



From the Director's Office

May 13, 2010

Dear TLC Families,

With mixed feelings I am announcing my retirement as Director of The Learning Choice Academy as of June 30, 2010. Although I look forward to the opportunities retirement will bring me, it still saddens me to be leaving this organization. I will miss the many personal and professional relationships that I have developed while here.

I have been with The Learning Choice Academy since the very beginning and have enjoyed every moment of it. The summer before our doors opened, we were creating plans and conducting business in my dining room, a converted office in a staff member's garage or Internet Cafes. We opened our doors to four different school sites in September of 2004 with approximately 300 students; a number that has now more than doubled. As the student population increased, so did the school's accomplishments. TLC Academy is now a WASC accredited K-12 school that increased its API scores over 40 points from the initial results!

It is time for me to retire, however, because it is an opportune time for someone else to lead this organization to greater heights, just as it is time for me to take myself to greater heights as an individual. Debi Gooding was one of the founding employees of The Learning Choice Academy and has been selected as Director for 2010-2011. Debi has served TLC as an Educational Partner, the Lead Partner in La Mesa and Assistant Director this year. She is knowledgeable and more than capable to continue the great school programs already in place. She also has the vision to expand opportunities to our great students and families.

In ending this retirement letter, I want to emphasize that I will forever be grateful to the students, parents, charter community and incredible staff members of The Learning Choice Academy for having given me the opportunity to be a part of the accomplishments and the great times over the years. I hope my grandchildren and grand-nieces/ nephews will be able to experience a school environment as rich and warm as this one.

Sincerely,











Director Kathy Bass

Inside this issue:

STAR Students	2
School News	5
Showcase/Field Day	7
Field Trips	8
Parent Corner	9
Important Dates	11

Next Board of
Directors meeting:
Tuesday, June 22,
5:30 pm, La Mesa
site.

STAR Students

-  Many thanks to **Nathan** and **Ryan DiBenedetto** (6th grade, LM). They took time out of their busy schedule to try out, review and write up their opinion about an electronics program for the school. Thanks boys for your time and honest opinions!
-  Chula Vista students **Adrian Miller** (2nd), **Gabriel Miller** (4th), & **Joshua Discar** (4th) were invited to a live production of “San Diego Living” Channel 6 on April 15th for a segment on Scouts. Each TLC Student was individually interviewed, as well as Mrs. Miller, and they all did a great job in front of the camera. Way to go guys! Hope you had a great time at the Scout event. Keep up the great work!
-  Great job, **La Mesa 3rd-5th grade Full Day Students!** Your hard work paid off! You did a fabulous job running JA BizTown!
-  Many thanks to all of the **parent volunteers** who helped to make JA BizTown a success! We could not have done it without you! Thanks again for donating your time and energy to make this a great learning experience for our TLC students!
-  **Congratulations to Chula Vista star senior Marko Beltran!** Marko will be receiving the privileged Golden State Merit Seal Diploma. This special diploma has an embossed gold seal and signifies Marko’s outstanding achievement in at least six of his CST high school tests. Marko’s high school transcripts will sure to shine brighter when he applies to colleges and universities!
-  A big thanks to **Vicki Cline** at the Scripps Ranch site for always ensuring that TLC staff has happy birthdays!
-  **Breana** and **Madeline Luna** are working extra hard to get their work done. This is TLC Jaguar pride.
-  **3-5 Biz Town citizens of Scripps Ranch** have worked diligently over the past 4 ½ months to become employees who have learned financial literacy, business ethics, and all about the business cycle. Congratulations **Zane Bosteder, Philip Martinez, Christina Martinez, Melissa Martinez, Ariel Albrecht, Alyssa Fitzgerald, Parris Reed, Erik Brooks, Jake Yoshitake, Andy Musson, Sylvia McMakin, Jordan Kessler, Chad Francis, Kevin Francisco, Tori Stegner, Isaac Attinger, Ryder Henson, Carly Medved, Carly Truscott, and Emily Wright.** Awesome Job!
-  Thank you to **ALL of the 2nd-11th graders who came in for STAR testing.** A good participation rate ensure that TLC will be able to provide the same great services next year.
-  Congratulations and best of luck to our **graduating seniors!** We know you will go on to do great things.
-

STAR Students (continued)

★ Thank you to the Chula Vista staff for all your help with the Scholastic Book Fair. It was a great success! A big shout out goes to student volunteers **Amanda Donn & Cynthia Quintanar** and parent volunteers, **Celina Cunningham, Eva Acosta, and Veronica Kemp**. Thanks to Ms. Cherokee, Ms. Rhonda, Mr. Jeff, Mrs. Schneider, James, Joe and Mrs. Cunningham, Banatao Family, and the Reza Family for the loose change donations. All the parents, students, and staff who supported the fair by buying books are very much appreciated!










