held numerous positions in HSA, including Activities Coordinator, Vice President and President -- her current position. Monica became HSA President with the goal of making the Academy even better than it already is.

Monica wishes the best to the proceeding HSA President and has a few words of advice for him. She believes that he should always keep an up-to-date organizer and planner on him at all times. Also, he must stay enthusiastic and keep the club active, informed and punctual and always greet members with a smile, along with always thanking donors, teachers and advisors. It's Monica's last year in the Academy at Chino Hills High School, and upon graduation, she hopes to attend UC Irvine and major in Biology.



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Pictures (top and bottom—page 1)- Courtesy of Monica Brizuela.



Casa de Colina Field Trip by Isabella Orozco & Margaux Mijares Photos—courtesy of Isabella O.

On Monday, January 12th, our fellow 9th grade HSA Students went on a field trip to tour Casa de Colina. Casa de Colina means “House on the Hill” in Spanish, and first opened its doors in 1938. It is a rehabilitation center that specializes in treating stroke, TBI, and spinal cord injury patients. Moreover, it has grown tremendously; it currently has 34 hospital rooms, and it is opening a new hospital on April 1st, which will house 62 additional patients.

Jessica Burchett greeted us and started our orientation. She introduced us to Felice Loverso, the CEO of Casa de Colina. Mr. Loverso told us about his tough childhood in Brooklyn and his extremely poor family. Later, he

attended a four-year college where he studied speech pathology. When Mr. Loverso first arrived at Casa de Colina in 1998, he asked his eleven administrators, “Would you put your own mother in this facility?” When the administrators responded, “No,” he fired all eleven of them. The point of Mr. Loverso’s presentation was to always put patients first.

After Mr. Loverso finished his presentation, we split into groups and learned about different career paths. The careers included audiology, pharmacy, physical therapy, nursing, radiology, speech, and occupational therapy. We spent 15 minutes learning about each

around the facility where we saw the aquatic therapy pool, current hospital, and children’s play-therapy room. After the visit, we ate lunch at nearby eateries, such as In-n-Out and Starbucks.

We also discovered that Casa de Colina has a junior volunteer program that fills up extremely quickly. The six-month program requires students to work a total of 100 hours by the end of their internship. Applications are available on-line at www.casacolina.org under its volunteer tab. Overall, we were very impressed with the facilities and wonderful professionals who work there. We will definitely consider volunteering there, once we are juniors.

HSA Happenings

Mid photo above- courtesy of Google Images

HSA Club:

HSA officers meet in room **211 (Mr. Sabbara’s room)** on the **second** and **fourth** Wednesday of each month.

Informative club meetings are in the Ceramics Room (176) on the **first** and **third** **Wednesday** of each month.

Lunchtime Tutoring:

Dedicated HSA students provide tutoring during lunch on **Tuesdays, Thursdays** and **Fridays** in room **232**. HSA students provide tutoring in the following subject areas: **English** (all grade levels), **Foreign Language** (mainly Spanish), **Math** (most levels) and **Science** (most sciences).

Club Officer Elections:

If you are interested in becoming an officer, please attend club meetings for more information. Applications will be posted on-line later in March.

HSA offers **15 officer positions**, which range from club president to grade level class ambassadors.

Parents who are the Movers and Shakers of the Academy

Mr. and Mrs. Cacheiro have tirelessly contributed to HSA in order to ensure that all HSA students receive an even more engaging academic experience. They have helped to organize fieldtrips and guest speakers. Also, their two daughters have been and still are involved with HSA.



Q: Why did you get involved in HSA?

Pete: I got involved in HSA because I wanted to give back to education and get involved with my daughters' school and their activities. **Linda:** Early on when it became evident that both daughters showed interest in the medical field, I wanted to help by giving them as much information and exposure as possible. Also, with my husband's help and his contacts in law enforcement, I was able to network and find valuable resources to further their interests.

Q: How did you help organize field trips to Cal-State Los Angeles' crime scene labs?

