Bryant Ranch Tuesday Letter

A National Blue Ribbon and California Distinguished School

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District letter coming in the mail … The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires that all states create their own academic standards for what children should be able to know and do for all grades. **Every school/district must improve each year until all students meet these standards.** The yearly improvement in school performance is called Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Any district who receives Title I funds (federal funds that are targeted for students who are in need of assistance) must show growth in every subgroup of students. The AYP targets for students are very steep until 2014 when 100% of students are expected to be proficient and advanced. **This year our district has joined most California districts in program improvement because they did not meet the target for some of its subgroups.** What this means is our district must do 3 things: **(1) they must re-write their improvement plan with the help of parents and stakeholders and identify where they are using their funding, (2) they must use 10% of their funding to hold staff development and improve the quality of teaching throughout the district, and (3) they must continue to provide assistance to those schools that are most in need.** The district will be sending a letter to all families that will explain this in detail. Bryant Ranch is a high performing school and we have met our targets. With PYLUSD in program improvement, we will benefit from any additional staff trainings that will be made available. I will address this in greater detail at upcoming School Site Council and PTA meetings. Please call if you have questions.

Student teaching delegation from Shanghai, China to visit Bryant Ranch on Thursday, February 9th …What an honor we received this past week when we were chosen to host a visiting team of student teachers from China. Each year California State University Fullerton conducts exchange programs with teachers from all over the world. These teachers attend a two week seminar at the University. Built into the program is a visit to an elementary, middle and high school in the area. This gives the student teachers a "real-world" look at what is happening in the schools in the United States. We will be highlighting all the new promethean technology and showing the student teachers how we integrate it in the classroom. I am so proud to be able to host this event which will include PYLUSD visitors as well.☺

Our Superintendent, Dr. Dennis Smith, visited Bryant Ranch last week. We are very proud of our school and so was he … this is what he had to say to the staff about his visit: "*I want to thank you for your very warm welcome this morning and a great school visit! Bryant Ranch is a very special place and it is because of teachers and staff members like you! As Debra and I visited your classrooms I was so impressed by your dedication, caring and highly focused instruction. Your students were incredibly attentive, and your teaching so effective. I was pleased to see your extensive use and integration of the new technologies to keep students engaged and learning. You are an amazing staff and I am very proud of the work you are doing. It is no small task to be able to continue to experience such strong academic gains at such a high performing school as Bryant Ranch. I am proud of you and the work that you are doing on behalf of our students and community.*"

Chick-fil-A was a tremendous success! WOW! What an incredible evening we had last week with so many families coming out to dinner. We once again set a Chick-fil-A record with **$602**! Thank you all for your continued support of our school!

Jog-A-Thon t-shirts will go home on Thurs., 2/9, for you to wear on Fri., 2/10!

Kindergarten Registration for the 2012-2013 school year is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 28th, from 9-11 a.m. in our Multiuse Room**. We are currently taking names and our Kindergarten packets are now available in the office. To attend our regular Kindergarten program, children need to be 5 years old on or before November 1, 2012. Students born in late summer or fall (including children who will turn 5 between November 2 and December 2, 2012) are given the opportunity to participate in Preppy K, a developmentally appropriate two-year kindergarten program. The Preppy K program:

- provides one year of developmental curriculum prior to entrance into regular kindergarten
- allows an extra year for social-emotional, intellectual, or physical growth
- builds confidence
- develops small motor, gross motor, reading readiness, language /vocabulary and social/problem solving skills
- provides an environment that ensures all students experience success
- does not duplicate the regular Kindergarten program
- gives children a developmentally appropriate standards-based curriculum

