

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 28th, 2008

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

From The Principal Teresa Williams: “All gates are locked at 8:50 am. If the gate is locked, entry is only allowed through the front doors.”

ATTENTION PARENTS! Recently there have been complaints from members of the neighborhood surrounding Bret Harte about students loitering on Coolidge and MacArthur after school hours. Students are expected to leave school and head directly home. We are asking that you have a discussion with your student regarding this and let them know that loitering in the parking lot and in front of the liquor store is not allowed. Currently, Bret Harte has a crossing guard and the Campus supervisor in that area working to enforce this rule, but again, we need your help. There have been complaints from students about buses passing them up, and please be advised that supervisors from AC Transit have been alerted about this practice and it will not happen from this point forward. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. Thank you. Teresa Williams

California State Testing (CST) will begin April 29th at Bret Harte. Testing will take place over two weeks on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** of each week. The testing dates are **April 29th, 30th, May 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th**. Students will test each day with their 1st period teacher. Any student sent out of testing on referral will be sent home for the remainder of the school day.

Cycles of Change Safe Routes to School 5th-8th grade Family Bike Safety Clinic

When: Saturday, April 26, 9:30am - 2pm

Where: Bret Harte Middle School Bike Shop and Neighborhood

Bring: Your bike, your helmet, and adequate clothing for a relaxed bike ride. We have loaner bikes and helmet as well as helmets that can be purchased.

Cost: This workshop is free and snacks are provided.

RSVP By April 24th! Space is limited to fifteen 5th-8th grade youth. Adult accompaniment encouraged, 5th grade youth **MUST** attend with an adult.

Contact: safecycles@gmail.com/ 510.451.3342

Bret Harte PTA Arts and Music Committee Presents its first School Wide Art Show.

< FONT face="Times New Roman">**Paved Paradise Perspectives on Human Nature** will take place May 8th- 30th. **Submissions are due** to the Parent Center by May 5th. The theme of the show is Our Place in the Natural World.

Eligibility:

- Artists must be students at Bret Harte Middle School
- Artwork must be original and have been executed in the past year (April 2007- April 2008)
- Artists do not have to be currently enrolled in a school art class

Medium: Painting, drawing, photography, mixed media

Size Limitation: Use anything you want to create your artwork: paper, wood, cardboard, etc; but nothing bigger than 20 inches in any direction.

Deadlines: Bring artwork to the Parent Center on Monday May 5th, 2008. Your entry form should be filled out and attached (with tape or glue) to the artwork.

Questions: See Ms. Brubaker in the Art Room or email Carrie at Carriederer@yahoo.com

Important Dates to Remember:

Monday May 5th: TURN IN ARTWORK! Drop off artwork at Parent Center before school, lunch period or 3:15- 4pm.

Thursday, May 8th: 4:00- 7:00pm Opening Party for artists, family and friends! The art show will be on view through May 30th.

Friday, May 30th: During Lunch Period: students/ parents pick-up artworks from Parent Center.

Cash and Merchandise prizes will be given for works of Merit.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

8th Grade activities: NOTE: Only students eligible for promotion according to the District guidelines will be eligible to participate in activities. The final computation will be made after the fifth marking period which ends on April 25th. Also any students suspended from school for any reason on or after April 1st, will not be allowed to attend activities. Be sure to attend your administrative detentions. Failure to do so will result in suspension.

8TH GRADE CLASS PICNIC: Has Been Cancelled!!!

Dinner Dance: Thursday, May 29th, \$15.00, Last day to pay is Tuesday May 27th, 2008

Dance will be held at the Snow building @ Knowland Park from 8pm -11pm Pictures will be available.

8th Grade Promotion: Tuesday, June 11, 2008 at 10 am

Promotion will be held at the Scottish Rite Center and students are allowed 4 tickets each.

Promotion attire: ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR WHITE TOPS AND DARK BOTTOMS. Girls may wear pants (black or Blue).

NOTE: Students may still be eligible for promotion, even though they may not have the 2.0 GPA necessary for 8th grade activities.

Panoramic Pictures: Panoramic pictures will be taken on April 24th, 2008 at 1:45 pm. The cost to purchase a copy is \$20.00.

8th grade Memorabilia:

Yearbook: \$30.00, Last day to pay is Thursday, May 9th, 2008

T-shirts and sweatshirts: Last day to pay, Monday May 5th, 2008

T-shirt: \$12.00

Long Sleeve T-shirt: \$15.00

Sweatshirt: \$30.00

All activities and memorabilia must be paid for with Cash only!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No Child...an award-winning play about teaching and learning through the arts in public schools is coming to the Berkeley Rep Theatre--**May 11- June 1!** Special opportunities for teachers and students include discounted student matinee performances and free teacher professional development.

In an incredible solo show, No Child... Nilaja Sun plays an entire classroom of children, their teachers, their parents, the principal, the janitor and even a security guard - transforming her nine-year adventure as a teaching artist into a 70-minute master class on heartbreak, humor, and hope.

Sign up now to take advantage of special discounts and free teacher trainings provided by the Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership.

Opening Night Performance

No Child...

May 12, 8PM

This fundraiser benefits student arts-learning in Alameda County.

