



ACADEMY HIGH
CHAMPAIGN URBANA

WEEKLY NEWS

February 24, 2023



Students Earned Awards from the Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools (CLASS) National Essay Competition

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 24th

Film Club Movie Night at 7pm

Saturday, February 25th

Winter Dance from 7 - 9:30 pm

Wednesday, March 1st

Fundraiser/Dine to Donate at Hickory River

Saturday, March 4th

Science Olympiad Competition at Parkland

Tuesday, March 7th

AHPA Meeting at Sunsinger 7 pm

Friday, March 10th

End of Third Quarter

Monday, March 13th -
Friday, March 17th

No School/Spring Break

Check out the [calendar](#) on our website to stay up to date on school events!

Academics & Student Life

Spanish I



Students are learning facts about Spanish-speaking countries; we just started learning about **México**. Students also read a short novel about a **Capybara** that can't swim and is chosen to travel to the **Galapagos Islands** to ask the wise tortoise for advice. Additionally, we covered the verbs SER and ESTAR (*To be*). Currently, we are learning about the present tense of the - AR, -ER, and -IR regular verbs and reading about the **Guajero** children of **Guatemala**.

Recently, students made **Pupusas**, a traditional dish from **Honduras**. We are planning to celebrate a **Quinceañera** in class next week!



Spanish II



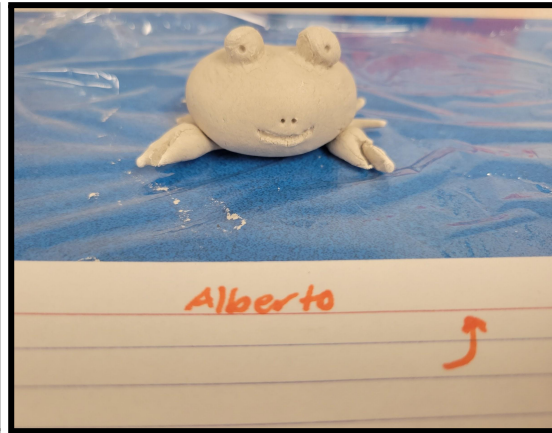
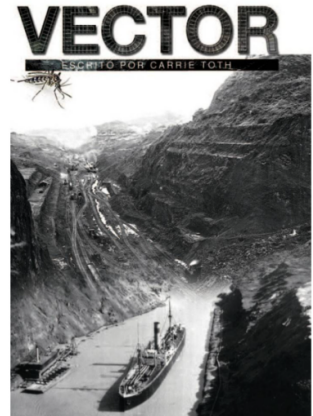
Students have been learning facts about animals endemic to Spanish-speaking countries; this week, it is the turn of the **Anaconda**. Additionally, we are reading the book **Agentes secretos y el mural de Picasso**. Pablo Picasso's mural **Guernica** is on display at the 1937 International Exposition. Both sides of the Spanish Civil War quickly realize that the painting contains clues to the whereabouts of the supernatural Spear of Destiny. Students also have been learning the use of prepositions and the difference between the verbs **conocer** and **saber**.



Spanish III

The class recently finished learning facts about the Colombian artist **Fernando Botero** and created a sculpture inspired by the artist. We started learning about writer **Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra** and his famous book, ***Don Quijote de la Mancha***. We are also learning about the **imperfect tense** and reading the book ***Vector*** about Antonio, a typical Panamanian teenager that was transported back in time to the early 1900s, where he learned about his grandfather's participation in the construction of the **Panama Canal**.

Additionally, students recently learned about **Machu Picchu** and are collaborating in groups on an archeology project. They are putting on their archeologist hats and will present to the class their recent discoveries.



Spanish IV

Students have been discussing social media and its advantages and disadvantages; they worked in small groups to write an essay about a specific platform and present it in class. Also, students learned about immigration in Spain and made comparisons to immigration in the United States. After this, students collaborated in groups on a project related to immigrants that will be presented in class.

Additionally, students have been learning about different dances of Spanish-speaking countries.