Pete: With the help of my colleague, Lt. Nick Rampon, who is the Director of Forensics in LA Sheriffs department, we were able to coordinate the HSA's field trip to the lab. Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Baun secured a bus for the transportation purposes, and about 25 HSA students got to tour the CSULA's crime lab. During the tour they visited the following

departments: latent prints, trace evidence, fire arms section, forensic biology, DNA division and drug analysis. Lt. Rampon was able to show the group how Criminalists and Homicide Detectives were able to re-create an actual crime scene (vehicle) where a shooting victim had been found.

Q: How did you help organize guest speakers, such as Sheriff Wells and Lt. Frederick Corral, to come and address HSA students?

Pete: When I worked in Narcotics Division, I met and used to work with Sheriff Wells, LA Sheriffs' Criminalist, who in the 1980's developed an internationally used presumptive drug detection test (**Wells Test**). Sheriff Wells had spoken to CHHS earlier (2012), discussing the danger of drugs; he was happy to return and address HSA students particularly in Crime Scene Investigations and blood pattern analysis. Also, through working investigations and various crime scenes, I met Lt. Frederick Corral, LA County Dept. Medical

Examiner Coroner's Office, who was happy to speak and share his expertise with our HSA students in 2015. His expertise as a Lt. Coroner Investigator is to determine the cause of death by reviewing crime scenes and collecting evidence.

Q: Which of your children have gone through HSA and/or are



in HSA right now?

Linda: **Malia** (Class 2017), which is my youngest daughter, is currently in HSA and is interested in Forensic Science. **Lena** (Class 2015), which is my oldest daughter, was an HSA student and is currently attending Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ, pursuing a major in Nursing.

A Teacher's Hulk-Busting Contributions

Without Mrs. Zeigler's excellence in coordinating CHHS' Internships, many HSA, non-HSA students, and former student alumni would not have been able to achieve the hours necessary to graduate with honors status in HSA. Thankfully, Mrs. Zeigler has taken the time out of her busy schedule to be interviewed for the HSA newspaper.

Q: What does the class work entail for the various internships that are offered?

A: Students intern six hours a week and attend a weekly instructional period, 7th period on Thursday. During class, students learn about the various employment skills that are necessary in the workplace, terminology that is used in businesses or industries they are serving in. Moreover, students conduct career research in order to expand their understanding of the variety of jobs that are available in health care and college or

career pathways. Also, interns meet many professionals at their internship sites, which opens up new fields of exploration.

Q: How do you place students in various work-based internships?

A: I place the student in the internship based on what skills he/she wishes to learn. Next, I have the student fill out an application and statement of commitment saying he is dedicated to his internship. When the supervisor or I interview the student, this is the last step.

Q: How do you follow up on students in their work-based internships?

A: To make sure that students are following through with their internship duties/responsibilities, I visit students at their Internship sites, communicate with the mentors who also complete written evaluations of the Intern's progress. Additionally, in our weekly class meetings, students share highlights and concerns about their Internships.

Q: How do you cement relationships with our HSA Internship partners?

A: I cement relationships with our HSA internship partners by writing thank-you cards, giving them various gifts as a token of my appreciation, promoting their business or service and asking them to serve as experts on our Advisory Board. Board members also provide HSA with advice specific to their industries.

Q: How do you bolster HSA's relationship with its members of its Advisory Board?

A: I work very hard at showing appreciation for the HSA Board and constantly ask for advice and guidance.

Q: When do students sign up for Summer and Fall Internships?

A: Currently students can sign up with Mrs. Hughes or myself on the Summer and Fall Internship Interest List while we await approval of the Summer Internship program.

by Xavier Resendez

Interview: Founder of HSA Boosters—Mrs. Kleeburg by Megan Kleeburg

Gina Kleeburg is a mother of two and has been involved in the Health Science Academy for the past five years. She decided to get involved with HSA because her son, Jacob, was accepted into HSA his freshman year at Chino Hills High School, and her daughter, Megan, was applying to be in HSA the following year. Mrs. Kleeburg decided to help out HSA, because in her son's freshman year, budget cuts for the counselors were being made, and at the time, counselors

were the ones directing the future of HSA. By midyear, there weren't any fieldtrips for the kids, so when she spoke with the teachers, counselors and advisors, they said they needed help. Not wanting to see this amazing program end, she decided to become involved and make HSA a strong program again.

