



Cal PERS Health Plans Open Enrollment

Attention all Employees: Open enrollment for CALPERS Health Insurance is scheduled for September 15 - October 10, 2008.

Changes will become effective January 1, 2009.

For more information:

Administrators and Certificated Employees, contact Mary Hughes, 453-6108. Classified, Confidential, Classified Management contact Sharyl Palacio, 453-6105.

Employees may visit the CalPERS website, www.calpers.ca.gov or call 888-225-7377.

**ENROLLMENT CHANGE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE
IN HUMAN RESOURCES.**

Personal Leave Bank

It has come to our attention that the Personal Leave Bank information printed in the H.R. Headlines could be misleading..the article states, "The Bank may be used by employees with serious illnesses or catastrophic injuries." This makes it sound like the Bank is available only if the **employee** has a serious illnesses or castastrophic injury. However, both classified and certificated employee contracts state, "***The Personal Leave Bank may be used by unit members with serious illness/injury of self, spouse, or legal Dependent residing in the household.***"

Open enrollment to join the Personal Leave Bank (formerly called Sick Leave Bank) started September 15 and continues through October 10, 2008. Certificated employees and administrators who wish to join should contact Mary Hughes at ext. 6108; classified, confidential, and classified management employees should contact Sharyl Palacio at ext. 6105.

SECTION 125 FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PROGRAM

Representatives from American Fidelity will be available to meet with interested employees as follows:

(For an individual appointment, contact American Fidelity at 800-365-8306 ext. 0)

If you are currently participating in a Section 125 Flexible Spending Account, or wish to begin a new account, you must enroll for the new plan year.

ALL FLEX PARTICIPATNS MUST RE-ENROLL EVERY PLAN YEAR.

The program will be in effect January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009.

October 7, 2008	Cooper Elementary	7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
October 7, 2008	Browns Valley	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
October 13, 2008	Will C. Wood	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
October 14, 2008	Vacaville High	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
October 30, 2008	Vaca Pena	7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
October 30, 2008	Jepson	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 3, 2008	Padan	7:30 p.m. - 12:00 noon
November 3, 2008	Markham	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 4, 2008	Hemlock	7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
November 4, 2008	Fairmont	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 6, 2008	Alamo	7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
November 6, 2008	Orchard	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 7, 2008	Sierra Vista	7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
November 7, 2008	Callison	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 10, 2008	*Central Office	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

*Country High, Adult Ed., Buckingham, ISP, Community Day, AEP/Special Ed. Maintenance, Transportation, Purchasing, Facilities, Child Nutrition.

403(b) Administration Changes:

In accordance with the Education Code, employees may elect to have their monthly salary reduced and the sum transmitted to an investment company providing IRS Section 403(b) options. Voluntary participation is available to ALL employees.

403(b) plans were previously “non-administered,” and participants were able to process transactions such as withdrawals and loans directly with the investment company. However, IRS regulations have changed, and employer oversight is now required. The District has elected to handle this task through a third-party administrator, The TDS Group. TDS is available to assist employees with verification of approved vendors, withdrawal requests, loans, funds distribution, plan –to-plan transfers, etc.

Postage-paid envelopes to The TDS Group are available in Human Resources. The form for starting, changing or canceling a 403(b) salary reduction, and a list of 403(b) vendors are available in the Human Resources office, in the District website Information Library, and on www.403bCompare.com

The TDS Group
Compliance Department
6939 Sunrise Blvd. Suite 209
Citrus Heights, CA. 95610
1-800-542-5829
planadministrator@dsgroup.org

Bus Drivers Needed

The Transportation Department is hosting an info meeting on

How to Become a School Bus Driver

October 15, 2008
9:00 a.m.
353 Brown St. Vacaville



Interested? Know anyone who may be? Suggest that they:

- Complete an application at 751 School St prior to the meeting.
- Bring DMV H-6 printout of driving record & 10 year work history to the meeting.

Study materials are available for \$7.40 plus \$20.00 refundable deposit; cash only.

Classroom training starts October 27, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Questions?

Call Transportation 453-6967

Attention All VUSD Employees!!

This year, the Vacaville Chamber of commerce welcomes ALL new employees classified and certificated as their guests at The Business Education Mixer on Monday, October 20th.

Please join the Chamber members in honoring our new employees by joining the Festivities!

Tickets are available for purchase now for just \$5.00 each. Make checks payable to "Vacaville Chamber of Commerce"

New employees: your complimentary tickets are available at your site.

