



Volume 18 Edition 2
August 14, 2009

THE EHRHARDT EAGLE'S NEST

John Ehrhardt Elementary School
8900 Old Creek Drive
Elk Grove, CA. 95758
(916) 684-7259

Website: www.egusd.net/ehrhardt
Mr. Steve Brenizer, Principal
Ms. Ann Marie Bronte, Vice-Principal

PROJECT WISDOM— Choose to Live by the Golden Rule

Principal's Message

Welcome back! We are off to the start of another great school year. As with every year, our school is only as great as the partnerships we form between home and school. Please help us by following guidelines for daily homework and safety. There are numerous ways to volunteer time at our school. Information about these opportunities will be presented by your child's teacher at Back to School Night.

Back to School Night – For track **A: August 20**. The evening starts at 5:30 with a general session for all parents in the Multipurpose Room. There will also be tables set up where people from many of the groups that provide services to our school will be stationed and ready to answer questions.

There will be **two** classroom sessions for both primary and intermediate classes. The first one will be at 6:00 – 6:40. The second session will be from 6:50 – 7:30. The final half hour is for time again at the information booths, library or computer labs.

Attendance – Attendance is very important. Please develop the habits from the start to ensure your child is on time and present each day. Your child will be proud when they are the one there to receive the recognition for their, and your, efforts.

Entry assessments – Teachers administer entry assessments during the first two weeks of school to enable them to develop a view of the individual needs in their class. Please make sure your child is present each day so they do not miss this important start to the year.

Communication Day: Tuesday – Please watch for important notices to come home every Tuesday, which is our school's established day for communication. This will allow you to focus one time per week on checking the back pack to ensure you get notes intended for you, as parents, to read and respond.

Enrollment – Each year enrollment procedures are impacted by a number of factors. Every elementary

school has to operate within a bigger picture of what is happening across the Elk Grove Unified School District. We do our best to make the process as accommodating to families as possible. There are occasions when, even after school has started, we have to make changes that impact where students are placed. We will avoid this as much as possible. In the event that we must make those changes, we ask for your understanding, patience and cooperation with our staff who are doing their very best to help.

Regional Parent Meetings – K-12 regional parent meeting will continue this year. We will be forming regional meetings that allow our advisories within the region to work collaboratively to develop services to students. Parent advisories such as GATE, English Language Learners ELAC), Honors programs, Safety and others will meet with school administration/staff to address needs and concerns. We will be providing a calendar early in the new school year and send it to parents.

The Economy – The statewide budget situation has impacted education significantly. There are programs and resources which no longer have funding. However, the good news is that we maintain a highly qualified teaching staff ready to face the challenges and deliver a solid educational program to students at Ehrhardt. We will also ensure that basic materials needed for learning are supplied for every student. However, teachers may inform you of items that would enhance learning and would be good things to include in your shopping plans for your child as we start school, or items that would be useful donations to the class as a whole. Whatever you can do to help in these areas will be greatly appreciated.

Our thanks go out to the businesses in our community that have recognized the situation we face in public education and have responded with donations and services. More than ever, "it takes a village".

Sincerely,
Steve Brenizer
Principal

PTO CORNER

The school year is off to a wonderful start. Ehrhardt PTO thanks all of you who stopped by our booth at B/C/D's *Back to School Night*.

We have many things planned for the upcoming year. Please mark your calendars for these events!

- August 20 5:30 – 8:00 pm Back to School Night – A Track
- August 24 Fall Fundraiser (Entertainment Book) Sales begin for A Track
- September 18 Burgers and Books
- September 25 Lunch on the Quad



Please Note

**Ehrhardt Fundraiser Information
For B/C/D Tracks only-Books OR
\$\$\$ are due by Friday, August 14th.**

**Entertainment Books give great
“2 for 1” deals all around town.**

The book pays for itself after only a few uses. Know that \$20 of each book sale of \$40 comes back to our school and supports the purchases of student agendas, the Accelerated Reader Program, and the “Time for Kids” magazine program.

PTO cannot do it with out the help and support from ALL the families at John Ehrhardt.
Become a PTO Supporter!

