



Parents:

Thank you for your warm welcome as I return to Sycamore. The students and staff continue to energize me, and it is once again, great to be in the learning environment of Sycamore School. My son, who is now 36 and a graduate of Sycamore, grounded my enthusiasm in returning after all these years as principal, when he reminded me of the wonderful experience Sycamore was to his elementary growth. He can't wait to visit again!

Please call me with any concern you may have; or email me at cfreitas@cusd.claremont.edu, should it require more of a 'short answer'. Feel free, as well, to drop by and make an appointment to talk; I prefer the direct contact whenever possible.

An area of concern that has arisen during observations in my first week is that we have some students who are not getting to school and to class on time. This affects the learning in the classroom when they either miss a portion of the day or the teacher has to 're-teach' the child. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

I will keep you informed as to future events, in addition to the progress in the hiring process for a new principal. The appointment of that position is anticipated for July 1st. I'm enjoying being at Sycamore, and thank you for your welcome!

Fondly,

Chuck Freitas

SHOP AND DINE – TOMORROW! APRIL 24TH

The annual Shop and Dine event sponsored by the Claremont Education Foundation (CEF) is tomorrow, Friday, April 24th! Parents are encouraged to visit the Village to shop and dine to the backdrop of CUSD students performing, singing, dancing, and displaying artwork at various venues.

Sycamore students will be singing at 5:30pm in front of the Depot. **Please have your student at the Depot at 5:20pm.** Following the performance, make a special stop by the Bath Junkie at 175 N. Indian Hill, to view Sycamore's student artwork. You may uncover the artwork of an important budding artist (your own student's!) to purchase for a bare wall! All proceeds go to support CEF, who in turn, supports CUSD. A win-win situation for all!

REGISTRATION FORMS DUE

Pink "Intent to Return" postcard – Sometime in the last week, you should have received a neon pink postcard in the mail for each of your CUSD students. Please return to the office; these postcards help to make initial enrollment and staffing decisions, which are as crucial as ever this year! All CUSD students received this postcard; these are in addition to the Intradistrict Transfer form. If yours has been misplaced, please stop by the office or send an email indicating whether your child will be returning to Sycamore next year.

Summer School Registration – During Student-Led Conferences, teachers made recommendations for Summer School. The K-6 program will be at Mountain View, while incoming 7th graders will meet at El Roble. Additional Registration blanks are available in the office. Due date for these registrations is TOMORROW.

CEF "Slice of Summer" – Registration forms for this fee-based enrichment program can be downloaded at www.claremonteducationalfoundation.org. Hard copies will also be coming home this week. Completed registrations for any class, regardless of location, should be submitted to the office. Remember that these classes are on a first-come, first-served basis.



FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Next Tuesday, April 29th, will be Family Math Night at Sycamore. This year, we have the exciting opportunity to be wowed and excited by an amazing ‘Math Magician’! Art Benjamin, father of Ariel (rm. 5) and Laurel (rm. 1) will dazzle and delight with his “Mathemagics” show, featuring numerous feats of mental calculation delivered at lightning speed.

Dr. Benjamin is both a professor of mathematics and a magician. He has combined his two loves to create a dynamic presentation suitable for all audiences, where he demonstrates and explains his secrets for performing rapid mental calculations faster than a calculator. *Reader's Digest* calls him "America's Best Math Whiz". He has presented his high energy talk on over a thousand occasions to audiences throughout the world.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to see ‘math-in-action’! Join us Tuesday from 7pm-8pm in the Multi-Purpose Room.

SUPERINTENDENT NEWS

At last week’s CUSD Board Meeting, Dr. David Cash, Superintendent, submitted his resignation, effective June 30th. He has accepted the position of Superintendent of the Clovis Unified School District of 35,000 students. We wish him and his family well in his new position. He will be missed as he has made a large impact on the Claremont Unified School District.

The Board of Education of the Claremont Unified School District invites you to a public forum to assist in our search for a new superintendent. The forum will provide an opportunity for District staff members, members of the community, and representatives from local agencies to meet with Mike Caston and Rene Townsend of Leadership Associates. The forum is scheduled as follows:

Monday, May 4, 2009
 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
 Richard S. Kirkendall Education Center
 Board Room
 170 W. San Jose Avenue
 Claremont, CA

Please take this opportunity to meet with the consultants who are conducting the search for a new educational leader for our children. The purpose of the meeting is to: 1) inform and update, and 2) receive input on the desired characteristics of a new superintendent.

If you are unable to attend the above meeting, you are welcome to provide your written or faxed comments to: Leadership Associates, PMB 445, 23052-H Alicia Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA 92692. Phone/fax number (949) 461-9119, or email mwcaston@cox.net.

CALENDAR

Friday, 4/24	5-8pm 5:20	Shop & Dine in the Village Sycamore Performs at the Depot	
Tuesday, 4/28	7-8pm	Family Math Night, "Mathemagics"	MPR
Wednesday, 4/29	10:30 & 6:30	Room 6 Musical	MPR
Monday, 5/4	5-6:30pm	Supt. Public Forum	District Office
May 5 - May 8	Mornings	STAR Testing	Grades 2-6
Thursday, 5/7	7pm	CUSD Board Meeting	District Office

