

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 9th, 2008

School Announcements:

School Schedule: Minimum Days: June 10,11,12, 2008

Last Day of School June 12, 2008

2007-2008 YEARBOOKS ARE AVAILABLE: This year's Yearbooks are here! Please have your student see Ms. Harris after school to pick up their copy. If you did not have a chance to pre-order your yearbook and would still like to purchase one, extra copies are available with Ms. Harris.

YEARBOOKS: 2006-2007 Yearbooks are available to purchase for \$10.00. Please see Ms. Dorothy in the Attendance office if you would like to purchase one of these books.

FAREWELLS:

To our Class of 2008, Bret Harte's 79th graduating class: Congratulations on your accomplishments! We wish you great success in high school, and beyond.

To our outgoing families: Goodbye and good luck! It has been a pleasure working with you and we wish you the best!

To our staff members who are moving on: To **Mr. Hood, Ms. Giles, Ms. Sutton, and Ms. Tracy, Ms. Hughes, Mr. Stubbs, Ms. Pickering, Ms. Wann, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Reed**, your work here at Bret Harte has been invaluable and you will be genuinely missed. Thank you for all of your time, love and dedication to our students and to our school community. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors! Please be sure to check in with us every once in a while to let us know how you are doing.

ORIENTATION: Information regarding the new student orientation is forthcoming pending the appointment of our new Assistant Principals. Please be on the look out for additional information!

Summer Bridge: Information regarding Summer Bridge for incoming 6th graders is forthcoming. Please be on the lookout for additional information.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2008-2009:

6th Grade Registration: **Wednesday, August 20** from 12 pm to 6pm.

7th Grade Registration: **Thursday, August 21** from 12 pm to 6pm.

8th Grade Registration: **Friday, August 22** from 12 pm to 4pm.

All events will take place in the Cafeteria. Interpreting for Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese speaking parents will be available at from 1pm to 3pm during each registration day.

Smart Tip: You will visit various stations at registration. When you have visited all of them, your child will receive his/her class schedule. This process can take up to one hour. Please be patient. If enough parents volunteer, the faster everything will move along.

Smart Tip: Save your time and patience by coming to registration later! At the beginning of registration, there are usually long lines. Many parents think their child will miss out on a class if they don't come early, but they won't. There is no benefit to showing up earlier vs. later.

Smart Tip: Parent volunteers are needed to help the registration process go more quickly. Volunteer shifts are two hours each and begin at the time of registration. If you would be willing to help, please call the Parent Center at 879-2068 (before the end of the school year) or contact Teresa Williams teresa.williams@ousd.k12.ca.us (during the summer).

Smart Tip: If your child is new to Bret Harte, please allow an extra 20 minutes to explore the campus with them after they receive their schedule. This will help them feel more comfortable on the first day of school.

Please bring the following items to Registration:

-A pen. You'll be filling out a lot of forms. ***PLEASE NOTE: We will attempt to mail out registration forms prior to registration to allow parents the option to fill out all necessary forms prior to registration. Additional information is forthcoming.**

-Emergency contact information. You'll need phone numbers and addresses of at least two friends or family members.

-Medical information. You'll need to know basic medical information about your child, their medical record number and physician contact information.

-Immunization records. Immunizations must be up-to-date or your child will not be able to attend school. **ALL 7TH GRADERS WHO ARE REGISTERING MUST BRING THE YELLOW CARD WITH THEM AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.**

-Cash for PE uniforms. Bret Harte Logo T-shirt (\$7), and Bret Harte Logo gym shorts (\$13)-or-sweatpants (\$16) must be purchased for all PE classes. Optional sweatshirts cost \$15. Bret Harte Uniform Polo Shirts will also be on sale for an additional cost.

-Cash or Check for PTA membership dues (\$10) and your Safeway Club Card for registering for the PTA's eScrip program.

-Cash or Check for Bret Harte Community Academy fees (\$40).

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: The 2008-2009 school year starts on **Monday, August 25th.**

Student Announcements:

ACTIVITY UPDATE!!!

8th Grade Promotion: Wednesday, 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.

Notes from the PTA

Happy (upcoming) Summer!