Important Information . . . Be sure your calendar is up-to-date

Thursday	Feb. 9	morning	Visiting Chinese student teachers observing classrooms
		2:30-4 p.m.	*Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room
	Feb. 10	**all day**	**PTA Jog-A-Thon – Plan to come by to cheer on all the students!**
Thursday	Feb. 16	8:30-12:30	3rd Grade Field Trip to the Environmental Nature Center
		9:50-10:30	This is your second opportunity to attend the 60 Brag Card Storybook Garden. Please turn in your Brag Cards (pre-counted and marked for this event) to the office by Fri., 2/10/12
		2:30-4 p.m.	*Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room
		3 p.m.	School Site Council Meeting #2 in the school library – all are welcome.
Friday	**Feb. 17**	**NO SCHOOL**	**President's Day Holiday – Child Care is closed**
Monday	**Feb. 20**	**NO SCHOOL**	**Washington's Birthday Holiday – Child Care is closed**

Wednesday	Feb. 22	all day	5th grade Colonial Days in the Multiuse Room
Thursday	Feb. 23		NO *Cinderella* practice today
		4-6:30 p.m.	PTA Spelling Bee and 2nd General Association Meeting in the Multiuse Room

Thursday	Mar. 1		NO *Cinderella* practice today
Friday	**Mar. 2**	**MINIMUM DAY –**	**<u>1st through 5th graders dismiss at 12:45 p.m.</u>**
			~ Kindergartners attend at their normal times ~
			End of 2nd Trimester
			Dr. Seuss' Birthday – Read Across America and Pajama Day

Mon-Fri	Mar. 5-9		PTA Book Fair all week – if you can volunteer, please contact the PTA
Monday	Mar. 5	7 p.m.	5th grade Music Concert for parents/families in the Multiuse Room
Tuesday	Mar. 6		4th grade STAR Writing Assessments
Thursday	Mar. 8	9 a.m.	PTA Meeting – All are welcome!
		2:30-4 p.m.	*Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room
Tuesday	Mar. 13	all day	Art Masters Assemblies for 1st through 5th grades
		2:30-3:30	Art Masters Inservice for parents and teachers – Multiuse Room
Thursday	Mar. 15		2nd Trimester Report Cards go home today
		8-9:45 a.m.	4th grade Bower's Museum Assembly for Henry and Taylor in Multiuse Room
			Accelerated Reader (AR) Party #2
		2:30-4 p.m.	*Cinderella* practice in the Multiuse Room
Friday	**Mar. 16**	**NO SCHOOL – All District Furlough Day – Child Care is closed**	

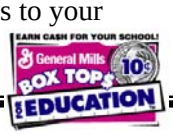
Did you know . . .

. . . that 5th graders, **James Cates, Jessica Gutierrez, Nicole Gutierrez, Courtney Huitt,** and **Alina Shawl** placed **7th out of 107 teams** in the 2012 Yorba Linda Library Battle of the Books? They each read 20 novels and then competed against 106 other 4th, 5th, and 6th grade teams this past Saturday. This reading incentive program encourages students to read good books and have fun while competing with their peers. We are so proud of our students! You are amazing!

. . . that Girl Scout Troop #1011 **(**including 5th graders **Kaitlyn Belanger, Lauren Haines, Tori Huhn, Cassandra Jordan, Isabelle Montellano, Emma Mudge, and Alina Shawl)** placed 1st as a troop at this past weekend's Girl Scout Olympics? Great job, girls! And special congrats to **Emma** who also received the individual Silver Medal for the second highest total points in all events out of 560 scouts! Wow! What a fantastic weekend for all of you!

Here are the Principal's Award Winners for February 3, 2012. Congratulations!

William Foster	Mrs. Jones' Class	Kaylee Pittman	Aryanna Temblador
Brianne Han	Brandon Kaminski	Jenna Roncevich	Jacob Terrill
Luke Hendricks	Arpi Kapuria	Kaitlyn Ross	Breeze Varner
Hayden Higdon	Jordan Kent	Argel Saldivar	Alyssa Vega
Ashley Holman	Jaden Millan	Niko Santamaria	Jack Wiehebrink
Jake Huynh	Marissa Nunez	Samantha Stewart	Kimberly Williams

Let's Get Ready!!

Box Top Competition #2 begins next Monday, February 13th. Turn in all box tops to your teacher!