

Ramtracks

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Mark Your Calendar:

- **STAR Testing**
May 3rd – May 13th
- **PTA 5th gr. parent night**
May 11th, 7:00 pm
- **PTA Meeting**
May 12th, 7:00 pm
- **Around the World Dance** : May 20th
- **Spring Concerts**
May 25th & 26th
- **Ralston Spirit Day**
May 27th
- **NO School** : May 30th
Memorial Day
- **Day on the Green**
6th-7th gr. : June 9th
- **Promotion Rehearsal & Day at Great America**
8th grade : June 9th
- **Last day of School**
6th – 7th grades
Minimum Day, Jun 10th
- **Promotion Ceremony**
June 10th, 2:00 pm
- **Promotion Dance**
June 10th, 7:00 pm

From the Desk of the Principal

The next few weeks will be a very busy time at Ralston! Things are definitely winding up- the increase in school activities, the level of student energy, the number of deadlines, and the rapid approach of June 10th. We are staying ahead of it all, and with your continued support, together we will glide to the end of the year smoothly and successfully.

On Saturday, April 9th, Ralston hosted another wonderful Multicultural Fair featuring over fifteen country exhibits with food, music, crafts, and performances. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Ralston PTA for sponsoring the event, and especially give huge thanks and appreciation to our phenomenal event committee organizers: Cari Yuen, Gerry Faessen, Helen Conaghan, Jinmin Rudolph and Uli Francis. They did a fantastic job! We would also like to thank all of the vendors who supported the day including: Hawaiian Host, Mya Myat Tun, Starbucks Coffee and all of the countless students, parents and family volunteers who helped to make this year's Multicultural Fair such a huge success! As always, we would also like to thank our custodians for their hard work.

During the month of March our students actively promoted many different School-Force fundraising efforts. They held a first time ever tie dye week and hosted a successful school dance. Thanks to all who contributed so generously to the leadership students' School-Force fundraising efforts!

MAY ACTIVITIES:

State STAR testing begins May 3rd and will be completed by May 13th. As a reminder, please have your students come to school during our testing window. Their attendance impacts the school's test scores and our successful API rating. Students need to get lots of rest and eat fortified breakfasts during this time. Your support is greatly appreciated. We're confident that our students are ready!

Spring Concerts are Wednesday, May 25th and Thursday, May 26th at 7:00 pm.

Our 1st annual *Ralston Spirit Day* will be on Friday, May 27th. All departments have been involved this year in planning an all school-day long celebration of student achievement. The day will be filled with fun musical performances and special videos and presentations. Our PTA will be hosting a BBQ lunch for everyone.

JUNE ACTIVITIES:

June 9th - all 8th grade students go to Great America to spend the day in the park! All 6th and 7th graders will enjoy an exciting "Day on the Green" assembly sponsored by Student Government.

News from Student Government...

Student Government was very busy the month of April. On the 4th through the 8th, we sold Ralston water bottles for \$3 during lunch, all proceeds going to help Japan. We had surprise raffles for students using the water bottles to encourage the use of reusable containers instead of plastic bottles. The raffle winners won iTunes gift cards. The following week, April 11th through the 15th, we ran Alex's Lemonade Stand, with proceeds going to find a cure for childhood cancer. Lemonade cost 50 cents and lemonade poured in a Ralston water bottle was only \$4.

In the spirit of the beginning of baseball season, we held a Giants Day; wearing black and orange. Finally, we had another spirit day called Super Hero Day. We wore our favorite super hero clothes with the focus on using our super powers to SAVE MOTHER EARTH, in honor of Earth Day in April.

Coming up in May we have the last dance of the year, *Around the World*, on May 20th, and the *Ralston Spirit Day* on May 27th. We will wrap up the year with *Day on the Green* on June 9th.

Thank you to all for your support of Student Government this year!

Sophie Fox
Student Government

Principal's Letter continued

We are very excited about the end of the year activities for our 8th grade students! Here is a summary of the end-of-the-year information for 8th graders...

Graduate Photos and Gowns:

In April Lifetouch took a special graduate photo with your student wearing a mock graduation gown. All students participating in the ceremony will receive a complimentary diploma holder with their graduate photo enclosed.

