



# COUGAR CONNECTION

## CLARA J. KING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January, 2020

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### February 7

Family Dance  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

#### February 10

No school for Lincoln's Birthday

#### February 17

No school for Presidents' Day

#### February 22

8:00-12:00 Proactive Threat  
Assessment Training

#### February 25

9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Information meeting for  
upcoming TK and kindergarten  
parents  
Cypress Community Center

### Have Questions?

#### Principal

✉ [Jacki Teschke](#)  
(714) 220-6980 x2151

#### Administrative Assistant

✉ [Vickie Ohlman](#)  
(714) 220-6980 x2153

#### Clara J. King Elementary School

8710 Moody Street  
Cypress, CA 90630  
[Website](#)

#### Cypress School District

9470 Moody Street  
Cypress CA 90630  
(714) 220-6900  
[Website](#)

### Principal's Message

Occasionally parents plan trips or have family emergencies that cause students to miss school for extended periods of time. I want to stress the importance of sending your child to school every day possible. Every year absences spike the weeks before and after holidays such as Thanksgiving week, winter break, and spring recess. Just a few missed days here and there can add up to a significant amount of lost learning time and put your child at risk of falling behind academically. Too many absences at any age can affect your child's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation from high school.

Holidays are an important time for families to reconnect and spend quality time together, and travel can be expensive. Please keep in mind the costs to your children's education if they miss too much school. Furthermore, students who miss a great deal of school due to reasons other than illness may not learn about the importance of regular attendance. Assignments given to students who are out of school for an extended amount of time cannot make up for the learning that takes place in the classroom, and the interaction students have with their peers.

When a child misses school due to travel, Education Code requires us to mark it as an unexcused absence. If your child will be missing between five and ten days of school due to travel, he/she is eligible for Short Term Independent Study. This allows your child to receive assignments in advance of the absence, to be completed and returned at the end of the absence. When a child completes an Independent Study Contract, the absences will not be considered unexcused, and will prevent a student from being considered truant. Independent Study must be requested **at least** one week in advance of your trip. Students who travel for longer than ten days may request Long Term Independent Study, but they are not guaranteed a space in the same classroom or school upon their return.



## Student Enrollment for the 2020/21 School Year

New student enrollment in the Cypress School District begins February 26 for the 2020/21 school year. The following information is useful for families who will be enrolling a child to attend school next year.

1. Enrollment packets will be available at the district's Kindergarten Parent Meeting on Wednesday, February 25, at the Cypress Community Center. Two sessions will be offered at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
2. If you are unable to attend the parent meeting, enrollment packets will be available for pick-up in each of our school offices beginning February 26. While there is no official "due date," parents are encouraged to return their completed paperwork to the school office within the priority window, which closes on April 24.
3. In addition to completing the enrollment paperwork, parents will need to provide a number of documents, including proof of residency and immunizations. More detailed information is available on the district website, under [Parents/Student Enrollment](#).

Our priority is always to ensure that students attend their home school or the school of choice elected by their parents. However, sometimes it is necessary to administratively transfer a student to another district school if we are over-enrolled in a particular grade level. For more information on administrative transfers, as well as intradistrict and interdistrict transfers, please visit the district website under [Parents/Student Transfers](#) for further information.

## Cougar News Goes Digital

Cougar News at King School is a TV broadcast on the SMART Board created by students, for students. Each week the Cougar News team delivers timely world news as well as information about opportunities and events taking place at King.

Each week 3rd grade teacher Hilda Gurrola leads the student team through the process of meeting deadlines in order to have a finished product ready for broadcast the following week. Students on the team must complete job applications that include writing about why they are qualified and would be a good fit for the program. Ms. Gurrola states, "Being a part of the Cougar TV News staff has given students the opportunity to practice many useful 21st century skills. They use technology to research topics, write engaging scripts, and use editing tools to create the weekly broadcast. Each segment has a bit of each student's personality as they practice how to read using expression so they can be engaging to their grades TK-6 audience."



**Sixth Grade student Jason interviews Coach Fred about his role as Playworks Coach at King School where he encourages students to play in safe and inclusive ways.**