

Stone Lake Elementary A California Distinguished School Hawker's Herald



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Principal

August 2016

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Vice Principal

Dear Stone Lake Families,

Welcome to the 16-17 school year at Stone Lake Elementary School. Each month the Hawker's Herald will come out, and the Herald will be full of information about our school, but it will also have information about policies and issues that could affect our school. I encourage parents to read through the Herald each month. Editions will be available on my blog and our school website.

We have had a great start to the year. It's truly been one of the smoothest starts to a year that I have been a part of. Thank-you B, C, and D-Track parents, students, and teachers! However, we have another first day of school this Monday, and we can't wait to welcome back our A-Track families.

This first Herald has a lot of information, so please read carefully. Also, please be on the lookout for CAASPP testing results if you had a child in 3rd-6th grades last year. These results should be arriving to you via U.S. Mail this week.

In closing, we are looking forward to a great year. As always, I encourage parents to stay connected to our school. This newsletter, our school website, subscribing to my blog, and making sure that you opt-in to receive messages from our school are all ways to stay connected. I also encourage parents that are interested to attend our first PTO meeting on August 9th.

Respectfully,

Mark Beard, Principal

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<http://blogs.egusd.net/mbeardblog/>

Important Dates



- 8/1 8:30- Coffee Klatch – Library
- 8/5 MINIMUM DAY/TRACK CHANGE SOCCER DAY
ALL KINDER EARLY 8:00-11:31
GRADES 1-6 8:10-12:25
- 8/8 Welcome Back, A Track!
Back To School Night
5:15-7:00 –Spirit Wear Sales- Main Gate
5:30-6:00 – Kindergarten Classroom Presentation
6:00-6:30 -1st – 3rd grade Classroom Presentations
6:30-6:45- Teacher Introductions
6:45-7:15 -4th – 6th grade Classroom Presentations
- 8/9 6:00-7:00- PTO Meeting – Library
- 8/15 Rize and Dance for A&D Tracks Starts
- 8/18 9:00-9:30- 6th grade C & D group photo
- 8/23 1:30-2:30- C & D track APEX Fun Run Rally
- 8/26 A & C track Picture Day

Schoolwide Theme

SETTING GOALS



REACH FOR THE STARS!!!!

New California School Report Card

The state board of education is facing a September deadline to adopt a new school and district improvement and accountability system, which will take effect in 2017-18. In place of the now suspended Academic Performance Index, which assigned a three-digit number to a school based on standardized test scores, the state will take a more comprehensive look at school life and academic progress. The change will parallel the shift in Washington from the No Child Left Behind Act to broader measures required under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

The state board may add more measurements next year when there is more data available, but for now it will likely focus on a half-dozen state indicators of performance. They are:

*Two academic indicators based on test scores, one for English language arts and one for math, showing student performance on the Smarter Balanced standardized tests in grades 3 to 8;

*Student suspension rates by grade level;

*High school graduation rates;

*Progress of English learners toward proficiency in English;

*A new college and career indicator of how well schools prepare students for opportunities after graduation. It will consist initially of a tabulation of how students scored on the 11th grade Smarter Balanced tests, how many passed Advanced Placement tests, how many concurrently enrolled in community colleges, how many successfully completed a career technical education pathway and how many completed courses required for UC and CSU admission.

I will keep you updated on this important development as the final details get hashed out in Sacramento.

School Dress Code

As we start school, please remember the dress code that is stated below. The language below is coming directly from our 16-17 Parent and Student Handbook. Please pay close attention to the Safety Concerns:

Prohibited Clothing include the following: backless tops, spaghetti straps, halter tops, shirts that expose the midriffs, tube tops, see-through tops, clothing that depicts or refers to alcoholic beverages, drugs, nudity, or contains obscene or profane slogans, sagging pants and tank tops. Shorts that students wear must be at the fingertip length or longer. Visors, baseball caps, and beanies are ok during outside activities only. Bandanas and headbands are not allowed.

Safety Concerns: Shoes shall be worn at all times. Recess and P.E. happen each day at Stone Lake, and sandals and flip flops do not provide the protection needed to be safe on the playground. Light-up shoes and roller-shoes are also not allowed.

