



Dragon Dispatch



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Mr. Peter Fong, Principal

Cupertino Union School District

October 23, 2014

Board of Education - Anjali Kausar, Ben Liao, Josephine Lucey, Gary McCue, Phyllis Vogel Superintendent – Wendy Gudalewicz

Traffic Volunteers for the week of October 27 – 31 are parents from Room 15

Traffic Volunteers for the week of November 3 – 7 are parents from Room 14

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 24 – **Staff Learning Day – NO SCHOOL**
Oct. 31 – Halloween Parade at 8:45 am – **THIS IS A CHANGE IN TIME**
Nov. 3 – SSC Meeting 7:45 am
Nov. 7 – Vision Screening 8:30 – 12:00 pm (Grades K, 3 & SDC)
Nov. 10 – 11 – Veterans Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Nov. 13 – HSC Meeting 7:00 pm
Nov. 14 – De Anza Planetarium - K-3 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm
4-5 from 8:00 – 9:00 pm
Nov. 20 – 5th Grade Parent Meeting – 6:00 – 7:00 pm in the GLC
Nov. 24 – 28 – **Thanksgiving Recess – NO SCHOOL**

WALKAROUND SPONSOR DONATIONS

Walkaround Sponsor Donations were due October 20th. If you have not yet turned yours in, there is still time. Please turn in all collected monies by Wednesday, October 29th.

STATEWIDE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER SHORTAGE

We are currently experiencing the impact of a severe statewide substitute teacher shortage in our classrooms here at Dilworth School. If your schedule allows for flexibility, and you have a four-year college degree in any subject area, including fields outside of education, you could qualify to be a substitute teacher by passing one basic skills test and obtaining a certification.

The flexibility of serving as a substitute teacher allows you to work as many (or as few) days as you would like. You are also able to choose to be available only for our school or for any school in the District. As a substitute teacher, you would be positively impacting our students (your children!) and getting paid to do so.

State requirements are outlined here: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/>. After meeting these requirements, you would register with Santa Clara County Office of Education at <http://www.sccoe.org/>.

Substitute information specific to CUSD can be found at:

http://www.edline.net/pages/Cupertino_Union_School_District/Employment/Substitute_On-Call_Positions.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact me. I would be happy to give you more information or answer any questions you may have. Thank you, Mr. Fong

NOON DUTY NEEDED - If you enjoy working with children and are interested in a noon duty position supervising our students from 12:00 to 12:40 daily during lunchtime, please inform the office. This position pays \$10.00 per hour. If you would be interested in volunteering for noon duty, please contact the office.

EARTHQUAKE DRILL

We had our annual earthquake drill this week. Students practiced the "drop, cover and hold" drill in their classrooms. They then evacuated the room as if a real earthquake had just occurred. This drill is an important activity because students need to be familiar with evacuation and disaster procedures. We will have our annual school-wide disaster drill next month. This is once again a good time for us to stress the importance of keeping your child's enrollment card accurate and up to date. In the event of a real emergency, we can only release your child to those adults listed on your emergency card. Please make an effort to come in periodically and ask to review your child's enrollment card information.

FUJITSU PLANETARIUM AT DE ANZA COLLEGE

Enjoy the Fujitsu Planetarium with Dilworth! **Order form/flyers will be in the Friday folder this week.** Please join Dilworth students and families for a private event at the Fujitsu Planetarium on 11/14! The first show (6:30-7:30pm) will be "The Magic Treehouse" and is geared towards students in K-2nd. The second show (8:00-9:00 pm) will be "Cosmic Journey" and is geared towards students in 3rd-5th. **Location:** Fujitsu Planetarium, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd (Cupertino). Tickets are \$7 and Parking is \$3. Parking passes will be pre-ordered and sent home with tickets on 11/14. A description of each show is listed on the De Anza Website: <http://planetarium.deanza.edu>. If you have any questions please contact Vani Anantha, [mail to: vani_anantha@yahoo.com](mailto:vani_anantha@yahoo.com)

DILWORTH SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

We are desperately seeking one parent volunteer to be a part of our School Site Council. SSC meets one morning each month during the school year. If you are interested or for more information, please contact Mrs. Gauthier at 408-253-2850 x150 or at gauthier_susan@cusdk8.org.

SCRIPPS SPELLING BEE AND THE GEOGRAPHY BEE - Scripps National Spelling Bee is coming soon!! All students in grades 1 – 5 are invited to participate. The purpose of the Spelling Bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabulary, as well as learn concepts and develop correct English usage. Spelling Bee participation can also help students gain valuable experience in problem solving and public speaking. Participation is voluntary and students that are interested in participating in the Spelling Bee will be notified about where and when to pick up the materials. The individual classroom bees will be held in December and the school-wide bee will be held in January. If you have any questions about the Spelling Bee, please contact Mrs. Gauthier at gauthier_susan@cusdk8.org

The Geography Bee is coming soon, too!! All fourth and fifth graders are invited to participate in the Geography Bee. The individual classroom bees will be held in December and the school-wide bee will be held in January. Participation is voluntary. More information on study resources will be given to all fourth and fifth grade teachers to share with all interested students. If you would like to learn more about the Geo Bee, please go to www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee

DISTRICT NEWS SECTION - Vol. 6 2014-2015 - Elementary School

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY ABSENSE - Regular attendance plays an important role in student achievement. The District will work with parents/guardians and students to ensure their compliance with all state laws, and may use appropriate legal means to correct problems of chronic truancy. Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises may be considered excused. In order to receive an excused absence for participation in a religious exercise or holiday, advance written request by the parent/guardian must be submitted to the school site. Failure to provide the advance written request will result in your child receiving an unexcused absence. Details of this requirement can be found on the CUSD website BP/AR 5113 Absences and Excuses.

[http://www.edline.net/pages/Cupertino_Union_SD/About_the_District/6903179222802129058/Board Policies/Series_5000_-_Students](http://www.edline.net/pages/Cupertino_Union_SD/About_the_District/6903179222802129058/Board_Policies/Series_5000_-_Students)

CEEFF PARENT EDUCATIONAL FORUM - The date of the CEEFF Parent Educational Forum, "Culture, Emotional Intelligence, and 21st Century Education: Understanding and Application" by Dr. Helen Sung, **has been changed** to accommodate a larger audience. Please note the following change:

Wednesday, October 29th - 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Lawson Middle School - 10401 Vista Drive, Cupertino

While this event is free and open to the public, please RSVP at your earliest convenience at:
<http://bit.ly/CEEFFedforum>

Our community partner, Philz Coffee, will be providing "cups of love" to attendees before the event begins. On October 29th, Dr. Helen Sung will explain why emotional intelligence is needed to support the successful implementation of the Common Core State Standards recently adopted by the state of California. What are the influencing forces of cultural beliefs and emotions in the learning process? What can you do to support your child's success as we transition to Common Core?

EVERY DAY COUNTS! - Our goal this year is to ensure that every student attends school regularly. *Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.*

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is absent often.

Research shows:

- Children who are absent often in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.
- By 6th grade, high absenteeism is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- By 9th grade good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

GREAT SCHOOLS WEEK AND GROCERY DAY THANK YOU - CEEFF would like to thank the CUSD community for a successful 2014 Great Schools Week event. Since 2009, Great Schools Week has raised over \$150,000 in support of continued educational excellence for our over 19,000 students of the district. Thank you as well for your support of our recent Great Schools Grocery Day at Whole Foods Market in Cupertino, which raised \$9,397 for all 25 elementary and middle schools of CUSD.

Our partnerships with you, the district, local businesses, and local community organizations remain invaluable to us as we strengthen and deepen our commitment to keeping our schools great. Thank you especially for this!

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL IEP & TRANSITION K-12

Thursday, November 13, 2014 - 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Sedgwick Elementary School - 19200 Phil Ln, Cupertino, CA 95014

Come and get trained on IEP strategies on how to best advocate for your child from Parents Helping Parents (PHP) and learn the process of transition from preschool to elementary, middle and high school from the districts. This event takes place on November 13th. For more information on speakers and events please visit: www.fuhdsd.org/CAC

