

The Freshman Flyer

Advanced Technologies Academy

"Academics Plus Technology"

Dr. Gunn's Class Winners

By Dr. Gunn

The students in Computer Based Projects with Dr. Gunn recently completed a team project. Each team had to design a product or service that they might sell to others. The teams created company names, logos, business cards, flyers and brochures. Finally, each team had to present their product to the class. Everyone did a fantastic job and the hard work paid off. Be sure to congratulate the winners!

The winner in Period 1 is Crayonitude, the crayon that changes color with your mood. Congrats to **Daniel Tu, Jordan White-Springer, Patricia Atienza, Alexandra Martinez, and Eric Castro!**

The Period 2 winner is Alternative Learning Industries,

"Building homes in heretofore untapped areas" (space, underwater, etc). Hats off to **Klarika Alquisada, Morris Goodrich, and Alexander Baun!**



WOW Incorporated is the winner in Period 4! Wow Wonder Spray, "creating edible food out of anything you choose to spray" was a success! Way to go **Abigail Gamayo, Alexis Severson, and Esmond Fung.**

Epoxy 'R' Us, which makes Squirrel Tape and is the

"Wonder Product of Tomorrow... Today" is the class favorite in Period 5. Great work **Connor Thomas, Nina Tao, Tyler Gottschalk, Patrick Quinn, and Stephen Bankhead!**

G.U.M., which creates gum with temporary side effects like invisibility, energy, knowledge, and mood changes is the winner in Period 6. Hooray for **Carlos Lemus, Gerrit Jamerson, Yesenia Pelayo, Angela Chavez, and Veronica Ambrocio!**

In Period 8, Smiles for Tomorrow, which makes dental products like 'All-in-1 gum', is the winner. Great work **Xavier Mariscal, Cody Kenstler, David Lopez, Austin Souza, and Charlie Tanpanich!**

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Special Dates of Interest:

- February 22nd—Progress Reports distributed in school
- March 9th—Common Test Day—ALL Freshman Students STAY HOME!!!!
- March 23rd—End of Quarter 3
- March 29th—Spring Break
- April 5th—Classes resume

Student Spotlight: Leila Vazquez

By Ms. Johnson

In all my years of teaching and coaching, I have not encountered a female who participates in a male dominant sport. Our very own **Leila Vazquez** wrestles for Western High School!

Leila's weight class is 103 pounds and she has 15 matches this season. Her older brother has been wrestling at Western

for two years and has coaxed his little sister Leila in to the sport.

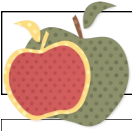
Leila says workouts are hard, but not to the point you want to quit. She says the most valuable lesson she has learned is that anyone can wrestle; it doesn't matter if you are a girl! Her worst moment in the season came when she fainted as a result of not eating before prac-

tice.

Young ladies need to know a little about a lot of things, and are going to be the leaders and trailblazers of tomorrow. Leila is learning early that she has many exciting opportunities ahead of her! Next time you see Leila, make sure you wish her luck for the next match. **Way to go Leila!**

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The Student Spotlight

This month, we have several students in our spotlight; recognized by teachers across subject areas.

Coach Bassett is spotlighting **Sean Mikhail**. He says, “Sean is a very hard-working young man who has excelled in all activities in physical education. Sean is always on time and strives to do his best every day. It is an absolute pleasure to have Sean in my class”. Way to go Sean!

Coach Bassett would also like to recognize **Darion Eshleman**. Darion is a fantastic student with an outstanding work ethic in Physical Education.

Senora Ruggles would like to shine the spotlight on several exemplary students this month. Congratulations to

Ashley Roma, Kenneth Clemente, Gerrit Jamerson, and Stephen Bankhead. Your hard work and dedication in Spanish is recognized and appreciated!

Alexis Alfaro-Martinez, Eileen Salazar, Paloma Guerrero, Angela Chavez, Melissa Monterrosa, and Karol Mapula are proudly recognized by Senora Ruggles for completing outstanding classroom projects and presentations in Spanish class. Way to go!

Ms. Burke is shining the spotlight on **Taylor Demello** this month for her skills on Poetry Out Loud. “She’s an accomplished student and an outstanding performer”, says Ms. Burke. Great work, Taylor!

Roger Josephson is nominated by Ms.

Urena. “He has perfect attendance, excellent work habits, he is respectful of teachers and peers, and helps others with a smile”, says his teacher. Way to go!

Ms. Clifford is recognizing **Ciarra Minter, Cyrill Narcisa, and Johnny On** for excellent grades, strong study skills, great attitude and class participation.

Alexander Tin is being spotlighted by Mr. Stanley for his great leadership skills in Forensics, Mock Trial, Street Law, and for working on the Walker Lake wiki.

Congratulations to all of these hard working students!

