

# Stone Lake Elementary

## A California Distinguished School

### Hawker's Herald



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Principal

May 2015

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Dear Stone Lake Families,

Less than a month of school remains for our D-Track students and two months left for the rest of the tracks. It truly is unbelievable how quickly the year has gone by. With two months remaining in the school year, there are many important events and activities yet to come.

During the month of May have our D-Track third through sixth grade students taking the CAASPP test. C-Track finished up in late April. Later this month our A-Track students will take the test, and our B-Track students will end our school's testing during June. With all students taking the CAASPP test, we have been pleasantly surprised with how well testing has gone. We have had only one minor technology problem, and the problem stemmed from the SBAC server and had nothing to do with our school. Overall, testing has gone quite well.

We also have some really exciting and fun events coming up. Our district track meet happened on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. This was a great event as usual. We kicked off our Wild About Learning Week with an assembly on May 8<sup>th</sup>. This is always a great week of fun with our students. The week includes a PTO sponsored Creepy Critters assembly on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We have our sixth grade College and Career Day scheduled for May 22. This is an event in which Stone Lake parents come and share information about their careers with our sixth graders.

We obviously have lots going on at Stone Lake, but as we wrap up the 14-15 school year, we are also planning for the 15-16 school year and the changes that will occur. Please be sure to read the information in the Herald that will speak about some of those changes.

Respectfully,

Mark Beard, Principal

### Important Dates



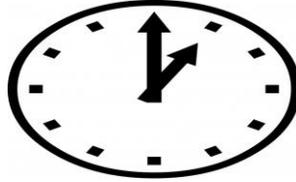
- 5/1 **School Lunch Hero Day!**  
5<sup>th</sup> grade D track Monterey Bay Aquarium
- 5/4 6:00 Coffee Klatch- Library
- 5/5 Kinder & 6<sup>th</sup> grade A & B track promotion photos
- 5/7 4<sup>th</sup> grade B track Farmers Market field trip  
7:00-8:00- Spring Band Concert- MP Room
- 5/8 3:30-6:00-Mathletes Competition @ Toby Johnson
- 5/9 Track Meet @ Cosumnes Oaks High School
- 5/12 10:15-1:30- 1<sup>ST</sup>grade D track Funderland field trip  
6:00-7:00- PTO Meeting-Library
- 5/13 2:35-3:15- 6<sup>th</sup> grade NEHS Meeting- Room E-4
- 5/14 **6:00-7:00- A & D TRACK OPEN HOUSE**
- 5/15 **All Kinder Students Early 8:00-11:30**  
8:30-11:30- Kinder A, B,& D track B St. Theater field trip
- 5/20 4<sup>th</sup> grade B & D track B St. Theater field trip
- 5/21 6:00-7:00- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade D track performance-MP Room
- 5/22 6<sup>th</sup> grade College & Career Day
- 5/25 HOLIDAY- MEMORIAL DAY-NO SCHOOL
- 5/26-6/5 A & B TRACK 3-6 GRADE TESTING
- 5/28 8:30- 4-5 grade D track Awards Assembly- MP Room  
10:00-1:45- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade D track IMAX field trip  
1:30- D track Kinder Circus- MP Room
- 5/29 MINIMUM DAY/TRACK CHANGE  
All Kinder Student 8:00-11:30  
Grades 1-6 8:15-12:30  
8:30-6<sup>TH</sup> grade D track Promotion Ceremony  
MP Room  
9:00-12:00-3<sup>rd</sup> grade D track Toby Johnson Park Day

### Schoolwide Theme

Problem solving



Think it through!



## 15-16 Schedule Changes at Stone Lake

The 15-16 school year at Stone Lake is going to consist of schedule changes. The first major schedule change is consisting of our school having an Early-Out Wednesday. Stone Lake had the option to have an Early-Out or Late-Start schedule on Wednesday, and our community voted, via the Survey Monkey that was sent to families, to have an Early Out Wednesday. 57% of our families wanted early out and 44% of our families wanted to have Late Start. We also held a Coffee Klatch on May 4<sup>th</sup> to get parent feedback on the schedule change. So let me share some quick facts and the new 15-16 schedule:

- All elementary school in EGSUD are changing their schedules to accommodate either an early-out or late-start schedule
- 10 Additional minutes will be added to the daily schedule to make-up for the early-out schedule

### 2015-2016 School Schedules

Regular School Day:	8:10-2:40
Early Out Wednesday:	8:10-1:50
Minimum Day:	8:10-12:25

## Understanding CAASPP Results

Students taking the new state CAASPP test will receive different scores as compared to the CST in the past. Students will receive scores in ELA and Math; with our 5<sup>th</sup> graders still receiving scores on the old CST test (a new science test to match new standards is coming). CAASPP scores will be reported in the following way: Level 1-Standard Not Met; Level 2-Standard Nearly Met; Level 3-Standard Met; Level 4-Standard Exceeded. The most precise measurement of their score will be the scale score. This score will range between 2000-3000.

