May-June, 2013

Gryphon Gazette

Graduation Just a Month Away

Glacier marks its tenth annual commencement ceremony on June 7th in Oakhurst at Mountain Christian Center @4 PM.

This year's class will have 21 participants in the ceremony, in contrast to a solitary, lone graduate back in 2003.

One noteworthy addition to this year's ceremony will be a slide show featuring pictures of this year's graduates, past and present. Carol Lamb is handling this new addition.

Mike Cox, WSCS director, will officiate the proceedings, along with Mareka Lodge, Western Sierra Charter Schools board chairman. Keynote speakers will be Ethan DePledge and Beau Demers, both graduating honors students. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony, with the traditional cake and punch each on hand. Both Kingsburg and Oakhurst campuses participate in a joint effort when it comes to the

necessary setup, decorating, ushering, and cleanup operations which take place at graduation.



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LA Field Trip A Blast (off)

Last week's ASB field trip to Los Angeles was well attended (three vans, a GHS "first"). The trip got good reviews by all who were present.

Among the highlights were seeing the space

shuttle Endeavor and IMAX movie of a shuttle mission, a working duplicate of the Mars rover "Curiosity," and multiple G-force rides at Magic Mountain. Dinner at Burger Continental and a

nighttime walking tour of Old Pasadena were a added bonuses.

Special thanks to Ted Iskenderian, tour host at JPL, as well as drivers and chaperones!

Special Dates of Interest

- May 7-9

 CST tests
- May 10
- May 13-17
 EdPerf Tests

Dance

- May 16-17Grad Night
- June 7

 Graduation



Mandatory CST Tests May 7-9th

It's that time of year again for state required standardized testing. While a lot of students don't look forward to these tests, they are important to our school funding, and they do provide a barometer of academic progress.

It is important that all students take part in those tests that are appropriate for their coursework and grade level. The Oakhurst schedule is as follows:

Tuesday

8:30am-12pm (English 9, 10, 11)

12:30-2pm (11th grade U.S. History & 10th grade Life Science)

Wednesday

8:30am-12pm (Alg1,Alg2,Geom, Summative Math)

Thursday

8:30am-10:15 (World History)

10:45am-12:15pm (Sciences)

*Kingsburg: Check with your charter teacher for your schedule.

Since virtually all underclassmen will be on campus for the first day of testing, check to see what other tests you will be taking later in the week.

Only seniors are exempt from the CST testing requirement. All other students are expected to take part (check your GHS contract), and exceptions are rare and must be cleared through the office.

Schedule EdPerformance Testing with your Charter Teacher for the week following the CST's (Computer Lab)

Order Your 2012-2013 Yearbook Online, Now

Next month GHS will reveal a yearbook that is quite different from years past-

The yearbook will be published by Tree Ring Corporation, purchased online, with new options like hard or soft cover, as well as customizable personal pages for students to "make a statement."

"Capture Your Memories in This Year's Glacier High School Charter Yearbook!"



Our school's

passcode is: 10135161791434

You can upload pictures a variety of ways, as well as tag photos.

To purchase (@\$19.40 base price) and customize your yearbook (age 13 or older), simply log on at:

www.TreeRing.com/validate
Order quickly, by May 10th!

Grad Night Extravaganza Heads South to

A sizeable group of seniors will head south for an overnight trip to Disneyland on May 16-17. This trip will include students from both the Kingsburg and Oakhurst campuses.

Oakhurst seniors will need to find their way to Kingsburg, at which

point a prearranged charter will transport them to "the happiest place on earth."

Disneyland is known for producing the best of "Grad Night" programs, and this is a fitting reward for those that have worked so hard.





Anaheim or Bust!

Questions? Call 897-2321

<u>Masquerade</u> Formal Tickets Go on Sale

The highly anticipated "Masquerade" formal dinner/dance will be held at the ECCO Conference Center on Friday, May 10, starting at 6:00 PM.

Formal attire is required for admission. Like last year, Eric Hagen will double as DJ and dance instructor. As anyone present at last year's dance will attest, Mr. Hagen saw to it

that a good time was had by all.

Tickets are available at the front



desk at each site, for the paltry price of \$35. This price includes a full dinner (Chicken Parmigian), gratuity for servers, festive decorations, and top-notch music.

Guest passes are available for download at the Glacier website for students who wish to bring a friend (who doesn't happen to be a student here).

Returning Student Inventory

If you aren't a graduating senior, and you plan on being back at Glacier next fall, now is the time to discuss and review your academic standing with your charter teacher, as well as map out your coursework for next year.

Your teacher can tell, by doing a quick review of your transcript,

how close to graduation you currently are, and what hurdles still remain between you and the finish line.

Each student's situation is different, and it is important that you take personal ownership of your academic standing and be an advocate for yourself.

Fringe Benefit:

By mapping your direction for next year in advance, the school can do a better job of meeting your educational needs.

ROV Culminates Year of Activity at Monterey Competition

Glacier High competed in Monterey's MATE on April 17-18, the final event of its inaugural year. one from Kingsburg and one from Oakhurst. Matt Englund served as advisor to both sites. Over the course of the last few weeks, if you've been anywhere near either

campus, it has been difficult not to notice the time and effort these teams have been investing.

It is clear that the teams gained valuable lessons along the way in cooperative teamwork, perseverance, and ingenuity. The GHS Ranger team, which brought home

the "Guts and Glory" award (based upon determination and not "giving up.") also won an X-10 Anaconda color camera, and a Logitech Rumblepad 2 game controller.

This year's GHS ROV has no doubt laid a foundation for future teams to build upon. Good job, people!

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Click here for link to 3 Minute Glacier Video

GHSC: A Unique Blend:

- Hybrid of independent homeschool, onsite, and online study
 - YUSD public high school
 - · Governed by

Western Sierra Charter Schools (a non-profit corporation)

- Fully accredited
- "Customized" Education

Kingsburg Serves It Up

3, Issue 4 Dec./Jan 2012-2013)
Kingsburg students have given of
themselves by volunteering time at
the Fresno Food Bank. These pictures
were taken during their recent visit
to the Fresno main plant on Jensen.
On May 16th from 12:30 - 3:00,
these same Kingsburg students will
distribute the 254 bags of food
(which they assembled) at Viking
School, in support of a local educational charity called "Meals to Minds."

As covered in a previous edition (Vol

