

# The Paw Print



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 2018

## Principal Message

Mr. Michael Ota

Welcome back families to the 2018-19 academic school year. I am very excited with the direction that we are headed this year with our academic instruction. We opened the school year with our Career Day by having our students greet with a handshake and have a conversation with a local stakeholder in our community. Having our students improving on speaking and listening is a priority goal. Our faculty has been working throughout the summer months to prepare a great school year for our students and families. We have been planning various strategies to implement STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) into our daily lessons. Our staff takes pride in providing a rigorous teaching and learning environment that promotes critical thinking. As always we will continuously build on relationships with our children and families. Please feel free to contact me with concerns of what goes on in the classroom. You are welcome to schedule an appointment or feel free to phone or contact me via email at Michaelota@centralusd.k12.ca.us

## Block BP

Biola-Pershing Elementary School is going to kick off the first ever Block BP Award. Block BP Award is available for students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. The award is based on student achievement in the areas of Academic (Mind), Athletic (Body), and Community Service (Spirit). Each student earns collective points in each category to earn this prestigious Biola-Pershing award. This award is made available for students to promote positive achievement and goal setting for the school year. Block BP will help motivate students to becoming a productive member of their schools at Glacier Point and Central High School. The award will be honored at the end of the year for students who excel in the required areas. The PTA has agreed to sponsor the plaque and medallion for the award winning students. If parents are interested please pick up a Block BP form from their teacher. This is a great way to promote our students who go above and beyond to achieve in school.

## GATE students

GATE classes will start up on the week of August 28th. 4th-6th grade students who qualified for GATE will participate in the program which will be offered on Tuesdays. For further questions please contact Mr. Finocchio our GATE Coordinator.

## Title I

Biola-Pershing Elementary is a Title I school. We will continue to provide services for parents and families to provide academic support and learning opportunities to help our children to master curricula and meet common Core State Standards. We will be sending nomination ballots for parents who are interested for being nominated to serve on the School Site Council and any English Learner parents who are interested on sitting on the ELAC Advisory committee. These two parent groups are very vital for student achievement in Biola

## Athletics

Students who are interested in competing Elementary Athletics must meet two requirements for the fall season. The individual athlete must have a 2.0 Grade Point Average from last semester and cleared of any school fees. If your child is interested in competing in Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, or Volleyball please see Ms. Turner our Athletic Director for information of sport.

## Thank You

Thank you to the parents who took the time to volunteer for the VFW-summer Fireworks Stand that benefit Biola-Pershing Elementary Extra-curricular programs. We raised \$3,000 to help fund students for equipment for music, dance, athletics, cheerleading, and district academic competitions. We will have this fundraiser every year and welcome students to sell script next year to benefit their programs.

## Join PTA

Our Biola PTA will be in its second year of existence to support our children and families with events that promote school. Why Join PTA? More than 85 research studies conducted over the past 30 years prove that kids do better when parents are involved. Grades are higher. Test scores improve. Attendance increase because they see their parents involved. The PTA volunteer every year because they want to make Biola-Pershing a better place for all children. These individuals do not get paid to put on activities. They do it for the children. They funded a scholarship for a high school graduate who attended Biola Elementary. Join them and get active.

## Lunch Application

We are asking parents to fill out the lunch applications for each of your children. We need 100% participation from our school by filling out and submitting to their teacher. We are rewarding classes who have 100% of their students who have completed and turned in their application.

## Welcome

We have new faces on our campus and I want to take time to introduce them. Welcome to the Biola Family:

Mr. Victor Martinez-GIA  
Mrs. Emily Kuzienga-SAI  
Ms. Marissa Herrera-1st/2nd teacher  
Pheng Cha-Plant Coordinator  
Adam Faria-PE Teacher  
Coua Xiong-SAI Aide  
Justine Lea-PE Aide  
Villalobos-Psychologist  
Brenda Tillema-Instructional Coach  
Cindy Escandon-Intervention Teacher

We have a very strong support team for our students at Biola. Take the time to introduce yourself.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

First Day of School 8/15  
Minimum Day

Back to School Night @5:30-7:00PM 8/16

PTA membership drive and refreshment give away 8/17

"Night of Music" fundraiser for Biola @ 6:00PM 8/18

Fall Sports Season Begins 8/20

Minimum Day 8/22

Elementary Spirit Night at Koligian Stadium 8/24

Saturday School starts @ 8:00AM 8/25

Parent Coffee Hour @ 8:35AM 8/27

Minimum Day 8/28

Football Community Service at Koligian Stadium 8/28

Student of the Month Assembly @10:35AM 8/31

Elementary Football Carnival @3:00PM 8/31

## ASP

Please sign up your child for the Afterschool Program. Our ASP offers fun enrichment for our students. We offer Culinary Arts, String Orchestra, Agriculture, Drumline, Technology Video, Folklorico, and much more fun activities for our kids to make a positive connection with school. See our ASP coordinator.