

The Village Voice



September 9, 2011, Volume 12, Issue 3

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As many hands do make a house,
So many hearts do make our school

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Events Calendar

September 2011

- 14 Wed— All School Mtg, 5:30pm, cafeteria
17 Sat— School-Community Partnership Mtg,
9:30am-12pm, see page 2 for details!
21 Wed— Picture Day, check your family mailbox!
22 Thurs— 6th Grade on Field Trip
23 Fri— 6th Grade on Field Trip

October 2011

- 7 Fri— No School, State In-Service Day
20 Thurs— Title I Math Night, 5:30pm, cafeteria
21 Fri— No School, Grading Day
31 Mon— No School, 1st Semester Conferences

November 2011

- 1 Tues— No School, 1st Semester Conferences
5 Sat— Dia de los Muertos Festival
8 Tues— Picture Retake Day
11 Fri— No School, Veteran's Day
24 Thurs— No School, Thanksgiving
25 Fri— No School, Thanksgiving

December 2011

- 8 Thurs— Winter Concert, 6:30pm, offsite

No School for Winter Break

Monday, December 12 — Monday, January 2
School Resumes Tuesday, January 3

Homework Club Program Cut

Please note that Homework Club will NOT be happening this 2011-2012 school year. Federal Title I funding has been cut and we are directing all of the Title I funds to our regular classroom support function.

Principal's Message

Welcome back! Let's Celebrate!

The teachers and staff have created beautiful classrooms and learning spaces. Thirty parents gave over 100 hours and transformed the cafeteria kitchen into the productive and beautiful *Village Kitchen*. Let's celebrate the additional classroom space for specialty teachers. Let's celebrate the energetic group of parents and community partners helping to build a garden with our students!

I look forward to greeting and celebrating with you all on Sept. 14 and many of you again on Sept. 17.

Warm Regards,
Bob Kaminski, Principal

All School Meeting— Next Wednesday, Sept. 14th @ 5:30pm, cafeteria

This is an essential meeting— please join us! First we will gather in the cafeteria to meet new staff members, discuss the new Village Kitchen, exciting new volunteer opportunities, hear a report from our Board of Directors, distribute the updated Family Handbook and 2011-2012 Family Directory, and much, much more!

Childcare provided, no sign up needed. Please gather outside the cafeteria a few minutes before the meeting begins.

Around 6pm, parents will be dismissed to their students' classrooms. See below for details:

Parents of grades 1 thru 4 will have a short check in with their student's teacher. Another full meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Parents of grades 5 thru 8 and Kindergarten will have a full meeting with their student's teacher, reviewing important class information.

***Grades 7 and 8 will visit both the Math/Science and Humanities classrooms, and then gather together with all 7th and 8th grade parents and both teachers.

Announcements

School-Community Partnership Meeting, Saturday, Sept. 17, 9:30am-12:00pm

Join us for a fun filled and action packed 2 ½ hours dedicated to designing a sustainable school culture. We will adapt a national model to fit the Village School. Come to the cafeteria!

Are you passionate about Walking or biking to school?



Village School parent Colleen Forbes would like to invite all parents who are passionate about alternative transportation to join her in organizing monthly Walk + Bike to School Day events at our school. This is a great volunteer opportunity and is a minimal time commitment.

If you are able to attend the community Open House on Wednesday, Sept. 14, 3:30-6:00pm, please visit the LTD's Next Stop Center (1099 Olive Street, across from The Kiva). The meeting will review how to organize International Walk & Bike Day at our school and receive free incentives from Safe Routes to School.

If you cannot attend the Sept. 14 training, but are still interested, please email Colleen at colleen@homemidwiferycare.com. Thanks!

Message from our School Counselor

I am the school counselor at the Village School, Tuesdays and Thursdays. I go into classrooms to do social skill training and see students in groups and individually. I call myself a support person for children, not their therapist.



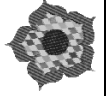
I am excited to get to know all of you. I can also see you privately if your child has special needs that you would like to talk about. If you would like to contact me, please put a message in my mailbox in the school office.

—Pat Anderson, Counselor

Matching grant to Village Kitchen!

Organically Grown Corporation has offered the Village Kitchen a matching grant of \$500 to support our new meal program. If you would like to donate towards this matching grant, please visit the office. All donations are tax deductible.

Help us Beautify the school!



Would you like to be involved in helping make the Village School a beautiful place? We need some volunteers to help pick up flower donations from Trader Joe's Monday-Thursday. The flowers are usually available for pick-up after 10:30-11:00am and it is optimal that we get them delivered to school by 2:30 pm. Please call the school if you are interested, 541-345-7285.

Donations needed at the school

We would appreciate gently used items. If you have any of the following, please call the office.

- Comfortable adult chairs– not sofa chairs
- Small tables
- Small cabinet
- Framed art & plants for Staff Lounge
- Large rugs for the music rooms
- Bookshelves
- Small File Cabinet
- Desk
- Folding chairs

Low Cost Internet Access

Comcast is running a new program, in which families with children that qualify for free meals can apply for a \$10.00 internet connection. Call for an application: 1-855-846-8376.

Need a Babysitter? Lucy Neubeck in the 8th grade is babysitting! If you are interested call 541-302-8008 or email lulufalulu18@gmail.com.

Please email Village Voice submissions to Cara in the office by Thursday afternoon please—village@4j.lane.edu. Thank you!

The Village Kitchen!

