

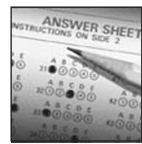
PAGE 2: ASSEMBLY'S FIRST LAUNCH



PAGE 16: VALENCIA POWNED EL DORADO

PLACENTIA'S OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY RUNNING NEWSPAPER, EL TIGRE IS A STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER IN THE PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

OCTOBER 21, 2010 • VOLUME 55 • ISSUE 01 • PLACENTIA, CA 92870



**SAT DATE AND INFO**

Information about the dates of future SAT tests.

– page 02

**MOCK TRIAL**

Help finance the Mock Trial Team.

– page 04

**FALL PRODUCTION**

Seating is limited, be sure to purchase your tickets soon!

– page 06



**WE'RE ALL ADDICTED**

Twitter, Facebook, and MicroBlogging, has it taken over our life?

– page 10

# REVITALIZATION AT VALENCIA: CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

**By: Elizabeth Knarr**  
Reporter

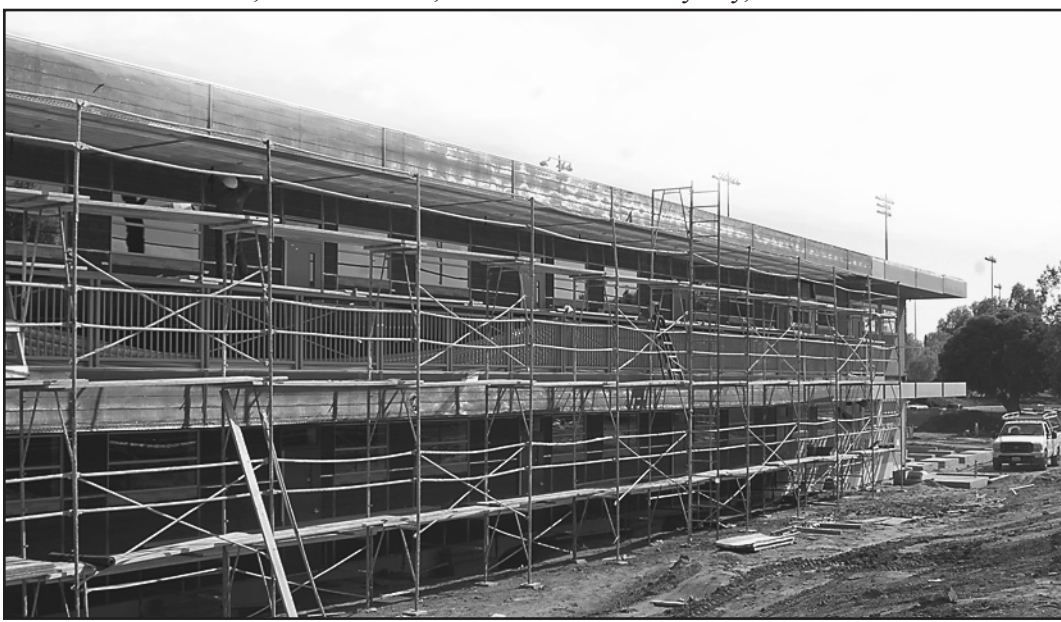
By now, everybody has become aware of the construction work happening at Valencia, what with the gaping holes where buildings used to be, the smell of asphalt, and the dust in the air. However, to many it still remains unclear: what exactly is being constructed, and how long will it take? There are four various construction projects around campus – renovation of the 500 building, a second modernization of Bradford Stadium, the construction of a new building, and improvements to the school entry.

Over the summer, the renovation of the 500 building (which houses the foreign language department and the drama department) took place. New air conditioning and lighting were installed, and new classroom interiors and windows were also added. Carpeting, windows, and teacher walls are on the agenda, and the restrooms at the end of the building are also being redone. The completion of this construction project is scheduled to be in the near future.

Bradford Stadium remodeling is also underway.

Artificial turf and a new track were installed last year, and the next phase of improvements includes removing and replacing the bleachers. One side of bleachers has already been removed and replaced, and construction on the west bleachers begins in December. We will also be getting a new concession stand, new restrooms, and a remodeled entryway, and

to make room for a new, two-story building with 17 classrooms (the 600 building). The drainage system has been changed, and additional dirt has been brought in to raise the building's elevation. The new building is being built in Manteca, California, and delivery and assembly should begin in October, so that the teachers can move in over winter break.