Here are a few questions and answers you may have been curious about regarding our PTO.

What is the difference in PTO versus PTA (Parent Teacher Association)?

By being a PTO (a stand alone organization not affiliate with the association) means all fundraising we do will stay with our students at our school.

Where does the money raised go?

PTO assists in paying for student planners for every student in grades 3-6, Time 4Kids, Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, Accelerated Reader, fieldtrip scholarships for students and much more.

How do you raise monies?

PTO sponsors several events throughout the school year. Our first major fundraiser is Burgers N Books. Other events include Movie Night, Sweetheart Dance, Damsels and Dragons Social and the very well attended Spring Carnival this past May.

The Book Fair is Coming!

This year's theme - **Read Around the World!/September 9-18**

The whole school is excited about our upcoming Book Fair. An amazing selection of books is headed our way! Mark your calendars for Ehrhardt's annual Book Fair, **September**, and the exceptionally popular family event—**Burgers n' Books** on Friday evening **September 18th**.



Before all the festivities begin, get a head start by checking out the Book Fair website for Ehrhardt. Find this page at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/johnehrhardtlibrary>.

There you will find information about:

- Hours of operation
- Payment methods
- Volunteer opportunities
- Featured books-create a wish list for your child to bring to the Book Fair or contribute books to your child's classroom library.
- Special programs

Don't miss this chance to light up a young reader's face with a good book! See you at the Book Fair!

-Mrs. Smith/Library Technician

No Excuses /Go to School

Facts About Attendance:

- California law requires that children ages six (6) to eighteen (18) attend school regularly.
- Since 1997, with the passage of Senate Bill 727, schools **do not** receive funding for excused absences—monies are only paid for **actual** attendance.
- A “truant” is any student who is absent from school **three times in the same school year without a valid excuse** (California Education Code).
- Studies demonstrate that students who are absent **two or more days** each school month struggle more academically than their classmates.
- Absenteeism often leads to students falling behind in their academic work in school.
- Missing too much school can affect students’ ability to learn key socialization concepts.
- Every day a student misses school, the Elk Grove Unified School District loses \$35 in state funding.
- Studies show that incentives and rewards programs boost attendance and student excitement about school.
- If Elk Grove Unified schools **ALL** increased their attendance by one (1) percent, the District would **gain** an additional \$3.4 million in state revenue.

Project Wisdom

Choose to Live by the Golden Rule

I choose to treat others as I would wish to be treated in the same situation. I choose to be honorable and respectful of myself and others.

Yard Supervisors

Are you someone who enjoys working with children, can be diplomatic and help out in problem-solving situations, and likes the outdoors? If so, John Ehrhardt has an offer for you!

The school is actively seeking applicants for the position of Yard Supervisor to form a cadre of experienced **substitutes** to help out as the need arises.



Breakfast duty is from 7:20-7:50 a.m. and includes supervising approximately 30-45 students in the MP Room Monday-Friday.

Substitute Yard Supervisors are called to fill vacancies for illness or vacations. Hours of these positions vary from 2 to 3+ hours daily.

Both positions pay around \$9.44 @ hour. A split-shift (e.g. working both breakfast and recess/lunch duty) is possible.

Questions about yard supervisor opportunities can be referred to the Vice-Principal, Ann Marie Bronte at 684-7259.

UNSCHEDULED MINIMUM DAYS 2009-2010

Trimester 1:

Monday, September 21/Track D
Monday, October 19/Tracks A/B/C

Trimester 2:

Monday, January 25/Track D
Monday, February 22 /Tracks A/B/C

Trimester 3:

