

Monday, October 1, 2018

Principal's Message

Hello Arroyo Families,

As we settle in to the school year, it's a good time to remember that school attendance is critical for student success. We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Research shows:

- Good attendance helps children do well in school and eventually in the workplace. Good attendance matters for school success, starting as early as prekindergarten and throughout elementary school. By middle and high school, poor attendance is a leading indicator of dropout. Developing the habit of attendance prepares students for success on the job and in life.
- Excused and unexcused absences easily add up to too much time lost in the classroom. Students are considered chronically absent and at risk academically if they miss 10 percent of the school year, or about 18 days. Once too many absences have occurred, they can affect learning regardless of whether absences are excused or unexcused.
- This trend starts as early as kindergarten and continues through high school, contributing to achievement gaps and ultimately to dropout rates.

Fortunately, in San Carlos School District, parents and teachers work well to support attendance. We would like to continue the trend of improved attendance, although we already have a large amount of absences at Arroyo School with families taking vacations during the first month of school. These days combined later with absences for other reasons, do add up.

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school!

Arroyo Reminders:

- **There is no supervision on campus before 8:20 am.** Please help us keep students safe by not dropping them off before that time. For those walking or biking on their own, please help them figure out the best time to leave home so they arrive between 8:20 and 8:30. Thanks for your help!
- **5th Grade Parents are invited to attend Outdoor Ed Information Night** on Tuesday, evening, October 2 at 6:00 pm in the Arroyo Learning Commons to learn more about Outdoor Education at Jones Gulch. **Parents ONLY** please. Students will learn more about Outdoor Ed from one of their Naturalists who will visit school in a few weeks. Reminder: Arroyo 5th graders will be at Outdoor Ed from November 13-16.
- Just a reminder that all 4th and 5th grade classes will begin the **Second Step Child Protection Unit** this week on Wednesday, October 3 and complete 4 lessons through the month of October. As part of the Second Step Child Protection Unit, your child is learning important safety skills that will help him or her stay safe from dangerous situations. Your child is learning how to use the Ways to Stay Safe to recognize when something is unsafe, report anything unsafe to an adult, and refuse to participate. Please take a look at 4th grade Child Protection Unit Information and/or 5th grade Child Protection Unit Information below to learn more. Please reach out to our counselor, Andrea Dimas, for any questions. For more information on the lessons click on the following links:

[4th Grade Second Step Lesson](#)

[5th Grade Second Step Lesson](#)

Best,

Mindy Shelton

PTA NEWS

BOOK FAIR - THIS WEEK!

The Enchanted Forest Book Fair is here!

Every year the Book Fair raises thousands of dollars in books for the school library and funds for the PTA--and it encourages hundreds of Central/Arroyo students to read!

Arroyo students will be visiting the Book Fair throughout the week of October 1st-5th with their classrooms. The Book Fair will also be open before and after school. Please tell your student to swing by.

Enchanted Family Book Night will be held in the evening on Wednesday, October 3rd from 6:00-8:00 pm. Bring the whole family to the enchanted forest of books and discover your story. In addition, there will be delicious cuisine available.

Parents are also invited to join us for last some minute shopping at Bagels and Books on Friday, October 5th from 8:00-9:00 am.

We are still looking for additional volunteers. Please consider [signing up for a slot](#) (or more!)

Thank you in advance for your support! Funds raised from the Book Fair support the Central Arroyo PTA. If you have any questions please contact Kristy Ettinger (kristy.ettinger@gmail.com), Julie Ledford (juliej74@gmail.com) or Stephanie Brill (slbrill@gmail.com).

STAMPEDE & SOAR COLOR RUN - LAST CHANCE FOR A T-SHIRT!

The last chance to register for the Color Run and get a t-shirt is this Friday, October 5. [Sign-up now!](#)

Sunday, October 28 from 9 am - 11 am

\$40/first student, \$20/additional participant and includes event t-shirt by 10/5.

- Location - Central/Arroyo Campus
- 1.5 mile laps through 4 color stations
- Run/walk one or two laps
- DJ music and food for purchase following
- Liquid food-grade color provided by Chameleon Color
- All students and family members welcome!

[Register online](#) or [sign-up to help](#) with the event at [Stampede & Soar Volunteers](#)

PARENT PARTNER GRANTS IN ACTION

Thank you to all of the families who have become Parent Partners so far. We are more than halfway to our fundraising goal! Did you know that nearly 30% of the PTA budget is allocated for teachers? This year, 4th grade teachers Ms. Carroll and Ms. Mooney are using their PTA grant for classroom supplies to support two recent projects: The 40 Book Challenge and Book Commercials. Students are participating in a challenge encouraging each student to read 40 books by the end of the school year and chronicle their books in a class book chain. More exciting is the classrooms' new green screen

that allowed students to film and edit their own book commercials! Students worked together to write scripts, shoot video, and edit these commercials with the app, Do Ink.

Please keep exciting projects like these alive at Arroyo. If you have not had a chance to donate to PTA, please [click here](#). Thank you for your support!

Central/Arroyo PTA

JONES GULCH/OUTDOOR ED PARENT MEETING - TUESDAY 10/2

5th grade parents are invited to learn more about the upcoming Jones Gulch Outdoor Education experience this Tuesday evening from 6-8pm in the Arroyo Learning Commons.

Arroyo 5th graders will participate in Outdoor Ed November 13-15, 2018.

SIGN UP FOR YOUR PTA MEMBERSHIP!