Perhaps you'll be listed in our next issue!

Mrs. Guild's Top Ten Typists

Mrs. Guild is pleased to announce the Top Ten Typists in her Computer Based Projects classes. All of these terrific typists can type over 50 words per minute (wpm) with less than 10 errors. This is all without using the backspace key in everyone’s favorite typing torture software: Microtype!

These quick fingered superstars are:

John Caoagas—92 wpm

Jarren Santos—90 wpm

Ron Pai—87 wpm



Weiming Wu—79 wpm

Brandon Pena—67 wpm

Joshua Klimcjak—62 wpm

Cyrill Narcisa—62 wpm

Alexandre Parent—61 wpm

Yuji Imai—60 wpm

Melissa Zhu—58 wpm

Keep up the great work!

No More Homework Stress!

This month, we’re zooming in on homework. Many freshman feel that homework is a nightly struggle.

The following information is adapted from Barbara Hustedt Cook’s article

called “No More Nightly Homework Stress-Really!”

Are you tired of your parents driving you crazy? Is there too much to do and not enough time?

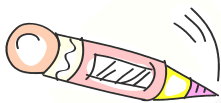


Read over the four kinds of students on the next page! Figure out which description matches you best, and follow the suggestions to ease homework tension!

The Four Kinds of Students—Which one are you?

The Thinker

- Never begins homework without reading the directions
- Needs to see or read things for better understanding
- A perfectionist who hates making mistakes



Conscientious thinkers need thorough instructions. They often take things slow. Studies show that thinkers score well on comprehension tests and excel in math!

Tips:

- **Stay Organized!** Multi-pocket notebooks and planners can make a difference, says Cook.
- **A Quiet Study Area!** Every time a logical brained thinker is interrupted mid-task, he or she has to start all over from the beginning. Thinkers equipped with a quiet study area and study time are sure to avoid this setback!

The Harmonizer

- Has a ton of friends and works hard fitting in
- A good listener who is often the peace-maker
- Sometimes has trouble starting assignments



Harmonizers preferring working and studying with others This is not just because they are social, but because they are auditory learners who find it easiest to absorb information when they hear it.

Tips:

- **Set a Time, and Get a Timer!** Setting a time for homework helps reduce distractions and keeps Harmonizers focused.
- Harmonizers excel socially, but sometimes can struggle academically. **Try tackling shorter and less difficult assignments first.** This will help build confidence and keep you from feeling overwhelmed!

The Communicator

- Excels verbally and in the arts
- Is generally upbeat
- Gets bored easily



Intuitive communicators learn by doing and discussing. Like harmonizers, communicators enjoy studying with others. They are energized just by being in the thick of things. These out-of-the-box personalities don't like doing things by the book!

Tips:

- **Switch Between Tasks!** To help focus a short attention span, try breaking large tasks into a few manageable parts.
- **Make Homework Fun!** Communicators enjoy challenges. For example, see how many math problems you can complete in a 10- minute interval.

The Doer

- Would rather tackle problems head-on than talk about them
- Breezes right through tasks once they are started
- Is driven to achieve in school and activities.



Task oriented doers need to study on their own. They're very focused kids. That must be at least one reason they're often successful!

Tips:

- **Get on the Right Foot!** Read directions carefully and gather supplies first. Doers are often so impatient to get these done, they often forget the details.
- **Narrow Your Options!** Doers can get frustrated with too many options. Narrow our choices down by choosing projects you like.

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“Academics Plus Technology”

*Thank you for reading this month’s edition of the
Freshman Flyer! Another exciting edition will follow
next month!*

**We’re on the
Web!**
www.atech.org

Legal Studies News

By Mr. Stanley

The 9th grade A-TECH Legal Studies students are actively involved in a national project about the Bill of Rights, sponsored by the American Bar Association. The theme is “It’s Nothing to LOL About: How the First Amendment Affects you in the 21st Century”.

The law students are engaged in several different activities that range from writing editorials to creating museum exhibits. All of the activities involve an online discussion with students at other high schools in the country.

The first project is for students to write a newspaper column, television newscast, or radio broadcast that addresses the First Amendment. The students must include interviews with key public figures and peers, and have supporting historical data for their points of view.

Students may elect to form an advocacy campaign that promotes First Amendment rights. They will develop marketing campaigns that educate students about their rights in school using brochures, flyers, websites, and public service announcements.



Students may also choose to create a museum like exhibit that displays First Amendment related local and national

events. They will have to give tours to students and staff, and provide an online tour for the students they’ve been working with online.

Finally, the students can opt to create model legislation. They will have to propose legislation, cite supporting statistics and expert sources, relevant legal precedents, and a brief action plan.

When the projects are complete, the students will be presenting them in class and to the students online.

Hats off to the Legal Studies students for taking on such challenging projects. We look forward to the completed projects!