Coral is Expanding!

CASLV is excited to be opening two new campuses for the 2016-2017 school year. We have successfully grown to capacity over the last few years while serving our students and their families. With such a large waiting list, we saw a need for expansion throughout the Las Vegas Valley. One of the new locations is in Centennial Hills and the other is at Nellis Air Force Base. Both will be serving K-5th grades and will each have space for 600 more students. This will bring CASLV to a total of 5 campuses providing children with a stellar and rigorous education which will be sure to bring out the best in each child’s potential. With this expansion, CASLV will be the largest and most successful Charter School in NV and we owe all of this success to our families, students, faculty, and community.

Online applications for the both existing and new campuses are available now. The lottery for these spaces will take place on February 29, 2016.

We will also be adding a gym to our Sandy Ridge Campus to better serve those students as well. And of course, we are still seeking another Henderson location to open up.

The Washington Post

The Washington Post Rated Coral Academy of Science on their list of America’s Most Challenging High Schools. CASLV Ranked #2 in State of Nevada and #148 in the Nation

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A Message from the Executive Director

Hello Coral Families,

It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the school year and what a great year it has been so far. Second quarter report cards will be sent home on January 22, 2016. I strongly encourage you to go over your child’s report card with her/him and contact your child’s teacher to discuss your child’s academic progress if you have concerns. A grade below a “C” requires automatic Academic Probation period until their grades improve. We provide these students tutoring by their teachers and they check-in with them weekly to ensure success.

I would also like to personally thank our parents, families, students, and PTO for all of their continued support and hard work! The PTO holds monthly meetings to develop activities to best support our students. All of their tireless efforts ensure our Coral kids get the best educational experience possible. Be sure to come to PTO meetings to get involved if you are available.

Our Around the World Festival in October was a huge success. We had our largest turnout yet as many students, parents, and members of the community joined us to celebrate and learn more about other cultures in a fun and educational environment. Thank you to all our dedicated staff and volunteers who make this event spectacular each and every year.

Coral Academy of Las Vegas will proudly host Math Kangaroo 2016 at the Sandy Ridge Campus on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 5:00 pm. This contest is a nationwide math contest which gives its participants an understanding of where they stand academically compared to his/her peers from the grade level within the entire country. The competition is for grades 1-12 and students will receive prizes and recognition with the top awards including an all expenses paid international summer math camps and/or college grants. We hope to see you all at Math Kangaroo competition.

CASLV also held the MathMatters competition in November with students from all over the Las Vegas valley. Our very own students impressively took 11 of the top 20 spaces! Congratulations are in order to all of our students who participated in this fun and educational event.

Our Winter Concert series also had great attendance at all three campuses as students played music and sang songs that they have been practicing all semester. The music teachers and their pupils did a phenomenal job and we are so proud of their hard work. Thank you, Falcon Families, for always supporting your child’s activities, their self-esteem, and our staff.

I would like to extend a very special thank you to all of our Falcon Families, students, supporters, and staff for their toy donations for the kids at the Shade Tree shelter. We far exceeded our goal due to your generosity. You have shown the community that CASLV cares.

Please make sure to check Facebook, www.CASLV.org, and Twitter for updates throughout the year. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ercan,
Executive Director
Hello CASLV Family,

As our school year flies by, our students, faculty, and staff have been busy. We hosted a Veteran’s Day event and the Around the World Festival. The Social Studies Fair was full of wonderful history displays. We are also excited to be able to introduce a new requirement for high school graduation. The Community Service Requirement is to promote goodwill and kindness throughout our community one act at a time. CASLV promotes community involvement and the sharing of our time and talents to help those less fortunate or in need. All requirements and forms along with specific opportunities to serve the community are available on our website at CASLV.org.

