

# Principal's Paige

March 13, 2009



## Lost and Found

All the lost and found clothing has been neatly hung. It is amazing how many nice sweatshirts are missing their owners. **We will be donating all unclaimed items on March 20<sup>th</sup>.** The clothing racks will be out all next week during conferences.

Please encourage your child to look for his/her missing clothing and/or lunchbox.

## Spirit Wear and Washington D.C. Fundraiser

Sofia Daddysman is a CSMH kindergartner and her grandmother, Mia, makes beautiful hand-knitted sweaters, hats and accessories. She has agreed to sell the items and donate a percentage of the proceeds to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington D.C. trip.

She will have a table set up during conference week from 1:00-4:00 every day. We will also be selling spirit wear all week. This will be a great time to purchase various styles for spring.

## Student Classroom Placement Information

As conference week begins, the teachers and I thought this would be an excellent time to remind our school community as to how children are placed in classrooms.

Our staff will make plans for classroom assignments for the 2009-2010 school year in late spring. Students will be recommended for assignment to heterogeneous classroom groups during this time by their current teachers, who are in the best position to make assignments. Classroom teachers have worked with your child throughout the year and have the best "handle" on their needs. Grade level teachers and administration then come together to discuss the best placement for each child as well as review all the classroom groups for balance.

The staff considers many factors as classroom groups are prepared. Areas taken into consideration are: range of academic abilities; numbers of boys and girls; leadership skills--academic, social, and athletic; individual learning styles; behavior, special education needs; students benefiting from being together or separated; student personality and interaction; and class size. The objective of the process is to produce

the most "workable" heterogeneous combination of student groups. This important task contributes significantly to the creation of a positive class environment, which enables students to function to the fullest of their abilities. Staff members are assigned to these classes during the summer based upon the best possible "match" of teaching skills and student needs and staff preferences for grade level assignments. Teacher grade level assignments may change over the summer.

Parents may want to share information about their child's learning style to help us in the placement process. This should be put in writing with the reasons outlined and related to the educational areas mentioned above. This information should be given to your child's teacher. **Requests for specific teachers are not appropriate.** It puts your current child's teacher in a very awkward position. If a parent makes a request for a particular teacher, they may feel their request was honored or denied based on this request, when in fact the request was not a consideration in the child's placement. It is also unfair to the parents who followed procedures when others are trying to circumvent them. Our staff takes classroom placement of all children very seriously. Please rely on our professional judgment and trust that we will group and provide children with the best possible learning environment.

## Teacher Hiring

This is the time of year that we begin to look at hiring for the next school year. We currently do not know what our specific staffing needs will be for the 2009-2010 school year but we want to have a pool of candidates to choose from if and when openings occur. If you know a teacher that you think would be a good fit for the Charter School and who shares the beliefs of our mission and vision, please talk to them and encourage them to contact us.

**Please be sure to attend your parent conference next week.**

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

March 16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Minimum Days - Parent Conferences
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	CSMH Board of Directors meeting at 7:00 pm
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Order hot lunches for the following week by 5:00 pm
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> grade (Nelson) on field trip
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade Colonial Days
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Academic Chess
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Golf Club after school from 3:00-3:45
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Order hot lunches for the following week by 5:00 pm 4 <sup>th</sup> grade Sacramento information night at 6:00 pm
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Student Council Spirit Day - Sports Day Instrumental music program for 5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Academic Chess
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Golf Club after school from 3:00-3:45 Town Hall meeting at 6:30 pm at CSMH
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	CSMH Chevy's Day!! Minimum Day - Staff Development Lottery for 2009-2010 in multipurpose room at 3:00
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Student Council Spirit Day - Crazy Hair Day 2 <sup>nd</sup> graders on field trip 8 <sup>th</sup> graders leave for Washington D.C.