So far, we have joyfully danced to ***Cumbia Colombiana*** and ***Mambo***. Furthermore, we are working on reflexive verbs and discussing freedom of expression.



Join the Business Club for a Field Trip to Gies College of Business

The Business Club reached out to the Gies College of Business to request a presentation on what studying business in undergrad looks like at the University of Illinois. This field trip will be a great opportunity for anyone who may be interested in studying business at any college.



The field trip will take place on **Wednesday, March 8th from 10:30 to 11:30 am and is open to any Academy High student who would like to attend.** Please email Max by March 1st if you are interested in learning more. Space is limited - be sure to RSVP early if you want to attend!



Caring Carnival on Saturday, April 1st

Volleyball team registration is now open for the Caring Carnival! Academy High is excited to be working with Centennial, Central, Urbana, STM, and Uni to hold a community-wide fundraiser for Eastern Illinois Foodbank. The event is on Saturday, April 1st from 3 pm to 7 pm at Central High School. Teams of six can register and high school and middle school students are welcomed! If you are interested in forming a team please email Sophia.

Prom Scheduled for April 29th

Academy High will be hosting its 2023 Prom at the iHotel on Saturday, April 29th. The event will take place between 6:00 and 10:00, and include dinner, dancing, games, and a photo booth! The theme for the event is "Masquerade" and our colors are purple and gold.

Prom is open to all Academy High students in good academic standing; each 11th and 12th grade student is welcome to invite one guest.

Tickets for Prom at \$25 and will go on sale in March! We'll be looking for chaperones around that time, too!



AHPA Updates



Dine to Donate

With Hickory River Smokehouse

Academy High
Invites our School and Their Families
for a Night out to Help
Raise Money for our School!

March 1, 2023 | **4:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

Enjoy a Barbecue Dinner at
Hickory River Smokehouse Urbana
1706 N. Cunningham Ave. Urbana, IL 61802
OR
Hickory River Smokehouse Champaign
3514 Fields S. Dr. Champaign, IL 61822

20% percentage of all sales made by the organization supporters during this time will be donated by Hickory River Smokehouse

1706 N. Cunningham Ave.
Urbana, IL 61802
297.337-1656
www.HickoryRiver.com

The flyer features the Hickory River Smokehouse logo at the top right. Below the title, there are three small images showing various barbecue dishes: a plate of ribs and chicken, a sandwich with pulled pork, and a platter of fried chicken.

Dine to Donate: Order Hickory River on Wednesday, March 1st!

Take the night off from cooking and order Hickory River Smokehouse for dinner on Wednesday, March 1st! Academy High will receive 20% of the sales if you show the flyer on paper or your phone. The flyer is attached to this email, and hard copies are available in the front office. You can visit either the Urbana or Champaign location.

Join Us for the Next AHPA Meeting at Sun Singer

The AHPA is a great group of parents that work together to build community and to support our teachers and students. Join us for a casual meeting & meet up at Sun Singer on **Tuesday, March 7th starting at 7 pm** if you're curious about learning what we're all about (or even if you just want to join us for the wine or other yummy treats). If you have any questions about the AHPA, please feel free to contact Katie Stafford. We are requesting RSVPs to make sure we have enough space reserved!



Sun Singer
Champaign, Illinois
Restaurant • Wine Bar

The logo features a silhouette of a person with arms raised in a 'V' shape, standing on a pedestal. Behind the figure is a large, stylized sun with rays. The text 'Sun Singer' is written in a large, bold, serif font, with 'Champaign, Illinois' in a smaller font below it. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text 'Restaurant • Wine Bar' in white.



Ice Skating Social on Sunday, March 26th

AHPA invites students and families to join us for Public Skate at the University of Illinois Ice Arena on Sunday, March 26th 1:30-3pm. This will be a great opportunity to meet up with friends and prospective families for some fun on the ice! The cost will be \$5 which includes admission and skate rental. Watch for more information closer to the date!

