



# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

MARCH 31, 2010

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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## CALENDAR

**Class 5 Play**, Friday, April 16, 6:00pm:  
**(Rescheduled)**

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

Friday, April 2, 1:15pm  
**Special Charter Council meeting**  
In RSP Room

April 5 - 9  
**School Closed for Spring Break**

Monday, April 12, 6:30 - 9:00pm:  
**Parent Council Meeting**

Wednesday, April 14, 6:30pm:  
**Middle School Meeting @ Twin Hills**

Monday, April 19, 6:00 - 7:30pm:  
**Class 1 Parent Evening**

Tuesday, April 20, 6:00 - 9:00pm:  
**Charter Council Meeting**

Wednesday, April 21, 6:30 - 8:00pm:  
**Class 2 Parent Evening**

Friday, April 23, 5:30 - 8:00pm:  
**Class 6 Social**

Wednesday, April 28, 6:30 - 8:30pm:  
**Kinder Parent Evening**

**Saturday, May 8: May Faire!**

Important update: Class 5 Play has been **rescheduled for April 16, 6:00pm**. This Friday, April 2, is an **Early Release** day. Next week, April 5 - 9, **School is Closed Next Week** for Spring Break.

### April Fools' Day

Join Class 1 for our Farmers' Market tomorrow, and save up your appetite. We will have many wonderful pastas to choose from, along with fresh salads and bread. There will be plant starts, delicious bottled sauces and dressings, as well as a variety of crafts for sale. Come decorate some eggs just in time for Easter. We are happy to announce that yes, the nature treasure hunt will be returning for this market. There will be gently used clothing and books for sale, and some great raffle prizes. It's also April Fools' Day, so you never know what might happen... See you there.

### Middle School Community Meeting: Wednesday, April 14, 6:30pm

If you are interested in the idea of SunRidge moving its Middle School grades to the Twin Hills campus, please plan to attend this meeting. It will take place on the Twin Hills campus outside near the back playfield and also in one of the three classrooms that we could occupy (Rooms 24-26), also near the back playfield. The purpose of this meeting is to present our planning to date, answer questions, and enlist parent's participation in the process of addressing the needs of our Middle School in the best possible way.

*Note: to clarify any possible confusion, the "Special" Charter Council meeting scheduled for this Friday is not for the purpose of offering a time for community input on our budget or site plans. "Special" just means that it is not a meeting at our regular monthly time. This Friday's "Special" Meeting was called so that the Charter Council could take care of several items of business that could not be fit into the last "Regular" Council meeting.*

### SunRidge Online Auction is a Success! From Pam Koppel

#### Yes we can! And yes we did!

Congratulations SunRidge Community. Together we raised \$27,520 from the auction with a bit more coming in from donations. With our \$20,000 matching donation, the total is \$47,520. After expenses are accounted for, we will end up with well over \$40,000 in auction funds to use for the coming year. Not bad for just a few hours of work amongst friends!

On behalf of Amy, Hassanah and myself, we would like to thank you all for taking the responsibility of community participation seriously. Though we felt a bit on our own at times, in the last few weeks it was wonderful to see such a large percentage of the community come through with donations. You showed up here, there and everywhere with such rich contributions, culminating in an extensive auction site that we could feel proud to share with the greater community. And everyone obviously did a great job of referring others to the site, to make for a healthy and generous bidding pool. A job well done!

So, as we move into the final phase of item distribution and thank you notes to donors, we will sign off for this year. But before we do that, I would just like to acknowledge the awesome jobs of a few individuals:

**Amy Schiff** was out there non-stop asking for donations (I think even the turkeys

and the deer were asked to give by auction end). If you need to fundraise for anything, ask Amy to help...she has no fear! Way to go Amy! Thank you for showing us that asking for support can be done so painlessly and graciously!

Then there is **Hassanah Meechan**, who was literally one with her computer for the last few weeks. I am sure she will be seeing spots for months to come. She did almost all the entering of our 500 items into the site herself, and did a beautiful job of making everything look appealing. She also did an amazing job of collecting, storing and organizing the items for easy distribution. I think she also made all of the gift certificates as well. Hassanah, you rock!!! You can hereby have your life back!

And special thanks to **Paula Camacho**, who worked with Hassanah for many weeks before the auction opened to come up with a seamless system of item distribution that is now underway and moving along very smoothly.

And lastly, to those of you who took extra time in the late fall to help us with follow-up calls to wineries and B&B's (oh, and that one call made by Jill Bottomly that ended up being to a homeless shelter - which had somehow made it on the winery list - where she and the kind person on the other end of the phone, together determined perhaps they could donate a night at the shelter so some lucky bidder could share an experience of the less fortunate!). To those of you who picked up items, sent out press releases, took pictures, edited the site, and did various other jobs behind the scenes. Thank you!

And as for myself, I now feel well equipped if I ever decide I want to get work writing emotional appeals! I'm thinking MoveOn.org....

Again, kudos to us as a community working together for a greater purpose. It was inspiring to see, and is inspiring to know that when called upon, we can come together and rise to the occasion in a cooperative and productive way.

Lastly, please don't forget our generous donors from the community. When you are in their place of business, thank them for contributing to our auction and supporting our school.

