



Rattleskin



PTA

everychild.one voice.

Poway Unified School District

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Principal's Message

Dear Midland Families,

It's hard to believe we are busily preparing to bring the '08-'09 school year to a close and are already looking ahead to '09-'10! These last couple of weeks of school can be challenging times for students, parents, and staff. As students and parents reflect on a successful year, the thought of changing grade levels and being placed with a new teacher can be somewhat stressful. This is entirely reasonable - all parents want their children to be successful in school, and all teachers want the same thing for the students in their classrooms. With this in mind, there is no doubt our final days will be busy. The last day of school for students is Thursday, June 11th. This will be a MINIMUM DAY for students with a dismissal time of 12:40 p.m.

As we prepare for the '09-'10 school year, the Midland staff will be focused on ensuring our class placement process is completed in a manner which will optimize each child's opportunity for success. Our goal is to place each one of our Rattlers in a well-balanced class, and every grade level team will be working together to review class assignments and make certain we construct classes that allow for us to meet the needs of each child. At Midland Elementary, we are fortunate to have an outstanding staff that is committed to doing what is best for each one of our Rattlers! Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this process, particularly this year when we are adjusting our teaching assignments based upon increased class size in grades K-3 (up to 24 students/class) and in grades 4-5 (up to 34 students/class).

According to our current projections, we anticipate having two multiage classrooms on our campus for the '09-'10 school year. As of now, there will be one 1st/2nd grade multiage class, and one 4th/5th grade multiage class. These classroom configurations may change over the summer depending on student enrollment.

The Governor's budget revise appears to be filled with worse economic news for the State of California. Prior to the special elections for Propositions 1A-1F, the District was facing \$22.5 million in budget cuts for the current school

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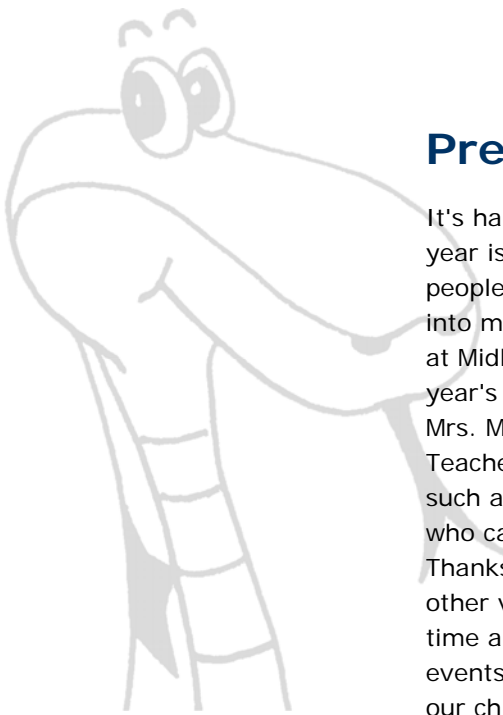
Take Rocky on the Road With You This Summer



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Dates to Remember:

5/6/8	5th Grade Pool Party
6/9	5th Grade Promotion 10:30am
6/11	Last Day of School 12:40 PM dismissal
8/20	First Day of School



President's Note

It's hard to believe that another school year is already almost over! So many people have put so much time and effort into making this another wonderful year at Midland. I would like to thank this year's board for all their hard work, and Mrs. Moiseve for participating as our Teacher Advisor. We are lucky to have such an awesome staff and principal who care so much about our kids. Thanks to the committee chairs and other volunteers who have put so much time and effort into making all of the events and activities so successful for our children.

I'd also like to acknowledge Paula Vines who does such an incredible job publish-

ing and distributing this newsletter every month for us.

To all those people who volunteer in the classrooms, assist in the workroom, show up at events to help out, work out the details, schedule whatever needs to be scheduled, collect the money, donate stuff (or solicit donations), set up, clean up, supervise, organize- THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!! WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Enjoy your summer- we'll see you in August!

