

# NEWSLETTER

Community Partnerships Academy  
Berkeley High School



November 2007

website: <http://www.bhscpa.org>

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## Get Free Email

Did you know that you can get a free email address at the Berkeley Public Library? All you have to do is go to any library and ask a librarian to help you set one up. If you need help learning to use the Internet, the librarian will show you that too. Once you have your email address, you can send and receive email from any computer that's connected to the Internet—the computers at the library, at a friend's house, or at your job.

Why should you get an email address? Well, for one thing, it will make it much easier to keep in touch with the teachers at CP Academy and to know what's going on with your student at Berkeley High. With the new Edline system (described in the next section), even more information will become available online and you don't want to be left out. Once you get your email address, here are some of the things you can do.

First of all, you might want to send an email to each of your student's teachers to check in and see how your student is doing. To find out the teachers' email addresses, go to the CP Academy website, <http://www.bhscpa.org>. Click the Homework button. You'll see a list of all the teachers, their email addresses, and their phone numbers. You'll also want to use the CP Academy website to check homework. Click the Homework button and then the teacher's name, and then the name of the class.

What else can you do on our website? You can click Meet Our Teachers to see a video introduction to each teacher and among other things, you can read about academic requirements, college information, the activities of the Parent and Leadership Councils, and upcoming events. Before leaving our website, if you haven't already filled in a Stay In Touch form, click Forms and fill in the form online to let us know your new email address. Or just send an email to [admin@bhscpa.org](mailto:admin@bhscpa.org) and tell us your email address so that we can send you email announcements.

It's a good idea to sign up to receive email from Berkeley High School by joining the etree. You'll get lots of email right away. Some of it won't interest you, but you will get important information about schedules, school policies, and opportunities for your student. To sign up for the etree, go to <http://www.bhs.berkeley.k12.ca.us>, the Berkeley High School website (another good source of information). Select Services from the orange list on the left side of the page. Then click Etree on the list that appears. Click Sign Up and follow the instructions to add your email address.

Another helpful resource is the Berkeley High School PTSA website (<http://www.bhs.berkeleypta.org>). Explore the Internet and you will discover many others. Good luck!

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## Introducing Edline

BUSD has purchased a powerful system called Edline that is now available for us to use at Berkeley High School. You should have received a letter giving you an activation code that lets you set up a password and begin using Edline. (If you didn't get that letter, call Crystal Jensen at 883-5212.) We put an Edline button on the CP Academy website to make it easier to begin the setup process. Also, Crystal Jensen, the Technology Coordinator for Berkeley High School will be at the next Parent Council meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> to answer our questions about using Edline. Right now Edline will show you your student's progress report, report card, and attendance record. In the future, teachers will be able to use Edline as necessary to post homework, send emails to everyone in the class, and show a students' current grade (even before progress reports come out.) Clearly, Edline is the new direction for keeping parents informed. Make sure you activate your account and come to the Parent Council meeting to learn more.

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## About Our Career Courses

CP Academy's focus as a small school is on academics preparing students for professional careers that serve community needs. The CP Academy Internship Program is key to our aim of preparing students to take the lead in their own lives and to contribute to the life of their communities.

All of our students take an **Introduction to Community Service Professions** class in their junior year. This class helps students to choose an internship and integrate the project-based service and experiential learning of their internship with their academic curriculum at BHS. It lets students explore a career field through internships in areas such as health, law, government, and education. Usually two days a week are devoted to internships. We spend one period a week on college preparatory activities, introducing students to college options and requirements, and preparing them for the PSAT and other tests.

Our interns have worked with Children's Hospital, the City of Berkeley, the Berkeley Unified School District, and MPR

Associates, Inc., as well as many other local organizations. To learn more about the Internship Program, click Internships on the CP Academy website. If you would like to help in developing contacts for the internship program or if you simply want to recommend a contact, send an email to Annie Johnston (annie@igc.org). When recommending contacts, keep in mind that we're looking for organizations that emphasize community service.

