



# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

APRIL 14, 2010

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

487 WATER TROUGH RD.  
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

PHONE: 707.824.2844  
FAX: 824.2861

AFTERCARE: 824.2276

WWW.SUNRIDGESCHOOL.ORG

## CALENDAR

Today, April 14, 6:30pm:

**Middle School Meeting @ Twin Hills**

Friday, April 16 **Class 5 school play:**

Morning show: 11:00am - 12:15pm

Evening show: 6:00pm

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**

Monday, April 26, 6:30-8:30pm:

**Beyond the Birds and the Bees**

See adjoining article

Wednesday, April 28, 6:30 - 8:30pm:

**Kinder Parent Evening**

Wednesday, April 28, 7:00 - 8:30pm:

**Class 4 Parent Evening**

Monday, May 3, 6:30pm:

**Parent Council Meeting**

### **Middle School Community Meeting: Tonight, 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 begin on the Twin Hills campus outside near the back playfield, then move to their new MUR. The purpose of this meeting is to present our planning to date, answer questions, and enlist parent participation in the process of addressing the needs of our Middle School in the best possible way.

### **Everyone's Help is Needed** *from Mark Rice*

Please remember our situation: faced with a budget crisis that projected a deficit for next year of \$200,000, we have made \$100,000 in very painful spending cuts. We have also just completed a very successful auction that, with the anonymous matching grant, netted over \$40,000. 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. Because of our small size, SunRidge would be unable to operate without our strong pledge program. Please do your part to 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 (824-2844) so we know how many people will be attending. The talk will take place either in our community room or at Apple Blossom, depending on the number of attendees. See attached flyer for more information.

### **Almost Forgot Thank You**

Many thanks to our generous 1<sup>st</sup> grade parents for the delicious and nutritious meals provided for faculty lunches for the month of March. There was an abundance of food that warmed our tummies and our hearts!

### **Apple Blossom Parade Saturday, April 24**

Plans are forming for SunRidge to participate in the Sebastopol Apple Blossom parade as part of an all-school Twin Hills district flotilla! Details will follow soon, but put it on your calendar if your child would like to be part of the fun.

### **STAR Testing Coming Soon**

Our annual STAR testing for grades 2-8 will take place this year between April 26 and May 7 (note: the tests do not take two weeks, teachers may simply do the tests during that testing window). We do our best to make the testing as stress-free as possible, and generally find the children take them in stride (many find the multiple choice questions a "refreshing" change from having to actually come up with their own answers!). Please help us make the testing a successful experience by ensuring that your child has plenty of rest, a nutritious morning breakfast, and arrives to school on time. The state requires schools to test at least 95% of all students, so thank you for your support in ensuring your child's participation.

**Charter Council Opening**

The Charter Council is announcing an upcoming opening for a parent representative. The opening is to replace Nedra Berns as her daughter is graduating in June. We hope to have the position filled no later than September. There is a nominating committee comprised of two members of the Charter Council and two members of the Parent Council that will be contacting possible candidates and providing them with a packet of information about the position and the process of selection. If you are interested, please contact Elisabeth Mallary at 824-2844, or Beth Gallock at 824-8931.

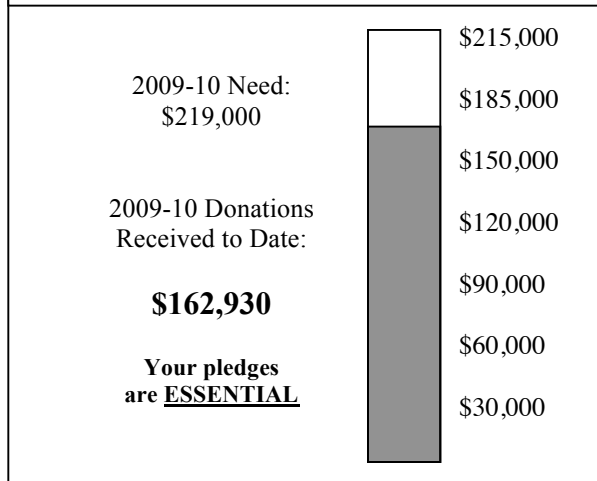
**What Does the Charter Council Do?**

The SunRidge Charter Council serves as a delegate body of the Twin Hills Union School District Board to set school policies, plans, procedures, and priorities as outlined in the SunRidge Charter or in annual contracts or memoranda of understanding. In addition, the Charter Council acts in an advisory capacity for the school to the Twin Hills School Board and the SunRidge Director. The Charter Council is responsible for preparing and recommending any and all modifications to the Charter.

