



GERBER RAMblings

-all the news you can ewes

Gerber Union Elementary School - 23014 Chard Avenue - Gerber, CA 96035 - (530) 385-1041
Rod Stone, Superintendent/Principal

August 18, 2010

WELCOME BACK!!!

All of a sudden it is the first day of school; it seems like the summers are getting shorter and shorter. Even with a short summer off a lot has happened at Gerber School to get ready for your children. Jim McKenzie our music teacher will change days and work Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. He brings so much energy and dedication to our music program. We will also have a new counselor this year. We are very fortunate to have Brian Osak our current psychologist step in and take over this responsibility. For a part of last year, we were able to hire a Response To Intervention teacher (Keri Safford). This year we plan to begin the year with this opportunity for our students. This teacher works with students in the primary grades to provide them with an extra intervention to get them closer to grade level. We had tremendous success with this last year. We also welcome Tiffany Holt as our new Resource Teacher.

Student attendance is still a huge priority goal for the District this year. Last year was a tough year for attendance. We need your help to make sure that every student comes to school every day and on time. We will continue our attendance awards program this year. Please pay close attention to this issue. If we can be of any assistance in this area with you or your children, please let us know.

This year different components of our school schedule have changed. We strongly believe that each change comes with a specific goal of making Gerber School successful. This year we have changed the configuration of our 6th, 7th and 8th grades. In the past, only 7th and 8th grade students rotated teachers, now 6th, 7th, & 8th will rotate. All 6th, 7th & 8th grades will start the day at 8:12AM and end the day at 2:25PM Monday through Friday. The students will be receiving the same instructional minutes and now have an opportunity to participate in after school tutoring. Because of the earlier starting time, our buses will run about 5 minutes earlier in the mornings. Please make adjustments to your morning schedules so that your children do not miss the bus. On October 11th we will begin our after school tutoring program. Students who enroll in our after school tutoring program will have bus transportation provided. Tutoring classes will be offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Transportation will be provided at 3:15PM on tutoring days.

Most students attending Gerber School ride our buses to school. This is an optional service the district provides for our families. This past year we had a huge increase in disciplinary problems on our buses. It is important for parents and students to remember that riding the bus is a privilege. Please speak to your children about proper behavior on the bus. When students misbehave on the bus, it creates an unsafe situation for our drivers and students. Students who misbehave on the bus will lose the privilege of riding school transportation. Thank you for your help.

We think this will be an exciting year at Gerber School, and we look forward to working with you to help your children be successful. The partnership between the school and the family is critical to student success. When we work together anything is possible. Please feel free to contact your child=s teacher and ask questions. Communicating with your child=s teacher shows your child that you care about his/her education.

Our first opportunity for all of us to get together will be our annual fall **Back To School Night on Thursday, September 2nd**, but do not wait that long if you feel you need to know more about your child=s classroom. Our school motto is **Achieving Excellence**; we are constantly trying to improve what we can do for your children.

Employment Opportunities

Gerber School has three (3) yard duty positions available for this year. Two (2) at lunch and one (1) in the morning. If you are interested, please contact Bree Brown in the office for further information.

Upcoming Events

August 23 – Minimum Day
August 30 - Minimum Day
September 2 – Back To School Night
September 6 – No School (Labor Day)
September 13 – Minimum Day
September 15 – Picture Day