



The Monarch Memo

Monterey Ridge Elementary School PTA Newsletter

Volume 3 :: Issue 8

March 4, 2009

Newman's Notes

~Dr. Rich Newman~
Principal

Now that the state has agreed to a budget, the question I hear most often is, "What does it all mean for our school?" Like all other districts in the state, we are facing a budget shortfall of millions of dollars. We know that cuts lie ahead and that they will unfortunately reach into the classroom and impact our most precious resource – our children. While many uncertainties remain, I want to assure you that our focus remains on helping each one of our students be as successful as possible, and that we continue to advance academic excellence across our school.

We are extremely lucky at MRES to have an incredible staff of professionals whose knowledge is deep and whose commitment to teaching is unbounded. As we face these difficult times I am reminded of the saying, "There are two ways of meeting difficulties: you alter the difficulties, or you alter yourself to meet them." I know together we will face these difficulties and ensure our students receive the very best education that they so respectfully deserve. We are a strong community and we all need to rally together and support one another. Our strength lies in our connection and in our bond to ensure that each child at our school is provided a world class education

PTA News



~ Evi Haux~
PTA President

What makes you feel lucky? Among other things, I feel lucky because we have such a fantastic school. We have amazing teachers and support staff, incredible parent volunteers and a bunch of beautiful and talented children. Our classrooms are well equipped and our students are introduced to cutting edge tools and teaching methods every day. I think we are well prepared to meet the budget crisis facing our school, district and state. While we will be forced to rethink some of our strategies, we'll all learn from the process and become better teachers, staff, parents and students through the challenge.

We're also lucky that our school's PTA and Foundation will be working together more than ever to ensure that our school's core needs are being met while still providing the enrichment activities that our community has come to count on. Please help us by staying connected and involved.

www.mrespta.org

~Dr. Newman's Book Club~

Positive Discipline by Jane Nelsen.

Discussion to be held March 20 in the MPR after Friday Flag.

~2009 – 2010 PTA Board Nominated~

The 2008 – 2009 Monterey Ridge PTA Nominating Committee has announced the slate of officers for the 2009 – 2010 PTA Executive Board. We will vote on the slate at our next General Assembly meeting scheduled for March 20, 2009 at 9:15 am. The slate of officers is: president – Evi Haux, executive vice president – Alya Mansi, 1st vp of programs – Gigi Adaya, 2nd vp of volunteers – Judy Gerardi, 3rd vp of communications – Mily Dahlke, 4th vp of fundraising – Julie Golich, secretary – Andrea Vinson, treasurer – Kathy Gunther, financial secretary - open, auditor – Sheila Lee and historian – Kiersten Schenk.

~Make A Difference At Middle School~

Being actively involved in the PTSA is a great way to keep in touch with school life and indirectly influence the school's environment in sometimes small but always important ways. One of these ways is by serving on the 2009/10 Oak Valley Middle School PTSA Executive Board or on one of the many committees that support the students and staff.

If you would like to be considered for a position on the board or in any other capacity, please forward your information to Sharon Semple: 672-5654 semple@sbcglobal.net

~Butterfly Tree~



You might have noticed the new and improved Butterfly Tree in the lobby... It's an easy way to support the needs at Monterey Ridge. Choose a butterfly and write a check ~ it's easy and the money will go directly to the program or activity listed on the butterfly. Use the clipboard to log the item description and your contact information. Checks should be made payable to "MRE Foundation" and turned in to the front desk.

~Kindergarten Information~

The District PEPP Parent Information Meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 19th in the Painted Rock School Multipurpose Room.

Ice Cream Sales



Mary Still ~ PTA Chair

Join us every Wednesday after school for a treat. Ice Cream is 75 cents each and the profits help support PTA programs.

~Shake Things up at Chili's~

Don't miss the next MRE Foundation Dine Out on **March 26 between 4 and 8 pm at Chili's!!!** Our fabulous teachers will serve your meals and drinks! Please note the date on your calendar now and we'll see you there for dinner.

~Monarch Math Marathon~

Start getting in shape now! Be prepared for Monterey Ridge Elementary's inaugural Math Marathon scheduled for the week of April 1.

What is it? It's an educational fundraiser turned into a FUNdraiser! It will encourage our students to learn, have fun with math, and to help raise funds for enrichment activities, instructional supplies, books and school and classroom needs.

This FUNdraiser is sponsored by the teachers and staff at MRE. PTA will match what we raise dollar for dollar! So, please support the Math Marathon and show the MRES students in your life that you support them and help us raise funds for our school!

8+2=10 18+32=50 13-7=6 84-12=72 3x4=12

Yearbook ~ The Metamorphosis

Kelly Gechoff ~ PTA Chair

Order your yearbook while supplies last. The cost is still only \$25 and the book will provide a keepsake for your child to enjoy for years to come. The yearbook will be comprised of 84 pages of student portraits, class group shots, candid shots of students at work learning and playing, and at special events throughout the school year. Order one for each child now! Room parents – consider ordering one for the classroom to sign at the end of the year.

