



Vista Grande High School | Spartan P.R.I.D.E – April 2021

Message from the Principal

Congratulations to Evan Chaparro, Flinn Scholarship Foundation recipient! The Flinn Scholarship, which includes funding for tuition, housing, meals, and study abroad, is valued at more than \$120,000. Evan intends to major in Chemical Engineering at ASU. We are so proud of Evan and know that great opportunities are in his future!

Next week, April 12, we will welcome our students back to campus as a group. (Our students who have chosen AOI will not be required to return.) Since this will be the first time since last March that we have all been together it will be important to remember that we must still practice social distancing and continue to wear our face masks. These important steps help us keep the number of COVID illnesses down and will allow us to return to a more normal way of life sooner. Please do your part to help make this happen!

Glenda Cole
Principal

April Calendar/Announcements

April 2nd: In Lieu Day

April 14th: Senior Panorama Photo

State Testing Dates:

- April 6th (B Day)
- April 8th (A Day)
- April 20th and 22nd

AOI Testing: April 12th, 13th, 15th, and 16th (9:00 – 11:30)

Bell Schedule

1st Period: 8:00 – 8:55

2nd Period: 9:00 – 9:55

3rd Period: 10:00 – 10:55

4th Period (includes Spartan Time and Lunch): 11:00 – 1:00

5th Period: 1:05 – 2:00

6th Period: 2:05 – 3:00

VGHS Seniors

We want to know what your plans are for the future! Here is a list of what some of your friends and peers are doing! To let us know your plans please complete the survey in the "Class of 2021" BlackBoard page. (Students will be added to the list each month) *new to list.

Congrats Seniors and Good Luck! Remember, once a Spartan, ALWAYS a Spartan!

Aiden Pitts: Navy- Nuclear Engineer

Juan Morales: Welding

Cody Yowman: HVAC

Jose Valenzuela: Central Arizona College

Benjamin Mollet: Embrey Riddle Aeronautical University

Celeste Rodriguez: Central Arizona College

Shanika Osborne: Grand Canyon University

Daniel Martinez: University Technical Institute

Micheal Gonzales: Focus on gaming and streaming

Noah Bahr: Fire Fighting

Yamelix Gonzalez: Central Arizona College

Lauren Macias: University of Arizona

Xavier Morgenthaler: Welding

Krystal Rios: Central Arizona College

Jazlin Zavala: University of Arizona

Ximena Calderon: Central Arizona College

Keana Corn: Northern Arizona University

Alina Espino: Central Arizona College

Jesus Gastelum: Itson University

Joseph Gutierrez Cenicerros: University of Arizona

Aiyasia Honeybone: Central Arizona College

Austin Campbell: Central Arizona College

Christiana Olvera: University of Arizona

Jazzlyn Joaquin: South Mountain Community College

Jade Martinez: Northern Arizona University

Xela Mae Mercado: Mentoring for Acting

Roy Sandoval: Central Arizona College

***Victoria Velasco:** Grand Canyon University

***Freyja Everett:** United States Navy

***Marie Deall:** University of Arizona

***Jace Atkins:** Adams State University

***Ricardo Gomez:** Arizona State University

***Joseph Encinas III:** Zumiez or Guitar Center

Ryan Van Wagenen: Church Mission

Mariana Villavicencio: Arizona State University

Ayden Mullenix: Arizona State University

Mariyha Morin: Western Oregon University

Dominic Perez: Northern Arizona University

Karely Maldonado: Carrington College

David Parra: 911 Dispatch

Lexis Pierce: Central Arizona College

Evan Chaparro: Arizona State University

Amyah Boostedt: Southern Utah University

Ily Guy: University of Arizona

Aaliyah Mata: University of Arizona

Owen Raley: Northern Arizona University

Nicholas Teti: Central Arizona College

Melanie Nagel: Northern Arizona University

Anubis Clark: Arizona State University

Chloe Esparza: Central Arizona College

Samantha Fratt: Central Arizona College

Kailee Grover: Central Arizona College

Moriyah Herrod: Arizona State University

Avery Ramirez: Central Arizona College

Aiden Jannasch: Central Arizona College

Acela Robles: University of Arizona

Divine Ibarra: Central Arizona College

Chris Hernandez: Northern Arizona University

Tanay Evans: Grand Canyon University

***Gerardo Moreno:** United States Marine Corps

***Katie Huerta:** Arizona State University

***James Ozbirn:** Power Linemen

***Aurora Yoder:** Arizona State University

***Riley Comeau:** Northern Arizona University

***Sebrina Jett:** Army National Guard

Monthly VGHS Quiz

Answer the questions below and send your responses to jwalther@cguhsd.org for a chance to win prizes! Prizes will be awarded to VGHS students only.