We have once again arranged with Josten's to sell our students their graduation gowns. These are the same black gowns that the graduates wore last year. By now you should have completed the gown order form and returned it to the office with payment. We look forward to a wonderful promotion ceremony to honor and recognize our students in a dignified and memorable way.

Great America:

All 8th graders will receive a parent permission slip in May which is required for all students attending the trip to Great America on June 9th. Students will leave the Ralston campus at 10:00 AM after their promotion ceremony rehearsal. All students must return to school with the bus. Students will return to Ralston between 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM.

The park entrance fee is approximately \$30.00. (Students may also use their Great America pass.) More information on the price will come towards the end of May.

Promotion Exercise:

8th grade students will arrive at school at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10th and will report to the gymnasium. Our PTA will be providing a light snack. The ceremony will begin promptly at 2:00 pm in the Ralston courtyard. We estimate the ceremony will conclude between 3:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.

Seating

Please note: In the past, guests have been arriving extremely early to our campus to reserve seats on this day. This creates a big problem for us as school is still in session, our parking lot gets congested and we need to provide a safe departure for our students. We ask that you please arrive to campus no earlier than 1:00 so we can dismiss our sixth and seventh grade students safely.

Parking

There will be designated parking spaces for honored guests, staff and disabled community members. The Belmont Police Dept. will be monitoring our parking lot and directing traffic through the basketball courts to the field area.

Promotion Dance:

Members of the PTA have been working on the promotion dance for months! It is going to be a spectacular event! The dance begins at 7:00 p.m. and will end at 10:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10th. Regarding our dance dress code: Let me thank you in advance for your watchful eye as your

children select their outfits! This is a very special night for your kids. We look forward to hosting this dance and ensuring that everyone has fun. More info to come from the PTA about tickets, location, etc.

Additional Notes:

- Students must qualify academically and behaviorally for these events.
- All textbook fines must be paid by June 6th.
- We will provide an alternate activity for any students not going on the trip to Great America.

We continue to appreciate your partnership and support in ensuring the best educational experience for all of our students! Thank you to every parent, guardian and community member who participated in the hundreds of hours of volunteer work, coaching, late trips to the library, and long hours at practices; provided donations and transportation; and managed the day-to-day tasks of helping our middle school children move towards independence and success.

We will begin the 2011-2012 school year with a minimum day on August 24th. You will receive a letter with information in mid-August with details about the year ahead. In the meantime, we wish you a very safe and enjoyable summer!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. And again, many thanks for a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Jennifer J. Kollmann
Principal

Memo from the PTA President

As this school year comes to a close, I would like to take a moment to thank all of the people who helped the PTA fund and run the many programs that support the students, parents, teachers and the administration at Ralston. **Through your donations and your involvement, we have been able to: fund many of the technology needs** at Ralston (SMARTBoards, classroom computers, microscopes, printers); **support our teachers** (office supplies, conference fees, substitute support, treats); **celebrate our cultures** (multicultural fair); **communicate better with parents** (Ramtracks, Constant Contact; yahoogroups, 5th Grade Parent Night); **serve healthier lunches** (hot lunch program); **help kids remain active** (lunchtime intramurals) **or stay quiet** (Quiet room) at lunchtime while having a place to sit (picnic benches); **while supporting the academic** (Homework Club, binder reminders) **and the social well-being of students** (chaperoning dances, 8th Grade Graduation, After-School Clubs, Spirit Day).

It is remarkable what we can achieve when we work together to make a difference in our children's education. I especially would like to thank Sharin Castro, Robin Branch, Nicki Fox, and Annie Ferme, along with the rest of our PTA Board and Committee Chairs for all of their hard work; and Ms. Kollmann, Ms. Sims, and Mr. Pavao, for their continued support of the PTA. It has really been a pleasure to serve as Ralston PTA President with all of you!

There are still opportunities to become involved at Ralston next year. Please feel free to contact me and I can help you to figure out the best fit for you, given your available time and interests.

Our final PTA meeting & Honorary Service Awards presentation will be held on Thursday, May 12th at 7:00pm in the Ralston Library. I hope to see you then.

Thanks again for a great year! Have a wonderful summer!

