

Rosedell Tuesday Telegram

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Issue #74

OFFICE & ATTENDANCE: 294-5335

CHILD CARE: 294-5336

DISTRICT EMERGENCY INFORMATION: 294-5354

www.rosedellroadrunners.com

www.rosedellelementary.weebly.com

<u>Principal's Message:</u> Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us at our Back-to-School Night. We hope it was beneficial for you to meet your child's teacher, learn about the classroom procedures/curriculum and visit the school to see where your child spends a majority of their day.

Reconfiguring of 1st through 4th Grade Classes: Rosedell Elementary has seen a great increase in enrollment since the beginning of the school year. We are excited to see our previous students return and extend a warm welcome to our many new families who have enrolled over the summer months. The Saugus School Board has approved our request to add another primary teacher to our staff to reduce class sizes which is great news.

Due to the extreme fiscal cutbacks during the last few years, it is extremely important that parents understand that we MUST use taxpayer's money in a fiscally responsible manner. That meant laying off teachers in June and waiting until after the school year began last week to determine the EXACT number of students enrolled in our district. As difficult as that may seem, this eliminates an overage of employees which seriously drains our district's general fund. Our operating budgets are the leanest they've ever been, as many of you have read in the media. These cutbacks are in addition to many other cuts taken over the last few years, such as layoffs in ALL of our employee ranks, furlough days, closing of schools, and significantly reduced budgets or elimination of budgets for most, if not all programs, etc. We understand your concerns, but please be aware of our state's current economic situation, policies and upcoming initiatives to address the state-wide issue.

At our Back-to-School Night presentation I explained to parents how we will implement our plan to decrease class sizes by reconfiguring some classes, which will benefit all of our students. We currently have a 2/3 combination class with Mrs. Stanzione. Mrs. Stanzione will now teach a 3/4 combination class. She will keep her 3rd graders and we will select eligible 4th graders to join her class. Mrs. Stanzione's 2nd graders will now form a 1/2 combination class. We are VERY excited to announce that the 1/2 class will be taught by our previous teachers; Mrs. Brunsman and Mrs. Cook in room 4. Mrs. Cook will teach the class until Mrs. Brunsman returns mid-year after her maternity leave.

There will be some shifts in the current first, second, third and fourth grade class placements as we determine eligible students to join these two classes. All our split classes are comprised of students selected by previous and current teacher's recommendations, their ability to work independently, their average to high average academics and excellent citizenship. I met with teachers last Friday to determine which students will be selected.

On Monday, a letter was sent home with the students who are switching classes to inform parents of their new teacher and classroom number. The classes will begin tomorrow on Wednesday, August 29th

since many teachers will be off campus for Direct Instruction training on Tuesday. Yard Supervisors and administrators will be helping students get into their new lines and proceed to their new classrooms.

We're excited about the opportunity to bring excellent teachers back to Rosedell and reduce our class sizes! We find from past experiences that children adjust quickly to new teachers. Parents play an important role in these transitions through their support, understanding and cooperation. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to operate Rosedell and all the Saugus schools within our tight budget.

"Final Mile Challenge" - SCV Marathon - Save the Date! Rosedell was chosen once again to participate in the Santa Clarita Valley's "Finale Mile Challenge" during the Marathon on Sunday, November 4th. Our city representative, Donna Avila, visited our students last Friday and explained to them during an exciting assembly how our students can participate in this great event! Kindergarten through sixth grade received a parent permission form and information about the event for parents. Our Mileage Club will begin on Wednesday, September 5th to help the students begin to accrue their 25 miles needed to participate! Every Wednesday at lunch, students will be able run our great track to fun music while getting their individual running card clipped for each lap! PTA is always looking for parents to help out during the Mileage Club!

Afterschool Music/Band Program: Rosedell is very excited to once again offer our excellent Afterschool Enrichment Music Program for the 2012-13 school year. Our muscians will be holding Music Program Kick-Off Assemblies this Friday, August 31st to get students excited about joining these after-school programs. We are also expanding the music and band classes for advancing students to create an even better music and band program this year. Advanced students may be put in advanced classes separate from those joining for the first time. The Parent Information Night will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 5th at 6:00pm and will provide an overview of the program to answer parents' questions. Please note that Strings/Violin (not including guitar) is open to 2nd-6th graders and the Band Ensemble is open to 4th-6th graders. All classes are taught by professional musicians who are experienced in teaching students musical instruments. Our PTA Coordinator is Sarah Davidson and you may reach her at chef_sarah@sbcglobal.net or (661) 296-3211 to get more information after the parent meeting. We look forward to seeing our returning students and new students join our high quality music program.

