

Building for Success

ccn

chico country news

Chico Country Day School provides a safe, joyful community where all learners are inspired to achieve their personal best.

{Principal's Corner}

All about API

With the public release of school and district API (Academic Performance Index) scores, it's very gratifying to see that Chico Country Day School met all its student performance targets and experienced a growth of 33 points to reach an API score of 861. These scores area also dis-aggregated by sub-groups, such as "special education students" or by ethnic groups for example. The sub-group has to be large enough, in terms of total number of students, to be statistically significant, however. For CCDS we have a statistically significant sub-group, which is "low socio-economic" students as measured by the number of free and reduced price lunches that families have applied for. For this sub-group our API score is 834, an increase of 7 points from last year.

With API, a score of 800 or higher means that the school has reached its growth target. The state of California has determined that all schools should be at 800 or higher, and if a school reaches that target, then the school has to maintain a score of at least 800, but does not need to show improvement. If a school's score drops below 800, or if a school has a score below 800 and does not improve sufficiently (does not meet its growth target) then the school can be subject to sanctions from the State.

For CCDS, having an API score of 861 demonstrates that we are a very high performing school – one of the highest in the County. Our API score of 834 for our



Music teacher Mr. Davis joined the CAL Band when they performed on campus.

low socio-economic students is easily the single highest score in the County. We are especially proud of this, as the educational research is clear that there is a strong correlation between socio-economic status and student achievement. It demonstrates that we are doing an excellent job of meeting the needs of these students.

Every year the staff at CCDS analyzes our standardized test data to figure out ways that we can improve even more. We break down the test results into content clusters (i.e. –reading comprehension within the Language Arts area), then break down that even further into specific content standards (i.e. –“recognizing cause and effect” under reading comprehension). Our goal is to increase student learning by recognizing what kids struggle in and how we can use different instructional strategies to help them. The test data also gives us information on which students are very advance in specific areas, so that teachers can develop extension activities and challenging learning experiences for them.

As always, the goal is to get even better.
–Paul Weber

CALENDAR

Fri. Oct. 9—“Build-It” Festival hosted by 8th Grade Leadership Class. Based on our “Building for Success” theme, participating classes will compete to build the longest, biggest, most creative, strongest, etc. structures. Structures available for viewing in the field between 10-11 am.

Mon. Oct. 12—Picture Re-Takes

Wed. Oct. 14—Volleyball vs Capay @ Grace Community Church, 3:30 pm; Board Mtg 6:30 MUR

Mon. Oct. 19—Volleyball vs Hamilton @ Grace Community Church, 3:30 pm

Tues. Oct. 20—PTP Mtg 6:30 MUR

Wed. Oct. 21—CCDS Challenge Jog-a-thon; Boys Basketball Tryouts, 4-5:30

Fri. Oct. 30—Harvest Fair at TJ Farms

Thurs. Nov. 19—Round Table Pizza Night (new date; orig. Nov. 18)

{One for Education}

Thank you for supporting Annie B's campaign!

Thank you to the amazing support of CCDS through the One for Education/ Annie B's campaign. We had another fantastic year thanks to all of your generosity. We will have final numbers soon, but the preliminary totals are impressive: We raised \$29,004 from 193 donors in just over a month! This amount will be increased after we receive our matching money from the Annie B's program. Each of you should have already received (or will receive shortly) a letter from the North Valley Community Foundation confirming your charitable donation to CCDS and a hand written thank you note from one of the CCDS Board members. If you do not receive these in the next week or two please let me know. Thank you very much to all who contributed, we really appreciate all of your gifts to our school and our children. —Matt Meuter

Safety reminders please!

- No double parking along 11th St. and Broadway when you are picking up or dropping off students.
- Students should use crosswalks at all times – no jaywalking.
- Do not drop off or pick up of students in the parking lot.
- The curb along 11th St. and Broadway is “3 minute loading/unloading only”. You may get ticketed if you get out of your car – even if for less than 3 minutes.

CCDS Volleyball

Last week our volleyball teams traveled to Willows and Capay for games. In Capay, the 6-7th team won all three: 25-23, 25-22, 15-12! Everyone played great! Amazing serves! The 7-8th team lost but played really well. 22-25, 21-25, 15-9. There was a lot of good rallying and three hit returns which is what they have been really working on. Bump, Set, Spike!

{PTP Update}

Fall at CCDS

Dear Busy Parents!

Like you, I am swamped with kid's back in school projects and activities. Stay with us, only a few months to go before the PTP goes easier on you. This month though is one of our best and busiest, I promise if you help us through it easier days will lay ahead.

For parents who are saving a few bucks (who isn't these days), the following are great ideas for you to contribute dollars to the school by just spending a few minutes. The benefits we receive from these programs are huge so take some time and sign up for them today!

Escrip – Go to [escrip website \(escrip.com\)](http://escrip.com) and follow the directions for signing up your Safeway card and/or credit cards. Then when you shop or dine out, using these cards, you will be contributing to CCDS, because the businesses give a certain percentage of your purchases to the school. How easy is that? Aside from Safeway, dining at End Zone, California Pasta Productions, and Kwando Restaurant will also help CCDS. EScript also has on-line shopping for your convenience at www.escrip.com.