Geri Crane
2010-11 Ralston PTA President
gericrane@yahoo.com
Ralston Middle School

Welcome! to the 2011-2012 Ralston PTA Board

President	Keiko Smith
Executive Vice President	Cindy Carrasco
1st Vice President	Lisa Ildefonso
2nd Vice President	Nancy Jung
Secretary	Jozi Plut
Treasurer	Michyle LaPedis
Financial Secretary	Nicole Niederer
Historian	Donna Young
Auditor	Robin Branch



NAVIGATING MIDDLE SCHOOL From Ralston's School Counselor

Educational Mastery: Process vs. Output

I talked to a Ralston parent this week who was more concerned with the amount of effort her daughter put into her studies rather than the test results, grades etc. I agreed and said, "Yes, someone who is focusing on the process, not the talent or the end product." This shift in focus is showing her daughter the key to educational mastery. As a parent, it is better to praise the thinking process and what is specifically good about the thinking rather than to tell a child, "you are so smart." Instead, a parent can say: "It's great that you connected this to that," or ask, "What did you learn?" or "What got you interested in this topic?"

Studies have shown that students who are praised for their intelligence care more about their grades than about learning. If one praises a student's intelligence and then they fail, they may conclude they're not smart anymore and risk losing interest in their work. It seems that students praised for their effort are more persistent students. When a student is successful, a parent may want to ask their student why things worked out so well and to what he/she attributes this accomplishment.

In a related vein, supplying external rewards can destroy internal motivation and also result in deteriorating performance as students start doing the minimum necessary to get the rewards. The prize turns the activity into work, robbing the student of their inspiration. Your kids have more passion for certain topics than you might realize, and they are keen to demonstrate their competence. These are just a few ideas on how we can make sure our students are developing real educational mastery rather than just spitting back the "right" answers.

Teresa Bergin
School Counselor

tbergin@brssd.org

Ralston Middle School

Ramtracks – May-June 2011

ARTS and MUSIC

Ralston Spring Concerts

Wed May 25th - 7:00 pm:

6th grade Chorus, 6th grade Orchestra,
6th grade Band, Intermediate Chorus, and
Jazz Ensemble

Thurs May 26th - 7:00 pm:

Honors Band, Symphonic Band,
Advanced Chorus, Advanced Orchestra,
and a collaboration with Mr. Pomeroy's
animation classes

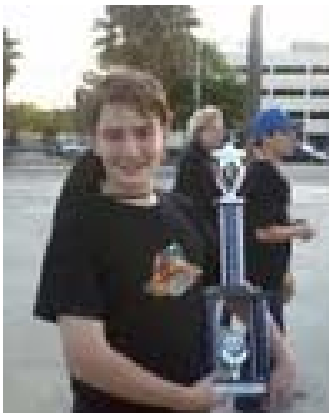
All are welcome to attend!

Ralston Music Groups Bring Home Trophies

On April 29th, Ralston's top music groups participated in the 30th annual South Bay *Music in the Parks* festival, and all groups placed in the top five for their section.

Congratulations to Music Directors Peter Thielen and Jordan Webster, and to:

**Symphonic Band, 2nd place
Advanced Orchestra, 2nd place
Advanced Chorus, 4th place
Honors Band, 5th place**



*8th grader,
Keenan Allen,
shows off
Advanced
Orchestra's
new trophy*

**Carlmont Performing Arts
presents...**



Generation Dance

May 5th, 6th & 7th

Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$12 Students / Seniors / Children



The Americas

Carlmont Choirs 2011 Spring
Concert

May 12th & 13th

Tickets: \$10 Adults, \$8 Students / Seniors
\$2 Middle/Elementary Students



May 18, 2011 @ 7PM

- ❖ Concert Band
- ❖ String Orchestra
- ❖ Jazz Ensemble

May 19, 2011 @ 7PM

- ❖ Symphonic Band
- ❖ Symphony Orchestra

Carlmont Performing Arts Center
Belmont, California

Purchase tickets @ www.carlmontmusic.com or at door
Adult \$10, Senior/H.S. Student \$8, Child \$2



All performances are at **7:00 pm** and held in the
Carlmont Performing Arts Center

Tickets available at:

<https://www.ticketturtle.com/index.php?actions=4&p=2>

THIS & THAT

Hot Lunch Update

It is hard to believe that we are almost through the 2010/2011 school year. I certainly learned a lot this year running the hot lunch program and was amazed at how many great kids we have at Ralston! Everyone has been so polite and helpful, which sure makes the job of serving lunch to hundreds of kids so much easier. I would also like to thank the **huge** number of volunteers that have helped week after week to ensure we can feed so many hungry kids in such a short period of time. THANK YOU PARENTS!! I would also like to thank Melissa Durlofsky, Letty Dupuy and Gail Kazakoff for chairing the Tuesday and Thursday lunches and for all of their help and support with the hot lunch program!!

