



MIRA VISTA K – 8 SCHOOL
West Contra Costa Unified School District
6397 Hazel Ave. Richmond, California 94805
(510) 231-1416 fax (510) 234-8739

Dr. B. Harter, Superintendent

Mr. J. Szot, Principal

September Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome again to the new school year, and a warm welcome again to the students and parents who are new to our school community. We're looking forward to a great year with your support. While we have faced a few challenges in opening, (substitute teachers, low enrollment in First and Second grades, etc.) we are off to a great start this year. I'll be pleased to introduce our returning teachers, and our new teachers, on Back to School Night. On Wednesday, August 31, the district made their final decisions about staffing at the school based on our actual enrollment. We have been able to keep the three grade 1 classes and the 3 grade 2 classes. The district is looking to fill the open 4th grade position now, and I'll keep 4th grade parents posted about this. I've also been able to address any parent concerns about enrollment and we're ready to move on with stable classes. The district is committed (as much as possible), not to displace students from our school, if they are residents in our attendance area. In light of this commitment, the Kindergarten classes will have 26 students at this time; however we will have to displace some students from other grades due to the high enrollment. We will be in touch with those families, and help to place the students. If you have questions or concerns about this, please call me.

The preliminary CST test scores have just been published by the Department of Education. We performed well in some areas, some areas require more support- complete scores, including the Academic Performance Index (API) and the Federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results, will be available soon. However we made a 34 point growth on our Academic Performance Index scores in the 2011 tests (The State Measure), moving from 711 to 745. We have moved up 65 points in the last 3 years. The State goal is for all schools to be at 800. Our students and teachers have done a great job!

Mira Vista grades 6 to 8 plans have been realized. We have opened with almost full classes in each grade. Students are following their schedules, class changes, and wearing their district ID badges, like all other Middle School students in the district. We are offering them a strong academic program, in a safe, family centered environment.

Here are some additional points of information:

- PTA has been very active and has planned many events this month - Please see the calendar,
- Ms. Evans and her great staff are running the After School Program - sign up forms are available at the school office.
- The lower drop off area needs to run smoothly so please follow the directions of our traffic volunteers, and do not loiter as you drop off our students.
- Please be sure students are at school on time, everyday, and are ready to have a great day of learning. Tardiness and absences affect their education.
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Back to School Night is September 15th at 6:30 in the MP Room. Please join us.
Once again, if you have any questions or concerns, please call me.

Sincerely,

J. Szot, Principal.