

Debra Hetrick, Principal

David Cooper, PTA President

## Principal's Message

Dear Families,

As we move into the month of March, you should be hearing from your student's teacher for parent conferences.

As teachers prepare for conferences, there is a growing body of evidence suggesting that family engagement matters for student success. Research shows that family engagement improves school readiness, student achievement, and social skills. Family engagement does not

happen in a vacuum. Rather, it takes the committed actions of both families and schools working together through parent-teacher conferences as well as other forms of support to make a student successful. Through this shared responsibility, schools reach out to and engage families in meaningful ways, and, similarly, families do their part to actively support their children's learning and development. Partnership with the school is a vital component to show your child that you value their education.

## **Minimum Days for Parent Conferences**

Starting Friday, March 6, 2015 through Friday, March 13, 2015.

This week, students will be dismissed at **1:40** except for Kindergarteners who will be dismissed at their regular time of 1:00.

## **Parent Teacher Association**

I want to encourage Pony parents to attend PTA meetings that are held monthly. This organization helps support the goals of the school and provides parent/student/community nights and activities. We will be looking for a new PTA President and Treasurer as the year ends, and would love for more parents to become involved in the school.

## **Attendance**

We are experiencing a very high number of tardy students on a daily basis. Please remember that school starts at 9:00am sharp and breakfast starts at 8:30am. It is important that ALL students are here every day and on time. Students are allowed onto the campus at 8:45am to walk the track and prepare for their day.

We are also experiencing a high number of early pick-ups. I understand that doctor's appointments and emergencies do occur but, the number of early dismissals has become chronic and interrupts the learning environment at the school. Students with multiple early dismissals will be receiving a letter of concern. We must work together to ensure OUR children receive a great learning experience for the entire time they are in school. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

## **Traffic Reminders**

At drop off and pick times, we ask that you PARK your car so your child can enter and exit the car onto the sidewalk. Please do NOT double park and drop your student off behind a parked car or have your child dart out into the street. Please have your student walk through the crosswalk where the traffic monitor can help them safely into the school. It is helpful to continue driving in the direction your car is facing instead of making a U-turn in front of the school. This will allow for a smoother traffic flow. As a reminder, the school parking lot is for the staff to park and bus loading zone. If you do drive into the parking lot, please park your car in a parking slot. Thank you for your continued cooperation and patience. The safety of your student is Pony's number one concern.

## Important March Dates:

March 6-13	Minimum Days for Parent Conferences (Dismissal at 1:40pm)
March 10	PTA Meeting 6:00pm
Mar. 30-Apr. 3	Spring Break

# Pony Express Newsletter

March 2015

## **Spring Break**

Spring Break runs from March 30th- April 3rd. There will be no school at that time. On behalf of the staff at Pony Express, please have a wonderful and safe vacation.

Sincerely,

*Debra Hetrick*

Principal

## **PTA President's Message**

The Pony PTA is on the **March** and there is **Spring** in our step! I'm going to add another exclamation mark to get you fired up!! We've got PTA meetings over the next three months to chart the course for the rest of the school year...and beyond, including the makeup of next year's PTA Board. We need your participation and your first chance is Tuesday, March 10. You don't have to be a PTA member to attend. Just stop by – we will feed, inform, and (possibly) fire you up in less than an hour.

Have you seen folks around Pony sporting unbelievably awesome **Spirit Wear** with our new logo? You too can put your Pony spirit on display. Find the Spring Spirit Wear order form in this newsletter or on Pony's website and return by March 23. This is your last chance to order before the end of the school year. Show everyone you are Pony Panther Proud!

**Thanks** to everyone who participated in the "Bags & Beans" PTA fundraiser. We will be handing out orders the week of March 23. We don't have the final numbers yet on money raised, but your friends and family deserve appreciation for stepping up once again.

More kudos to be handed out as last month Pony came together and "Danced with the Stars" at the Family Dance, which rocked on every level. **The turnout was tremendous, the kids had a blast, and the PTA raised about \$1,000!** To all the folks that volunteered their time, from selling tickets to decorating and cleaning up, a **HUGE** thanks – you are the true "stars" that made this one of the most memorable events of the year. Stay tuned for more **fun**-raising in the months to come.