Mr. Gunozu, MA
Site Director

Dear CASLV Families,

It can be difficult for kids and parents to balance school with other commitments. Communication with your child’s teacher is critical. We completed Parent/Teacher conferences on November 5th. However, if you would like to schedule a conference with your child’s teacher, please contact them as soon as possible. We recently celebrated student success in first quarter with free dress passes and trips to the Green Valley Ranch buffet for those who earned a 4.0 GPA. We also need to make sure those who were not as successful can make a positive change for next quarter. Letters were sent home to parents of students with grades below C for 1st quarter detailing our Academic Probation program. These students must attend tutoring with their teacher and check in with them weekly to ensure they will improve their grade for 2nd quarter. If you are unsure what to do, just contact your child’s teacher.

There are so many activities happening all the time at CASLV! Here are a few of them that we have already done:

- Our A-Stem Math team joined ‘Harvard MIT Math Tournament’ (HMMT) with three teams in Boston, MA. One of our teams got 13th place among 150 teams from around the world. In addition to the contest, students had a Boston tour, visited Harvard and MIT, and had fun.
- We held a food drive and enjoyed a free dress day for exceeding our donation goals.
- Student Council students went to Catalina, CA to help clean, protect and preserve the island. Thanks to them for such a great job.

It is an honor to be part of this community filled with such involved and caring parents and students. We are also thankful to have such dedicated teachers and staff!

Mr. Lindstrum
MS Dean of Academics
alindstrum@coralacademylv.org

Mr. Serdar,
HS Dean of Academics
CMLP Coordinator
syuksek@coralacademylv.org
Upcoming Events
All Campus
Jan 18 - Martin L. King Jr. Day - No School
Jan 22 - Report Cards sent home
Feb 12 - PD Day #3 - No School
Feb 15 - Presidents’ Day 19 - No School
Feb 19 - Progress Report #3
Mar 21 to Mar 25 - Spring Break
Mar 17 - End of 3rd Quarter (1/2 Day)
Mar 18 - PD Day #4
Tamarus
Feb 1 & 2 - Science Fair
Feb 6 - Open House 11 am-1 pm
Jan. 19 – 2nd Semester Club Signups
Windmill
Jan 19 - Candy-gram sales begin
Jan 30 - Open House 10 am - Noon
Sandy Ridge
Jan 23 - Open House
Grades 6 – 8 at 10 am-11:30 am
Grades 9-12 at Noon - 1:30 pm
Jan 30, Feb 20, & Apr 9 - Job Fairs
Mar 17 at 5:00 pm - Math Kangaroo

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas Announces
New Chief Academic Officer, Candyce Farthing

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas (CASLV) proudly announced Candyce Farthing as the new chief academic officer. In this position, she is responsible for overseeing and improving the educational growth of the school as well as providing leadership, vision, and strategic direction for the academic life of CASLV. Farthing prides herself on her high teaching standards and belief in engaging with each individual student. Furthermore, her position is instrumental to overseeing the expansion of CASLV into new areas of Southern Nevada.

Farthing has 14 years of experience in the field of education. She has held positions ranging from 4th to 8th grade teacher to principal at a virtual school to lead administrator. Most recently, as the executive director at Oregon Connections Academy (ORCA), Farthing managed the faculty in all departments of the school and developed goals and action plans to further academic success for students. This resulted in a 25 percent increased graduation rate for the school.

Farthing received her Masters of Education in Curriculum Instruction from George Fox University in 2006. She can be reached at cfarthing@coralacademylv.org

At Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, we let our instructors do what they do best, teach! We work with our instructors to make sure they have all the tools they need to teach our students using the best practices and latest training. If you would like to join our award-winning team, check out http://www.caslv.org/jobs/ or come to our job fairs on Jan 30, Feb 20, & Apr 9. All Job fairs are from 10am 3pm.
The CASLV Falcon Speech & Debate Team coached by CASLV teacher, Amanda Sloan, did an amazing job again! This season, the students competed in one of the biggest tournaments of the year and did a stellar job. These amazing students took prizes home in every competition they went to! Great job, team!