Lisa McCulloch
Midland PTA President

**Have Fun This
Summer**



**We'll see you back
at school on
August 20!**

Thanks

A special "Thanks" goes out to:

- * The **Hagans family** for being the first to donate money to our **Midland Educational Foundation**. Their contribution will help defray some of the costs to get this non-profit organization up and running for the 2009-2010 school year!
- * **Mr. Damen Lopez** for presenting his third, of three, presentations regarding the **TurnAround Schools: Solutions for Student Achievement**. We're looking forward to sending a team of staff members to the *TurnAround Schools Summer Institute* in July.
- * All of the **parent and staff volunteers** who contributed their "gifts of time" to help out at the **Midland Carnival**... we know your commitment served to contribute to our carnival's success!
- * Our **Midland IMPACT teachers** – Allison Janiuk, Vanessa Meier, Barbara Magid, Denise Tibbs, Charlotte Eazer, Colleen Pratt, Kimi Mowrey, and Mary Clancy - who supported the efforts of our struggling students throughout much of the 2008-2009 school year.

Principal's Message

Continued from Page 1

year ('08-'09) and next school year ('09-'10). This deficit exists because the economy in California continues in a downward spiral, and it is expected that our deficit will likely increase again as a result of the failure of Propositions 1A-1F. Midland Elementary School alone will lose four exceptional teachers next year because of layoffs and because we are unable to re-hire those on temporary teaching contracts. In addition, we have a few support staff members whose hours have been decreased and/or have been laid off. These outstanding educators are difficult to replace. Please know that our Midland staff is committed, to putting in the time and effort it will take to ensure the continued success of our students in spite of our current budget crises.

Last Thursday, the California Department of Education released the 2007-2008 State and Similar School Rankings for public schools. The State ranking compares performance of an individual school to all other schools in our state. The Similar Schools ranking compares individual schools with 100 schools that share similar demographics and challenges. On a scale of 1 to 10 (ten being the highest), Midland Elementary maintained our State ranking of 9, and increased our Similar Schools score to a 10 with an API of 879!!! Our hard working staff and students have increased student performance on STAR testing each year through focused, standards-based instruction that is differentiated to meet the needs of each student.

As we wrap up the year, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize and give thanks to our PTA board members and volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talent this year. This group of individuals led our PTA with great success, focusing on programs that support and enrich the education of each one of our Midland students. Our PTA volunteers spent numerous hours arranging for the following programs and special events that drew both students and their families back to our school: the Author's Fair, Family Fun Nights, school-wide assemblies, the Pancake Breakfast and Holiday Boutique, Turkey & Spring Bingo, the Sock Hop, Story Night, the Read-a-Thon, and our Annual Midland Carnival just to name a few. Thank you to our PTA for providing enrichment to the educational program of each child at Midland Elementary... for this we are truly grateful.

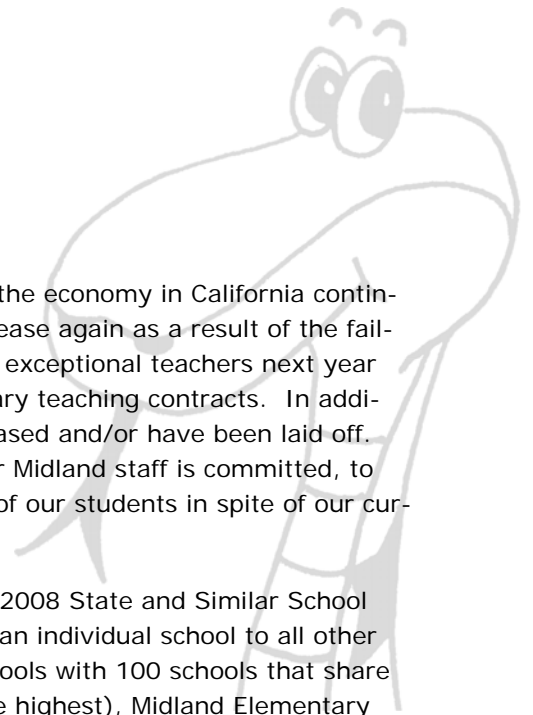
I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the following parents for devoting a lot of time and energy to ensure our Midland Educational Foundation will be up and ready to go when we return to school in August. In these difficult budget times an Educational Foundation should serve to provide essential financial support to Midland Elementary. That being said, thank you so much ~ Jeanie Alford, Colleen Pratt, Teri Workman, Wendi Nelson, Elle Dacanay, Noreen Arnold, Laura Hughes ~ your leadership in this endeavor is remarkable. Thank you also to the Valley Elementary Educational Foundation and the Willow Grove Elementary Educational Foundation for helping to guide us along the way.