CONSTRUCTION OF THE FUTURE 600 BUILDINGS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY OF NEXT YEAR. PHOTO BY: STEVEN OEI.

Finally, the school entry and administration building will also be modernized, with the breezeway between the administration building and the counseling office being connected, adding square footage to the existing space. This project is forecasted to be finished by July 2011.

Principal Bell is enthusiastic about the construction projects, saying, "In the past four months, there has been more construction than during any other comparable period in the 35 years I have been at Valencia. This construction will continue for at least the next two years. When all construction is completed, Valencia will look as nice as any high school in Orange County." Until the last touches are put on the construction projects, we can eagerly await the unveiling of our new school.

work is under way for the shot put and discus area, as well as the boys' locker room. All of the projects on the stadium are to be completed by May of 2011. In addition, portables were removed last year

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# THE CAREER CENTER PATH TO SUCCESS

**By: Richard Ma & Elizabeth Knarr**  
Reporters

As this school year kicks off, college applications are right around the corner for Valencia's seniors. If you are feeling overwhelmed about the college application process, you can visit the new career center. It has been relocated to Room 901, near the school library. The career center can help you prepare for the transition out of high school and into college or the workforce.

Visiting the career center gives you the opportunity to learn about financial aid, scholarships, and career choices. In addition, online assessments are available to guide you as you make decisions about your future. You can also make an appointment to see Ms. Susan Huynh, who is our college representative from Cal State Fullerton. Ms. Huynh is available for consultation every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 to 11:00, and Wednesday from 8:00 to 11:00. Even though her schedule is subject to change during the spring semester, Huynh will be the Cal State representative at Valencia for the whole school year.

While Ms. Huynh is here at Valencia, she is prepared to meet with you one on one, to discuss your options, advise you about the best path to take, and evaluate your transcript. Ms. Huynh can check your A-G requirements, guide you in the right direction, and provide informa-

tion about the overall objective of your education goals, including possible majors to consider.

Furthermore, she visits classrooms on campus to give presentations. These presentations include information about the classes you should be taking your senior year, what deadlines you must meet for the application process, and how to obtain financial aid. In her presentations, she talks about how students can enroll in the Cal State System, using Cal State Fullerton as her main model. She can provide information about Cal State Fullerton NCAA Division One sports. She can also discuss Greek life, housing, tuition, and the vast ethnic diversity that Cal State Fullerton has to offer. Additionally, Ms. Huynh can assist students who do not wish to go to a Cal State school, by allowing them to compare and contrast the various

activities and events that other colleges have available.

Even if you are fairly certain of your future after high school, it is still a good idea to visit the career center and talk to Ms. Huynh. "It is always good to keep your options open, because with all the budget cuts, financial problems may arise. In addition, it is beneficial to apply to multiple colleges, in order to have a backup plan," advises Ms. Huynh.

CAL STATE FULLERTON REPRESENTATIVE, SUSAN HUYNH, CAN BE FOUND IN ROOM 901 EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY FROM 7:30 TO 11:00 AND ON WEDNESDAY FROM 8:00 TO 11:00.





# ASSEMBLY LAUNCHES SCHOOL YEAR INTO HYPERSPEED

**By: Sarah Rafiqi**  
Editor

Scores of students crowded back onto Valencia High School's campus on September 7, as the school year began afresh. Two weeks later, on September 24, ASB (the Associated Student Body) wowed the staff and both the new and returning students with the first assembly of the year.

The assembly was intended to excite the students and staff for the upcoming Bell Game, an annual football game between Valencia and El Dorado. To get the audience pumped, the Star Wars themed assembly featured the song, varsity and junior varsity cheer, girl's dance, and boys' hip-hop teams. ASB also aired several videos.

Much of the excitement felt during the assembly was directed towards the beginning and ending sequences. At the start of the assembly, ASB partnered with boys' and girls' dance for a four minute-long, choreographed dance. As the students grooved to the song

"Getting Over You," teacher Rachel Schiff did a cameo as singer Fergie, with Devon Gray (12) and teacher Ryan Reich playing her male counterpart, respectively. In terms of her contribution to the dance, Schiff felt not only flattered, but also honored to portray such an icon of beauty. She had agreed to do the performance immediately after being offered the job. "Students approached me because they know I'm willing to make a dork of

myself," she explained about her willingness to sacrifice her own time and self-esteem for students' enjoyment.

