



SGMS Newsletter

Sidney Gutierrez
Middle School

August 2008

Issue 2



From the Principal's Desk

A reminder to all parents that while we do all that we can to ensure the academic success of each of our students, some things must be taken care of at home. Please make sure your child gets adequate sleep. Children in middle school require at least 9 hours sleep at night in order to function their best at school. Studies have also shown that adequate sleep during the night helps students retain what they have learned during the day. Another area in which parental support is essential is timeliness/attendance. Students who routinely show up late for school or who are taken out early miss instruction that cannot be made up. Please make sure your child gets to school, ready to work, by 8:00 am each morning and only take your child out of school when absolutely necessary.

We provide free breakfast for each student every day, and lunches are available for \$2.00, and for qualifying families free or at reduced rates. Eating healthy meals, especially breakfast and lunch, also help your children perform their best. When their bodies are well cared for, our task of educating their minds becomes much easier and more effective.

Joseph Andreis, Principal

SGMS Governing Council

President,
Robert Carroll

Secretary,
Cymantha Liakos

Members
Joe Sedillo
Nancy Fleming
Mary Lou Hightower

PTO President
Maureen Olguin
Kathy Latimer
School Phone
347-9703
School Fax
347-9707
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www.sgms.us

PTO Meeting Scheduled

Our first PTO meeting was held on Aug. 25. A number of possible fundraisers were discussed and plans set for the annual Sept. 11 luncheon at Fire Station #4. Our next meeting is set for Mon., Sept. 15 at 5:30. These meetings last less than one hour, and SGMS staff is on hand to answer questions about school activities. We had great participation at our first meeting of the year, but we need all SGMS families to take part in order to best serve our school.

On-Going Fundraisers

Our PTO has organized several on-going fundraisers that provide a steady income to the school. We collect Box-Tops for Education which are found on a variety of products. We also collect Campbell's Soup Labels. Finally, we have Community Partner cards issued by Albertsons. Each time you make a purchase there, you have the card scanned, and a percentage of your purchase is donated to SGMS. These fundraisers are simple and profitable. Please turn boxtops and labels in to Mrs. Van Laningham, and see her for an Albertson's Community Partner card.

Parents are needed to help out during lunch with lunchroom and playground duty. Please sign up to help us!!!





Sidney Gutierrez Middle School

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Home of the Falcons

Check our website
for daily
assignments.

School Trips and Activities



We are still waiting for word from the bus company on our 7th Grade Field Trip to Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument on Sept. 5. Details will go home once we finalize transportation.

Each year SGMS hosts a September 11 luncheon at Fire Station #4 for firefighters, students, staff, and parents. We need lots of help in preparing and serving lunch for all, and in cleaning up. Please plan on attending this luncheon. Look out for a note home asking you to bring in an item for the luncheon.



6th Graders get into the swing of middle school during the 1st week of school.



Helicopter Parents (adapted from Alb. Journal article, 8/26/08)

While we welcome parental involvement in student performance, too much involvement can hurt the child's ability to develop necessary life skills. These items are from list developed by the College Board to help determine if a parent is "hovering," that is, taking on too much of what should be the child's responsibility:

- Are you helping your child with homework to the point that you can't tell if the work is your child's or yours?
- Are you taking your child's failures or successes personally rather than as part of the child's learning experience?
- Are you in daily contact with teachers and/or the school administration?
- Are you failing to let your child take responsibility for misconduct at school, missed homework, or for failing grades?

Our school has an open door policy, and parents are always welcome. We provide daily information about classes, student performance, and assignments daily in several formats. We want you to be informed and involved. However, we also want our students to learn to take responsibility and to be independent.