



Press Release

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CHRIS CHIANG Teacher of the Year Monta Vista High School



SUNNYVALE, CA Chris Chiang was named Teacher of the Year for 2009-2010 from Monta Vista High School by the Fremont Union High School District Board of Trustees at its meeting on March 16, 2010. Chris' first teaching position was at Monta Vista High School in 2004, but he moved to New York City in 2005. After teaching there for two years, Chris came back to Monta Vista where he currently teaches world history, economics, government, and also teaches/coaches the Government Team.

"Chris' energy, enthusiasm, and creativity have us all in awe!" stated April Scott, Monta Vista High School Principal. "Those characteristics are true in the classroom, as part of the staff leadership team, while working with campus wide issues, and when conducting staff trainings. We were worried when he left Monta Vista a few years ago to move to New York City. How lucky for us that he decided to return to California....but more importantly to Monta Vista. He is amazing."

Chris Chiang says that what he loves most about teaching is how much he learns about his students, himself, and the subject matter of social science. "I am so proud to be part of profession where there is no plateau...each year I can and will learn to become a better teacher," said Chris. "My favorite moments at Monta Vista are watching students feel accomplished and happy. I am lucky to see that often with Government Team and around campus whenever I take a breather to see the beautiful things students do around campus."

Monta Vista High School's Government Team is a 1-1 laptop project-based government and economics course in which students in teams of four to six present simulated real government projects. Chris has taught/coached the Gov Team for two years. The team competes in the "We the People" competition on the Constitution and completes a moot court at Stanford Law School in the fall. In the spring, the Gov Team completes a field study in Washington DC where they research and advocate for public policy in Congress and research and attend a Supreme Court case. Here is a link to a "New York Times" story about the Gov Team's trip to Washington DC earlier this month: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/03/us/03line.html?scp=1&sq=monta%20vista&st=cse>.

Chris Chiang's interests outside of school are still in education policy, especially in urban education and instructional technology. He has been a Google Certified Teacher since 2006 and travels to New York each year to keep up with the reforms there. Chris met his wife Marisa while teaching in New York City and she is also a teacher. He completed his undergraduate work at UC Irvine, and holds graduate degrees from Stanford University and Columbia University.

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