ASB's vice president Connor Watkins was the one who had gotten the original inspiration for the group dance. "I got the idea for the dance after listening to it with some friends a few hundred times," he explains.

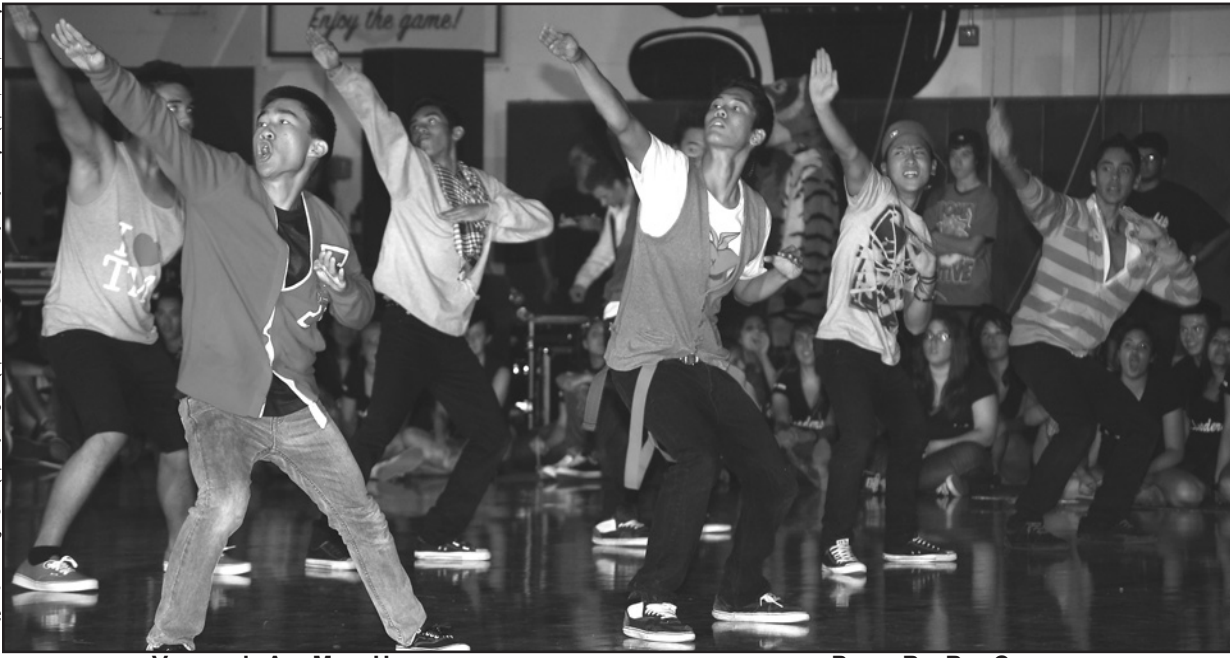
At the very end of the assembly, two students, Shimpei Romigio Shinohara (12) and Patrick Simpelo

(12), portrayed a Star Wars inspired fight sequence that incorporated numerous dance moves. Romigio and Simpelo were the ones that decided their fight scene would be best if it was simultaneously a dance.

Simpelo was in charge of choreographing both the group dance and the fight scene. It took him one day to choreograph the dance sequence and three days to choreograph the fight. After both sequences had been planned,

Simpelo taught the group dance to boys' dance and Mariah Osborne taught to girls' dance. ASB, for their part, learned their entire group dance sequence during the course of two Monday mornings, each consisting of one-hour practices.

ASB supervisor Cathy German expressed great delight in the work of her students. "I'm just really proud of the job they did with technology, and doing something really unique and different," she confessed.



VALENCIA'S ALL-MALE HIP-HOP TEAM PERFORMS DURING THE ASSEMBLY. PHOTO BY: BEN CERCEA

## TEACH FOR SPEECH: MRS. CARR SAT DATES AND INFORMATION

**By: Andy Anusiem**  
Reporter

Valencia welcomes a Mrs. Carr, a new speech pathologist to Valencia to help students with language delays gain the confidence they need to succeed in life. She looks forward to working with high school students and knows that she is needed on the Valencia campus to make a difference.

