

Heidi Guizar, Principal
Carol Sonderland, Dean of Students
Teresa Thielke, Secretary
509/222-6000
Fax: 509/222-6001



SUNSET VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

October Newsletter

Hello Mustang Families! We are already one month into the school year, can you believe it? Students have done an amazing job getting back into the routine and we are starting to make strides both academically and behaviorally. Looking ahead I'm hoping to continue seeing students develop the qualities to become good citizens. The same qualities that help us live together in families can help students in their schools and communities. Are you helping your child develop good citizenship? Answer yes or no to the following questions to find out:

1. Do you talk about school and family rules with your child and why they're important?
2. Do you volunteer as a family on a regular basis?
3. Do you show your child that it is important to honor commitments by keeping your promises?
4. Do you model good sportsmanship for your child when you are watching sporting events and playing games?
5. Do you expect your child to be responsible for his or her own actions and hold them accountable?

How well are you doing? Each yes answer means you're doing your best to raise a good citizen. For no answers try those ideas to help your child learn to live well with others. If you would like more information, please check out: Practical Ideas for Parents to Help Their Children, www.parent-institute.com

PRIDE

P = Participate Positively
R = Respond Respectfully
I = Improve Daily
D = Demonstrate Safety
E = Embrace Differences

Last month I shared a little about our school-wide behavior expectations, which we call PRIDE. This month I wanted to share the many ways that we like to recognize and reward our students for meeting our expectations. Every staff member has the ability to reward students with Mustang Bucks! Students have an opportunity to earn these by following and exceeding our expectations. Students can earn incentives in the classroom as well as at lunch. My favorite part of Friday is getting to do the Mustang Bucks drawing with every grade level at lunch. I draw four names from each grade level's box and get to give a prize to the students who are drawn. This is beneficial in three ways: 1) the student meets our expectations, 2) the student gets a prize, but the best perk is 3) all of the students in the cafeteria cheer for the student who is awarded. This is powerful to see and the children absolutely love it!

Another way we have been recognizing students is by sending yellow Positive PRIDE notes home. This is a fun way for all staff members to get involved and “catch” a student showing Mustang P.R.I.D.E. Look for these to be coming home with your student.

Three times a year we will hold Mustang PRIDE ceremonies. Each teacher has the opportunity to nominate 1-2 students from the class to be recognized at the ceremony. I am looking forward to receiving the list of students and seeing families at our first ceremony coming up in November. Each student attending will receive a certificate, a booklet with everyone’s name and description for why he/she was nominated, and a brand new PRIDE T-shirt created by our very own PTO.

Last year I decided to start something new to change the student perception that when you go to the Principal’s office it is because you are “in trouble.” Instead, I would prefer to have students come to my office for positive things, so I started “Lunch with the Principal.” Every Wednesday I have teachers send me a student from their class to have lunch with me in my office. This is a great opportunity for me to get to know more of our fabulous students and an opportunity for students to get to know me. Making connections and building positive relationships with our students is important to the Sunset View staff. We want EVERY child to have a trusted adult that he/she can go to and feel connected with.

I encourage you to talk with your child about PRIDE and how he/she is being rewarded. You are also welcome to use PRIDE at home to reinforce the expectations that are being taught at school. Our goal is to recognize and reward students who are following our expectations and in turn we will minimize behavior that is not meeting our expectations. We appreciate your support!

SAFETY: PARKING LOT AND CROSS WALKS

Thanks for your patience in the parking lot as we all were getting the routine down. Please remember to drive slow in the parking lot and in the surrounding areas near our school. Remember to put your cell phone away while driving and picking up your student so that you are not distracted. Please also follow the direction of all of the Safety Patrol, staff, and volunteers who are out there to ensure everyone’s safety. Of course if you are ever interested in volunteering to keep our students safe, please contact the main office at: 509-222-6000. We are in need of quite a few volunteers, specifically at the Deschutes Avenue and North Center Parkway both in the morning and after school. (Note: You will need to complete a Volunteer form and be cleared prior to volunteering.)

NEW MEAL PROGRAM CHARGES

Our new meal program does NOT allow students to “charge” a milk against their account. Students must either have monies in their account to buy milk or they will not be able to have milk. Milk costs \$0.55 per day. Also, as of October 3rd, if a student has a negative balance of \$14.99 or above, the child will no longer be provided a full meal. Instead, the student will receive a snack if the payment is not made on that day. A letter from Nutrition Services went home in September about this change along with information for how to keep up-to-date with your child’s meal account.

VOLUNTEERS

Sunset View welcomes volunteers! Thank you to those who have already been volunteering in our school and for the Jog-a-thon! If you would like to help, please notify your student’s teacher or contact the main office. Volunteers are needed for a variety of things, including: in-class support, crosswalk duty in the AM or PM, extra supervision during lunch, and a variety of other more clerical duties. **Before volunteering**, you must complete a registration packet which includes a background check through the Washington State Patrol. This must be completed **every year**. After turning in your form, please contact the main office to ensure that you have been cleared to volunteer. The number is: 509-222-6000. We ask all volunteers to sign in each time they visit the building and to wear an identification badge. The safety of our students is our number one priority and we take this process very seriously.

PTO

We have a fabulous PTO organization! PTO supports both our students and staff! Our big fundraiser each year is the Jog-a-thon and it was quite a success! Thank you to the PTO Board members who planned the event and all of the volunteers who helped make the event happen. If you are interested in joining PTO or you are just interested to learn a little more information, please attend our next PTO meeting. This year, PTO meetings will be held the second Tuesday of every month in the library. All meetings start at 3:30 PM and usually run about one hour. Below is the contact information so YOU can get involved today!

- Facebook: [facebook.com/sunsetviewelementaryPTO](https://www.facebook.com/sunsetviewelementaryPTO)
- email: sunsetviewvolunteer@gmail.com
- Newsblast weekly updates: ssvnewsblast@gmail.com

ATP

Sunset View has an Action Team for Partnerships (ATP) committee which consists of educators, parents, and community members. This committee meets monthly to develop and implement a plan for our school, family, and community partnerships. This plan is centered around four goals, two academic and two non-academic, and they are aligned with our school improvement plan. If you are interested in learning more and seeing what ATP is all about, please join us! We meet the second Thursday of every month from 3:30-4:30 in the library and we are currently in need of parent and community members!

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

- Monday, October 3rd: 5th grade Orchestra begins 3:25-4 in the music room (Orchestra occurs every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday after-school)
- Wednesday, October 5th: Picture Day
- Thursday, October 6th: Lego Club begins
- Monday, October 10th: Team Read begins
- Tuesday, October 11th: PTO meeting in the library 3:30-4:30
- Thursday, October 13th: ATP meeting in the library 3:30-4:30
- Friday, October 14th: No School for KINDER ONLY

-Family Movie Night in the cafeteria 6:30-8:00 PM (parents need to attend with students)

- Thursday, October 20th: 3rd grade field trip, ACT play
- Friday, October 21st: No school for students, teacher training
- Monday, October 24th: Kinder field trip to the Country Mercantile Pumpkin Patch
- Wednesday, October 26th: Janet Stevens, author visit and assembly
- Wednesday, November 2nd: 1st PRIDE ceremony for nominated students, 3:30 in the cafeteria
- Wednesday, November 9th: Veteran's Day Assembly, all Veterans invited to attend!
- November 18th, 21st, and 22nd: Parent Conferences (more information to come in November)
 - 18th: Early-release, conferences in afternoon
 - 21st: No school for students, conferences 12:30-8:00 PM
 - 22nd: Early-release