



SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

MARCH 10, 2010

SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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WWW.SUNRIDGE.SCHOOL.ORG

CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 - 8:30pm:
Class 7 Parent Evening

Monday, March 15, 7:00pm:
Class 6 Parent Evening

Tuesday, March 16, 6:00 - 9:00pm:
Charter Council Meeting

Monday, March 22, 6:00 - 7:30pm:
Class 1 Parent Evening

Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 - 8:30pm:
Class 4 Parent Evening

Wednesday, March 24, daytime show:
Class 8 Play

Thursday, March 25, evening show:
Class 8 Play

Friday, March 26: **School Closed for Parent Conferences**

Thursday, April 1, evening show:
Class 5 Play

Friday, April 2 is an **Early Release Day**

April 5 - 9
School Closed for Spring Break

If you shop at Whole Foods, PLEASE do so with SunRidge Scrip Cards! We earn 4% of every purchase—easy, no-labor fundraising!

Auction News... from Pam Koppel
Way to go SunRidge community - **YOU ROCK THE HOUSE!**

Clearly you all do not like to rush into things - but once you got going, you've been rockin' and rollin'! We crashed the site a few times with so many people trying to enter their items this past week, and Hassanah, our fabulous data entry/site manager has been working way overtime (thank you Hassanah!!!), but our catalogue is nearing \$50,000! Remember, we need to get at least double what we want to make. So we have set a goal of raising \$25,000, and now we are in reach of that. And don't forget, what we bring in will be matched up to \$20,000. **So if we hit our goal, we could bring in \$45,000 for SunRidge!**

So to all of you who have come through with your wide variety of items - thank you! And if you haven't gotten to it yet - there is still time. Many of you have met our request to bring in at least \$100 in donations. Let's keep it going.

This is it! Tomorrow we begin!

AND - the second half of the process - we need LOTS OF BIDDERS. So now that we have created a fabulous catalogue - a great wine selection, lots of restaurants, great getaways, lessons for the kids, musical instruments, camps, chocolate fondue with Mr. Mark (fun!) and much more...we need you all to go to the "refer friends" button on the auction site and forward the info to all of your friends and family (and anyone else you might have in your address book). Or, you can take one of the e-mails you have been getting from the auction site and forward that as well.

www.sunridge.cmarket.com

Thank you again for stepping up for SunRidge! In the words of our president right before the election...."we have a righteous wind at our back....but we cannot let down." Keep the donations coming, get your mouse a movin', refer your friends and family and **Let the Bidding Begin!**

Addressing the Budget Crisis... from Mark Rice

The Charter Council and I are hard at work making a thorough analysis of the current budget crisis facing SunRidge. Every school in California is facing this crisis, but SunRidge has a double dilemma. In addition to being hit with funding cuts last year, this year, next year, and who knows after that, we also have a site and classrooms that are too small to accommodate the number of students a school needs in each class in order to be financially viable. The fiscal effects of that, combined with severe State funding cuts, leaves us with a projected deficit of around \$200,000 for next year—if we simply continued as is.

Obviously, we cannot continue as is with that projected level of deficit. We are currently developing a strong plan for both cutting costs and increasing revenue that will enable the school to remain stable for the next couple of years. We will also be developing a longer-term plan that addresses the core limitations of our current site as a K-8 school. We remain committed to the educational program we provide for students from Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Continued on next page

Please stay alert to school communications in the weeks ahead about how each of you can help us weather this financial challenge (for now, please help make our auction a BIG success). The Charter Council has been meeting overtime to thoroughly assess various options and we anticipate holding a community meeting soon to present the situation, answer questions, and enlist support. SunRidge is a very strong community filled with creative, dedicated, can-do individuals. If we all do our part, we will survive and thrive not just for our current students, but for all those children in the future that a SunRidge education would benefit.

In the meantime, please watch those rumors that have a way of popping up during times of crisis or controversy. Nothing has been decided to date. If you hear something that sounds outrageous or unlikely, ask about the source and please check it out with me before spreading it around. Thank You!

