



# CAÑADA CHRONICLE

Rancho Cañada Parent Teacher Association

Volume 5, Issue 1

September 2008

Rancho Cañada  
Elementary School  
949-768-5252  
Absence Line  
859-4684

George Schroer, Principal  
Suzanne Graham,  
PTA President  
Latha Kumar, Editor

Rancho Cañada Elementary  
School PTA  
Saddleback Council  
4th District, National PTA,  
21801 Winding Way  
Lake Forest, CA 92630

The Cañada Chronicle is a monthly publication of the Rancho Cañada Elementary School Parent Teacher Association. The mention of any business or service in this publication does not imply an endorsement by the Rancho Cañada PTA.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PTA GENERAL MEETINGS	2
PTA PAYMENT PROCEDURES	2
ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS	2
YOUR TIME COUNTS	2
JOIN YOUR PTA	3
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	3
VIPS NEEDED	3
BOOK COVERS ON SALE	3
SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL	3
REFLECTIONS	4
FAMILY PORTRAITS	4
JOG-A-THON '08	4
STUDENT DROP-OFF	5
SEPTEMBER CALENDAR	8

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome and Welcome Back! I hope you all had a terrific summer!

The new school year has begun.....On Monday, August 25th, we had our first PTA Board Meeting. We have a wonderful group of Officers, Committee Members and parents who are already making plans to bring fantastic programs, events and activities for upcoming 2008-2009 school year. They are truly committed to making this a fun and exciting year!

Rancho Cañada has a well deserved reputation for its wonderful group of parent volunteers. If you are new to our school or have not yet become involved with our Parent Teacher Association (PTA), this is a great time for you to help make a difference.

With your help, our PTA will continue to provide various assemblies, an art program, family fun nights and a hands-on science program for our kids.

PTA meetings are held every month on a Monday evening. **Our first PTA Meeting will be held on September 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room.** I encourage everyone to attend this important meeting. On the Agenda for this meeting is the proposed 2008-2009 Budget, and an overview of PTA sponsored programs.

*Suzanne Graham  
PTA President*

*For questions or concerns, please contact me at rcptapresident@yahoo.com*

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

#### RALPHS PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION

Please fill in the Ralphs registration form and turn it into Rancho Cañada!

The form you recieved states that you can either turn it into us or fill in the form online. **PLEASE SUBMIT THE FORM TO RANCHO!**

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to Rachelle Gallardo and her helpers: **Janice Gallardo, Mari Paxton, Margaret Chao, Kari Leonard and Melody Downey**, for assisting with Kindergarten Testing. Thank you to a wonderful group of PTA moms: **Chris Dunn, Colleen Logomasini, Mary Core, Stacy Callender, Melanie Schrunk, Erin Hoskins, Alicia Smith, Theresa Gray, Brandi Hawkes, Janice Gallardo and Dana Dickstein**, for taking care of our kindergarteners during orientation.

A big thank you to the following parents, students and siblings for taking the time to help at the annual "School Packet Stuffing Party": **Brandi Hawkes, Connor Hawkes,**

**Amber Hawkes, Matthew Rundberg, Mary Core, Samantha Core, Cathryn Starck, Jenny Nonora, Shannon Nonora, Heather Nonora, Jesi Nonora, Lori Quigley, Leyna Quigley, Grace Quigley, Jenna Quigley, Carrie Schwan, Debbie Buls, Kennedy Buls, Cindy Carney, Colin Carney, Heather Alexander, Ryan Alexander, Travis Alexander, Shannon Mitchell, Emma Logomasini and Ginger Roberts.** Our volunteers put together 750 packets in record time. Great Job!

Your time and help are appreciated!

Suzanne Graham

# RANCHO CAÑADA PTA 2008-2009 GENERAL MEETING CALENDAR

*(All meetings held in MPR)*

Monday, September 8th @ 7:00

Monday, October 13th @ 7:00

Monday, November 24th @ 7:00

**(No December General Meeting)**

Monday, January 12th @ 7:00

Monday, February 9th @ 7:00

Monday, March 9th @ 7:00

Monday, April 20th @ 7:00

Monday, May 11th @ 7:00

Monday, June 8th @ 7:00 - DINNER

## PAYMENT PROCEDURES TO RANCHO CAÑADA PTA

For a Rancho Cañada PTA sponsored event or program, when writing a check, please make it out to "Rancho Cañada PTA" and include on the check the name of your child, their teacher's name, and the name of the event/program (ie - Membership, Jog-A-Thon, etc.).