## **March on!**

Sincerely,

*David Cooper*

PTA President

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## **Pony Express Spirit Wear**

Last chance to order Panther Spirit Wear for the 2014-2015 school year. T-shirts, pullovers, and polo shirts are available, with our new Pony SMART Panther logo. See the attached order form for colors and sizes. Return your order form, with payment, to your teacher or the school office. Make checks payable to Pony Express PTA. Be sure the size, color, quantity and contact information has been filled out. **Order deadline is March 23rd.** Don't miss out Panthers! Order now!

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## Fundraising

For the month of December, Amazon shoppers earned an impressive \$145 for Pony! Here's how some of our ongoing fundraisers are doing this school year:

**Box Tops for Education: \$366**

(Clip out Box Tops coupons from 100s of products and turn them into the school office regularly.)

**Amazon Rewards: \$537**

(Shop Amazon.com via our school link at <http://ponyexpress.scusd.edu/post/amazon-associates>.)

**Raleys Extra Credit: \$1406**

(Go to <http://ponyexpress.scusd.edu/post/raleysbel-air-extra-credit> to learn how to join this rewards program.)

**THANK YOU!!**

## PTA General Association Meeting Agenda Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 6:00 PM

2014-2015 Board:

President	David Cooper	Fundraisers	Erin Fong
Vice President	Rod Fong	Newsletter	Rebecca Ramirez
Treasurer	Teresa Kim	Newsletter Distribution	Erin & Rod Fong
Secretary	Rebecca Phillips	Website Administrator	Paul Hemesath
Raley/Nugget Scrip	Matina Bragas	Marquee	Dave Kim
Membership	Rod Fong	Box Tops for Education	Matina Bragas
Assemblies	Audrey Hemesath	Harvest Festival/Family Dance	Patricia Cooper

- ◆ Call Meeting to Order . . . . . David
- ◆ Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes. . . . . Rebecca P.
- ◆ Financial Report . . . . . Teresa
- ◆ President's Report . . . . . David
- ◆ Principal's Report . . . . . Mrs. Hetrick
- ◆ Teachers' Report . . . . .
- ◆ Reports by Committee Coordinators
  - ▲ Family Dance . . . . . Patricia
  - ▲ Membership. . . . . Rod
  - ▲ SCRIPS/Box Tops for Education. . . . . Matina
  - ▲ Student Assemblies. . . . . Audrey
  - ▲ Fundraising Events. . . . . Erin
- ◆ 2015-16 PTA Board Nominations . . . . . David/Rod
- ◆ New Business/Open Mic . . . . . David
- ◆ Dates and Announcements
  - ▲ Spring Break, March 30-April 3
  - ▲ Next PTA meeting, April 14
- ◆ Adjourn

*Thank you for supporting the PTA*  
<http://ponyexpress.scusd.edu/>

# PONY EXPRESS ELEMENTARY

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## ★ ★ ★ APPAREL ORDER FORM ★ ★ ★



**\$10**

**TEE**

**WHITE · ASH GRAY · ROYAL**  
 XS (4) · S (6/8) · M (10/12) · L (14/16) · XL (18/20)  
 (ADULT SIZES) S · M · L · XL · 2XL · 3XL · 4XL



**\$25**

**PULLOVER**

**WHITE · ASH GRAY · ROYAL**  
 XS (2/4) · S (6/8) · M (10/12) · L (14/16) · XL (18/20)  
 (ADULT SIZES) S · M · L · XL · 2XL · 3XL · 4XL



**\$20**

**MEN'S POLO**  
**SILVER**

XS · S · M · L · XL · 2XL · 3XL · 4XL



**\$20**

**LADIES POLO**  
**SILVER**

XS · S · M · L · XL · 2XL · 3XL · 4XL



**\$15**

**LADIES CUT**  
**WHITE · ROYAL**

XS · S · M · L · XL · 2XL · 3XL · 4XL



STUDENT NAME:

ROOM #:

PHONE #:

PARENT NAME:

EMAIL:

GARMENT	COLOR	SIZE	★ ★ ORDER DEADLINE - MARCH 23 <sup>RD</sup> ★ ★

ONE GARMENT PER LINE