

Announcements for the Week of April 14th, 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.

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 Carrielederer@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.

BRET HARTE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Bret Harte's **Spring Work Day is Saturday, April 19**. We need adults to help channel youthful energy. Could you staff the tool corral for a couple of hours? Help with sign in and job assignments? Supervise kids moving spare equipment? Help with setup or cleanup? It's a great chance to make a difference for our kids in just a few hours, and have some fun at the same time. Please contact Lesley Johnson-Gelb at 510-834-0646 or lesleyjohnsongelb@yahoo.com. Thanks!

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:

Community Forums on OUSD School Admission and Attendance Boundary Policies:

Please join us to help inform the Board of Education’s special committee work to evaluate how students are assigned to schools in Oakland Unified.

Community Forums will be held at the following times and locations. Each meeting will have the same agenda, so you will only need to attend one to assure your voice is heard.

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! School	Address	Date	Time
United for Success	2101 35 th Avenue (Simmons Campus)	4/14/08	6:00 – 7:30
Think College Now	2825 International Blvd	4/15/08	5:30 – 7:00
Bret Harte	3700 Coolidge Ave	4/17/08	6:00 – 7:30
Montera	5555 Ascot Drive	4/21/08	6:00 – 7:30
Coliseum College Prep	1390 66 th Avenue (Havenscourt Campus)	4/23/08	6:00 – 7:30
West Oakland Middle School	991 14 th Street (Lowell Campus)	4/24/08	6:00 – 7:30

!

As a participant in these meetings you will:

- REFLECT on what values should inform how students are assigned to schools
- REVIEW the details of OUSD’s current options policy
- LEARN how the current options policy affects families
- EVALUATE possible scenarios under consideration
- INFORM OUSD Board Members of your opinions of any changes that should be made

For additional information please contact the Office Of School Portfolio Management (510.879.8349)

Barnes and Noble Booksellers partnering with CSU East Bay Project SOAR II Presents:

Oakland’s Citywide Poetry Anthology “Voices from the Middle” Book Release and Celebration! Saturday, April 12, 2008, 1:00pm @ Barnes and Noble in Jack London Square 98 Broadway, Jack London Square. Come and support our Bret Harte Alumni and this wonderful fundraising event. Barnes and Noble will donate a percentage of every sale to SOAR’s scholarship fund to further the education of Oakland students. The cost of the Anthology is 21.95. Please join us in celebrating this wonderful event!

9th Annual Youth Education Conference for Middle School Students and Parents on Saturday, April 19th.

This is a FREE workshop focusing on Financial Literacy for both students and Parents in preparation for their future educational development.

Wells Fargo Community Program "CheckPoints" along with Operation Hope will be leading the student workshops and we will have representatives from Merrill Lynch leading one of the parent workshops.

The workshop will be held at the Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science, starting at 9am and ending at 3pm. Continental breakfast and a hot lunch along with a bag of giveaway items will be provided.

For additional information please contact:

Joy Jacobs

Director of Community Affairs

SF Chapter - National Association of Black Accountants at (510) 287-2780.

Gang Awareness and Education for Families Workshop

When: Saturday, April 12, 2008, 9:00 am to Noon at

Where: St. Anthony Church 1535 16th Ave. (In the School Gym)

Workshop will be provided by California Youth Outreach

The workshop covers:

- Education for parents to help them identify the signs of high-risk behaviors and gang involvement.
- Assistance to parents on re-directing their youth's high-risk and gang involved behaviors.
- ! Additional Service Providers will be on site to offer information about services available in the City of Oakland to address the issue of gangs.

Day Care, Breakfast & Lunch will be provided

For More Information:

Claudia Jimenez 238-7051 OR Christy Hogan: 967-7391

The Oakland Public Library presents :

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