



CAMERADO SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
 Buckeye Union School District
 2480 Merrychase Drive •Cameron Park •CA 95682
 (530) 677-1658 •(916) 933-0584 •(530) 677-9537
 Meg Enns, Principal •Doug Shupe, Assistant Principal •Christine Falconer, Counselor

*Welcome
 Back!*

PARENT BULLETIN #1 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009

Website: <http://www.buckeyeusd.org/>

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

August 11 th	Tuesday	WOW (Welcome our Wildcats)
August 17 th	Monday	First Day of School
August 20 th	Thursday	Back to School Night 6:30 to 8:30
August 26 th	Wednesday	Rachel's Challenge Assembly
August 28 th	Friday	Hearing screening 8 th graders
September 7 th	Monday	Labor Day
September 16 th	Wednesday	Board Mtg.—7:00 pm—Dist. Office
September 18 th	Friday	7 th /8 th grade dance
September 21 st	Monday	Site Council Meeting
September 25 th	Friday	Progress Reports Mailed
September 25 th	Friday	Vision Screening
September 28 th	Monday	Parent Club - 6:30 - Library

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2009-2010 School Year!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome back! We are excited about reconnecting with our returning students and establishing relationships with all our new students. The staff is very enthusiastic about the new year and we are looking forward to a positive year of learning. We have been working hard over the summer to prepare our campus for the start of the year and it is looking great and ready to go.

Our theme this year is "Connecting the Pieces." Our goal is to promote positive, productive connections between students, between students and staff, and between parents and the school. The idea of building these positive connections will be introduced to students at a school-wide assembly on August 26th. I am pleased to announce this assembly will be the year-two assembly presented by "Rachel's Challenge." "Rachel's Challenge" is an organization formed in honor of Rachel Scott, the first student killed at Columbine High School, and it encourages students to treat others with respect and kindness.

We were honored to host the year-one assembly last year and were very impressed. We are looking forward to the presentation this year and the year-long support curriculum provided so we can carry Rachel's message all year throughout our school.

The teachers will also be using the theme of "Connecting the Pieces" as this year we begin our weekly early release days every Wednesday. These days will allow teachers time to work together as a team to discuss student achievement and to plan curriculum to best meet the needs of all our students. We are excited to have this quality time!

During this first month of school, it is important routines are established to support your child in completing his/her school work and getting help when necessary. I encourage you to contact your child's teachers if you have questions and to check the weekly and monthly bulletin on our website for upcoming events and pertinent information. This year we are launching the use of a new student information system that will allow parents access to student grades on-line. More information regarding how to access this new system will be at Back-to-School Night.

I hope that parents will take advantage of the opportunity to come to one of our Parent Club meetings (we meet on the fourth Monday of every month), volunteer for a committee or to help a teacher, attend an assembly or dance, or sit in our monthly Site Council meetings. There are many ways for parents to get involved, and we encourage and welcome parent participation on our campus. Please feel free to email or call me if you ever have any questions or concerns at menns@buckeyeusd.org or 530-677-1658, ext. 1510. Looking forward to a great year, Meg Enns

We look forward to working with you and your student in the year ahead!
WELCOME TO OUR NEW WILDCAT STAFF MEMBER!
Lisa Johnson 6th grade

2009/2010 SCHOOL YEAR OFFICERS

Congratulations!!

President - Chanju

Vice President - Ellie

Secretary - Hannah

Treasurer - Ana

Library Hours: The Camerado Springs Library hours are:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays 7 a.m. to 1:10 p.m.
- Please note that the library closes at NOON on all minimum days throughout the school year.

Picture Day: Picture Day is Friday, August 21st. Information will be sent home the first week of school.

Supervision Before School: The school library opens each day at 7:00 a.m. however; the campus is not fully monitored by staff until 7:30 a.m. If your student must be dropped off prior to 7:30 a.m., please advise him/her to go to the library.

Students on Campus After School: Please remember that there is no student supervision on campus after 2:15 p.m. and 1:20 on Wednesdays. Students need to be picked up by this time unless they are attending a school-sponsored event or working with a teacher. Students will be asked to wait for parent pick-up in the front of the school.

Boys and Girls Club: The Boys and Girls Club of America will have a club on the Camerado Springs campus. This club will offer a terrific after school alternative to our middle school students. The club will have sign-up information available at WOW day and Back to School Night.

