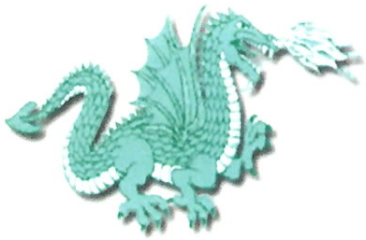

Tuesday Folder

August 19, 2014

Pillar of the Month
RESPONSIBILITY

This Thursday, August 21 will mark the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year! We will begin together for morning announcements and the flag salute at 7:55am. Please review the following information in preparation for the first day of school. Let us know if you have any questions.

Student/Family Handbook

Please find a copy of the Student/Family Handbook on our website www.syvcs.org. You can also pick up a paper copy in the office. The updated Student/Family Handbook provides an overview of our school programs along with many of our policies and procedures. All students and parents will sign that they have read the Santa Ynez Valley Charter School's Rules of Student Conduct and Discipline Policy, Computer Use Policy, and Student/Family Handbook, and that they agree to follow the rules and procedures which it describes. The acknowledgement of the Student/Family Handbook is found on the Student Data Card that comes with the Back-to-School paperwork.

Early Release

Kindergarten will have early release (11am) Thursday, August 21-Friday, September 5. And early release (1p) Monday, September 8-Friday, September 12. Resuming their normal schedule of 7:55am-1:30pm beginning Monday, September 15.

Students in grades 1-4 will have early release (1pm) Thursday, August 21-Friday, August 29, resuming their regular schedule on Tuesday, September 2.

All students have early release on Thursday, August 21, and on Fridays.

7th Grade Tdap Immunization Records

All 7th Grade Students must have a current copy of their immunization records on file, including verification of the Tdap on or before the first day of school. Please bring these to Mercedes as soon as possible.

Sports Camp Sign-Ups

August 25-28 are early release days for grades 1-4, so that teachers can fully assess each child at the beginning of the school year. During this time we are offering a free sports camp from 1-2:30pm. Please remember to sign up by clicking the link on our website.

Middle School Electives
You and your child should be receiving an email explaining the Middle School Elective options and a survey to complete. Please help your child review this information and express their interest in electives so that we can best assign classes. Electives will begin on August 25.

Lunch Menus
In our continued efforts to provide healthy, mostly made from scratch, meals for students, you will notice the addition of a salad bar to our August/September menu that you will see on our website and via email by the end of the week. Country Garden Catering will be working with SYVCS to provide snacks and lunches made fresh daily in our kitchen. Please look for the lunch menu this week and turn them in by Friday, August 22.

Facilities
Over the next few months, you will be hearing more about planned facilities updates at SYVCS, College Elementary, and Santa Ynez Valley Elementary School campuses. The district has placed a bond measure, Measure Y, on the November ballot, which seeks to secure funding to improve facilities district-wide focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. The facilities updates are planned over several years and would provide SYVCS with a dedicated multi-purpose/performing arts space as well as an engineering lab. Measure Y will further enhance our ability to deliver high-quality educational programs at SYVCS by providing expanded facilities for our student and families to continue to learn through science, technology, engineering, mathematics music, art and the garden. For more information, please see the attached letter and Fact Sheet and Q & A from Superintendent James Brown, Ed.D.

A special thanks to PTSO and our Kitchen Staff for providing teachers with great meals over the past two days on campus.

-Mr. Mark Palmerston

Important Dates

August 21: First Day of School!
Kindergarten Early Release 11am
Grades 1-8 Early Release 1pm
August 26: MS Back-to-School Night 5:30-6:30pm
August 28: Elementary Back-to-School Night 5:30-6:30pm
September 1: Labor Day-No School

Reminders
Attendance-Daily attendance is critical to the academic success of each student. If your child is absent, please call the office to report the absence.
Lunch Boxes-Please remember to label your child's lunch boxes
Lice-Please check your children for lice before returning to school. Please treat any live lice prior to school on Thursday.

Visitor Sign-In
All visitors on campus, including parent volunteers, need to check-in and check-out of the office. Please see Mercedes when you arrive on campus as a visitor.

Please review the

Santa Ynez Valley Charter School

Student/Family Handbook

found on our website at www.syvcs.org.

The updated Student/Family Handbook provides an overview of our school programs along with many of our policies and procedures. All students and parents will sign that they have read the Santa Ynez Valley Charter School's Rules of Student Conduct and Discipline Policy, Computer Use Policy, and Student/Family Handbook, and that they agree to follow the rules and procedures which it describes. The acknowledgement of the Student/Family Handbook is found on the Student Data Card that comes with the Back-to-School paperwork.

Approved at the August 8, 2001 Meeting of the Board of Directors
Revised February 2012, August 2014
Santa Ynez Valley Charter School

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL MONTHLY LUNCH MENU

Name _____

Grade _____

Due in office 1 pm
Friday, Aug 22

August 2014

Food for our program must be ordered and paid for in advance – for that reason we cannot offer refunds, credits or late orders!

