

# ETUSD NEWS

FRAZIER PARK SCHOOL \* EL TEJON SCHOOL \* FRAZIER MOUNTAIN HIGH \* PINE MOUNTAIN LEARNING CENTER

Welcome to the 2012-2013 school year. The District newsletter has been on hiatus, but thanks to parent participation, we'll be able to publish newsletters this year! There are so many wonderful things happening in the El Tejon Unified School District. While each site sends out a newsletter at regular intervals, you may be unaware of what's happening at a site where your children do not attend. I hope the information covered in the newsletter will be of interest to you and your family.

This month we have decided to focus on efforts within ETUSD to stop bullying amongst our children. You will find interesting articles from Principal Skrotzki and Principal Haflich about activities at their sites to curtail what has become a national problem.

At the District level, ETUSD is sponsoring Rachel's Challenge. This nationally renowned program seeks to empower students and adults to combat bullying by creating a culture of **kindness and compassion**. Students from Frazier Mountain High School attended this presentation during the spring. The students came back intent on bringing the message to our schools. Because ETUSD has a grant from Kern County Mental Health we are able to offer the program.

During school hours on September 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, all ETUSD students will participate in grade level appropriate workshops with trained presenters. On the evening of September 25<sup>th</sup> we will hold a community meeting at FMHS.

Katie Kleier

District Superintendent



### **SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES!**

GET REMINDERS FROM YOUR SCHOOL AND THE DISTRICT ABOUT IMPORTANT NEWS, EVENTS, & NEWSLETTERS. NO MORE SEARCHING THROUGH BACKPACKS FOR NOTICES!

[www.el-tejon.k12.ca.us](http://www.el-tejon.k12.ca.us)



## Rachel's Challenge Community Presentation

**Come be a part of El Tejon School District's Culture changing program**

Rachel's Challenge revolves around Rachel Scott, the first student to be shot in the Columbine Tragedy, and the legacy she left behind. The program is a powerful assembly designed to inspire positive change within a school, district, and community. The program includes true stories about the impact Rachel made on others in her life. Presented with powerful video and imagery, the students are challenged to make a difference in the lives of others. The central theme is one of compassion, and how Rachel was able to positively affect people that others saw as dangerous or bullies. She was able to do this by looking for the best in others and treating them the same way she wanted to be treated. The challenges are simple, but incorporated with the power of Rachel's story they take on a deeper meaning.

★ **September 25th @ 7:00 P.M.**  
**FMHS Gymnasium**

**SPORTS EQUIPMENT DRIVE:** WE ARE COLLECTING NEW & GENTLY USED P.E. EQUIPMENT. DONATIONS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF AT FP SCHOOL THRU OCTOBER. All donations will benefit each campus in the ETUSD.

**\*JUMP ROPES \*HOOLA HOOPS \*HAND BALLS  
\*BASKETBALLS \*SOCCER BALLS \*FOOTBALLS \*AND MORE**

# SAVE THE DATE

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

**FP PTSO:** 3rd Tuesday  
2:15pm

**FP SSC:** 1st Tuesday 2:15

### DISTRICT BOARD

**MTG:** 2nd Wednesday 7pm

### DISTRICT ADVISORY

**COMMITTEE:** 1st  
Wednesday @ 6pm

**ET PTSO:** 2nd Thursday  
@ 3:15

## BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

@ Frazier Park School

Provides FREE after school care for students K-6 until 6pm

Homework Assistance

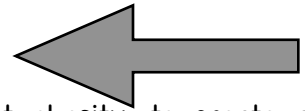
Character Development

Enrichment Activities

30 minutes of Physical Fitness each day



# K FIT



In an attempt to combat our nation's fight against obesity, to create an awareness of the importance of physical fitness, and to encourage a lifelong healthy lifestyle, the kindergarten teachers at Frazier Park School have developed and implemented a new program that we are calling "K Fit!" In addition to regular Physical Education lessons, kindergartners are spending twenty minutes a day, four times a week, enhancing their level of cardiovascular fitness.

**Parent Reminder:** All absences mean lost funds for our district...even excused absences are not paid days for our schools! When students are absent schools lose precious funds used to pay teachers, staff and programs. **ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY!**

## THE ROLE OF THE PTSO

The Parent-Teacher-Student Organization is sometimes perceived as a fundraising group, but this is not its primary responsibility. The main role of the PTSO is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools, in support of students. This can include recruiting and coordinating volunteers, providing special recognition in awards ceremonies or through other activities, organizing parent education events, planning teacher appreciation activities and much more. When schools are faced with tough budget restrictions, the parents in the PTSO may raise funds for everything from playground equipment to reading programs.