The day-to-day operations of the Charter School are the responsibility of the Director, working in collaboration with the Charter Council. The Charter Council approves and oversees all school policies and programs to ensure that the Director's decisions and actions are fully informed and in alignment with the school's charter. Areas of responsible oversight for the Charter Council include:

- Review and oversee school budget
- Evaluate and address educational program needs
- Evaluate the school's performance in meeting its mission and goals
- Ensure that the school maintains accountability to its charter
- Recommend any changes to the SunRidge Charter to the Twin Hills Board of Trustees
- Review and approve policies and procedures
- Recommend annual school calendar/schedule
- Approve recommendations by the Director regarding rehiring of teachers on probationary status
- In collaboration with the Superintendent, evaluate the SunRidge Director
- In collaboration with the Director, evaluate the performance of the Charter Council
- With the Superintendent, select and recommend the hiring of a new Director, or the termination of a current Director, to the Twin Hills Board of Trustees

**2009-10 Pledge Program Report**



**Parent Survey Results**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our annual parent satisfaction survey in January. The results have now been compiled and the results shown below.

Parents were asked to provide a rating of their satisfaction with each area on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest level of satisfaction. Twenty-five to fifty percent (25-50%) of parents submitted responses depending on the item.

Rated Area	Average Rating
Social/Emotional Safety of School Environment	4.00
Physical Safety of School Environment	4.14
Service from Administrative Staff	4.69
Respect and Care Provided by School Staff in general	4.63
After School Program	3.95
Class Teachers (7 sub-areas rated)	4.19 (3.43 - 4.93)
Specialty Classes/Teachers	4.10 (2.93-4.71)
Director/Administrator (8 sub-areas rated)	4.22
Charter Council	4.33
Parent Council	4.30

Once again we are very pleased to receive such consistently high ratings of satisfaction from our parent body. The survey also included a section on suggestions for improvement, which we will respond to in future articles.

**Community Service Hours Reporting**

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

Report **March** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RZLVF3W>

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

**Community Events****SunRidge May Faire: Saturday, May 8**

**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!

**Balance, unicycle, leap, juggle, perform!** ~ from Mr. T

This summer Alex Boshell (Movement Teacher from Novato Charter/Live Oak) and I will run a one-week Circus Camp this summer here at SunRidge. We're offering a 5-day intensive to teach, develop and sharpen skills like Poi spinning, Rola Bola balancing, acrobatics and tumbling, unicycling, stick, ball and ring juggling and more. This camp is open to next year's 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. SunRidge gets priority signup; then we'll open registration district-wide and to the downtown charter school. If this sounds intriguing, you can learn more at [www.waldorfcircus.org](http://www.waldorfcircus.org). Registration forms are available online.

The week is **July 5-9**, and the camp runs 8:30am - 12:30pm or 2:30pm. Feel free to ask me about it on campus if you see me too - let me know if you're child is interested.

**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  
Footballs  
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)*

**Missing Hat**

I am missing my handmade dark green wool hat, lost sometime within the last month. It was made by my Grandma who died 17 years ago and is very precious to me. If you have seen it or remember me wearing it recently please let me know by calling Linda at 823-1489 or email [shogun2@prodigy.net](mailto:shogun2@prodigy.net).

**Housing Needed**

Single mom with two children (ages 11 and 14) seeks long or short term housing beginning in May or June 1---house sit/sublet/alternative sheltering/partial or full work trade for services---child care (I drive a minivan), cleaning, healing foods (ayurvedic, live foods, etc...), bodywork, personal assistance, caregiving, garden care. Jamila 808-264-5093

**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!

**Need a student desk or chair?**

Our Foundation is selling used solid wood desks and chairs for only \$10.00 a set. This is a steal! Call Mira in the office for information.

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