

# SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

JANUARY 28, 2009

## SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

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## CALENDAR

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

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

Monday, February 2, 6:30-8:30pm:  
**Class 4 parent evening**

Tuesday, February 3, 6:30-9:00pm:  
**Parent Council Meeting**

Sunday, February 8, 2:00pm:  
**Winter Performance, Classes 2-5**  
All Welcome, at Apple Blossom School

February 9 - March 6: **SunRidge Open Enrollment Period for 2009-10**  
(see article on page 1)

Tuesday, February 10, 6:00pm:  
**Charter Council Meeting**

Wednesday, February 11: **Class 7 Parent Appreciation Dinner**

Wednesday, February 11, 7:00pm-8:30pm:  
**Class 3 parent evening**

**Friday, February 13: Early Release**

**February Break: February 16-20**

### Great Community Meeting!

Our Sunday budget crisis meeting was a huge success, with over 70% of our families, and 17 faculty and staff participating. Those present left with a good understanding of the challenge facing our school, they had the opportunity to provide input on how cuts would best be made if absolutely necessary, and, most important, we generated a wealth of ideas and commitments for increasing SunRidge funding in order to avoid cutting services or programs. We also raised almost \$2000 that day when a parent stood up, spoke lovingly about the value of SunRidge to the children, and asked for anyone who could to donate something right then (thank you Ellie!).

The next step is to put together a sound plan, with dates, by which we will TOGETHER raise the necessary funds. For now, a few key reminders from the day:

- We must have 100% follow through on committed pledges through June; if unable to follow through, please notify Theresa so that we can maintain an accurate accounting of what our pledge income will be.
- Please increase your pledge by any amount, if at all possible.
- We must widen the circle of financial support for SunRidge to include grandparents, other relatives and friends. This can be done with one-time donations or through the Hearts and Hands program on our webpage as an automatic monthly payment.
- Everyone needs to ensure the best attendance possible for their children; every percentage point of increased attendance for the year equates to \$12,000 of additional state funding (\$45 per day per absence). Attendance was always important, but is critically so now.
- Everyone needs to do their small part to ensure that our on-line auction this year is a huge success.
- Please read the bulletin—more ideas and information to come!

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

Our Winter Performance, featuring Eurythmy and class performances for grades 2-5, is coming up on Sunday, February 8. It will be in the Multi-Purpose Room at Apple Blossom. Everyone is invited, but if you have a child in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, please plan to bring your child on that day so they can perform with their class.

### Strategic Planning Goals Report

We had several important advisory committees set up at the end of last year's strategic planning process, and they have been meeting and following through with their objectives this year. We have included a report on the first quarter objectives with this Bulletin and will be providing an update on the second quarter achievements shortly. Thank you to these active committees that are working hard to help SunRidge bring its practices into increasing alignment with its stated mission and values. It is this kind of "bottom-up" effort that makes SunRidge such an alive and responsive community.

### Request from The Diversity Committee:

Please send in your beautiful quince branches with blossoms to help us decorate the gazebo next Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 3rd, for our school-wide Lunar New Years' Celebration. Blossoms can be brought to the office anytime before then. Yellow and red mums are also appreciated. Feel free to join us for the decorating from 3:00 - 4:00 on the 3rd, too!

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

**Please remember to Report** your December Community Service Hours. For your convenience, the reporting link is now being sent out by separate email every week or so.

Also, if you have not yet read the *Community Service Guide*, a new (as of this school year!) and very informative guide to community service life here at SunRidge, please take a look here: [www.sunridgeschool.org](http://www.sunridgeschool.org).

**Community Smart Cards Updates**

Thank you to everyone who signed up on Sunday. Most people said "I have been meaning to do this". The time is now, if you have not signed up yet, please don't wait. If you took a card and did not pay, please put \$3.50 in the envelope in the office with your completed form. The program has changed a bit and I would like to answer a few questions that came up.

**Fee-** in the past the card was free, now there is a \$3.50 fee if you sign up through me or in the office. It is \$4.95 if you sign up on line.

**Expiration-** the old card expired after 2 years. The new card will expire after 5 years.

**Tracking-**if you want to track your purchases, you must register your card online. You can still purchase it through the office at the reduced rate, then enter your name on the community smart web site

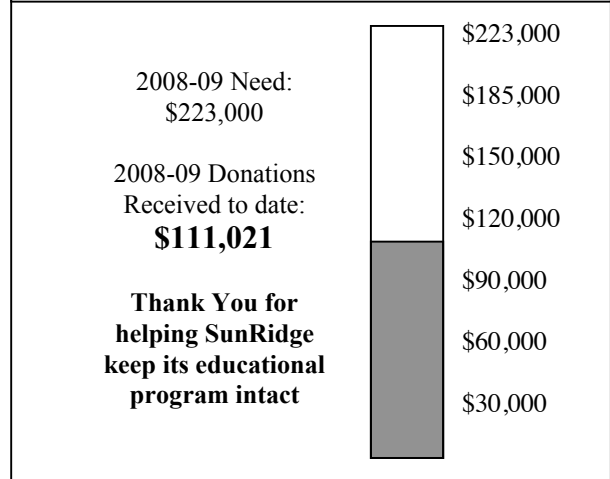
**Who takes the card?-** Look for the community smart logo, Local stores include, Andy's Market, Pacific Market Copperfields, Toy works. Go online [www.communitysmart.com](http://www.communitysmart.com) <<http://www.communitysmart.com>> for full listing.

**Who can sign up?** Anyone! now that you have your card, sign up family and friends!  
More questions? contact Kathleen Stroh [kk\\_ward@hotmail.com](mailto:kk_ward@hotmail.com) or 824-8950.

