



Cumberland Elementary School
Sunnyvale, California

March 21, 2007

Spring is in the air! The weather has turned so beautiful over the past few weeks. We've been able to enjoy our California sunshine to the fullest! The kids have been enjoying their time outside. It's been a nice change from the string of rainy day recesses in February.

I had the opportunity to participate in some of their outdoor excitement recently, as I filled in several times over the past few weeks as a Yard Duty during lunchtime recess. As you may know from previous newsletters, we currently have a shortage of noon duty staff, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I wanted to have a better idea of what is involved in being a Yard Duty, so I put on the yellow jacket and offered my help.

I must say, I was a little apprehensive at first, but the Yard Duty staff were very helpful and explained what I needed to do. The kids were excited to see a new parent there and were very friendly and helpful, too! I've been in the classroom a lot over the years that my kids have been at Cumberland, but this is the first time I've helped out this way at lunch. It was entertaining to watch the kids play and have fun with each other during their free time! In that hour and a half shift I felt like I was really making a difference – making it possible for the kids to play.

Being out on the playground really made me realize how important it is that we fill these jobs, either with paid staff or volunteers. We need to have enough grown-ups out there to provide supervision to our kids while they play.

Is there a day that you volunteer in the classroom in the morning that you could stay through lunchtime? Is there a day that you'd be willing to give up your lunch time to make sure our kids are safe on the playground?

If you're interested, here are the details

- * anyone wishing to apply (or volunteer) may do so through the front office
- * the hours are 11:30 to 12:45 (or for Kindergarten only, 11:30 - 12:15)
- * the pay rate is \$11.34/hr
- * the kids are great!

This time of year there is so much going on! The third grade performance took place last week. It was a wonderful tribute to Native Americans and a great opportunity to hear the beautiful third grade voices!

Coming up very soon is our **"Book Fair Beach" Scholastic Book Fair**, which will run April 2-5 in the library. We can look forward to a story night along with the opportunity to buy many popular new titles for both our family and our classroom libraries. All the proceeds go to support the Cumberland library. Make sure to plan to stop by and check it out!

We are still looking for someone to step forward to organize another Cumberland Spring tradition - The International Variety Show. The kids love to show off their talents and celebrate a wide variety of cultural dances, songs and more, but that can only happen if someone, or a group of people, are willing to take the time to make it happen. Let me know if you're interested.

Warm Regards,

Ruth Helfinstein
Cumberland PTA President 2006-2007

Dear Parents: The PTA Nominating Committee is currently looking for parents to become a part of next year's PTA team! Please review the list of open positions on these next five pages and turn in the attached form if you are interested in taking a position and/or finding out more about the job, or if you would like to nominate someone else for one of these positions.

REMEMBER: "The value of life is not in the length of days, but in the use we make of them; a man may live long yet very little."
— Michel de Montaigne, French essayist (1533-1592)

PROPOSED 2007-2008 Cumberland PTA Executive Board Members and Committee/Event Chairs

Filled Executive Board Provisions

President:	Sandi Spires
Treasurer:	Cathy Haynes
Parliamentarian	Ruth Helfinstein

Open Executive Board Positions

1st V.P. - creates PTA Handbook in summer, chairs budget committee which meets monthly during the school year, PTA President the following year.

School Board Rep. (2ND V.P.) – finds volunteers to attend twice-monthly School Board meetings, presents School Board reports at PTA meetings, (not very time consuming).

Recording Secretary – takes minutes at all PTA and Executive Board meetings.

Correspondence Secretary – assists PTA President throughout the year in writing correspondence such as thank-you notes, good for a working parent, (not very time consuming).

Financial Secretary – makes and records deposits to PTA bank account when necessary, counts money during the afternoon of the Walkathon (not very time consuming except during Walkathon).

Auditor – performs twice yearly PTA financial audits and sends appropriate paperwork to state and national PTA (not very time consuming except when working on the audits).

COMMITTEES & EVENTS CHAIRS

Filled Chairs

Art/FAME	Rozanne Hermelyn, Nina Dobkin
Band	Sylvia Gronovius, _____
Book Fair	Becky Hunt, Toni Murphy, _____
Budget Committee	David Hunt, _____
Fall Staff Luncheon	Nisa Leone, Rozanne Hermelyn, Debbie White, Allyson Fealtman
Family Math	Lindsay Jacobson
Family Movie Nights	Jon Krogstad
Fifth Grade Graduation	Susan Stevenson, Mary Duval
Gardening	Ray Schryver, Jeff Miner
GATE program liaison	Susan Stevenson
Membership	Nikki Miner
Motor Perception	Eva Crocker, _____
Name Badges	Chris Clark
Newsletter Editor	Eunice Chen
Publicity	Nina Dobkin
Reading Naturally	Yaulanda Spyrou, Eileen Conway
Science Camp	Molly Anderson, Mary Duval
Science Fair	Molly Anderson, _____
Sign	Lizzet Zavala
Thanksgiving Food Drive	Michele Pett
Walk to School Week	Elaine & Steve O'Neill
Web Master	Janet Nixon
Weekly Packet Collating	Lisa Maletis-Massey, Susan Norton

Open Chairs – We Need You For These Positions!