If paying with cash, please enclose cash in a sealed envelope with the name of the program, your child's name, and their teacher's name written on the front of the envelope.

There is a \$5.00 charge for every returned check. Families will be placed on the "CASH ONLY" list pending repayment of their first returned check; a second returned check will result in permanent placement on the "CASH ONLY" list."

## NEW PTA WEBSITE

Thanks to the efforts of Adam Sandler, our parent volunteer Webmaster, the Rancho Canada PTA's website has been updated! You can download various forms to be submitted. The school calendar, newsletter and information about other PTA projects are now available for you to browse. The website also provides direct links to the School District, School website, SAT 9 scores and the School Report Card and much more!

## PTA SPONSORED SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES 2008 - 2009

Oct. 29th, 2008

*"Do the Right Thing"*

*by Michael Katz*

Explore the consequences and morals learned from making good and bad choices through multicultural folktales and original stories..

December 4, 2008

*"Popapella"*

*by Vybration*

Thrilling vocals, exquisite harmonies and energizing vocal percussion featuring some of California 's most talented and dynamic a cappella performers. Explore teamwork through the incredible versatility of the human voice.

February 3, 2009

*"Indigestion Joe and the Pyramid of Food"*

*by Southland Opera*

Join Indigestion Joe in a quest to unlock the mysteries of good health and proper nutrition.

March 26, 2009

*Dances of the Aztec*

*by Danza Azteca Xochipilli*

Learn about Mexican culture and history through stories, music and dance.

May 26, 2009

*Herbalin/Edutainment Arts*

Play along with this dramatic, interactive and improvisational presentation about insects as the students forget they are learning science.

## YOUR TIME COUNTS!

Why is important to record our volunteer hours?

- 1- To maintain PTA's tax exemption status
- 2- The more volunteer hours we document the more grants we can qualify for from various foundations.
- 3- To show our strong commitment to Rancho Canada to our California state decision makers.

The bottom-line is when the annual report is received by the state of California, the translation of volunteer hours into a total dollar amount computes to an estimated number of paid employees needed to replace us!

*Don't forget to include volunteer hours done away from our school site. Please always record your hours either in the office, or you may e-mail them to Annie Lovley at [alovley@cox.net](mailto:alovley@cox.net).*

# ALL SYSTEMS GO!

## JOIN RANCHO CANADA PTA!

With more than one million members, the California State PTA is the largest volunteer organization in the state dedicated to improving the well being of all children and youth.

We invite you to join the team and make a difference! Parents, teachers, students and community members who join the PTA support local, statewide and national efforts that improve the education, health and welfare of children, youth and families.

Even if you are unable to be an active member, JOIN! This is an important umbrella organization that helps our school, so please be a member.

For more information on Rancho Canada's PTA, please contact Mary Core at [score92630@cox.net](mailto:score92630@cox.net).

Mary Core  
Membership Chair

## BOOK COVERS ON SALE: BENEFITS STUDENT CREDIT ACCOUNT

Book covers will be available in front of the school each day after school. The cost is \$2.50 each, and .80 goes to your Student Credit Account (to help pay for your field trips).

If you ordered a class pack and book covers were purchased at that time, your children will be able to pick out their book covers after school as well!



## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer because the new school year is underway and WE NEED YOUR HELP! It's no accident that Rancho Canada continues to be one of the top schools in Orange County. In addition to our wonderful teachers, our principal and our fantastic office staff and support staff, Rancho has always had an small army of volunteers to make sure each school year is fun and rewarding for the students. To ensure that this year is another great success, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Look for the volunteer form in the back to school packets. Fill out the form (one per family) and send them back to school so we can get started and have another great year. There are volunteer opportunities to fit every schedule. Remember it takes the whole parent and teacher community to make Rancho Canada a success for each and every student. Please consider giving a portion of your time!

Pat Cumming, Volunteer Coordinator

## VIPs NEEDED BENEFITS ARE TERRIFIC

Once you have an opportunity to drop your child off at school, you might find yourself wondering about all those terrific people who are in the parking lot helping children out of their cars. We are a group of concerned parents who enjoy interacting with the kids every morning and keeping them safe. And we have room for more! Volunteers are needed to help out in the Rancho Cañada parking lot. It's a great experience!

### Benefits include:

- Many hearty "Good Mornings!"  
(A great way to start the day!)
- Petting family dogs
- Meeting a lot of really terrific kids and their families
- Working with a lot of other wonderful volunteers

### Duties include:

- Opening car doors
- Helping students, backpacks and projects out of the cars
- Helping the buses to arrive, unload and depart safely

This is a great opportunity to become an important part of Rancho's warm community. Volunteers are asked to arrive in the parking lot (without their cars) by 8:10. Duties are finished around 8:40. Choose any day(s) of the week you like to fit into your work or classroom volunteer schedule. Moms, dads, aunts, uncles and grandparents are all welcome!

