

# THE RANCH REVIEW

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## Lu-Wow Makes a Come-back



File Photo

Students have a blast at the Lu-Wow of 2008.

**Helen Bae**  
Editor in Chief

Otay Ranch High School's Lu-Wow, hosted by the ASB, will be held on Friday, August 19, from 5 to 10

p.m. on the JV softball/baseball fields. Tickets cover both the Lu-Wow and the dance and are \$6 presale and at the door. There is no ASB sticker discount offered.

"Alumni and students from other schools need

to fill out the guest passes," said Lilly Baylon, ASB commissioner. "The Lu-Wow is open to the public though."

A variety of school clubs will be selling foods, drinks, and other goods and the ASB will also hold game booths that will offer small prizes to winners.

The Lu-Wow will be family-oriented so appropriate rules and guidelines apply.

"You shouldn't be cussing," said Cielie Neitzelt, ASB commissioner. "Follow the same guidelines that you would for school."

Performances will begin at 5:45 and will feature those by the Nani Girls, Kinectons, Playrockers, Ry pe and Raw, Natural Vibes, Mental Opposition, Lexi Pulido, among many others. The dance will begin at 8:30 and end at 10.

Funds raised by ticket sales will be deposited in the ASB general fund.

"The money goes to school functions, such as sporting events," said Danielle Rimando, ASB commissioner.

Last year, the Summer Bash/Lu-Wow was cancelled due to renovations on the baseball fields. In its place, the Multicultural Fair was held in the school pavilion.

"We wanted to have available other activities for the school," said Neitzelt. "The Multicultural Fair was an example of that."

The Multicultural Fair was successful, but a bigger turnout is expected for Friday's Lu-Wow.

"People should go to promote school spirit," said Marissa Velasquez, ASB commissioner. "ASB's working hard since we haven't had Lu-Wow in a while."

## 800+ Beyond Success!

**Sujin Shin**  
Features Editor

Otay Ranch High School successfully hit and went beyond its goal to reach an overall API score of 800. Mustangs received a projected API of about 815.

"API is a formula that takes into consideration our attendance, overall performance, and improvement that each subgroup, students with disabilities, whites, Asians, et cetera made," said Teresa Kramer, assistant

principal.

ORHS has put a lot of emphasis on getting high CST scores for the past few years.

"The scores are shared with the community, and parents are deciding where to send their kids depending on each school's API; it's almost like we're competing with other schools for our kids, and we want to keep our kids," said Ms. Kramer.

Not only is getting a high CST score important for the school, it's important

for its students.

"Students should be serious about CSTs to do well because the score will go on their transcripts, which will be seen by colleges," said Ms. Kramer. "It won't determine whether or not students will be accepted into that college, but it gives kids bragging rights."

Achieving high CST scores doesn't go ignored at ORHS; there are many rewards and incentives for kids to do well.

"We celebrated the 30 point gain last

year with free ice cream and extended lunch with music and performances," said Ms. Kramer.

Students who performed well will get similar rewards this year.

ORHS doesn't plan on stopping now that it successfully achieved its goal. 800 is a state minimum with the No Child Left Behind program.

"We always want a higher goal! We want to hit at least 850 this year," said Ms. Kramer. "We danced. When Mr. Brosz told us, we cheered, we danced."

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# Dr. Brand Steps In



**Miin Choi**  
News Editor

On June 20, 2011, Dr. Jesus Gandara was fired at a board meeting at Southwest High School in front of approximately 50 parents and district employees. Dr. Gandara had been the Sweetwater Union High School District (SUHSD) superintendent since 2006. His separation from the SUHSD will become permanent

on September 1, 2011.

Dr. Gandara had been charged of misusing a district credit card and hiring two public relations consultants without the board's approval. This situation caused an uproar in the district among parents and employees, and there has been talk of corruption.

The Sweetwater Board of Trustees voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Edward Brand as the acting district superintendent. He will hold the position for one year or until a permanent replacement is found.

"The faculty and staff within the district are very hard working people, and they deserve a lot of credit for the great things that have been going on. Unfortunately, there's been a few bumps and those bumps resulted in people feeling frustrated, maybe not feeling like they were listened to as much as they could've

been," said Dr. Brand.

In fact, Dr. Brand is not new to the district – he is a former district superintendent who served from 1995 to 2005.

"I was a teacher, coach, assistant principal, associate superintendent and then superintendent for 11 years, so I know a lot about the district. It's been a great place and it's a very important organization for me, personally and professionally," said Dr. Brand.