Monday, May 17 /Track D
Monday, June 14/Tracks A/B/C



**MARK YOUR
CALDENDARS!**
REMEMBER-TUESDAY IS
“COMMUNICATION DAY” @ EHRHARDT

New for 09-10! What I Need (WIN) Time

Friday August 14	Minimum Day	Grades 1-6 7:50-12:22 Kindergarten (a.m. and p.m.) 7:50-11:21 a.m.
Friday August 14	PTO Fall Fundraiser Entertainment Book Sale ENDS	Tracks BCD \$\$\$ or book due back, please!
Monday August 17	Welcome A Track	
Thursday August 20	Back to School Night A Track	5:30-8:00 p.m. Classrooms 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday August 24	PTO Fall Fundraiser Entertainment Book Sale BEGINS	Track A
Friday September 11	PTO Fall Fundraiser ENDS	Track A \$\$\$ or book due back, please!
Friday September 11	Minimum Day	Grades 1-6 7:50-12:22 Kindergarten (a.m. and p.m.) 7:50-11:21 a.m.
Monday September 14	PTO Fall Fundraiser Pt 2 Cookie Dough	Tracks A/D
Sept. 9-18	Book Fair	“Read Around the World”
Friday September 18	Burgers and Books	Book Fair “Read Around the World”

In a district as diverse as Elk Grove Unified School District, there are many needs to be met to serve our students. Those needs include providing approximately 30 minutes of English Language Development (ELD) to students who are developing their proficiency with speaking, reading, and writing English. Additionally, the need includes offering support to those who are fluent English speakers who could use additional support in an academic area.

During this bloc of time, there will be supplemental instruction given to all English only students. In some cases students might need support in areas of math, reading comprehension, vocabulary development, writing skills etc. There is always the possibility that your student might need advanced support in an academic area.

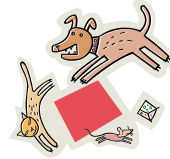
Once the area of need is determined, all English Learners as well as English only students, will be grouped to meet the individual needs of the student. This 30 minute block of time will in no way impede upon the core curriculum (reading, mathematics, physical education, science, or social science) which will continue to be taught during the school day.

At John Ehrhardt, this bloc of time is known as **WIN Time**. “WIN” stands for “What I Need”. All students participate in this 30 minutes of instruction either in English Language Development or in support of a curricular area. When WIN Time occurs during your child’s day is dependant on his/her grade level. Your child’s teacher can offer further explanation about the specific support which will be offered. Elk Grove Unified School District is proud to provide individualized instruction to meet the needs of all students.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher or the principal, Mr. Brenizer.

John Ehrhardt Pet Policy Review

We all enjoy pets, but some children have NOT been around them much. Children who are not accustomed to animals are sometimes alarmed or don't know how to act in a safe manner around them. Also, animals can become alarmed by sudden movements, reacting in out-of-the-ordinary ways when placed in unfamiliar situations or around large groups. The school cannot take responsibility for controlling and monitoring pets and the possible impact their presence on campus may have with students. Pets add a dynamic that can trigger excitement or an emotional reaction with a child which carries through the day, causing a significant distraction/disruption to the educational purpose of the school. The school's policy on pets respects both the needs of pets owners while taking into consideration the needs of students and those who do not own animals. Please **help us by supporting the following:**



- **No pets on the interior of the campus:** blacktop and playground areas, quad, or Office. Please stop at the fence line of the school if you have a dog with you when dropping off/picking up student(s).
- Speak with your child's teacher before bringing any pet to the classroom for sharing or demonstration.
- Make sure all pets are properly crated and restrained when bringing them for classroom demonstrations.

IMPORTANT Emergency Contact Information

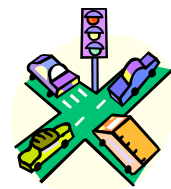
If you have moved, changed telephone or cell phone numbers, or use a new email address, please make sure that the correct emergency contact information has been update with the school Office. Emergency contact information allows Ehrhardt staff to contact you in an emergency or when your child is not at school. It is important that the school has the most current information.

If you need to change this information or add an email address of phone number, please contact the School Office at 684-7259.