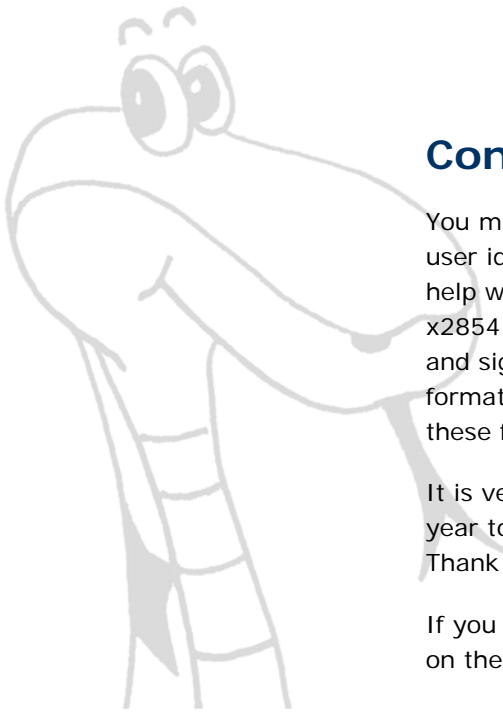
Please know my door is always open to you – for comments, suggestions, and/or concerns regarding your children and our school. The entire Midland staff is committed to working together to support each student who walks onto our beautiful campus.

I hope you take advantage of the increased amount of time you are soon to be given with your children and wish you a wonderful summer filled with family, friends, and a whole lot of fun! I'll see you all back here on our first day of the 2009-2010 school year on Thursday, August 20, 2009.

Warmly,

Julie Lerner





Continuing Student Registration 2009-2010

You must update your information online (<http://www.powayusd.com>), using the user id and password that was mailed to parents last year (July 2008). If you need help with your user id and password, call the PUSD Help Desk @ 858-748-0010 x2854. Once the online update has been completed, you will be prompted to print and sign forms (Signature Verification Page, Student Information page, Health Information-4th grade only). You will need to do this for each student. Please bring these forms to Midland's Office any time during the last week of school.

It is very important that you complete this process prior to the end of the school year to ensure that your child is placed at Midland for the coming school year. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you do not have access to a computer, you may come to Midland's computer lab on the following dates:

Monday, June 8	8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Tuesday, June 9	9:00 AM to 12:30 PM
Wednesday, June 10	12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Be Creative @ Your Library This Summer



2009 Children's Summer Reading Program

June 20 to August 8

Special Events and
Crafts Every Tuesday
& Thursday

Visit the Poway
Community Library
to Sign Up!

Open School Site Positions

Would you like to serve on the Midland Elementary School Site Council in 2009-2010? This advisory committee helps develop our annual school-based Single Plan for Student Achievement. There are an equal number of community members and school employees on the committee. Community members are Midland parents that have been selected by their peers.

Site Council members are expected to:

- Regularly attend SSC Meetings (approximately 4-5 times during the '09-'10 school year)
- Become knowledgeable of, and have a commitment to the school's improvement plan
- Actively participate in SSC responsibilities
- Become a communicator for the SSC, its participants, and the community

This is a great opportunity to actively participate in the continued improvement of our school. Members gain knowledge of our total school program. For the 2009-2010 school year, we have 2 community member position openings. If you are interested in serving on this council, please contact JoAnn Vasil at (858) 748-0047, and let her know.