PTSO meetings can serve as venues for discussions about a variety of educational issues. Teachers may talk to the parent community about a new reading program or parents may raise concerns about such things as homework or proposed changes in the school curriculum.

Regardless of what your exact interests are, you can be certain that your participation will be welcomed in our school's PTSO. And PTSO are not just for moms. Many dads play an active role as volunteers and take on leadership roles in the organization.

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @2:15PM (FP)

AND THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 3:15 (EL TEJON)

## WHAT IS SETH'S LAW?

"Seth's Law" is a new law that strengthens existing state anti-bullying laws to help protect all California public school students. Seth's Law requires public schools in California to update their anti-bullying policies and programs, and it focuses on protecting students who are bullied based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity/gender expression, as well as race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, disability, and religion.

### School Personnel Must Intervene

Seth's Law specifically contains the following requirement: "If school personnel witness an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, he or

she shall take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so."

We will outline the Districts strong anti-bullying policy in next months newsletter.

## SPORTS ARE ALIVE & WELL

Although funding for sports at El Tejon have been cut from the ETUSD budget, we are currently offering 3 levels of Volleyball: a 5th-6th grade team at Frazier Park School, and 7th and 8th grade teams at El Tejon. Basketball (both girls and boys) for the 7th and 8th graders will start up in a couple months; followed by Girls Softball in the spring for our Jr. High students.

These programs are supported 100% through fundraisers to cover the cost of equipment, travel to games, entry fees to tournaments and referees.

For El Tejon students who don't participate on school teams, there are other options. Junior Condors Football, AYSO Soccer, Frazier Mountain Little League Baseball and a local softball team for junior high aged kids.

So, whether you play on a school team or outside of school, Stay active, have fun and enjoy the variety of sports offered in our community!

## EL TEJON ASB ELECTION RESULTS

President....**Jamie Penner**  
Vice President....**John Masud**  
Secretary....**Charles Robertson**  
Treasurer....**Bree Gibson**  
Public Relations...**Kelly Stegeman & Rachel Hallmark**

### Girls Volleyball season is off to a great SERVE!

Our 7th and 8th grade girls have been working hard to get ready for the new season. Last year our 7th grade girls placed 1st in regionals and they are now a very strong 8th grade team. Our next tournament is Saturday, September 22nd @ FMHS.

**GO BADGERS!!!**

# Peer Helping

By: Antonio Saenz

Every day, countless students in California are exposed to many different experiences in their lives. The reality is that not all of these experiences are positive. They may even include bullying, relationships, drugs, sex, violence and many more. When uninformed students are exposed to these things, they are very likely to make decisions that may result in anything ranging between emotional and physical damage. This is where the Peer Helping program is put into play. Peer Helping not only informs young teen students about everyday life growing up in modern society, but also demonstrates how they can deal with these issues. Students are given the ability to discover how their choices may impact their every day lives and put in a position to consider what life would be like if they made an unfavorable choice. They are given the information necessary to make positive life choices

when presented with life problems and lead a more successful life.

The Peer Helping classroom creates and presents students with a safe haven to talk about absolutely anything they have a question about, or anything that is troubling them. They are able to establish new connections with their peers, that otherwise previously would have been impossible. Students are given materials to aid them in self-discovery and understanding themselves on a deeper level. It connects Multimedia, with speech, and worksheets to create an outstanding learning environment.

Students in the Peer Helping class are also trained in Peer Mediation. This includes training students to be able to practice problem solving, trust, validating emotions, effective listening, paraphrasing and ultimately solving conflicts between their peers. This process eliminates the need for excessive punishment and administrative intervention for minor altercations. It has been proven effective for a majority of the

times it has been completed. Peer Mediation, from trained students, has now been used at every campus of the El Tejon School District, and has been successful thus-far. It has greatly benefited students not only as students, but as persons as a whole. In my opinion it is one of the best classes a student could ever have the chance to take.

## FMHS ASB ELECTION RESULTS

>EXECUTIVE OFFICERS<

PRESIDENT...SAHARA  
KHOUJA

VICE PRESIDENT...THOMAS  
NIERHOFF

TREASURER...TYLER RYAN

SECRETARY...KATY TEARE

## IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS @ FMHS

### FOOTBALL

9/21 @ Grace Brethren

9/28 Varsity vs Ribet

10/5 @ Kern Valley

10/12 \*HOMECOMING\* vs Desert

10/19 vs Bishop

10/26 @ Rosamond

11/2 vs California City

### VOLLEYBALL

9/20 @ Rosamond

9/25 @ Tehachapi

9/27 @ Kern Valley

10/2 vs Desert

10/4 vs Bishop

10/9 @ Rosamond

10/11 vs California City

10/16 vs Kern Valley

10/18 @ Desert

10/23 @ Bishop

10/25 vs Rosamond

10/30 @ California City