Whole Foods 4% Scrip Cards In Action!

The Whole Foods scrip program is up and running, we made another \$100 for SunRidge last week, just by shopping at Whole Foods using the scrip. It is a great start, but we should be able to raise \$500 a week, that is \$2,000 a month for SunRidge just for shopping at Whole Foods.

A quick review and answers to commonly asked questions:
~Whole Foods is offering scrip at a 4% discount to SunRidge. The scrip comes in \$50 and \$100 and you pay no extra money, the 4% comes directly from Whole Foods.

~There are several ways to buy the scrip. The best place to go is **Infusions** tea and chocolate shop 4 doors west of Whole Foods. They have generously offered to sell the cards for us. Please bring a check as they will not accept cash. We will also make scrip available at **Farmer's Markets** and we will notify you when we do driveway sales. As a last result, if you find yourself in the **school office** at a quiet moment, Theresa or Mira will be happy to sell you your cards (remember, exact amount only).

~This is a brand new program and they are working out some of the details. In the future they will use less paper and allow us to add to existing cards. Let's show Whole Foods how successful this program is, and they will be more likely to make some changes.

Anyone can buy these cards, please tell your family and friends!

Thank you for your support. Any additional questions please contact Kathleen at 829-2436 or Strohkk_ward@hotmail.com.

Valkyries Up-Date ~ from Mr. T

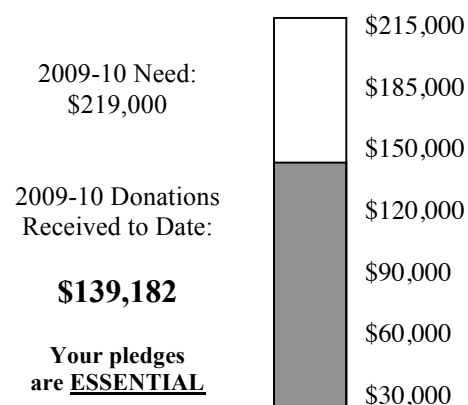
Our last two weeks before playoffs! Upcoming games:
Today: Both 8th and 7th grade games at St. Luke's School (905 Mendocino Ave, SantaRosa) @3:45pm / 5pm.

Next week, three (3!) days of basketball for the 7th grade team:

Monday: we travel to Windsor Christian Academy for a 7th grade ONLY game @3:45pm.

Wednesday: both 8th and 7th teams play at Sonoma Country

2009-10 Pledge Program Report



Day School (4400 Day School Place) @3:45 / 5pm.

Friday: 7th grade team ONLY travels to play Sonoma Charter at Hannah Boys Center (17000 Arnold Drive, Sonoma) at 3:45pm.

8th grade has playoffs the following week and then 7th grade has playoffs the week after. That takes us right up to Spring Break.

See you on the sidelines!

Gardening Volunteer Opportunity ~ from Bob Poole
Tess Pohlmann, our garden teacher, and I are inviting you to join a committee of parents to support her work in a variety of ways, including continuing the work of building and improving our gardens, composting, green house, etc. When we began the gardening and cooking program in 2006 it would not have happened without the participation of a similar group of parents who contributed their ideas, energy, and labor. It was truly a collaborative effort that created the gardens and classes our children now enjoy. Our new garden building/kitchen, now almost completed, has likewise been the product of hundreds of hours of volunteer work by dozens of parents.

Tess has more energy, more exciting ideas, and a deeper commitment to the health and sustainability of our children and our world than almost anyone I know. I believe that with our help she can create a model program here, one that anyone would be excited and gratified to participate in. In terms of commitment we are talking about approximately 1- 2 hours per week, including a meeting every week or two, plus whatever other time you are able and interested in putting in. There will be a variety of projects to engage your individual interests and creativity.

Please contact Tess or me by email or at my phone, 823-8324, with your interest or with any questions. I look forward to working with you on this wonderful project!

