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September 2016

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# Fairhaven Elementary

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## WELCOME BACK!!!

Welcome Back to School! The end of summer is always a time of anticipation and hope for me, as I know it is for your children! I am very excited to start my third year as principal with this amazing community of teachers, learners, and families! Fairhaven has a reputation for its strong academic program and I am anxious to get the school year started! I have spent my entire career in education having been a teacher, assistant principal and principal. I am confident and passionate about the strong instructional program that Fairhaven provides for our students! I truly believe that the relationship between the student, parent, and teacher is the foundation of each student's success. I have a firm dedication to partnering with our parents and community to enhance the education of our children. As a Fairhaven student, my goal is that each individual is nurtured by all the staff members from our smiling office staff, to our lunch supervisors, library specialist, and most of all our talented teachers. I am fortunate to call Orange Unified School District my "home" and feel lucky to be part of the wonderful staff and families of Fairhaven. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me at (714) 997- 6178 or email me at ksandors@orangeusd.org. On behalf of the amazing Fairhaven staff, I would like to wish all of you a wonderful school year.

## Guidelines for Student Fees

The following is information on monitoring student fees, donations and fundraising guidelines with our community. Article IX, Section 5 of the California Constitution states: "The Legislature shall provide for a system of common schools by which a free school shall be kept up and supported in each district." Educational opportunities must be provided to all students without regard to their families' ability or willingness to pay fees or request special waivers. Whenever a public school offers a curricular or extracurricular program to students, the California Constitution requires that the school provide all materials, supplies and equipment to students free of charge. Public schools may solicit and accept donations from parents or the broader community, so long as the fundraising program is voluntary and contributing is not a requirement for



## Upcoming Events

### September 5

Labor Day- no school

### September 6

Title One meeting-5:30

### September 6

Back to School Night- 6:00-7:00

### September 6

Book Fair opens at BTSN

### September 18

Reading Promise- Orange Library

### September 29

Picture Day/SSC Meeting

**Please see the monthly calendar for more information and specific times.**

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Please consider joining the School Site Council. A separate interest/information letter is going home.

participation in an educational activity. The most recent legislation and California Supreme Court interpretations state that a school may charge fees for field trips, excursions and insurance in connection with courses of instruction or school related social, educational, cultural, athletic, or school band activities, as long as no student is prevented from making the field trip or excursion because of a lack of sufficient funds. Thank you to those Fairhaven families who donate their time and money in order to provide so many wonderful programs and activities for our students.

## CLOSED CAMPUS

This is just a reminder that for the safety of your children only students are allowed beyond the gates **before** school, **during** school or **after** school. This means no one will be allowed to stand in line or wait in front of the classrooms prior to school or to be on the campus/playground area before or after school without a visitor's pass. If you are volunteering or are at school for other school business, please be sure to sign in at the office and put on a visitor's pass

## WE ARE AN AVID ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

This year, our fifth and sixth grade teachers are excited to be implementing AVID Elementary (AE) into their everyday teaching. AE is a foundational component of the AVID College Readiness System and supports AVID's mission to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

AE is designed to be embedded into the daily instruction of all elementary classrooms across entire grade levels to maintain school-wide structures. The implementation resources, trainings, and philosophy are all grounded in the idea that the growth mindset can be taught to students, and it is through the growth mindset that AVID students succeed in following their dreams and fulfilling their aspirations.

AVID Elementary takes a systemic approach through the use of WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading) and an explicit focus on high expectations, rigor, and developing a college readiness culture.

AVID Elementary incorporates:

**Student Success Skills** – encompassing communication skills (e.g. listening, speaking, writing), self-advocacy skills, note-taking strategies, critical thinking, and study skills.

**Organizational Skills** – both mental and physical; students learn to use organizational tools, as well as learn and practice skills around time management and goal-setting.

**WICOR Lessons** – emphasize instruction on writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading to learn in all content areas.

**Partnerships** – among students, classrooms, grade levels, schools, feeder patterns, families, and communities.

We are excited to begin this adventure with fifth and sixth grade during the 2016-2017 school year and look forward to expanding AE into 4<sup>th</sup> grade next school year. Our 4<sup>th</sup> graders will begin the organizational portion this year. Our teachers will be sure to share more information with you as they delve deeper into strategies in order to enhance student achievement for all our children. In addition, we will be having a parent night in the near future to answer any further questions. Go Falcons!