Tickets are \$50 and includes a special Q&A session with Nilaja Sun.

For ordering information, please go to :

<http://www.berkeleyrep.org/ticketing/calendar/index.aspx?monthDropDown=2008:5>

And enter promotion code 3542 when prompted!

Middle School and High School Matinee Performances

No Child...

May 14 & 15 at Noon

Tickets \$10 plus free chaperone tickets

The matinee includes Q & A session with Nilaja Sun and free Teacher Study Guide with suggested classroom activities linked to California Standards for English, History and Theatre.

To schedule a group, please contact Jessica Modrall at 510 647.2978 or jmodrall@berkeleyrep.org.

http://www.berkeleyrep.org/school/matinee_book.asp

Parent Involvement Trainings to Increase Student Achievement

Space is still available for the trainings listed below. Individuals who attend the San Diego training on May 22-23, 2008 (or have attended any of the California Parent Center 's two-day trainings) are eligible to enroll in the Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate Program on June 5-6, 2008. (note: The Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate program is offered once per school year).

For more information including location and registration forms for all trainings, please visit our website at: <http://parent.sdsu.edu/services/conferences/> or contact Beth Sondak at 619-594-4756.

CLOSING THE GAP: USING PARENT INVOLVEMENT TO INCREASE STUDENT SUCCESS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Presented by The California PARENT Center

In consultation with the California Department of Education

San Diego, CA

May 22-23, 2008

Parent Involvement Liaison Certificate Program – 2008 Course

Los Angeles, CA

June 5 - 6, 2008

Who Should Attend?

The conference is recommended for participants from all schools, and is especially designed for Program Improvement districts and schools.

Teams from districts and county offices of education (and individuals) are encouraged to attend. School teams should include: an administrator, teachers, parent leaders, and parent liaisons/paraprofessionals. School Site Council members and PTA/parent organization members should also attend.

Conference Content:

- Using successful partnership strategies at elementary, middle and high school levels to increase student achievement.
- Using research-based recruitment strategies to increase parent and community participation in partnership activities.
- Setting up an effective action team to plan partnership activities that meet NCLB parent involvement requirements.
- Identifying the strengths of your culturally and linguistically diverse school community and building a welcoming school climate.

- .. Identifying strategies to build parent leadership skills.
- .. Finding funds to support partnership activities.
- .. Providing opportunities to meet parent and school leaders from other county offices, districts and schools to learn what programs and practices are working for them.

Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation Oakland Leadership and Arts Camp

Creative Writing, Art, Vocal, Dance and More

Registration Deadline: June 6, 2008

Camp Dates/Times: June 16-20, 23-26, 2008 – 1-4pm

Friends and Family Reception: June 28th 3pm (Open to the Public) Tickets \$20.00

Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation and Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center

7701 Krause Ave (near Bancroft)

Oakland, CA 94605 – Phone: 510.615.5755

For registration info visit: www.TASF.org or TASF0671@aol.com

Music Scholarships

The application for the 2008 Ida Altenbach Scholarships are now available. These scholarships are to be awarded this summer by the Distaff Singers organization. The purpose of these scholarships is to provide funding for music education and is available for schools and organizations in Oakland. Please check the Distaff Singers website <http://www.distaffsingers.org/> for more information about their organization and the scholarships that have awarded in the past.

Please feel free to forward this email to any interested teacher, parent or administrator in your school or program. The application deadline is June 1, 2008.

Sincerely,
Cathy Fisher
2008 Scholarship Chair

9th Annual Youth Education Conference for Middle School Students and Parents Saturday, April 19th 9am to 3pm

This is a FREE workshop focusing on Financial Literacy for both Students and Parents in preparation for their future educational development. There will be separate workshops for the parents as well as for the students. Wells Fargo Community Program "Check Points" along with Operation Hope will be leading the student workshops. We will have representation from Merrill Lynch leading one of the parent workshops. There will be a closing speaker who will bring continuity to the day for all.

This workshop will be held at the Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science, starting at 9am and ending at 3pm. Included in the day will be a continental breakfast and a hot lunch along with a bag of giveaway items.

For further information please contact Joy Jacobs at (510) 287-2780 or jjacobs@deloitte.com

! The Oakland Public Library presents:

JOB READINESS WORKSHOP: April 26th from 11-1:00 pm in the Main Library Teen Zone.

This program is designed to help teens organize and format their resumes and students will also have a mock interview session where they will be able to practice interviewing with library professionals as the “employers”.

JOB FAIR FOR TEENS: May 14th from 4-6:00 pm. Students are encouraged to bring their resumes for potential employers. Representatives from Trader Joes, Mayor Summer Jobs Program, Kaiser

Permanente and MORE! **Both of these events are for teens ages 14-19.**

For additional information please contact Jessica Snow at jsnow@oaklandlibrary.org

Bret Harte Middle School Announcements: If you have items to include in our weekly email announcements, please call us or send them electronically to bhparentcenter@yahoo.com. If we receive them before 11:30 a.m. on Fridays, they will be included in the messages posted on Friday afternoons.

Have a great week!

The Parent Center

Room 102

879-2068