

P.A.C.T. PRESS

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Important Information to Remember

Resource Center News

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year and to P.A.C.T.'s 14th year of operation! We are so excited to begin our first full year in our new home. We are looking forward to spending the school year working with you and your children.

The entire P.A.C.T. staff is looking forward to using the NWEA assessments to help fine tune learning for each student. Please keep in mind that this will be a learning time for us all—students, parent-teachers, and staff. We will spend the year together becoming familiar with the assessment results and how to utilize them to maximize learning and increase academic growth for all P.A.C.T. students. We believe that this will be a beneficial endeavor for us all.

Also, all returning families should have been given a packet of papers from their Educational Advisor to fill out. We need them returned no later than **Friday, September 11** so that we have updated information for you and your children. Included in the packet will be new free/reduced lunch information slips. For those who qualify, we will be sending out forms for you to fill out and return to the front desk immediately. Please fill out these forms even if you don't intend to take advantage of the lunch program because we receive funding for our program from this process.



New PACT Hours

PACT has changed its Operating Hours beginning Monday, August 31st from 8 am to 4 pm to accommodate the new class schedule and conserve energy. This year we have classes that begin at 8 am and we want to be open to serve you. We also need to keep the number of hours we are open the same to conserve energy. This new schedule takes care of both of these concerns.



STAR Test Information

We have received the results for all P.A.C.T. students who participated in the STAR standardized test last April. Due to budget constraints we are not going to mail them this year and have given them to your Educational Advisor. Be sure to ask for them at your next meeting.

We highly recommend obtaining the study skill pages in each academic area where students scored "Basic" or "Below Basic" to ensure mastery of standards-based skills identified in the parent information letter. Your Educational Advisor can help you with this.

9/2 CHES Meeting, 12:30—2:30, Conference Room

9/4 **No School**, Staff Development Day

9/5 Landscape Beautification Day, NCS Main Campus, 8:00—12:00

9/7 Holiday—Labor Day

9/8 P.A.C.T. Classes Begin

9/14 Family Skate Night, Roller King 6:30—8:30

9/16 KORT Meeting, 12:30—2:30, Conference Room

9/30 Fall Picture Day, 9:00—12:00, Conference Room

Parent Volunteer Information

Remember that we require 10 parent volunteer hours per family per year. Half of those hours (5) are to be completed by December 18, 2009. Here are ways you can volunteer your time to P.A.C.T.

- Volunteer in Mrs. Padilla's classes
- Label and stuff envelopes
- Wipe down equipment and surfaces
- Place Barcodes on books and address stamp
- Help with basic site maintenance (Water plants, recycle, etc.)
- Copying
- Put together binders or twin pocket folders
- Attend KORT Meetings
- Attend CHES Meetings
- Fundraising
- Landscape Beautification Days
- Donations (see below) \$15 worth of supplies equals 1 hour.

If you have any questions, please contact the front desk or Shelly Shaw at 916-419-3788.



Donations = Parent Hours!

The following wish list items are for anyone wanting to buy supplies to earn parent hours. \$15 worth of supplies (please provide a receipt with your donation) equals 1 hour.

General Needs:

Antibacterial Wipes, Purell (or similar brand) hand sanitizer, boxes of Kleenex/tissue, bottled water, paper cups, paper plates, plastic forks, spoons, and knives, gift cards from Jamba Juice, Starbucks, grocery or department stores (Target, Walmart, Michaels, etc.), Cash donations at \$15 per hour.

- Donations of Hand Sanitizer (60% alcohol or better) and Kleenex are worth double the parent hours



Fall Picture Day

Fall picture day will be Wednesday, September 30th from 9-12 here at PACT. You do not need to buy pictures to have your picture taken for the yearbook or student ID's (Student ID's are free). Parents should have their picture taken for the creation of ID cards too. When the ID cards arrive, they will be available at the front desk for \$1. These ID's can be used for identification on campus, field trips and to get teacher discounts at some stores.



Family Skate Night

The first family skate night will be September 14th at Roller King Skate and Blade in Roseville. This is great way to meet the families that home school at PACT in a fun and relaxing environment. You may get more information and sign up at the Learning Through Experience Area in the PACT Grand Hallway.

New Vending Machine

Come to the family lounge and check out the new vending machine purchased by K.O.R.T. There are many nutritious options for all!

