



Trustworthiness



Responsibility



Respect



Caring



Fairness



Citizenship

Colt Chronicles



10925 Morning Creek Drive South Sn Diego, CA 92128

Principal's Message

Our school year is off to a great start! We have 658 students enrolled this year. All classrooms began the year by reviewing the expectations for following the Colt Way and abiding by the Morning Creek Code of Conduct.

This year, thanks to our Foundation and parent support, all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classrooms have new document cameras. These cameras allow students to simply place their work under the camera to share their work with others. This is particularly helpful when students are

doing math or writing. Students can "talk" from their notes, share how they organized data and charts, explain how they derived an answer to a problem and take their classmates through their thinking, step by step.

Teachers and students can support editing and revisions with real student work in real time. The time savings is incredible. The potential for student academic growth is amazing. The Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade classrooms have the cameras to use on a check out basis until

additional cameras can be purchased.

Thanks to the support of our PTA, we have renewed our contract for Reading Plus. All information has been uploaded for this year and students with existing accounts can begin using Reading Plus at anytime. We will be introducing new students to this program during the month of September and sending home an informational letter to new families. Thanks to our Foundation, Marsha Santiago

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September 2008

Upcoming Events:

- ☉ 9/11 Foundation Meet and Greet 6pm at Phinaeus Fogg's
- ☉ 9/15 School Pictures (Grades pre-k - 2)
- ☉ 9/16 School Pictures (Grades 3-5)
- ☉ 9/18 Back to School Sock Hop 6-8pm
- ☉ 9/19 Friday Flag
- ☉ 9/26 PTA Cookbook Fundraiser ends
- ☉ 9/29 Professional Growth Day (no school for students)

PTA Corner

Welcome new and returning families to Morning Creek. We are off to a great start. Your PTA has worked diligently over the summer (while sitting on the beach.) planning programs for this school year.

Thank you to all the fami-

lies that have turned in their membership dues. You are part of the biggest volunteer organization. A huge Thank You to all the families that have a made a donation to our PTA. Your generosity is truly appreciated. We have kicked off our biggest fundraiser

early this year. We decided to rope you in while you still had the energy. Though it may seem like it, fundraising is not a goal of PTA. We would much rather be at home eating bon bons and watching soap operas. Raising funds for our

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**Morning Creek
Elementary School
PTA**

Palomar Council,
9th District, Inc., CCPTS

10925 Morning Creek
Drive South
San Diego, CA 92128

PHONE:

Office

(858) 748-4334

Absences

(858) 748-1396

Principal's Message (cont.)

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will be our support person for Reading Plus this year.

I am requesting everyone's support for improving our student attendance rate this year. Last year we had 6,180 absences! This is detrimental to all students' learning. As you consider the impact on teacher time and student time to catch children up that have been absent, everyone is affected.

Because California determines the amount of income each school district receives based on a formula that includes the average number of students who attend school during the year, high attendance rates make a real difference. 6,180 absences translates to \$234,840 in

funding for our school.

PLEASE schedule all medical and dental appointments for your children at the end of the school day; plan vacations during non-school days only; and make sure your children go to school every day unless they are ill.

I would like to thank all of you for your patience and support with traffic. I know that many of you are opting to use the back parking lot for pick up and drop off which is balancing the traffic flow. Our Safety Patrol is doing a wonderful job in supporting safe entry and exit for all students. Please continue to follow their direction.

I was pleased to see so many of you at Back to School Night. Your in-

volvement makes a difference in your child's educational success! I hope to see all of you at the Back to School Sock Hop on September 18. Please continue to check our website for upcoming school events each month.

Together, we create a better tomorrow.

Carol Osborne

Celebrate Family Day on Monday, September 22, 2008.

A day to Eat Dinner with your children. Family Day reminds parents that dinner makes a difference.

For more information go to
<http://casafamilyday.org/familyday/>

MCES Foundation

Welcome back Colt Families!

The 2007-2008 school year was another success for the Morning Creek Elementary Foundation. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be returning to school with brand new document cameras in their classrooms (17 cameras in total)! The Foundation generated enough funds to secure our PE Instructional Aide, Marsha Santiago as well as Mardi Johnson, our school Counselor, through the next calendar year. We will also continue to support the Reading Plus program. Further, \$5000 garnered from the Fund-A-Need drive at "A Country Affair" was contributed to Morning Creek classrooms. The Foundation anticipates another year of successful fundraising to continue providing academic

support, physical education, counseling services, and technological investments for our classrooms.



The Foundation will be initiating its 2nd Annual Read-A-Thon on September 19th. This is a fun and educational way to raise money for our school. Even our youngest Colts can partici-

pate by sitting with someone special and reading a book together! Get ready to READ, READ, READ!

We hope to see you at the Back-to-School Sock-Hop on Thursday, September 18th. The Hamburger Factory will be catering - you can purchase a complete meal with drink for \$7. Please have your meal pre-orders submitted by Tuesday, September 16th. Only a limited number of meals will be available for purchase the night of the event and the price per meal will increase to \$8.

