

How Do You Feel about Your Child's Last Progress Report?

Hopefully, you're elated! If not, what happened in your child's situation?

Progress reports often reflect what teachers already know: students do not complete and submit their homework. Keep in mind, January 27th, is the end of the first semester and unlike mid-semester grades, these grades will post permanently on student transcripts.

What can families do to help?

- * Stay connected with teachers. Use the CPA Web site to monitor class assignments & attend parent meetings. Meetings are held the third Thursday each month, 7pm.
- * Set a regular time for homework and arrange a quiet, well-lit place. Verify that the work is submitted on time.
- * Limit TV, video, and recreational computer time, especially AIM and MySpace use. Our children spend many hours each day using computers and cell phones.
- * BHS Organizer: How many parents have seriously looked at this interesting and valuable learning tool? It is a fantastic way for students to prioritize their busy lives.
- * Homework Center: Ask your student to use the center regularly. It's in H208, Mon.-Thurs., beginning at 3:15.
- * Six-Period Assignment Sheets. Students use them to record & follow-up assignments. See sample enclosed.

December Potluck

Many thanks to all who organized and attended this festive event! Close to 100 people, representing 35 families, attended. Beside the great assortment of dinner choices; door prizes, dancing and several party activities were presented to enable families to enjoy the evening. A special thanks to DeBorah Young and her Community Building Committee for hosting the event.

Important Dates to Remember

January 16	Martin L. King Jr. Birthday, no school
January 19	CPA Parent Meeting, 7 p.m., College Center
January 23	Finals Week, finals start Wednesday
January 27	End of 1 st Semester
January 30	Semester Break, no school
Feb. 17 & 20	President Days, no school

* Sophomore exit exams are coming in February.

Meet CPA's Mr. Dopman!

Our January newsletter features Mr. Dopman, who teaches CPA World History & Cultures. In addition, he is one of five members on the Berkeley High School staff development team.

Mr. Dopman is originally from many places. Born in Clearwater, FL., his family left the warm weather when he was five for a small town 100 miles west of Chicago. In the middle of his sophomore year, he moved again, this time to Dallas. He has called the Bay Area home since 1995.



Mr. Dopman received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Texas A & M University, where he also earned a double minor in History and Sociology. Before entering graduate school, Mr. Dopman worked for an executive recruiting firm for 3 years until he revisited his goal of becoming a teacher. Tutoring at BHS was the turning point for Mr. Dopman and a year later he was accepted to the Mills College graduate school program. After student teaching at BHS, Mr. Dopman graduated with a Master's degree in Education and then returned to BHS this time to begin his teaching career. Mr. Dopman loves to run, cook, travel and is addicted to news and current events.

What is Mr. Dopman's philosophy about teaching?

He believes every child, deep in their heart, wants to succeed and that it is a teacher's job to tap into that desire with a relevant curriculum.

Wish List: Mr. Dopman would like all parents and students to receive timely feedback by completing a "Stay in Touch" form. Just press "Form" on the CPA web page. [Http://www.bhscpa.org](http://www.bhscpa.org).

College Ready Night: Stay tuned for more information regarding this important event. College is available to everyone!