★ Congratulations to **Natalie Ponce**, 1st year TLC student and graduating senior. Good luck and you are wished much success!

★ The following **Earth Science Class 2009-2010 STAR students**:

- **Emily Fitzgerald**-loves to share her work in science with the class using the overhead projector
- **Kaley Fitzgerald**-works well in groups and knows how to use her rubric to earn an "A".
- **Nina Hanon**- shared her geode and other mineral collection with all!
- **Reed Hardin**- made a cast out of his hands with something toxic and lived to talk about it and was the only one that measured the daily temperature at home for one week!
- **Dominique Patton**-can come up with science words that spell her name: Divergent boundary, Oxidation, Mass movement, Ice wedging, Nutrition, Irrigation, Quaternary period, Undertow, Evaporation
- **Kyla Perez**- helped set-up the class every week
- **Kaylee Russell**-had something to share every week
- **Nicole Sachik**-a rock expert
- **Brannon Smudz**-demonstrated angular momentum using an office task chair
- **Sarah Smudz**-couldn't get enough of dry ice—who put the left over dry ice in the toilet?
- **Jacob Van Stelle**- developed his expertise in using gloves to collect pond water
- **Carly Medved**- created the largest Vesicular Obsidian rock in class! She also can demonstrate what to do if you catch on fire "drop and roll" but when she actually lit her glove on fire, by accident, she ran throughout the classroom screaming "fire...fire"!
- **Reed Hardin** and **Daniel McDonald**-creating crystals found in minerals—they ate more crystals than they created!
- **Wesley Varrasso**- thank you for supervising the boys while re-creating how the Hawaiian Islands were made...by fire
- **Carly Truscott**- demonstrating how plate tectonics and divergent boundaries work modeling with graham crackers—Emily ate her evidence.

★ **Shawn** and **Ryan Kreitz** have earned the Centennial Award from the San Diego-Imperial Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

STAR Students (continued)

-  **Natalie Medina** (5th grade, Chula Vista) is doing great with her guitar lessons (she just started taking this year) and will be in a recital in June, as well as getting offers to play around town. Way to go Natalie! Watch out TLC Natalie Medina may be the next name we see in big bright lights! Congratulations on an awesome Job Natalie, the Chula Vista Office loves when you bring your Guitar and play for us.
-  Congratulations to all the **Full Day Students** that did a great job in their performance of **Peter Pan** on the last day of classes.
-  Congratulations to all the **Chula Vista 3rd – 5th Full Day Students** that completed the BizTown Curriculum and attended the BizTown Field Trip.
-  Way to go Mrs. **Mary Leeds**, you did an awesome job with the Chula Vista BizTown Students- the kids loved it and the parents are raving!
-  Thank you to **Mrs. Karin Gracia, Mrs. Tammy Delgado, Mrs. Dolores Huhn, and Mrs. Heather Ashman** for your assistance at the K- 2ND Chula Vista Full Day Field Trip to Fire Station #8.
-  Thank you to **Mrs. Karin Gracia** for her assistance throughout the 2009-2010 School Year in the K- 2ND Chula Vista Full Day Class! Karin has been a great help all year—and has supplied the students and staff with wonderful treats! Thanks, Karin.
-  **Thank You to all involved with the Walk to Empower-** It was a little cold, but the Walk was great and we were so close to our team goal. We set out to raise \$1000.00 and late last week we only had \$200.00 and the morning of the walk we had raised \$942.00, only \$58.00 away from our goal. That is awesome and we want to thank everyone that made it possible, by raising money, donating money, playing Bunco, donating prizes or food for Bunco Night and supporting those that walked. Thank you to all the walkers; Renee Olmeda and her daughter, Mary Leeds and her daughter, Debi Gooding, Vickie and Nina Hanon, Eric and Candy Todash, Liz Eddy, Miranda Hamblin & her family and Cherokee and her daughter.
-  **Wow! Chula Vista star 6th grade student James Cunningham has built a working kiln in his backyard!** James was studying about clay tablets and kilns in social studies and he was inspired to make a kiln of his own. He used cinderblock, grout and marble tiles to create his kiln and he uses sawdust as his medium. James has already made a pot in his kiln, but he plans on getting a lot more use out of it throughout the summer. Great innovation, James!
-  Good work **Amberlove** and **Noah Gallardo**. You both worked hard and learned a lot this year. You Rock. We love you both so much and we're so proud of all your achievements.
-  **Jacob, Mary Emma, and Matthew Cherwa** all participated in the Trilogy Production at Faith Chapel. Matthew and Jacob completed the requirements to be in FCF Royal Rangers. Matthew and Jacob graduated from Faith Chapels Fine Arts Institute and participated in a District Level Competition, with both of them winning 1st places. They will be going on to National Competitions in Detroit this summer, if they can get enough sponsors. Matthew also scored high on the CAHSEE test. Way to go Mary Emma, Jacob, and Matthew!
-

