

REACH

A Creative Arts Magnet Program
Brook Haven Middle School, Sebastopol, California

Tuesday, September 10, 2007

A Weekly Newsletter from the REACH Parent Foundation

Take Note!

- There will be no chaperone meeting for Westminster Woods Monday night. It will take place before Back-to-School night on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 6:00 in Nancy's office – Rm. 8. All chaperones who are staying overnight need to attend.
- We need 2 more parents for Monday noon yard duty. Cinnamon was on the list but now has a job and would be happy to trade to some other noon if there is someone who could take her Monday. And then we need one additional person. Contact Nancy Higham to sign up.
- Last call for applications for Nordquist. If you have already sent your form in, great. If you need a scholarship, inform Nancy today. Students from Ms. Hall's 4/5 class won slurpees at the last "Skate Night" for having the most students from one class in attendance. Congratulations to Trent Potter, Alya Bohr, Noah Kriegler, and Milla Kapur.
- Gwynn O'Gara, our poetry teacher, has invited students or parents to attend 2 different events where she will be sharing her poetry. On September 14, Gwynn will come on at 7:00 at Copperfield's in Montgomery Village. She is the "appetizer" preceding Francisco Alarcon and Francisco Aragon. On September 15, Gwynn will appear at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts with Susan Kennedy, Penelope LaMontagne, and Phyllis Meshulam in a program called "Four Redheads." Please join her.
- Is there anyone who likes to take pictures? We need a couple of photographers to follow students around at Westminster and capture all the action at the different venues. Contact Nancy Higham for more information.



www.reach-program.com

Mark Your Calendar

Wed. September 12
REACH Parent Foundation
Board meeting 6:30,
Room 13, 8th grade classroom

Tues. September 11
Back to School night
6:30 - meet in the gym

Tues. September 11
Westminster Woods
Chaperone meeting
6:00 - meet in Rm. 8

Thurs. September 13
SUSD Board Meeting 7:00
(usually 2nd Thursdays)

Sept. 13 and 14
Westminster Woods
overnight- all students

Thurs. September 20
REACH parent meeting 6:30
Brook Haven library

Fri. September 28
7th & 8th grade to Marin
Shakespeare at Dominican
College- All day Henry IV
part I

Fri. September 28
4/5 Pond Science with
Magi Discoe 10:30 to 1:30
Graton

Volunteers are Priceless



How do you build a strong effective, collaborative community? Volunteer! Here's the beauty of this system:

There is a fun and interesting place for everyone in our volunteer community. Be brave, try it out. There are so many needs available for your personal choosing. Maybe you can't put in consistent time, well, we can find a place for you! Have

one day or two that you can be available, then we can fit you in for sure! There are small jobs and big jobs (sharing is always fun), jobs for this and jobs for that. We are hoping to utilize each parents' gifts and talents to make it easier for all of you. Maybe you would like to try your hand at something new, I am sure that REACH will be able to provide that as well! The goal is to enjoy your volunteer work, meet many new friends, laugh, be with your student or show them that you want to be a part of their education. Don't be afraid to get stuck with something that just isn't right for you, we will do our best to accommodate and make it a good fit!—*Ann Buller*

Back to School Night Schedule

You may want to tear out this list for your student's grade level as it will tell you where to go Tuesday night for Back-to-School night. The evening starts at 6:30 in the gym for all parents. After brief introductions, parents will move from class to class by the bell schedule to hear from each of the teachers who will be working with your student. This is not an occasion for individual conferences about students. Tentative Library Schedule (based on volunteer survey responses) There will be a meeting on Thursday, Sept. 6 at 2:00 in the library to learn how to be a volunteer, record books, what the rules are, and get any questions answered. We will be determining the schedule to fit the needs of volunteers.—*Nancy Higham*

4/5	6th	7th	8th
Room 10	1st period PE – gym	1st period Humanities Rm. 12	1st period Math Rm. 13
	2nd period Lang. Arts Rm. 11	2nd period Humanities Rm. 12	2nd period Science Rm. 4
	3rd period Math Rm. 13	3rd period Science Rm. 4	3rd period Humanities Rm. 12
	4th period Science Rm. 4	4th period Ceramics Rm. 14	4th period Woodshop Rm. 15
	5th period Social Studies Rm. 11	5th period PE Gym	5th period PE Gym
6th period Beginning Band Band Rm.	6th period Rm. 11	6th period Math Rm. 13	6th period Humanities Rm. 12

Our Beautiful Trees

Don't the new trees add a lively touch to the quad next to our classrooms?

