

Buljan Middle School Annual Newsletter

Dear Buljan Middle School Parents and Students:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our 17th school year at Buljan Middle School, “Home of the Bulldogs!” Once again we enter another school year with great anticipation of wonderful accomplishments for all in the “Buljan Family”. With a cooperative effort from both school and home, we can offer all of “our children” the very best in a child centered educational experience.

This publication will be our only Parent Newsletter of the year. All further communication including, but not exclusive to calendars, athletics, policies, etc., can be found on the Buljan website at <http://www.rcsdk8.org/buildings/buljan/BMS.htm>. For those who do not have access to a computer, a list of important dates will be available in the office at the first of each month.

PLC Mondays (Professional Learning Communities)

Our district has implemented **PLC** for all school sites, which means that students will attend school on a shortened day every Monday with dismissal at **1:54pm**. All students must be off campus when school is dismissed in order that staff is able to participate in our Professional Learning Communities.

Enrollment – As of September 2009, our current enrollment is 1,167 with an extensive waiting list of students from surrounding school districts, wishing to enroll at Buljan Middle School. Once again, we have a “*Full House*” this year.

Due to our increased enrollment, we need to revise and streamline our procedures at Buljan. Please be aware of the following:

- 1) Buljan’s Attendance Phone # is 771-1725 Ext. #350. Please call this number and leave a message when your child is unable to attend school that day.
- 2) Buljan’s Office Phone # is 771-1720
- 3) The office will no longer send messages or make deliveries to your student’s classroom. Please make arrangements before school.
- 4) For security reasons, the back gate will remain locked. Please pick up and drop off your children in front of the school.
- 5) Please remember that your child cannot be on campus before 8:40 am and must be off campus by 2:15pm on Mondays and 3:30pm Tuesday – Friday, unless they are participating in a school-sponsored activity.
- 6) Math Tutoring Before School (8:00am – 9:00am) and Extra-Curricular Clubs begin September 8th. (Please see enclosed schedule.)
- 7) After School Intensive Programs begin September 8th for select students only. (3:30pm – 4:30pm) (Please see enclosed schedule.)
- 8) Homework Club will be available soon. You will be notified when the program begins. (Please see enclosed schedule for times)

Parking Lot Issues - Buljan Middle School was originally built to hold approximately 600 students. Our current enrollment is in excess of 1,160, therefore, there are more cars in the parking lot both before and after school. To help alleviate some of the congestion, cars may only enter the parking lot from the western most entry and exit from the eastern most entry. Signs and parking lot lines have been installed and we ask that you please follow these directions. I would implore you to be extra careful when driving in the Buljan parking lot. Our students' safety is our #1 goal and both your caution and courtesy are greatly appreciated.

Communication and Student Progress – In an effort to improve communication between school and home we have provided our Buljan households with a list of teacher's e-mail addresses. You are encouraged to contact your child's teachers directly should you have questions regarding assignments, policies, etc. Furthermore, each Buljan student will receive a grade in every class for each six-week period. Please note that only trimester report card grades will be recorded on your child's permanent record. All Buljan parents are encouraged to stay in close contact with your child's teachers.

Seat Time – School District funding is based on actual "seat time" for students. Each day one student is absent from school for any reason, including illness; the State withholds more than \$34.00!

If your child will be absent from school for a period of three or more days, please contact his/her teacher to arrange to make up the missed assignments for the period of absence. If a student will have a planned absence of five or more days they may be placed on Short-term or Vacation Independent Study. Contracts must be completed at least two weeks prior to absence. The school district will also benefit by maintaining the \$34.00 per day per student when the child completes the Independent Study at-home work assignments. Please contact the school office or your student's teacher for more information.

Extra Curricular – Please find attached, a list of the numerous extra-curricular activities offered here at Buljan Middle School. We strongly encourage our students to *get involved* and become well rounded. With the exception of tutoring, students must maintain a minimum 70% in all classes and 85 merits to be eligible to participate.

Student Textbook Information - During the first month of school, all students will have received their textbooks. Books are scanned and checked out to each student using their individual student identification number. We encourage all students to cover their books and write their name on the inside of the book cover. Students are financially responsible for their textbooks and library books. Lost or damaged books must be paid for in full. You may view the individual prices for textbooks on the school website by clicking on the library page.

Students will begin visiting the library after all textbooks have been distributed. Library books are checked out for a period of three weeks and students may renew their books one time. Library privileges will be temporarily suspended for students with overdue

library books. Also, if a student has damaged or lost a library book, the book must be paid for in full before library privileges can resume.

Students who have not returned or paid for library books at their elementary school site will not be able to check out library books at Buljan. All fines must be cleared at the elementary school site first.

Thank you for encouraging your child to be responsible with textbooks and library books.

Marie Payne
Librarian

What is AVID?

Buljan Middle School is a “National AVID Demonstration School.” AVID stands for: “Advancement via Individual Determination.” For the AVID elective class, students have a goal to attend college and have the AVID class as a support to achieve and maintain above average scores in all classes. This is accomplished through tutorials, discussions and doing activities to support the content area classes.

For the entire Buljan campus, AVID means using Cornell Notes, higher level questioning, organized binders, use of planners and learning how to find their own answers. Rigor is a big part of AVID. This means that students question to find more meaning and understanding in their subject area.

Buljan has approximately 95% of the staff trained in AVID methodologies. What does this mean to your child? These methods help take the mystery out of education since almost every teacher has many of the same basic expectations in each classroom. Check your child’s binder and planner. In the planner, you should see each day filled in with what they did in each classroom and if there is any homework or project. In their binders, you should see notes being taken for each class. Your child should always have pens and pencils in their binder or backpack. Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Reading and Organization – this is what AVID is all about!!