What Mrs. Carr is participating in is part of something that is extremely beneficial towards the Tiger community. She is giving students with speech problems a new sense of confidence by helping them with language delays, which is a brain function. "My goal is to help them improve their ability to communicate and express themselves" Mrs. Carr states. The brain has many functions, and speech impaired students may have waves transmitted wrong, or may have unusual tendencies. She enjoys working with kids and looks towards the future with in-

terest. "I really enjoy working with students, and when they make progress it's motivating" she commented.

Our new speech pathologist has many responsibilities, and makes the most out of the regular meetings she has with language delayed students. Mrs. Carr is very dedicated to her job, and sees it as a chance to improve a student's life, not a job that she is forced to do. "There are a lot of students out there who have a need, and anytime you can improve their life, it's important" she said. Mrs. Carr is highly qualified for the job, has worked at different school systems, owned her own company, and has been a speech pathologist for over thirty years.

The need for speech pathologists is rising, and more are needed in schools and hospitals nationwide. "I'm very excited to be here, it's a good challenge for me. I enjoy working with high school students and staff." Mrs. Carr stated. She is happy to bring confidence to the pride, tradition, and excellence that the speech impaired Tigers possess.

MRS. CARR, A NEW SPEECH PATHOLOGIST. PHOTO BY: STEVEN OEI.



**By: Elizabeth Knarr**  
Reporter

With summer at an end and the school year in full swing, SATs are just around the corner. The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is the nation's most widely used college admission test, and it is taken by over two million students every year. SAT scores are accepted by most colleges and universities for consideration with your application.

For those who wish to practice for their SATs, the PSAT is being offered here at Valencia on Saturday, October 16. Underclassmen can take the PSAT, but it is especially recommended for juniors who wish to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Competition. The PSAT is a perfect way to experience the SAT before actually taking it.

When you're ready to take your SAT, it is being offered at Valencia on multiple dates. You can take your SAT 1 on November 6 and December 4 of this year, and January 22, March 12, May 7, and June 4 of next year. The SAT tests the reading, writing and math skills that you have learned in school, and it gives both you and colleges a sense of how you'll be able to apply your thinking, writing and study skills required for college course work. Also, SAT scores are considered for your college admission, and your score may help you decide what college is right for you.

Our counseling department recommends that students take the SAT twice in the spring of their junior year. This gives you three more chances to take it again in the fall of your senior year if you would like to improve your

score. The last chance to take the SAT for college admissions is December of your senior year. The cost of the SAT is \$47, and you can talk to your counselor about SAT Fee Waiver information. More information about the SAT can be found at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

Guidance counselor Mr. Stanley, who has been an Admissions reader for UCLA for eight years, would like to reiterate that grades and the rigor of your academic program are more important than good SAT scores. He says, "Good standardized test scores are important but only to the degree that they support the students GPA and the rigor of their course study. A solid four year academic program with strong grades will always be more important than high SAT scores."

In addition to the SAT1, college bound students may wish to take SAT2 subject tests. SAT2 tests are only necessary for students applying to the University of California and some private universities. It is recommended that students take their SAT2 subject tests in May of their sophomore and junior year, after their corresponding AP/IB tests. This year, the tests will be administered on May 7, 2011. Students who wish to take the SAT 2 Language Listening Tests will have to take them in November. Sophomores taking AP Biology, AP Physics, or AP Statistics should take the equivalent SAT2 subject test in May. Students who wish to take the Spanish, Chinese, or Korean Listening Tests must take them in November, because this is the only date the listening tests are offered.

If you are unsure about how to sign up for the SAT, have questions about when you should take it, or need assistance with the SAT Fee Waiver, talk to your counselor. Study hard and good luck!



# VALENCIA WELCOMES MR. TRUONG: WIZARD OF SCIENCE

**By: Emilie Cady**  
Reporter

This year, William Truong returned to his former high school in order to teach Biology and Honors Chemistry. Mr. Truong moved to Placentia in 1999, the same year he entered Valencia High School as a freshman. After graduating high school in 2003, he attended University of California, Los Angeles and majored in Biochemistry for three years before he switched his major to Political Science. When asked about the reason for the switch, he replied, "I didn't like the idea of sitting in a lab looking at soil every day."