School News

Before you leave for the summer...



Please make sure you return all your library books and curriculum to your site. Check the lost and found for forgotten jackets, lunchboxes, and other personal items.

If you return all curricula by Friday, June 11 (the last day of school), you will be entered into a raffle for a \$50 gift certificate to be awarded to one student. Remember that no June invoices will be paid until all books (except consumable workbooks) have been returned.

If you will not be returning to TLC next year, please fill out a form with your IA to let us know where to send our records and where you will be next year.

Register Now for 2010-2011!

Registration paperwork for the 2010-2011 school year is available now. If you are planning to return to TLC next year, please let your EP know and they will have the paperwork ready for you at your next meeting. There is an advantage in registering early. Returning students who re-register by **May 28th** will have priority over new students. They will be able to select their EP and order their books for next year. This also places them first in line to receive those books in the fall! TLC is very lucky to have many new students registering now for next year. After **May 28th**, those students will be assigned EPs and will be able to place orders for their instructional materials. Don't lose your students' priority...re-register now!



Extended Class Reminders

Please remember that the last day to submit Request for Payment or Reimbursement forms is **May 28, 2010**. All invoices must be received by the last day of school, **June 11, 2010**, or they will not be paid. Also, June invoices will not be paid until all books and curriculum (except for consumable workbooks) have been returned to TLC.

6th Grade Graduation:

Thursday, June 3rd, 1:30pm at Countryside Park in Otay Ranch. Please join us in celebrating our children moving up to junior high school. Cake and punch will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share. RSVP to Stephanie 619-250-2433 or sassyol@cox.net so that we can have certificates made for the kids. This is not a school sponsored event, but TLC would like to extend their appreciation to Stephanie O'Connor and encourage other parents to plan co-ops and other family events.



Ireland, Wales and England Spring of 2011

Sign up now and start saving for the trip of a lifetime. See the itinerary for Ireland at www.myexplorica.com (tour center id: Gooding-3393). If you have further questions, please contact Debi @ dgooding@learningchoice.org

School News (continued)



TLC High School Graduation Ceremony

Graduation is one of the most important events in a student's life. As a graduate passes by each academic milestone, it is important to celebrate this time of their life with family and friends at graduation. In order to make this event memorable and successful please take note of the following deadlines, fees and dates.

Location: This year's ceremony will be held on **Thursday June 10, 2010** at 5:30PM. The ceremony will take place at *The Greek Theater at Point Loma Nazarene University*

Caps & Gowns: Caps and gowns must be worn by all graduating seniors. Please take Cap & Gown from Plastic Bag and press the gown before you arrive at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday June 10th, 2010 at Point Loma Nazarene University for dress rehearsal. Pick up your cap and gown from your EP—it will be available no later than June 8, and your EP will contact you once it's ready.

Tickets and Guests: There is no limit on the number of tickets or attendees. No physical tickets are needed for entry into the graduation.

Directions to the Point Loma Campus: 3900 Lomaland Drive, San Diego, CA 92106-2810.

From the north: Traveling south on I-5, take the Rosecrans exit, (Highway 209 south). Proceed south on Rosecrans to Canon Street. Turn right. Follow Canon to Catalina Boulevard. Turn left onto Catalina, then right onto Lomaland Drive. The university entrance is at the top of the hill.

From the east: Traveling west on I-8, take the Rosecrans exit, (highway 209 south). Proceed south on Rosecrans to Canon Street. Turn right. Follow Canon to Catalina Boulevard. Turn left onto Catalina, then right onto Lomaland Drive. The university entrance is at the top of the hill.