1. Accompanist for Assembly/Chorus - musical accompanist available to play piano at assemblies and, possibly, grade level performances.
2. Band co-chair – 4th grade parent of student in the band sought to chair with Sylvia Gronovius; acts as a liaison between band teacher and PTA.
3. Book Fair co-chair – works with this year's lead chair, Becky Hunt, to coordinate the book fair; will be lead chair in the next school year.
4. Budget Committee – serves in an advisory capacity on the PTA budget committee, which meets monthly on Monday afternoons.
5. Chinese New Year Parade – coordinates the Chinese New Year parade.
6. Directory Publisher –compiles data and publishes school Directory in the fall.

Open Chairs – We Need You For These Positions! (con't)

7. Environmental Volunteer Coordinator. - liaison between teachers and the Environmental Program for which some teachers sign up (not time consuming).
8. eScrip – promotes eScrip and Box Tops fundraising to community through newsletters, emails and as a presence at First Day Coffee and PTA meetings. Coordinates 2 Box Tops collections per year with Student Council members.
9. First Day Coffee - coordinates this Welcome Back to School event on the morning of the first day of school.
10. Hands on the Art Day – coordinate a one-day event where grade levels rotate through fun and creative art stations manned by parent volunteers.
11. Holiday Food & Toy Drive – co-chair needed to work with other co-chair, parent Marina Donovan, to coordinate the drive and the Giving Tree.
12. Hospitality – co-chair needed to work with Terri Bjornson; sets up refreshments at monthly PTA meetings and cleans up at the end of the meeting. Must be available to attend both the morning and evening meetings.
13. International Variety Show – coordinates the student auditions, rehearsals and the actual show. More than one parent helpful.
14. Motor Perception –kindergarten parent helps Eva Crocker coordinate and run the kindergarten P.E. Program, and find parent helpers. The program starts in the fall and continues most Thursday mornings of the school year.
15. Parent Resources – compiles local parent education events and publicizes them to the school community in yahoo group and newsletter, finds Interesting speakers to speak at the school.
16. School T-Shirts – coordinates order of school t-shirts and sweatshirts at beginning of school year and distribution of ordered items to classes.
17. Science Fair Coordinator – co-chair(s) for Molly Anderson to help coordinate the lower and upper grade Science Fairs, which are held separately in the Spring. Publishes the Science Fair packet for both fairs, organizes experiment demonstrations in classrooms to get kids excited about the Fair, and is in charge of set up and clean up of both Fairs.
18. Sound Communication – Sets up and runs sound equipment for school assemblies, performances, Walkathon, etc.; helpful to have some knowledge regarding sound systems or how to set up speakers, etc.

Open Chairs – We Need You For These Positions! (con't)

- 19. Spring Food Drive – promotes and coordinates the collection of food and delivers it to the agency to whom we are donating.
- 20. Staff Appreciation Week – coordinates activities, including a luncheon, during this week-long May event.
- 21. Storage Organizer – helps organize and catalog the PTA storage shed located in the school atrium (outside the staff workroom).
- 22. Technology - Works with School Computer Aid, Carolyne Wong, the Principal and the PTA to assist in any technology issues on an as-needed basis, can be the lead person of a committee of other technologically savvy parents who can help with technology questions in the classrooms.
- 23. Volunteer Coordinator - sends out volunteer sign-up sheet in the fall, collates the information received and distributes to PTA president and committee chairs, the Principal and staff.
- 24. Welcome Back Picnic – organizes this event, usually held on the first Friday evening of school in August (not very time consuming).

**PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM
BY MONDAY, MARCH 26TH**

**TEACHERS – PLEASE PUT THESE FORMS IN THE PTA BASKET WHEN YOU
RECEIVE THEM FROM YOUR STUDENTS AND/OR PARENTS – THANK YOU!**

NAME: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Children's names and grades: _____

I would like to volunteer for:

I would like more information about:

I think the following person would be good in the following position:

2007 WALKATHON – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH!

Co-Chairs - Jennifer Crewe and Laura Healy

Filled Positions

Auction	Yaulanda Spyrou, Chris Ishii, Carlyne Wong
Auction Set up	Troy Barbee
Baskets & Boutique	Sylvia Gronovius, Debbie White
Children's Garage Sale	Marita Henricksson, Ivy Kerr
Clean up/ Tear down	Stuart Ferguson
Entertainment	Orit Riskin, _____
Entertainment DJ	Bill Collins
Field	Ray Schryver, Jeanette Krogstad
Food	Sandy Urquhart
Fun & Games	Terri Bjornson, _____
Merchant Cooperation	Allyson Fealtman (with Jill Cotton, Chris Clark, Janet Nixon, Dirk Leone, Denielle Fussell, Valerie Spierling)
Pocket Lady	Lindsay Jacobson
Poster Making	Nisa Leone
Prizes	Cathy Haynes, Susan Stevenson, Andrea Robinson
Publicity	Rozanne Hermelyn, Kim Burke, Kim Sortir
Starbucks Café	Janet Werner
T-Shirts	Lisa Blanc, Debbie White
Volunteer Coordinator	Ruth Helfinstein
Walker Treats	Barbie Wilson, _____

Open Walkathon Sub-Committee Chairs –

1. Dessert Bake-Off – coordinates the submission of entries for the dessert bake-off, selects judges and facilitates event at walkathon
2. Entertainment – co-chair sought, works with Orit Riskin on halftime program and music selection
4. Fun Food – coordinates the cotton candy, popcorn stations
5. Fun & Games – co-chair sought to work with Terri Bjornson to plan and coordinate young children's games and activities
6. Walker Treats – co-chair sought to work with Barbie Wilson to provide treats for Walkathon participants (drinks, otter pops, etc.)



Lion Dance

Chinese New Year Parade

The 5th Annual Chinese New Year Parade sponsored by the Cumberland PTA was held on February 26. The parade took place in the Multi for the first time because of rain. A lion dance started the event followed by a martial arts demonstration and finished up with students and a dragon parade.

We'd like to thank Sandy Chen for coordinating with Ben's Shaolin Kung Fu and her son, Cumberland student Larry Wan, to provide the exciting Martial Arts program. Students from Mrs. Cooper's 4th grade class were the body of the dragon with Mr. Dave Hunt leading them as the dragon head. The lion dance performers were Alexandra and Katherine Hutchins as the lion with Brooke and Kyle Schryer as the lettuce tossers.

The PTA is seeking a volunteer to run it for next year. This year's coordinator, Eunice Chen (hey2eu-ptanews@yahoo.com), will assist to transition the position to the next parade chairperson. Please help to keep this wonderful Cumberland tradition alive for many years to come.



Dragon Parade



K-3 Science Fair

The K-3 Science fair on March 8 had a split viewing time with the Kinders and first graders coming at 6 p.m. and the 2nd and 3rd graders coming in at 7 p.m. The Multi was much easier to maneuver through.

176 students participated with amazing projects.

Thank you to this year's Science Fair Committee, Linda Kamas, Molly Anderson and Eunice Chen and all of the volunteers who helped with classroom demonstrations and display boards set up and clean up.

And don't forget! The 4/5 Science Fair is coming up on April 5!



K-3 Science Fair Night

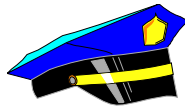


Dental Screening

Effective January 1st, the California State Legislature approved a bill that requires dental screenings for all children entering kindergarten or first grade for the first time. This applies to this year's kindergarteners. Parents have until May 31 to either get the assessment for their child or request a waiver if the parent chooses to not have their child's oral health evaluated. There are dentists who have offered to do complimentary screenings in this area for those who have no dental coverage. Contact Ruth Helfinstein at school@helfinstein.com to find out more about these dentists.



Tip-a-Cop



On Thursday, April 19th from 7 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Public Safety is hosting a Tip-a-Cop at Coco's (1209 Oakmead Pkwy, Sunnyvale) to benefit Special Olympics. During the breakfast event, Public Safety personnel will be teaming up with Coco's staff to serve the restaurant's patrons. During the meal, educational material will be presented to the patrons along with a "tip" envelope in which they may place a donation to support Special Olympics. Meet the athletes – meet the officers – support Special Olympics! Call 408-730-7199 for more information.



Research At Stanford

Would you like to know more about your own, and your child's mental, emotional, and psychological abilities? Researchers at Stanford University are assessing children ages 8 - 13 and their parents at two time periods 2-3 months apart. Each child-parent pair will receive \$80 and a summary of the results for both the child and the parent assessing anxiety, compassion, depression, attention, worry, self-view, and emotion regulation. If you are interested in obtaining more information and/or scheduling a time, please call us at 650-723-5977 or email pgoldin@stanford.edu.

