



ST. HOPE

Pipeline

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www.sthope.org

FINAL EDITION

Sac High Charter Renewed, Bright Future Ahead

By Lisa Serna-Mayorga

On Thursday, December 20th in front of a packed crowd dressed in purple, the SCUSD Board of Education voted 6-1 in favor of renewing Sac High's charter renewal petition. After months of planning, nearly 350 Sac High students, teachers, parents and community supporters attended the 2-hour board meeting at The Serna Center to learn the fate of their school. The renewal of the Sac High charter will allow St. HOPE to run the high school as an independent charter school for 5 years. "This is an exciting time for our school community," said PK Diffenbaugh, Sac High Co-Principal. "We remain committed to serving the students of Sacramento and thank the board for their vote of confidence."



Sac High students attend the December 20th SCUSD board meeting to hear the fate of their school.

Sac High began a new term on January 8th where students, teachers and staff returned to a newly renovated East Wing. The newly renovated East Wing houses the School of the Arts and Business Communication; the School of Law & Public Service and Math Engineering and Health Sciences are now housed in the portables. Many students, staff, parents and visitors have commented on how bright and modern the new space feels. Sac High athletics are in full swing with both the boys and girls basketball teams standing in first place in the Sacramento Region. We encourage the community to visit the campus for a tour, a basketball game or to simply see what's happening at Sac High!



Sac High students spend time in NYC last summer.

Going the Extra Mile...(or 2999 Extra Miles)

By Staff Writer

As many of you know, we were invited to expand St. HOPE Public Schools to NYC through an invitation from the Harlem community, Chancellor Klein, and Mayor Bloomberg. We recently submitted our charter petition and it was approved by the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) and sent on to the NY State Education Department (NYSED). As a next step, NYSED sent us a list of over 100 questions to answer.

The team, led by Dana Gonzalez worked feverishly over several days to assemble the requested materials and information. Though we were working with an incredible sense of urgency, as sometimes happens, things comprehensive and well put-together document. Our answers had

to be physically in the hands of the state and NYCDOE by noon on

Thursday, November 29th. Late in the afternoon on Wednesday, we realized we were not going to be able to make the FedEx deadline to get the answers in on time. Through a true show of St. HOPE's "whatever it takes" mentality, the staff decided we would not be deterred. An alternate plan was immediately hatched. Staff members would fly to New York (one to Brooklyn where the first document was to be turned in) and the second to Albany at the NYSED offices on the redeye. Torry Winn, our Director of Development and Kevin Hiestand, our General Counsel, volunteered to make the cross country trip.

To ensure that plane dilemmas would not be a challenge, Torry took a flight through DC to Albany and Kevin took a separate flight to NYC. If for some reason one of them was delayed, we would still have the ability to get the information in on time to both locales. When Torry showed up at the NYSED office, he asked to speak to the woman who had requested the information. After being told that he could leave the binder at the desk, he insisted on waiting until he could place the document in the hands of the point person himself. When he was finally able to do so, the staff member (upon being told the story) was impressed with the heroics. Kudos to the staff for pulling this off despite a number of challenges.

underground books Welcomes

Chuck Thompson

underground books invites you to attend a discussion and book signing with Travelocity Magazine's editor-in-chief Chuck Thompson. Thompson will be at the bookstore on Friday, January 18th from 6:00-8:00pm to discuss his recently published book, *Smile When You're Lying: Confessions of a Rogue Travel Writer*. In his new book, Thompson brings to life a hilarious behind-the-scenes tour of picture-perfect locales and destinations around the world. For more information, contact Mother Rose at (916) 737-3333 or by email at gwest@underground-books.com.

Sac High Basketball Ranked #1

Congratulations to both the girls and boys basketball teams at Sacramento High School, which are off to a great start! Both teams are ranked #1 by the Sacramento Bee and ranked in the top 20 in the State by Cal-Hi Sports (boys are ranked 13th and girls are ranked 16th). Come out and support our Dragons. Check out the schedules on our brand new athletic website: www.sachighathletics.org.

Support St. HOPE

Are you looking for a way to financially support St. HOPE? Log on to <http://www.active.com/donate/sthope> and make a 100% tax-deductible contribution with your Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Offline donations can be sent to 3400 3rd Ave., Sacramento, CA 95817. Your generosity will enable us to further our goal of ensuring that all children have a better future. Questions about donations? Email Alyssa Ralston, grants administrator, at aralston@sthope.org.

40 Acres Art Gallery Presents Peter Wayne Lewis

40 Acres Art Gallery is proud to present Peter Wayne Lewis' *Strings Genesis* beginning January 29th through March 29th. The opening reception for this exhibit will take place on Saturday, February 9th from 5:00-8:00pm at the art gallery. More information on this exhibit is available at www.40acresartgallery.org.

Guild Theater Update

Get your tickets at underground books for the upcoming Guild Theater events:

- Stage Play, "LEGACY", a MLK Jr. Tribute, January 18-20, 2008, Images Theater Company
- "Drugs In Movies" an anti-drug award ceremony, January 24, 2008, 6:30pm (Free)

Bring your event to Oak Park! Interested in booking the Guild Theater for conferences, lectures, concerts, or movies? Visit us at www.guildtheater.com for more information on rates and availability.

Calling all 7th & 8th Grade Students!

You're invited to attend Sac High's Open House. The open house will take place on Saturday, January 12th from 12:00-3:00pm at Sacramento High School. During the open house, students and their families will have the opportunity to tour the campus, meet principals and teachers, and hear testimonies from current Sac High students. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (916) 649-7910 or visit us on the web at www.sthopepublicschools.org.

Sac High Tutors Wanted

Sac High is currently seeking energetic and dedicated tutors to assist students who are struggling with core subjects to develop the skills necessary for academic success. We believe all students can learn and your support will help them achieve. If your organization is interested in helping a student in need succeed, please email your resume and cover letter to maban@sachigh.org. Accepted applicants will receive an invitation to participate in our training day. For more information, please contact Myisha Aban at maban@sachigh.org or call (916) 649-7723.

Join the St. HOPE Team

Interested in joining the St. HOPE Team? Check us out at www.sthope.org or email Lara Knight at lknight@sthope.org for more information about current job openings.

In the News

January 10, 2008: Prep Notes: One game propels Roots into spotlight
<http://www.sacbee.com/100/story/623393.html>

January 9, 2008: Third-quarter spurt gives Sac High a win
<http://www.sacbee.com/prepsplus/story/620791.html>

December 21, 2007: Sac High Keeps Charter
<http://www.sacbee.com/education/story/584046.html>