



# The Eagle Eye

Arroyo School | Weekly Newsletter

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## Fundraising Rewards

Participate in our rewards programs and a percentage of your purchases will automatically be donated to the Central Arroyo PTA - at no cost to you!

Sunday, August 18, 2019

## Principal's Message

Dear Arroyo Families,

As we approach the beginning of the school year, I wanted to take a moment to tell you a little more about myself and some of the vision behind our school. Please read on for some important announcements and reminders as well.

I look forward to seeing you all Monday for our Arroyo Fun Day and Wednesday for the first day of school. Enjoy the last days of summer! Please watch your email for the Arroyo Parent Guide coming soon.

Best,

Mindy Shelton

Principal



## Mark Your Calendar

- **8/19:** Monday Fun Day  
4pm-6pm
- **8/21:** First Day of School/Minimum Day  
Dismissal at 1:10pm
- **8/21:** Wednesday Welcome Coffee  
8:30am-9:30am
- **8/23:** Friday Assembly & Lunch Visit  
11am
- **8/27:** Back to School Night  
6pm-7:30pm
- **8/30:** Minimum Day  
Dismissal at 1:10pm

## My Background & Experience

As most of you know, I was the Assistant Principal at Central Middle School for the last 3 years, but I began my teaching career at a different Central School - Central Elementary in Belmont. I taught kindergarten and then moved into fifth grade where I stayed for 11 years before moving to fifth grade at Nesbit School, also in Belmont. After a year at Nesbit, I moved into a new role called School Climate Facilitator and spent four years building a character education program, teaching conflict resolution skills, engaging families, and building consensus among staff.

In 2010, the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District received a Healthy Schools Initiative Grant from the Sequoia Healthcare District, (the same grant San Carlos receives) and the Superintendent asked me to take my school climate work district-wide. I spent six years working to implement and improve health & wellness programs such as health education, PE, social-emotional learning and Safe Routes to School. I was also a part of the strategic planning process and helped lead a team of district stakeholders through the process of instilling a growth mindset, creating a collaborative culture of learning, and promoting a capacity for innovation. Throughout that time I kept up my training in curriculum, particularly in Readers' and Writers' Workshop. All of my experience lines up perfectly with SCSD's strategic plan and upper elementary program.

My husband Jeff and I live in Redwood Shores and have two boys, a senior at Carlmont and a 7th grader at Ralston, so not only do I have the teacher perspective, but I also know first hand what it's like to parent children in the upper elementary and middle school years.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if there's anything I can do to help support your family at Arroyo.

## Upper Elementary Model

Our 4th and 5th grade schools are designed with flexibility and collaboration in mind, helping children take the next leap forward as leaders and learners. This is a very exciting time in a child's life, when students are strengthening their cognitive, social, emotional and physical development, and also expressing preferences for areas of focused study. Children deepen their foundational skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies and science so that they can readily use these skills to engage in challenging projects and tasks. They actively design, 'make', build, and innovate in ways that require problem solving, perseverance and creative thinking. Teachers work collaboratively to develop Project- Based Learning modules tied to standards, and provide authentic opportunities to solve real-world problems.

While the idea of a 4th and 5th grade only upper elementary school is not a common one, research shows that this is a critical time in students' lives, where they truly become independent thinkers and begin to explore their boundaries and complex friendships.

- **9/11: PTA Meeting**

8:45am

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At K-5 schools, much of the focus and energy goes to creating a solid foundation in the early years. Having only 4th and 5th grades allows us to really maximize the benefits of this social-emotional growth and play to the strengths of that age group.

4th Grade can be a big transition for students. They go from learning to read to reading to learn and are much better able to understand abstract concepts and think outside of their own experience. They start to become more independent and aware of the world around them. It's a great opportunity to develop leadership skills and teach social emotional skills like conflict resolution and online etiquette and safety. Students at this age are also developing a sense of independence and a desire for responsibility and growth. As a part of the vision and mission of our 4/5 schools, we create unique opportunities for students to extend and enhance their leadership skills in a safe way.

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## Announcements & Reminders

### Daily Schedule

School begins at 8:35 each day with dismissal at 1:10 on Wednesdays and 3:10 on all other days. [You can view our daily schedule here.](#) Please note that teachers adapt this schedule to their students' needs. Some of our special programs (Art in Action, Library Time, etc.) are not reflected on this schedule as they vary by classroom.

### After School Care

Arroyo families can register with KidzToPros for after school enrichment programs. KidzToPros offers 2, 3, and 5-day care options. The enrichment week includes a combination of sports and STEM activities. Kids will learn Coding, Lego-Robotics, Basketball and have a social experience every Friday w/ Movie and Popcorn time! Students will also be provided time to work on homework, play board games, engage in creative arts. Healthy snacks will be provided, as well as some downtime to relax, read and socialize with friends. Register at [www.kidztopros.com](http://www.kidztopros.com) or email [contact@kidztopros.com](mailto:contact@kidztopros.com) for more information.