Daven Sohng’s submission to the Happy Times Calendar Contest, sponsored by Silver State Credit Union, has been selected as the art for December 2016. This makes the 6th year in a row that a CASLV student has won a position in the calendar. Thousands of artworks are submitted and it is an honor to be selected. Congrats, Daven!

A big congratulations is in store for our very own 8th grade student, Ishani Meeks. Her artwork was entered into the Lions Club Peace Poster contest and she has been selected as one of the regional winners! Her poster will now be submitted into the international contest where the first place winner will earn $5,000! Congratulations again, Ishani and good luck at the International level!

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Toy Drive

CASLV and their Falcon Families extended its arms out into the community to lend a helping hand. CASLV teachers, staff, and administration came together to help those in need at the Shade Tree facility near Downtown Las Vegas. Those who volunteered were able to witness and experience the true holiday spirit of giving and serving. Hundreds of toys were passed out to children, and even more toys were donated to The Shade Tree for use during this holiday season. Overall, CASLV collected over 500 toys for children and families housed at the Shade Tree. Thank you to all teachers, falcon families, students, and staff who helped facilitate the collection of these wonderful toys.

After the toy giveaway, CASLV staff also showed their support by helping serve food, cleaning and waiting on tables, and simply mingling with the Shade Tree clients during dinner time.

Halloween Parade

This October, the Tamarus campus was home to the cutest ghosts and ghouls you’ve ever seen as they had their annual Halloween Parade. The students wound their way along the trick-or-treat path where volunteers were on hand to make sure each student got their own treat. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who made this event spooktacular!

Alumni Luncheon

CASLV organized its fourth annual Alumni Thanksgiving Reunion Luncheon. 29 alumni participated in our biggest reunion ever. We enjoyed celebrating their achievements with them and reminiscing about the good old days at CASLV. It was great seeing where these graduates lives have taken them and what their future plans are. What a great day it was! Thank you all for taking the time to join us and to our staff who helped make this possible each year.

Sandy Ridge Student council and NHS teamed up to help promote this year’s Food Drive. CASLV met their goal of bringing in 1,000 items earning the entire school a free dress pass!
MathMatters Update

Congratulations to all of the winners at the MathMatters 2015 Contest. 4th and 5th graders from all over the Las Vegas valley came out to compete and earn prizes and CASLV was proud to host the contest again. The audience and students were entertained by Mad Scientists and enjoyed the hands-on activities. Of the top 20 student winners, 11 were a CASLV student (in bold below)! That is phenomenal achievement and speaks to the dedication, hard work, and educational program that the students and teachers have always been known for. A special thank you for all the parents, students, staff, and volunteers that made this event wonderful!

1. Antonio M
2. Frank A
3. Raymond Z
4. Merve Aydogdu
5. Marcus V Coligado
6. Isaac Doroshow
7. Sanjeev Chundu
8. Idan A Bar-Yosef
9. Joshua Y
10. Aashrith Chejerla
11. Sean O
12. Aaron Thirinthong
13. Madison M
14. Shani A
15. Tayden H Nguyen
16. Varun S
17. Shane W
18. Brian S Vott
19. Michael A Crowley
20. Vidya Indrakumar

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Dear CASLV Families,

A Message from the Site Director

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fine vacation and are looking forward with enthusiasm to the new semester. I can’t believe how fast the first semester has flown by. We had a wonderful semester with your support. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered at Halloween Festival, Book Fair, and Winter Concerts and made these events very successful. I also would like to thank parents who participated these events. There was more than 75% attendance in all of these events. Many thanks to our parents who donated money for tablet fundraising in some classes, and special thanks to our PTO for purchasing a sound system that we used in our winter concerts.

Next to the quest for peace, our nation's most important goal is the development of a high-quality educational enterprise that will prepare all youngsters for life in a fast-changing and complex world. The focus of the future should be on service and excellence. We are pleased, as employees of CASLV, to have the opportunity to serve and work with your children. It is our privilege and our challenge as educators to strive continually to provide quality education in our classrooms.