Transportation: In order to pay transportation fees, please go directly to the Transportation Office at 2480 Merrychase Drive in Cameron Park. The phone number is (530) 677-5023 or (916) 933-0398.

TRANSPORTATION - SAVE \$\$\$ - RIDE A SCHOOL BUS: Did you know that if you live 3 miles from your child's school and you transport your child to and from school, you will travel 12 miles a day, or a total of 2,160 miles per school year? If the average car gets approximately 20 mpg and the cost of a gallon of gas is \$2.85, you will spend \$307.80 per year to transport your child to and from school. A yearly bus pass costs \$225 (or \$202 if paid prior to August 11th) - that is a savings of \$82.80 and you don't have to sit in the long lines of traffic in front of school! Just imagine all you can do with an extra \$82.80! You may download applications on line at the transportation website or choose to complete the application and submit through e-mail. You may also pay on line through e-funds. If you have any questions, please contact the transportation department at (530) 677-5023 or (916) 933-0398.

Traffic Updates: We are asking persons who drop off and pick up students to **PLEASE** follow these guidelines:

1. **In the morning, please pull forward to classrooms 14-16 to drop off students - look for the flagpole. Please do not drop off in front of the office.**
2. Please proceed **slowly** through the parking lot and exit at the far, east end of the parking lot.
3. Due to traffic, please allow extra time to drop off and pick up your student. "Traffic" is an unexcused tardy.
4. **Students dropped off across the street must use the crosswalks.** There is inherent danger with students crossing in other locations with all the Blue Oak and Camerado Springs traffic.
5. **Please do not put backpacks in the trunk of your car.** Students should have backpacks ready in order to exit the vehicle as quickly as possible.
6. The middle driveway to the school is for **EXIT ONLY**.

Daily Attendance: Research has verified that daily school attendance is highly correlated to success in school. Each class period is carefully structured and planned by the teacher. When a student is late or doesn't attend, important instruction is missed and this instruction can't be recreated. Teachers and administrators want students here so they can learn and interact in the classroom.

Though a student may be excused from school for several reasons (i.e. personal illness, quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer, medical appointments, attendance at funeral services for members of the immediate family), it's important to understand that funding is based on attendance. When a student is absent, even if it is excused, funding is not received. In the present condition of the state's budget and the reduction to education, every dollar is needed.

The next time you make a doctor/dental appointment, or make plans for a vacation, please consider the importance of being at school and use after school time for appointments or any of our three breaks or summer time for vacation.

Thank you for your support and cooperation!

Perfect Attendance: All schools in the Buckeye Union School District will now calculate perfect attendance on students who are not only here everyday, but not tardy and not checked-out early. This is a change from past practice, wherein if a student were in attendance for any portion of the day, this counted as toward perfect attendance.

Save your subscriptions! Please save the renewal of your magazine subscriptions for our annual QSP magazine drive that starts September 1st. This is our only fundraiser of the year. The proceeds from this sale go directly to benefit our student body activities!

IMPORTANT POLICIES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Checking Students Out of School: If you need to check your student out of school before the end of the school day, you will need to come into the office to sign your student out. Whenever possible, please send a note with your student so that they can leave class at the appropriate time. This will cut down on the time required for the office to send a student aide to retrieve them. Please note that students in P.E. will take a longer time to get to the office as they will need to change clothing and could be in the middle of an aerobic run.

Messages During the School Day: Please try to set up family emergency procedures with your student in advance. In order to minimize classroom disruptions, messages will not be delivered during class time. The office staff makes every effort to deliver messages during *study period*, but **we can't always guarantee that the student will receive the message.**

Tardy Students: If your student is late to school (whether it is excused or not), he or she will need to acquire a tardy slip from the office. Please use the Student Entrance to sign in and/or check out your student during the school day. Our Student aides will be happy to assist you. Late students should report to the office with a note from their parent/doctor explaining the reason for their tardiness and a tardy slip will be issued. The State of California has specific guidelines as to what is an excused absence.

Absent Students: If your student missed school for any reason, please call the school attendance line (press option "7" after the initial greeting), to notify the school of the absence and the reason. If you do not contact us, we will require a note explaining the reason for the absence. Please remember it is extremely important that students are in class each day and only absent if sick. **School Attendance Review Board (SARB) states a student is considered truant from school when absent without a valid excuse more than three days and tardy an excess of 30 minutes on each of more than three days in one school year.**

Phone Use: Camerado Springs does not have a pay phone. The office phone is available to students in emergency situations only. Please make arrangements for transportation, etc., with your student before school to alleviate the need for the phone to be used. In accordance with passed legislation, cell phones are allowed at school but **are to be turned off** (not on vibrate) and out of sight during school hours (7:50 a.m. to 2:04 p.m.).