From the south: Traveling north on I-5, take the Hawthorne St/airport exit and follow the exit to the left. Follow the signs to the airport which will lead you to making a right onto Harbor Drive until you come to Rosecrans, turn south (left), and then make a right on to Canon Street. Follow Canon to Catalina Boulevard. Turn left onto Catalina, then right onto Lomaland Drive. The university entrance is at the top of the hill.

Guests and graduates will be directed to park in the east parking structure located to the left of the main campus entry.

A campus map can be found at <http://www.pointloma.edu/Assets/PLNU/University+Images/=Printable+Campus+Map>.



8th Grade Promotion

Attention, all 8th Grade Graduates and their proud parents! Save the Date to celebrate your accomplishment the morning of **June 10, 2010** at The Greek Theater at Point Loma Nazarene University. Check in for 8th grade students will be at 9:30 AM, and the ceremony will take place at 10:00AM. Please RSVP by filling out a form at your site.

Showcase/Field Day

Showcase 2010: “TLC-opoly”

It is time for the biggest show of the year-TLC’s annual Research Project Showcase. Homeschool families are great at using games to make learning unique and fun so in that spirit we present, “TLC-opoly” at Balboa Park Club Ballroom from 9:30-11 am (9-9:30 am set-up) on **Friday, June 4**. This event will feature your project “property” as a square on the life-size game. This event is the perfect venue to further develop a topic of interest, highlight a thematic unit or explore a hobby/activity in depth. Pass Go as you enter and collect play money for the raffle and your ribbon of participation. Visit other student projects as you work your way around the board. Be careful not to land in jail or you’ll have to roll the giant dice to get out! A fun celebration of learning! Get ready to play by starting your project now. Ask your EP for a research packet and take a ride on the Reading Railroad to get moving! Most students rate showcase as one of their favorite events of the year. Don’t miss your CHANCE to show what you’ve learned and share your accomplishments with family and friends! **Time:** 9:30 –11 am. **Location:** Balboa Park Club Ballroom. **RSVP** ASAP.



Free Family Field Day

Family Game Show Challenge:

Field Day is games, games and more games. Take a break and get physical as you play Dare or Double Dare, Name that Tune, Who Wants to Be a Billionaire and more with Xtremefun. A series of games show challenges that will help you get to know each other and get active! Mix physical challenges with creative ones like improvisation, dancing, singing or trivia mind-benders like worst-case race, puzzled or brainquest. The best part is – it’s all in a gameshow format. Teams will challenge each other in a variety of categories for a chance at winning prizes. Even if you are not a contestant, all shows need an audience and you are sure to enjoy the games!

Date: Friday, June 4. **Time:** 11 am – 12 pm. **Location:** International Cottages Stage

Clue for You:

Step in to a real life game of Clue as you work with your family to solve the case- The Case of the missing family Jewels. The Dimwit Family Jewels, now known as the Dimwit-Watson Family Jewels, once shown all over the world, have not been openly displayed to the public in over forty years. In honor of your special event, Lady Rose Dimwit Watson and her husband Waining have agreed to once again expose the jewels at a special viewing. It’s an afternoon of sinister secrets and suspicious subtext, as an empty display case and a glass-shattering scream brings none other than the famous Detective Sherlock Holmes the 6th - of the backyard - to the party! It’s breath taking baubles, a bumbling bookie and a bad case of indigestion. It’s Elementary my dear Dr. Watson...

It’s Murder! A lunch mystery theatre presentation by professional actors where the audience is a part of the program and everyone is involved! Please bring your lunch to enjoy during the program. Fee: Free

Limited seating so be sure to pre-register your family team. **RSVP** ASAP. **Time:** 12-2 pm. **Location:** Balboa Park Club Ballroom



Field Trips



PETCO Park Tour

On **Friday, May 28**, take a tour of PETCO Park! The tour lasts about 75 minutes and visits many behind-the-scenes areas of the ballpark such as the press box, a private suite, a luxury lounge, the dugout/warning track area and the historic Western Metal Supply Co. Building. The tour discusses the history of the ballpark, some San Diego/baseball history, and lots of information on how the ballpark operates.

Time: 11:30 am-12:45 pm (check-in 11:00 am).

Location: PETCO Park, 100 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101

Fee: \$4 students, \$8 adults

RSVP ASAP.

