

August 7, 2009

Dear Families of Deer Canyon,

The summer is quickly coming to a close and we are rapidly approaching the start of another school year! I hope you have taken time to enjoy family and friends, and are ready to embark on a fantastic journey into 2009-2010!

Construction Update:

Much has happened during the past nine weeks. If you've had a chance to drive by our campus, you likely have been curious about the work being done and hopefully amazed with the progress. In just nine weeks, our incredible Barnhart and PUSD crews have re-carpeted, re-painted, constructed new bathrooms in PK and kinder classrooms, renovated bathrooms for staff and in the health office, built a new kitchen and food services area, replaced asphalt, paved the parking lot, installed new security doors, updated technology/wiring, and replaced HVAC units on the roof... just to name a few projects! I hope you will be impressed with our "new look" and enjoy our new school as the year begins. We still have a great deal happening across our busy little campus. Amazingly, we are right on schedule and should be mostly "construction free" as students on August 20th.

All About Us:

Campus is not the only place we've seen changes over the summer! Please welcome our new employees: **Tony Ortiz**, our new head custodian, **Jesus Garcia**, our new night custodian, **Lynne Lesh**, our new office assistant, **Jenna Zabrosky**, our new ASD Preschool Teacher, and **Iris Bernard**, our new Speech and Language Pathologist.

And one more exciting change as we prepare for another fabulous school year... **I am pregnant!** Due in late January, I will be working closely with the District to ensure our school community is left in good hands while I am on maternity leave. At this point, I expect to return before STAR Testing in April.

Upcoming Events / Start of School:

Knowing the busy days ahead, I have tried to highlight some important activities and events that will start our school year. Please review and plan accordingly.

- **August 17th, 8:00am – 10:00am Continuing Enrollment DROP OFF.** Enrollment Forms for continuing DCES families are now available and may be updated online. Please bring your updated and complete form to DCES on August 17th for a QUICK drop off. If you have not been able to print the form, blank copies will be available for you at the site.
- **August 17th, 6:30pm – 7:30pm. NEW Family Orientation.** Students and families new to Deer Canyon are invited to attend an orientation to our school. We will begin in the MPR with a series of presentations, a question and answer session and conclude with an opportunity to tour the school.
- **August 18th, 4:00pm – 5:00pm. Class Lists Posted and PTA Popsicle Party.** Join your friends in front of Deer Canyon for cool popsicles and information regarding class assignments for the coming year.
- **August 19th, 2:00pm – 3:00pm. Kinder Meet and Greet.** Kindergartners and their parents are invited to meet their new teacher in the Kindergarten Playground area and enjoy cookie and juice, making the start of school on **Thursday, August 20th** a more comfortable experience. This is informal and no presentation will be made.
- **August 20th, 7:55am – School begins** for all Kinder – 5th grade students. Preschool begins at 8:30am.
- **August 20th, 8:10am, MPR – PTA Meeting.** All are welcome to attend.
- **August 20th, 11:30am – Kinders Dismissed**
- **August 20th, 2:15pm – 1st – 5th Grade Dismissed**

Please feel free to contact us with your questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Terry Worthington, Principal

IMPORTANT START OF SCHOOL INFORMATION

KINDERGARTEN SCHEDULE

(August 20 – September 9)

Monday – Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Fridays: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(September 10 – June 8)

Monday – Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Fridays: 9:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

(November 16 – November 20 – Parent/Teacher Conferences)

(June 8 – Last Day of School)

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Please note: there will be NO late start on Friday, November 20, 2009.*

GRADES 1-5 SCHEDULE

(August 20 – June 8)

Monday – Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Fridays: 9:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

(November 16 – November 20 – Parent/Teacher Conferences)

(June 8 – Last Day of School)

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**Please note: there will be NO late start on Friday, November 20, 2009.*

BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Children in grades 1 - 5 should arrive on the playground no earlier than 7:40 a.m., the time that supervision begins.

Kindergartners should arrive close to 7:55 a.m. when they enter their classrooms.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Deer Canyon is a closed campus. Once children arrive, they may not leave unless a parent or other authorized person comes to the office to sign a release. To insure the safety of our children, you will be required to show I.D. when you pick up your student.

SCHOOL LUNCH

The cafeteria lunch, including milk, will be \$2.00 this year. Milk can be purchased separately for \$.50 and juice for \$.60. Please prepay for lunch whenever possible. Payments may be made on-line at www.lunchmoney.com. Checks should be made out to PUSD Food Service. If a student forgets to bring lunch/lunch money, he or she will be allowed to call home. **THE SCHOOL WILL NOT LEND MONEY TO STUDENTS FOR LUNCH.** If you qualify for free or reduced price lunch, please fill out the application which is available online or in the school office. Lunch menu choices may also be viewed at <http://www.powayusd.com/Nutrition/menus.shtml>. The first day of school we will be serving Chicken Strips or Cheese Tortellini with Marinara Sauce.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child is on medication, a “Physician’s Recommendation for Medication” form must be obtained from the school office, completed by your physician, and returned to school. **NO MEDICATION WILL BE GIVEN AT SCHOOL WITHOUT THIS FORM.** An adult must bring the medication to the school office. Children may at **NO TIME** have medication in their possession. This includes aspirin, inhalers, cough drops, etc.

BICYCLE RIDING

Riding a bicycle is limited to children in grades 3, 4, and 5. Each child must wear a helmet and provide a lock for his/her bike. Students riding a bike to school must have a permission slip on file in the office. Skateboards and rollerblades are not allowed on campus.

ABSENCES

State law requires that pupil attendance be verified. If your child will be absent, please call the school **ABSENCE HOTLINE at 484-4876**. If the school is not notified regarding an absence by 10:00 a.m., we will call you at home or at work for verification. Please do not email the school regarding student absences. All attendance information should be conveyed through the Attendance Hotline.