

Ram News

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Dean of Students for Ridgecrest/Your Help Needed

I am thrilled to announce that Ridgecrest will have a Dean of Students beginning on Monday, December 3. This position was created as part of this year's contract negotiations and meets several building needs at our elementary schools in Shoreline. The following is a brief description of the responsibilities the Dean will share with me:

- School Climate and Safety
- Student Behavior Management/Discipline
- Student Academic/Attendance Support
- Student Supervision (Events/Activities)
- Staff coordination and building leadership

And now the even better news: Nathan Christian has been selected to serve as the Dean! Nathan has been at Ridgecrest the past four years and is excited to continue to serve our students and families in this new role.

One of the first things we want to now focus on at Ridgecrest with this added level of support is the extensive amount of physical contact on campus. Students continue to push, hit, trip, kick each other, sometimes in play but also in frustration or anger. **Parents and guardians, we need your help with this.** Please talk to your children about a hands-off school environment. The only exception to this is one-touch tag or two-hand touch football on the playfield during recess. I often tell our students that I have four brothers who loved to rough-house and wrestle—but the only place that behavior is acceptable is at home, not at school. Thank you for helping us teach our students this important lesson.

What Does Staff Do on Wednesday Afternoons?

In this initial year of the Shoreline Early Release Wednesdays, you may be wondering what staff and school leaders do once students leave on Wednesdays. This is a gift of time that is having a significant impact on our teachers, the students they serve, and you, our partners in this educational process.

Here are some of the many topics covered so far this year with our teachers:

- *Professional Learning Communities and Collaborative Practices
- *Technology Tips
- *Extended Learning Opportunities for our Students
- *Student Centered Instruction and Culturally Responsive Practices
- *Parent Conferences
- *Student Needs (academic, social/emotional) and Interventions
- *PDSA (Plan-Do-Study-Act) model for Instructional Cycle of Inquiry

Every other Wednesday teachers are able to use the time for their individual classroom needs: preparing for lessons, planning and reviewing assessments, following up with parents and other staff, and other multiple tasks that need to be accomplished in order to effectively serve our students.

Thank you for your support of these critical days and how you help at home: picking up your children on time, ensuring that they get their daily reading in, and checking in with them on their school experiences helps set them up for success at school and beyond.

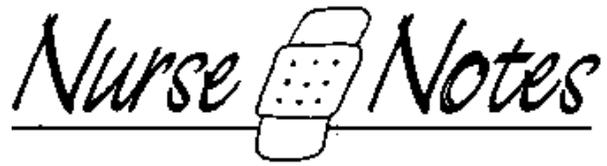
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 28 Early Release @ 1:20
- 30 Popcorn Friday

DECEMBER

- 3 School Board Meeting 7pm Shoreline Center
- 3-14 Holiday Food and Gift Drive
- 5 Early Release @ 1:20
- 12 Early Release @ 1:20
- 12 PTA Meeting 6:30 RC Library
- 17 School Board Meeting 7pm Shoreline Center
- 19 Early Release @ 1:20
- 20 LAST DAY to claim items from Lost & Found
- 21 Lost and Found sent to The Works
- 24-31 Winter Break Begins



Please encourage your children to wash hands, wash hands, and wash hands! We are seeing colds and more colds! Also please remind students to cover their coughs with tissues or into their elbows to prevent the spread of germs.

Please check your students for head lice at least once a week. We have been seeing more cases. The best lice comb we have found is the LiceMeister. Easy to hold and the tines are close together. If you need assistance, please call the health office.

Do you have any smaller sized pants your children have outgrown? Boys or girls size 5-8 are needed in the health office. Thank you!!

Please keep children home if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever 100 degrees F or over
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Thick mucus draining from the eye or nose
- Inability to contain cough or sneeze in elbow
- Sore throat: if combined with fever or swollen neck glands
- * Rashes: unrelated to heat or other known non-communicable diseases
- * Unusual tiredness, paleness, lack of appetite, or irritability

These symptoms indicate your child may be contagious.

Students should remain home until they are symptom free (without medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.

Thank you Ridgecrest families for helping to keep us all healthy!

Nurse Joan & Nurse Stacey