There were some really hard-working folks who helped unload the trees on Friday afternoon- Silas Edman, Gordon Shimizu, and Nick Kishmirian. Then Saturday, a larger crew showed up to dig the holes, plant the trees, clean up, and get them watered. Big thanks to Silas Edman, Colin Doyle, Ann and John Buller, John Thompson, Natasha Dallin and Karen Rice, Bonnie Van Anda, Jenya Bohr, Jack Buller, Katya Rice, Gabe Spillane, and Alice, a Brook Haven parent.

Now is your chance to help by sponsoring a tree or even half a tree. We have sponsors for 3 of the trees out of 9. Put your check made out to RPF for \$200 for a whole

tree or \$100 for half a tree in the gold box in the office. And don't forget to talk to your tree when you are around school, it makes them happy.— *Nancy Higham*



First Aid Certificate Anyone?

Is there someone in the REACH Community who is willing to go to Westminster Woods and has active First Aid/CPR training? There is an opening in a cabin to stay overnight, and it is required by the camp facility. Contact Nancy Higham immediately if you can fill this need.

What to Bring to Westminster Woods



- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Towel- for swimming and for washing
- Toiletries
- Swim suit
- Warm jacket - layers
- Long pants
- Closed-toe shoes
- Flashlight
- Thongs or sandals to go to the pool
- Sunscreen
- Camera, if you wish

No cell phones, game boys, Ipods, nor any electronic equipment, no hair dryers, no makeup

(For adults, bring phone card, cell phones do not work there)

Bring pillow and towels rolled up in sleeping bag to go on a truck.

Bring bag lunch and snacks, and water and clothes in backpack to carry with you in the car.

Directions to Westminster Woods

Follow Bodega Hwy west to Bohemian Highway.

Turn right and go through the town of Occidental.

About 3 miles beyond you will find a sign on the left side of the road marking the entrance to Westminster Woods.

You will be directed to the correct unloading area.

New 4/5 Pond Field Trip Planned

Magi Discoe will be working with the 4/5 in developing an understanding of pond life, the water cycle, the life cycle, animal bodies, and the plants and animals of the pond. The class will visit Magi's pond three times during the school year to watch the developments as the pond changes through the seasons. The first trip will be Friday, Sept. 28, from 10:30 to 1:30. The second trip will be Friday, February 25 and the last trip will be Monday, May 12, all in the same time frame. The sign-up sheets are on the wall in Ms. Hall's room.

A Work Party Thank You

What a turn out we had on the 2nd Saturday work party! Thank you to all who helped out to get the classrooms, lunch tables, landscape and various and sundry items completed before school started. The campus looked fabulous when it was all said and done!

Liz Bjornstad, Ann Akers and Tim Smith went to work on the classroom windows washing them inside and out, for clarities sake. There's nothing like clean windows to make a place feel sparkly clean! Gordon Shimizu (recent past board member and a parent of a recent graduate), Bill Akers and Jack worked on setting up and bolting down the lunch tables. Kay Crista, Lisa Doyle, Teisha and Kathleen Van der Horst, Laurie Rubin and Ileana Champlain cleaned shelves in the classrooms, a very dirty and dusty job, no doubt! Desks, marked up a million times by past students were washed by Carol Coleman and her Mother Ruth Coleman, assisted by Lily Coleman. I saw those desks, and that was some job!

Thank you to the following parents and kids for weeding the different parts of the Brook Haven campus, a good will gesture for sure; Onie Kriegler, Drew Allen, Joe Graff. Ellen Shick, Diana Badger, Tom Montan, Xavier Mirabelli-Montan, Yzzy, Karen Mirabelli, Mario Zepponi, Anthony Zepponi, Clare and Ian, Lesly Taboada and Stacey Schuett, and John Thompson. What a great job!

Brain Champlain cleaned up the path/main hall from the parking lot to the back of the quad. Thank you Brian! Xavier and Tom Montan, Anthony Zepponi, and Drew Allen took numerous loads to the yard waste bin located on the other side of the gym. I have done that trek, it gets old very fast! Thank you guys! Nick Syiek, Lance Smith and Jack Buller walked around the campus and picked up trash. Lance also helped Nancy load her files in her file cabinet.

As a community we are very grateful to all of those parents and kids who came out to either or both of the Saturdays to help clean and set up the REACH quad and classrooms before school started, a very necessary job!

— Ann Buller

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sonoma County Book Festival

Saturday, September 15, Old Courthouse Square, S.R.
Cool stuff happening in the Young People's Tent including a Teen Poetry Slam. Check it Out.

Le Vent du Nord (The North Wind)

Performing the music, song, and dance of Quebec featuring hurdy-gurdy, fiddle, accordion, guitar, mandolin, percussive foot-tapping, bass, and piano. Your family might enjoy their performance at the Sebastopol Celtic Music Festival over the weekend of Sept. 21 to 23.