### Not Coming to Arroyo After All?

Please notify the school office as soon as possible if your child will NOT be returning to our school in the fall. This helps with class placements and allows us to have a more accurate enrollment count.

### **Drop-off/Pick-up**

Safety is especially important at the beginning and end of the school day. Please take a moment to review our [Getting to School and Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures](#) and follow all of the guidelines laid out. These are busy times of day for all of us so please practice extra patience and caution, especially when driving on or near our campus.

As you plan your route to school, please consider encouraging your student to walk or bike to school as often as possible. Not only does it reduce traffic congestion around the campus (thereby increasing safety), but it's also a great opportunity for students to start and end their day with some physical activity, as well as allowing for some great social interaction. We encourage students to use the buddy system and pair up with other students who live nearby.

Bike and scooter parking is located near the portables on the Woodland/Chestnut side of the campus. Scooters and skateboards may be stored in our transportation shed. For bikes we recommend investing in an inexpensive lock that can be used to attach their bike to the bike rack.

### **Playground Supervisors Needed!**

We are looking to hire an additional noon supervisor for lunch and playground support at \$17.23/hour. If interested, please see the job posting for [Playground Supervisors](#) and contact Mindy Shelton to learn more.

#### **Responsibilities:**

To provide supervision for Arroyo students during the lunch period in the lunch area, playgrounds and restrooms and/or Wild Zone; help guide pupils in developing good habits of sportsmanship; report special behavior problems; encourage and promote courtesy among children; observe that safety rules are obeyed; may act as game leader in the playground area; check sporting equipment to ensure proper operation; maintain order and proper discipline on the playground and lunch areas, assist with the preparation and signing of accident reports when children are injured.

#### **Knowledge and Ability:**

Knowledge of games and sports for children of elementary school age, safety rules and habits; standards of courtesy to be observed by children. Must have the ability to supervise children at lunch and at play; maintain acceptable standards of behavior among children; establish and maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted during the course of work.

Deadline:  
Open until filled

How to Apply:

Internal Employee Applicants and Substitutes: Letter of Interest only  
All Others: District application and resume submitted, see posting for [Playground Supervisor](#) position.

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:  
Human Resources Department  
San Carlos School District  
1200 Industrial Road, Unit 9  
San Carlos, CA 94070

Contact Mindy Shelton at [mshelton@scsdk8.org](mailto:mshelton@scsdk8.org) for site specific questions.

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## Arroyo Welcome Week

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In lieu of a single Arroyo day, we invite Eagle families to visit throughout the first week of school! During Welcome Week, families will have the opportunity to learn about Arroyo, select a volunteer role, purchase spirit wear, and meet and mingle with fellow Eagles.

- Monday Fun Day, August 19 from 4:00- 6:00 pm: Receive your classroom assignment, find your classroom and meet your schoolmates.

Come meet other families from your class, PTA leaders from our school, and others from the community. Food trucks will offer meal and treat options for purchase on the black top, along with music, Arroyo spirit wear for sale and volunteer sign-ups. Classroom assignments will be emailed out later that evening for those who can't make it. Please note, no changes will be made to class placements in the first 10 days of school.

- First Day of School/Wednesday Welcome Coffee, August 21 from 8:30-9:30 am-Kick-off the first day with a selfie station, coffee and donut holes by the Arroyo picnic tables!

Our first day of school is Wednesday, August 21, a minimum day (8:35-1:10). If you arrive early, please stay on the blacktop/playground area (and take advantage of our selfie spot) as teachers will be preparing their classrooms right up until the bell and will meet students

out on the blacktop. When the bell rings at 8:35, please say goodbye to your child and linger by the lunch tables for some coffee and mingling with other parents. This is another great opportunity to sign up to volunteer at school. Your participation is crucial for many of our school programs (not to mention what it does for your child!) so we hope you'll get involved and find ways to contribute.

- Friday Assembly & Lunch Visit, August 23 - 11:00 am: [Adventures in Goal Setting with Jim Wiltens](#) followed by our usual lunch period. Parents welcome! [RSVP for lunch here](#).

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## PTA News

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### Arroyo Volunteer Opportunities

The Arroyo experience depends heavily on parent volunteers. There are a variety of ways to be involved and contribute. We need your help to support the Arroyo teachers and staff and continue to offer the Arroyo programs, experiences and events. Get involved and volunteer, [sign up here](#).

### Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed!

Want a chance to see the kids during the lunch hour? Be a Hot Lunch Volunteer! Shifts are one hour on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Work monthly or more often. If interested, please sign-up [sign up here](#). Questions? Contact Jen Pedrotti at [jenniferpedrotti74@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferpedrotti74@gmail.com)

### PTA Membership

We have one PTA that serves both CMS and Arroyo and we welcome your partnership. Your PTA membership, volunteer hours, and donations support teacher grants, library, Art-in-Action, Garden and other programs and events. We couldn't do it without our [Parent Partners](#). Thank you! Please join us for our first PTA meeting on Wednesday 9/11 at 8:45 am in the Library.

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