There is an expectation that Smarter Balance will have tests scored over the summer, and we should get results soon after that. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the new testing system that our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are taking this year. Parents will receive test score results late summer.



## 2015 Ice Cream Social

Please mark your calendars for June 5, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. We will be celebrating our annual Ice Cream Social. There will be more information to come regarding this event, but please follow the link below to sign up to volunteer for the event. We need you!

To sign up, go to:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080E4CABA92EA75-20151/11520555](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080E4CABA92EA75-20151/11520555)



## Stone Lake Volleyball

We had a fabulous group of fifth grade and sixth grade boys and girls participate on our volleyball team this year. Each time I visited a game or practice the students exhibited great teamwork and sportsmanship. It was a pleasure to watch them compete and have fun.

I want to give huge a thanks to present and past Stone Lake parents for providing this opportunity to our students. Mrs. Otani was an Awesome coach and so was Mr. Okimura. Community members like Mrs. Otani and Mr. Okimura help make our school a great place for students.! Thank-you Mrs. Otani and Mr. Okimura!!!!

## Kinders in the Shade!

Our PTO has identified a long standing need at our school. Currently our kinder playground has a very "fragile" shade structure for our kinder students while they sit outside to eat their snack/lunch. This shade structure has needed to be replaced and updated for quite a while, and our PTO came to me offering to purchase a new shade structure.

So construction will begin within the next few months to erect a permanent shade structure on the kinder playground. So when you see construction, that's what is happening. Thanks Stone Lake PTO!!!

## Walk on the Wildside

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a fun family event put on by the Sacramento Regional Sanitation District highlighting the restoration efforts that are happening in our Central Valley habitats. This is not a Stone Lake event, but the event is being supported by our school. The event will take place at Beach Lake Park near the town of Freeport. Please follow the link below for more information regarding this family event.

[www.wowsacramento.com](http://www.wowsacramento.com)



## **On Grade Level Reading**

One of our school-wide goals this year and in the years to come is to have a laser focus on making sure that every kindergarten through third grade student leaves their grade reading at grade level.

This is measured differently at each grade level. In kindergarten we want our kinder students to know many early literacy skills. For example, some concepts they need to know are their letter sounds, we want them to be able to blend, and we want them to know a small amount of sight words. In first, second, and third grades we are looking at fluency, lexile scores, and scores on Basic Phonics Skills Test that shows these students have the basic phonics skills.

For the 14-15 school year, students that were identified as struggling in early literacy skills were invited to come to our intersession program. This program provided extra support to off track students. I have requested and received funding to continue this program for the 15-16 school year. So we look forward to continuing to support our students in the area of early literacy skills.

## **A and D Track Open House**

May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. will be our next Open House. Our students and teachers cannot wait to show off all of the work that they have been doing. We will also be having our last spirit wear sale that night from 5:45-7:15. There are limited sizes available, so come early for the best selection.

## **Kindergarten Changes**

Enrollment for our kindergarten classes for the 15-16 school year have exceeded our initial expectations. Due to the increase of enrollment, we will be adding an additional kindergarten class. This class will be a C-Track AM class. We will be sharing specific kindergarten information to parents soon.

## **Visual and Performing Arts Club**

Unfortunately we have been unable to get our visual and performing arts after school club running. Mrs. Lawton, the teacher, has had difficulty navigating the fingerprinting process in our district. Her fingerprints have not been able to be read at the district office, and now will have to go through the Department of Justice. It's no fault of her own, but she hopes to get the club up and running for next year.

## Most Frequently Asked Questions



**Q. Is Stone Lake going to continue to be a year around school?**

A. Yes, I met with the associate superintendent a few weeks ago, and there are no plans to change our calendar. We still do not have space at our site to accommodate all students being here at one time.