Knott's Soak City

On **Friday, June 11**, start off your summer with a splash. There are slides of all kinds for all ages-speed slides, body slides, and tube slides. You can drift around the lazy river in an inner tube. Ride a raft on Pacific Spin or Coronado Express. Catch the surf at Balboa Bay in the wave pool. Height restrictions apply for some rides. Visit Gremmie Lagoon, Dick's Beach House or Tyke's Trough for younger kids play area and slides. Soak up the sun and enjoy the day with TLC families.



You can purchase a meal ticket for \$8 which includes all-you-can-eat hot dogs, hamburgers, fruit, chips and drinks at the event from 11 am – 1 pm. Extended units cannot be used to purchase food. The food tickets are also only valid on the day of our field trip. However, the waterpark tickets can be used throughout the 2010 season.

Time: 10 am – 6 pm. 9:30 am check-in. **Location:** 2052 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

Fee: \$18 per person. Additional fee for parking. RSVP by: Friday, May 28.

Parent Corner

This is a community forum to share information. These are not TLC-sponsored activities or classes, but are provided for your information. Please be sure to verify all information before attending.

Parent Advice Column



If you have advice, jokes, or anecdotes to share with other parents, or would like to give us feedback, please email Audrey at admins@learningchoice.org. Submissions are subject to content approval. We look forward to seeing what you have to share! All submissions to the parent advice column reflect the opinions of the parent writers, not TLC Academy.

New San Diego County Library Service: Link+



LINK+

Link+ is a consortium of libraries that the San Diego County Library system has recently joined. It's very similar to the Circuit which connects the catalog to many of the local colleges and universities. However, Link+ is much, much larger. There are libraries from all over California and Nevada that have joined and we now have access to most of their materials. To use this service, you can do a search in the regular catalog. If nothing comes up, click on the Circuit icon in the right hand corner. We ask that you try the Circuit first because the libraries are much closer and the environmental impact of transporting the materials is much less. If the Circuit does not have it, go back to our catalog page and click on the Link+ icon in the right hand corner. This will search all of the Link+ libraries and let you know if the book is available. You can also request DVD's from Link+. For both Circuit and Link+, you will need to know your library card number and your PIN number. You can then order the materials you want and they will come in just like our own materials do. The library catalog can be accessed at www.sdcl.org.

Parent Corner (continued)

Not Back to School Days at Disneyland

The Official
4th Annual

NOT Back to School Days 2010

Rally and
Conference

**You CAN Homeschool at the
Disneyland® Resort and attend the best
home education conference of the year!**

Attend Special Field Trip Classes taught in the Theme Parks!
Learn Physics, Animation, History, Leadership, and more
Performing Arts Workshops • Talent Show • Academic Showcase
Rally and Conference Workshops • Curriculum Vendors
Teen Homecoming Dance • Social Activities For All • Custom Tours

RETURNING SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2010
TO ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

Dance • Dream • Learn • Explore

Register Online Today
www.notbacktoschooldays.com

**Perfect
Family
Vacation!**

The discount codes for TLC are as follows: TLCFAM - Saves \$50 on family registration, TLCSNG - saves \$20 off individual registrations.

Mission Statement

To empower students to reach their full potential by providing choice in education within collaborative triads of parents, students, and school.

Check out our website at: www.learningchoice.org

Upcoming Board Meetings

- Tuesday, June 15
- Tuesday, July 20
- Tuesday, August 3
- Tuesday, September 7
- Tuesday, October 5
- Tuesday, November 2

All Board of Directors meetings are open to the public. Agendas will be posted at your local site and on the website the week before each meeting, and meeting minutes are available at your site after board approval at the following meeting. Board meetings are held at 5:30 pm at the TLC La Mesa site.

Upcoming Dates:

May 20	High School Prom
May 24	Post-Testing Party: Murrieta
May 27	Grad Nite
May 28	Field Trip: PETCO Park Tour
June 3	6th Grade Promotion
June 4	Research Showcase & Field Day
June 10	Senior Graduation Ceremony & 8th Grade Promotion
June 11	Field Trip: Knott's Soak City
June 11	Last Day of School
September 8	First Day of School—2010-2011

Have a great summer—we'll see you back next year!

The Chula Vista location will be open during the summer. All other sites will be open some days during the summer, but you should call first if you need to drop by.

Chula Vista 619-656-4200
 La Mesa 619-463-8811
 Scripps Ranch 858-536-8388
 Temecula 951-676-4200

Keep an eye on your email inbox this summer for special bulletins about classes for next year, field trips we're planning, and other interesting information about school and community events. A special newsletter with Full Day information will be mailed in July.