



August, 2011

A Monthly Newsletter from the REACH School Board

The 4 R's

In late July, REACH staff and some parents participated in a three-day training in our new social-emotional curriculum (or, "implicit curriculum"). The 4 R's, which is integrated into the academic curriculum, fosters acceptance of and respect for self and others. Educating the whole child means supporting a child in being:

- **Responsible** for his/her choices in both personal actions and academics;
- **Respectful** of diversity and the contributions of each individual;
- **Resourceful** in solving problems independently, collaboratively and creatively, and;
- **Responsive**, able to listen and respond to others with compassion.

These 4 R's come from the Ho'Ala philosophy of education which emphasizes educating young people to become self-actualized, conscious and responsible human beings. Agreement systems, positive discipline, student listening groups and advisories, student mentoring and parent education are the structures which support our social emotional curriculum. Community service and environmental awareness are also integral elements of our implicit curriculum.

The use of the term "Implicit Curriculum" stems from the recognition that every aspect of a school's culture conveys implicit values, and that often those values aren't aligned with the explicit values expounded by the school. Students can feel the gap between what is officially stated, and what actually happens, and that can lead to a disillusionment with the school experience. The 4 R's aims to better align the implicit culture with the expressed values of our school.

Teachers and staff model the values of responsibility, respect, resourcefulness and responsiveness that we expect our students to develop and empower students to grow academically, creatively and personally.

Families will be introduced to this great new program in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

Community Work Day

Join the fun, play in the dirt! Saturday, August 13th 10-1

For more info, contact Michael Eller: Michael@firstlight.us

www.reach-program.com

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, August 13

Community Work Day 10:00-1:00

Sunday, August 14

Open House & Classroom Tour
4:00-6:00pm

Meet the director and the teachers! Public welcome.

Sunday, August 21

All School Orientation & Pool Party

Orientation: REACH School Library
2:00 - 3:15

Family Potluck Picnic: Ives Pool
3:30 - 6:30

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE

Thursday, August 25th

First Day of School!

Parent Coffee the first school morning.

Immediate Volunteer Needs!

Marketing Outreach Team

Let's spread the word about REACH! Contact Julie Heinsen: julieheinsen@att.net

Coordinate a Book Drive!

Contact Rachelle Steele: lrawshell@gmail.com

REACH School Board Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning REACH School Board members! Your hard word work and dedication is truly an inspiration. After many years and many changes, REACH has finally arrived at a place where it can spread its wings and fly.

We have a wonderful campus with beautiful gardens, we are embarking on a ground breaking partnership with the Napa River School, we have an extraordinary new director in place and a very gifted and enthusiastic teaching team, each of whom brings so many talents to the table.

We are very excited to see the future of REACH unfold and how we, as involved parents, can be instrumental in that process. We are immensely grateful to our intrepid board members who have carried on the vision set forth by the founding members of REACH back in 2003.

We'd like to bid our outgoing Board President, Casey Morrigan, a found farewell and express our heartfelt gratitude for her years of exemplary service on our Parent Foundation Board. **All the best to you Casey!**

Parent Liaisons

This year, we are lucky to have two parent liaisons on the REACH Parent Foundation Board: **Michael Eller and Laura Davison** (see photos at right). The Parent Liaisons are available to the REACH parent community for any concerns, ideas and suggestions. Their role is to listen and to collaborate with parents on how to proceed with an issue, and to facilitate communication between different individuals in the REACH community, including parents, staff and board members. The Parent Liaisons can bring issues to the board, and they plan parent meetings collaboratively with the REACH Events Coordinator. They will be setting up a series of guest speakers on a range of topics, so please let them know if you have any ideas or questions.

Michael and Laura can be contacted by phone (please see the upcoming REACH family directory for phone numbers) or by email:

Michael: michael@firstlight.us

Laura: lauraredwoods@gmail.com.

REACH Board Members



Judi Scherrer: President



Julie Zanzi: Vice President



Sean McNeil: Treasurer



Debbie McAfee: Secretary



Paul Schwebel: At Large



Michael Eller : Parent Liaison



Laura Davison: Parent Liaison

and Julie!



Julie Heinsen: Office Manager

Many of you already know Julie, the smiling face of REACH for new families over the past couple of years. Julie will continue to provide crucial support to the school, staff and board. Welcome back Julie!

The REACH School™



A Creative Liberal Arts School for Grades 4 - 8



Visit Our Open House

See Our New Campus
Meet the Teachers and Families!

August 14th 4 - 6 pm
The REACH School Library



- **Strong Academics - 888 API score (09/10)**
- **Small Class Sizes**
- **Integrated, Project-Based Curriculum**
- **Creative Enrichment Clubs**
- **Spanish**
- **Music**
- **Field Trips and Overnight Field Studies**
- **Positive Social Environment**



Our Mission: The REACH School is a creative, liberal arts school that supports the emerging child in becoming a whole person through the integration of strong academics, creative arts, and community involvement in an environment that fosters acceptance of and respect for self and others.

The REACH School at Pine Crest
Goldie Curry, Director

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