

SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

JANUARY 14, 2009

SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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CALENDAR

Friday, January 16, **Early Release for Staff Conference in Sacramento**

Monday, January 19: **School Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

Tuesday, January 20, 3:30pm:
Diversity Committee Mtg., Class 3

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

Wednesday, January 21, 6:00-8:00pm:
Class 2 parent evening

Sunday, January 25, 2:00-4:00pm:
Budget Crisis Community Meeting (see adjoining article)

Tuesday, January 27, 6:30-8:30pm:
Class 1 parent evening

Wednesday, January 28, 6:30-8:30pm
Kindergarten parent evening

Thursday, January 29, 6:00-7:30pm:
Class 5 parent evening

Sunday, February 8, 2:00pm:
Winter Performance, Classes 2-5
At Apple Blossom School

Friday is an Early Release Day ~ ~ ~ Monday is a Holiday

“Mandatory” Budget Crisis Meeting: Sunday, January 25

While the State’s plan for addressing California’s budget crisis has yet to be determined, it looks very likely that SunRidge will be faced with mid-year funding cuts of significant magnitude. This, coupled with the negative affect of the recession on some parents’ ability to continue their monthly pledges, presents us with the challenge of how to maintain our educational program for the children when the funding we have depended on declines. To put it simply: we must either find new ways to increase funding, or we will be forced to make cuts in our classes and services. To clarify and explore this challenge and possible solutions, the Charter Council and Parent Council will be hosting a *mandatory* parent meeting on Sunday, **January 25, between 2:00-4:00pm, at the Apple Blossom School campus.** Please put that date on your calendar, as every SunRidge parent needs to be informed about how the current financial crisis could impact our school, and every SunRidge parent needs to be a part of the solution.

Child Care Available

The Parent Council is offering free childcare for SunRidge students in the our AfterCare area during our Budget Crisis Meeting on January 25. We can accommodate only 25 children; sign up early through the office to reserve a spot.

Winter Performance Sunday, February 8, at 2:00pm

To reduce the length of time that the children need to sit in chairs, we are experimenting this year with splitting our traditional Spring Concert into two parts: a Winter Performance that features Eurythmy and class performances for grades 2-5, and a Spring Concert near the end of the year that features our instrumental music, choir classes, and orchestras. The Winter performance is coming up soon, Sunday, February 8, in the Apple Blossom Multi-Purpose Room. Everyone is invited, but if you have a child in 2nd through 5th grade, please plan to bring your child on that day so they can perform with their class. More information to come in the following weeks.

Parent Surveys Please

Our annual parent survey was mailed to all parents last Friday. These surveys provide very valuable feedback to the school and the more parents who respond, the more valuable it is. Please help provide us with a full picture of parent views on our strengths and needs by completing and returning your survey by Jan. 23.

Waldorf Graduate Panel Impresses Audience

Our parent education evening, featuring a panel of Waldorf graduates from 15 to 28 years of age was truly inspiring. Many, many thanks to panelists Adam Fain (who came even though he was sick!), Jason Clopton, Mira Niernberger, Malika Rubin-Davis, Greg Ogasawara, Molli Dietel-Rice, and Emilie Alongi. Hearing how their Waldorf education prepared them for high school and college, and how it has affected who they are today was both moving and assuring. We really need all parents to hear these first-person accounts about the value of a Waldorf education, and will try to schedule another one this year if possible.

Remember to Report December Community Service Hours. Thank you!

* Check our web site for the weekly bulletin, and many school forms: <http://www.sunridgeschool.org/>

Open Enrollment Period for 2009-10

Our annual open enrollment period runs this year from February 9 through March 6. During this time we accept applications for next year for new students and offer ways for families to learn more about our school. The events include two Orientation meetings. Submitting an application and attending one of these meeting during the open enrollment period are required in order to be included in our lottery for available spaces, even if an applicant family already has another child enrolled at SunRidge. If you are planning on enrolling a new child in SunRidge, contact the office for information and an application.