In 2004, he founded Compact for Success, a program that guarantees admission to San Diego State University for all district graduates who meet academic benchmarks and attain a 3.0 GPA. For this achievement Dr. Brand was named Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators. The Compact for Success has become a unique attribute of the SUHSD.

"The district is known for innovation, for valuing diversity, our fine arts program, our Robotics; we're known for the tremendous growth in test scores," said Dr. Brand. "These other little issues are just bumps in the road and our expectation is we'll be back on top and get our swagger back, which is what we're used to being and what we're used to doing."

Dr. Brand is working with the SUHSD to increase communication between the district and the community. Several community forums and luncheons have already been held and have been successful.

"I'm hoping that we can return to that environment where we encourage debate and we encourage people to give us their opinions," said Dr. Brand, "because I believe collective wisdom is much better than any one individual. A place where people feel like they're being valued even if it doesn't always go their way – that's the kind of the environment that I would like to help create and I think we're beginning to do that."

## Dress for Success!

**Ryan Corpus**  
A&E Editor

Remember Mustangs, dressing for success is important so here's a little reminder on how to dress for school.

Students may not wear anything gang affiliated, provocative, alcohol and drug related, or sexually explicit. Girls may not wear anything that shows too much skin such as half shirts, strapless shirts, or anything with a low neckline. Boys may not wear anything undershirt-like, such as muscle shirts or tank tops. Hats can finally be worn on campus but may not be worn in classrooms.

"The hat policy is on trial and so far the students are doing a good job on this," said Esther Wise, assistant principal.

**There are many ways to look fashionable and still follow the dress code so check out page 10 for some tips and fashion advice on how to dress.**

# Residency Fiasco

**Daseul Lee**  
Opinion Editor

On July 20, approximately 450 people were in the gym due to residency problems. Some students waited fifteen minutes while other students waited almost the whole day.

"There are so many problems with residency because there are about 2,750 students every year at Otay. It's hard to get the papers organized with so many students turning in their papers with incomplete signatures or turning in their papers late. Six or seven scenarios could happen with residency problems. Some kids don't turn in papers until

the first day of school. Even though our gym looked packed, our residency was cleared better compared to other SUHSD schools. Students and parents should watch out for phone calls, mails, and announcements from the school regarding residency," said Esther Wise, assistant principal at Otay Ranch High School.

Even though there seemed to be many problems with residency, ORHS had the least amount of residency problems compared to other SUHSD schools.

"We have 2,750 students and from all of those students we only had 450 that needed

to be cleared. In comparison to other schools that needed 1,000 students cleared, we did pretty well," said Ms. Wise.

Even though most of the residency problems seem to have been solved, there are still about 100 students who still need to get their TDAP shots in order to prevent whooping cough from permeating throughout the school.

"The deadline for TDAP shots is August 19. You can go to a local pharmacy at stores such as Vons and Ralphs and ask the pharmacist if he or she can give you a TDAP shot," said Lynnette Martinez, school nurse.

# Special Senior Yearbooks

**Jiyoung Park**  
Staff Writer

The senior yearbook is going to have an extended section only for seniors. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will receive the regular edition of the yearbook.

Seniors will be able to buy the senior edition yearbook at the ASB for \$65 until September 26.

"The reason why you should buy a senior yearbook is because it helps build your senior year and make it special. It makes it personal to you. You can have a special yearbook for yourself, your memories, and it will even have the Alma Mater on the last page. It will be the last thing you will look at," said a senior.

Seniors will not be able to purchase the senior edition yearbook after fall break. If the seniors want to buy the regular yearbook, which is the same price as the senior yearbook, they can still buy it after break.

## 2012 Senior CLASS OFFICERS



**Danielle Dimacali**  
President



**Darcy Aguayo**  
Vice President



**Viktoria Gregorio**  
Secretary



**Jerica Dones**  
Treasurer

**2013 Class Officers:**  
**Alex Lagman**, President  
**Daniela Tellez**, Vice President  
**Krista Guerrero**, Secretary  
**Darren Paraiso**, Treasurer

**2014 Class Officers:**  
**Angela Delos Santos**, President  
**Celine Gacad**, Vice President  
**Kayla Sides**, Secretary  
**Serena Wang**, Treasurer

**2015 Class Officers:**  
**LeAnn Mendoza**, President  
**Liza Blevins**, Vice President  
**John Pita**, Secretary  
**Sharon Kang**, Treasurer