Stone Lake App is Here!



We are excited to announce that we now have a custom mobile app at our school! It's never been easier to access event calendars, class information, lunch menus, bell schedules, district information, fundraisers, volunteer opportunities, and so much more! AND, by installing our app, you will receive important announcements and friendly reminders about what's happening at our school.

Search for our school or use these links to download our app today. You'll have a handy icon on your phone and with just a tap or two, you can be connected to our school! Don't forget to accept push notifications so that you receive our text alerts!

iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/stone-lake-elementary/id1131935766?ls=1&mt=8>

GooglePlay: http://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app_stonelakepto.layout



Lakepoint Signage

For the last year or so, myself and a group of parents have been working with the City of Elk Grove to make changes on Lakepoint, specifically dealing with the midblock crosswalk. The city has rebuffed requests to add a stop sign at the intersection of Lakepoint and Sunset Point and thus cannot move the crosswalk to the stop sign. What they have agreed to do is add signs to the crosswalk that will help make the crosswalk more visible. Our staff will be responsible for putting out and taking down the signs each day, and I do feel that this is one step in the right direction. **However, I will continue to ask parents to slow down on Lakepoint, refrain from jaywalking across Lakepoint, do not park in red zones on Lakepoint, and please do not U-turn on Lakepoint during arrival or dismissal times.**

Stone Lake Student Attendance

One of the number one indicators of student achievement is student attendance. Students have to be at school the ENTIRE day in order to be successful. State law allows us to excuse absences for the following reasons:

- Illness-with doctor's verification
- Court Appearance
- Religious Reasons
- Quarantine, as directed by the Health Department
- Medical, dental or eye services rendered with verification
- Attendance at funeral of immediate family member to extent of ONE DAY in California, and NO MORE THAN THREE DAYS outside of California.

We continue to ask parents to be aware of our school calendar and strive to have your child at school the entire day each and every day. Each year we celebrate students with perfect attendance, and last year one lucky student in Mrs. Lunsford's 5th grade class had perfect attendance the entire year and was presented a bike at our first student assembly this year.

So how does a student get perfect attendance? Each trimester we identify students who have perfect attendance based on the following criteria: Students who have no absences and have no more than 2 tardies or early dismissals less than 30 minutes and **no tardies or early dismissals beyond 30 minutes.** Students that are late beyond 30 minutes or dismissed from school 30 minutes early or more can become eligible for SARB. This year we will be monitoring early dismissals and this will also affect a student's ability to earn perfect attendance.

Basketball Coaches



If you are interested in helping to coach either our Boys or Girls basketball teams this year, please contact me and let me know. The league starts in December and runs through February. Parents that help will be required to be fingerprinted.

Opt-In!



Receiving text messages directly from the principal is a great way to stay connected to our school. These types of messages would be vital in case of emergency, but they are also a great way to stay connected to important happenings at school. **Send a text message to the number 67587 with the letter "Y" in the text box. This will opt you in to receive text messages directly from me.**

Stone Lake's New Vice Principal

Mrs. Anderson:

Letter of Introduction

Dear Families of Stone Lake Elementary,

It is with great enthusiasm and excitement that I write this letter of introduction as the Vice Principal of Stone Lake Elementary School. I am truly honored to accept this new role and look forward to my work with our students, parents, staff and community. Working together, I am confident that we will continue to provide our students with a truly challenging and enriching school experience. I have worked for the Elk Grove Unified School District for 16 years. I was a classroom teacher, Academic Program Coordinator and most recently the Vice Principal at Prairie Elementary School. I believe in a strong home to school connection and value collaborative relationships with students and their families. I am excited to meet each of you and work together to promote successful outcomes for our students. My goal as Vice Principal is to continue to foster a school environment that is Hardworking, Accountable, Wise, Kind and Safe, supporting your child's academic success. I am confident that together we will continue to make Stone Lake Elementary a place where students take pride in their school and continue on their path to college and career readiness.