We invite our parents to volunteer at the school. There are many tasks that volunteers can perform. If you are interested in helping out, please email me at eeraslan@coralacademylv.org. We thank you for your continued support as we look toward a bright and promising year for our children.

Let’s work together to be collaborative, communicative, and supportive of one another.

Best Regards,

Emrullah Eraslan

Windmill Site Director

CASLV is proud to announce that CASLV Sandy Ridge Location is going to be a public center for the 2016 Math Kangaroo USA which will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 5:00 pm. The competition is for grades 1-12 and students will receive a t-shirt, prizes, and recognition for all participants. Top awards include all expenses paid international summer math camps and college grants. This contest is a nationwide math contest which gives its participants an understanding of where they stand academically compared to his/her peers from the grade level within the entire country. We hope to see you all at Math Kangaroo competition!
Staff Highlights

The Sandy Ridge Front Desk Team

November’s Faculty of the Month is actually a team of ladies who always go above and beyond to help out other faculty and students. Congratulations to the Front Office Team which consists of: Cathy Ranstrom, Deb Freeth, & Sheila Flores. Deb’s comment clearly sums up why they are so deserving of this award, “I appreciate the culture that emanates from the CASLV family. There is a sense of collegiality with those around me. Assisting and interacting with administration, teachers, students, and parents is rewarding.” All of us at CASLV appreciate you three for everything you do for our students and staff each and every day which makes our jobs easier and brighter.

Amanda Sloan

CASLV has some of the most amazing teachers and each month we feature an exemplary educator who goes above and beyond. This month it is Social Studies Department Head, Amanda Sloan who spends countless weekends and after school hours training and judging debate competitions with her two teams. She feels her debate team is such an amazing group of students that they make all the hard work and time spent worth it. Their knowledge of world events and desire to improve the world make me excited for what the future generations will accomplish. Her students are prepared for college, as they have learned the critical thinking and leadership skills which will serve them well throughout their lives.

Mrs. Sloan loves teaching because she loves watching students come to a better understanding and helping them grow as learners. She feels that when they have an "A-ha" moment it is truly amazing feeling knowing she helped them reach it. In her free time she likes to spend time with her husband and daughter camping, fishing, and other outdoor adventures. She enjoys reading the news and watching political shows, especially the recent presidential debates. “Once a speech and debate nerd always a speech and debate nerd”, she says of herself.

Thank you to Mrs. Sloan, our October Teacher of the Month, for all that you do for CASLV students!
Dear Coral Family,

**A Message from the Site Director**

We have officially begun the new year, and Coral Academy has a lot planned for 2016. We will be experiencing various changes this year, changes for the better. As Coral Academy improves and expands, we have the parents, students, and community members to thank for establishing our school as one of the most highly prolific institutions in the Las Vegas valley as well as the state of Nevada. Since Coral Academy’s humble beginnings over eight years ago, I have had the pleasure of seeing our school grow into and organization that can be proud of achieving a 5-star status along with the highest level of achievement I have ever witnessed, and I am excited to see how our journey unfolds in the years to come. Thank you for continuing to support our school to be as successful as we are. We truly have a wonderful Coral Academy family.

Your friendly neighborhood director,

Mr. Yutuc (jyutuc@coralacademylv.org)

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Student of the Month Award Winners

At Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas, we have some amazing students which we believe deserve recognition for all their exceptional abilities so we have launched a new Student of the Month program. These students exemplify all that CASLV has to offer. In addition, we will feature a couple students each month to highlight on www.CASLV. Please be sure to congratulate these wonderful students and keep your eyes out for our upcoming student highlights! We are proud of each and every one of you for your achievements. Keep up the good work!!!