1. What year did Vista Grande High School first open it's doors to students?

- a. 2011
- b. 2005
- c. 2009
- d. 2013

2. Which current VGHS teacher graduated from Vista?

- a. Mr. Del Cid
- b. Miss. Peck
- c. Mr. Scheeler
- d. Mr. French

3. Which current administrator coached a college sport before joining the staff in 2019?

- a. Mrs. Cole
- b. Mr. Danzy
- c. Mr. Pierce
- d. Ms. Beechum
- e. Mrs. Teran

4. What Division 1 sport did Mr. Danzy play in college?

- a. Basketball
- b. Gymnastics
- c. Football
- d. Swimming

5. Which teacher graduated from Miami University of Ohio?

- a. Mr. Collins
- b. Mr. French
- c. Ms. Hunter
- d. Mr. Inojosa

6. Which teacher had all three of their children graduate from Vista Grande High School?

- a. Mr. Scherr
- b. Mrs. Matthews
- c. Mrs. Haskins
- d. Mr. Stuart

Student Spotlights

Leticia Narvaez

Grade: 9th Grade

Goals for next year: Keep my grades up and stay dedicated to school.

Goals for 10 years from now: Be in college studying to be an OBGYN.

Who inspires you? My mom and Tio.

Favorite class this year: Freshmen Success

Dutch Bros or Starbucks? Starbucks

Dogs or Cats? Dogs

Favorite Color? Red

Is cereal soup? No.

Jay Varela

Grade: 9th Grade

Goal for next year? I would like to keep my straight A streak going.

Goals for 10 years from now? Going to vet school to get my certification.

Who inspires you? My dad is the one who inspires me to keep my grades on track to be successful in life.

Favorite class this year? Spanish with Mr. Sanchez or JROTC

Do you work? I train and sell horses.

Starbucks or Dutch Bros? Starbucks

Chick-Fil-A or Culvers? Chick-Fil-A

Dogs or Cats? Dogs

Favorite Color? Blue and Red

Favorite spot in Casa Grande? Harkins.

Is cereal soup? Cereal is not soup.

Riley Comeau

Grade: 12th Grade

Goals for next year? Attending NAU on a full ride and living on campus while thriving in my first year of Nursing School.

Goals for 10 years from now? Obtained my Bachelor of Science in Nursing and possibly my doctor of Nurse Practice and become a Nurse Practitioner. Married with at least my first kid, if not 2!!!

Who inspires you? My family.

Favorite Class this year? Economics with Mr. K.

Dutch Bros or Starbucks? Starbucks.

Chick-Fil-A or Culvers? Chick-Fil-A

Dogs or Cats? Dogs

Favorite Color? Blue

Favorite spot in Casa Grande? Villago Lakes

Is cereal soup? This is a hard technicality because there are similarities but in the end, they are two different things, so no cereal is not soup.

Stefanie Trantham

Grade: 9th Grade

Goals for next year? Maintain good grades.

Goals for 10 years from now? Graduate from college and become a physical therapist or athletic trainer.

Who inspires you? My friends and family.

Favorite class this year? Stage Production

Dutch Bros or Starbucks? Starbucks

Chick-Fil-A or Culvers? Chick-Fil-A

Favorite Color? Red

Favorite spot in Casa Grande? Any basketball court.

Is cereal soup? No.

Teacher Spotlights

Mr. Inojosa

What do you teach? Physics, Chemistry, and Investigative Science.

How long have you been a teacher? 12 years

Where did you go to college? Philippine Normal School (Normal School is an institution that trains high school graduates to become teachers.)

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Las Piñas in the Philippines.

Go to Quarantine snack? Lumpia (Filipino style eggroll) and Chicken Wings!

One thing you could not live without. Japanese anime and role-playing games like Final Fantasy.

What was your high school job? I used to sell food like marshmallows, cookies, and fish crackers to my classmates and in the streets of my neighborhood.

You are hosting a dinner party. Who are 3 people, living or dead, who you would invite and why? Einstein to get a free lecture on Relativity, John Lennon because I am a Beatles fan and would want to do karaoke with him, and my father-in-law Benjamin, so my wife and him can have proper goodbyes.