Feel free to stop in and say hello, as my door is always open. If there is anything I can assist you with, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Anderson

Mrs. Anderson

916-683-4096

laaander@egusd.net

Coffee Klatch

Starting on August 1st, 2016, and every first Monday of the month for the rest of the school year, Stone Lake Administration will be holding meetings with parents to discuss what is happening at Stone Lake and provide all parents the opportunity to connect with the administrative team. This is a great forum for parents to ask questions and connect with other parents. Below is the schedule for this year's Coffee Klatches. Please mark your calendars for the dates and times that work for you.

Aug 1st: 8:30 A.M.

Sept 6th: 5:30 P.M.

Oct 3rd: 8:30 A.M.

Nov 7th: 8:30 A.M.

Jan 9th: 5:30 P.M.

Feb 6th: 8:30 A.M.

Mar 6th: 8:30 A.M.

Apr 3rd: 5:30 P.M.

May 1st: 8:30 A.M.

Jun 5th: 5:30 P.M.

Potential EGUSD School Bond



EGUSD has been seeking input from the community regarding the decision to place a local school bond measure on the upcoming November Ballot. **The main purpose of this bond will be to provide our district the money needed to meet the EXSISTING facility goals that were identified last year in our EGUSD Facilities Master Plan. 37 of our schools are over 20 years old and the average age of our schools is 22 years old.** Some of the uses of the bond money if approved by voters would include: improving school security systems; roof repairs and HVAC replacement; update technology in the classrooms; improve classrooms and school labs.

Below are some FAQ's:

Don't schools get lottery money?

Yes, and we're very thankful for the lottery money, but lottery money can only be used for classroom instruction, not facility or technology upgrades.

What will this cost?

\$38 per \$100k of assessed land value of each district home. Based on median home valuation in EG, that's less than \$100 a year.

Who makes the decision on a local school bond?

Our local Board of Education called for the bond election. Ultimately, EGUSD registered voters have the final say on the measure that will be on November 8, 2016 ballot. 55 percent of the voters must approve the measure.

What about mello roos fees?

Although we are very thankful for the mello roos that was approved by the voters nearly 20 years ago, the simple fact is that our districtwide need over the next decade exceeds \$1.6 billion. The proposed bond is only a third of that and the mello roos represents far less than that. The mello roos was \$200 million which has been spent and committed to previous projects and needs.

How long will I pay this tax?

It actually expires 20-25 years after the last bond is issued, most likely not until 2051.

I will continue to update parents on this topic in the next few months. I encourage parents to please contact me if you have further questions regarding this, or you could also call our facilities department at (916) 686-7711 and ask for Robert Pierce. This topic will be an agenda item for the first Coffee Klatch on August 1st. I will also be posting information on our website that will outline FAQ and specifically what passing this bond would mean to Stone Lake Elementary School.

Teacher's Corner



Starting this month I will be adding a part to the Hawker's Herald called, "Teacher's Corner". This will be a section where I utilize 6th grade students to develop 10 questions to ask one of our current teachers. These students will then go out and interview the teacher and report back to me what they learned. This month Makaila Ross and Allison Labucay from Mrs. DeArman's class worked with me. They developed the questions, and then they went and interviewed Mrs. McDougall. Here is what they discovered about Mrs. McDougall:

What college did you attend? Undergrad work was done at Ca. State Northridge, and I received my Masters from Fuller Seminary.

How long have you been teaching and what grades have you taught? I am starting my 35th year, and I have taught all grades kindergarten through college but mostly 4th grade.

What are your favorite sports teams? Stanford University Teams

Who is your closet teacher friend(s) at Stone Lake? Friends on B-Track

What is your favorite restaurant? Chevy's

What is your favorite type of music and your favorite dance move? Pop music and oldies. The Cha-cha

How many children do you have? Two children

What is your favorite subject to teach? Math

If you were to change your name, what would you change it to? I wouldn't change my name.

If you could go anywhere in the world (fictional or real), where would you go? Antarctica and Australia.

Thanks to Makaila, Allison, and Mrs. McDougall for participating. We will have two different sixth grade students help me next month.

Rize and Dance is Back!

The crew from Rize and Dance is back, and it's even better this year because it is free for our school thanks to the support from the City of Elk Grove. Be on the lookout for flyers being sent home. The first session will be for A&D Tracks and will start on August 15th.