



## **College Bound San Diego 2004-05**

*An Educational Component of Concerned Parents Alliance, Inc. (CPA)*

September 2004 – May 2005



College Bound San Diego -- an educational component of Concerned Parents Alliance, Inc. is committed to serving students and families in offering a unique approach to college counseling, development of study and success skills, parental involvement, community service, black history, cultural awareness, career exploration and exposure to a variety of Colleges and Universities.

### **History of the Concerned Parents Alliance (CPA)**

The Concerned Parents Alliance (CPA) is a non-profit community based organization that was founded by Mr. Phillip Willis, Jr. and Dr. Darlene V. Willis in June, 2002. As Parents of two African American males within the Poway Unified School District, it became obvious that there were challenges for Students, Staff and Parents and very little preventive methods being utilized. In fact, it became noticeable that a reactive approach was becoming the norm in addressing issues within the district.

Realizing that children are true blessings and are only children for a finite period of time, the Willis' began talking to other Parents and quickly discovered issues of safety, diversity, college preparation, drugs, alcohol, communication to parents, etc.. It was evident that a parent coalition needed to be formed in order to be pro-active in developing a "true" partnership between PUSD and Parents. College Bound San Diego was formed as an educational component of CPA to ensure our children's educational foundation is created and built upon. Statistics throughout San Diego indicate that African American children are not fulfilling the a-g requirements, taking advanced placement classes, or doing well on the educational tests. The bottom line is African American and Latino children are having major challenges in the educational arena and it is our responsibility to empower more Parents to ensure this cycle ceases.

Membership is open to any Parent, Student, Faculty, Staff, Administrator and/or Community member that cares enough to deal with issues that impact our children within the educational arena. Currently, our membership consists of engaged and resourceful Parents throughout the San Diego County. We are all committed to our children and respect our diverse backgrounds and experiences. Our common bond is our children.

CPA is known for taking action and holding people accountable. We want districts to value Students, include Parents in the communication lines and to ensure that children fulfill the college requirements in order to advance to an institution of higher learning. It is imperative that Parents stay involved as our children pursue their educational dreams. CPA is committed to ensuring quality service is provided and that "no child is left behind."

CPA challenges all Parents to open and/or enhance the lines of communication with our children, support their educational journey and most importantly demand that our children are "safe, appreciated, valued and provided access to a quality education." Get involved TODAY, Tomorrow may be too late! Additional information may be obtained by visiting our website at <http://www.geocities.com/jcwcpa2001/cpa.html>

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## **CBSD Background**

College Bound San Diego is an educational component of Concerned Parents Alliance, Inc. It began as a direct response to the Poway Unified School District's disaggregated data listed in the 2003 State of the District's Report. 2003 was the first year of this educational component and it ended the academic year with success. 100% graduation rate and all of our engaged seniors are going on to institutions of higher learning.

## **Participants**

Priority is given to 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents that care about their education and have a desire to commit themselves to the CBSD educational journey. We are only recruiting serious students that believe education is a priority and have a strong desire to attend an institution of higher education. Parents and Students are required to attend ALL workshops.

## **Workshop Location**

Workshops will be held at Westview High School – 13500 Camino Del Sur, San Diego, CA 92129

## **Monthly Workshops**

Workshops will take place every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month from 8:15 a.m. - 12 Noon. 8:15 – 8:30 will be utilized for eating a continental breakfast and networking with peers and colleagues. All workshops will begin promptly at 8:30am. Workshops will be held on the following dates:

September 11, 2004	January 8, 2005
October 9, 2004	March 12, 2005
December 11, 2004	May 14, 2005

*Please note: Workshops will not be held on the months CBSD travels to various colleges and universities.*

## **Registration**

All participants are required to complete an application packet and submit a \$35.00 non-refundable program fee.

## **Attendance**

Students AND Parents are required to attend each monthly workshop. Students will be excused when taking educational testing such as SAT and ACT if it falls on the same day as CBSD. Attending an athletic event is not an excused absence. All Parents are encouraged to speak with athletic coaches indicating that his/her child is committed every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month for educational enhancement opportunities. Students are only allowed to have one unexcused

monthly workshop. Missing more than one workshop may lead to the participant being terminated out of the program.

## **College/University Tours**

CBSD offers customized college tours throughout the year. Last year, CBSD toured over 21 Colleges and Universities and visited political environments such as Sacramento Capitol and the Washington D.C arena. This year, our tours are just as diverse and we plan to visit 20 plus institutions of higher education. Only active and engaged students may attend these tours and participants must attend all CBSD workshops to be eligible. There are limited spaces for parents, at your own expense, and only if space allows. The costs of the college tours will be determined and based upon fundraising efforts. Non-refundable deposits will be required with non-negotiable deadlines. Detailed information will be provided and distributed to the parents by the program executive board.

## **Book Club**

CBSD believes in reading! All students and parents will be required to read a book a month and participate in the book reading discussion held during the village meeting.

## **Community Service**

Each student is required to participate in 50-100 hours of community service. CBSD often commits to volunteer programs such as the breast cancer walk, Special Olympics, reading to the elderly, financial workshops, etc.

## **Program Materials**

Each student should bring a pen, pencil, notebook and an open mind to learn.

## **Tracks**

CBSD consists of 4 tracks – Middle School, High School, seniors and Parents.

## **Components**

Each student will be assigned a track and must actively engage themselves into the following components: **Black History, Career Exploration, College Readiness, Cultural Awareness, Public Speaking, Senior Seminar and Village Meeting**

### ***Black History***

All students will learn about the contributions and successes of African Americans. This component often focuses on Black Inventors and provides interactive opportunities re-living the effort it took for the inventor to develop a product, service, etc.

### ***Career Exploration***

African American professionals are invited to attend CBSD and candidly discuss the pros and cons of their careers.

### ***College Readiness***

Graduating seniors will receive their customized class focusing on applications, resumes, personal statements, college research, deadlines and financial aid, scholarship information. Middle School and High School students will receive hands on and interactive information regarding college preparation. Topics range from college selection to college portfolio.

### ***Cultural Awareness***

An opportunity to learn about the contributions of all cultures.

### ***Public Speaking***

All students will be given the opportunity to master public speaking skills.

### ***Senior Seminar***

Graduating high school seniors will receive one on one assistance with college research, college applications, personal statements, financial aid and scholarship information and community service opportunities.

## **Village Meeting**

Gathering of all students and parents, reciting of commitment pledges, updates, talent and public speaking opportunity and book reading follow-up

## **Parent Track**

Parents are required to attend the workshops with their student(s). The parent track focuses on issues such as parenting skills, financial aid, college applications, a-g requirements, and topics related to successfully getting your child through K-12 and succeeding in a University/College environment.

Additional Information may be obtained by calling 858-484-1532 or 858-538-4620