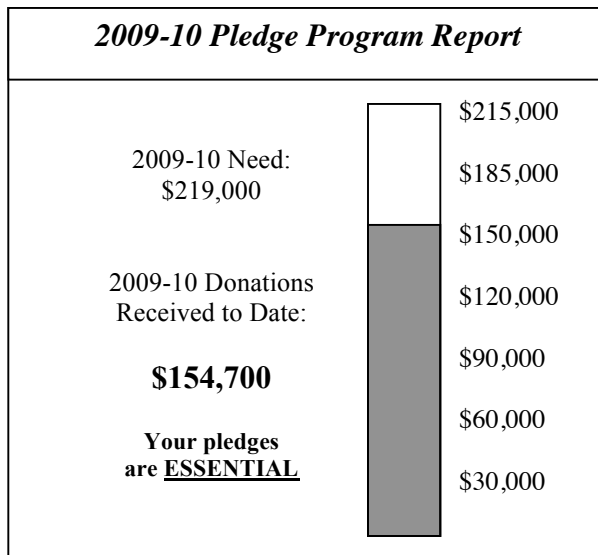
Until next year.....

**Added by Mark and Shyama**

And on behalf of everyone, we can only say the obvious: this auction would not have been as successful as it was without the undying enthusiasm, dedication, and perseverance of **Pam Koppel**. Her leadership and love for the school is the epitome of how one person can make a huge difference, and why SunRidge is so blessed by the giving of its students' parents. We are so grateful you are with us Pam!

**Whole Foods Scrip Coordination & Gratitude**

A huge thank you to Kathleen Stroh for helping with the initial coordination and then running the Whole Foods scrip



program for our school. And another grand thank you to Lisa Eschenberg for offering to take on the program coordination as Kathleen steps away. And one more big thank you to Liz Levy for doing the scrip card sales in the circle drive weekly during drop off on Wednesdays. Get your cards, keep 'em stocked and watch the 4% flow to SunRidge. For questions contact Lisa at 827-3730 or lisaeschenberg@sbcglobal.net.

**How to Buy Whole Foods 4% Scrip Cards**

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. Every Wednesday, Scrip will be available in the circle driveway.**

At quiet moments, Scrip can be purchased **in the school office** (remember, exact amount only).

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

**Budget Crisis Response** from Mark Rice

Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive response to the recent email about our plan to address the budget crisis.

The personnel cuts are tragic, but necessary given the magnitude of the funding shortfall. The plan we have for eliminating the deficit is solid, and with the recent auction success, we are well on our way to making up for the funds needed beyond the budget cuts.

The next big piece is the need to increase our pledge funds. We need everyone who possible can to increase his/her monthly pledges by at least \$25.00 per month immediately; we need those who don't pledge, but could, to do so; and we need more of those with multiple children in the school to pledge for each child.

In addition, as is usual for this time of the year, there is a bit of a lag in many parents' monthly pledge payments, so that we are in danger of falling below our pledge needs for this year. This is a time when everyone needs to be thinking of

the good of the whole and what each can do to keep our educational program as intact as possible. Schools everywhere are laying off staff, reducing the days in the school year, and cutting services. Because of our small size, SunRidge would be out of business without our strong pledge program. Please help keep it strong.

### **Beyond the Birds and the Bees**

Myra Polikoff, MFT will be returning to SunRidge on **Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30** to discuss the subject of talking to your kids about sex. Everyone is welcome but the talk will be focused on grades K-4. Please RSVP at the office so we know how many people will be attending. The talk will take place either in the community room or at Apple Blossom, depending on the number of attendees. See attached flyer for more information.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Playoffs** ~from Mr. T  
We play Game 2 Thursday at Community Church at 5pm versus RVCS or Summerfield (whoever won that game). If we win Game 2, we play Friday at SCDS at 3:45pm for the Consolation Championship bracket. If we lose Game 2, our season finishes.

### **Community Service Hours Reporting**

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

Report **February** community service hours here:  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R65QNHG>

Report **March** community service hours here:  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RZLVF3V>

If you have any problems with entering your data, please contact Melissa Morgan, [melissa\\_morgan@mac.com](mailto:melissa_morgan@mac.com).

### **Community Events**

#### **For Your Calendars**

Two important school events are on the horizon, so put them on your calendars:

**SunRidge May Faire: Saturday, May 8** (if it must be cancelled due to rain, it will be held on a school day during the following week).

**SunRidge Spring Concert: Thursday, June 3, 6:45pm**, featuring 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade strings, orchestra, and choir performances.

#### **Tae Kwon Do for everyone!**

Alexander Laszlo is opening a new Martial Arts school at the Occidental Community Center (OCC) with Kids

Classes and Adult Classes. His exercise program conditions body, mind, and spirit for self-discipline and self defense in an atmosphere of respect, safety and fun. On **Sunday, April 25 from 2-4pm**, he will put on a demonstration and exhibition event at the OCC with Masters from throughout the Bay Area. Classes begin after that, with Kids Class for anyone 8-17 on Thursdays from 3:30-5pm, and Adult Classes for those 18-80 on Thursdays from 5 - 7pm and Sundays from 11am-1pm. The cost is \$5/class or \$15/month for kids and \$5/class or \$25/month for adults, plus a membership fee of \$20/year. For more information, check the OCC website at <http://www.occidentalcommunitycenter.net/tae-kwon-do.html>, or contact Alexander at 874-6030, or [alexander@syntonyquest.org](mailto:alexander@syntonyquest.org), and come to the demo!

#### **Helping the Children** ~ from Wyatt Belden, 7<sup>th</sup> 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)*

#### **Free upright piano for waldorf family!**

Manufacturer: Kranich & Bach, made in 1896.  
Beautiful sound and light action with ivory keys.  
You must pick up by April 9!  
Marcus & Miho Pizzorno (707)824-2298

#### **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!