October’s Students of the Month:
Daniel Roth II
Alex Hampton
Jonas Cooper
Michael Phillips III
Rameen Qadeer
Lindsay Pool

Kathryn Hamilton
Samantha Mandel
Seth Alejandre
Kyle Salas
Dax Prosky
Taimur Khalid

November’s Students of the Month:
Olivia Garcia
Momoka Utsumi
Marah Leigh Jaskiel
Mateo Scisciento
Sanjay Shankar
Salomee Levy
Zia Makhathini
Makenna King
Michael Moreland
Alex Rolando Velasquez

PTO hosted a luncheon, with food from The Crazy Pita, for all teachers and staff in December. We also enjoyed a bit of hijinks with a White Elephant Exchange. It was a nice time for all of us to be together before Winter Break. Thank you, PTO!!!

Valentine’s Day CANDY GRAMS
Send a personalized Valentine’s Day Candy Gram—A Great Way to Show You Care!

Sold by Communications Club members during 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade lunch recess in the Snack Shack. $0.50 EACH
Delivery: Thursday, February 11th

WINDMILL CAMPUS ONLY
*ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE SCHOOL SPRING DANCE!!!

Coral Raises Money...Mr. Yutuc Gets Pied

During the month of November, CASLV PTO sponsored and hosted a Cookie Dough Fundraiser to help raise money for the Tamarus Campus. Well, the kids got fired up, and the Tamarus Campus raised over $6000 for the school. The top sellers were given a special reward in the form of throwing a pie in Mr. Yutuc’s face. Over forty students were able to take pleasure in smashing shaving cream on the director’s face, some a little too much. Thank you to PTO for facilitating the entire fundraiser. Great job Coral students!!

Dedicated Parent Paints Space Mural

Many of our parents relaxed, traveled, or routinely worked at their place of employment during Winter Break. However, Bill Atkinson, 2nd grade parent and artist extraordinaire, spent significant time at the Tamarus Campus to provide a gift to the school in the form of a mural. Just inside the main hallway, a giant mural depicting space is so elegantly and creatively displayed. CASLV’s location is also highlighted, but not only nationally or even globally, but also universally as well. The mural will also be interactive, as we are planning for both students and teachers to provide some additions to the skillful work of art. Great job Bill, and we thank you for your dedication, support, and artistic expertise.

#MEMORIES
Want to See Yourself in the Yearbook?
Post your CASLV #MEMories on Instagram or Twitter using #CASLV2016 to be included in this year’s Social Yearbook! Find us in Twitter @CASLVYearbook and Instagram @CASLV_Yearbook
This winter, each campus held their annual Winter Concert to showcase all the hard work of the students and their music teachers. The students sang and played their instruments for a packed crowd of Falcon Families! This was an amazing concert and CASLV thanks all of you for your support. We can’t wait to see you at the Spring Concert!
Sandy Ridge Counselors Corner

As a licensed therapist, I communicate with students and parents regarding their child’s emotional well-being. Adolescence and the teenage years are inherently difficult to navigate. When given the right tools, a student can become very good at learning how to handle any situation either themselves or with a trusted resource.

For this newsletter, I have put together an overview of setting expectations at home and for school so that everyone wins. This year alone, I have met with many students and their parents who are struggling with miscommunication and getting on the same page. Students feel overwhelmed with school, home, and social lives that it is easy to forget to communicate with those most important to them. Parents struggle with trying to understand their child during this transitional stage of life and sometimes this lack of understanding leads to further perpetuated miscommunication and strife in the relationship.

Expectations are typically the root of miscommunication. As parents, we have expectations of our children, typically for their benefit, but sometimes we struggle with what it means for our child to achieve those expectations on a daily basis. Students sometimes feel that lofty expectations are demotivating because they easily lose sight of the end goal and lose motivation to push forward. The good news is that there are many ways in which parents and their children can come to an agreement about weekly expectations in order to reach a common goal together. This process encourages communication and growth together so that the parent/child relationship can evolve as the child/teen grows into adulthood.