GATE Parent Meeting: Our first GATE Parent Information Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 13th at 6-7PM in the MPR. We will be presenting the 2012-13 theme, classroom plans and program. Parents will receive an invitation to the meeting if their children are in the program.

- Students in 4-6th grade will be identified by their STAR testing scores from 2011 and 2012 who scored either a 470 or higher in Language Arts OR 557 or higher in Math.
- Students who are now in 4th grade and were "guests" in 3rd grade will receive a letter indicating if they received sufficient STAR scores (see above) to officially qualify for the GATE program in 4th grade or if the GATE Committee reviewed their cumulative file and made a determination to keep them in the program.
- Eligibility for current 3rd graders who met the STAR testing criteria in their 2nd grade STAR test, but will not have 3rd Gr. tests results until next year, will be determined at a GATE "Committee" comprised of teachers and the Principal. These 3rd graders will be considered "guests" of the program until 2013 scores arrive.

STAR Testing Reports Are In! 2012 STAR individual state testing reports for 3rd -6th grade students were mailed to parents at the end of last week. Due to students at other districts up and down California who posted test questions on social media during the STAR testing period, the state has had to

reconfigure the tests eliminating those schools and students to ensure accuracy in comparison reports of students/schools/districts which caused a delay of several weeks. Please ensure that you received your student's report by the end of next week. Last year's fifth grade students would also have an additional report for their 5th Grade P.E. Test results.

SCHOOL SAFETY PROCEDURES:

Parents at Drop-off and Pick-up

Thank you parents for transitioning into our typical school procedures for visiting and dropping off students at the school! We have begun to lock all gates at 8:10am so the school is "closed" to unidentified visitors. All visitors and volunteers are asked to sign in at the office before going to classrooms or crossing the campus. Parents, please continue to say good bye at the gates to the playground and K playground so we can get students into the routine and determine the identity of adults who are not employees. If you are visiting the school or classroom please report to the office so you can sign in and receive a visitor's badge. Please don't be offended if a staff member asks you for help if you are not wearing a visitor badge. As usual we will be closely monitoring any adults that are on campus before and after school begins. Kindergarten parents, please bring your K children to the K yard by the K parking lot so we don't have additional unidentified adults crossing the campus. Thanks!

Driving at Drop off and Dismissal - IMPORTANT

Last week, many cars were being ticketed by the police for parking violations, such as parking too close to an intersection (Rosedell and Urbandale), blocking driveways, and cars parked too far from the curb. Please obey all parking signs and painted red lines on the curbs to ensure you don't get a hefty fine!

Please do not use the front side parking lot by the office as a drop off or pick up zone. Gates will be closed at 1:50-3:10 to eliminate cars driving through the front parking lot which is heavily populated with students during dismissal. In the morning, please use the valet with the cones and not the parking lot as a drop off. Bypassing traffic through the parking lot ties up more traffic when trying to merge in front of the official Valet line. Thank you for following the rules so we have the utmost safe environment for our 820 students!

<u>Valet Program:</u> For parents using the Valet line in the mornings, please have your child exit on the right hand side of the car. Exiting on the left hand side is dangerous due to traffic on Urbandale, prohibits the valet student from helping the student out the car and delays the process. In the valet line, drivers should never get out of the car. If you need to leave the car, please park in the neighborhood. Drivers getting out of the car significantly delay the process of getting children out quickly, safely and efficiently. **Also please pull up to the very front of the line when able. Students can open their own doors if there's not a valet door opener, so please do not wait for someone to open each door, unless your child is too young to open their door. We will be training 4-6th grade students with our Deputy on August 29th so please be patient as we get our valet up and running. Also we open at 7:40, so please come early to help with the flow of traffic. If parents wait until 8:00am, it will always be impossible to get everyone onto the playground in time for the bell at 8:10. Thank you for your cooperation!**

Tuesday Telegram Via Email and Website

Thank you for filling out the "Going Green" paper to begin receiving our Tuesday Telegram via email. This will save the school a lot of money for paper, photocopying and make it more convenient for parents. Please give us a few weeks before you can expect it emailed, since we need to input and create our email group in the office.

