



# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

AUGUST 18, 2010

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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## CALENDAR

Saturday, August 21:

### **Campus/classroom beautification/prep day**

Please come help—students will receive free Mary's pizza coupons!

Thursday, August 19, 5:00 – 6:30pm:

### **Class 2 parent evening**

Monday, August 23, 7:00pm:

### **Class 6 parent evening**

Wed., August 25: **First Day of School  
Early Release**

Wed.-Friday, August 25-27: **First week  
of school, all early release days**

Saturday, August 28:

### **Back to School Party**

Monday, August 30, 8:00-9:00pm:

### **Class 5 parent evening**

Tuesday, August 31, 7:00-9:00pm:

### **Class 5 parent evening**

Wednesday, September 1: 6:45pm:

### **New parent orientation**

Thursday, Sept. 2, 6:30 – 8:30pm:

### **Class 3 parent evening**

### **First Day of School Next Week, Wednesday, August 25**

The first week of school, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will all be early release days. Our morning schedule is slightly changed from last year: Grades 1-3: **8:20—1:00**, pick-up at 1:05-1:15; Grades 4-8: 8:20—12:40, pick up at 12:45-1:00. Grades 1-3 will eat lunch before being released, grades 4-8 are released earlier, before lunch.

**The kindergartens** are on a first-day orientation schedule that has been communicated by the kindergarten teachers.

During the first week or so, please allow extra time in the morning for the inevitable extra traffic, and always pick up your child within 15 minutes of their release time.

### **Beginning Monday, August 30**

We will start our regular weekly schedule on Monday, August 30. Full days for kindergarten will continue last year's schedule: 8:45—1:00. **Grades 1-8 will all start at 8:20 this year.** The release time for 1<sup>st</sup> grade is 2:10pm. Second grade will be ready for pick-up at 2:35pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at 2:45, and 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> will be ready for pick-up at 2:55. **This year, eighth grade students will get picked up at the front drive with everyone else.**

Please arrive within 15 minutes of pick-up times. Every Thursday throughout the year is an early release day for faculty meeting purposes. Early release days pick up for Kindergarten is 11:45am; for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> it is 1:00pm, and for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> it is 12:40.

### **No Tardies Please!**

We are committed to significantly reducing tardies in our classes this year. Coming in late to class is disruptive and disrespectful to the teacher and the other students, the tardy child misses important beginning-of-the-day activities, feels embarrassed, and has no time to transition from home/travel to the classroom environment.

Please make getting your child to school on time a family priority and if you need help with ideas on how to do that, please ask your teacher or other parents. We need every student here at starting time!

### **Parking Reminder**

Kindergarten and most 1<sup>st</sup> grade parents need to park to bring their children in, which leaves few spaces for others to also park. Parents of 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders can help make sure the younger students' parents have room to park and minimize congestion by arriving before 8:20 (we provide supervision on the back field starting at 8:00am), dropping your child off at the upper drop off area, and, if you must park, to limit your time parking so others can use the space after you. Thank you for your cooperation with this need.

**Kindergarten note:** after 8:35am, kindergarten parents may park briefly in the drop off lane if there are no other spaces available. Please put on your blinking hazard lights if you leave your car to alert drivers behind you that you are parked.

**SAVE THE DATE -- Saturday, August 28th, 2pm to 6pm** – for the annual SunRidge Back to School Party! Come play, reconnect, and welcome new families to our school community. This year the party will feature live music, games, crafts, and the traditional dunk tank. **Bring your own picnic and utensils.** See you there!

### **Look for First Day Packets**

A First Day Packet will be sent home with your child on the first day of school.

Please look for it, take the time to read the material, and return the emergency contact card ASAP.

### We Need You!

As always, we need parent help in order to prepare our classrooms and campus for the first day of school. Many thanks to those who came this last week. We have much more to do and need a good turn-out this Saturday between 9:00 and 3:00. Please plan to come by and lend a hand for any amount of time on these days and, if you can't come then, stop by at another time that is more convenient (a "to-do" list will be posted up by the office). There is always something to do here—pruning, weeding, carpentry, clean-up, etc.—and seeing their parent(s) working on their school makes a very important impression on your children. Children are also welcome, but must be under parental supervision. If you do help pick up a coupon for a free child's mini-pizza in the office.

### Driveway Improvements

You will notice two improvements to our driveway this year. We widened the lower exit drive so that we now have separate lanes for those turning left and those turning right. Please help by moving into the proper lane at the bottom of the driveway so the changes actually help the traffic flow. We also widened the driveway where it begins to go down to the back. This will hopefully enable cars to go in both directions at the same time through this narrower part of the driveway. Also notice: the driveway drop box (easy way to pay your pledges...) is now located near the top of the driveway rather than at the bottom.

### Communications

Our primary means for communicating important information to parents is through our Weekly Bulletin. Please read the bulletin every week in order to stay informed.

### Kindergarten Welcoming Tea

New and returning kindergarten parents are invited to gather from 8:45-9:30am on Thursday, August 27, to celebrate the start of a new school year. Please bring your own mug and meet on the deck on the hillside below the office.

### New Parent Orientation, Wednesday, Sept. 1

All new parents are invited/expected to attend our new parent orientation in the evening on Wednesday, September 1. This parent-hosted event will provide new parents with lots of valuable information about the culture and operations of our school and parent community.

