

# THE EPATT APRIL NEWSLETTER

## EPATT Seniors Accepted to Multiple Colleges

During March, high school seniors across the nation began to hear back about the status of their college applications, and EPATT's seniors are no exception. Because of all their hard work and dedication to EPATT, good news has been filling their mailboxes over the last month.

**Adrian Amaral** was accepted to the University of San Francisco, Cal State San Luis Obispo, San Francisco State, St. Mary's College, and College of Wooster. **Alisi Vea** was accepted to San Francisco State, St. Mary's College, and Cal State Northridge. **Emily Quintanilla** is still waiting to hear from Cal State Hayward, San Francisco State, and Menlo College.

Christina Erwin, EPATT's HSG coordinator, is very proud of her students. "It's really exciting to see the kids growing up and going on to accomplish their academic goals!"

## EPATT Preparing for Summer Program

EPATT will be putting on its annual six-week long summer program from June 25<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Each tier, K-6<sup>th</sup>, MSG, and HSG, will have its own programming and schedule, but all will include tennis practice and the summer BBQs.



The Afternoon Group summer program will focus primarily on Keeping Kids Healthy and Active. The program will run from approximately 8:30am until 1pm each day. Unfortunately, due to space limitations, students in Kindergarten and first grade will not be able to participate in the summer program.

The Middle School Group summer program will run in the afternoon from approximately 1pm to 6:30pm Monday through Thursday and 12pm to 7pm on Friday. Students will be doing summer reading, working out, playing tennis, and developing their own radio show. Afternoon and MSG students will be transported to and from the Boys and Girls club each day.

The High School Group summer program is still being constructed, but HSG students age 14 and up who passed all classes should apply for summer jobs; otherwise students should attend summer school. All students are required to read and take notes from their summer reading books.

## What's Inside:

- Private School Tips
- Parent Champion
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Students capable of playing sets will participate in Interclub. During Interclub EPATT competes against teams from nearby clubs on Fridays from 12-4 pm. Following these matches, EPATT will host their weekly summer BBQs where all families can meet and eat! They are the highlight of the summer!

## Save the Date: EPATT's April Calendar

April 2007						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

- 9-13 NO EPATT Spring break
- 16 HSG Progress Report due
- 18 MSG Progress Report due
- 20 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Cards due
- May 1 EPATT Fundraiser Dinner- NO EPATT

## Students return from Biggest Trip of Year

After months of hype, the Tahoe trip did not fail to disappoint. In a mere 2 days, EPATT students managed to cram in tubing, sledding, swimming, ice skating, playing basketball, hanging out at the beach, watching movies, hosting a talent show, AND working on their homework. The only thing they did not have time for was sleep!

Kesha Weekes, said, "The Tahoe trip definitely contributed to a lot of MSG group bonding as well as intergroup bonding between MSG and HSG students." Her highlight of the trip was the student talent show. During which, some of the girls told terribly corny jokes, Ashley recited a great poem, Lupe and Mafileo showed off their cool magic tricks, and Destiny Mitchell entertained all with her rendition of a song from *Dreamgirls* and her one-woman skit.

For some students, it was their first time ever seeing snow, but for all students, it was a total, absolute, utter blast



## Congratulations to EPATT's Future Private School students

This fall, five of EPATT students will begin a new era in their academic careers at Eastside Preparatory School, Menlo School, and St. Francis High School- some of the best private schools in the area.

Congratulations to **Mafileo Tupou** (Menlo School), **Sam Mapa** (St. Francis), **Ashley Washington** (Eastside), **Noemi Villegas** (Eastside), and **Andre Gomes** (Eastside Middle school), and **Stephanie Martinez** (St. Lawrence)!

If you are a parent interested in having your children into a private middle or high school, here's how you can prepare your child for private school:

- Your children should have NO grades lower than a 'B'.
- Private schools' entrance requires tests. You should buy a test preparation book and have your child study it.
- Make sure your children read 30 minutes per night outside of EPATT!

Private school admissions are not random. You AND your child must put forth the effort to achieve the results!

## Parent Champion, Maria Gomes!



Ms. Maria Gomes is a big supporter of her children, Andre and Anna, and their academic and tennis careers. Every Monday and Thursday, the bleachers by the tennis court sit empty except for Ms. Gomes who constantly yells encouragements and cheers

for Andre and Anna while they practice. Because she spends 2 hours per week at EPATT, she also is able to use the time to speak one-on-one with the tennis coaches and EPATT staff. Ms. Gomes relays information from Andre and Anna's teachers to Tina so that the tutors can work directly on their areas of weakness. Due to all of her hard work and communication as a parent, Anna improved her grades second quarter to become an EPATT Grand Slam winner (3.0+ GPA) while Andre achieved a 4.0+ GPA this year and is on his way to Eastside next year. Congrats!

## EPATT's Tournament Team Announced



Beginning this spring, EPATT will be sponsoring its Tournament Team as it travels to local tournaments.

Tennis Directors, Octavio and Dave, chose team members based on their overall ability, effort, and enthusiasm during tennis practice.

Congratulations to Ashley Washington, Osvaldo Hernandez, Fatu Tupou, Joseph Vea, Jocelyn Padilla, Finau Tupou, Jackie Brown, Tala Brown, Mafileo Tupou, Vita Talakai, Lupe Talakai, David Mapa, Angie Mapa, and

Tehuna Mahoni! In addition to playing tournaments, all of these students will be preparing for the tournaments with mandatory Friday team practices.

Students not currently on the tournament team should continue to practice and work hard on the courts. Octavio and Dave are watching the development of many students with the hopes that they will also be ready to play matches and tournaments in the near future.

## Ways to Help your Children Succeed



Do you wonder what you can do to help your students reach their full academic potential? Recently, many University experts found that proper motivation and communication with children is the key.

While studying motivation, a well-known Stanford psychologist, Carol Dweck, determined that parents should praise their children for their effort rather than just their intelligence. In her research, she found that students who thought they made mistakes because of laziness did not become discouraged by their mistakes when someone spoke positive words to help them to keep going anyway. Dweck recommended that parents compliment their students' efforts with statements like "That homework was so long and difficult. I really admire the way you concentrated and finished it". That way, children learn that it is important to learn from difficulties instead of giving up when things seem too challenging.

In another study, two members of the University of Kansas faculty studied vocabulary development in professional and welfare homes. They discovered some shocking statistics. By the age of 3, children in professional homes heard 500,000 encouragements and 80,000 discouragements compared to welfare children who heard 75,000 encouragements and 200,000 discouragements. In addition, parents in professional homes spoke 487 statements to their children each hour whereas welfare home children only heard 178 statements per hour. As a result, students in professional homes had high increases in vocabulary, which, according to the study, connected strongly with greater intellectual development, high IQs, and academic achievement later in life.

What does this mean and what should you do? As parents, you should take the time to engage your children in conversation each day. Ask them about school and their feelings and speak in full sentences. Be positive! Reward effort and improvement. If your child says that he is having trouble in school is because he isn't smart enough, remind him it is his effort and ability to persevere through failures that will ultimately allow him to succeed.