Apple Blossom Parade a Go this year !

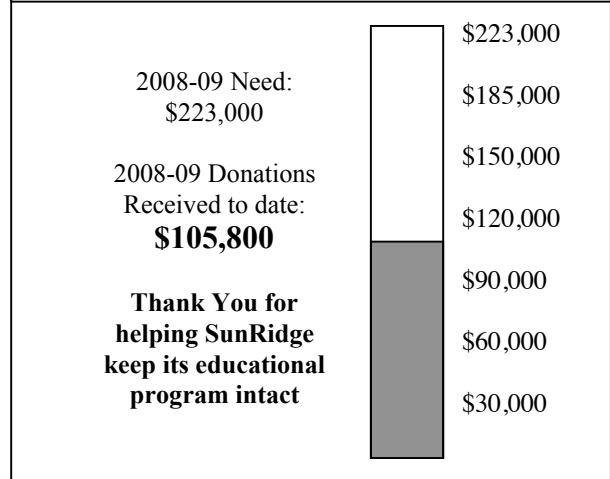
The Theme this year is 'Lights, Camera, Apple Blossom', which leaves a lot to the imagination regarding what kind of float we'd like to create, no doubt something light and sweet, like our children, like our school. We need a Parent Float Coordinator (or Team) and a Parent Artist to step forward to design the float. The float making can take place on campus the Friday before the parade. The parade is on Sat. April 25th. If you feel inspired to offer yourself for float coordination or design, please contact me right away. If you know somebody who would be great for either role, feel free to plant that seed in their heart. Lights, Camera, let's make a float this year. Yours Truly, Shyama
shyama@sbcglobal.net 480-5988

PS: It has been rumored, even written in the Community Service Guide, that the Kindergarteners & 1st graders are invited to ride on the float. We did that one year, but please know that there is no set "tradition" for who will ride on the float. Decisions about the float will be made during the next two months by the Parent Council in collaboration with the faculty. Your input is welcome.

Changes in Escrip Program

There has been a change in the escrip program. Whole Foods will no longer be participating. Whole Foods has been a large percentage of our scrip donations and it is important that we now more fully utilize every other program that is available. COMMUNITY SMART cards are still available in the office for \$3.50, escrip is still used at Safeway, Fircrest, and many other retailers. The LUCKY/ FOODMAX card has been simplified. Pick up a card at our office and swipe before making a purchase. Please, think outside of the box, and find a way to make these programs work for our school. I just gave a Lucky card to my brother-in-law who lives in San Francisco, and he took 2 more for his friends. There are many opportunities! Contact me with any questions, Kathleen Stroh, 824-8950 or kk_ward@hotmail.com

2008-09 Pledge Program Report



Community Service Needs

- 1) Somebody to be our website developer/organizer for the 2009-2010 school year (start training now). Contact: Robin Zickel 829-0877
- 2) 1-2 people to do PR for our school. This will really help. Contact: Karin Demarest 887-9999
karindemarest@yahoo.com
- 3) New Family Mentoring Program committee forming. 2-3 more parents desired. Contact: Shyama Harris shyama@sbcglobal.net 480-5988.

Folk Art for Schools Calendar Sales

From Diane Nadler
It's not too late to still get your Folk Art for Schools Calendars! New this year is a free sculpture map with each purchase, so you can take friends to see all the sculptures in our area. The calendar has gone GREEN this year, made from recycled paper, and using a local printing company. Only \$12 each! Available in the office with exact cash or check.

Tasty Burritos and Yummy Pizza!

It's not too late to order hot lunch for your student! Use the attached Hot Lunch form or pick one up at the SunRidge office. Then submit it along with your payment **three days before any lunch you want**, i.e. by Thursday for the Tuesday Hot Lunch and by Tuesday for the Friday Hot Lunch. If you have any questions or problems, please contact Jessica at 823-5572. The class of 2011 thanks you.