What would you most like to tell your 13-year-old self? I will do my best to make my parents proud, give them a better life and that I will marry Mrs. Inojosa someday.

Culvers or Chick-Fil-A? I love them both! But Chick-Fil-A gives freebies to teachers, so it got to be Chick-Fil-A!



Mr. Collins

What do you teach? Freshmen Success and Advanced Sports Conditioning

How long have you been a teacher? 14 years

Where did you go to college? San Bernardino CC, USC (1 year) graduated from Chapman State. Long Beach State (graduate degree) University of Phoenix (graduate degree)

Where did you grow up? Houston, Texas and Los Angeles, California. Both cities raised me.

One thing you could not live without. Purpose

You are hosting a dinner party. Who are 3 people, living or dead, who you would invite and why? Granville T. Woods, John Carlos, and Ruby Bridges, because they are highly influential people in my culture and endured great ridicule as a result of their efforts to create opportunities for others.

What would you most like to tell your 13-year-old self? Life ain't so bad at all.

What was your job in high school? Student-Athlete

What advice do you have for kids who are struggling with school? Build on your strengths, assess your weaknesses, and make the proper adjustments.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you. I'm deathly afraid of rodents.



Dr. Hall

What do you teach? Marine Corps JROTC (Leadership Education)

How long have you been a teacher? 13 years

What is your favorite thing about Vista? The people (students and faculty). The culture/atmosphere at the school is student-centered. Students are respectful, cooperative, and they are good-hearted.

Where did you go to college? Montgomery County CC, Delgado Community College, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Saint Leo University, The University of Phoenix, The University of Mississippi.

Where did you grow up? Robinsonville, MS

Go to Quarantine snack? Pork Rinds

One thing you could not live without. Personal Integrity

What was your high school job? Chopping Cotton

You are hosting a dinner party. Who are 3 people, living or dead, who you would invite and why? My wife because we do everything together and we often speak of our unique life journey. My great, great grandfather and great, great grandmother (both slaves), because I want to express gratitude and learn from them through hearing their life story.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you. Before, during, and immediately after high school, the thought of college petrified me.



Mrs. Miller

What do you teach? Marketing

How long have you been a teacher? 15 years

What is your favorite thing about Vista Grande? The students and all the fun we have in class, in the store and during our DECA activities. Every day at least one of them makes me laugh out loud and teaches me either something about the world or myself.

Where did you go to college? Indiana University and Calumet College.

Where did you grow up? In the very small town of Sumava Resorts, Indiana.

Go to Quarantine snack? Stacey's Pita Chips and red pepper hummus.

One thing you can't live without. Peanut butter

What was your job in high school? There were a few: babysitting, dishwashing, food expeditor, corn detasseler and I worked as a night janitor for a book distributor the summer before college.

You are hosting a dinner party. Who are the 3 people, living or dead, who you would invite and why? I would invite: Abraham Lincoln because he was the first person outside of my family that I saw as a hero. My maternal grandfather because when I was young, he shared stories of being in France during the war and I have always wanted to hear more about his experiences there. My brother (alive) because I know he could get the other two to share a laugh with us.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you. I love amusement park rides that take you high up into the air, especially the ones with a sudden drop. I have also parachuted out of an airplane.



Miss. Mummert

What do you teach? I teach English now, but I have taught P.E., Net Sports, and Yearbook.

How long have you been a teacher? This is my 7th year.

What is your favorite thing about Vista Grande? I really like our students. I also like that our school is inside. I went to Union in high school and having outside hallways and classrooms that open to the outside is... hot.

Where did you go to college? I went to CAC and NAU

Where did you grow up? I grew up here in Casa Grande.

Go to Quarantine snack? Strawberry Limeades from Sonic are my addiction. Just ask our cheerleader Elijah who sees me at Sonic at least twice a week.

Coffee or Tea? Coffee. Tea is for the weak.

You are hosting a dinner party. Who are 3 people, living or dead, who you would invite and why? I'm going to break the rules here and invite a fictional character. I would invite Sherlock Holmes because I'm obsessed with him and true crime. On that same note, I'm inviting JonBenet Ramsey for obvious reasons. Then, I would invite Lizzo... because it's Lizzo, you know?

What advice do you have for kids who are struggling with school? First of all...every student can do well in school as long as they don't give up. No matter how difficult things get or how far behind you fall, there are always people willing to help you out. You just need to ask. A lot of students will fall behind or their grades will drop and they just give up; if you ask your teachers for help, even if it's not for their class, I promise they're going to try their best to help you.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you. One time I was a missing person for like 8 hours. Search and rescue had to find me. It was quite dramatic.