Every year Mrs. Kleeburg has been able to improve something about the HSA, and her first accomplishment was putting

on an amazing banquet at the end of the year for all of the students. The first two years were the hardest because she wanted to find supplies and decorations that could be used each year. It takes a lot of time and energy into planning a banquet, but for Gina she says, "It's just like planning a bigger birthday party." There are a lot of things to consider, such as the date, food and budget. Ms. Kleeburg spends at least eighty hours on the banquet preparing the invites, decorations, awards,



Ms. Kleeburg helped chaperone a hike three years ago for the following clubs: HSA and PAWW. Because of Ms. Kleeburg and her husband, students were able to hike in the Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. She and her husband provided snacks and beverages for exhausted student hikers who trudged six miles to see panoramic views of the ocean and rugged hills of Laguna.



Three years ago Ms. Kleeburg helped chaperone another field trip. This time she helped take students to Santa Monica Beach, so they could participate in the annual Heal the Bay event.

Top Photo: Ms. Kleeburg (left), Megan and Jacob (center), and Mr. Kleeburg (right).

Photos-courtesy of Megan Kleeburg

Continued

centerpieces, set up, etc. She likes to give students recognition for their hard work as volunteers, interns and officers. “I wanted the banquet to mean something to all the classes. I wanted to give the underclassman something to look forward to and remind them why they are in the HSA.”

Mrs. Kleeburg starts each school year with planning in May of the previous year. She likes to sit down with the new officers in a relaxed setting, such as her house, where the officers feel free to express their ideas for the Academy for the upcoming year. She asks officers their ideas for the t-shirts and hoodies, and they decide on a design and color for each. Mrs. Kleeburg then works on getting a good design and price from local vendors. The Boosters and ASB have their calendar signings in May in which she has always attended in order to get all of HSA’s fundraisers on the calendars.

Mrs. Kleeburg’s son, **Jacob**, was in the class of 2015, and her daughter, **Megan**, is the class of 2016. Both have spent all four years in the HSA. Jacob was vice president and later president. Megan was member-at-large, vice president and secretary and currently is fundraising chair. Ms. Kleeburg says, “**At our house we eat, sleep and breathe HSA.**”

Mrs. Kleeburg’s concern for the future of HSA is curriculum. Mrs. Kleeburg has worked with five different advisors in as many years and has loved working with each one of them, each bringing something new to the table. “I have seen the huge amount of work and responsibility placed on them mostly to deal with the ever

changing rules and curriculum being handed down.” HSA is having to fit into programs, like Linked Learning, STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics), Common Core, etc., and now the District is placing different restrictions on the academies. This makes it very difficult each school year because each class has a different set of standards. For example, this year the applications for the HSA program are now picked by lottery instead of merit. “We have already see a drop in attendance at the HSA meetings,” and she’s concerned because HSA needs passionate students to keep the Academy alive. “Unfortunately, with these curriculum changes, we have dropped classes, like ROP Veterinarian and EMR. These hands-on classes are important for the kids along with internships so they can get a glimpse of what a future in medicine will be.”

Her hope for the HSA is that it continues to be a rewarding and enriching opportunity for any student who truly wishes to seek a career in the medical industry. HSA has been a huge part of her family’s life for the past five years, and she has truly enjoyed it. “The Health Science Academy is not going to fall apart just because one person leaves. I have worked with the dedicated advisors of the HSA, and we have really put together a program where we’re not reinventing the wheel each year which was the goal. I was fortunate enough to have parents reach out to help me these past five years.” Mrs. Kleeburg is hoping that other HSA parents will continue her work, thus, keeping HSA’s Parent Booster Organization alive and well.