Luanne Harold
AVID Coordinator

California Junior Scholarship Federation

Buljan Middle School is a proud member of the California Junior Scholarship Federation (CJSF). The purpose of this federation is to foster high academic standards, acknowledge community service efforts, and reward exemplary citizenship on the part of seventh and eighth grade middle school students. Seventh graders may apply during open enrollment period at the end of the first trimester. Eighth graders may apply during any open enrollment period. During our morning announcements, the CJSF open enrollment dates will be announced and applications will be made available during that time.

Academic eligibility is based on the CJSF point system. To be eligible, the cumulative trimester percentages in mathematics, language arts, science, and history/social studies are awarded a point value:

- 90 - 100 % = 3 points
- 80 - 90 % = 2 points
- 70 - 80 % = 0 points

Students must earn a minimum of 8 points to qualify, maintain 90 merits or above at all times and complete a minimum of 2 hours of community service each trimester.

Judy Kevin
Mathematics Teacher

Student Expectations:

- 1) All students must be in their seats and ready to work when the tardy bell rings.
- 2) Buljan teachers, not the bell, dismiss their classes at the end of the period.
- 3) No electronic entertainment devices will be allowed on campus with the exception of cell phones. Cell phones **may not** be used on school grounds at anytime.
- 4) No gum on campus at anytime.
- 5) Respect for others at all times.
- 6) School Hours: 9:05am – 1:54pm (Monday)
9:05am – 3:15pm (Tuesday – Friday)

Students may not be on school grounds before 8:40am or after 2:15pm on Mondays and 3:30pm Tuesday - Friday, unless they are participating in a school sponsored supervised activity.

Student Travel - Each year Buljan Middle School offers travel opportunities for 7th and 8th grade students. These trips take place during the summer months. For more information, please contact the following:

- 1) 8th Graders – Washington D.C. – Courtney Vierra, Lara Hatzenbiler,
Catherine Baker-Davis
- 2) 7th/8th Graders – Costa Rica (Summer of 2010) - Cynthia Davis

We thank you for your continued support and as always, should you have any questions or need further information, please contact the school office at 771-1720.

Sincerely,

Greg Gunn
Principal

Buljan Happenings In September 2009

Mon., Sept. 7 th	-Labor Day – No School	
Tues., Sept. 8 th	-PTC Meeting (Library)	6:30pm
Wed., Sept. 9 th	-Department Chair Meeting -Girl's Volleyball – 12 Bridges @ Buljan	8:15am 4:00pm
Thurs., Sept. 10 th	-Cross Country @ Cooley	4:00pm
Fri., Sept. 11 th	-AVID Site Meeting -Back to School Dance 7 th /8 th	8:15am 7:00pm-9:00pm
Mon., Sept. 14 th	-Hearing Van (8 th) - Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ Cavitt	9:15am 4:00pm
Wed., Sept. 16	-Staff Meeting -Flag Football/Girls Volleyball Olympus @ Buljan	8:00am 4:00pm
Thurs., Sept. 17 th	-Cross Country @ Spring View Johnson Park	4:00pm
Mon., Sept. 21 st	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ W.C. Riles	4:00pm
Tues, Sept. 22 nd	- Cross Country @ Buljan	4:00pm
Wed., Sept. 23 rd	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball Glen Edwards @ Buljan	4:00pm
Fri., Sept. 25 th	-Fundraiser Reward Day (This is not a shortened school day.)	1:30pm – 3:15pm
Mon., Sept 28 th	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball Spring View @ Buljan	4:00pm
Tues., Sept 29 th	-Cross Country @ Cavitt	4:00pm
Wed., Sept. 30 th	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ Granite Oaks	4:00pm

GO BULLDOGS!!!

Buljan Happenings In October 2009

Mon., Oct. 5 th	-Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ Buljan	4:00pm
Tues., Oct. 6 th	-Student of the Month Breakfast	7:30am
	-Cross Country @ Silverado	4:00pm
	-PTC Meeting (Library)	6:30pm
Wed., Oct. 7 th	-Picture Make-Ups	
	-6 th Grade Activity Night	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Mon., Oct. 12 th	-School Not in Session	
Tues., Oct. 13 th	-Can Food Drive Begins	
Wed., Oct. 14 th	-Department Chair Meeting	8:15am
	-Flag Football/Girls Volleyball Silverado @ Buljan	4:00pm
	-Cross Country Finals @ Spring View and William Jessup	4:00pm
Thurs., Oct. 15 th	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ Eich	4:00pm
Fri., Oct. 16 th	-AVID Site Meeting	8:15am
Mon., Oct. 19 th	- Flag Football/Girls Volleyball @ Cooley	4:00pm
Wed., Oct. 21 st	-Staff Meeting	8:00am
	-Girls Volleyball Tournament 7 th @ Eich 8 th @ Buljan	4:00pm
Thurs., Oct. 22 nd	-Constitution Test	
Fri., Oct. 23 rd	-Can Food Drive Ends	
Sun., Oct. 25 th	-Concert on the Quad	3:00pm
Mon., Oct. 26 th	-Red Ribbon Week (10/26 – 10/30)	
Wed., Oct. 28 th	-Red Ribbon Assembly	9:10am
Thurs., Oct. 29 th	-Boys Basketball @ Creekview Ranch	4:00pm
Fri., Oct. 30 th	-Spirit Point Cutoff	
	-Halloween Carnival (This is not a shortened school day)	1:30pm – 3:15pm