



MWCS Newsletter

Volume 7

April 7, 2008

STAR TESTING

The state testing will be given the two weeks of **April 21st through May 2nd**. We ask that **all students be present every day** those weeks and please arrive on time. It's important that your student get **lots of rest and eat a healthful breakfast**. Please put these dates on your calendar now.

Students: Be ready to show all that you know and be proud of your learning. High schools consider these scores when determining inclusion in honors or AP courses as well as who needs to attend summer school. 8th grade students needing summer school will study at the high school they will be attending.

High School News

If your student will be moving on to high school next year, please remember to contact the high school in your district to find out what process is needed to register your student. **Santa Rosa High school has appointments available in April for our students to meet with a counselor** (registration forms must be completed).

*Call other high schools for information.

8th Grade Promotion

Our next meeting is on April 16th at 1:30 pm in our office. It is a working meeting. Decisions so far include:

Promotion Ceremony:

Fri, May 30th at 2 pm

*Dress is semi-formal

Boys: dress shirts, pants & shoes (tie or jacket looks nice)

Girls: Skirts or dresses that meet

Dress code length, have a modest cut (no cleavage showing and no spaghetti straps or halters please) undergarments should not show, dress shoes (comfortable, one set of stairs to stage)
*If dresses do not meet dress code, you will need to cover up with a light sweater, jacket, or wrap. No exceptions.

PTA

PTA's biggest event of the year is almost here! **Spring Extravaganza** helps raise money for field trips, P.E. equipment, art supplies and helps with transportation for field trips.

You can **help by volunteering** and/or purchasing a ticket for the event which is being held at the **Wells Fargo Center on Saturday, April 19th from 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm**. Parent volunteer hours will be given at 6 hours for each ticket purchased for \$55 each.

The theme is "Back to the Future". Besides dinner, there will be dancing, silent auctions and live auctions. **Come join the fun and finish off those volunteer hours too!**

Volunteer Opportunity with PTA

We would love to have some responsible teen student volunteers (parents welcome too!) for set up at our annual Spring Extravaganza! We need your help setting up decorations and auction items. Students will need to be at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts from 4 to 7 pm Please contact Ariana Kennedy to sign up 578-5069 or akennedy@sonic.net

Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart

Congratulations to our students who have turned in their pledge sheets and to all who participated in the jump roping and basketball shooting. ***Please send in late pledge forms come in this week.** This is a terrific community service event. Our school has participated for four years now. Great job Dolphins!

Warm Weather Dress Code

Just a reminder as the warm weather arrives that students need to **continue to follow the school dress code.**

*Shorts and skirts must be longer than the fingertips (one hand length above knee).

*Sleeveless shirts are allowed, but shoulder straps must be at least 3 finger widths wide.

* Sandals are allowed except in PE class. (Bring extra shoes if needed)

*No “baggy” clothes more than 2 sizes larger than your normal size

*Complete dress code is in the front of student planners.

Office Reminders

Lunch charges, Science Camp donations, Angel Island donations, basketball fees and lost textbook fees must be paid (or scholarships requested) before students will receive their yearbooks. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office at your convenience.

Volunteer Hours

Many of our parents have now completed their volunteer hour commitment. THANK YOU! **If you still need to complete hours, please call to sign up.** (see jobs following)

*If you'd like to send in a donation to cover your volunteer hours, a donation of \$10 per hour is suggested for any

remaining hours. This makes it fair to those who did complete their hours and allows us to hire someone to cover jobs we don't have volunteers to cover.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
March 7th at 3:00 pm—Basketball game in Sonoma.

***Volunteers needed for driving.**

Parent volunteer needed to add some plants and water 6 planted barrels now through the summer (complete your hours with this job!)

April 16th Meeting for 8th grade promotion committee 1:30 pm

Saturday, Apr 19 PTA Spring Extravaganza. *Volunteers needed
***Decorating at 3 pm**
***Serving, auctions, clean up, etc. 6-11 pm**

April 21st-May 2nd - STAR Testing
***Attendance and doing your best are very important. Thanks!**
***Parents needed to send in snacks**

May 3rd Saturday Work Day, Help needed from 9 am – 1 pm *Call to sign up 524-2741.

May 5th, 8th grade Field Trip to UC Berkeley *Chaperones needed

May 7th from 5:30-7:30 pm is our Spring Showcase/Renaissance Fair
***Help needed with set up at 3:30**
*** Volunteer to clean up after 7:30**

May 16th Honor Roll Field Trip Chaperones needed

May 19th, 7th grade Field Trip to Snoopy's Ice Arena *Chaperones needed

Volunteer Opportunities Continued...

May 30 at 2 pm 8th grade promotion
***7th grade parents needed to serve**
punch and cake. *Clean up at 3:30 pm
***Parents needed to help decorate**
Wed. May 28 and Thur., May 29
To sign up for any job please call:
Shannon at 894-8950
Or Marnie 524-2741

Students of the Month

7th Grade **Sara Gibson - Feb**
Emily Huynh - March
8th Grade **Paige Abrams – Feb**
Lori Bisordi - March

Thank you for your hard work and excellent citizenship!

Independent Study Contracts

Assuring attendance at school every day is one of the best things families can do to support their teen's success.

That said we thank our families who have found it necessary to miss 2 or more school days and have requested independent study contracts. Special thanks to those who have requested AND completed them. This helps your teen and our school.

(At this time we still have 9 independent study contracts outstanding.)

From the Mark West Charter Board

The Mark West Charter School receives a lot of funding every year from the PTA toward PE equipment, art supplies, assemblies, music, technology and more. On Saturday, April 19th, the PTA will be holding their 10th annual Spring Extravaganza. This is only one of two large fundraisers the PTA sponsors each year. This fun evening of dinner, music, silent & live auction, and raffle prizes is a huge fundraiser for the PTA and for our school. Please attend the event if possible, or purchase some raffle tickets

to support the PTA. Contact Marnie Cameron in the office for tickets.

Calling New Board Members

Be an active part of Mark West Charter by volunteering to be on the Mark West Charter Board. There is an opening on the Board starting July 2008. Come to our April 28th meeting at 7:00p.m. and observe the Board in action. We have a fun and energetic board that works hard to continually improve the education and environment for our students at Mark West Charter. Come be a part of the decision making team that makes our school unique. Contact our current board chairperson, Joan Gibson, at 579-4570 for more information.

New 08-09, Home K-8 Home Study

Mark West Charter School will be running a K- 8 Home Study program next year on our campus. If you know of family or friends who home school their students, please tell them about our program. Some unique aspects of our program is a day on campus for our K-6 students and the opportunity for our middle grades students in grades 6 – 8 to take elective classes with our 7th and 8th grade students.

08-09 K-8 Home Study continued...

The program is overseen by a credentialed teacher who provides all the materials required and give support to the parent-educators. We have fliers in the office you are welcome to pick up for more information.

Quote of the Month:

“Better three hours too soon, than one minute too late.

-William Shakespeare