Papas and Pollo Coupons NOT Needed

Papas and Pollo Restaurant will donate 10% of your purchase to SunRidge. The coupons needed to get the donation are available on our website or in the office, but recent diners have been told that the coupons are not needed, just the name and phone number of the school. Just dine and donate!

Re: Submission of Articles to the Bulletin*from Mark Rice*

We encourage our faculty, students and parents to submit articles for our weekly bulletin that provide others with news and information of an interesting, helpful, and relevant nature (reports about field trips, thank yous for helpers at events, etc.). If you should want to submit an article please keep in mind that we are publicly funded and need to maintain a narrow focus on school related news, communication, articles, activities, and events.

We cannot print commercial advertisements, political articles, or controversial content not directly related to the work SunRidge receives funding to provide. The school bulletin is also not the appropriate venue to promote personal interests or changes in any school policy or procedures. Policy or procedure concerns should be directed to school administration, the Charter Council, or in some cases, the Twin Hills Board of Trustees.

Please also note that there is usually limited space in each bulletin for submissions. Articles may need to be edited to fit in the available space and/or may need to be included in a later issue than what is requested. Providing a submission as a Word document attachment to an email, at least several days before the desired inclusion date, will maximize the chances that it can be included in the next Bulletin. The school Director has the responsibility to determine if a submission meets these or other requirements and is appropriate to print in the school Bulletin. Thank you for your understanding of and cooperation with these parameters.

Invitation to Student Writers*From Takao Makihara*

The SunRidge Reader, a startup project, is seeking students interested in sharing their creative work with the larger SunRidge community. All forms of writing, including stories, essays, and poetry, are welcome, as well as photos of drawings, paintings, or other art forms. Students from all grade levels are encouraged to participate. Depending on the interests of the participants, there could be other possibilities such as suggested writing themes or writing contests. Publication will be primarily in electronic (PDF) format (a hardcopy could be provided for those without email). Publication dates/frequency will depend on the number of submissions. Assistance is available for technical and editorial support. If this sounds interesting, we would love to hear from you with comments, questions, suggestions, or just to show your support for this project. For submissions, please request submission guidelines.

Contact: Takao Makihara at tmakihara@sbcglobal.net <<mailto:tmakihara@sbcglobal.net>> or (707) 823-2347.

Faculty Lunch Schedule

It is a much-appreciated tradition at SunRidge for the parent body to provide lunch for weekly faculty meetings every Thursday. River Cullen has done a fantastic job of nurturing and coordinating this effort. Thus far this year the faculty has enjoyed lunches prepared by grades 6, 4, 8, and 1. The schedule for the remainder of the year is:

January	Class 2
February	Class 3
March	Class 7
April	Class 5
May	Morningstar Kindergarten
June	Dragonfly Kindergarten

Farmers' Market

The farmer's market is a monthly event held after school one Thursday of each month at Ragle Park. If anyone (whether you are in the hosting class or not) has an abundance from your garden and would like to contribute, you can leave contributions on the bench outside the office on Thursday before pick-up.

The Farmer's Market Schedule for the rest of this year:

January	- 5th Grade
February	- 4th Grade
March	- 2nd Grade
April	- 1st Grade
May	- Kindergarten
June 10	- All school potluck

Clarifying our "Classified"

Under direction of the school district, we recently discontinued having a classified section in our bulletin for listing anything that would be considered an ad for personal gain. After further consideration, we will be interpreting that requirement to not apply to items that are judged to be primarily a service to our families, and not business advertisements. This could include the sale of used items from one parent to another (e.g., violins, clothing, etc.), and housing rentals. The editor (that would be me) reserves the right to determine if submissions do or do not meet the requirement.

**Needed, Lost, Found, or Free
Used for Sale, Rentals, Job Referrals****Missing:**

SunRidge sweatshirt, size Adult Medium that has "Tay" written on the tag. Return to Rebecca in AfterCare.

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