

ASB 2015: Making AHS 'Bigger and Better'



FARRAH LUU
Editor in Chief

As the pace of the school year kicks in, the Associated Student Body's (ASB) mentality is to make everything this year bigger and better than it has ever been. As Alhambra High School's student government, ASB hopes to increase student involvement on campus and establish better relationships with AHS clubs, sports and performing arts groups to make events and activities revolve around school spirit.

A great way to promote an event and school spirit is through consistency. Due to its inconsistency last year, one event that ASB will be promoting more this year is Blue and Gold Fridays. ASB will be hosting a spirit game every Friday during lunch which helps students feel more involved with a fun way

to end the week. Every week will be full of events and activities for students to take part in as ASB continues to organize more rallies.

Since ASB wants to encourage more student involvement in all school events, they are going to publicize, publicize and publicize. A new addition to getting the word out about events this year will be the use of the bulletin board near the career center. By doing so, ASB has addressed the concern of making sure all students are aware of events happening at the moment.

Hopefully this new method will work because ASB's decision last year to make the bulletin paperless and to produce bi-weekly video broadcasts did not go so well. Many teachers neglected to show those video bulletins in class, causing many students to be uninformed on campus.

Student awareness and student voice are two things that are extremely important on any high school campus. One way for both of those things to shine is our student senate. Comprised of class representatives from every fourth period, the Senate serves as a way for students to directly express school-wide concerns and opinions. The Senate meets up once a month during the last 20 minutes of fourth period and even though it is a program intended to benefit the student body, many students are unaware of this. For a more successful Senate this year, ASB and AHS teachers need to promote why the Senate is an essential aspect in the student voice.

A way ASB could improve student awareness is to update the bulletin on the school website. Due to renovations made to our official school website last year, it has been hard for ASB to

receive access and post daily information for students and parents. Hopefully, this problem will be resolved quickly, as the website will be another way for ASB to increase outreach.

Currently, ASB is focusing all their efforts on Homecoming. As one of the biggest projects of the year, ASB hopes to increase student attendance at the Homecoming game, dance, parade, halftime show and carnival. With all these elements a part of Homecoming, ASB never fails to deliver a memorable experience every year. This year should be no exception.

With all of ASB's hard work and planning, student involvement and school spirit will surely be prominent aspects of this school year. However, student awareness remains one thing ASB will need to address, and only time will tell if this is focused on this year.

MOOR photo by AAQIL KHAN



ANGELA YANG
Editor in Chief

On Legacies, the Matador and Consequences

As senior year begins, I'm left wondering what kind of legacy I'll leave at AHS, if I leave one at all. But for San Gabriel High School's newspaper staff, it's clear that they've made history (intentional or not).

For those unfamiliar with the story, SGHS's Matador newspaper intended to publish a story on the departure of Speech and Debate coach Andrew Nguyen. Then-SGHS principal Jim Schofield pulled the story from publication, stating that it violated Nguyen's contract. Students from the Speech and Debate team and Matador staff protested this at many district board meetings, with the debate team protesting Nguyen's removal and the newspaper staff arguing that their First Amendment rights had been violated.

As much as I sympathize with the Matador staff as a student journalist, I do understand position the school board has been put in. The students need to respect the board's inability to disclose the details of Nguyen's firing while the school board needs to understand the outrage that the Matador staff experienced in having a story pulled from publication. However, my biggest concern is for Mr. Nguyen, as this continued media coverage can hardly be helpful in helping him find a new job. I do not doubt that he would prefer to resume his teaching job at SGHS; however, the board has already stated multiple times that this cannot happen.

This was evidently a delicate situation that both the school board and students handled perhaps too aggressively. As much as I admire the students' passion to fight this and their dedication to their coach, I find it hard to view the continued media coverage as anything but poor publicity for Nguyen. I do not doubt that he is a wonderful educator who clearly cares for his students and does his best to help them, but you would be hard-pressed to find schools clamoring to hire a teacher for whom students will harass the school board for. Ultimately, this incident between the district board and SGHS students imparts upon us the impact of an effective educator.

Republicans Push AP U.S. History To Become 'His' Story

JENNIFER FAN
Staff Writer

AP U.S. History (APUSH) has been a subject of debate for years. Conservative Republicans have opposed the subject since October 2012, when retired APUSH teacher Larry Krieger and the Republican National Congress deemed the APUSH curriculum "unpatriotic," as it put America in a negative light both to students and in an international perspective. College Board, the makers of the APUSH framework and exam, conceded to conservative pressure and has since released a new curriculum for the 2015-16 school year, which would shed more light on the founding of American democracy, World War II victories and other "patriotic" events. Inversely, negative events such as the Native American holocaust, Japanese internment and slavery, to name a few, will be taking a backseat.

It is undeniable that America's past is plagued by the genocide of Native Americans, the enslavement of Af-

rican Americans and a countless number of tragedies due to racism and sexism — but who are Republicans to erase and sugarcoat history? History is defined as the study of past events, but when history is written to fit the preferences of a particular group of people (especially conservatives), it becomes mere fiction. Although College Board did not erase negative events altogether, diminishing their importance in textbooks and tests is surely censoring our past.

If our tainted past is concealed, we will never learn from our mistakes. Our past is taught not just to show the horrors our forefathers committed, but to remind us to not repeat them. If our history, all of our history, is not exposed to the next generation, citizens would grow to be uninformed individuals, living in a bubble of ignorance. College Board's surrender to conservative pressure has done a great injustice not to only students, but to America as a whole.

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MOOR graphic by LESLIE HWANG

CHANGE IN APUSH

