Weekly Newsletter August 20, 2021

French Gulch-Whiskeytown School



Welcome Back! Last spring, we had hoped by the time school started in the fall that Covid would be on the wane. Unfortunately, the delta variant put an end to that hope. We appreciate how compliant everyone is with masking. For the kids, it's old hat after last year. We continue to follow CDC and Shasta County Health Department guidelines in an effort to provide the safest environment we can at school. In person schooling is important. We can

only do that by keeping Covid from taking hold at FGWS. We can achieve that together by following best practices.

AIR QUALITY INDEX

As if dealing with Covid weren't enough, we also are dealing with the effects of the fires surrounding us. We know that kids have to move but the air quality has created a challenge. We are using the AQI (air quality index) provided by purple air in determining when and if it is safe to have our students outside. On the advice of health care providers, we are using an AQI of 120 as the upper end of the AQI index in allowing outdoor recess or PE. This is on the lower end of the orange band: Unhealthy for sensitive groups. Children are more susceptible to irritants and allergens in the air. We would rather err on the side of caution. If your child has respiratory issues and you prefer that s/he stay inside when air quality is at the lower end of the orange band please let us know.

BOARD OPENING

Board member Matthew Balch tendered his resignation from the FGWS Board of trustees. If you are interested in serving on the board, please let any member of the school staff know. Thank you for serving on the board, Matthew!

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

We will issue our student parent handbook next week. It will also be posted on our website. Please bring any concerns or questions regarding content to the attention of a school staff member. We ask that you review the handbook with your child.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

The FGWS school newsletter is issued once a week, generally on Fridays. It is posted on the bulletin board in the school foyer, the community board at the



Upcoming Events

September 6 Labor Day no school September 13 FGWS Board of Trustees Meeting 5:00 pm School Site Council Meeting 4:00 pm

LUNCH MENU



Menu for August 23-27 (subject to change)

TBA

Monday: Beefy Nachos, refried beans, cherry tomatoes & fruit

Tuesday: Orange Chicken with rice, snap peas and fruit

Wednesday: Homemade Mac and Cheese, ball carrots, roll and Fruit

Thursday: Egg salad Sandwiches with Romaine, chips and fruit

Friday: Pepperoni Pizza, red pepper strips, fresh fruit

Milk served at every meal



post office and on the school website: **frenchgulchschool.com** In the past we provided a hard copy to every family but often found the "curriers" a bit unreliable in their efforts to get them home. We often found them crumbled up on the lawn or the floor or with a stash of other papers in the black hole areas of back packs. We are happy to send paper copies home or send them to you in an email. Please let us know your preference. An email and a paper copy works too. Some families like to put them on the fridge as reminders for upcoming events or to check out the lunch menu for the day. Let your child's teacher know your preference.

MINIMUM DAYS

Generally, we plan a minimum day on the first Monday of the month. Dismissal on minimum days is one hour earlier: 1:35 pm rather than 2:45 pm. This gives the staff an opportunity to meet to discuss school issues and as well as provide a scheduled planning time. Our next minimum day is **September 13.** Labor Day is the first Monday of September so school will not be in session. When you receive the school calendar you will see that there are some months when we don't observe this minimum day on the 1st Monday. In November, for example, we have a week planned for parent conferences. Conference days will all be minimum days. In December, rather than the first Monday of the month, we are taking the last day before Winter Break as a minimum day, December 22. In January, students are still on Winter Break for the first two Mondays and the third Monday is a holiday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday. The school will always send a heads up connect ed text message reminder on minimum days. The school newsletter always lists them in advance under Upcoming Events.

Project SHARE

Project SHARE is such a wonderful program but unfortunately at this time there is no substitute pool to draw upon when Maureen is sick. SHARE is run through the Shasta County Office of Education. They are hoping to increase their ranks to provide substitutes when local school liaisons are unable to make a session. We apologize for the inconvenience caused when we need to cancel. Let us know if getting on a Project SHARE substitute list is something that may interest you!

PS FGWS is also looking for a 3.75 hour/day aide to assist in the upper elementary classroom. Let the school know if you're interested in the position.

THANK YOU FOR A TRULY WONDERFUL FIRST WEEK BACK TO SCHOOL!