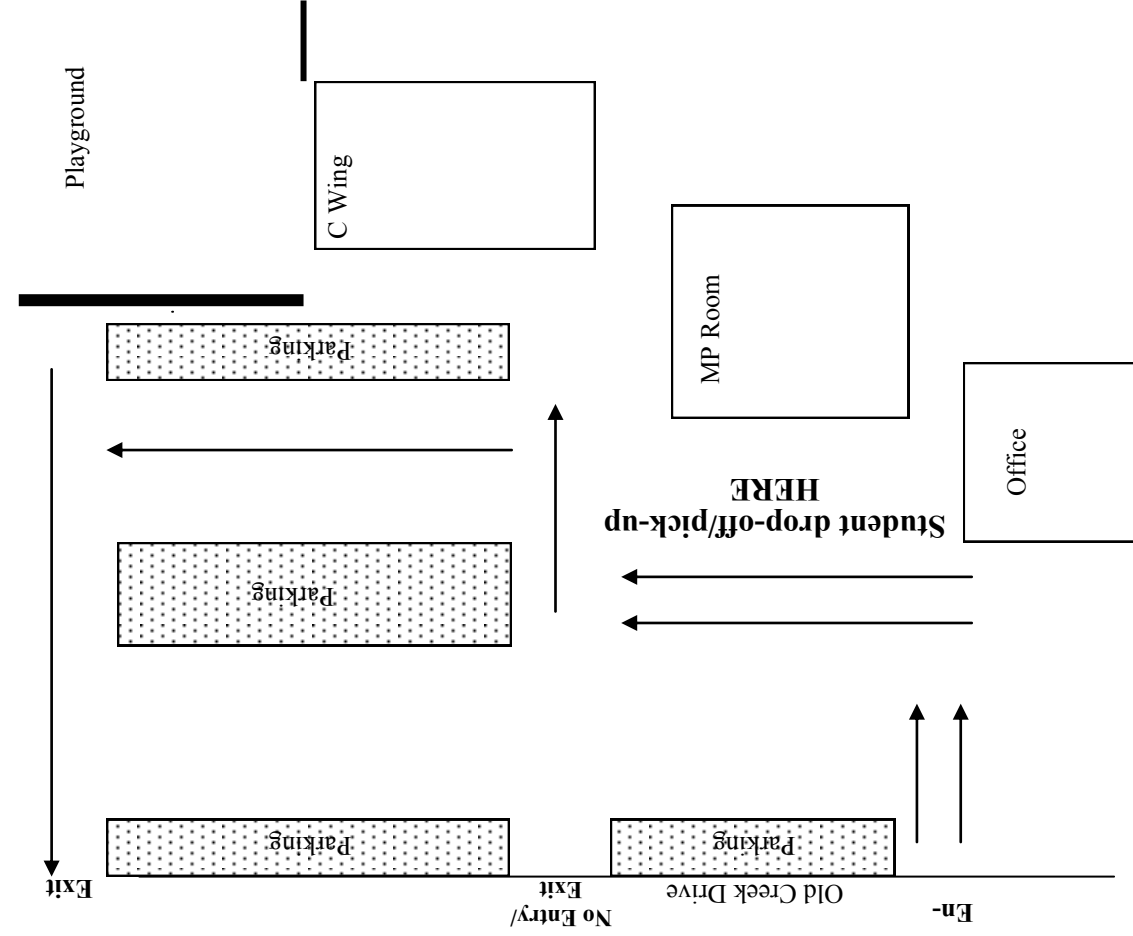
Thank you!

Safety Reminders:

- School begins at 7:50—students are to be on line, ready to go at this time!
- Observe the traffic flow signs and crossing guards around the school.
- Do **NOT** make a U-turn in the middle of the street. On the west side of the campus, continue to the stop sign at Laguna Park and Old Creek. Then make three left turns & you will be able to turn onto Laguna Park going south in a very safe manner.
- Do **NOT** allow/encourage your child/ren to cross mid-block (e.g. "jaywalk"). It is highly dangerous and adult supervisors will ask your students not to cross.
- When visiting the campus, be sure to stop in the Office to sign-in.
- Dismissal is at 2:07 p.m. Students need to clear campus in a timely manner. Remind your student (s) to go directly home after school and report in to an adult.



John Ehrhardt Elementary Traffic Flow/North



Traffic Flow/09-10

This year there is a **NEW** traffic pattern for the school's parking lot! Please observe this pattern when dropping off or picking up your student(s).

- Enter driveway near MP Room/ Office
- Pull as far forward as possible along drive to drop/pick-up student(s)
- Continue on drive and Exit on the east side of campus, at the stop sign at Old Creek and Bambridge Drives
- Parking is available as indicated on the map

