

STONE RIDGE ELEMENTARY

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

October 2007

The month of September has had many back to school start up programs. We are all in the full swing of school. The following programs were begun in September;

- **Facts Masters; this is one of our all time favorite programs and it is going well.**
- **The Reading to the Dog program has begun again. This year we have five dogs reading with ten students. We have found this to be an excellent program for students who need that little extra for motivation or total acceptance of his/her reading skills.**
- **Honor Choir and Honor Art began in September.**
- **Mrs. Craig had so many students for Sequoyah club she had to make two after-school programs.**
- **Native American tutoring and cultural lessons have begun. Once again the number of students requesting to be a part of the program dictated how many days that we are providing tutoring sessions.**
- **Wildcat Wakeup has begun. Mrs. Lau is doing an excellent job with our students. The fifth graders are beginning to realize the pressure and the excitement of being the announcers of the day.**

We have had three grants awarded to two teachers since school began. Amy Bixler has received two grants to use for reading programs in the first grade classroom. Linda Powers received a grant to use for hands-on experiences in American History.

Our cafeteria provided a week of A to Z new choice foods. Not only did we learn about the food choices, we got to eat them. The children loved the week and have asked for many of the new foods to be served again.

The PTO is starting on their Pet Project which is the addition of our Westside playground. Monday morning when I came to school it was obvious that the work had begun over the week-end. This will be a welcome project for our students. I am thankful for those who are able to envision a safe environment for play and physical health.

Our El Chico night on September 28th was a packed house as usual. We earned \$400 which will go to the second grade level to supply our students with books on tape. The first and second grade teachers worked shifts as

chippers. We were glad that Laura Butler joined first grade as one of the chippers. Fun work! Laura said she was sore from all the hard work and it is. It is also worth it for the things we can add to the classroom.

Our fundraiser was an exciting time for us. We look forward to the day that everything is delivered. What a successful event for our school.

Several of our Stone Ridge teachers volunteered their time to work at the Indian Taco Dinner for Founder's Day. This is a good way to support those who support us. We are thankful for the grants and scholarships which come through Piedmont Foundation.

The Windy City Players' presentation of Cinderella was excellent. The students loved watching the three players change into at least 8 different characters. The Prince also played Cinderella's father and the ugly stepsister. He was excellent in changing his voice, face, and mannerisms. What a treat for us.

To clarify the before school morning routine:

- We have never been on the playground before school. Last year we had 453 students and this year we have 515 as of Oct. 1.**
- We have 10 teachers and 6 PROS to monitor the arrival of all 515 students by bus, car or walking. The remaining staff is busy taking care of the business of classroom readiness.**
- It is the decision of everyone who has performed before school duty that the reading program has successfully created a climate of school readiness for the day. The teachers decided the reading protocol and I support their judgment on promoting an academic school climate.**
- Decisions made by our faculty are always based on what is best for the whole and for the promoting of an orderly routine which carries over into the classroom environment.**

The upcoming events are as follows:

- Artist in Residence: October 1-4**
- School Board October 8**
- Vision/Hearing Screening: October 9-10**
- Carnival: October 12**
- Fire Prevention October 12 at the Flag Poles**
- Fundraising Delivery October 15/16**
- Fall Break: October 17-19**
- Fall Party: October 26**
- Report Cards: October 26**
- El Chico Night: October 26**
- Popcorn October 26**