

SAPTO FAMILY NEWSLETTER

AUG-SEPTEMBER

2011

Editor: Jean Starks,
Mom to Ian 2-2, Allison 7-1 and Emily,
graduate class of 2011.

Welcome back to another school year!
Hope you all had a busy yet restful
summer, ready to take on another
year of learning and adventures!

To all our new parents, welcome, and
as a brief intro, this is our newsletter,
created and supported by SAPTO
families. Always seeking
contributions – stories,
recommendations of things to do or
see, recipes, jokes, movie reviews,
whatever you'd like. I just make sure
it's all put together once a month or so
(depending on what I have) and it's
posted on the school website.

Send to: jlstarks@yahoo.com with
SAPTO NEWS in the subject heading!

~~~~~

## EXPANDING YOUR

**HORIZONS:** For 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
girls to encourage interests in math  
and science.

This year's EYH conference will be  
held on Saturday, October 29, 2011,

at SF State University. Those  
wishing to register can go to our  
website [sf-eyh.com](http://sf-eyh.com). The registration  
link will go live on Friday, September  
16, 2011.

It's great. My daughters have done  
this several years in a row (twice a  
year, since they also go to the one at  
Skyline College in the Spring) and  
they loved it every time!

~~~~~

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER?

*Some of our students and families
shared great summer adventures –
PLEASE feel free to contribute other
summer stories if you went somewhere
or did anything!*

~~~~~

Here is our little summer story.  
Melanie experienced going to  
various camps for the first time this  
summer. She attended basketball  
camp where she learned to do the  
bridge, went to zoo camp where she  
learned about the animals  
and attended YMCA camp where  
she got to go swimming, day trips to  
the tech museum and Malibu grand  
prix. To top off her summer we went  
on our annual family trip to  
Disneyland. Spent 5 wonderful days  
with her princesses and doing all her  
favorite rides like "Big Thunder  
Mountain", "Indiana Jones" and  
Pirates of the Caribbean. Of  
course, we can't forget her favorite  
new ride "Ariel's Under the Sea  
adventure". She was finally tall  
enough to ride her first upside down  
roller coaster; she rode it but didn't

love it. We also went to Knott's Berry Farm where she rode all of the rides in camp snoopy and visited universal studio's. She loved the 45 minute tram ride and the new Simpson's ride as well. The highlight of the trip was probably swimming at the Disneyland hotel with the 100 foot monorail water slide. What a wonderful summer.... can't believe school is starting up in less than 2 weeks....

~Carol and Elliot Quan  
Daughter Melanie 2-2

~~~~~  
We had an adventurous summer, we spent the 1st month at a sports and science camp. Afterwards, my family and I traveled to Southern California to visit Mickey and Minnie in Disneyland and California Adventure. Shortly after we traveled to Palm Springs, and boy was it hot – 115 degrees! We enjoyed an exciting gondola ride to the top of the Palm Springs Mountain. We also went camping in Stanislaus National Park this summer with family and friends. We had a great summer and look forward to next summer.

Neve Yuan (3-2) and Luke Yuan (1-1) ~~ Mylien & Michael Yuan

~~~~~  
From Devon Wong 7-1

This summer I fenced at Nationals in Reno, Nevada and then went to fencing camp in Szombathely, Hungary for two weeks. I traveled

with my coach and eight kids from the club. First, we all flew to Vienna, Austria and stayed in a hotel for a few days. We did the tourist thing and visited some interesting museums like a castle with trained falcon demonstrations, the arms and armory museum at Neue Berg and a museum of musical instruments. Then we took the bus to the fencing camp, which was at a university. Fencers from all over Europe attended the camp and I made friends with the kids from the Netherlands because they spoke English well. In the cafeteria you could hear French, Italian, German, English, Indian, Hungarian and Dutch all being spoken at the same time. Hungarian food is based on potatoes so we had lots of carbs. We trained for several hours each day and at the end of the camp, we had an individual and team competition. Fencing is a challenging sport that trains your body and your mind. If you want to learn more about it, visit our club website at:

[www.sfyouthfencing.com](http://www.sfyouthfencing.com)



Devon Wong, Coach Rob and friend Gerardo Flores at Nationals in Reno, Nevada.



## **Inequitable Student Assignment Policy (SFUSD)**

**By Carol Endo  
(son, Arthur 7-1)**

Have you thought about what happens after 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation at St Anne School? What high schools would you send your kids to or more realistically, what high schools will they get accepted into? If they don't get the high grades and test scores to qualify them for St. Ignatius High School, Sacred Heart High School or Lowell High School, what do you do? And what happens if you can't afford the

high tuition at St. Ignatius and Sacred Heart? Would you move out of the city (some people do, but why should they have to) or would you subject your child to the SF Unified School District's (SFUSD) current diversity policy of school assignment based on lottery (so they say). Under this policy, there is no such thing as neighborhood schools for high school students; they could be assigned a school across town in an unfamiliar community.

That is precisely what happened 5 years ago when my son and many of his St. Anne classmates, living in the Richmond and Sunset districts, were assigned Mission High School by the SFUSD. Maybe you've heard of stories where your friends and neighbors' kids were assigned to other high schools miles away from home, creating a great hardship. Did you know that kids attending private schools and parochial schools are last "on the totem pole" for school assignment meaning they get assigned last, needless to say, to schools with under-enrollment. The current diversity policy has created over-enrollment in high schools on the west side of the city such as Washington and Lincoln high schools and under-enrollment in high schools on the east side of the city. The injustice occurs when our kids are displaced and are assigned to under-enrolled high schools on the east side of the city.

Therefore, to fight this injustice, a group of parents and I formed a committee to place a measure on the November 2011 ballot asking the Board of Education to assign kids to a Quality Neighborhood School. The

details of the ballot measure can be found at the following link:  
<http://sfgov2.org/index.aspx?page=2750>. Please join us on November 8, 2011 in voting:

**YES ON PROP H**

To help run this campaign, please send your generous donations made payable to Families for Neighborhood Schools, c/o Arthur Endo, 7-1.