Please call or email Christa Dunn (305-5443, [jcd1462@aol.com](mailto:jcd1462@aol.com)) for more information on this amazing opportunity. We look forward to getting to know you better!

## SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

Are you interested in being a parent representative to Rancho Cañada's School Site Council?

The School Site Council is intended to be representative of all segments of the school community. Being composed of the school principal, teachers, other staff and parents, it provides a forum to come together and identify common goals and establish a plan to achieve these goals.

Meetings are held once a month on Thursday afternoons. If you are interested, or have more questions, please contact Susan Meyer through the school office or email, [meyersu@svusd.org](mailto:meyersu@svusd.org).

Susan Meyer  
School Site Council Coordinator

# REFLECTIONS PROGRAM 2008 - 2009 'Wow'

For all those talented and creative Rancho students this is your chance for your talent to shine! Create an original piece to enter into this year's Reflections Program. It can be in the category of Visual Arts, Literature, Music or Photography and there are two more categories....Dance Choreography and Film/Video Production. Rules and application forms are available at <http://www.SVPTA.org> under 'Resources' or in the front office of Rancho Cañada. Your talented children can enter as many times and in as many categories as they wish as long as there is an application for each separate art form. We hope you'll be busy creating with an open mind & spirit. **You have until Tuesday, October 21st.**

If you have any questions please call Ginger Roberts, Reflections Chairperson, at 949-855-1335, [2gingerspice@cox.net](mailto:2gingerspice@cox.net).

## FAMILY PORTRAITS

Schedule your sitting time now for our Fall Family Portrait "Student Credit" fundraiser. We have a wonderful photographer and her name is Kim Kirker, and she is also a Rancho parent.

The sitting fee is \$10.00 and \$5.00 is deposited into your family "Student Credit" account. Even if you do not purchase a portrait package you still get a 10 x 13 portrait! What a Deal! We will be available to schedule

your appointment after school or call Diane Sixsmith at 587-0704. Bring payment of \$10.00 to your sitting.

### Sitting times are:

Oct. 10th - 4 pm to 8 pm

Oct. 11th - 9 am to 7 pm

Oct. 12th - 9 am to 7 pm

Portrait Packages will be available for purchase & include:

4 - 8 x 10's, 4 - 5 x 7's, 16 - wallets

You may purchase the entire package, or purchase photos by the sheet. They are also offering enlargements, 4 x 6 prints and Christmas cards.

*If you have any questions, please call Diane Sixsmith @ 587-0704, e-mail [dsixsmith@aol.com](mailto:dsixsmith@aol.com).*

Look for a flyer coming home with your child this month.



# ALL SYSTEMS GO!



## JOG-A-THON 2008

The Annual Rancho Jog-a-Thon  
is Rancho Cañada's Primary  
Fundraiser of the Year.

This year's will be on  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2008**

Classroom Jog Captains & other  
Volunteers are needed.

Any questions, contact  
Carrie Schwan, Co-Chair  
[carrieschwan@hotmail.com](mailto:carrieschwan@hotmail.com)

Fill in your child's Medical Release  
to Participate in the Jog-A-Thon  
and Return to school ASAP!