The feedback I received regarding the changes in food selections this year was very positive. It is always a challenge to serve food that kids like and that also meets the state guidelines. New state and federal regulations are being drafted for the future as the fight to end childhood obesity continues. This means that we will continue to evolve the menu at Ralston to meet those regulations, so look for more changes in the coming 2011/2012 school year.

Hot lunch service will end on Friday, June 3rd. Also, please note that Friday, May 27th is the Ralston BBQ, which is a PTA funded program that provides a lunch to all students. No hot lunch service will be available that day.

If you have any questions or comments, please e-mail me at sblaircastro@yahoo.com. Enjoy the summer!

RALSTON SPIRIT DAY IS COMING Parent Volunteers Needed to Help!

Ralston Spirit Day is a new all-school celebration on May 27th. The PTA will be providing a catered BBQ lunch for all the students and teachers and we will need help organizing and distributing the lunches. Stay tuned for a sign-up list for volunteering, or contact Betsy Carter at betsycarter123@gmail.com

Presentation of PTA Honorary Service Awards

Each year the PTA recognizes and honors teachers, school staff, and volunteers for their countless hours, outstanding efforts, and priceless contributions to making Ralston a wonderful place to learn. The Awards Nominating Committee has selected those individuals who will receive this year's PTA awards.

Please join us to celebrate their dedication and extraordinary service to Ralston Middle School and the extended community on **Thursday, May 12th at 7:00 pm at the PTA Meeting.**

Thank you,
Leslie Marks,
Honorary Service Award
Committee

NEXT BOX TOP SUBMITTAL BEFORE MEMORIAL DAY

A number of Box Tops will expire June 1st 2011. Please send in your box tops before Memorial Day so they can be submitted before they expire.

With all your help, **we have earned \$586 so far this year** which supports the Ralston PTA and all our programs!
Thank you!

Our goal is \$750. Please help us meet our goal by sending your box tops in today!

Have a great summer and remember to save your box tops. (Box tops can still be sent in after Memorial Day until the end of the school year)

For any questions, please contact the Ralston Box Tops Coordinator, Kristen Wright at Kristen.L.Wright@gmail.com





If you have questions about CHS events for middle school families and students, please contact Terri Murai ryley8@gmail.com

Visit Carlmont's website – get the facts about Carlmont High School!! www.carlmont.seq.org (Parents / Community section)

8th Grade Transition
Team: 595-0210 ext. 8400

CARLMONT CORNER

6th & 7th Grade Student & Parent & Event: Tuesday, May 3rd

A “Meet Carlmont” night for 6th and 7th grade students and parents will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., in Carlmont’s Student Union (located up the hill from the swimming pool). This casual evening with Principal Raul Zamora and current Carlmont freshmen and sophomore students, is designed to provide families with an introduction to life at Carlmont, and to answer questions and address concerns that you may have about the high school years. **Please RSVP for this event by contacting Paula Meier at: psmeier@pacbell.net.**

IMPORTANT SPECIAL NOTICES FOR INCOMING FRESHMAN & 8TH GRADE PARENTS

Immediate Response Requested Regarding Students NOT Attending Carlmont

If your child is currently registered for fall 2011 at Carlmont, and has decided to attend a private high school instead, please contact your middle school office and our Carlmont Registrar, Sue Alvarez, at 595-0210, ext. 3208. This will allow us to open up a space to a waitlisted student.

Proof of Residency: Address Verification for ALL New Students

PRIOR to admission into district schools, students must provide proof of address. The parents of **ALL** new students are required to provide documents to verify their address at the Sequoia Union High School District, at 480 James Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94062. Post office boxes do not meet residency requirements. Only street addresses are accepted. Complete instructions and the *Address Verification Form* available at: www.sequoiadistrict.org. Click on the link for “[Address verification for incoming 9th graders](#),” which appears on the home page. **NOTE: This requirement applies to all students coming into Carlmont from middle school, including those from Ralston.**

Registration for Incoming Students from Private Schools: Contact Carlmont’s Registrar

New students coming from private or non-feeder schools will be registered for Carlmont in late April or early May. Please contact our Registrar, Sue Alvarez, at 595-0210, ext. 3208, for a registration packet and to make an appointment for a placement test. New 9th grade families for next year must complete address verification at the district (see above).