In the Library

Thanks to the following for donating books through the Birthday Book Club:

Mrs. Carol Anderson - *Michael's Golden Rule & What Color Would You Be to Hide in the Sea?*

Chadd Artaud - *Guardians of Ga'Hoole: The Rescue*

Lars Hartvig - *Ocean*

Allie Becker - *Puppy Training*

Damian Collins - *Tough, Toothy Baby Sharks & Mythology*

Chris Kusunoki - *Capt. Underpants & the Attack of the Talking Toilets, Mighty Robot vs. the Mecha-Monkeys from Mars & many more*

Mrs. Karen Kusunoki - *Serendipity and Her Friends*

Mason Lawter - *Dragons of Deltora: Dragon's Nest & 101 Cool Magic Tricks*

Troy Lyons - *Tarzan & Giant Book of Knock, Knock Jokes*

Alana Spoto - *Attack of the Smart Pies*

Blake Wilcox - *Moose Tracks! & Never Ever Shout in a Zoo*

Thanks to the following for donating books as a gift to the library:

Mrs. Carol Anderson - *Midland Magic*

Scott Brown - *Star Pilot*

Josh Chambers - *Sideway Stories from Wayside School*

Valerie Fuqua - *How to Draw Everything*

Mrs. Tina Hoang - *The Shakespeare Stealer, Capt. Underpants & the Perilous Plot of Professor Poopypants & more*

Emily & Lauren Kipp - *I So Don't Do Mysteries*

Mason Lawter & Family - *Dogs Bring Newspapers But Cats Bring Mice, Usborne Book of Scientists, & many more*

Matthew Letteri - *My First Book of Wacky, Zany Jokes & Robots: Rodney & the Rusties*

The Letteri Family - *The Frog & Toad Treasury & Clifford's First Valentine's Day*

Leandra Lyons - *Bears Christmas & Fluffy's 100th Day*

The Lyons Family - *Jungle Book, Froggy Learns to Swim, & many more*

Paul Mize - *Magic Treehouse: Christmas in Camelot*

Mrs. Robyn Mize - *Jack Sparrow in The Siren Song*

Mrs. Rita Nicholas - *Big Words for Little People & The Hawaiian Bat*

Danny Schrag - *George's Marvelous Medicine & The Magic Finger*

Scott Schrag - *Civil War & Read-Aloud Myths and Legends*

Mrs. Lauralee Schrag - *Old Turtle*

Karen Vivas - *Lily's Ghosts*

Thanks to the following for purchasing books through the PTA Book Fair:

Conner Adelman - *Go Big or Go Home*

Jonathan Allie - *Pokemon: Coal Badge Battle*

Mrs. Carol Anderson - *Adios Oscar & The Postcard*

Chadd Artaud - *Diary of Wimpy Kid—The Last Straw & Land of Elyon: Stargazer*

Damian Collins - *Fireflies*

Ryan Coughlin - *Avatar: The Last Air Bender & Star Wars: Rebel Force*

Mrs. Pat Farrell - *When We're Together*

Annika Francis - *March On! The Day My Brother, Martin, Changed the World*

Anna Hartvig - *Fancy Nancy's Favorite Fancy Words*

Jens Hartvig - *If You Were a Penguin*

Lars Hartvig - *Abe's Honest Words: the Life of Abraham Lincoln*

Daniel Hizal - *Things Hoped For*

Josh Kusunoki - *Strange Happenings*

Kayla Magid - *Elijah of Buxton & Gooseberry Park*

Mrs. Roberta Moore & Matthew Moore - *Bats in the Library & Do You Do a Didgeridoo? (In Honor of Mr. Bounds)*

Mrs. Marlene Rauch - *Drawing Cartoons*

Alana Spoto - *Bad Kitty Gets a Bath & The Sisters Club*

Scott Vines - *Hooray for Fly Guy & Skippyjon Jones in Mummy Trouble*

Dana Vines - *Tink, North of Never Land*

Ian Walker - *The Race Across America*

Carli Ward - *May Bird Among the Stars*

Jenna Ward - *Letters From Rifka*

Midland PTA - A Box Full of Wonderful Books!!!

