

Dear SEES Families,

Welcome back to all of our returning SEES families and welcome to our new families. We're your Co-VP's of Communications for the SEES PTO and we are responsible for informing SEES families about PTO activities, fundraisers, events and other school news. Most of our PTO news will be distributed via our electronic newsletter. The Bulletin is published on the SEES website once a week and all email subscribers receive notification when the new issue is published (usually on Sunday afternoon). If you are not receiving the email notification and would like to, simply send us your email address, student name(s) and grade level(s). Also, feel free to email us if you have questions or something to publish in the Bulletin. Have a great year!

Robin Rafferty & Jacqueline Schluederberg
seescomm@yahoo.com

Kindergarten Orientation Rescheduled

Due to construction we've moved this important event from Monday, August 22nd to the first day of school August 24th. This means the first day of school will be shortened significantly for kindergartners. Students in Mrs. Eastham and Mrs. Engbrecht WILL attend their orientation and first day of school as scheduled.

AM kindergartners will attend school from 9:15 to 10:00 only. PM kindergartners will attend school from 12:30 to 1:15 only. Parents should plan to attend this quick orientation with their children and then take the children home. These hours allow kindergarten parents more opportunities for parking on or near campus during orientation while allowing drop off and dismissal of our students in grades 1-5 to go smoothly.

Drive-Up Lane Changes

We know that you are anxious to learn how the changes to our street and parking lot will impact drop off and pick-up. For complete details, it is imperative that each family read and discuss both the Traffic Plan and the Arrival and Dimissal Plan. They are located under Policies and Procedures on the About Us section of our website. Please note that first graders will no longer have privilege to the drive-up lane at the end of the day. Students in grades 2-5 may be picked up in our drive through lane between 3:10 and 3:25 only. Thank you for taking the time to update yourself and support student safety.



Happening This Week

- 8/23 - 4p Class Lists Posted at SEMS Performing Arts Center
- 8/24 - 8:45a First Day of School*
- 8/24 - 9:15a AM Kindergarten Orientation
- 8/24 - 12:30p - PM Kindergarten Orientation
- 8/24 - 5:30-7p Back to School Night Grades 4-5
- 8/25 - 5:30-7p Back to School Night Grades 2-3
- 8/26 - 8:45a First Flag Salute of the Year and Welcome Back Breakfast

*Early Release Day

Upcoming activities

- 8/29 - 5:30-7p Back to School Night Grade 1
- 9/5 - School Holiday (Labor Day)
- 9/9 - Deadline for Cash for Kids

Mark Your Calendars

- 9/12 - 9:15a - PTO Meeting, SEES Community Room
- 9/14 - 6:00p - Family Fun Night
- 9/16 - Innisbrook Gift Wrap Sale Begins
- 9/19 - Picture Day
- 9/19-23 - Halloween Costume Swap
- 9/20 - 9a - Room Parent Meeting for Grades K-2
- 9/21 - 9a - Room Parent Meeting for Grades 3-5
- 9/26 - Picture Day Make-Up
- 9/30 - 8:45a Student of the Month Flag Salute

Ongoing Activities

Cash for Kids Drive

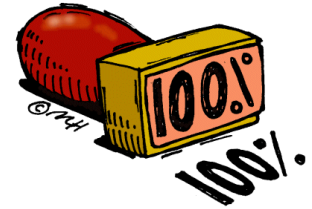
Have ideas? Feel free to e-mail Robin & Jax at seescomm@yahoo.com

Class List Posting at SEMS

In an effort to give Lusardi as much time as possible to complete the construction project, we must move the location of our class lists posting and **cancel** the Don't be HeART Broken event at SEES. Class lists will be posted on the windows of the SEMS Performing Arts Center and foyer of the gym beginning at 4PM next Tuesday, August 23rd. If you cannot visit this location prior to the morning of the first day of school, please check the lists on the office windows when you arrive to SEES on the 24th.

Cash for Kids

You should have received a brochure in the mail on our Cash for Kids fundraiser. If you did not receive one, extra copies are available in the front office. Our goal is \$15,000 this year, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to SEES. We are also offering for the first time the option to donate online and to make monthly payments. All parents making their donations online will automatically receive a tax receipt via email. Go to www.razoo.com/story/SEES-Cash-for-Kids for more information. Please make your donation by September 9th and check to see if your company offers a donation match that could double the amount of your contribution.



Some New Faces...

We would like to welcome the following new teachers to SEES.

- Ms. Rhonda Michaels is joining the first grade team at SEES. She taught kindergarten and first grade at Paloma Elementary last year.
- Mrs. Brooke Petruzzelli will also be teaching first grade to fill in for Mrs. Powell during her leave of absence. She taught most recently at Knob Hill Elementary.
- Mrs. Christine Dixon will join the second grade team. She has been commuting to Hemet where she taught 2nd grade for the past seven years.
- Chrissy Calise and Brooke Green will job share in a fourth grade class. They join us from Carrillo Elementary where they taught fourth grade for many years.
- Mary Baker and Tessa Chong will also job share in a fifth grade classroom. They are coming to us from Paloma Elementary.



Same Smiling Faces, New Names

Ms. Edie is now Mrs. Collins and
Ms. Tice is now Mrs. Barrios.
Congratulations!!

Some New Assignments...