New Inoculations Required for the 2011-2012 School Year

7th-12th graders are now required to get a whooping cough vaccination before starting the 2011-2012 school year. For additional information regarding updated medical requirements, visit: www.ShotsForSchool.org. All students entering Carlmont should have a **physical exam** during the summer months.

Summer Reading List: Mandatory for Incoming & Continuing Students

The Summer Reading List will be available on the the Carlmont website at www.carlmont.seq.org (Students section), later this spring.

Carlmont Athletic/Activity Clearance Packet

Tryouts for 2011-2012 Fall Sports will begin on Friday, August 12th, 2011. More

information regarding tryouts and summer workout schedules will be posted on the Carlmont website this month at www.carlmont.seq.org (Athletics section). Clearance packets can be picked up in the main office beginning May 16th. The first day clearance packets can be turned in by athletes to the main office is August 1st, 2011. Clearance packets must be turned in by August 5th, 2011 in order for athletes to be cleared for the first day of tryouts on August 12th, 2011. **Students MUST have a current physical exam and submit a completed physician's form in order to participate in ANY try-out or practice.**

eScrip at Carlmont: Sign Up or Change Your School Now

Did you know that the purchases you make at eScrip participating retailers in April will not be credited to your school until July? If you plan to attend Carlmont in the fall, please think about signing up for eScrip and registering your credit, debit and Safeway cards now. If you are already a member, this is a good time to change your school affiliation to Carlmont. Visit: www.escrip.com. Our eScrip Group ID# is **500007211 - Carlmont High School PTSA**.

CALENDAR ALERT: Important Tentative Start of School Dates for 2011-2012

Please plan your summer vacations so they will not conflict with these important events.

- **Freshmen Parent Info Night:** Tuesday, August 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center
- **Early Bird Picture Day:** Wednesday, August 17th, hours TBA in the Scot's Gym
- **Student/Parent Mandatory Registration Check In Day (all grades):** Thursday, August 18th, time TBA Scot's Gym
- **Freshman Orientation & BBQ:** Wednesday, August 24th at 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon, meet in football bleachers
- **First Day of School:** Thursday, August 25th, 8:00 am

Carlmont Events

Many other opportunities exist for middle school students to get acquainted with various activities and the Carlmont facility. These include sporting events, music and drama programs. See the sidebar on the previous page for upcoming events to add to your calendar.

Upcoming events for 2011:

- Sports! Check the "Athletics" link on our website for upcoming game dates and times.
- Annual Dance Performance: *Generation Dance* – May 5, 6 & 7 at 7:00 p.m.
- Spring Choral Concert – May 12 & 13 at 7:00 p.m.
- Spring Instrumental Music Concert – May 18 & 19 at 7:00 p.m.
- Drama Showcase and Improv Night – May 20th at 7:00 p.m. (Studio Theater).

All shows are held in the Carlmont Performing Arts Center. Performance tickets are available at: <https://www.ticketturtle.com/index.php?theatre=chs>.



One Million and Counting... Are you In?

Did you notice the School Force thermometer banner? We are celebrating the **\$1M mark!** Several years ago we would have been popping the champagne corks – now we are humble and thankful that the community is stepping up to the needs of our children, and continuing to pursue the necessary \$1.6M we need just to keep our programs and teachers in place.

Almost 50% of our Ralston families have contributed – if you are not in that 50%, please ask yourself if there is a reason you haven't participated. If you were waiting for after April 15, now's the time! If you just keep forgetting, just go online and donate now: www.schoolforce.org. Our education foundation is the only way that we can personally impact our children's education when the deadlock continues in Sacramento. All funds donated to School Force STAY IN OUR COMMUNITY. That is a very powerful position we are in.

The Ralston students are doing their part! The Student Government designated March as School Force Month and made some significant donations between the fun tie-dye t-shirt event (\$500!), *Out of the Dark* March dance (\$1800!), selling sweatshirts at the garage sales (\$180!), and a basket donation for the *Casino Royale* auction.

