

MORP RECAP

By: Keanu Silva
Editor

Each student went all out to represent their class, some painted their faces, others wore full body suits close to home, and relatively inexpensive, but has all the grandeur that one of the main dances may have.

chance to partake in “The Gangnam Style.” Even our own Tiger mascot got in on the festivities. If students got tired they could sit down and enjoy a film on the huge projector screen that was in place on the rally stage. Free Otter Pops were being handed out of giant ice chests for those who needed a break from the heat of the dance floor, also Cheer and Song were selling Monster and Red Bull energy drinks, and assorted candies. When asked how the first dance of the year was going Archie Sandoval(12) responded, “I am super pumped, this is super awesome, and I think we can all agree I am a super amazing dancer!!”



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: **CARISSA GARCIA (ALUMNI), MANNY CORDOVA(12), CHRISTIAN ROJAS(12), ALANA DONNELL(12), IVAN MUNOZ(12), ANTHONY FLOURNOY(12), AND GENESIS QUINTANAR(12)**
PHOTO TAKEN BY: JESSICA FERNANDEZ

Valencia kicks off the school year with its first dance MORP. This is the second MORP dance that Valencia High School has hosted. For those unfamiliar with the concept of MORP, which is prom spelled backwards, unlike Prom which takes place at the end of the year and is typically formal; MORP takes place at the beginning of the year and is very informal. MORP was initially conceived as an exhibition of malcontent toward prom, and everything about it, from the high cost to the ridiculous amount of flashiness involved, but it has slowly become somewhat of a reverse prom. The theme this year was neon colors; each of the four classes wore a different color. Freshman wore purple, sophomores green, juniors red, and seniors blue.

of their color. With DJ Pegleg at the helm of his television decorated party van, the dance floor was full of noise and excitement. Tigers love this dance because it's very casual,

Dancers were kept entertained by frequent foam glow stick distribution and the occasional blast of cold fog from Pegleg's liquid nitrogen cannons. Students even had a

Well there you have it, MORP went off without a hitch and the whole student body had a great time, the next school wide dance is Homecoming which will be held at the luxurious Marconi's Auto Museum in Tustin, which features hundreds of new and classic cars on exhibit .It takes place on November 3rd so get your tickets and don't forget to get a date too.

A FRESH FACE IN ADMINISTRATION

By: Hiba Raza
Reporter

As we all know by now, Ms. Olivia Yaung is the new Assistant Principal of Student Services at Valencia. She has taken over Mr. Lopez's position, while Lopez has become the new Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction. Although we are sad about Mr. Davis leaving, Yaung has proven to be an amazing addition to the administration team at Valencia High School. Yaung was previously the assistant principal at Artesia High School in Lakewood. She attended the University of California, San Diego, where she first decided upon her career in education. When asked why she wanted to become an assistant principal, Yaung states, “I have always been interested in business and I think helping run a school is a perfect mix of my interest in business and my love of students and education.” Many students do not completely understand what Yaung does around campus. She is in charge of the counseling office and discipline. Basically

this means that she is responsible for what class each teacher teaches, building schedules for students, and guiding counselors in what they do. She also deals with the behavior of students around campus and what they should and should not be doing. Although this is Yaung's first year here at Valencia, she has already established many goals that she would like to accomplish. “I would like maintain the previous changes and also continue to works towards creating a safe and comfortable campus for the students,” she says. While it is true that she has a tough act to follow, considering that Lopez had been in her position for many years before her, she states, “My main goal here is to continue to cultivate the school and support its programs, such as IB, Val Tech, AVID, Hope, and House. I want all kids to be able to get involved in something on campus and have a safe and secure place where they feel they belong.” Lastly, Yaung states, “I would like to get to know the students better and build positive relationships. My intention is for students not to view discipline as punishments but rather as a way to build successful individuals, who will become great leaders in the future.”



MS. YAUNG IN HER NEW OFFICE
PHOTO TAKEN BY: NATHAN SAAVEDRA

NEW VARIABLE IN THE LAB

By: Amy Truong
Reporter

Valencia High School welcomes Connor Drake, the new teacher, to the Science Department. Mr. Drake went to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for both his bachelors in Physics and credentials in Physics and Chemistry. Drake first began teaching at Paso Robles High School halfway into the 2010-2011 school year before teaching here at Valencia. However, he did not realize that he wanted to become a teacher until his last year of college. Planning on getting a PhD in Physics, Drake found his calling in teaching. He soon came to realize that teaching allowed him to have the best of both worlds in working with people and continue his passion for science. When asked why he loves science, Drake simply responded, “Science gives you the explanation for everything [...] while chemistry is fun because you get to do dangerous labs and experiments [...] I

just always liked science as a kid.” Our new science teacher here at Valencia has already grown fond of the school. After going to a VHS graduation, where he was hired, watching the Bell Game, and teaching a month at VHS, he explained, “Valencia has great science department [...] it's also nice to see how involved the school, and all the school spirit the students have.” Not only does Drake enjoy teaching, he shared that he likes country music and sports, especially Ultimate Frisbee, which he played in college. One of Drake's favorite hobbies is backpacking every summer. Last summer, he went on a 46-mile backpacking trip. However, the life-changing event for Drake that summer was getting married. As a teacher, he encourages his students to strive for the best through the quote by Albert Einstein, “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.” Science is all about asking questions and discovering. Drake is helping students tap into the world of curiosity and the wonder of science. With Mr. Drake joining the VHS staff, this year will surely be a great one.



MR. DRAKE IS ENJOYING HIS NEW POSITION
PHOTO TAKEN BY: ALPHA GALLEGOS