VGHS Athletics

Winter Sports Accolades: Congrats!

Boys Basketball

Offensive Player of the Year- Devin Bradford

1st Team All-Region- Devin Bradford

2nd Team All- Region- Chris Long

Honorable Mention- Moses Charles

Girls Basketball

Offensive Player of the Year- Jayla Scott

1st Team All-Region- Jayla Scott

Honorable Mention- Mia Powell

Honorable Mention- Emily Shedd

Honorable Mention- Alejandra Sepulveda

Girls Soccer

1st Team All-Region Forward- Aiyasia Honeybone

1st Team All-Region Midfield- Sherlyn Munoz

1st Team All-Region Defense- Kenadie Cruz

Honorable Mention- Ella Castro

Honorable Mention- Liliana Cruz

Honorable Mention- Chloe Esparza

Honorable Mention- Kristiana Alston

Boys Soccer

1st Team All-Region- Juan Armenta

1st Team All-Region- Aldo Arroyo

1st Team All-Region- Adrian Solis

2nd Team All-Region- Danny Lopez

2nd Team All-Region- Jesus Armenta

2nd Team All-Region- Dario Rocha

Honorable Mention- Marlon Quijada

Honorable Mention- Hector Velasco

Alyssa Tinnin

Grade: 11th Grade

When did you first start playing softball? When I was 8 years old.

Who is your biggest inspiration? Jennie Finch

Pre-Game Ritual? Listen to music and put on eye-black.

Pre-Game Song? Revenge – Joyner Lucas

Pre-Game Meal? Chicken Sandwich

Goals for the rest of the season? Win the state championship and be named First Team All-Conference.

Emilio Barreras

Grade: 11th Grade

When did you first start playing baseball? 7 years old.

Who is your biggest inspiration? My dad.

Pre-Game Meal? Chicken Sandwich with fries from the cafeteria.

Pre-Game Song? Do What I Want – Lil Uzi Vert

Pre-Game Ritual? Got to put eye-black on before every game.

Goals for the rest of the season? To help my teammates get better and be considered one of the best players in the state.

Cynthia Chaparro-Belloc

Grade: 12th Grade

When did you start running track? Freshmen year

Who/What is your biggest inspiration? This saying my family tells me, "Each time you're tempted to give up, think of how far you have come. The work you put in to get there, the mornings you did not want to get out of bed, but you pushed yourself to anyway. Also seek your strength and know that only you know when enough is enough.

Pre-Race Ritual? Listen to music and think about my race plan.

Pre-Race Song? Yet to Come – Greatness

Pre-Race Meal? Spaghetti for dinner, oatmeal for breakfast.

Goal for the season? Fully recover and start getting back to what I do best.

Brooklyn Flores

Grade: 12th Grade

When did you first start playing softball? I started playing softball at the age of 4.

Who is your biggest inspiration? My parents.

Pre-Game Ritual? My pregame ritual is to avoid talking about how I may perform during my games.

Pre-Game Meal? My pregame meal is Chick-Fil-A and Dutch Bros.

Goals for the rest of the season? WIN STATE!

Spartan P.R.I.D.E



April Focus:

“Dreams without goals are just dreams.” -Denzel Washington

We all have big dreams for our lives. They might be to have a nice car, a big house, be able to support your family, or get a high paying job. However, without setting both short and long-term goals to achieve those dreams, they might ultimately remain dreams. Short-Term goals are goals that can be accomplished within 1 year. Within that one year, you should have certain check points to meet along the way. This way you are constantly reminded of the end goal and accomplishing small tasks along the way. Long-Term goals are goals that will take longer than a year to accomplish. Once again, it is important to set up small, more manageable goals along the way to use as check points on your way to accomplish something great. Here are some other useful tips to help make those dreams become a reality:

- Celebrate when you accomplish a checkpoint or short-term goal in a **positive** way.
- Show **respect** to others while working towards your ultimate goals.
- Hold yourself accountable to your goals and show yourself personal **integrity** by sticking to the plan.
- Show **determination** by working at your goals no matter what others are saying or doing.
- Strive for **excellence** in everything you do. Don't strive for good when good can be great, and don't strive for great when great can be best.
- Write down your goals and post them somewhere you will always see them.
- Make sure your goals are **S.M.A.R.T.** (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely)