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Stipe Elementary school monthly Newsletter

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Welcome to the New School Year!

“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.”

– Nelson Mandela

Welcome to a new year at Stipe Elementary. As your new principal, let me start with a big thank you to the school community for a warm and supportive reception. I am excited and honored to be serving as your principal and feel confident that with a strong school-home partnership, all of our students can exceed their potential.

Our staff is dedicated in ensuring that we provide your students the opportunity to succeed and compete globally. Our mission focuses on empowering students to develop strong communication and collaboration skills, and to be confident critical and creative thinkers. It is important that our students see themselves as scholars and lifelong learners; that they have the ability to contribute tremendously to our society and are custodians of their community in the process.

We value our student’s diversity. The strength of our cultural differences is an asset that we must utilize to educate the child. We are aware of the importance of a culturally relevant curriculum and lesson delivery strategies that are not only rigorous, but also engaging, in order to ensure that our student’s academic and emotional needs are met.

I look forward to our partnership and serving this community in years to come.

- Vern Caruz

**COMMUNITY GATHERINGS**

EVERY Monday at 8:15 on the Blacktop

Join the whole school as we begin every Monday with a Community Gathering. We will recite our pledges, read the names of the Fantastic Falcons for the Week and learn about upcoming events. We will perform our College Cheers!!! We will even share chants, poems, and other learning from our classrooms.

**Start of school**

**PARENT GROUPS**

**Parents in Action/Padres en Acción** Thursday once a month (3rd week) from 2:30—3:30 in the Library—Everyone is welcome.

**Cafecitos—**Mondays 8:45-9:45 This is a meeting for our Spanish Speaking parents to help with issues, concerns, etc, in Spanish.

**School Site Council**—meets 4 times during the school year to monitor the school plan and the Safe School Plan.

**ELAC**—English Learner Advisory Council—this is a parent group for our English Learner students. They help monitor the progress of our EL students.

**REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE**

Please be sure that your emergency numbers are always up to date in our office.

Please remember to call (408) 227-7332 to report your child’s absence

Do your best to schedule all appointments for your child at the end of their school day. It is important that our students do not miss class time.

School begins at 8:15 a.m. All students should be on campus by 8:10 a.m. to be on time.

We had a difficult, but successful start of the school year. While the need for reorganization was necessary to balance our classes, the whole school rallied to make sure that necessary decisions were made ensuring that students were minimally affected.

Principal’s Welcome and Introduction

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We have many volunteer opportunities at Stipe this year.

Please join Parents in Action/Padres en Accion and work at our events.

1. Movie Nights (we sell the food during this event)
2. Harvest Festival (we provide food booths at this event)
3. Volunteers needed to provide food at Harvest Festival and Cinco de Mayo events.
4. Book Fair on Back to School Night and Open House – We need parents to help with book sales.
5. Fundraisers – We need parents to help with counting money and distributing prizes and sold items.
6. Parents needed to participate in the committees:

School Site Council

ELAC

Parents in Action/Padres en Acción

Cafecitos

**LUNCH TIME IN THE CAFETERIA**

Parents wanting to check on their child at lunch to be sure to sign in at the office and get a visitor badge.

I would like to encourage you to help us teach independence in your child. Feeding themselves is an important skill to have. If you come to check on your child, please encourage them to eat on their own. If we work together, we will develop strong independent students.

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

**Tuesday, September 13th**

**6:30 – 6:50 PM**

**Welcome and Introductions - Cafeteria**

**6:55 - 7:25 PM**

**Class Presentations #1**

**7:30 - 8:00 PM**

**Class Presentations #2**

**7:00 – 8:30 Book Fair - Library**

This information night is for parents. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHILD NUTRITION DEPT.**

Lunch applications are being processed as quickly as they can. Please remember to send money for your child’s account until you receive notification from Child Nutrition that your applications have been processed.

**VISITORS ON CAMPUS**

ALL Visitors on the Stipe Campus must first check in with the office and pick up a Visitor Badge. It is important that you sign in and out on the days you visit.

**SAFETY UPDATE**

We will have monthly fire drills and Earthquake drills to be sure all students know what to do in an emergency.

**BOOK FAIR**

Our book fair will begin on Monday, September 12th and will continue all week in the Library. Please let us know if you can help in running and supervising this event.