Some best practices associated to setting expectations are sitting down and doing them together. A parent and child can make an agreement on weekly expectations for home and school life and both sign off on it. Then, the parent can hold the child accountable for this agreement daily by offering a reward system for completing goals. For example, if a daily goal is to show the parent completed homework or a teacher signed planner indicating no homework then the child can earn 30 min of TV time for the next day. These types of agreements can be tailored to your child and their needs. The best part about this is that you get to create it together and by doing that, there is a level of buy in for both the parent and the child. Another best practice is to frequently check-in with each other. Life is full of ups and down and everyday obligations that we often times forget to spend time making sure those around us are doing okay. All it takes is spending 10 minutes alone with each other; no phones, no disruptions, just face to face communication. Doing this at least once a week can dramatically change the level of communication between parent and child. The more knowledge we possess about where the other person is mentally and emotionally the more we can understand about how that person relates and communicates with us.

For further information regarding setting expectations and communication, feel free to reach out to me via email at mvanderheiden@coralacademylv.org. I have many resources to help you and your child have a symbiotic relationship. Family is so important and in order to maintain relationships the way we hope, we have to put in the work. Sometimes that work is just reaching out for help when we feel stuck.

Genuine Regards,

Monica Vanderheiden, M.S., NCC, CPC

Get Ready for Map Testing!  
January 11-27th, 2016  
Tamarus & Windmill Campuses

First and foremost, I would personally like to thank each and every one of our parents for making us a Five Star school!

- Mr. Petty, CASLV Counselor

During this testing period, it is vital that our superstar students receive adequate sleep and healthy breakfasts before each testing day. According to scientific research, super foods such as blueberries and egg whites have been known to enhance test taking skills and memory. I look forward to this testing period as a college prep academy, we have earned our five star status due to our amazing parents and students! Let’s go, Falcons! For any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to reach me, I am here to help.

Remember that, all year long, we are a “Be Kind” school!

Jan: Winter Map Testing & “Nice Words”
Feb: “Be Kind” & “Respect”
Mar: “Be Kind” & Trustworthiness
Apr: “Be Kind” & Fairness and Caring
May: “Be Kind” & Graduation ceremonies

The primary purpose of these articles are educational. They should not be considered or used as a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment.
Just a few reminders

Uniform Policy — Please make sure shoes are plain and all black in color (no boots). Socks/leggings must also be plain in color (navy blue, black, white, or maroon). No leggings as pants. Hair accessories must be minimal (no large bows or flowers) and plain in color (navy blue, black, maroon).

Birthday and special deliveries — If you would like to bring special items such as cupcakes or other treats for your child’s celebration, please contact your child’s teacher and the front office, via email, at least one week in advance so that they can verify the ingredients. If approved, your child’s teacher will contact you as to when the celebration can take place.

Academic Concerns — If you have any academic concerns, please correspond with following this order of communication: 1) Teacher, 2) Instructional Coach, 3) Site Director.

Drop-off/Pick-up — Thank you for your help thus far in keeping a smooth flow of traffic in the morning. Please adhere to the directions that our car line volunteers are providing for parents in the morning. In the afternoon, we understand that may wish to say a few words to your child’s teachers. However, we ask that you refrain from conferencing during car line in order to ensure that traffic is flowing and pickup is completed expeditiously. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Non-Compliant Immunization — Unless a child is excused by a religious belief or medical condition exception, a child may not be enrolled in a public school without current immunization, by the state. According to state law NRS 392.435, a child will not be allowed to attend class, until a legally acceptable record of current immunizations is presented, effective 90 days after the first day of school. If your student is out 10 consecutive days due to non-compliant immunization it will result in an administrative withdrawal.

If you sign on to Infinite Campus and look under the health tab. You can find out of your child’s immunization is current or not. In addition you should have received a letter for the office stating that your child was non-compliant and with the immunization they needed. If you have had any resent changed with your child’s immunization please provide a copy of the updated record to the school.

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