

The Connection

San Bruno Park School District

August 2015, Volume 1

Superintendent's Corner

Welcome to *The Connection*, the District's new monthly newsletter designed to keep all of you in the loop through better communication. We are San Bruno Park School District family and I pledge to do my best to connect us in new and significant ways!

In *The Connection*, beginning in September, we will share events and accomplishments happening around the District and other tidbits of information we think you will find of interest and/or relevant to your connectivity with the District. We will also include updates from our Departments of Technology, Instructional Services, Business Services, Human Resources, Food Services, Special Education, Early Childhood, and from the Superintendent's Office so you stay connected to the pulse of the District. If you have other ideas for what you would like to see in *The Connection*, please let me know! This first issue will just include the Superintendent's Corner.

We look forward to meeting students and families on Thursday, August 27, our first day of school. We apologize for the date change. When the initial start date was published, final negotiations had not been concluded, since the Governor's May revise changed things for our district financially. Because we needed to finalize negotiations, the start date was changed from Wednesday, the 26th to THURSDAY, August 27.

Also, as you may recall, our third through eighth grade students participated in the new California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), the computer-based tests for language arts and math given by the State. The test scores will be coming shortly. We will be providing on our webpage and on individual school web pages information guiding you through the score reports you will receive. Also on our website is a three minute video link that shares important information about the assessments and scoring. We will keep you informed as we receive additional word regarding the scores and the arrival dates. We do want to remind you that all schools in the state are adjusting to the new standards as well as the tests that go with them. No one should be discouraged by the results, as this was the first time to see how the computer system would work and it was the first time our students had taken such assessments. It will merely be the baseline from which to show growth and progress from here on.



Even though SBPSD still has tough things to navigate and figure out to get our budget under control; we want to do it together. We will learn together to implement the new math curriculum, writing curriculum, and the Common Core Standards. We will help our new teachers acclimate to our schools, and we will communicate, seek input and ideas from all staff members, families, and community members along the way. Despite difficulties we face, I still believe we have the very best jobs in the world. Families bring their children to us and we have the privilege of modeling and shaping and turning children on to education and school so that they WANT to continue on to college or have a career! Our goal is to help students create a VISION for their futures. Who else gets to do that? No matter what job someone has in this District – whatever department or school or facet of our organization – we ALL are together in our mission to give our very best to students and their families. THAT makes the difference. We change our students' worlds every day and that becomes our collective signature on their lives and on our District's legacy.

Here's to a GREAT year in San Bruno Park School District!

Cheryl Olson



