

back to
School



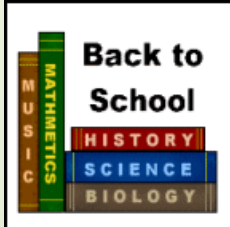
STARTING GATE SCHOOL
HOME OF THE EAGLES

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Back to School Night:

Tuesday, September 27, 2011 7:00 P.M.

We hope all of Starting Gate School parents will make effort to attend our upcoming open house. Starting Gate School invites you to visit your student's class, meet new faces, and see old friends. As teachers and students become acquainted with Starting Gate School, it is easy to see why everyone wants to be together.



Mutual benefits accrue when there is a meaningful exchange of information between home and school. On Parents night Starting Gate School has prepared and introduction to our curriculum for parents enrolling their students in **September of 2011.**

You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher during a group meeting where you will learn about fundamental standards and bench marks set to achieve these standards; class requirements, homework, written work, verbal work, and school uniforms. A review a class schedules, school events, and holidays will also be presented.

Starting Gate School teachers have a passion for their life's work, and it shows in the educational development of each one of their students. We look forward to seeing all of you on **Tuesday, September 27, 2011 7:00 P.M.** **Thank you for your continued support!**

Student Safety

Starting Gate School is mandated by State and Local Fire Agencies to have 4 Fire and Earthquake Drills per school year, which equates to 2 drills per quarter. In addition we have 4 unannounced drills for a total of 8 drills per school year. We encourage our room parents to assist us with these drills as a way to keep our students prepared in case of an emergency.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Picture Day

Student Picture Day for all grades K-12 will be Friday, October 7, 2011. Lifetouch offers a parent participation program that can help your parents earn a free portrait package. This is how it works: a parent assists our photographer on picture day and they receive on complimentary "D" package. One Helper position per camera is available for 4 hours volunteering. If picture day is less than four hours they will still earn their free package. Helpers are used to escort the classes to the camera room, assist with grooming, and keeping the orderly. Our photographers bring vouchers for the helpers on picture day. Please sign with the main office if you are interested.

• Vision Screening

Starting Gate School offers free vision screen to all students in our preschool division and grades K-2. This year exams are scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, October 19, 2011. A separate reminder notice and permission slip will be sent home in the prior to the vision screening. Room parents needed.



The [California-Hawaii Elks Major Project](#) has been happy to serve the children of Starting Gate School for the past several years. The Elks Vision Screening

Program is free and consists of the following for each child:

- *Screening of visual acuity and external eye health;
- *Screening of the ability of the two eyes to work together;
- *Observation of the muscular ability of the eyes to follow, fixate and maintain binocular vision.

Leanne Cadwallader
Certified Pediatric Vision Screener
California-Hawaii Elks
(925) 335 9816

REMINDER!

Scholarship funding: The BASIC Fund (Bay Area Scholarships for Inner-City Children) is a privately funded program whose mission is to broaden the educational opportunities for inner-city children by helping low-income families afford the cost of tuition at private schools in the Bay Area.

The program is available to students entering Kindergarten through eighth grade to attend private schools in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties.

The program provides scholarships to help families send their children to the private school of their choice. The BASIC Fund scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need. For more information please visit the Home Page of www.StartingGateSchool scroll down to the BASIC Fund Banner.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Important dates ahead!

Please refer to the school calendar bar on the home page of Starting Gate School's website for important dates to remember.



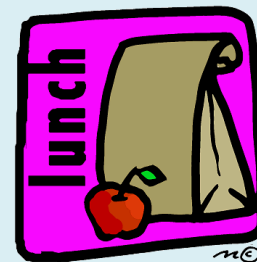
Presently, we are in the process of planning three very important field trips for the grade school division. The will be to the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, followed by a hands on workshop at the Lawrence Hall of Science and a visit to the Sausalito Bay Museum.

A special thank you all parents who assisted as chaperones on last month's field trip to the Farmer's Market with the preschool children.



LUNCH INFORMATION

Pizza Day for the entire school will be on Thursdays. Please speak to your student's Teacher about signing up your child. Popeye's chicken day is Tuesdays. Please inform your student's teacher if you wish your child to participate.



IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

Whooping cough (pertussis) remains widespread in California. The California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education encourage schools to continue reminding 7th-12th grade students about the necessity to be immunized with the Tdap booster and submit documentation of Tdap immunization to school if they haven't done so already. Resources to help ensure that unimmunized students meet the new school Tdap requirement include:

- Letter from Schools to Parents (Template) [English / Spanish](#)
- Message to Go Home with Unimmunized Student (Template) [English / Spanish](#)
- Script for Recorded Message from Schools to Parents (Template) [English / Spanish](#) Additional information and materials are available [here](#)

Students who do not submit documentation for the Tdap requirement by the school's deadline face exclusion from school.

Schools should continue to identify unimmunized students as soon as possible and follow up repeatedly with their parents or guardians. Local Health Departments have information about local sites for immunization. Click [here](#) for more information.