## Kick-Off

Wednesday, September 17th, 2008

Pledge Sheets Due  
Tuesday, October 14th, 2008

# ALL SYSTEMS GO! RANCHO FOR SAFETY!

## STUDENT DROP-OFF

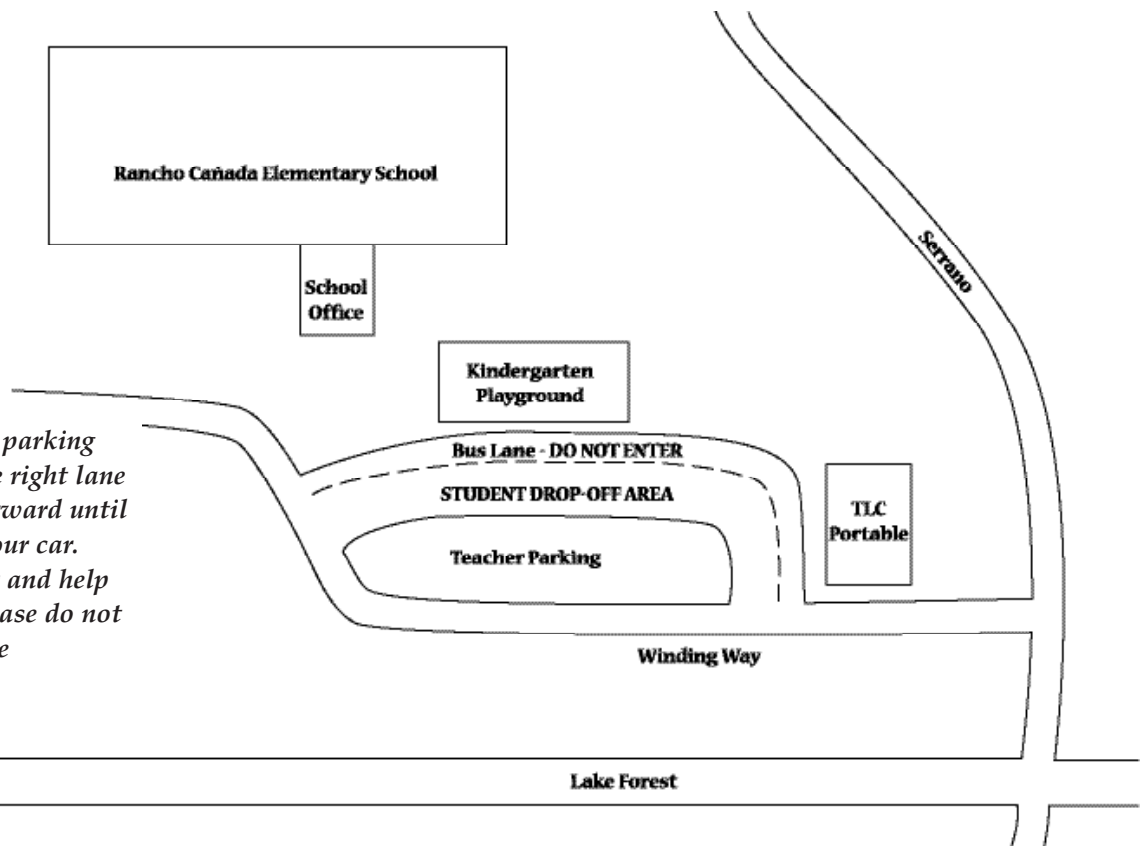
Rancho's parking lot program has received compliments from District administrators, local law enforcement, bus drivers and parents coming from other schools. Many schools don't allow parent cars into the lot at all! It is a privilege we hope you appreciate. In order to avoid the chaos found around other schools, several rules must be followed by parents driving through. Just one or two people who don't follow them can make the morning drive-through dangerous for the children and difficult for other parents. When you bring your child to school, please abide by the following rules:

- Do not stop your car by the TLC buildings. Pull as far forward as possible and an attendant will open the door for your child. She/He does not need to be dropped at the closest possible spot from his/her classroom. If you are signing your child into TLC between 8:00 and 8:45 in the morning, please park your car in a designated spot. Do NOT leave it in the bus lane.
- Do not drive in the bus lane at all. Children cross it, and you could hit them. Also, busses come from behind and would prefer not to have to wait for you to pull back into the proper lane.

- Do not let your children get out of the car by themselves (even if you have automatic doors). Wait for an attendant to come to the car. They can see if a bus (or one of the cars who chooses to drive in the bus lane) is coming, and will make sure that your child is not hit by it.
- Do not pass the cars in front of you, even if they are taking a ridiculous amount of time. We have had many, many near misses including cars and children. An extra minute or two is not going to ruin your day as badly as an accident would.
- Do not wait until you are in the parking lot to hand out lunch money, sign papers, or check homework. If you are not ready for your child to leave the car, park somewhere off campus to finish your business.
- These rules are not made to make your life difficult, but to make it easier for everyone involved. Many cars come through the parking lot each morning, and if we work together, it will be a smooth process for all of us.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the parking lot or the rules, please call the school office.

*Please enter the school parking lot in the left lane – the right lane is the bus lane. Pull forward until a greeter approaches your car. She will open the door and help your child(ren) out. Please do not let your child out before a greeter approaches.  
Thank You!*



# SEPTEMBER 2008

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> First Day of School  Kindergarten Orientation	<b>5</b> Student Assemblies	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> PTA General Meeting at 7:00 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Jog-A-Thon Captain Meeting 9 am	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Jog-A-Thon Kick Off  Constitution Day - Flag Ceremony	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Kindergarten Back to School Night 6:45 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Picture Day Back to School Night 6th Grade Camp Meeting MPR - 6 pm Minimum Day	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				