The Village Kitchen Procedures & Payments

We are excited to share this important information with our school community. It has been amazing to start the school year with fabulous, nutritious meals. Please read this information carefully as it will answer your questions about the Village Kitchen procedures and payments. Thank you!

Qualifying for Free And Reduced Meals

Families can complete the Free And Reduced Meals (FARM) application to qualify for a free or reduced price for breakfast and/or lunch. We encourage you to complete an application even if you think you do not qualify, this information also helps our school qualify for Title I funding.

The instructions and application for FARM can be found on the school website or in the office.

The more people who participate in our meals, the stronger our Village Kitchen program will be!

Prices

For qualifying families the **reduced price** is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

Families that do not qualify for free or reduced prices will pay the **standard meal prices**:

Grades K – 5 \$1.50 for breakfast and \$3.25 for lunch.

Grades 6 – 8 \$1.50 for breakfast and \$3.50 for lunch.

Payments

Payments of check or cash are received in the school office starting now! Please do not bring payments to the cafeteria. We ask that payments be paid in increments of 20 meals at a minimum. Payments can also be made in increments of 30, 40 and more.

For example:

A student in any grade who qualifies for the reduced price buys 20 lunches for \$8.00- ($\0.40×20).

A student in any grade who qualifies for the reduced price buys 20 breakfasts for \$6.00- ($\0.30×20).

A student in grades K-5 who pays the full price buys 20 lunches for \$65.00- ($\3.25×20).

A student in grades 6-8 who pays the full price buys 20 lunches for \$70.00- ($\3.50×20).

A student in grades K-8 who pays the full price buys 20 breakfasts for \$30.00- ($\1.50×20).

This payment process will help our administrative and book-keeping staff to manage the Village Kitchen billing system. **Please make payments in the office for your student's meals by Friday, September 16.**

Although we will never turn your student away for lack of funds, we expect parents to be aware of their student's balance and communicate with the office if payment is delayed. Thank you for your support!

Once our automated system is established we will communicate your student's balance and expectations on maintaining adequate funds. We will also be able to accept online payments with a small credit card processing fee. We will let you know as soon as we're all set up!

Breakfast Procedures

Breakfast service begins at 8:00am in the cafeteria. A five minute warning will be given to students at 8:20am and then at 8:25am students will leave the cafeteria for their classrooms.

Students will tell their teacher during class if they would like lunch from the Village Kitchen that day.

Lunch Procedures

Grades K – 4

Lunch for students in Extended Care Kindergarten, and grades 1-4, begins at 11:45am. Kindergarten students who are not in Extended Care are welcome to eat lunch with their parents in the cafeteria.

Students walk from their classrooms to the cafeteria by grade, line up, tell the healthy lunch ladies their name, take their tray and food, visit the salad bar for some fresh fruits and vegetables, and return to their classrooms. For those students who would like organic milk, their cup will be filled in their classrooms.

The Village Kitchen!

Grades 5-8

Lunch for students in grades 5-8 begins at 12:30pm. Fifth grade students who purchase lunch will walk to the cafeteria and line up with the other grades, tell the healthy lunch ladies their name, take their tray and food, visit the salad bar for some fresh fruits and vegetables, and return to their classroom.

All students in grades 6-8 eat in the cafeteria. If your pre-teen/teen will allow it, we welcome you into this lively lunchroom for a fun meal. See below for details on adult meals.

Adult Meals

We welcome adults to join us for meals. When visiting for a meal please come to the office, sign in, procure your *new personalized parent badge*, and pay for your meal.

Adults will eat their breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria- not in the classrooms. If you would like to volunteer in the classroom during lunch, please contact your student's teacher.

Adult breakfasts are \$2.50 and lunches are \$5.00. You will receive a meal ticket to take to the healthy lunch ladies in the cafeteria. To begin with, please pay each day you come to eat. Once our new billing system is established we may be able to accommodate adults using their student's account.

Volunteering- We Need Your Support!

We would greatly appreciate volunteers in the cafeteria to support our students waiting in line calmly and visiting the salad bar for fresh fruits and vegetables. **If you can commit to a regular schedule of coming every Monday or Thursday for example**, that would be very helpful to our school community.

Lower grades lunch help: 11:40am until approx. 12:20pm
Upper grades lunch help: 12:25pm until approx. 1:05pm

Please contact the office to sign up for volunteering in the cafeteria during the above lunch times.

The kitchen needs a great deal of volunteer help with tasks such as food preparation, serving students, cleaning and more! Some parents volunteered in the kitchen this first week of school and we couldn't do this without their help. You are truly appreciated. We look forward to seeing more of you in the near future.

Please contact our healthy lunch ladies, Toña Aguilar and Stacey Black at 541-913-9424, or email them at kitchen@eugenevillageschool.org.

The first Village Kitchen volunteer training is Monday, September 12, 8:30-9:30am in the cafeteria.

Village Kitchen Supply Needs

This is the big wish list, anything helps!

- Volunteers! Yes, that means you!
- 500 cloth napkins & 5 or more volunteers to wash OR 300 cloth napkins & a Village School washer & dryer
- A new 4 burner stove
- Water filters
- Commercial grade spatulas
- 2 extra large commercial grade colanders
- A few really nice knives
- Clean large canning jars and lids

- Tea pot
- Table cloths
- A second salad bar
- Bus tubs
- Lemon juicing tool
- Speakers for our computer
- Stainless steel hotel pans with lids
- 32 qt or larger stainless steel stock pot with lid
- Coffee pot
- Kitchen floor mats
- Custom made tabletop cutting board
- Long soup stirring spoons
- Wooden spoons



Thanks for your support!