

Rosedell Tuesday Telegram

27853 Urbandale Avenue, Saugus, CA 91350 Jeff Pettipas, Principal Karen Harvey, Assistant Principal

December 10, 2013

OFFICE & ATTENDANCE: 294-5335

CHILD CARE: 294-5336

DISTRICT EMERGENCY INFORMATION: 294-5354

www.rosedellroadrunners.com

Principal's Message:

<u>Winter Holiday Performances!</u> At this time of the year, half of the school will be preparing for our Winter Chorus Performances on December 11th, 12th and 16th at 7:00pm. Below is a list of the classes and their performance dates. <u>Doors will open at 6:30pm for the general audience to be seated.</u> Please do not save seats for friends or other family members. The other half of the school will perform at our Spring Chorus Performances. We look forward to hearing the students sing their unique holiday songs during their evening performances. **We will also be selling our extra chocolate bars at the door for 6th grade camp/activities, so don't forget to stop by and get a treat prior to the performances!**

Winter Performances:

December 11th – Fox, Abrahamse, Perdisatt, Gordon

December 12th - Wilde, Corona/Walker, Standley, Hutt

December 16th – Stewart, Mike, Kubasak, LaPorte, Dickinson

2013-14 Teacher Tribute Honoree: Our Rosedell staff is very proud to announce that our Teacher Tribute Honoree for 2013-14 is Sherri LaPorte! Every year teachers from all the schools in our surrounding school districts choose teachers from their sites who go "above and beyond" for their students, colleagues and community! Miss.LaPorte will be honored at the Performing Arts Center representing Rosedell along with all of Santa Clarita's elementary and high school honorees in the Spring. Congratulations Miss LaPorte and THANK YOU for being one of our great Rosedell teachers!

State Testing for 2013-14 – "Smarter Balanced" Field Testing: With the launch of the new Common Core Standards in California, the state has decided to eliminate most of the STAR state testing and focus on the next generation exams; only 5th Grade Science and Physical Education will continue in 2014. Across the state, all schools will pilot the new "Smarter Balanced" online computer assessments. Last year, Rosedell was chosen to pilot the 5th and 6th Grade Language Arts tests and provide feedback to the state, in addition to the regular STAR tests.

The state has notified us that our "Smarter Balanced" pilot in 2014 will be 3rd through 6th grade in English Language Arts and Math, plus a "performance task" for either subject. Performance tasks may include student research, meeting in groups for teacher-led discussions, pre-planning steps to solve a scenario and/or completing sophisticated tasks related to a "real life" problem, i.e., using math equations to create a blueprint of a community garden with a specific amount of planters, size of planters, benches, sand box etc. The window for testing will be April 7th to May 16th. Exams are expected to take about 3 to 3.5 hours total over several testing days in our new computer lab. Tests are untimed. We purposely purchased larger monitors since the students have to toggle between two parts on the screen. Testing schedules will be created as the state provides us with more details about the pilot tests.

Parents and schools will not be provided with results in the summer since this a continuation of the "field tests" to ensure the final iteration of the exams in 2015 accurately measure the new grade level standards. According to the state, "Field testing is critical to ensure that assessment items are accessible to all students and produce results that are valid, reliable, and fair. The spring 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test will test the performance of over 20,000 newly developed test items and evaluate the test delivery system. Items deemed suitable for use on the live (i.e., operational) tests, which will begin in the 2014-15 school year, will be used to populate the test item bank. Also, the Field Test will help ensure that the Smarter Balanced assessment items are placed on an accurate scale to determine final achievement levels as well as their corresponding descriptors."

Parents and teachers can get a large amount of information and view actual sample test questions on the California Department of Education website; www.cde.gov/ta/ under "Smarter Balanced Assessment System." Under the following headings you can view "Practice Tests" and "Sample Items and Performance Tasks."

<u>Practice Tests:</u> The Smarter Balanced Practice Tests are now available for grades three through eight and grade eleven in English-language arts and mathematics. The Practice Tests provide a preview of the Smarter Balanced assessments, but do not reflect the full range of content that students may encounter on the actual assessments.

<u>Sample Items and Performance Tasks:</u> The samples on the Smarter Balanced Web site illustrate the rigor and complexity of the English-language arts/literacy and mathematics items and performance tasks students will encounter on the Smarter Balanced assessments.

More information will be provided as we begin to get more detailed information at the site-level for planning the field tests this spring.

Adopt-a-Family: Just a reminder that all gifts must be wrapped and returned to the office by this Friday, December 13th. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Haynes at 294-5335.

A Special Note From Ms. Hankla: I wish to thank the individuals responsible for winning the final bid on the street sign for the primary parking lot. At their request the sign now reads HANKLA Way. I am profoundly honored to be recognized in this way. My gratitude is unbound.

Front Parking Lot by the Office: Parents, please remember that we lock the front parking lot at dismissal from 1:50-3:10 due to the large amount of students that exit the various gates onto the parking lot. This is a MAJOR safety concern with so many children walking around the parking lot as they leave school. We cannot have cars coming and going during these dismissal periods and provide the level of safety that all our parents and staff expect. Cars parked in the lot will be "locked in" until it is safe to open the gates. Please park on the street or side parking lot by the Kindergarten area if you need to get your children and leave immediately. Thank you for your understanding.

Box Tops, Labels for Education, Tyson Project A+, and My Coke Rewards News: We expect a check from the Box Tops program in early January for \$1970.80! And we already have over 7000 points accrued for the LFE program. So keep trimming them!!!

When you are baking treats, entertaining guests, and buying gifts for family and friends watch for the special labels that help Rosedell earn cash and free school supplies and equipment! Look for **Box Tops** on Betty Crocker baking products, Hanes clothing, Ziploc food storage, Progresso Soup, Yoplait yogurt, General Mills cereal, Green Giant fresh vegetables, and over 2000 more products. Pepperidge Farms

Goldfish and Milano cookies, Prego sauce, Pop-secret popcorn, Campbell's soups, Swanson broth, Post cereal as well as over 2500 other products have **Labels for Education labels. Tyson Project A+ labels** can be found on Tyson frozen appetizers and chicken products. If you already buy Dasani water, Coke, Sprite, Powerade, Minute Maid juice, and more, **My Coke Rewards codes** are found inside the caps/boxes.

Dates to Remember

Winter Performance – Fox, Abrahamse, Perdisatt, Gordon – 8:30am & 7:00pm – MPR
Winter Performance – Wilde, Corona/Walker, Standley, Hutt – 8:30am & 7:00pm –MPR
Principal's BBQ – Lunch time
Lock Down/Fire Drill – 1:40pm
Winter Performance – Stewart, Mike, Kubasak, Dickinson, LaPorte – 8:30am & 7:00pm
Valet Pizza Party – Lunch time
Winter Sing-a-Long – 4 th -6 th Grade 11:15am, K-3 rd Grade 12:30pm – MPR
Winter Break