Forms are online at mrespta.org under "forms".

Running Club

Open position ~ PTA Running Club Chair



Put on your running shoes and come out to the track at 8:30 AM on Tuesday and Thursday mornings (unless it's raining). It's a fun way to get fit and a fantastic way to start your day! March's back pack charm is a clover leaf. Earn a charm by running at least 5 miles in March.

Parents, let us know if you can help tally laps – we're done by 9:00 so it's a fun and easy way to volunteer at Monterey Ridge!

For safety reasons, please do not drop your child off before 8:30. Laps run before our volunteers arrive cannot be counted.

~Upcoming Dates to Note~

Wednesday, March 4 – Third Annual MRE PTA Fun Run

March 9 – 13 – Scholastic Book Fair (Tuesday AM shopping and Thursday PM Family Night)

Wednesday, March 11 – MRE Talent Show at Westview High School Auditorium (tickets are sold out)

Thursday, March 12 – Book Fair Family Night 6 – 8 pm – teacher storytelling, shopping and craft

Saturday, March 14 – Breakfast, Books and Basketball sponsored by PTA Dad's Club 7:30 – 10:30 AM

Friday, March 20 – Dr. Newman's Book Club 9:15 in the MPR and 2009-2010 PTA Board Elections

week of April 1 – Monarch Math Marathon in MPR

~Walk to School Wednesday~

Wednesday, March 11th

Get used to the idea of walking to school on at least one day of the month! PTA continues to support healthy lifestyles by encouraging you to walk to school. Please remind students to use sidewalks and cross walks on their way to school.

~Student Council Report~



Spirit Days ~ Hawaiian Day

Show your Monarch Spirit on March 27th by wearing your favorite Hawaiian shirt. Grass skirts are optional.

~Walk to School Wednesday~

Wednesday, March 11th



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Monterey Ridge Box Tops



Tami Dedic ~ PTA Chair

One way we earn money with Box Tops is to sign up on the box tops web site at www.boxtops4education.com. Every time someone new signs up we get FIVE FREE box tops (\$0.50)! The site has great recipes, coupons for items with box tops, and activities for the kids and ways to help our school. Please consider signing up today.

It's the easiest way we know to support our school.

Playground Partners

Karen Hayes ~ PTA Chair

Playground Partners has been successfully received by our students! Playground Partners volunteers assist a YMCA staff member run games on our playground on Mondays and Wednesdays during the lunch periods. During the three remaining months of Playground Partners, we are in need of volunteers. If you are interested in becoming involved in Playground Partners, and are able to commit one day per month (or more) during lunch, please contact Karen at ghayes01@cox.net. You will be supported by the YMCA Playground Partners training system.

~Middle School College Readiness Fair~

PUSD and Palomar Council PTA are working together to sponsor a Middle School "College Readiness Fair" on Wednesday, April 15th at Mesa Verde Middle School. The fair will begin at 6pm in the Mesa Verde gym and end at 8pm. Students and their parents from Black Mountain Middle School, Oak Valley Middle School and Mesa Verde Middle School are invited and encouraged to attend. The fair will begin in the gym for a large group presentation and then move to classrooms for breakout sessions. A few college reps will be there to answer questions.

While many middle school students and parents attended the college fair in the fall, this middle school "College Readiness Fair" will better serve the needs of middle school students and their parents. Another college fair for high school students is being planned for the fall.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact College Fair Coordinator Colleen Salzetti at pusdcollegefair@san.rr.com. Please also check out the latest information regarding this fair, which can be found on our fair's website at www.pusdcollegefair.org and on the district's website at www.powayusd.com.

BOOK FAIR IS COMING!!!
Monday, March 9 – Saturday, March 14

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday
8:45am – 4:00pm
Wednesday
8:45am – 2:00pm

Special Events
Books with Breakfast
Tuesday, March 10
8:00 – 9:00am

Family Night
Thursday, March 12
6:00 – 8:00pm

Breakfast, Books, and Basketball
Saturday, March 14
7:30 – 10:30am



The objective of the Monterey Ridge Book Fair is to raise money for the school library and classroom libraries. Monterey Ridge PTA will receive 50% of the funds that we raise in book credit, 25% cash or a combination of both.

Please come out and help support your school and share a good book with your child. Feel free to come when your child's class is scheduled or anytime during the day. Classes will visit during their regular library time.

If you have any questions regarding the Book Fair or to volunteer, please feel free to contact Christine at 858-705-0693 or 3cmr3@san.rr.com.

Another exciting event sponsored by the Monterey Ridge Elementary PTA!

WE

BOOKS

Monterey Ridge Elementary



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www.powayusd.com/pusdmres
CCPTA/Ninth PTA District
Palomar Council

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