PACT Parent Meeting Schedule

PACT is dedicated to supporting our parents and giving them a voice. We hold KORT (Knights of the Round Table) meetings on the 3rd Friday of the month from 12:30—1:30 a.m. Our KORT meetings are designed to connect PACT parents with each other and to give them a voice in PACT decisions.

We hold CHES Meetings on the 1st Friday of the month from 12:30—1:30 a.m. CHES meetings are designed to support our PACT families who are integrating classical studies into their curriculum whether they are beginners or veterans.

Here is the meeting schedule for the first semester of school. Add them to your agenda book or planner now!

CHES Meetings*

September 2
October 7
November 4
December 2
January 6
February 3
March 3
April 14
May 5

KORT Meetings*

September 16
October 21
November 18
December 16
January 20
February 17
March 17
April 21
May 19



NCS Landscape Beautification Day

Where: NCS Campus

What: Helping to keep our campus beautiful

When: First Saturday of every month

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (April - October)
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Nov. - March)

Open to: Staff and NCS parents (no children please for their safety.) This is a community building effort to achieve pride in our campus. This is also an opportunity to earn parent hours. Sign in/out at the MPR.

2009-2010 Scheduled dates and times:

September 5	8:00—12:00
October 3	8:00—12:00
November 7	9:00—1:00
December 5	9:00—1:00
January 2	9:00—1:00
February 6	9:00—1:00
March 6	9:00—1:00
April 3	8:00—12:00
May 1	8:00—12:00
June 5	8:00—12:00

Friendly Reminders

Please show consideration for others at P.A.C.T. by keeping your children with you and under your supervision at all times when they are not in class. Also, take time to clean up with your children before you leave the library, family lounge and play-room areas so that they are ready for the next visitor.

Be sure to check the Dress Code listed on page 9 in your handbook to ensure that you and your children are appropriately dressed for school.



Box Tops for Education

You've been saving them all summer and now it's time to turn them in! Box tops equal cash for the PACT Program. Look for them on the products you buy, clip them, and turn them in to the box at the front desk counter.



Class Information

The 2009-2010 first semester class schedule is now available at the front desk, on the website, or through your Educational Advisor. Your child's class sign up sheet was due on Friday, August 28th. Classes begin on Tuesday, September 8th. We will not accept any class sign-up forms or changes until September 14th to enable us to create class lists for each teacher from the forms submitted on time. Your child may sign up for a maximum of 7 P.A.C.T. classes. If you are a new homeschooler, we recommend no more than 5. In the event that class requests exceed the number of spaces available, we will draw names in a lottery fashion until the class is filled.

Each student must have a signed Handbook Acknowledgement and PAC form on file before being allowed to attend classes. The Handbook Acknowledgement form is our way of knowing that you and your child have reviewed our campus and program policies together. The PAC is the Parent Acknowledgement Contract and states that no child may be left unattended on campus for more than 20 minutes. The PAC form also states that parents understand that they are to volunteer 10 hours of their time per year with a minimum of 5 hours to be completed per semester. Please submit your PAC form with your class sign-up form to the front desk.

In the event that your child is ill and unable to attend class, please contact the front desk so that the teacher may be notified in a timely manner. Also, be sure to use the absence form in the handbook to notify your child's teachers if he/she will be attending a fieldtrip. Because we have a wait list for many of our classes, if your child has more than 3 unexcused absences in a semester, he/she will be dropped from the class and their space given to another child.

For Taekwondo: Parents must pay Mr. Zapata \$40 for Taekwondo uniforms and belt testing (\$20) with either cash or a money order. PACT does not cover this cost.

There is a 2 class maximum for PFAA class sign ups and those classes are subject to space availability and Program Coordinator approval. See your Educational Advisor to sign up. If your child is attending a PFAA class, be sure to ask your Educational Advisor for a Credit/Grade Election form.

H1N1 Flu Prevention

We highly encourage students to bring their own hand sanitizer to school. Take some time to teach your student how to cough and sneeze appropriately. Please keep your child at home if he/she is showing any signs of illness. At the school level, all classrooms will be provided with hand sanitizer for student use and desks will be sanitized twice per day: once before lunch and again before the end of the school day.

Should you wish to have more information regarding H1N1, we encourage you to visit the following website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/qa.htm>



Changes in School Lunches

Natomas Charter School is expanding on its commitment to students by improving upon the nutritional quality of school lunches.

You will soon notice a change in the offerings in the cafeteria. Food will be more nutritious, lower in fat and sugar without increasing prices or scrimping on taste. Come on in and see the difference!