Walking Wednesdays



Starting April 1, every Wednesday for the rest of the year will be designated "Walking Wednesday." This will be your chance to walk or bike to school with other students and parents. Fifth Graders will be encouraged to lead the walking and biking school buses from various locations around school.



Build-A-Book Family Night

Come join us for the 4th Annual KLUTZ Build-A-Book Family Night on Wednesday, March 28 at 6 p.m. This is a place and a time for you and your child to build (not just write) a one of a kind book using glue stick, craft materials and a blank, wire-o-bound Klutz book. Order forms to purchase the kits will be sent home with your child. Come see the display in the library.

Contributions to the next PTA Newsletter are due no later than Wednesday, April 11th. Information can be sent to Eunice Chen, PTA Newsletter Editor at hey2eu-ptanews@yahoo.com.



Wanted: Walkathon 2007 Theme Ideas

Hey, boys and girls! Do you have a really great idea for a Walkathon theme? We want to hear from you! The Walkathon Committee has started planning for next school year's Walkathon and we are looking for a theme that will get everyone excited. Look out for a "Walkathon Theme Ideas" box in the Library (by the Student Council Notice Board) and place your theme ideas in it. Please have your entries in by Thursday, April 5th. Just think, if your idea is chosen, you will win yourself a free Walkathon T-shirt!

Your Walkathon Co-Chairs,
Jen Crewe & Laura Healy



Big Cats Assembly

The Cumberland PTA sponsored a Big Cats assembly for first through fifth grade students on February 27. Rob and Barbara Dicely of Leopards, Etc. brought a Canada Lynx, a golden leopard, a cheetah, a cougar, and a serval. They told fascinating facts about each of the animals.

For those students, parents or siblings who missed the assembly, there is an opportunity to see the wild cats again. Leopards, Etc. will be having a Wild Cat Adventure Education Program at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills. See and learn about five wild cats at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills on Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m. For information, call 707-874-3176 or email leopards@leopardsetc.com. Tickets are \$10 for adult and /\$5 for children. Seating is limited.

Proceeds benefit their school assembly programs and the care of their animals and vital wild cat conservation efforts.

PTA Thanked For Staff Speaker

The Cumberland Staff would like to thank the PTA for funding our Staff Development Day speaker, Rick Morris. Mr. Morris was a phenomenal speaker who addressed classroom management and techniques that are student centered. The staff is very excited to implement these new procedures and is totally energized. THANKS!

Dates To Remember:

- Mar 27 Ms. Teves' Wax Museum
- Mar 28 Student of the Month Assembly, 8:15 a.m.
- Mar 28 Klutz Build-A-Book, 6 - 7 p.m.
- Mar 30 Family Movie Night, 7 p.m. in the Multi - *Happy Feet*

- Apr 2 New Student registration begins
- Apr 2-5 Book Fair
- Apr 5 4th/5th Grade Science Fair, 6:30 p.m.
- Apr 9 Budget Committee Meeting, 2:45 p.m.
- Apr 10 PTA Meeting, 8:30 a.m. in Library
- Apr 10 Teacher Learning Day, Early Dismissal, 12:45 p.m.
- Apr 10 School Site Council Meeting, 3 p.m.
- Apr 10 SMS 6th Grade Orientation, 5 p.m. at SMS
- Apr 12 Spring Picture Day
- Apr 13 Stuffed Animal Day
- Apr 16-20 Spring recess, No School
- Apr 26 2nd Grade Performance, 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

- June 14 Last Day of School

- August 23 Opening Day of 2007-2008 School Year
- June 12, 2008 Closing Day of 2007-2008 School Year



Third Grade Performance

Join the Cumberland Yahoo Groups!!



Want to get up to the minute news and information between PTA newsletters? Join the CumberlandNews Yahoo Group. Find out what's going on in school and in the community.

CumberlandNews – get messages with school-related business such as upcoming events, calendar reminders and updates, PTA meeting agendas, etc.

CumberlandCommunity – send and receive information of interest to the Cumberland Community such as local events, parent education opportunities, sport team sign up dates, etc.

To subscribe to the Cumberland News List, send an email to cumberlandnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please include your child(ren)'s name, grade, and teacher, as well as your name, in the email.



Give The Gift of Life

Come and support the blood drive at Cherry Chase's Walkathon on March 30.

Blood Drive

Friday, March 30, 2007
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Upper Grade Playground

To schedule your lifesaving appointment, go to
www.bloodheroes.com
Sponsor code: Cherry Chase

Book your appointment online or contact Shirley
at 408-530-1731

Donor Requirements:

Be in good Health
Weight at least 110 lbs.
Have a snack before donating
Drink extra water/juice

All donors must present a picture ID