Leaving a Legacy and Saying Thanks

As our 8th graders begin looking ahead to High School, it is a great time to think about leaving a legacy at Ralston. We've had the benefit of terrific teachers and a supportive community. One way to show our appreciation is to give a "legacy gift" to the School-Force Endowment.

The purpose of the Endowment is to provide long-term funding and financial security for our kids while helping smooth out our school district funding so we can provide more consistent, long-term, and stable financial commitments.

If you would like to learn more about the Endowment, you can check out the website at <http://schoolforce.org/endowment/> or email endowment@schoolforce.org Thanks!

Check out our new Website! You can get additional information about the Endowment, you can read and contribute to our blog, get great deals from our business supporters, shop your favorite stores, and of course... hit the Donate Now! Button!!

Betsy Carter, Ralston/S-R Liaison: betsycarter123@gmail.com

Ardthye Andrews, S-F President: president@schoolforce.org



Casino Royale! News

Our 3rd Annual *Casino Royale!* took place at the Hotel Sofitel on Friday, April 8th. It was a district-wide fundraiser benefiting School Force, our Education Foundation. We had almost 400 attendees from all of our seven schools, including our District Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, School Principals and several of our Teachers. Everyone had a great time gambling for Raffle Prizes at our Casino and we had a Grand Prize Poker Tournament winner. This year we had a Live and Silent Auction consisting of amazing items donated by our community. At the end of our Live Auction, we had a Fund-a-Need targeting the areas falling

short in our schools' budgets. There were fabulous hors d' oeuvres and desserts, a live band with dancing and we even gave away a few Champagne Gems.

We are making great strides in bringing our School District together for these types of events. Seeing how much our *Casino Royale!* has grown in the past three years, it's crucial we continue it to help raise the monies our School District falls short in receiving from the government.

As you know, these events can't happen without volunteers who generously give their time. Thank you so much to the following people, without them *Casino Royale!* could not have been possible.

Venue Co-chairs	Michelle Stulbarg (Sandpiper) Susan Wilson (Sandpiper & Ralston)
Ticket Sales Chair	Danielle Zimmermann (Central & Ralston)
Sponsorship	Leslie Marks (Central & Ralston)
Donations Co-Chairs	Michelle Kelley (Central) Susan Meekins (Central & Ralston)
Decorations Chair	Laura Sabahi (Redwood Shores)
Check-in Co-chairs	Annette Robinson (Cipriani & Ralston) Kristy Snow (Central)
Cashiering Chair	Diane McCabe (Ralston)
Volunteer Chair	Sarina Hamer (Central)
Special Events	Sunita Rai-Khapre (Fox)
Raffle Tickets	Kim Patton (Nesbit)
Program	Deanna Bartee (Ralston)
Photographer	Jeff Bartee (Ralston)
Auctioneer	Andy Eliopoulos (Sandpiper)

We'd like to thank each one of the many committee volunteers who contributed their time before, during and after the event. We also want to thank our Sponsors for their invaluable contributions and our generous Donors for our live and silent auction items, raffle, and poker tournament prizes and their offerings for our champagne events. We'd especially like to thank the attendees who come to this event realizing the truly big winners of the evening are our very own children.

With much appreciation,
Ardythe Andrews & Deanna Bartee
Casino Royale! Event Co-Chairs

Note: *Casino Royale!* pictures are available for viewing and purchasing with a portion of the profits benefitting School-Force at: Jeff Bartee Photography, http://www.jeffbartee.com/School-Force/Casino-Royale-2011/16395270_8HoFf#1233115343_o7MyD.

CAMPS & CARE



Footsteps@RAMS (formerly Ralston After-Middle School – RAMS) is currently taking enrollments for before and after school care for the school year 2010-2011.

Spring Break Enrollment is available. Please drop by at our after care site or log on to our website to register.

We are located on-site at Ralston Middle School. We provide care for youth in fifth to eighth grades. The program includes arts and crafts, sports, homework assistance, community service, sports, cooking, recreational activities and more! *Footsteps* is open for full day programs on many days when Ralston Middle School is closed. We also offer Friday night activities and field trips. We offer a safe, fun and educational place for youth!

