

Principally Speaking

SOUTH BAY PARENT NEWLETTER

Principal, Marie

Twibell

SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

WELCOME BACK! September is a time of new beginnings. We are all excited about the new school year and filled with renewed expectations and hope that this will be the best year yet!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT! Wednesday, September 16, 2009

6:30 p.m. Book Fair in the Library and 7-8 p.m. Parents can visit/meet your child's/children's teacher and all the South Bay Elementary School Staff. Learn about what programs are available and how you can participate in the educational process. Please come and show support for you students.

BUS SCHEDULE CHANGES:

At the end of last year, there were threats of a 68% cut to transportation by the state. If that would have happened, we might not have been able to provide any home-to school transportation and only the mandated service for our special needs students. Fortunately, the state cut our transportation budget only by 20% for 2009-2010, however due to this cut we will NOT be providing a 2:20 bus run. *Transportation is an optional service and not mandated by law for schools to provide.* Our district is committed to continuing to provide our students with home-to-school transportation and will do our best within the budgetary constraints. *If you have a 1-3rd grade student that does not attend EXPLORE, please pick your student up at 2:20.* We do not have staff to monitor students between 2:20 and the 3:05 bus run. The funding for our EXPLORE Program mandates that students attend a minimum of 2 hours, therefore, it is not a place for students to wait for the later bus.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please drive slowly and carefully in the parking lot at drop off and pick up times. Follow the arrows and turn around at the end of the road. ***IT IS REALLY DANGEROUS TO TURN AROUND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD!***

HEALTHY CHOICES

South Bay Union School District adopted a Wellness Policy that is in line with state mandates. The following are the goals of this policy:

- Child Nutrition Programs, comply with federal, state and local requirements and are accessible to all children
- All foods and beverages sold on campus during the school day are consistent with current federal, state and local requirements
- The school environment is safe, comfortable and pleasing with ample time and space allocated for eating meals
- Sequential and interdisciplinary nutrition education and physical education are provided to promote student wellness
- All students are provided the opportunity to be physically active on a regular basis through physical education and physical activity programs designed to meet or exceed the California Department of Education regulations
- All school based activities are consistent with SBUSD Wellness Policy goals

Celebrations, Rewards, Marketing

- 1. The school district will encourage the use of healthy foods and/or activities for school celebrations.***
 - a. School staff and Parents will be notified of the school's preference for healthy food or activity based celebrations***
 - b. School will inform parents of health alternatives whenever possible***
 - c. Celebrations should occur after the class's lunch period***
 - d. School personnel will take opportunities to model healthy food choices while engaged in school and/or district activities***
- 2. The school district will discourage the use of food or beverages as a reward for student accomplishments nor will they withhold food or beverages as punishment***
- 3. The school will limit the marketing and advertising of unhealthy food and beverages***
- 4. Food or beverages that do not meet the nutrition guidelines stated above will not be heavily promoted.***

Enjoy this school year with your child as you learn together in a shared partnership of cooperation, communication and caring...

- **P—Participate in your child's learning**
- **A—Accept only the best your child can do**
- **R—Read to your child and with your child every night**
- **E—Exemplify those behaviors you would like your child to copy**
- **N—Nurture the attitude in your child that he or she can learn**
- **T—Talk to your child and listen**
- **S—Snuggle. Have you hugged your child today?**

WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT START FOR AN EXCELLENT YEAR!