Athletics

Track and Field

Track and Field has begun, and our student-athletes are training for the competitive season. The first meet we are attending is hosted by Uni High at the University of Illinois Armory on Friday, March 3rd. This indoor meet will start at 7pm. Please come out to support our track and field team.



Now Hiring: Golf and Volleyball Coaches!

If you know anyone who would be interested in coaching our owls to victory in either golf or volleyball, [please send them the position descriptions on our website](#) and encourage them to apply!

Summer Camp - Registration is Open!

A registration poster for Summer Camps at Academy High. The poster features a blue background with a white and orange circular graphic on the left. The text reads: "JOIN US FOR SUMMER CAMPS @ ACADEMY HIGH OPEN TO RISING 6TH-8TH GRADERS". The dates "JUNE 5-9" and "JUNE 12-16" are listed in the top right. A list of activities is provided at the bottom: "DANCE & CHOREOGRAPHY // MURAL PAINTING // IMPROV & THEATRE GAMES // PODCASTING 101 // SCIENCE OF BAKING // DESIGN THINKING MAKER SPACE // EXPRESSIVE ARTS // CREATIVE WRITING". A "REGISTER TODAY!" button is located on the left side of the poster.

REGISTER TODAY!

**JUNE 5-9
JUNE 12-16**

JOIN US FOR
SUMMER CAMPS
@
ACADEMY HIGH
OPEN TO RISING 6TH-8TH GRADERS

DANCE & CHOREOGRAPHY // MURAL PAINTING
IMPROV & THEATRE GAMES // PODCASTING 101 // SCIENCE OF BAKING
DESIGN THINKING MAKER SPACE // EXPRESSIVE ARTS // CREATIVE WRITING

Share with your friends and neighbors! [Registration is now open](#) for the Academy High Summer Camps that will take place the weeks of June 5th and 12th. The camps will be open to rising 6th through 8th grade students and will be taught by our faculty and module instructors. There is a \$15 discount using the code [EARLYBIRD](#) for the first twenty who register.

Alumni Spotlight

Sam Laufenberg, Class of 2022



Hometown: Champaign, Illinois

University: Colorado State University

Degree/Major: Natural Resource Management

Expected Year of Graduation: 2027

Tell us a little about what you've been up to since you graduated? Since I graduated, I have gone on a ten-week gap semester trip through ARCC. During the trip, I traveled through Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Washington, and Hawaii. I did a lot of hiking and exploring local areas. I learned about cultures, cuisine, and the relationship between humans and our natural environment. I spent 69 of 70 nights camping in a tent, and I enjoyed every moment. My favorite moment was when we summited a glacier in Glacier National park or when I spent 44 minutes at 60 ft below the surface while Getting Open Water Diver Certified. I was fortunate enough to meet many extremely cool people along my journey.

Do you have your sights set on any goals for your remaining time as an undergraduate?

Next year I have goals for many things. I will get a job, hopefully in the field of natural resources, so I can continue saving for a car. I also want to do a lot of volunteering with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. This will get me in the door to my dream career as a Conservation Officer. I am taking a few classes at Parkland college to get back into the college mindset and prepare for school next year. My final goal for next year is to attend Colorado State University to study Natural Resource Management.

When you look back on your time at Academy High, what do you remember most about your experience?

When I look back at my experience at Academy High, I think of two things. The first thing I remember is the community. Everyone is so nice to each other. It feels more like a family than like a high school. When I met other gap students, it reminded me how lucky I was to go to a high school like Academy. The second thing I think of is the size. Academy High was small when I was a student there. I loved having a small class where I knew my voice was getting heard. I also liked that I knew everyone's names.

What advice would you give a freshman student as they begin their Academy High journey?

I would say do the work, put in the time, and ask as many questions as possible. If you do the work, you will get results. If you put in the time, you will get results. If you ask questions, you will understand the topics. It took me a long time to figure this out, but it's the smart kids that ask the questions. I say this because I needed to ask more questions, and it was something I struggled with.