If your student is ill, they need to check in with our health office and use the phone in the office (not their cell phone) to contact a parent/guardian. Please be aware **if your student's cell phone is confiscated, only the parent (no siblings) can retrieve the cell phone from Mr. Shupe, Assistant Principal.**

FORGOTTEN P.E. CLOTHES, HOMEWORK AND LUNCHES

We **DO NOT** deliver forgotten lunches, P.E. clothes or homework to students during the school day. If your child forgets his/her lunch, parents may bring it into the office and it will be taken out to the lunch area. Students need to check with a Yard Duty in the lunch area during their lunch time if their forgotten lunch has been delivered.

Forgotten homework, PE clothes and miscellaneous items will be kept in the front office. Students will need to come down between classes and check for forgotten items on their own.

**THIS DISTRICT POLICY IS IN PLACE TO ENSURE THAT OUR CLASSROOMS
ARE NOT INTERRUPTED DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF
THIS POLICY.**

Appointments with Principal and Assistant Principal: It is the desire of the Camerado Springs administration to be in the classrooms as much as possible in order to best support teachers and students. Therefore, the administrators will NOT be available for walk-in appointments. If you would like to talk to the principal or assistant principal, please either e-mail, leave a voice mail message or call the front office to schedule an appointment.

Independent Study Contract: California State law allows for students to complete an Independent Study contract if they are going to be out of school for **AT LEAST 5 CONSECUTIVE SCHOOL DAYS**. If your student needs a Contract, it must be requested 5 days **PRIOR** to the first day he/she will be out of school. Upon your student's return, completed work must be submitted to Mrs. Meleski in the office - **NOT TO YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHERS**. **Please note that contracts cannot be taken out due to illness.**

Progress Reports: The first trimester progress reports will be mailed home on September 25th. If you feel a conference is necessary after you have reviewed your student's progress report, you may call the office to schedule a conference during the minimum days on October 5th - 9th. Parents of students deemed at-risk academically will be contacted directly by the office to set up a conference. Conferences will take place between 12:30-3:00 pm.

DC Travelers: There will be a DC Travelers Parent/Child information meeting on Wednesday, August 26th, at 7 p.m. in the Camerado Springs Library. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Wheeler at x1606 or Mr. Flowers at x1624.

7TH/8TH Grade Dance: The first dance of the school year is scheduled for September 18th from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. Tickets will be sold during lunch at a cost of \$3 on September 15th, 16th and 17th. Tickets will not be sold on the day of the dance or at the door. **Parents must sign the permission slip on the reverse side of the ticket and students must present their ticket at the door.** Our school dances are meant to be fun for all students, even those who do not "dance." It's a time where they can socialize in a casual environment with supervision provided by teacher chaperones and administration. **Students must be picked up no later than 5:15 pm.**

Lunches: In order to facilitate a quick moving line, it is helpful for parents to pre-pay for lunches on line. Please go to the district website at www.buckeyeusd.org and click on pay-on-line. Students with large cash or check payments may also come to the kitchen before school and put money on their account. Lunch menus are also available on line.

Daily Lunches	\$2.75	Chips	.75 Cents
Milk	.50 Cents	Water	.75 Cents
		Slushies	\$1.00

If your child has forgotten to bring his/her lunch, you may bring it to the office. The lunch will be sent to the lunch area where students have been instructed to check for forgotten lunches.

NOTES FROM THE NURSE: We encourage students with asthma to carry their inhalers with them; however, to do so, they must have a signed permission slip from their physician and parent on file with the health clerk. District policy requires all medications, including over-the-counter medications, to be stored in the health office and be administered only when a physician and parent's signed permission slip is on file. Students are not allowed to have medication in their possession at school, walking to and from school, or on the school bus unless a physician determines it to be a medical necessity. Forms are available in the office to designate medications to be given to a student at school.