Central/Arroyo PTA membership is available for just \$20 per family or \$10 per individual.

Becoming a member offers you the opportunity to contribute to important discussions that impact your children's experiences at school; meet other parents and build community and partner with the CMS/Arroyo school community to ensure a safe, welcoming and fun learning environment.

Joining the PTA is an easy way to show your support for the school and does not require a large time commitment – there is no obligation to attend meetings or volunteer for events. If you are interested in becoming more involved, you can always attend the monthly meetings or choose from the many volunteer opportunities available throughout the year. Sign up for your PTA membership [here](#).

DISTRICT NEWS

WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY - WEDNESDAY 10/10

Wednesday, October 10th is National Walk and Roll to School Day. On this day students and staff will be showing their support for active transportation by choosing to walk, pedal, or scoot their way to class. Prizes will be available for those who commute to school in any means other than a single occupancy vehicle.

For more information on safety and preferred routes see this [link](#).

ROPES IS COMING!

ROPES is the Rite Of Passage ExperienceS (ROPES) program that is specifically designed as an optional enrichment activity as students complete cycles of their education. ROPES is a community endeavor supported by many groups and organizations in San Carlos. The ROPES project gives students in fourth, sixth and eighth grade opportunities to explore and demonstrate project based learning. The project is an opportunity for students to participate in an academic ritual by way of real-life learning experiences.

To find out more about ROPES, we will be hosting a ROPES Orientation where we will provide you with even greater details and provide an opportunity for students and parents to ask specific questions.

4th Grade ROPES Orientation

(For Students Attending Arroyo, Arundel, Charter Learning Center, and Heather)

Monday, October 22, 2018, 6 PM

Mustang Hall, Central Middle School

Central Middle School, Tierra Linda Middle School and Charter Learning Center 6th and 8th Grade ROPES Newcomer Orientation

Monday, October 22, 2018, 7:15 PM

Mustang Hall, Central Middle School

For more information, please contact ropes@scsdk8.org.

ALL ABOARD - 11TH ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM AT BRITTAN ACRES

Bring your family and friends to this year's Transportation Museum, an exciting event featuring fun, interactive exhibits related to all kinds of transportation. Guests can solve a mystery in our train-themed escape room, program mini robots to learn about self-driving cars, play airplane and train simulators, view a model railroad display, and more! For the adults, there are exhibits ranging from solutions to Bay Area traffic to the history of Peninsula transportation, plus representatives from the California High-Speed Rail Authority and other local transit agencies. The museum is created and run by Sequoia High School student Andrew Mancini, who attended Brittan Acres and Central. You don't want to miss this year's Transportation Museum...it's guaranteed fun for all ages!

This year's museum will take place in the Multi-Use Room at Brittan Acres Elementary School on Sunday, October 14 from 10-3. Admission is free! Please enter on Tamarack Avenue through the teacher's parking lot. Feel free to share this event with others who you think might be interested. For details, directions, and more information, please visit TheTransportationMuseum.com.

SCEF

SAVE THE DATE! FACULTY AND FRIENDS CONCERT - FRIDAY 11/9

Want to expose your family—young and old—to music of all types? Join our SCSD music teachers, local musicians and community members for an evening of live music. This popular event, held at St. Charles Church in San Carlos, is great for the whole family. Refreshments will be available for sale at intermission. Support SCEF, music in our schools and enjoy our local musicians. Tickets go on sale later this month.

SCEF HONORS OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

Earlier this month, the SCEF Board honored long-time volunteers and members of the Leadership Circle at a reception hosted by Scenic Scapes. Congratulations to Nandini Gondhalekar, Annie Mayoss, Susan Raymond and Kari and Jim Schnapp of JSD Construction. Our community is grateful for your dedication to our students and schools!

Leadership Circle honors donors who show extraordinary, continued commitment to supporting our mission. To learn more about the [Leadership Circle](#), click [here](#).

CELEBRATE FALL WITH THESE UPCOMING PARTIES!

Garden of Epicurean Delights - Oct. 13

- Spend a night high atop La Mesa, with delectable delicacies delighting the palate, vistas of San Francisco twinkling in the distance.
- Entry includes a gourmand's artisanal extravaganza of homemade charcuterie, cheeses and breads, as well as personalized drinks appropriate for the evening.

Rockin' Halloween Bash at Club Fox - Oct. 26

- Once again, we pull out all the stops for THE Costume Ball of the YEAR!!! Get your groove on with hopping music that will have you dancing the night away.

[Buy your tickets](#) and check out our other parties benefiting SCEF [here](#).

COMMUNITY PARTNER NEWS

HEALTHY CITIES TUTORING - ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

BE A TUTOR! Please join us and learn the basics to become a volunteer tutor with Healthy Cities Tutoring.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 17

TIME: 8:30-10:30 am OR 6:30-8:30 pm. (Attend either session)

LOCATION: White Oaks School MUR, 1901 White Oak Way

Volunteers are asked to tutor 45 minutes once a week at any of our SCSD schools. Not prior tutoring experience is needed and the tutoring time is flexible - either before, during, or after school Tutoring sessions generally take place at the school site.

There are always more students in need than there are tutors, so your help is greatly appreciated. We welcome high school students, parents, grandparents or any of our caring community members to join our team of volunteers supporting over 300 children in our schools.

We hope to see you on October 17! Please contact Cris Adair with any questions, call (650) 508-7327, or visit our website for more information and to complete an application. Thank you!