Please have your photo ID and ticket with you when you enter the Mixer.

Important!

All employees may leave their work sites in time to arrive at 4:00 p.m. for the Mixer Hope to see you there!!

Highlight Your District in SCOE's Schools in Action!!

It's the start of a new school year! SCOE offers a wonderful opportunity to highlight students, teachers, and programs that are making a difference in your school district. Schools in Action is published five-times-a-year at no cost to SCOE or local districts. The most recent issue was received just last week by over 40,500 parents, school employees and friends of Solano County schools. You can view it online at:

http://www.solanocoe.net/Projects/291/Schools%20In%20Action/SchoolsinAction_8-08.pdf

Next issue will be mailed the first week of November. Deadline For articles to be submitted is **Friday, September 19**. Listed below are the deadlines for upcoming issues:

January 2009 Issue

Deadline: November 14, 2008

In homes: January 15-20 2009

March 2009 Issue

Deadline: January 16, 2009

In homes: March 15-20, 2009

June 2009 Issue

Deadline: April 3, 2009

In homes: June 1-5, 2009

OUR SCHOOLS:

ALAMO:

Staff and students at Alamo are sorry to see the departure of Julia Lloyd Jones, speech therapist who left for Australia at the end of last year. However, they would like to welcome aboard Sarah Callard, new speech teacher, Gabrielle Cooney, IA., and Michelle Craft new RSP teacher.

Alamo's Garden Club, The Garden Gophers held their first Farmer's Market this month. The club is sponsored by PTA.

BROWNS VALLEY:

Browns Valley is pleased to welcome Diana Adcock to their resource program. The school triathlon on September 11th was a great success. PTO raised \$27,000.00. All students who raised \$100.00 or more get three chances to dunk principal Val Rogers at the Harvest Festival. Brown's Valley Harvest Festival is October 17th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This fun event is for all staff and students.

Staff member Vickie Nixon is pleased to announce the marriage of her daughter Katie to Ryan Baxendale on September 13th in Winters, California.

COOPER:

Cooper students just completed their fall fundraiser. David Robertson, principal kept his promise to the students and dressed in a pink gorilla suit to honor their efforts in reaching this year's goal.

BUCKINGHAM CHARTER:

Students and staff are excited about receiving the Blue Ribbon Award so celebration ideas are in the planning stage! Girls Varsity Volleyball and Boys Varsity Soccer are in full swing and all students are settling in to campus life.

FAIRMONT:

Fairmont is very excited about their ground breaking ceremony which will take place on Friday, October 17th at 10:00 a.m. Congratulations to Danielle Dooly a former Will C. Wood High School student who recently got engaged to Jake Madrid. They are planning an April 18th wedding.

MARKHAM:

Markham Faculty attended their first annual academy awards ceremony on September 8th, presented by Mr. Garcia to celebrate the school's STAR test results. The event was hosted by the very talented Elaine Torricelli and Trent Beeby. Fabulous entertainment was provided by Jack Peterson with his rendition of "At Markham School." Special guest celebrities from the District Office included Marcia Rooney and Tom Davis for the presentation of awards. A good time was had by all!

The magical Sharman Young has transformed a patch of dirt and gravel into a beautiful educational garden with student tours offered throughout the day. The entire staff is in awe of her dedication to bringing the joys of gardening to the students. She offers a variety of plants from tomatoes, sweet peas and zinnias, just to name a few.

A special congrats go to teachers Norma Guerrero and Angela Finnigan. One received her masters'; the other swam the Escape from Alcatraz Race. Both of these accomplishments are an inspiration. Markham's talented Trent Beeby will be portraying Ebenezer Scrooge this fall in the Winters Theatre Company's production of "A Christmas Carol." Shows run from November 21 thru December 7.

There is a new addition to the Markham family, Patrick Walton, Markham's custodian and his wife welcomed their first child on September 9th. Audriana weighed in at 8 lbs. 8 oz and was 21 inches long.

ORCHARD:

Orchard is off to a very smooth and successful start to a new year. At Orchard both students and staff are enjoying the completion of the new walking path which was completed over the summer. New staff members to Orchard are; Mrs. Vasquez, Kindergarten, Mrs. Rivera, 3rd grade, Miss Lewis, 4/5 grade and Mrs. Kowalski, Kindergarten SDC.