DRESS CODE REMINDERS

- Shoulder straps must be two inches in width.
- Shorts and skirts need to be mid-thigh (5-inch inseam recommended).
- No cleavage or midriffs showing.
- No sagging pants.
- No rips or tears above the knee.
- No inappropriate lettering, printing, patches, artwork or messages.
- No chains or spikes.
- No gang-related materials.
- No shoes without a strap or backing around the heel.
- No slippers or pajamas.

Students found in violation of the dress code will be asked to change. Parents will be notified and behavior consequences may result.

Please consult the Camerado Springs dress code which can be found in its entirety on our website or in the student handbook.

LABOR DAY
WILL BE OBSERVED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th
THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL

The 2009/2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR can be accessed via the Buckeye School district Website at <http://www://buckeyeusd.org/>

Rachel's Challenge: Camerado Springs is pleased to bring back the year two program of Rachel's Challenge for a student assembly on August 26th.

What is the Message of Rachel's Challenge?

Students have the power to make PERMANENT, POSITIVE, CULTURAL CHANGE in their schools and communities by accepting the challenge of Rachel Scott, the first student killed in the Columbine shooting, to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion.

How do they do it?

In three words we... MOTIVATE, EDUCATE and ACTIVATE.

Without any politics, religion or profit involved,

They **MOTIVATE** by grabbing kids *hearts* in an assembly.

They **EDUCATE** their *heads* with training and curriculum.

They help **ACTIVATE** them to get involved with their *hands* through exercises and community service.

PLEASE JOIN US IN SPREADING THE RACHEL'S CHALLENGE MESSAGES.

If you would like more information regarding Rachel's Challenge, please visit their website at www.rachelschallenge.com

CLUBS AND TUTORING

6TH grade after school homework club/solutions: 6th grade students needing help in any subject or needing a quiet place to do homework are invited to attend after school homework club. Some students may be assigned solutions to complete homework. This club will be held every Thursday from 2:15-2:50 p.m. The location of the meeting will be designated each week in the Monday student bulletin. A late bus is provided.

Peer Tutors: 8th grade students have the opportunity to sign up and help 6th graders with their studies. To qualify, these 8th graders must have maintained a GPA of a "B" average or better and have good attendance. Peer tutors are under the direction of Mrs. Falconer, our school counselor. If interested, please see Mrs. Falconer.

Blue Oak Buddies: 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to sign up and help at Blue Oak School on Tuesdays and Thursdays during study period. To qualify, these students must have maintained a "B" average last trimester and have good attendance. If interested, please see Mrs. Falconer, our school counselor.

Sports: Our Fall Sports Season will begin the week of August 24th. In the past, a \$40.00 donation was requested - this donation amount has increased to \$50.00 in the effort to maintain our sports program for this school year. For those who are interested, there will be a limited amount of scholarships available upon request. Please contact the office if you are in need of one.

Sports physicals new policy for 2009-2010: Beginning with the 2009-2010 **each** school year, students participating in all extracurricular school sports will need to have a sports physical, completed by a licensed physician prior to the start of the sport, including tryouts.

CSMS Parents Club a member of the National PTO

2480 Merrychase Drive, Cameron Park, CA 95682
(530) 677-1658 or (916) 933-0584, Extension 1705

August, 2009 Parent Bulletin

PARENTS CLUB WEBSITE: www.orgsites.com/ca/csmsparentsclub

The Parents Club extends a warm welcome to all new and continuing families at Camerado Springs Middle School. Our Parents Club exists to facilitate good communication between home and school, to fund worthwhile school-wide projects and to enable parent involvement. The Camerado Springs Middle School Parents Club is organized as a nonprofit public benefit corporation for the direct benefit of this public school, and we have chosen to be affiliated with the National PTO.

The Parents Club meets on the fourth Monday of the month, beginning September 28, 2009, in the school library. Come to our meetings to get direct communication with school staff, receive news and information about school activities and share your ideas and concerns. It is amazing what you can learn from other parents. You can also get on our email list for meeting reminders, information and minutes. Everyone is welcome - we do more than just raise money!

Why should parents be involved with Parents Club? Because being involved and informed can make a dramatic difference for your child!