Youth can enroll for one to five days per week and a limited number of drop-in slots are available. Cipriani After-School Care is now **Footsteps Child Care** and is a not-for-profit organization. A limited amount of fee subsidies are available for youth who need financial assistance. For more information please go to our web site www.footstepschildcare.org or call Linda Chuh at 650/610-0813.

M&M SPORTS
SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP

Place: Ralston Middle School
Opening Day: June 13th – June 17 Monday – Friday
Time: 8:30 – 11:30 AM
Ages: K-2nd grade & 3rd – 8th grade (separated)
Low baskets 8 ft. to enhance success! (K-2)
Fee: \$165.00 (\$20.00 discount for siblings)
Camp Goals: To teach students the basic fundamentals of basketball. Participants will develop their dribbling, shooting, defending, and passing skills. Correct shooting form will be an emphasis in this camp. Students will be involved in a variety of games and contests to enhance their basketball skills. Players will be divided by skill and age.

Chief Instructors: Randy Metheany – Head Varsity Basketball Coach for Hillsdale H.S. 1981-2007
1997 California State H.S. Basketball Finalist
1997- NorCal Champions
John Masters- PE teacher & Coach at Ralston Middle School

Questions: Call Randy Metheany (650) 703-4740

Mail to: John Masters
276 Fir St., San Carlos, CA 94070
Make checks payable to: M & M Sports (a non-profit organization)

Website: www.mmyouthsports.com

REGISTRATION FORM - M&M Sports Summer Basketball Camp
Complete below and send check and registration to above address.

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home _____ Day Phone _____ Email _____

There are risks connected with my participation in the league and its related activities. I hereby absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, Randy Metheany from all Liability that may arise as the result of my participation in the above activities, and in the event that the above named participant is a minor, hereby give my permission for his/her participation as indicated and in so doing, absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from such liability. This release is intended to discharge in advance the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from and against any and all in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN ME AND THE ABOVE AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ PARENT _____ GUARDIAN _____

PARTICIPANT'S FULL NAME _____ AGE _____ GRADE _____ SEX _____

AMUSEMENT PARK TRAVEL CAMP #1

“Sold Out in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 & 2009!!!!!!”

Website: www.mmyouthsports.com
When: **June 20 – June 24**, Mon. – Fri.
Time : 9:00 – 5:00 All Day !!!
Drop off: Ralston Middle School
Ages: 3rd – 8th grade

Monday – RAGING WATERS (San Jose)
Tuesday – GREAT AMERICA
Wednesday – Water World (Concord)
Thursday – Giants Game
Friday – GREAT AMERICA

FREE 2011 GREAT AMERICA “WOW” SEASON PASS FOR ALL CAMPERS

Cost: \$388.00 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL (before May 1st)
\$408.00 after May 1st. (\$188.00 deposit to save space ! Pay Later)
\$30.00 discount for siblings

Goal: To enjoy the local entertainment parks before summer school starts. Students need to bring lunch and sunscreen. We will meet at Ralston Middle School each morning – be there promptly at 8:45 am. Campers will be transported by school buses. 3rd – 4th graders will be assigned to a Counselor all day.

Chief Instructors: Randy Metheany, PE teacher at Ralston Middle School
John Masters, PE teacher at Ralston Middle School
Certificated teachers – plus staff

Questions: Call Randy Metheany at (650) 703-4740
Mail to: John Masters, 276 Fir Street, San Carlos, CA, 94070
Make checks payable to: M&M Sports Inc. (A Not for Profit Organization)

Registration form – Amusement Park Travel Camp – Camp #1, June 20-24

*Complete below and send check and registration to the above address.

Participant’s Name _____ grade _____
Address _____ email _____
City _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

There are risks connected with my participation in the camp and its related activities. I hereby absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, Randy Metheany from all Liability that may arise as the result of my participation in the above activities, and in the event that the above named participant is a minor, hereby give my permission for his/her participation as indicated and in so doing, absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from such liability. This release is intended to discharge in advance the Belmlont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from and against any and all in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN ME AND THE ABOVE AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Parent Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Date _____

AMUSEMENT PARK TRAVEL CAMP #2

“Sold Out in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 & 2009!!!!!!

