



McKinley Elementary School

"We Believe All Students Can Achieve"

Cher Mott, Principal

2150 East 14th Street San Leandro California 94577

School Phone: (510) 618-4320

Attendance Phone: (510) 618-4321

www.mckinleyschool.net

SCHOOL BULLETIN

August 26, 2009

CALENDAR

September 7	Labor Day Holiday
September 3 & 16	School Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
September 16	Coffee Chat 8:15am –Rm.16
September 15	School Site Council Meeting 3:30 p.m
September 29	Picture day
September 17	Back to School Night, 6:30 pm

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.

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year with your children. I am very happy to be the continuing Principal at McKinley! We continue to dedicate all our efforts into helping your children experience an happy and successful school year. Our goal at McKinley is: to promote life long learning, build life skills, and maximize opportunities for academic proficiency, as well as close the racial achievement gap. Last year, we developed a Parent Equity Team to address this racial achievement gap, and have improved academic test performance for both our African American and Latino students, and will continue to do so until this gap is closed! Please join our: PTO, ELAC and School Site Council to be a part of this growing success. Our McKinley Office has nominations for our School Site Council at the front counter, for parents/guardians interested in making sound financial decisions and continuing to promote solid academic programs, in a nurturing school environment to their children.

Thank you for your patience with the construction presently underway on the corner of East 14th Street and Estabrook. We will have crossing guards posted to assist McKinley families to cross at both Blossom and Estabrook Court to arrive safely at McKinley through Friday, September 4th. After that time, our School District is working with the City of San Leandro to secure funds for crossing guards for the remainder of the school year as quickly as possible. Please stop, look and listen, while crossing all streets adjacent to McKinley.

We would like to welcome our new staff members to McKinley:

Lexi Bethel – Art Teacher, Rachel Jergensen, 3rd grade Teacher, and Marina Martinez, 4th grade long-term sub for Sabrina Ramirez.

Our new staff comes to us with a wealth of knowledge to share with our rich and diverse community of children, and are a wonderful addition to the McKinley family.

Thank you again for all your Measure B votes! Our newly remodeled Girl's Bathroom in the Main Building has been beautifully completed.

Our first Coffee Chat will be Wednesday, September 2nd, after our Wednesday Morning Message Assembly, which will be every day for the first two weeks. ☺ These Wednesday Assemblies will be held on the blacktop area at the back of the school, where we will do: the Pledge of Allegiance, sing our school song/chant, give important announcements, and review behavioral and playground safety, and celebrate success! Please join us after our Morning Message Assembly, the first Wednesday of every month, for "Coffee Chat" and edibles, to share, beginning at 8:20am in Portable J.

Kid's Club is now available for AM enrollment. Please call 577-3462 to secure a spot for your child. ☺

It's going to be a great school year!

Cher Mott
Principal

TELEPHONE NUMBERS – 510 618-4320

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. McKinley's main phone number (510 618-4320) with easy voicemail options. Please make note of the numbers.

Main number - 618-4320
Attendance line - 618-4321
Food Service - 618-4322

EMERGENCY CARDS

Student Emergency Cards are one of the most important documents we have for your child. This card contains contact phone numbers for parents and also for persons we can call in the event of an emergency.

In the event that your child becomes ill, injured or is not picked-up on time, we must have telephone numbers that are correct. We make every attempt to contact parents first. If we are unable to reach a parent we then call the emergency contact telephone numbers. Please make sure the names and numbers are correct. We also ask that you notify your contacts and inform them that they are listed as emergency contacts for your child. Only the people whose names are listed on your child's card will be allowed to pick up your child from school.

Also, make sure that your child is aware of any changes to their after school arrangements before you drop him/her off at school. It is sometimes impossible to track down a student and give them a message during the school day.

MEDICATIONS

If your child must take medication at school, an authorization form must be on file in the school office. This form must signed by the doctor and parent, and the medication must be in its original, labeled container. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you.

TRAFFIC

Each year we review the traffic rules for drivers bringing student to school. Please be a positive role model for our children and drive safely and according to posted rules. You have probably already met our Greeters, this is a new program designed to help students arrive safely on campus.