Meeting Dates

Fourth Monday of every month beginning September 28, 2009

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the school library

(No meetings in November or December due to Holiday Breaks)

Pending Topics

9/28/09 *Where to Turn When You Need Help*

Eve Fichtner - President

Tami Schrock - Secretary

Rhonda Donat - Treasurer

Fundraising - Louise Boyle

Box Tops & Labels - Diane King

Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs - Michele Milanowski & Kathy McDavid

epf:7/29/09

Camerado Springs Middle School

Camerado Parents Club Fundraisers

✓ **Book Covers**

Sold by the Parents Club at their table on WOW Day. Please purchase these high-quality, stretchy book covers for your student and support the Parents Club at the same time.

✓ **eScrip Grocery Shopping Cards - Our simplest fundraiser**

Update your cards to support Camerado Parents Club

Safeway - Register your Safeway Club Card at www.escrip.com

Bel Air/Raley's - Register your Quality of Life card at www.raleys.com

Food 4 Less - Add funds to your re-loadable card

Nugget Markets - Add funds to your re-loadable card.

Other ATM and credit cards - Register cards at www.escrip.com

** Visit the Parents Club table on WOW Day to receive or update cards **



✓ **Campbell's Labels for Education - Save UPCs and Lids**

Collect UPC labels from Campbell's products, such as Goldfish Crackers and Campbell's soups, and collect lids from products like V8 Juices. Send them to the school office and help us earn merchandise for the school. Go to www.labelsforeducation.com for more information.

✓ **Box Tops for Education - Clip those Box Tops**

Clip Box Tops from General Mills products, such as Ziploc, Pop Secret, and Cheerios. Send the labels to the school office and Camerado Parents Club receives 10¢ for each box top. Go to www.boxtops4education for more information.



✓ **Watch for news regarding our fall cookie dough fundraiser in October**

Examples of Gifts to School for 2008-09
Math Text Books - \$3,000.00
Computer Lab and Yearbook Equipment - \$1,500.00
Art Equipment - \$174.00
Red Ribbon Week - \$500.00
Library Supplies (subscriptions) - \$184.0
Granola Bars for Star Testing - \$297.00

Thank you for your support of our school!

epf: 7/29/09

CSMS Parents Club

a member of the National PTO

2480 Merrychase Drive, Cameron Park, CA 95682

August, 2009

(530) 677-1658 or (916) 933-0584, Extension 1705

PARENTS CLUB WEBSITE: www.orgsites.com/ca/csmsparentsclub

Dear Wildcat Parents: *There are many different ways to support our school through the Parents Club. Please take a moment to complete this form, put it in an envelope and return it to the school office or your student's 1st period teacher during the first week of school. Thank you!*

Fundraising help

- I would like to receive and register the following shopping cards:
 - Raley's/Bel Air
 - Safeway
 - Nugget
 - Food 4 Less
- I can help with QSP magazine fundraiser in August (organized by Student Council)
- I can help with the Parents Club cookie dough fundraiser in October-ea. December

Volunteer Opportunities- 1-2 hours of help as things come up during the school year

- I can drop off food for Staff Appreciation events
- I can help with on-site projects during the school day
- I can help with on-site projects during evening
- I can help with on-site projects during weekend hours
- I can help from home
- I would like to _____

Special Skills

- I have the following skills that may be helpful to our school: _____

Parents Club Support

- Yes, please send me e-mail reminders of the monthly meetings - my e-mail address is below
- Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the Parents Club
 - \$10 \$25 \$50 Other: _____

Student Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

E-mail address (please print) _____

If you use spam filters, add ktschrock@att.net and evfichtner@att.net and michele@miloville.net to your address book ☺

epf: 7/29/09

THANK YOU!

Parent Project®

www.parentproject.com

The Parent Project® is a comprehensive, award winning training program for parents of teenagers ages 12-18. This 10 week training series is taught in a supportive environment that provides parents with effective techniques designed to help your teenager become a responsible, successful adult. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Thursdays 6:00-9:00 P.M.
September 10 - November 12, 2009
White Rock Village Community Room
2200 Valley View Pkwy., EDH, CA 95762



Give us your time--
It will change your life!

\$150* for 10 Weeks

*COUPLES DISCOUNT OR FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE UPON
REQUEST

Space is Limited.
Register Now!

916-941-8482

- ◆ We promise concrete answers for every question you ask.
- ◆ Learn to stop arguments with your child.
- ◆ Improve school attendance and performance.
- ◆ Prevent or intervene in alcohol and other drug use.
- ◆ Find resources to help ages 12-18.

Sponsored by the
**Parent Advisory Council of
Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills**
and El Dorado Hills Community Vision, Inc., a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation
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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**