### Aftercare

As was announced previously, we are unable to offer afterschool care this year due to insufficient funds and space limitations. Rebecca White has been looking into various ways to continue to offer care to the youngest students at some other location. Please contact Rebecca for more information. [onerebrose@yahoo.com](mailto:onerebrose@yahoo.com), or 525-8750.

### 2009-10 Pledge Final Report

	\$210,000
2009-10 Goal	\$208,000
2009-10 Donations Received:	\$120,000
<b>\$205, 937</b>	\$90,000
<b>Great Job— SunRidge parents are wonderful!</b>	\$60,000
	\$30,000

### Pledge Thank You

Thank you so much to everyone who was able and willing to contribute to our pledge program last year. We ended up raising almost \$206,000, all of which went to pay for teachers and supplies for our Specialty classes and for teaching assistants. We could not offer what we do without those monthly donations, so please pat yourself on the back and say, "I am part of making SunRidge possible!"

### Pledge Commitments Please

We have attached our annual pledge commitment form to this bulletin so that you can let us know what your pledge commitment will be for 2010-11. Please be as generous as you can, as we will be totally dependent on our pledge program to keep the school stable during the state funding crisis. Reminder: we need as many families as possible to pledge \$225 (or more) per month per child. If you can't do that amount, do the highest amount you can, no matter what the amount may be. Except for those who are out of work and struggling to meet basic needs, **everyone** should be contributing something to their child's school this coming year. State funding per pupil in California is now almost the lowest in the nation, and is not adequate for even a basic education especially in a small, personalized school like SunRidge. Please join this community effort of pledging to maintain the quality of education every child receives at SunRidge.

### Donations Needed for Supplies and Materials

Part of how we hope to balance the budget this coming year is to request parent contributions to meet the cost of supplies and materials for our classrooms. Most Waldorf methods schools now do this in addition to requesting monthly pledges, as materials and supplies are extremely expensive in a Waldorf methods school (about \$2000 per class). A one-time, **\$100 per student per year** contribution will keep things running as usual. Thank you for this much needed support.

**Crosswalk Volunteer Needs**

We will need up to 5 parents for morning Crosswalk duty starting with the first morning of school. This volunteer role entails ensuring the safe crossing of children walking down the hill and crossing the parking lot from around 8:10am until 8:40am each morning. Last year we had five wonderful helpers who each took a day of the week for the year.

This is a great job for those who like to greet the children and socialize a bit (while paying attention to safety). Please call the office if you can be one of those we can count on for this vital responsibility.

**Dress Code Reminder**

Please help us implement our dress code by being clear on what clothing your child should wear and sending them properly attired. After a year of experimentation with a new dress code, the Charter Council approved a slightly revised version at their June meeting. It has been attached for your convenience. Please read it and have your child(ren) follow it.

**Community Service Hours Reporting**

Remember to keep track of your community service hours contributed to SunRidge this month as we work to get the campus and classrooms ready. We will have our web link ready soon so you can enter those hours in the system.

**September Farmers' Market**

Our first Farmers' Market at Ragle Park this year will be the second Thursday of September (the 9<sup>th</sup>). It will be hosted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. More information to follow in upcoming bulletins.

**Faculty Lunches**

The parents of our school have a lovely tradition of providing our faculty with a delicious lunch for their Thursday faculty meetings. Traditionally, each grade has provided one month of lunches, so that all ten months are covered. We do not want any class to feel overburdened by this gifting though so we always encourage each class of parents to decide if they can provide up to four lunches for their assigned month or if they feel it necessary to provide fewer than four. That decision should be communicated to the office well in advance of the assigned month for your class, so that the faculty knows when they need to provide their own lunch.

The schedule of lunch months for each grade will be established in the next few weeks. September has already been set and will be covered by the 7/8 class. Thank you so much for your generosity with this nurturing and nourishing gift!

**Classified**

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

**Carpool needed** in Fall 2010 for SunRidge family in West Santa Rosa (College & Fulton), M-F, mornings only. Alissa 236-0747.

**After school care needed** for SunRidge kindergartener starting Fall 2010. He'll need to be picked up at SunRidge and taken care of until 4pm, 5 days a week. Alissa 236-0747.

**After school care needed** for SunRidge kindergartener starting Fall 2010. Hoping for a SunRidge family that wants to take on another child 4 afternoons a week. She'll need to be picked up at school. Sebastopol or West county ideal. Elizabeth 707/228-8102

**After school transportation to Apple Blossom School needed**

SunRidge first grader will be attending Apple Blossom after school program, but needs a lift just up the street so he can get there safely. If you can help call Ellen at 291-5548.

**Rental Needed**

The Hue (Lily, 5<sup>th</sup> grade) family is looking for a 2+ bedroom house in the Sebastopol, Occidental area starting August 1. Please contact Suzanne at 332-8395. Thank you!

**Wanted Home for Rent:** Mama and daughter seek 2 bedroom lovely home in country setting. Employed, good references, organic, and conscious. We have 2 old kitties who don't hunt. Can pay up to \$1100. Please call Triya 527-2609 or email [triyacruises@gmail.com](mailto:triyacruises@gmail.com) Thanks!

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