

Monday Blue Newsletter



Ocean Shore School Laura Shain, Principal Pacifica, California March 8, 2010

Quote of the week: *“This world demands the qualities of youth: not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the life of ease.”* (Robert F. Kennedy 1925 – 1968)

Important Dates

- March 8 - Diversity Leadership Group Meeting 7 PM (all welcome)
- March 9 - PTO Executive Board Meeting 7 PM
 - Band Meeting 7 PM
- March 10 - Principal for the Day event 10 AM – 12 PM
 - Student Spirit Day (see below for information)
 - Pacifica School District Board Meeting (discussion on district lice policy) 7 PM
- March 12 - 189 Day Rowboat Assembly 9 AM
 - Jump for Heart Stations (permission slips required) 1:30 PM
- March 16 - Lifetouch Spring Photos (proof sheets only this time)

News and Information

Congratulations to the students and coordinators of Ocean Shore School’s annual Talent Show. Antoinette de La Torre and her crew, Cindy Johansen and Desiree Green, put on a fantastic show for our students. At the rehearsals, the students received guidance in their choreography and performances so that each act was professional and high quality. There was great variety in the show that included song, dance, comedy, and musical performance. Master of Ceremonies Jake Johansen entertained and introduced each act with grace and humor. David Bradley and his tech crew, Eddy and Cyrus, provided excellent lighting and sound for the shows.

In Yong Zhao’s book [Catching Up or Leading the Way](#), Zhao writes about how talent shows showcase the strengths of American education. He writes: “In the lack of standards and evaluation we see one of the greatest values of American culture expressed in education: the value of individuals. Deeply ingrained in the American culture are the fundamental rights of the individual, respect for and celebration of individual differences.” He goes on to outline the reasons he believes that programs such as school talent shows encourage rigor despite the lack of standards. First is the inclusive nature of the talent show itself. It recognizes a broad range of talents and enables everyone to participate. It teaches students to respect others and to respect diversity. The talent show encourages initiative and responsibility. The intrinsic motivation encourages courageousness. The show sends a powerful message to the school community that as a school we value different talents and that our children are all talented in different ways. Zhao states: “Maintaining a broad definition of success in the community is key to maintaining a diversity of talents in a society.”

The talent show activity helps students to be proud of their strengths rather than dwelling on their difficulties. During this era of standards and standardized testing, it is important to take the time to recognize talents beyond the academic. All the students who participated were awarded a well-earned sense of pride and the admiration of their audiences. Thank you to all who helped!

March 10 will be our Student Council sponsored **Spirit Day** event. Council Officers and Members selected “Superhero Day” as our first event. Students may dress as any type of superhero that appeals to them (appropriate, of course). Students may not wear masks. Student Council assured me that our students will be creative in how they portray a selected or created superhero.

Our **Jump for Heart** stations will be on Friday, March 12 from 1:30 - 2:30 PM. Please be sure to send in signed permission slips for the students to participate. Donations go to the American Heart Association.

Library Lunch Program during the Read-a-Thon: For the duration of the Read-a-Thon the library will be open at lunch for checking out books and logging some reading time. There will be no computer usage or board games during this time. Our parent volunteers will be ready to assist students in finding just the right book.

The 10th Annual **Ability Awareness Day** will be held on Wednesday, March 24. We are looking for parent volunteers to help out between 8:25 AM thru 11:30 PM. We will need activity leaders and small group monitors. We are also looking for donated snacks (fruit, juice, breads, etc.) for the visiting presenters. If you can help or need more information please email Teri Voorhes at teriryan13@yahoo.com or sign up in the Parent Hallway.

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Please let the school office know by March 9 if you are **not planning on returning to Ocean Shore** in the fall of 2010. We need to make district-wide projections with this updated information.

Our annual **Celebrate Diversity Day** is Wednesday, March 31, from 10:30-12:15. **We need about 20 parent facilitators to sign up now!** Our community focuses on topics celebrating the variety, strengths, similarities and differences of our families at Ocean Shore. Parent facilitators coordinate with the teachers on curriculum and run the sessions. Curriculum used in the past is available or you may develop new ideas with the group. Facilitating sessions can be a very rewarding experience and will make a difference in our students’ perspectives and our community bonding. Please email diversityleadershipgroup@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping out.

Spring Lifetouch Photos will be taken on March 16. The office needs 2 runners to help with this. You will not receive hours for this but you will receive a free photo package. Please call the office if you can help. For this photo opportunity, only proof sheets will be sent home.

The **Pacifica Education Foundation** extends a sincere and enthusiastic THANK YOU for the tremendous support we received at OSS on Donation Day. With your help, we exceeded our

goal for the day and in fact, have now met our \$250,000 goal! This will allow us to launch our 21st Century Learning Program. What an amazing community we have in Pacifica and at OSS.

Upcoming events at the Pacifica Libraries: **3/9 Tues:** Sanchez Library. **DAD AND ME PUPPET THEATER** 7 PM -- For Dads and their kids; **3/16 Tues:** Sharp Park Library. **HELP, I'M STRESSED!** 7 PM -- Workshop exploring the impact of stress on our families; **3/18 Thurs:** Sharp Park Library. **2 ANGRY MOMS** 7 PM -- Film screening about unhealthy school lunches--part expose and part how-to, it is a must-see if you have school-age kids; **3/20 Sat:** Sanchez Library. **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT** 7:30 PM featuring **LION KING**; **3/23 Tues:** Sanchez Library. **RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN** 7 PM -- Workshop on finding balance for your family.

Ocean Shore School is in need of a **Junior Olympics** “coach” to oversee our participation in the 46th Annual Junior Olympics on May 8. Please contact the school office if you are willing to volunteer for this position. Without a representative, we may not be able to enter students in this program.

Please do not drop-off **unsolicited donations** at the school without first checking with the school office. We have to pay for the disposal of donations that we do not need.

The **Pacifica Museum Center** continues to raise funds to complete the development of the Pacifica Historical Museum. The museum will be an educational and event center for the entire community. Please contact Clorinda Campagna at 650-355-4668 for more information.

March is National Nutrition Month and our food service program is sponsoring a **two-week wellness challenge**. Students will receive a card to record healthy foods and exercise for one to two weeks. All students who complete two weeks worth of cards will get a Certificate of Achievement and be entered into a drawing for an iPod, bicycle or various gift certificates! Cards can be turned in to the school office after one week or two.
