



# McKinley Elementary School

“We Believe All Students Can Achieve”

Cher Mott, Principal

2150 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street San Leandro California 94577

School Phone: (510) 618-4320

Attendance Phone: (510) 618-4321

www.mckinleyschool.net

We still need parent volunteers and Yard Duty Supervisors. Please contact the McKinley office if you are interested. We need your help!

Thank you Bancroft Dental Care Staff for donating \$50.00 to McKinley students. We appreciate your wonderful contribution to student learning!

Cher Mott, Principal

## SCHOOL BULLETIN



December 7, 2009

### CALENDAR

December	PTO Meeting	6-7pm
Dec 7 -Dec 8	Parent Conferences	4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades
December 12	<b>Saturday School</b>	<b>8:00am-12:15pm</b>
	<b>&amp; School Garden Day</b>	<b>8:00am – 12:15pm</b>
December 15	School Board Meeting	7 pm
December 16	Site Council Mtg.	3:40 – 4:40pm
	<b>Holiday Potluck</b>	<b>6-8pm</b>
December 21 – January 4	<b>Winter Break</b>	<b>– NO SCHOOL</b>

Early Dismissal Day - Kindergarten: 8:10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.,

Grades 1 - 5: 8:10 a.m. - 1:50 p.m.

REMINDER: Every Wednesday is Early Dismissal.

### Special Schedule

Parent Conference Week will follow a special schedule:

All Kindergarteners 8:10 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

All grades 1 – 5 8:10 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Please note grades 1-5 dismissal time is an hour earlier than our normal early dismissal time due to conferences. Thanks!

### PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Children from age six to eighteen are required by law to attend school regularly. Parents or guardians are required to ensure that their child attend school. Regular attendance promotes higher academic achievement and social success, creating future opportunities for our children.

Please establish routines each day by arriving to and from school on time. Plan for school the night before to avoid a stressful morning. Have an established homework/study area to best be prepared for school. Stay in touch with your child’s teacher and participate in your child’s education. Schedule appointments for your child after school hours. There are positive incentive programs at McKinley like 100% attendance recognition, certificates, and prizes.

One way to receive strategic academic intervention and improve your child’s attendance is to attend *Saturday School*. Please be sure if you receive notification of Saturday School, that you contact the McKinley office at 618-4320 to become a great attender! Thanks Eagles! ☺

### Saturday School & School Garden Day!

**December 12<sup>th</sup> 8:00am -12:15pm**

*Breakfast and excellent instruction!*

*Improve test scores and help McKinley*

*recoup lost Average Daily Attendance*

*funds! See you then! ☺*

### Holiday Potluck

**Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 6 -8pm**

*Where: The Multi-Use room for McKinley*

*Holiday Cheer. All families welcome! ☺*

*Sign-ups outside your child’s classroom for*

*a cultural dish you wish to share. Please*

*sign up as soon as posted to best coordinate*

*this wonderful family event.*

### From Cindy Cathey, Assistant

### Superintendent, Educational Services:

As we enter the winter and holiday season, there may be songs taught and sung by children as part of music class and/or an assembly or performance which may contain religious references or themes. Teaching children religious music at school is not prohibited by state or federal law, so long as the purpose and effect of teaching the songs is secular, rather than endorsement of religion generally or of any religion in particular. For example, an acceptable secular purpose for teaching Christmas carols is to teach students about a variety of religious, social and cultural traditions based in winter holidays in order to cultivate tolerance and respect for diverse traditions. Of course, the District’s policy is that any such religious material must be presented in a neutral manner that neither endorses nor discredits religion nor lack of religion.

Consistent with the foregoing, to the extent the District teachers or directs students in singing songs with religious references or themes, the District will

include religious and non-religious songs from a range of traditions, for example, songs from the Jewish faith and other non-Christian faiths, songs that celebrate the changing seasons without reference to a deity, and songs that are based in ethnic and cultural traditions such as Kwanzaa (when appropriate to the season).

Parents have the right to prevent their child from being exposed to material that may contain religious references. Parents are always encouraged to talk with the school's principal and/or their child's teacher regarding the school's curriculum and are specifically encouraged to review holiday song lists that might be part of a performance or assembly. If parents find religious content that is offensive to them, they are asked to communicate with their child's classroom teacher or the site principal so that their child can be excused from participating in any such lesson and be provided with an alternative activity during the lesson.

The District respects the religious and cultural diversity of all its students and families. If songs that contain religious references are taught or performed by students, it will need for a constitutionally permissible secular purpose only.

### **Telephone Numbers**

Our phone system facilitates communication between schools and community. We check our voicemail often, so please leave a message if you happen to phone while we are away from our desks. Please note:

**618-4320 – Office**  
**618-4321 –Attendance Line**  
**667-3508- Food Service**

### **Emergency Cards**

Please remember to update your child's emergency card when there are changes in address or phone numbers. Thank you!

### **Sam and Lucy Awards**

Congratulations to the following winners of this month's Sam and Lucy Awards: Alvaro Rodriguez, Sheyla Rodriguez, Litzy Lopez Gomez, Erika Dazo, Eddy Murillo, Lean Campana, Austin Espinoza, Ben Chen.

### **Caught Being Good**

Congratulations to the following students who were caught being good: Alexandra Flores, Folasade Oloye, Kate Gonzalez, Jonathan Maldonado, Trisha Galang, Israel

Mayorga, Jose Mario, Gamez Vanegas, Martha Dominguez, Carlos M, Jasmine Ruiz, Alyssa Pineda, Natalie Zapien, Karen Avila, Nayeli Garcia, Sheyla Rodriguez, Jennifer Aguirre, Sadie Rose, Jalen Lacy Polk, Litzy Lopez, Osman Behric, Will Nip, Moises Antuna, Pedro Pina, Alexander Houston, Tristan Thistlethwaite, and Ekene Jiroh.

### **Parents must sign in and out of office –**

Parents are expected to sign in and out of the McKinley Office at all times. Younger siblings may not play on the playground during school hours, and children who do not attend McKinley will not be supervised by Yard Duty. Parents may not have lunch seated next to their child, as this presents seating space for our K – 5 students. If you wish to bring lunch for your child, please deliver it in the Office, and it will be brought to your child. If parents wish to volunteer or be present for up to one hour per month on the McKinley campus, a Volunteer packet is required by the SLUSD, and must be filled out and returned to the McKinley Office for the health and safety of all students and staff. Thank you!

### **Telephone Usage**

Students are not allowed to use the office telephone except in an emergency. Please do not call the school to leave a message for your child, as often it's not possible to deliver messages. Please make your after school arrangements before your child leaves for school in the morning.

### **Medications**

If your child must take medication at school, an authorization form must be on file in the school office. This form must be signed by the doctor and parent. The medication must be in its original, labeled container. We are not able to dispense medications without this form on file. If you have questions, please contact the school office or Health Services at 667-3518.

### **Good News**

Congratulations to 4<sup>th</sup> graders Miravia Gilbert and Katelynn Holloway. The excellent haikus of both students were published in the Daily Review Newspaper. Good job!

### **Safety**

Student safety is extremely important at McKinley. We must insist that students are on campus ONLY when they are assigned. There is no supervision for them outside their assigned times. You must be vigilante in bringing your child to and from school. Please, teach your child the safe procedures for crossing the street. Kid's Club is available 577-3462 and ASES at 357-5515 for after school programs.