AUGUST				
MONDAY	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**
25 Salad Bar Calzones Veggie or Meat	**26** Salad Bar Chicken Tenders	**27** Salad Bar Sliders	**28** Salad Bar Popcorn Chicken Bowls	**29** Salad Bar Homemade Pizza Veggie or Meat
SEPTEMBER				
1 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	**2** Salad Bar Grilled Ham and Cheese	**3** Salad Bar Chicken and Broccoli Alfredo	**4** Salad Bar White Bean Chicken Chili with Corn Bread	**5** Salad Bar Sweet and Sour Chicken with Fried Rice and Eggrolls
8 Salad Bar Baked Five Cheese Macaroni & Cheese	**9** Salad Bar Chicken Tacos	**10** Salad Bar Spaghetti and Meatballs	**11** Salad Bar Ranch Chicken Twisters	**12** Salad Bar Fish and Chips
15 Salad Bar Hot Dogs w/ Potato Wedges	**16** Salad Bar Enchiladas Cheese or Chicken	**17** Salad Bar Grilled Cheese Sandwiches	**18** Salad Bar BBQ Beef Sandwich	**19** Salad Bar Orange Chicken with Fried Rice
22 Salad Bar Calzones (Meat or Veggie)	**23** Salad Bar Make Your Own Taco Bar	**24** Salad Bar Club Sandwiches	**25** Salad Bar Beef and Broccoli	**26** Salad Bar Fried Chicken/Waffles
29 Salad Bar Lasagna (Veggie or Meat)	**30** Salad Bar Baked Potatoes with Chicken, Broccoli, Cheese			

PAYMENT

Total Lunches _____ **@ 4.00** = _____

Extra Entrees _____ **@ 1.50** = _____

Salad Bar Only _____ **@ 3.50** = _____

Snack Card (10) _____ **@ 15.00** = _____

Grand Total for the Month $ _____

PORTION SIZES WILL BE AGE APPROPRIATE

ALL LUNCHES INCLUDE A FRESH SALAD BAR, SEASONAL VEGETABLES, ROLLS WILL BE ON THE SALAD BAR, AND MILK OR WATER.

If your child is absent (sick, field trip, etc.) you can request lunch be held *until the end of the same day* for pick up or give lunch to another student.
Please call office by 10 a.m. with your instructions.

College School District
Santa Ynez, California

August 18, 2014

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your student's education and success is our core focus. Over the past year, we have worked on developing a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) based educational plan to guide school improvements. The types of core class offerings and electives the District is considering providing through the STEAM initiative include, advanced science, beginning robotics, robotics and animation, science technology, Lego competitions and choir. While some of these offerings will be provided as part of this year's academic program, it is our hope that additional STEAM classes can be offered in the next years to come.

However, in order to fully implement these programs, we need our facilities to be integrated with the curriculum to support the STEAM initiative. State and Federal funding is insufficient for the improvements we now need to make. After careful study, the Board of Trustees has placed a $12 million bond measure for voter consideration on the November 4, 2014 ballot to fund required improvements at each school site Measure "Y2014" would:

- Construct new and improve existing classrooms by integrating facilities with the academic program to prepare students for high demand fields such as science, technology, engineering, and math
- Improve technology infrastructure and provide access to modern computing so that our students have the tools to succeed in the 21st century
- Provide specialized labs and learning environments to accommodate a technical curriculum and physical space for learning activities
- Improve existing gym/multipurpose rooms to support visual and performing arts including student enrichment programs and classes

Measure "Y2014" would also require an independent oversight committee and annual audits to ensure money is used only for voter approved school improvements and repairs and not used for salaries, administration, and overhead. A voter approval rate of 55% is required for passage of this measure.

We appreciate your support of our schools and active participation in our community. We invite you to come to an orientation on the STEAM initiative at our upcoming Back-to-School Night on September 3rd, where you can ask questions about the proposed program and how it may impact your student(s). We hope to keep you updated and informed on the District's modernization and facilities improvement efforts as we move forward. In the interim, we have attached a fact sheet to this letter that contains answers to many of the most frequently asked questions. If any remain, please don't hesitate to contact me at (805) 686-7300.

Sincerely,

James Brown, Ed.D.
Superintendent

College School District

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT MEASURE "Y2014" FACT SHEET AND Q & A

Q. What is the proposed measure and what would it do?

A. The proposed measure is a $12 million general obligation bond authorization that will:

- Construct new and improve existing classrooms by integrating facilities with the academic program to prepare students for high demand fields such as science, technology, engineering, and math
- Improve technology infrastructure and provide access to modern computing so that our students have the tools to succeed in the 21st century
- Provide specialized labs and learning environments to accommodate a technical curriculum and physical space for learning activities
- Improve existing gym/multipurpose rooms to support visual and performing arts including student enrichment programs and classes

Q. What are General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds?

A. G.O. bonds fund the construction, modernization, or improvement of school facilities; including the furnishing and equipping of schools. Similar to a home loan, G.O. bonds are repaid over time.

Q. How would the bonds be repaid?

A. The repayment comes from a tax on all taxable property within the District's boundaries. The tax rate for repayment is determined by the assessed valuation of a taxable parcel, not market value. Assessed valuation is the value placed on real property by the County pursuant to Proposition 13 and is typically much lower than the market value for which a property may be sold.

Q. How much would it cost?

A. The proposed measure would increase the previously approved tax rate by $9.00 a year per $100,000 of assessed value.

Q. What safeguards exist for taxpayers?

A. State law requires a detailed list of all projects. Only projects identified on the detailed project list may be funded from the measure. In addition, the proposed measure includes guaranteed annual financial and performance audits and an independent oversight committee to ensure money is used only for voter approved school improvements and repairs.

Q. What about other sources of funding?

A. The General Fund is budgeted in large part on annual funds to cover the ongoing costs of running our school, including teacher salaries, and does not account for school repair and construction needs. State law prohibits the use of lottery funds for the repair or construction of school facilities.

Q. What happens if the proposed measure fails?

A. The proposed improvements would be delayed and the facilities needs at our schools would continue to escalate with time.

Q. Who can vote if there is an election?

A. All registered voters who live within the boundaries of the College School District would be eligible to vote on the proposed measure. Election Day is November 4 and the last day to register to vote for this election is October 20.