Open Enrollment Very Successful

Our open enrollment period just ended and we received over 100 applications. There is some processing to do to get the applications sorted out and clarified, then we do our lottery for each class to establish waiting lists. Waiting list placement will be known and available in the office as of Tuesday, March 23.

Community Service Hours Reporting

Here are the links for reporting your community service hours for the month of January and February. Thank you for helping us have good data on the impressive number of hours parents give to our school.

Report **January** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R6SJLG9>

Report **February** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R65QNHG>

If you have any problems with entering your data, please contact Melissa Morgan, melissa_morgan@mac.com.

Community Events**Great Parenting Opportunity**

Parenting Workshop on Positive Discipline offered by Frannie Minervini-Zick. Six Tuesdays, March 16 – April 27, 7:00-9:00pm. Topics include: winning cooperation and fostering responsibility, how to stop nagging, learning to give choices, encouragement, and more. You will learn to create an environment of love and support, encouraging your child and yourself to be the best you can be, while promoting a caring concern for others. For more information and registration, contact Frannie at 478-5613. Frannie is a credentialed teacher and the Director of Tree House Hollow Preschool.

Fresh, a film by Anna Sofia Joanes

Thursday, March 18th 6:30pm free admission
Salmon Creek School

Fresh celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system. Before the movie, the farm to cafeteria program will be offering a farm fresh salad bar featuring local artisan cheeses and fire baked breads. Proceeds benefit the farm to cafeteria program at Salmon Creek School. Dinner starts at 5:30, \$10 adults/\$5 kids. Movie at 6:30pm free admission, donations appreciated. Meet your local farmers afterwards Childcare available for 8 and under.

'Tweens and Teens and the Power of the Peer Group a talk by Kim John Payne

Kim John Payne is speaking at Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm's Sophia Hall, on Tuesday, March 23rd, 7:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00, and may be purchased at Summerfield's Main Office or Copperfield's Bookstores.

Another Chance to Dance!

Donna Burgess is offering another class in learning how to teach children international folk dancing: Saturday, March 20, from 9:00am-1:00pm, at the Sebastopol Independent Charter. \$60 per person, but if you would like to volunteer to teach folk dancing to SunRidge classes, the Foundation will pay for your registration fee. Contact Mark (824-2844) if you are interested. To register contact Donna: donna@hoffeckerburgess.com, or (530)305-8129.

Helping the Children ~ from Wyatt Belden, 7th grade

I am collecting donations of new and used sporting equipment for an organization that will distribute it to underprivileged children around the world. This is part of a Bar Mitzvah project. Please help by donating some of the following items to the box inside the office.

Needed items:

Baseball/softball balls, mitts, bats and cleats

Basketball - balls, nets, uniforms

Football

Running shoes (lightly worn)

Soccer balls, uniforms, shin guards, cleats

Tennis racquets and balls

Volleyballs and nets

Playground equipment: jump ropes, rubber balls, hacky sacs, Frisbees

Coaching supplies: clipboards, air pumps, stop watches, whistles, vests, ball bags, first aid kits

Thanks for helping!

Classified

(We can list rentals, parents selling used items, free items, lost and found, or trades. We cannot list for-profit business ads)

House Needed

A Waldorf teacher and her 12 year-old girl are relocating to the area (west of Santa Rosa) by next summer (July or August) and are looking for a rental with 2 - 3 bedrooms that will allow one dog and two cats (very well behaved!). A rural feel is a plus, and a fenced yard would be essential. Please contact Tracy Fleming at 502-6442.

Need a babysitter, yard help, or other helper need?

The Parent Council is sponsoring a student work referral system for students in grades 6-8. Students can fill out a form listing jobs they can do, and parents sign it to approve the referral form going into our Student Work Referral Binder. When you need a job done, stop by the office and look through the binder. Many of our students are excellent workers and looking for ways to earn money. It's a win-win!