In the meantime, the Tuesday Telegram is also posted weekly on our amazing school website; www.rosedellroadrunners.com Please use our website for up-to-date information about our calendar, bell

schedule, programs, policies and school news! Our new PTA website can be accessed through our school website link for additional information on fundraisers, upcoming activities and school event pictures! Students, enjoy finding yourself and school friends in our gallery!

6th Grade Science Camp: High Trails Camp is located in Big Bear and Rosedell 6th graders are slated to go during the week of November 5-9, 2012. The anticipated cost for camp is \$325 per student (includes camp experience, transportation, meals & a camp t-shirt). For more information on High Trails, please visit their website at www.thehightrailsway.com. All questions regarding the camp facility, camp experience, discipline policy, packing information, and medical needs should be directed to Ms. Dickinson at ldickinson@saugususd.org

6th Grade Fundraiser for Science Camp: The Chocolate Bar fundraiser will be from August 24th through September 21st to help raise **individual** money to offset the cost of camp. In order for your child to participate in this fundraiser, the student MUST have turned in the non-refundable \$75 camp deposit and signed fundraiser permission slip. Please make checks payable to *Rosedell PTA*, include your child's name and teacher. Candy will be signed out after school on Friday, August 24th from 3:00-3:45pm in the MPR to students who have turned in his/her camp deposit and a signed permission slip.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding camp deposits, the fall fundraiser, any other 6th grade activities, or if you would like to receive 6th grade informational updates via email, please contact Susan Wilson at nysusanwilson@gmail.com 6th Grade Camp Info fliers will be sent home today with more information.

Picture Day: This Friday, August 31st is Picture Day. Picture payment forms are coming home today. If you would like your child's picture taken, please return the envelope along with your payment on picture day.

Message From The Cafeteria: "School meals are important! And the school day just got healthier. School meals have more whole grains, fruits, and vegetables; nonfat/low-fat milk; and less salty and fatty foods. School meals now do a better job of giving your kids the healthy foods they need.

Students are now REQUIRED to take a fruit or vegetable at lunch, along with at least two other components (Protein, Grain, Milk). You can help make them be successful by reinforcing the importance of eating fruits and vegetables at mealtime.

Meals, foods and beverages sold or served at schools meet state and federal requirements which are based on the <u>USDA</u> Dietary Guidelines and our school's local Wellness Policies. We provide students with access to a variety of affordable and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students. The School Day Just Got Healthier. Together we can help our kids learn healthy habits that last forever."

<u>Box Top Information</u>: Here's an easy way to jump-start your school's earnings this year: Encourage school supporters to sign up at btfe.com/hero between now and September 15th. New members will automatically earn **5 eBoxTops**® when they register!

Back-To-School BBQ: Our annual Back-to-School BBQ is scheduled for Friday, September 7th from 6:00-8:00pm. If you haven't turned in your Back-to-School BBQ pre-ordered form, please do so. Extra forms are in the office.

Dates to Remember

Drama Club student meeting – MPR – 3:00pm
PTA Association Meeting – MPR – 6:00pm
Valet Training for 4 th – 6 th grade – 8:20am
Family Restaurant Fundraiser - Chuck E Cheese Night
Picture Day
Music/Band Program Kick-off Assembly
No School – Labor Day
Mileage Club begins
Room Parent Tea – MPR – 1:00pm
Parent Volunteer Training – Office – 2:15pm
Back-to-School BBQ – 6:00-8:00pm
PTA Executive Board Meeting – MPR – 6:00pm
GATE Parent Information Meeting – MPR – 6:00pm
Principal's BBQ at lunch time
PTA Fundraiser begins
ELAC Meeting – Staff Lounge – 8:20am
Early Dismissal for Grades 3 rd -6 th – 2:09pm dismissal
Minimum Day – 12:30pm dismissal
4 th Grade field trip to PAC to see Edison
No School – Parent Conferences
Minimum Day – 12:30pm dismissal
Awards Assembly – 1 st -2 nd Grade – MPR – 8:20am, K – MPR – 1:30pm
Drama Parent Meeting – MPR – 7:00pm
Awards Assembly – 3 rd -4 th – MPR – 8:20am
Site Council Meeting – 4:30pm
PTA Association Meeting – MPR – 6:00pm
No School – Furlough Day
Awards Assembly -5^{th} -6^{th} $-MPR - 8:20am$