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cityscape

the monthly newsletter for City High School & Tucson Small School Project

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CITY
HIGH SCHOOL



learning. working.
creating. connecting.

CITY HIGH SCHOOL strives to be a community of learners in which all members use their minds well and care about one another. We engage with challenging academics and the unique resources of our city and region in order to become active citizens and responsible stewards of our world.

TUCSON SMALL SCHOOL PROJECT is an Arizona nonprofit with two primary purposes: to start and sustain a charter high school in downtown Tucson; and to provide professional development for educators by creating a model small school that can share successful school reform practices.

Open Enrollment Period in Full Swing, Part II*

News about City High School is getting around town, and students are enrolling at a steady pace from neighborhoods and schools throughout the city. The pioneer group is sure to bring a diverse range of experiences and perspectives to City High School.

Incoming ninth graders will come to City High School from a number of different middle schools and K-8 schools, including Doolen Middle School, Downtown Arts and Leadership Academy, St. Michael's Day School, Khalsa Montessori, Orange Grove Middle School, Miles Exploratory Learning Center, Safford Middle School, and Tucson Hebrew Academy. Incoming tenth graders will be transferring from a variety of district high schools and are looking forward to a smaller, more personalized school setting. Members of

the pioneer group of students are already excited about what City High School has to offer and are getting involved in shaping important decisions for the upcoming school year (see story below).

Open enrollment for the 2004-2005 school year continues through March 12. Interested parents and students are encouraged to make an appointment with Eve Rifkin and/or attend the next City High School information session March 4 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Enrollment forms are now available on line at www.cityhighschool.org.

**Part I of the "Open Enrollment" article was in the January newsletter and described the enrollment process for City High School and related state policies. To find on-line copies of previous issues of cityscape, visit our website; to request a paper copy, please call the office.*

Student Steering Committee Convenes

Enrolled Students Join City High School Educators in Planning Process

In keeping with its mission to have students become active participants and leaders in their community, City High School has formed a student steering committee that provides students with a voice and a role in the school planning process. The committee will have a particular focus each month. In January students provided feedback on the renovation plans; next week the group will help board members brainstorm new ideas for community outreach and marketing.

Students at City High School will be challenged to become leaders – to speak their minds thoughtfully and honestly, to act on their ideas and convictions, and to work with others in their efforts. Those enrolled for next year have the opportunity to get involved and start practicing their leadership skills now. The next student steering committee is Wednesday, February 18 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (pizza served). All enrolled students are welcome. Call the office for more information.

Get involved ~ have a voice ~ make a difference!

Community Turns Out for Open House

On Friday February 6, the Tucson community joined City High School and Voices, Inc. in celebrating our new space and our new partnership. Over 500 people attended the gala open house event to learn about and show support for our innovative programs for young people.

Those in attendance enjoyed good music, good food, and had plenty to look at. Architects working for City High School presented drawings and renditions of the latest renovation plans. Voices had on display youth photography and writing from their after-school 110° Magazine program as well as historic photographs of Tucsonans in World War II from their in-school oral history project. City High School shared material about the curriculum, the philosophy, and the proposed schedule of the new school. The youth mariachi band, Mariachi de Mi Tierra, filled the space with song during the first half of the evening.

At 6:30 p.m., youth and adult representatives from City High School and Voices welcomed guests and shared highlights of the two programs. In addition, featured guests U.S. Congressman Raúl Grijalva and Richard Elías of the Pima County Board of Supervisors addressed the gathering, praising efforts such as ours that encourage and teach young people to get involved in their communities.



Community members chat, eat, and check out the displays (top left); Regina Kelly, Voices' Executive Director, welcomes Congressman Raúl Grijalva to the Open House (bottom left); City High School intern and University of Arizona student, Koren Manning, speaks about the innovative teaching that inspired her in high school and her hopes for City High School (below). All photos taken by Adam Cooper, youth photographer with 110° Magazine.



Carrie Brennan, City High School Principal, welcomes future students and parents to the new school (right); Voices' past participant, Abel Estrada, performs a song he wrote inspired by his experience working at Voices (bottom right); Cele Peterson, accompanied by her daughter Katya Peterson, enjoys a visit to 48 East Pennington Street – the location of the original Cele Peterson's, the store she started as a young woman in the 1930s (below). All photos taken by Adam Cooper, youth photographer with 110° Magazine.



Thank You!

Thanks to the many individuals and business who have offered their time, expertise, and resources to help City High School during our planning year thus far. Special thanks this month go to

Noah Sensibar of 2x2 Construction

for having all the right vehicles and tools to help us move, fix, and paint furniture for the school space – just in time for the Open House.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

(All events take place at 48 E. Pennington St. unless noted otherwise.)

February

- 2/12 6:00-7:00 p.m. City High School **Information Session**
7:00-8:30 p.m. **Science & Math Curriculum** Meeting
- 2/16 7:00-8:00 p.m. City High School presentation at the
Dunbar Springs Neighborhood Association Meeting
- 2/18 6:00-7:30 p.m. **Student Steering Committee** Meeting
- 2/19 5:30-7:30 p.m. **TSSP Board** Meeting
- 2/21 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Booth at **Barrio Hollywood's Fiesta Grande**; Grande Ave. btw Speedway & St. Mary's
- 2/22 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Booth at **Fiesta Grande**
- 2/25 6:00-8:00 p.m. **Spanish Curriculum** Meeting

March

- 3/4 6:00-7:00 p.m. City High School **Information Session**
7:00-8:30 p.m. **Science & Math Curriculum** Meeting
- 3/9 6:00-8:00 p.m. City High School presentation at the
Barrio Viejo Neighborhood Association Meeting
- 3/12 5:00 p.m. City High School **Open Enrollment Deadline**
- 3/13 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. **Spring Symposium** on School
Improvement; Catalina Foothills High School
- 3/18 5:30-7:30 p.m. **TSSP Board** Meeting
- 3/25 6:00-7:30 p.m. **City Works Planning** Meeting

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