Once students have internships, we begin teaching professional skills such as communication, objective observation and reporting, accessing community resources, cultural competency, and professional ethics. Students document their internships for inclusion in their portfolios, and develop resumes, as well as letters of introduction and recommendations.

In the senior year, our students take Berkeley Experiential Senior Transition (**BEST**). They begin in September to develop career goals, map out a five-year plan, and start the college application process. College representatives visit the class, advisors are brought in to meet with seniors one-on-one, and the senior class visits two UCs and SF State. In the meantime, the curriculum covers skills needed for life after high school, such as budgeting, credit and loans, nutrition, and relationships. The major focus of the course, however, is the senior project.

The senior project is more than an internship. It is a deep exploration of a topic that the student chooses. It includes library, online, and ethnographic research. Students meet with mentors and develop annotated bibliographies on their topics. By the end of May, students have written comprehensive research papers and documented 60 hours of field study. Some will have taken college courses related to their topics. This work provides the basis for their senior exhibition, which family, mentors, and community partners are invited to help evaluate.

Together these two classes have been crucial in ensuring that all our students get a chance to explore professional careers, develop a post-secondary plan, and get support with the college application process. Additionally, both courses are accepted as credits by four-year colleges.

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## Other News

■ Flora Russ will teach an after-school software applications class that gives students Berkeley Community College credit and lets them complete their homework using our new computers in H202. This class is a perfect way for parents to make sure their students get their homework done, have access to computers to do it, and learn how to use the software programs that make their work easier and better looking. Sign up in December to take this class next semester.

■ The next Parent Council meeting is Thursday, November 15th from 7 pm to 9 pm in the College and Career Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the "D" Building. See you there.

■ We are beginning to plan the Winter Holiday Get-Together. It will be on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and if you want to help with planning, send an email to DeBorah Young at wot2001@netscape.com.

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## Counselor's Corner



**Caren Ohlson is the counselor for all CP Academy families. You can always contact her at 644-8987 or caren\_ohlson@berkeley.k12.ca.us.**

Hello Everyone, I hope you have had a positive first quarter.

■ First quarter grades are in the mail! If you haven't received your child's

report card yet, please call Ms. Ohlson. If you are concerned with your child's grades, please call or email teachers to ask for a conference. This connection is very important in assisting your child in maintaining academic discipline.

■ Every student must pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) to receive a high school diploma. The next test date is for seniors only and will be held in the Jacket Gym at 7:30am on November 6 for English and November 7 for Math.

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## First Quarter Honor Roll (3.0 and Above)

### 12th Grade

Arafat Al-Ariemy  
Tyler Bremer  
Yasmeen Brew  
Alicia Campos  
Sandra Garcia Velazquez  
Ben Hamilton  
Adrienne Hardee  
Loretha Henry

Yelitza Lua  
Whitney McGee  
Shantel Mitchell  
Geneva Moore  
Chinyere Okereke  
Shyloe Pollard  
Victoria Veitch

### 11th Grade

Ali Alwasim  
Cydnee Clomon  
Chelsa Greene  
Alicia Maciel  
Courtney Moore  
Kimberly Moreno  
Lily Owens  
Nichelle Pete

Kenji Quides  
Noel Russell  
Salma Salem  
Christian Sheppard  
Isaiah Smith  
Nicholas Suess  
Jennifer Walker  
Dasha Wesley

### 10th Grade

Noah Brozosky  
Diego Guerrero  
Adam Hartwell-Mejia  
Shiela Johnson  
Kiran Logan  
Maria Marquez  
William McAdoo

Cleveland Mitchell  
Tori Nichols  
Eden Ogbai  
Christopher Onu  
Kimberly Scott  
Taylor Wallace

### 9th Grade

Alicia Altamirano  
Danielle Armstrong  
Eve Bostic  
Iliana De Jesus  
Kalin Ibrahim-Bartley  
Gianna Jones  
Yared Kiflai  
Jessica Perrin  
Gala Qualls

Elizabeth Queen  
Ilse Rueda  
Orly Suveda  
Mick Tan  
David Tecle  
Jordan Thull  
Selma Verdin  
Tabitha Wong