

Ladera Vista Honor's Parent Association Meet to Raise Awareness and Funds

by Peter Fong

Parents of Ladera Vista Jr. High Honor Students met on Feb. 8, at the school. The meeting was chaired by Ms. MJ Noor, president of the LV Honor's Parent Association, "An organization dedicated to the growth and advancement of your gifted student." Principal John Albert was in attendance along with sixteen parents for the hour-long meeting.

The guest speaker was Janny Catlin Meyer, former GATE teacher at FSD and current FSD Board Member. Ms. Meyer's presentation to the parents and guests provided practical ideas for parents and teachers to guide their child through the GATE/honors program. She highlighted her presentation with excerpts from "Helping Gifted Children Soar." The presentation was well received by the parents/guests. Ms. Meyer suggested the parents invite guest speakers in to speak to the classes on topical issues that will benefit the students in their future academic and personal endeavors.

Currently, FSD earmarks \$101,868 from the general fund for GATE with only 1% or \$1,325 allocated for conferences and training of the GATE teachers.

Ms. Noor, paraphrased a *California Association for the Gifted* publication article stating that ...the sole federal program for gifted students was eliminated in 2011, leaving not a single federal education dollar to address the learning needs of advanced students, including those from disadvantaged background.

Thus, to fill the gap, the Honor's Parent Association is calling for donations ranging from a Bronze donation of \$20 to a Platinum donation of \$500. The donations will go directly to advance honor student classes and enrichment programs (e.g. field trips, etc.). Donors are asked to reply by February 29, 2012. If you would like to make a donation to the group or ask questions send an email to LVHonorAssoc@gmail.com.