Right turns only are allowed when exiting the driveway onto E.14th St.

Parking directly in front of the school is allowed only when *dropping off* or *picking up* students. Cars parked without an occupant will be ticketed by the San Leandro police.

Do not park between orange cones at dismissal time. This is ASES bus space.

Drive slowly and carefully when arriving and leaving the school campus.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP INFORMATION

When you bring your child to school in the morning, you have a couple of options.

1. Park on Bancroft and walk the path on the side of the field.
2. Park on the street in front of the school where there is a crossing guard to assist you.
3. Drop off your student at the designated areas in the driveway.

We are implementing a new program for dropping off your child. This program is designed to make your morning a little easier. There will be two "Drop Off" areas by the driveway where a "Greeter" will be stationed to assist you in helping your child out of the car and getting to the blacktop to line up for class. If you wish to walk your child to class, please make it a part of your routine to park on Bancroft or a side street and walk onto the campus. You will find that avoiding the driveway will save you time.

We need Volunteers! If you have 20 spare minutes in the morning and would like to help make the drop off area safe for our children, please call contact the school office. Thank you for you help.

Student safety is extremely important at McKinley School. We must insist that students are on the school campus ONLY when they are supposed to be here. This year we will be using the following system for students who are picked up late: The first time a child is not picked up on time the parent will be contacted by a teacher, the second time the parent will get a phone call from the office, the third time the parent will get a phone call to set up a conference with the Principal. Kid's Club is an on-site after school option. Their phone number is 510 577-3462. ASES at the Boys and Girls Club is another option. Their number is 510 357-5515.

Please make sure that your child is aware of their after school arrangements before he/she arrives at school.

It is often impossible to track down a student and give them a message during the school day.

ASES (After School Education and Safety)

Each school in San Leandro has funding to provide after school recreation programs for all students. Our program has begun at McKinley School and takes place at the Boys and Girls Club. Sessions are held each day from dismissal until 6:00 p.m. The classes are an excellent way to support your child's learning and also give them recreational experiences with their peers. We encourage all parents to consider applying for ASES. You may pick up a flyer in the office or call the Boys and Girls Club at 510 483-5581.

NOON SUPERVISOR NEEDED

We are in need of help on the playground during lunch recess from 11:00 – 1:00. If you are interested in becoming a paid noon supervisor, please contact the school office at 618-4320

STAGGERED SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

Staggered schedule for grades 1 – 3 will begin Monday September 8. Your child's teacher will notify you if there will be change in your child's schedule. Early readers will attend 8:10 – 1:50 and late readers will attend 9:15 – 3:00. Please make arrangements to bring and pick up your children on time, since there is no supervision of students beyond their regular school day. Should you need after school care please call Kids Club at 577-3462 or ASES at 483-5581.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Back to School Night will be held Thursday, September 17. We invite all families to attend this important event. At 6:30 p.m. there will be a meeting in the Multipurpose Room. Classroom visitations will be held from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. This is a valuable opportunity to learn what your child will be learning this year and how you can support your child and the school. There will be a Book Fair in the library and you will have the opportunity to join PTO.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

We have two parent openings on our School Site Council this year. Tom Scovill will continue to serve this year and if you would like to join him, please send a note to the office by Sept 14th. School Site Council is a school governance group that is composed of elected parent and staff representatives and the principal. The Council meets once a month at a time selected by the representatives. The group reviews all plans and policies, participates in training or planning sessions and approves the budgets for the school. All meeting minutes are published and posted in the main hallway at McKinley.

IMPORTANT FORMS

Recently several important documents were sent home with your student. There was a District handbook, a Student-Parent-Teacher Compact, reduced lunch application, field trip authorization, and a new emergency card. Please be sure to return the emergency card completely filled out with current information. In case of emergency it is vital we can contact you. Look through the packet to see which documents need signatures. Please fill out and return the reduced lunch application. Even if you don't plan to use it, it helps our school receive more funding. Thank you.