



SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

AUGUST 25, 2010

SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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CALENDAR

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

Saturday, August 28, 2:00-6:00pm:
Back to School Party

Monday, August 30, 7:00-9:00pm:
Class 5 parent evening

Tuesday, August 31, 7:00-9:00pm:
Class 4 parent evening

Wednesday, September 1: 6:45-8:30pm:
New parent orientation

Thursday, Sept. 2, 6:30 – 8:30pm:
Class 3 parent evening

Monday, September 6: **School Closed
Labor Day Holiday**

Tuesday, September 7, 6:30-9:00pm:
Parent Council Meeting in C.R.

Thursday, September 7, after school
Farmers' Market by Class 3

Thursday, September 9, 6:00-7:30pm:
Class 2 parent evening

Tuesday, September 28, 6:00-9:00pm:
Charter Council Meeting in C.R.

Thank You, Thank You!

What a great outpouring of parent help we received this past week to get our classrooms and campus ready! There are too many people to thank individually (and some of you come and do things without anyone knowing), but I do want to make one special acknowledgement to **Silas Huey** for the days of work and skill he contributed building the new kindergarten fence and gate. It looks beautiful!

Early Release This First Week

All three days of this first week will 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.

Parking Consideration Please

We know how important it is to socialize with other parents in the morning, and we also know that our parking lot cannot handle a great many parents parking for more than a few minutes. This morning we had a very bad backup in the parking lot with cars double parked and unable to move in or out because so many others were parked for 10-15 minutes. Please be considerate of other's needs to park and turn around. We must have parking spaces for our kindergarten parents and most of our 1st grade parents to walk their children in. Those with students in grades 2-8 should drop their children off at the drop-off area at the top. If you must park, please do so only for a brief time so that others can use the space as well. We realize this means cutting short morning socialization time, but we must all work together to make our limited parking work for all.

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.

Speaking of Thoughtfulness....

Please do not try to come in and talk to your child's teacher in the morning before school. That is their time for getting ready for the children. Check with your child's teacher for the best times and ways to schedule a conversation.

Regular Schedule Begins Monday

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 1st grade is 2:10pm. Second grade will be ready for pick-up at 2:35pm, 3rd grade at 2:45, and 4th through 8th will be ready for pick-up at 2:55.

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 1st-3rd it is 1:05pm, and for 4th-8th it is 12:45. With no Aftercare this year, timely pick-up is even more important.

This Saturday, August 28th, 2pm to 6pm: Back to School Party!

Come celebrate the beginning of the new school year, play, make new friends and reconnect with old ones. There will be games, crafts, live music, and a dunk tank. Bring your own picnic dinner with plates and utensils. Baked goodies will be available for sale. Overflow parking is available up at the Apple Blossom school parking lot. It promises to be a beautiful afternoon! 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.

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 at 6:45pm, 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. It will be in our Community Room (the building just down the hill from the office).

September Farmers' Market

Our first Farmers' Market at Ragle Park this year will be the second Thursday of September (the 9th). It will be hosted by the 3rd grade. More information next week.

"Exploratory" Class Teacher Needed

Our Middle School is still searching for a teacher for one of our new "Exploratory" classes. The class will be one of three offered to our students in grades 6-8 during the first trimester of school (until November 10), held on Wednesday at 2:00pm and Friday at 10:55am (45 minute classes). We are looking for someone who can work well with middle school age students and would love to teach a class in an area such as ceramics, photography, graphic arts, drama, or other visual or performance art. The selected teacher will be paid as an independent contractor. For more information contact Mark: 824-2844.

Communications

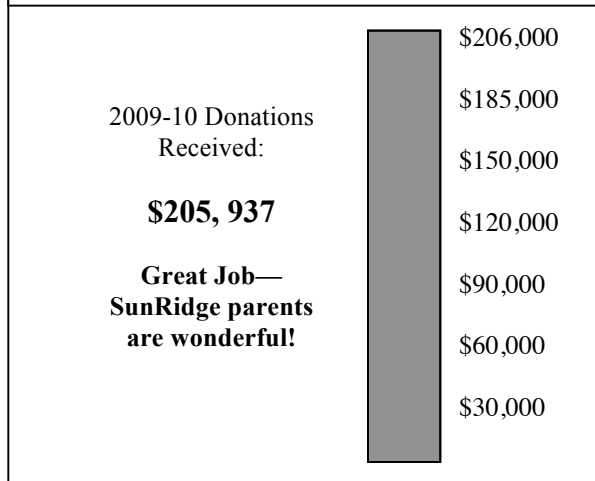
Our primary means for communicating important information to parents is through our Weekly Bulletin. Please read the bulletin every week in order to stay informed. We only send it out by email unless you request a hard copy.

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, or 525-8750.

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!"

2009-10 Pledge Final Report**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 still need parents for morning Crosswalk duty on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. This volunteer role entails ensuring the safe crossing of children walking down the hill and crossing the parking lot from around 8:00am until 8:25am 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 was sent home with our bulletin last week. 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 to help get the campus and classrooms ready. We will have our web link ready soon so you can enter those hours in the system.

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, 5th 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 Thanks!

Adorable Bunny- calm, cuddly, loves laps and being petted. FREE to Waldorf family from another Waldorf family. Includes travel cage, gate, water dish, boxes, etc. Call Nedra, 823-8067.

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