

# Franklin Elementary School News



Principal: John Santin  
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February 2009

## Principal's Corner

### Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to begin this month by thanking our families for your support as we have began using our new parking lot. Hopefully it has been much easier in the mornings to safely drop your child off without too much stress. In the afternoons, parents have done a great job utilizing the new lot by parking and then walking up to meet your child. We appreciate your continued support in working with our staff members as we direct traffic both in the mornings and the afternoon.

I have a few requests to help with our traffic flow to ensure students are safe in the parking lot. First, in the morning, please continue to arrive between 7:30 – 7:45 to avoid the last minute rush. If the area directly next to the school is backed up, myself or another staff member will direct vehicles into the new lot to maximizing our unloading area. It is preferred for vehicles exiting towards I-5 to use the unloading zone near the office and traffic heading back towards Franklin Blvd. use the new unloading area.

In the afternoon, parents are encouraged to use the new parking lot and walk to meet their child/children near the office and then exit toward Franklin Blvd. If you're tired of waiting in traffic after school, our busses have plenty of room for riders and parents could eliminate the need to drive to Franklin and meet their child at the bus stop. Feel free to call our office if you would like another transportation form. As we still work out the new routines for our parking lot, we thank you for your patience and support for our teachers who are on duty to ensure your child is safe during arrival and dismissal.

It's hard to believe that we are wrapping up our second trimester at the end of this month and along with the end of the trimester are lots of great activities. We will have minimum days for parent conferences from March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. Our teachers will be setting up conferences for all of our new students to Franklin Elementary School as well as some continuation conferences from the fall for students who are not performing to the grade level standards at this time of the year. The forms with dates and times will be sent home during the third week of February. If you have a need for a conference, please feel free to contact your child's teachers. On-going communication and a partnership

with your child's teacher are contributing factors for your child's success in the spring.

Lastly, in the next few months, our school will be implementing a new program to teaching Language Arts and English Language Development. During the first 30 minutes of every day, students will be grouped by the academic performance levels or the English Language Development Level for our English Language Learner students. We will be sending more information about this program within the next few weeks and I will present some information about the program at our PTA meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Please come to the PTA meeting to see how this program will support your child's English and Language Arts instruction.

Sincerely,

### The Character Trait for February "Leadership, Teamwork and Initiative"

**Community EGUSD Board Meeting** – February 3rd  
7:00 p.m. @ Helen Carr Castello Elementary School  
*Join us at Helen Carr Castello for an EGUSD informational night presented by Pam Irely, EGUSD Board Member*

### Upcoming events at Franklin Elementary School

February 9<sup>th</sup> Lincoln's Observance - School Holiday  
February 11<sup>th</sup> Accelerated Reader Lanyard Day  
February 16<sup>th</sup> President's Day - School Holiday  
February 18<sup>th</sup> PTA Meeting  
February 27<sup>th</sup> Spirit Day – Blast from the Past (50s, 60s or 70s Day)  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Minimum Days – Parent Conferences

Scholar's Breakfast for Honor Roll recipients - Friday,  
March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:15 a.m.

Honor Roll assemblies Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>  
Intermediate 8:15 a.m.  
Primary 9:05 a.m.

**FYI – Science Fair projects due March 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Congratulations to the following classes and individuals for participating in our Oral Language Fair.**

**Classes:** Mrs. Fogelberg, Miss Fischer, Miss Bassi, Ms. LeKander, Ms. Lyman, Mrs. O’Hair, Miss Roush and Mrs. Brown.

**Individual:** Alexis D. - humorous, Katie H. - dramatic, Baylee T. - humorous, Tyler D. - humorous and Gabriel J. - humorous.

**Ask Anne & Lisa**

*The Ask Anne & Lisa column featuring District Dietitians Anne Gaffney, R.D. & Lisa Vorce, R.D., appears in EGUSD school newsletters and is designed to help families build healthy lifestyles. You can email questions to Anne & Lisa at [Communication@egusd.net](mailto:Communication@egusd.net).*

Hi Anne and Lisa,  
Can you recommend a kid-friendly power bar that tastes good? My son is quite a picky eater, but I want him to have a good snack between classes. Thanks a bunch,

Kathy - Toby parent

Dear Kathy,

A healthy snack can be the key in helping students stay focused during the school day. Being hungry makes it difficult to concentrate on any task. While we can’t recommend a specific power bar, we would encourage you to check the nutrition facts labels on the foods your student is willing to eat. Some nutrition experts compare power bars to a candy bar since they are often high in fat and sugar. While power bars provide vitamins and minerals, these same nutrients can be found in other foods with much less cost. As a guide when reading the nutrition facts label, many experts recommend snacks not contain more than 35% of the calories from fat, not more than 10% of the calories from saturated fat, and not more than 35% sugar by weight. These are the same guidelines that the state requires schools follow for any snacks sold on campus to students. For a list of foods that meet these guidelines, visit the districts website at:

[www.egusd.net/nutrition/wellness.htm](http://www.egusd.net/nutrition/wellness.htm) and click on “Snack Products”.

Thanks for Asking, Anne & Lisa



**Stopping Cyberbullying – It’s the Law**

California begins the New Year with a law aimed at curtailing cyberbullying. Assemblyman Ted Lieu introduced Assembly Bill 86, which “adds cyberbullying to school disciplinary codes that previously defined bullying only in terms of direct physical or verbal harassment.”

This bill is in response to the escalating issues with cyberbullying nationwide. At middle and high school sites - and even elementary sites - school administrators and counselors are seeking ways to reverse this cruel trend. Cyberbullying is when a child, preteen or teen is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted by another child, preteen or teen using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones.

EGUSD has brought together an Internet Safety Task Force to address cyberbullying. One of the main Task Force goals is to develop a district wide program that embeds the ethical use of the Internet into the K-12 curriculum, with an initial focus on grades 4-6.

Throughout the year, the task force and 2Webwatchers will be providing the Elk Grove community with resource links to educate our students on what digital citizenship means. For our first elementary level resource, we recommend reading [advice on cyberbullying](http://www.mcgruff.org/Advice/cyberbullies.php) (<http://www.mcgruff.org/Advice/cyberbullies.php>) posted to the [McGruff.org](http://www.mcgruff.org/) (<http://www.mcgruff.org/>) website. The *Shrink the Cyberbully* game is appropriate for students in grades 3-6.

For additional resources on cyberbullying, please visit our 2Webwatchers (<http://2webwatchers.edublogs.org/>) resource links.