PADAN:

Padan is pleased to welcome the following new staff members to their site; Danelle Kanellis, grade 5, Carlene Yao and Lisa Frazier, Speech and Language Therapist, and Tanya Marriot, School Psychologist. Student teachers helping out at Padan are; Kim Blanchard with Shelly Capps, Mark Smith with Holly Wudel, Brad Mumar with Lynn Harrison and Erik Engleman with Cynthia Farrell.

SIERRA VISTA:

Sierra Vista would like to congratulate Anna Torres on her new grandson Brandon Gabriel Albright, born on September 19th. Brandon weighed in at 8lbs 11 oz, and was 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long.

VACA PENA:

Vaca Pena had a great turnout for Back to School Night which was September 18th. PTC provided an ice cream social for parents and students to enjoy. Coastal Cleanup day had more than 148 volunteers participating, doubling the number of students from previous years. Attendance Secretary, Karin Hedlund welcomed a new grandson on October 7th. School Secretary Elma Samida is looking forward to her son's graduation from film school in San Francisco.

Services and Advertisements:

Thanksgiving in Hawaii:

Timeshare in Maui available for the week we are out on Thanksgiving Break. Sleeps four, full kitchen, washer/dryer, and many other amenities included in the unit. \$1000.00 for the week. Contact Sandy Ohara 707-888-5159.

Vacation Rental:

South Lake Tahoe, 3 miles to casinos, 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths, sleeps 8 from \$75.00 a night. Contact Aileen Bottoms at 372-4713 if interested.

For Rent:

Cute cottage looking duplex, newly renovated, in Dixon. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, AC and Other amenities. Fully fenced yard, garage. A must see. \$1,250.00 a month rent, 1,000.00 deposit. Call 916-216-8691 anytime. Available anytime.

Ironwood Condominiums:

Looking for a place to stay? Try Ironwood Condominiums located at 212 Brookdale Drive in Vacaville. Phone: 707-474-523. www.ironwoodvacaville.com

Puppies! Puppies!

For sale, two female golden retriever puppies, \$550.00 each. Born August 16, 2008. Ready for their new home October 11th. If interested please contact karenbeeby@yahoo.com or call Hemlock Elementary School.

For Sale:

1996 Honda LX 4 door Accord. 182,500 miles. Mainly commute miles; new tires and major Tune up in June; color; sage. Very clean and reliable. \$3000.00 or best offer. Contact Katherine Epstein at (707) 344-2308 if interested.

For Sale:

Bedroom set (pine): 2 night stands, dresser w/8 drawers, mirror and King/Queen Headboard - \$250/OBO. (707) 365-9100 ask for Cheri.

Items Available:

George's Tax Service has the following items to donate to schools/departments of the Vacaville Unified School District:

Four 4-drawer file cabinets, 26 3-ring binders, 7 desk folder files, 1 electric typewriter, 1 Cannon pc920 copier, 1 HP Laser Jet 5si printer/copier, 1 Panasonic KX FP101 fax, 1 Sharp VX1400 multifunction fax.

Please remember that if you accept donations of copiers, most copier company's require that the copier be up to their level of service before they will do maintenance agreement on the machine. If your site is interested in any of the items listed above, please contact Marion Woodside at George's Tax Service 448-4113.

2008 Commuter Challenge!

Solano Napa Commuter Information invites you to participate in the 2008 Commuter Challenge starting August 1 and ending October 31. The challenge involves finding alternative ways to commute to work on at least 30 workdays during the time frame listed above.

Employees who participate in the Solano Commute Challenge are eligible for "Commute Bucks", incentive rewards, (your choice of gift cards for gasoline or groceries), plus entry in prize drawings.

For an Employer Challenge Form please contact Alice Stewart at 453-6102 or Astewart@vacavilleusd.org. All employee monthly logs must be completed and mailed to SNCI, One Harbor Center, Suite 130 Suisun City, California 94585 or fax to (707) 424-6074. Please make sure your name and organization are on all forms submitted.

A Very Special Thank You
From
Debbie Duncan and Family
Callison Elementary School

Thank you for the many cards, flowers, good wishes, prayers, phone calls during my recovery. I am doing pretty well and look forward to the day I can return to work. Having Breast Cancer has been an eye opening experience, a time to reflect on all the blessings life gives. Having an employer and co-workers as we have in Vacaville Unified School District has made this journey not one my family is taking alone, but one With many of you and your support and we thank you.

Remember, October is Breast Cancer awareness month