And a **BIG THANK YOU** to:

Midland PTA for donating \$650.00 toward the Junior Library Guild book service. Midland PTA for donating \$2,200 to purchase Scholastic books, materials, and additional books!! Mrs. Robyn Mize for donating \$500.00 to purchase books and supplies!! The library does not receive any money from the district so the above donations, along with book donations, are how we are able to have new books and materials for the students and staff. Thank you, thank you!!

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In the Library - Continued from Page 5

Thanks to the following for displaying their FANTASTIC collections:

Andrew Hoffard - Vehicles
Damian Collins - Rock, Fossils & Shells
Delaney McHeffey - Clay n' Latte Painted Ceramics
Catherine Lawrence - SpongeBob Legos
Jonathan Allie - Transformers
Cayla Barton - Stuffed Animals
Bryanna Mendenhall - Littlest Pet Shop
Chris Oh - Pokemon
Danika Bacon - Jewelry
Mikey Absher - Pokemon Cards
Christopher Monge - Puppets
Maddie Alford - Turtles
Bethany Mendenhall - Webkinz
Daniel Dickson - Star Wars Legos
Miranda Lucas - Stuffed Animals
Nicky Laido - Baseball
Jenna Ward - Webkinz
Mara Verkouteren - Cheerleading
Caleigha Zangari - Trophies & Medals
Dylan Lawrence - Bionicles
Alex Leverette - Star Wars Action Figures
Katie Rouner - Bunnies
C.J. Caccese - Legos
Quinn Driver & Emily Nunez - Swimming Ribbons

Tommy Laido - Trains

And thanks to the following classrooms for displaying their TERRIFIC projects:

Mr. Anella, Ms. Connelly, & Ms. Sundwall's 4th Graders - California Missions

Mrs. Moiseve's 2nd Graders - Leprechaun Traps

Mrs. Ruth, Mrs. Esparza, & Mrs. Brenman's 3rd Graders - Southern California Tide Pool Sea Life

As you can see from above, the Library is **always** an **interesting** and **fun** place to be!!!

This year classrooms returned 100% of their books 105 times!!! One class returned 100% of their books 23 times in a row!!! That is a first!!! Congratulations to Mrs. Prickett and her 1st grade students...that's showing the Character Counts traits!

Thanks to all the fabulous parents who have volunteered in the library this year. You have helped to keep the library in "tip top" order and have been there to help the students find what they need.

Thanks to my Wonderful 3rd grade student helpers who willing gave up their lunch recess once a week to work in the library! You were a BIG HELP!!

Thanks to my "**Fantastic 3**" 5th grade girls: Grace Menacher, Julia Dickson, & Kayla Magid. They have come in almost every recess to do whatever I need, mainly placing subject tags on books. You are AWESOME!!!

Wishing you all a terrific summer! I hope you sign up for the Poway Summer Reading Program: Be Creative @ Your Library! There will be Great books to read and Fun things to do. **Keep Reading!!**

Carol Anderson
Library Media Technician

Have a Rockin' Summer With Rocky!

Take Rocky Rattler with you on vacation this summer! Get the picture of Rocky on the next page. Color or decorate him if you want. Pack Rocky with you, and have your picture taken with him at your most awesome vacation spot. When you come back to school in August, bring in your picture with info about where you and Rocky went. The Rocky pictures will be posted on the Library bulletin board. Everyone will get to see how many places Rocky visited during the summer. Have fun!

RATTLESKIN - MIDLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER

Midland Elementary School

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Midland Elementary School PTA - 2008 / 2009

Affiliated with Palomar Council, 9th District, CCPTS, California & National PTAs
President: Lisa McCulloch
Executive VP: Jeanie Alford
2nd VP Membership: Charlene Sutton
4th VP Programs: Astrid Laido
Treasurer: Elise Salverda
Historian: Noreen Arnold
Teacher Representative: Nancy Moiseve
1st VP Legislation: Colleen Pratt
3rd VP Ways & Means: Joanna Ortega
Secretary: Kathy Jelsma
Auditor: Leslie Kerrigan
Parliamentarian: Kristen Santiago

Middle and Rattlers Rook!

