

Principal's Paige

May 1, 2009



MHUSD Board Meeting

We are scheduled to present our annual report on Tuesday, May 5, at the Morgan Hill Unified School Board meeting. The meeting will be held at the District office at 15600 Concord Circle. It will begin at 6:30 pm. It is extremely important that we have a large group of staff and parents at the meeting to show the Board members how much we support CSMH. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending!!

STAR Testing

State Testing will begin Monday, May 4th and continue until Wednesday, May 13th. All students in grades 2nd-8th will be taking the State STAR tests. These tests measure student progress toward meeting the state standards in the areas of reading, math and language. The 5th and 8th graders will also be taking the Science test. Please do not plan appointments, etc. during the testing window. Children who are absent are required to make up the tests. To help students do well on these tests, parents need to ensure that:

- **students arrive at school on time (at least 5 minutes before the bell)**
- students are well rested
- students have had a nutritious breakfast
- students have a healthy snack for break
- parents demonstrate a positive attitude about the tests and at the same time do not over stress their children

No classroom interruptions will be permitted when students are taking the tests. Students have spent the past few weeks taking practice tests and talking about test taking skills. Tests scores will be mailed as soon as the school receives them (usually in August).

I have also included a list of helpful hints for taking tests that you may want to review with your child prior to Monday and throughout the testing window. Some test taking skills to discuss are:

- Read all instructions carefully.
- Don't spend too much time on any one problem.
- Read all the answer choices.
- Eliminate obvious wrong answers.
- If you skip a question or problem, remember to go back and answer it later.
- If you skip a questions or problem, be sure you are on the right number on your answer sheet.
- Answer all questions.
- Pay attention to words like: not, never and always.
- Try to get an answer in your head before looking at the answer choices.

- If you selected none of the above, go back and check these answers.
- When guessing, usually you should stick to your first answer. Do not keep changing the answer.
- If you finish early, go back over every problem as many times as you can before time is up.
- Get plenty of sleep during testing days.
- Eat healthy foods.
- Do your best and be confident that you are prepared!

Swine Flu Information

In today's e-mail packet is information from the County Health Department about Swine Flu. We do not want anyone to panic but do want to keep our community educated about this virus. I would also like to share with you some of the procedures that we have put in place at school to help protect our students –

- All students are washing their hands with antibacterial soap each morning before starting class.
- Students are being reminded to wash their hands several times during the day and are being taught proper hand washing.
- Any volunteers will be required to use the antibacterial soap in the office before going to a classroom.
- We have made sure that all the rooms have plenty of Kleenex. If a student needs to cough, he/she is encouraged to cough into a Kleenex and to then throw it away.
- Students are being reminded not to share drinks and food.
- Any children coming in with flu like symptoms will be isolated. Our health clerk has a specific list of procedures she will be following from the Health Department.

If you have any further concerns and/or questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Few Reminders – Upcoming Highlights

May 14th is the Spring Exhibition. We will be featuring our school wide Green School projects. The exhibition will be from 5:30-7:30 pm. The current 7th graders will be serving a Mexican Dinner beginning at 5:00 pm. Be sure to see the flyer to sign up for a yummy and hassle free meal.

May 29th is the Family Fun Fest. Be sure to see today's flyer and find out how you can help make this end of year celebration a success.

We will be offering everyone an opportunity to order next year's school supplies through the Innsbrook program beginning next week. Watch for more information!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

May 4 th -13 th	STAR testing window
May 4 th	Academic Chess
May 5 th	Golf Club after school from 3:00-3:45 CSMH presenting at the Morgan Hill Unified School District meeting
May 6 th	Order hot lunches for the following week by 5:00 pm
May 8 th	Middle school dance No spirit day due to testing
May 11 th -14 th	Staff Appreciation week
May 11 th	Academic Chess
May 12 th	Golf Club after school from 3:00-3:45
May 13 th	Minimum Day - Staff Development Staff Appreciation Luncheon Order hot lunches for the following week by 5:00 pm
May 14 th	Spring Exhibition
May 15 th	No School - Staff Development
May 18 th	Academic Chess
May 19 th	2 nd grade (Wilkinson) on field trip Golf Club after school from 3:00-3:45 CSMH Board meeting at 7:00 pm
May 20 th	2 nd grade (Horning) on field trip 4 th grade potluck dinner and Sacramento trip information Order hot lunches for the following week by 5:00 pm
May 21 st	2 nd grade (Price) on field trip Parent Volunteer thank you at 2:00 Incoming middle school meeting (see note in 6 th grade and middle school newsletters for more information)