Other school benefit programs – Office Depot, Raley's and many other stores have programs which benefit our school. Make sure to inquire and sign up. With most of them you just get a number they enter at check-out and we get a huge benefit.

Box Tops for Education – Each class has an envelope and each parent has a cupboard full of items that have the tops. Bring them in and drop them in the envelope and your kids win. I know it is just a few dollars each time you bring them, but those dollars add up in a big way so make a plan and get them turned in each month.

Upcoming events:

CCDS Challenge – The Challenge is coming on October 21st! Forms and information will be coming home soon with your student, make sure to make this one of our best fundraisers of the year!

Harvest Fair is October 30th and will be held at TJ Farms. Look for information coming home soon on how you can help run your child's classes booth. This will be a great event this year and is graciously being hosted by our longtime friends at TJ Farms.

PTP Meeting – Mark your calendars for October 20th at 6:30 in the MUR. If you have not attended a meeting yet, be sure to be at this one! Lots of great information about what is happening around CCDS!

Best regards,
Andrew Cortidge
PTP President

A note about the CCDS Challenge

Your child will be participating in the CCDS Challenge on Wednesday, October 21st during school hours. During the Challenge students will walk, skip or jog their way around a track set up on the school campus. He/she will be involved in physical activity for twenty to thirty minutes. If you have a reason to have your child not participate in this activity please contact the office. —Paul Weber

Middle School

Leadership and Student Council

We have an amazing group of student council leaders this year. Zach Gazda, Zane Ferguson, Sophia Leiker and Katy Colwell are serving from eighth grade, Tiffany Kelly and Riley Fischer from seventh, and our sixth grade reps for this first trimester are Sean Hardesty and Duncan Ober. So far this year they have been instrumental in representing their peers in selecting the middle school social themes and sweatshirts, and in putting together our October 2nd social. They are currently working on hosting the Build-It Festival on October 9th, and will be serving at the Rotary Club breakfast on October 24th. The seventh and eighth grade members will be attending the California Association of Student Councils Leadership Workshop in San Rafael on October 20th.

CCDS Board Committees

The CCDS Board of Directors will be re-forming its standing committees at the October Board meeting. The committees are: Safety; Personnel; Finance and Fundraising. The goal of the Board is to have individuals with particular expertise in these areas on these committees, both parents/guardians of CCDS students as well as community members. If you are interested in serving in this way, or would like more information, contact Margaret Reece, Executive Director or Paul Weber, Principal/Superintendent.

{After School Program}

Classes and Clubs

Mondays: 3:10-4:10 Homework Club, Kinder Club, Irish Dance, Garden Club 1st-3rd, Arts and Crafts, Outside Games

Tuesdays: 3:10-4:10 Homework Club, Kinder Club, Spanish, Cooking 5-8, Arts and Crafts, Outside Games

Wednesdays: 2:00- 3:00 Kinder Cooking, 3:10-4:10 Homework Club, Kinder Club, Drama Games, Cooking 1st – 2nd, Soccer, Outside Games

Thursday: 3:10 – 4:10 Homework Club, Kinder Club, Cooking 3rd -4th, Arts and Crafts, Outside Games

Friday: 12:30-1:30 Garden Club 4th-8th, Irish Dance, Guitar, Kinder Club, Arts and Crafts, Outside Games

Classes

Irish Dance – taught by April Standafer (experienced, competitive dancer) Open to all age groups. A performance oriented class. The class currently has 25 active participants.

Kinder Club – Kinders are kept separate during this time with their own aide and age appropriate games and activities.

Garden Club – taught by Environmentalist and Educator, Jeremy Miller. The Garden Club will help provide our Cooking Class with vegetables and fruits to prepare healthy menus as well as to help maintain and improve our already wonderful on site garden.

Cooking Class – taught by Nutritionist Alison Heier the class focuses on preparing and cooking healthy foods (don't tell the children, they think the food is GOOD!)

Spanish – taught by Joey LaRossa – class is geared toward introductory, conversational Spanish using fun games and props.

Homework Club – Meets daily Monday-Thursday. Vanessa Quevedo, a teaching credential candidate, oversees the program. Due to the popularity of the program we will be adding a second section and splitting the group into a primary and intermediate group.

Drama Games – led by Serena LaRossa, a credentialed teacher, the class features fun activities where students have to use their creativity to act and portray various skits.

Guitar – Limited to 6 students in grades 3rd – 8th. The class currently has a waiting list. Students need not have their own guitars. The class is taught by Joey LaRossa.

There is no extra fee for any of our classes. They are all part of the ASP.

November After School Program

November 11th – Veteran's Day (Wednesday) The After School Program will be closed.

November 12th and 13th – Parent Conference Days – We would like to stay open. Sign ups must be made by October 23rd in order for us to staff the days. (You may pay the additional fees when you pay for November.) We are limiting the sign ups to the first 30 children.

Fees for the additional days: \$25 per day per child (20% discount for 2nd and 3rd child) You must sign up for the entire day. No half day or hourly rates are available. We will be open from 7:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.

To sign up please call Michelle in the main office to ensure a space for your child or contact Carol Oxsen ASP Coordinator.