

A Creative Liberal Arts School for Grades 4 - 8



## REACH now opens as a charter school!

We had a great turnout at orientation: Nearly all REACH families came! Kids and parents met teachers, parents met each other, and at the park kids played and everyone had a great meal. Director Karen Mirabelli told us about the great schedule for REACH this year, and Board President Judi Scherrer presented the REACH family handbook and talked about donations and volunteers (as did Board member Lisa Doyle). We feel very organized!!

Did you get a chance to sign up for a parent team? If you can sign up for 2, that is our hope - past experience tells us that this is what makes things run smoothly. See the note on the following page about the Parent Teams if you haven't yet signed up. We would like each team to meet before the end of September - sooner if you can manage - and get started. Your board contact can help if you have questions.

We are looking forward to this school year being a great one for the REACH Charter School. We need the help of the whole parent community to realize our vision. Thanks in advance for whatever you can do, and please know that your contribution is valued, and your student or students cherished.



*Casey Morigan, RPF Secretary*

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**  
September 14 at 6 pm

## Mark Your Calendar

**Monday, September 7**  
No School

**Friday, September 11**  
Unity Retreat Permission slips and payment due

**Monday, September 14**  
6:00 – 8:00 Back to School Night and Unity Retreat Orientation (Parents only)

**Thurs-Friday, Sept 17-18**  
All Grades - REACH Unity Overnight Retreat

**Monday, September 21**  
6:30 REACH Parent Foundation Board Meeting – Brook Haven Library

**Mo- Tu, Th-Fri, Oct. 5,6,8,9**  
1:30 Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences

**Wednesday, October 7**  
Regular Schedule, Clubs ending at 3:05

## Pledge Reminder!

If you haven't already, your pledge is due the first of the month. You can use the PayPal Donate button on our web site or if you have a check, please drop it in the REACH box in the Brook Haven office or mail to:

REACH Parent Foundation  
708 Gravenstein Hwy N. #203  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

On Wednesday, September 9 during 4<sup>th</sup> period, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will have a visit by the Sonoma Academy "All Stars". They'll be showing a presentation about the school, explaining a little bit about the enrollment and admissions process. There will also be some SA students there for our students to ask questions of them.

## Parent Teams and Volunteering

The success of REACH is due to the contributions of its fabulous parent body, and participating in a parent team is a great way to make friends, and stay in touch with what is going on in the REACH community. Parent teams perform essential tasks that support the Board and REACH staff. We had initial sign ups at the Back to School picnic but know that not everyone was there or had a chance to sign up. We've included the sign ups again at the end of this newsletter. PLEASE take a few minutes and look over to see where you can help out our school.

The time commitment varies for different tasks, but each team should expect to meet every 4-6 weeks, and should provide a brief report for the monthly board meeting. The initial meeting should be held before September 18th. At this meeting, roles in the team should be determined, and goals for the year outlined. Tasks vary from planning parties to posting fliers to routine maintenance – there is something for everyone! Each team is assigned a board member contact, who can help define the team's responsibilities and answer questions. So – THANKYOU!! It is going to be a great year!!!  
*Lisa Doyle*

## “Your confirmation is required to join the Reach\_all mailing list”

Did you see a few emails with this type of subject heading last week? Did you reply to each of them?? If not, please respond ASAP or look in your spam filter if you didn't get them. These will allow us to have a “centralized” email address list that allows anyone in the REACH community to address all or just your class. Any questions you can email to  
REACH\_all-owner@slists.sonic.net

***We need everyone to respond! Thanks!***

## REACH Unity Retreat

Next big event for the students is the upcoming fall retreat, held at Valley of the Moon. This is an overnight trip on Sep 17- 18. **Permission slips and Field trip payment of \$150 is due on Friday September 11. There is a parent meeting and Orientation on MONDAY September 14 immediately following Back to School Night.**

One of the most important elements of the REACH School vision is that the school creates an environment that fosters acceptance of self and others. The RPF Board wanted to launch our school with a strong and proactive emphasis on positive behavior and social/emotional literacy. Paula Pardini is a facilitator with more than 30 years experience with kids, education and building community within groups. We are very excited by the program she will be bringing. The retreat will be held at Valley of the Moon as the facility better fits the needs of our facilitator and her program. Parents, teachers, and students will all get a chance to be involved in this retreat and the associated training.

## Drivers Needed for Unity Retreat

We are in need of 10-12 drivers to and from the Unity Retreat overnight on September 17 & 18. Drivers will need to have all forms complete, as well as a copy of their current driving record. **For this trip only, if you were approved last year, you are still valid to drive for this trip.**

A note regarding Driver License Records: Don't be deceived by a long line at DMV!! This is an easy request and you get called to the “short line”. One parent reported that although DMV was crowded, it took her less than 10 minutes!

If you are interested and available to drive Thursday morning and/or Friday afternoon, **please contact Julie Heinsen** at 823-8199 or [julieheinsen@att.net](mailto:julieheinsen@att.net)

# First Day of School



**Thanks Rachelle for catching some of the many faces of REACH!**



## **Parent teams, 2009/10**

### **Special Events**

**PURPOSE:** To plan and coordinate annual events, including winter and spring parent socials, kids activity night, teacher appreciation lunch, Ragle potluck, graduation, Pool party

Board contact: Lisa

Kathleen Tuttle

Marianna Poulos

Paula Peterson

### **Newsteam**

**PURPOSE:** To gather articles, pictures and other content for the newsletter. Monitor website and make recommendations to website coordinator as to necessary updates .

Board contact: Paul

Newsletter/website coordinator: Leila

Kitty Ballard

Greg Armstrong

Sherry Fader

Fred Poulos

Stella Rijeka

### **Publicity/marketing**

**PURPOSE:** Distribute marketing materials and support marketing coordinator as needed

Board contact/marketing coordinator: Debbie

Kitty Ballard

Paula Peterson

Greg Armstrong

## **Facilities/materials**

**Purpose:** Work with teachers and BrookHaven staff to support site or facility needs for REACH

Board contact: Sean

Drew Allen

April McDonald

Greg Carter

Mike Bender

## **Field Trips**

**Purpose:** Support REACH director in researching and planning field trips

Board contact: Casey

Rachelle Steele

Davy Figaro

Jeanne Carter

Marianna Poulos

## **Room Parents**

**Purpose:** Assist class teacher as needed, coordinate class parties and special events. Meet regularly to share ideas/needs resources

**4/5:** Laura Shafer and Ken Fader

**6/7:** Diana Badger

**8:**

## **OTHER VOLUNTEERS:**

### **Admin Support**

Stella Rijeka

Paula Peterson

April McDonald

Kashi Armstrong

## **Tech Support**

Dave Sisley

Mike Bender

Greg Armstrong

## **Field Trip Drivers**

Laura Shafer

Paul Schwebel

Mike Bender

Rosemary Ward

Lisa Doyle

Jody Suchard

Rachelle Steele

Chelsea Wiecek

Dena/Tor Allen

Jeanne Carter

Melinda Steere

Marianna Poulos

Judi Scherrer

Sherry Fader

Kathleen Tuttle

Scott Van der Horst

Ken Fader

April McDonald

Charlie Figaro

Stacey Schuett

## **Lunch Duty/library supervision**

Karen Holbrook: Friday library

Paloma Engel: Friday lunch duty

Chelsea Wiecek: Tuesday or Thursday lunch

Melinda Steere: one day library

April McDonald: not Tuesday, library

Mike Bender: Wednesday library

Jody Suchard: Monday or Tuesday lunch

Dena Allen: library

Marianna Poulos: Tuesday

Laura Shafer: sub