



Director's Corner

by Justin Kornfein

Well, it has been a month now since school started! In that time, we organized a successful Unity Retreat, put on Back to School night, started our first club session, and helped to put on a huge Renaissance Faire.

I want to first thank **Julie Heinsen** for her incredible work in helping to organize much of the logistics for the Retreat and our first club session. Her behind the scenes work truly makes REACH run smoothly. And thank you to all the parents and teachers who helped make the Renaissance Faire a huge success.

The Unity Retreat was a great way to begin the year. We had 100% attendance and lots of enthusiastic leaders. We were fortunate to have so many returning REACH students to be leaders as well as our supportive parents. I was particularly impressed with the comments made by many students during the closing ceremony, who expressed how much more they "trusted each other" and how they felt that they "got to know people that they might not have known before." Those comments made it all worth it! In the classrooms, we are revisiting the lessons learned from the retreat in our class meetings and follow-up visit by Paula Pardini.

Our first set of clubs is also underway. Our students are busy cultivating the gardens with George Macros. They are shooting hoops with Ben Morita and Analy star, Max Fuji. We have a class of inventors with Maggie Discoe. Amazing artwork is on display with Judy Timmerman. And finally, the streets will be safer with our conscientious bike riders who are in the Bike club with Sarah and Amy.

Great STAR Scores!!

For those of you who checked the *Press Democrat* this week for the STAR Scores, you may have seen Brookhaven's scores, but for some reason the REACH scores were not included. **The numbers below represent the number of students scoring at the proficient and above levels.**

	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	8th
Language Arts	86	94	100	79	78	
Math	57	63	33	50	100 (Algebra)	66 (General Math)
Science		75			78	
History					77	

www.reach-program.com

Mark Your Calendar

Wed., Oct. 6
6th Grade Archaeology field trip, SSU

Wed., Oct. 6
REACH Parent Meeting, 6pm BH Library

Mon., Oct. 11
RPF Board Meeting, 6:30pm BH Library

Weds., Oct. 13, 20, 27
Parent - Teacher Conferences, 1:30-3pm

Thurs., Oct. 14
SUSD Board Meeting, 7pm

Mon., Oct. 18-Fri., Oct. 22
6th Grade Outdoor Ed. trip

Mon., Nov. 1
No School: Parent - Teacher Conferences

Thurs., Nov. 11
No School: Veteran's Day

Interested in Helping with the Newsletter?

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Contact Kitty Ballard at:
hikatherineballard@yahoo.com

THANK YOU!
 to Fred & Marianna Poulos
for their generosity in providing a pizza and salad dinner to our Unity Retreat teen and adult leaders during their training.

October 2010 is our First Annual Pomo Honoring Month in Sebastopol!

Last year, REACH parent Laura Shafer became involved with a group of artists who are organizing the first Annual Pomo Honoring Month. Art shows, educational programs, business fairs, dance performances, storytelling, and other events are arising to celebrate the continued presence and enduring culture of the Pomo people. An assembly is in the works for the Brookhaven campus in October featuring Pomo Dancers.

You can enjoy these opportunities in October, and you can get involved now to help make our first celebration a success.

The Pomo Project of Sebastopol is a growing group of artists and educators who organize events and exhibits honoring Pomo history and culture. Our purpose is to foster friendships between Pomo and non-Pomo community members.

We are not affiliated with any specific tribal group, but value collaboration with all Pomo people. While we may sponsor forums on sensitive issues, we do not advocate any specific political cause. Our goals are reconciliation and understanding.

We emphasize awareness of Pomo history, and sensitivity toward future generations. The wisdom traditions carried by local Pomo people hold value for resolving contemporary challenges. Therefore, we support Pomo people having an active voice in evolving public policy, including development decisions, education, culture, and vision.

The website <http://www.pomo-honor.org/> has a list of events coming up in October. Look for our table at the Farmers' Market every week.

Fall REACH Parent Meeting
 Wednesday, Oct. 6th, Brook Haven Library
 >> 6:00 - 6:30 Potluck Social >> 6:30 - 8:00 Meeting

Teen Text Talk

(excerpted from CNN)

Do you know what this means: %*@:-(?
 Or this: ~~#ZZZZZZ ?
 If the answers are no, you're not a teenager who uses alcohol or drugs.

Six years ago, Ryan Jones didn't know what the above terms meant either—but that was before he became an expert in the shorthand teens use to communicate about their illicit activities.

It all began in 2004, when Jones, a software engineer, received some odd instant messages at work, using terms such as "idk" and "lyk." It was all Greek to Jones.

He later learned "idk" means "I don't know" and "lyk" means "like."

"It was a real 'boy am I old' moment," Jones remembers. "But then it occurred to me the slang was actually really creative and saved time and keystrokes. I was talking to some of the other programmers, and we thought it would be a cool idea to start a website that had translations of the slang that kids use."

Jones created noslang.com in 2005, and as more readers have submitted terms related to drugs and sex, what started out as a fun little lexicon of innocuous shortcuts has become a valuable educational tool for parents to learn about what their children are up to.

Read more of this article on CNN.com:
www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/08/26/kids.drugs.text/index.html



RPF Board Member Judi Scherrer accepting the Sebastopol Schools Volunteer of the Year for the SEBUSD President, Deborah Drehme!



Family Picnic, August 2010
Thanks Rachelle!



Max Fuji from Analy's basketball team helps out!



Creating and playing in the classroom and at clubs...



Unity Retreat!





Renaissance Faire