Sincerely,

Traci Oliveira

President, Morning Creek Elementary Foundation

PTA Corner (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

schools has become a necessity in order for us to provide meaningful programs for our children. With your fundraising efforts and donations we are able to fill the gaps that our State Budget has failed to do.

My family has been a part of the Morning Creek Community for 8 years. My oldest son is a sophomore at Mt. Carmel High School, my daughter is in the 7th grade at Meadowbrook, a second daughter is in the 5th grade here at Morning Creek and a 4 year old whirlwind of a boy, who is

also here at Morning Creek. We also have a black lab named Pebbles and a yorkie named Bam Bam. Our home is like a cyclone filled with love. I love the chaos in our house. It means that we are alive and healthy.

You can say that I jumped at the opportunity to be PTA president. But not for the glory, cheering fans, ultimate power or the high paying salary. I chose this position because this is where I found my closest and dearest friends. If it wasn't for PTA, I would be a lonely mom with a spotless house. Thank you to all the awesome people that have stepped forward and have

made a choice to be an active participant in PTA. It fills my heart that you have made a commitment (sorry you can't back out now) to help me and make me look good. I am humbled by the generosity you give with your time and talents. I look forward to a great year. You are the rainbows in my cloud.

Sincerely
Charmaine Quidachay
MCES PTA President

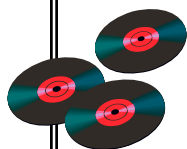
Back to School Sock Hop

Rock around the clock

Wear your bobby sock and saddle shoes.
We are going back to the Fabulous Fifties

The Morning Creek Back to school Sock Hop
Thursday, Sept 18, 2008
6:00 - 8:00

Bring your own dinner or place an order with the hamburger factory. We are going to jitterbug with a live DJ. Our boy and girl scouts have planned cool games for a fabulous night.



2008-2009 WOW!

The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. The Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education. Participation in the Reflections Program is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Students may submit an entry in any of the six areas listed below. Only original works of art are accepted. The six arts area are as follows: Literature, Musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography, film/video production. Pick up an entry form and the guidelines in the office.

From the Counselor...

Counseling Corner

Tips to Tearless Drop-offs and Pick-ups

"Pleease don't leave me!" begs Sarah as Mom tries to peel her daughter off of her arm. As mom tries to explain, "I have to go or I will be late for work" it seems her daughter can not hear her. Mom feels guilty about leaving her unhappy child and must rush off in an effort to be on time to work. Does this scenario sound familiar?

Here are some tips to tearless drop-offs and pick-ups.

Drop-off

Slow down. Being in a hurry creates tension.

Stressful situations encourage tears and tantrums.

Have your children help you get ready the night before.

If your child misses you, give them something of yours they can put in their pocket to remember you.

Try not to argue or force your child out of the car. Use choices, be kind but firm.

Hey dads, is your jobs a little stressful?
Do you need to unwind in the middle of
your work day?

We have the ultimate stress reliever for
you.

Come and feel like a kid again and join
**Morning Creek P.O.P.s (Pops On the
Playground)**

This is a great opportunity for you to vol-
unteer at your child's school. Spend your
lunch time playing
tetherball, four square and handball with
our Morning Creek Students. Be a posi-
tive role model and sign up today.



Put on your running
shoes. **Running Club
begins Sept 9.** This fun
activity will take place
every Tuesday and Friday.
Make sure you have your
running club authorization

**2nd annual
Read A Thon
kicks off Sept
19th.**

**Get Ready.
Get Set.
Go Read!**

*Join PTA today and re-
ceive a FREE Morning
Creek school calendar
magnet. Turn in your
\$10 dues into your
child's teacher.*

Foundation Meet and Greet

Thurs. - 9/11 6:00 p.m.

Philaeus Fogg's

11385 Poway Rd #100

**Don't miss out. Order your yearbook now.
Presale is \$20 each until December.**

From the Counselor...(cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

Avoid drawn out, over-comforting good-byes. Send a confident message your child WILL be fine.

Create a fun routine for goodbyes, such as a high five. For example, talk about the sequence of your sched-
ule every morning, "I will walk you in, put up your lunch box, I will hug you, then a high five, and I
leave". The more fun and confident you are, the easier the good-bye will be.

Be confident about the situation you are leaving your child in. If you are not, your apprehensions will be
noticed by your child.

Pick-up

- Before you arrive, clear your mind of work, dinner and errands so you are totally available to your child.
- Make sure your smiling face lights up when you see your child. Take a moment to give your child some undivided attention BEFORE you get back in the car.
- Look for patterns of what upsets your child. Some children are hungry. Make a plan, bring a healthy snack.
- Schedule with sanity! Over-scheduling causes tension.
- If another person is picking them up, remind them of who that is, and when you will see them. Build trust!

Drop-offs and pick-ups can be pleasant and fun if you have a few tools in your tool bag. Center yourself, look for solutions, and be ready to change your tools no matter how creative your child is!