The Bret Harte PTA had a very full, productive year. I felt honored to serve as the PTA president. As we head into the summer, I'd like folks to know and think about a few things:

- There are many ways to volunteer at Bret Harte Middle School. Parent (and teacher) volunteers know that **every thing** they do makes a big difference for our middle school students. So, if you were not involved this year, please consider doing **one thing** next year.
- A remarkable group (and large number) of parents have **volunteered** to take a leadership role next year. They are as follows:
 - PTA Board:

President - _____ (*remains unfilled!*)

Vice President - Celia Davis

Treasurer - Michael Pendelton

Recording Secretary - Tracey Packer-Dawley

Corresponding Secretary - Laura Turiano

Parliamentarian - Shawna Brekke-Read

- Committee Chairs:

Recruitment & Marketing - Pavan Rosati

Arts & Music - Carrie Lederer

Membership & Ecrip - Gail Widener (*membership will collect escrip information*)

Yosemite - Jamie Sherrill & Gail Widener (parents); Anne Warner & Andrew Roy (*teachers*)

Teacher Liaison - Michael Pendelton

Communications - Karen Ohlson

Facilities & Work Days - Dave Dawley (incoming parent) & Mike McMaster

Bike Club - Jamie Fritz (incoming parent)

Hospitality - Tricie Evans and Katy Collins

School Site & Parent Center Liaison - Amy Colt & Shawna

Middle School Network & School Board Liaison - Shawna

Webmaster - *Parent Center*

Grants - *Parent Center*

Registration Scheduling - Amy Colt

Parent Handbook - Michael Pendelton & Gail Widener

Calendar - Laura Turiano & Shawna

Keeper of the water bottles - School site

- Thank you, 8th grade parents Brenda Hansen, Chris Vernon, Pamela Eguchi-Miller, and Lesley Johnson-Gelb for your volunteer efforts over the past three years. These parents have inspired others to give freely to make Bret Harte even better. We'll miss you next year.
- Bret Harte Middle School is looking for volunteers for the following areas:
 - PTA President
 - Teacher & Staff Appreciation Chair
 - Escript
 - Safe Routes
 - Parent Patrol scheduling (*this position doesn't have to be an expert at "patrol"; just needs to be good at organizing people and schedules*)
 - Fundraising Chair
 - Expo/Open House Parent Liaison

Thanks for doing your part to make Bret Harte a great school for every child. Have a great summer,

Shawna Brekke-Read, parent of 7th and 8th grade sons

PTA President, 2007-2008 school year

Community Announcements:

Celebrate Teen Poets and Artists: Save the Date!

Join us at a **Book Launch and Party** for the wonderful teens who have contributed to a **newly published poetry anthology, Words on Fire, edited by Dimond Library staffer, Giovanna Capone.**

This book is dedicated to the memory of John R. Pichotto, poetry lover, longstanding library supporter and Dimond Library Friend. Meet the poets and artists. Stay for an open mic and refreshments. Check out this new book or buy a copy of your own.

Friday, June 6th, 4:30 to 7pm

Dimond Branch Library

3565 Fruitvale Avenue

For more information call 482-7844 or email Catherine J Nichols at cnichols@oaklandlibrary.org

Leadership Excellence Presents CAMP AKILI 2008:

WHAT: A Self-Empowerment Camp for Black/African Youth (ages 14-17) that focuses on issues of identity, racism, sexism, violence and health.

WHEN: JULY 1, 2008 - JULY 5, 2008

WHERE: SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

COST: Camp Costs: \$300 per child for families \$400 per child for organizations, however group rates are available.

DETAILS: Fees must be paid by June 20, 2008 to hold space, send a \$100 NON REFUNDABLE deposit to: Leadership Excellence -1924 Franklin Street Oakland, CA suite 201 - Oakland CA 94612 Attn: Mizan Alkebulan, Camp AKili 2008 Director

Please include: name, age, gender and school of youth, as well as mailing address, phone number and parent/guardian name. Once information has been received, we will mail a complete Information Packet for both Parents and Youth detailing what to bring, agreements, emergency contact information and more.

A Parent Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2008 6pm-8pm at Leadership Excellence PLEASE: spread the word...forward this email...sponsor a youth.....donate supplies...talk..build..heal...grow!

For more information, please contact Mizan Alkebulan, Camp Akili 2008 Director at 510-267-9770 or mizan@spearitwurx.com See our website: www.leadershipexcellence.org

Teen Pottery Summer Class

WHAT: This nine-week workshop will focus on the fundamentals of wheel throwing and glazing. Projects will be provided, but the instructor is also available to assist self-directed students. All Materials included.

WHEN: Thursdays 1-4pm June 26 - August 7

WHERE: **Studio One Art Center** 365 45th Street Oakland, CA 94609

Phone (510) 597-5027 *Located Behind Oakland Tech

Instructor: Michael Raytis

COST: Registration Fee \$135

REGISTER ONLINE: www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration/Class Code 42609.102

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