Most people would think, "Why teach Biology and Chemistry?", but when asked this question, Mr. Truong stated that he liked how interesting the material was and how Biology and Chemistry could be applied to other things in life. He also says that his love of learning influenced the subjects he decided to study. The sciences always have something new

to be learned, and with Mr. Truong, enough is never enough when it comes to learning new information. He says, "I love to learn, love to play trivia games, and I love it when people tell me things I don't know," and jokingly he adds, "actually, my friends are always saying that I'm full of useless information." However, no matter how much 'useless' information he holds in his mind, he is always open to more because he states, "I never know when I'm going to need that particular piece of information"

Not only does Truong love to learn, but he also expressed his intense like of food. "I love food," he said. "I love food more than anything except for family,



MR. TRUONG SMILES FOR HIS FIRST YEAR. PHOTO BY: STEVEN OEI.

and Chemistry. If anyone needs a recommendation for where to eat within a ten-mile radius, they know who to ask."

Truong was also very enthusiastic when announcing that he is going to be a coach for Science Olympiad this year. Although many students probably wish he could be their coach, Truong is going to be coaching Helicopter, Sounds Remote, Disease, Technology, and Optics afterschool Monday through Friday in room 111.

Many students have already expressed how much they enjoy having Mr. Truong as their teacher, even though it's only the beginning of the school year. Alexa Hadinoto (10), one of his third period students, says, "Oh my God, Mr. Truong is awesome!"

## HAUNTING THE NIGHT AWAY

**By: Shannon Hsu**  
Editor

Not all students look forward to the beginning of a new school year. Their blissful summer days are abruptly ended and replaced by endless tests, books, and homework. Fortunately, every cloud has a silver lining, and in this case, the beginning of a new school year also means that the annual Homecoming dance is once again just around the corner.

An event anticipated heavily by most members of Valencia High School's student body, Homecoming has always been an effective and enjoyable way

to welcome students back to school. This year's Homecoming took place on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Fitting along smoothly with the close proximity of the date of Halloween - October 31st - the theme of 2010's event was "haunted". The location of the dance was also a variation from previous years. It was held much closer to home than it had been before, taking place at the nearby Yorba-Linda Community Center. Despite these differences, however, little change was seen in the large amount of enjoyment that is usually a notable characteristic of Valen-

cia dances, including refreshments and all the latest hits to dance the night away to. Many preparations were undertaken by ASB recently to create the best atmosphere for students to have an enjoyable night, including a multitude of festive Halloween decorations, fitting for the theme, whether they chose to go with a date or just with friends.

Naturally, the Homecoming festivities were not limited only to the dance itself, but in addition, every year is also marked with other related activities to spur school spirit such as themed dress-up days the week of the event. This year was no exception, some of the dress-up days including "witches", "vampires", and "zombies", fitting along smoothly with the theme, each day seeing a large amount of students participating. Students



BE SURE TO ENJOY THE FUN-FILLED NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT AND DANCING. PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MY-BALLROOM-DANCE-SHOES.COM

also were treated to a meticulously arranged assembly which they were able to enjoy on Friday, October 15, the day before the dance itself. The assembly featured various performances by both the JV and varsity cheer teams, as well as the girl's dance team and the boy's dance team. Held together by a mock "Ghost Hunters" theme, the assembly was closed by its finale of ASB students and the other performing groups entertaining the students in the audience with a group dance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller". Students have also taken the time to vote for Homecoming court. Court members were elected for each grade, with the end results placing Andrew Lapp and Alyssa Cantal as senior King and Queen.

## IN BRIEF

October 22

Comedy Sportz Match

Come see the Comedy Sportz team compete in various improv games, from 7:00 to 9:00 in the VHS Auditorium.

October 25

Chalk Art Contest

Come watch our talented Valencia artists as they create sidewalk masterpieces at the Chalk Art Contest.

October 25-29

Red Ribbon Week

Participate in all of the Red Ribbon Week activities, and say no to drugs!

October 28

Football vs. Cypress High School

Come cheer on our tigers as they play Cypress High School at Bradford Stadium!

October 30

Tiger Pride Clean Up Day

Show your pride in your school by volunteering to help clean up VHS on Tiger Pride Clean Up Day!

November 4-6

Fall Play Production

Come see our Valencia thespians as they perform The Crucible! Shows will be in the auditorium.

November 11-12

Veteran's Day Holiday

No school in remembrance of the veterans who serve our country.

November 19

Fall Sports Assembly

An assembly in recognition of the fall sports teams: football, girls volleyball, cross country, girls golf, boys water polo, and girls tennis.

November 30

Today is the last day for Seniors to apply to any UC and CSU. Be sure to have your applications in.