**Q. Why do kids that do not live in the Stone Lake attendance area come to Stone Lake?**

A. There are four ways that students that **do not live** in the Stone Lake attendance area can attend our school. First, students that have daycare in the Stone Lake area can attend our school on what is called an “Intradistrict Transfer Request for Childcare”. This request needs to have signed verification of childcare and also the transfer has to be signed by both the home school principal and myself. Next, administration can approve an “Administrative Intradistrict Transfer Request” based on specific and individual family needs. Another way that students can attend SL without living in our area is via a program called School Choice. School Choice students are students that attend district schools that have been placed on Program Improvement because test scores for that particular school did not meet federal standards. These students are then offered the chance to attend certain “Choice Schools” with transportation being provided by the district. Stone Lake is one of the “Choice Schools”. Lastly, students that attend an overcrowded school that does not have space for them can be “offloaded” to Stone Lake. The one school that provides the majority of our offload students is Arlene Hein. These students are provided bussing and attend our school until there is room back at their school. Sometimes there may not be room for multiple years, and at that point this is a time that parents may ask for an Administrative Intradistrict Transfer Request because they do not want to uproot their child from a school that they have been attending to go back to their home school.

**Q. I do not think a Stone Lake student really has daycare in the area, what are you going to do?**

A. Neither our school office nor administration is in the practice of investigating daycare situations of families. Parents have signed an affidavit regarding daycare. So if that is reported to us, we do not investigate and the student continues to be enrolled at Stone Lake.

## Stone Lake Vision Statement

This school year we have worked to create a vision statement for our school. We wanted the vision statement to reflect very simply what we want to accomplish at Stone Lake. Below is what we have developed:

### Stone Lake Vision Statement

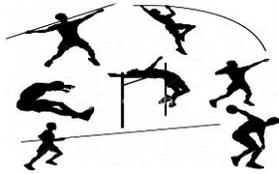
**Stone Lake Elementary School will continue a tradition of high academic achievement in collaboration with staff, families, and students. We will provide a safe environment that promotes hard work, independence, respect, responsibility, and tolerance while encouraging all learners to be successful in a culturally diverse society. Our efforts, along with our partnership with the Stone Lake community, will enable all students to take pride and ownership in their school and continue on their path to college and career readiness.**

## GATE at Stone Lake

GATE in EGUSD continues to be in transition. We have been advised to formally test all third grade students on the NNAT. This testing has already taken place at Stone Lake and formal letters will be sent to families in the coming weeks notifying you if your child passed the NNAT test and will be considered GATE based on cognitive ability. Based on logistical issues, the district will annually only test third grade students with the NNAT test. Students can still be identified for GATE based on the following areas:

- Creative Ability-exceptional ability in displaying ingenuity by producing unique or innovative solutions, or creating original products or ideas
- Leadership Ability-exceptional ability in showing confidence and effectively influencing others, exhibiting problem-solving and decision making, or leading others with a sense of purpose and direction.
- Visual or Performing Arts Ability-exceptional ability in performance based showmanship, and/or the creation of products in the visual and performing.
- Academic Ability-Student must meet two consecutive years at highly advanced levels (95% and above) in English Language Arts or Math in SBAC or SBAC Interim Assessments, or other standardized tests.

A GATE committee formed of teachers and administration here at Stone Lake will help determine GATE placement on the first three criteria listed above. Parents can definitely inquire with their child's classroom teacher regarding GATE identification.



## Track And Field

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> about 60 Stone Lake students participated in the annual Trigg Track Meet at Cosumnes Oaks High School. It was a beautiful day, and our students had a blast! These types of Awesome events could not happen without having teachers and parents support the event. A huge thanks to Mr. Gonzalez for being our coach again. This event is an all-day event, not to mention the practice days leading up to the event. His efforts are to be commended. Also, thanks to our yard supervisor and parent Christy Lee for supporting Mr. G and our students. Lastly, thanks to all the parents for bringing enough refreshments for your child and the army that was the Stone Lake Track Team.



## Five Star Family Celebration

The Stone Lake PTO is excited to be offering our Five Star Family Program to Stone Lake families for the first time this year. The PTO is sponsoring a special, private swim party at the Wackford Aquatic Center to recognize those families who have volunteered at least five times at various activities on the Stone Lake campus.

Please return your Five Star Family card by May 15<sup>th</sup> in order to receive your official invitation. Remember, you must have the activities on the card initialed by a Stone Lake staff member or PTO chairperson. If you need a new card, there are cards available in the office or from your child's teacher. Once the PTO has received your card and verified your participation, you will receive your official invitation.

Thank you for your support in helping to make Stone Lake Elementary School so amazing!

If you have any questions, please contact the Stone Lake PTO at [President@stonelakepto.org](mailto:President@stonelakepto.org)