**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 at SunRidge, contact the office for information and an application.

**2008-09 Pledge Program Report**



**Last Chance for Parent Surveys**

We've had great response with the parent surveys but want to make sure everyone has the chance to have their input included. We have extended the deadline until this Thursday, so please get one in if you haven't already.

**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](mailto:karindemarest@yahoo.com).

**Hot Lunch Credit!**

If you ordered Hot Lunch for your child on Friday Jan. 16 which was an Early Release Day, your child will receive that lunch on Friday February 6, the first Friday of February. There is no need to reorder – just leave that date blank on your February order form.

**February Hot Lunch order forms are out!**

They will be handed out in your child's class or can be printed out from the Hot Lunch form attached to this newsletter or you can pick one up at the SunRidge office. Then submit it along with your payment to the Office **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.

Hot lunch form also available on our website: <http://www.sunridgeschool.org/forms.html>

**Papas and Pollo Donates 10%**

Papas and Pollo Restaurant will donate 10% of your purchase price to SunRidge if you provide the name and phone number of the school at the time of purchase. What an easy way to get donations for SunRidge!

**Farmers' Market**

The Farmers' 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:

February 5 - 4th Grade

March - 2nd Grade

April - 1st Grade

May - Kindergarten

June 10 - All school potluck

**Farmers' Market February 5**

February 5<sup>th</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> Grades Farmer's market! Come celebrate and prepare for Valentines Day. Buy or make your loved ones gifts, eat a wonderful lunch and spend the afternoon visiting with your SunRidge friends.

**Seventh Grade Fund Raising**

During the winter concert on February 8, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be selling sweets, savory snacks and drinks. We'll see you there on February 8th.

**SunRidge Business Directory**

The Muollo family is producing a SunRidge business directory. The directory will include and be distributed only to SunRidge families. The cost will be on a sliding scale and no business will be left out who wants to advertise. Please call Leslie at 824-0449 to get more info.

All proceeds will be given to the pledge program. Please call by February 13th to be included in the directory.

**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

**Community Events of Interest****Free Concerts**

Our music director, Eddie Guthman, encourages SunRidge families to take advantage of the free concerts provided by the American Philharmonic Orchestra at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts. Coming up: **Music for Lovers**, a celebration of classical music's most famous lovers—"a Valentine's Day journey through the music of seductions, passion, and romance."

8:00pm, Saturday, February 14, and

3:00pm, Sunday, February 15

Admission is FREE. See poster on bulletin board by office.

**Summerfield Waldorf High School presents**

**My Fair Lady**, February 6 at 7:30pm, February 7 at 2:00pm, and February 8 at 2:00pm. Come see the characters and songs brought to vibrant new life by these talented high school actors and orchestra. The show is suitable for all ages, and is fully costumed and staged. Ticket price for all shows is \$10.00; available for sale in the lower school office. Call 575-7194 ext. 100 for more information.

**Waldorf Parenting Conference:*****Educating Our Children—Changing the Future.***

April 25-26 at the Sacramento Waldorf School in Fair Oaks (Sacramento). Join more than 250 like-minded parents for a weekend of inspiration and renewal. A complete brochure and secure online registration are available at [www.waldorfinthehome.com](http://www.waldorfinthehome.com) <<http://www.waldorfinthehome.com/>> or by calling (303) 546-0070.

**Classified****Rental Available**

Waldorf family is looking for child friendly neighbor(s) for the next door cottage in south Sebastopol. 3 rooms with a deck. Light and quiet. Share a big back yard with fruit trees and flowers. \$875/mon. Contact: [hideaki@earthlink.net](mailto:hideaki@earthlink.net)

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## **SunRidge Strategic Plan Review of Quarter 1 Accomplishments**

### **Building a Responsive Living Waldorf Curriculum**

#### **QUARTER 1:**

- Formed a dedicated group of six for our social skills committee, working to help to contribute to a culture of caring and learning.
- Identified six programs to evaluate: Responsive Classroom, NVC, Toolbox, Tribes, Positive Discipline, and Social Inclusion.
- Set up training for the staff in non-violent communication and classroom meetings.

### **Aligning our Practices with our Values**

#### **QUARTER 1:**

- Green Team formed with an initial focus on coordinating and supporting programs that are already in existence at SunRidge and as well as reaching out to new areas: paper-free bulletins, waste-free events, etc.
- This group would love further support and ideas. Contact Kenna at [casalee-ribas@igc.org](mailto:casalee-ribas@igc.org) or Lauren at [lquinnt@gmail.com](mailto:lquinnt@gmail.com)

### **Strengthening the Community**

#### **QUARTER 1:**

- The Parent Education Committee has scheduled 5 Parent Ed Events.
- Volunteer Handbook has been completed and distributed via hardcopy to incoming Kindergarten families and is available on our website.
- Tree of Service program has begun, which is a way creatively share the incredible dedication of our community to the notion of service. This “tree” is in development phase, if you’re interested in learning more contact Amy Schiff.

### **Developing a Fully Inspired and Engaged Faculty**

#### **QUARTER 1:**

- Administrative Committee calendarized a comprehensive evaluation system for the teaching staff. The new system clearly defines a time-line for goal setting, self-evaluation and observations.

### **Maximizing Our Funding Capabilities**

#### **QUARTER 1:**

- Two parents, Amy VanLueen and Kathleen Stroh are heading up the E-Scrip & Community Smart efforts
  - Grant Writing Volunteer has stepped forward, Karen Poe, and she will be sent by the foundation to a grant writing training.
- Online auction is rolling, always accepting donation, even as simple as a scarf or something created by your children.