Website: www.mmyouthsports.com
When: **July 5 – July 11**, Tues, Wed, Th, Fri, & Mon
Time : 9:00 – 5:00 All Day !!!
Drop off: Ralston Middle School
Ages: 3rd – 8th grade

Tuesday – **GREAT AMERICA**
Wednesday – **Water World**
(Concord)
Thursday – **Giants Game**
Friday – **GREAT AMERICA**
Monday – **RAGING WATERS**
(San Jose)

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Registration form -Amusement Park Travel Camp – Camp #2, July 5 – July 11

*Complete below and send check and registration to the above address.

Participant’s Name _____ grade _____

Address _____ email _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

There are risks connected with my participation in the camp and its related activities. I hereby absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, Randy Metheany from all Liability that may arise as the result of my participation in the above activities, and in the event that the above named participant is a minor, hereby give my permission for his/her participation as indicated and in so doing, absolve the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from such liability. This release is intended to discharge in advance the Belmlont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany from and against any and all in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the Belmont Redwood Shores School District, John Masters, and Randy Metheany. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, AND RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN ME AND THE ABOVE AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Parent Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Date _____

May-June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 1 STAR Testing Week →	2 <i>Sandwiches/ Bagels</i>	3 <i>Burger/Wrap/ /Salad/CA rolls</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation <i>Meet Carlmont Night for 6th-7th grades, 7:00 pm</i>	4 Minimum Day	5 <i>Burritos/Meatballs/ Chicken Salads, Sandwich</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation <i>CHS Annual Dance Show</i>	6 <i>Pizza/Pasta/ Cobb Salad</i> <i>CHS Annual Dance Show</i>	7 <i>CHS Annual Dance Show</i>
8 STAR Testing Week →	9 <i>Sandwiches/ Bagels</i>	10 <i>Burger/Wrap/ /Salad/CA rolls</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation 	11 Minimum Day PTA 5th grade Parent Night 7:00 pm	12 <i>Burritos/Meatballs/ Chicken Salads, Sandwich</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation PTA Meeting 7:00 pm, Library <i>CHS Spring Choral Concert</i>	13 <i>Pizza/Pasta/ Cobb Salad</i> <i>CHS Spring Choral Concert</i>	14
15	16 <i>Sandwiches/ Bagels</i>	17 <i>Burger/Wrap/ /Salad/CA rolls</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation Track Finals CSM	18 Minimum Day <i>CHS Spring Instrumental Music Concert</i>	19 <i>Burritos/Meatballs/ Chicken Salads, Sandwich</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation Track Finals, CSM <i>CHS Spring Instrumental Music Concert</i>	20 <i>Pizza/Pasta/ Cobb Salad</i> Around the World School Dance <i>CHS Drama Showcase & Improv Night</i>	21
22	23 <i>Sandwiches/ Bagels</i>	24 <i>Burger/Wrap/ /Salad/CA rolls</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation 	25 Minimum Day Ralston Spring Concert 1, 7 pm	26 <i>Burritos/Meatballs/ Chicken Salads, Sandwich</i> Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homework ▪ Animation Ralston Spring Concert 2, 7 pm	27 RALSTON SPIRIT DAY (lunch provided by PTA)	28
29	30 No School Memorial Day	31 <i>Burger/Wrap/ /Salad/CA rolls</i>	June 1 Minimum Day Student Gov't Elections	2 <i>Burritos/Meatballs/ Chicken Salads, Sandwich</i> Textbooks Due	3 <i>Pizza/Pasta/ Cobb Salad</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Last Day for After School Clubs & Hot Lunch</i> </div>	4
5	6 Textbook Fines Due	7	8 Gold Trunks field trip	9 6th & 7th Grades: Day on the Green 8th Grade: Great America Trip, 10 a.m. -5 p.m.	10 LAST DAY of SCHOOL 6th & 7th Grades: Minimum Day (12:20 dismissal) 8th Grade: Arrival, 1:00 Promotion, 2:00 Dance, 7-10 pm	11 Happy Summer Vacation!!



Ramtracks



Welcome 5th Grade Parents!

This issue of Ralston Middle School's *Ramtracks* newsletter has been sent to you to help familiarize you with life at Ralston. You are welcome to attend any parent event you read about, and especially encouraged to come to the PTA-sponsored 5th-grade Parent Night on Wednesday, May 11th, featuring a panel of parents and students who have 'been there.'

We look forward to having you as part of the Ralston family in the coming school year.



Ralston Ramtracks

PTA Newsletter
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