A few of our returning teachers will be switching grade levels. Mrs. Anderson will be teaching 2nd grade this year. Mrs. Poyner is joining the 3rd grade team. Also, Mrs. Mullane will be out on sick leave and Melissa Hogg will be her long-term substitute until she returns.

Welcome Baby Girl Phinney

Congratulations to Mr. Phinney and his wife on the recent birth of their daughter, Abigail Elizabeth on July 31st. Mom and baby are doing great.

Looking for a Few Good Parents



Welcome back SEES families! We are excited to serve as the new Co-VP's of Volunteer Coordination for the 2011-2012 school year. As you know, parent volunteers are essential to the success of student activities and fundraisers. This year, due to increasing student population, your help is needed more than ever! We recognize that each parent maintains a busy schedule; therefore, parents can choose to volunteer for a single event or for multiple events throughout the year. If you would like to be on the distribution list for upcoming volunteer opportunities please email Jennifer Cangle and Jessica Wadley at sees_volunteer@yahoo.com.

Crossing Guards Needed for 2011-2012

Crossing Guards are needed for AM and/or PM hours from, 8:00-8:45 am and 3:05-3:40 pm. If you are interested in supporting our students' safety, please see below:

How to Apply:

- Go to www.edjoin.org
- Click on #2 "By District."
- Click on "San Diego"
- Click on "San Marcos."
- Click on "Classified."
- Click on "Noon Time Supervisors/Crossing Guards."

After Applying:

- Send an email to carolyn.kalicki@smusd.org for an interview.

After you are hired:

- You will be contacted by the District Office and you will need to have a money order or certified bank check for \$49 made out to SMUSD. This money is to pay for fingerprinting and TB test.



Construction Update

As you have probably noticed there has been a lot of construction happening at SEES over the summer. The parking lot has been increased in size (yay!), a left turn lane has been added to Schoolhouse Way (double-yay!!), 2 KOC portables have been added, and 4 additional portables were added next to the existing fifth grade ones. The 4 new portable classrooms are numbered in the "600's", so if you are wondering where Room 602 is, head out to the blacktop.

The primary grade play structure has been moved next to the upper grade play structure to allow for future construction. Construction on a 1-story kindergarten building and a 2-story building to house 15 classrooms will begin in January 2012 in the area where the play structure was located. Construction time is expected to be a year and a half and once the new buildings are completed, the portables will be removed.



New Traffic Rules on Brightwood Drive

The City of San Marcos will start enforcing a "No Stopping Anytime" restriction on Brightwood Drive from Questhaven Road to the end of the cul-de-sac starting on Wednesday, August 24, 2011. The restriction will be in effect on school days, **Monday through Friday, between 8 and 9 am and 2 and 4 pm.**

Motorists who use this location to drop-off and/or pick-up their school children should find an alternative location. Brightwood Drive residents and their guests are also subject to this enforcement during the restriction time.

The San Marcos Traffic Safety Commission acted to implement this restriction at their July 2011 meeting after reviewing several complaints from Brightwood residents about public safety, speeding and blocked driveways during San Elijo Elementary School start and dismissal periods.

For more information, please call the City's traffic division at (760) 744-1050.





SEES BULLETIN

August 2011, Issue 1

Did You Know?

PTO Membership

You are a member of the SEES PTO. By having a child at SEES or by being a SEES teacher you are automatically a PTO member. We do not charge membership dues, so you don't have to pay to join. The mission of the SEES PTO is "to unite families, to inspire students, and to underwrite success." The PTO offers many fundraisers throughout the year to achieve our mission, such as Cash for Kids, gift wrap sales, Spirit Wear sales, and of course our biggest event, the annual Country Fair. These funds are used to support our music program, Arts Attack program, Accelerated Reader program, instructional aides, hands on science opportunities, supplemental technology instruction, and many other worthwhile programs. We also sponsor many fun family-oriented activities such as the Book Fair Socials, Walk to School Day, the Father/Daughter Dance, and the Mother/Son Kickball Event to bring SEES families together as a community.

SEES Website

The SEES website, www.smusd.org/sees, is filled with information about classroom activities, school policies and procedures, upcoming events, and PTO news. Under the PTO section you will find this newsletter, information on how to contact all PTO Board members, PTO by-laws, minutes from PTO board meetings, calendar of upcoming events, and FAQ's. Make sure you log in on a regular basis to keep up with what's happening at SEES.

Go to the SEES website and download a copy of the revised academic calendar, the revised SEES bell schedule and optional school supply lists by grade level.

Early Release Wednesdays

All SEES students are released an hour early on Wednesdays to allow teachers to collaborate on addressing the school's goals for the year. This collaboration time allows SEES staff to have grade level meetings and professional development opportunities. The **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** falls on a Wednesday this year and therefore, it IS AN EARLY RELEASE DAY. Students in grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 2:10, AM kindergarteners at 10:50 and PM kindergarteners at 2:25p.

Flag Salutes

Flag salutes are held approximately once a month on Friday for grades 1-5 starting at 8:45 and kindergarten flag salutes are held once every trimester. All parents are encouraged to attend. At flag salutes Student of the Month recipients are recognized as well as awards for math, reading and honor role. Information about school events and activities are announced and often there are performances by various classes and school groups. We look forward to seeing you at the first one of the year this Friday!