



Ridge Review
 Silver Ridge Elementary
“Be Fit, Be Smart, Be Green”
 Marion Gundling
 Principal

www.sresite.com

We work together
 to develop:

- P roductive thinkers
- R espectful citizens
- I ntelligent minds
- D edicated individuals and
- E xcellence in education

Attendance: 754-323-7502 (before 10 a.m.)

VOLUME 19 Number 2

School Security Hotline: 754-321-0725 (24 hrs.)

September 1, 2009

and/or review of a concept at home. Students can also access FCAT Explorer where they can practice FCAT reading and math skills through a FREE online resource.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all of you, but a very special welcome to our new Kindergarten students and new families! I hope the first week of school has gone well for everyone. Please remember to call on us if you have any questions. I am hoping that you are feeling comfortable here. It is also my hope that you will get involved with our parent groups or volunteer in a classroom. This is your school now; please join us to make it the best it can be.

We all know that arrival and dismissal can be a challenging part of our day. It will go smoothly if we all cooperate and follow procedures. Please be sure to stay in the car line and follow the lead of our staff. Encourage your children to watch for you and move quickly in and out of the car. The more we cooperate the faster the line will move.

Remember, tomorrow evening, September 2nd at 6:30 is Intermediate Open House. Please report directly to the classroom. Open House is a very important evening to learn about the expectations and classroom procedures for this year. Please have children stay home if possible as Open House is for parents and we don't want your attention to be distracted from the teachers.

I am looking forward to seeing and greeting you at Open House! Have a good week.

B.E.E.P.

Have you forgotten your textbook? Do you need assistance with your homework or a project? Well visit the Broward County Schools B.E.E.P. Portal. Parents and students can access this portal through the www.browardschools.com site. Once on the homepage of Broward County Schools, click on the link to B.E.E.P. Student textbooks are available and all a student needs is their student number and birth date. This is an excellent resource if students need additional help

PTO News

A big **THANK YOU** to Ana English, Ginger Thomassiny, Betty Davis, Ruth Rogas, Sharon Leach, Kim Freeberg, Chrissy Trotta, Jackie Matzirakis, Dania Bloss, Linda Notman, Lisa Bauzon and Andrea Winkelhotz for assisting students during the first week of school. Thanks also to the families who attended the Meet & Greet. We enjoyed meeting you and hope to see you again in the future.

FUNDRAISER

Parents, the packets for our biggest fundraiser of the year will be coming home with your child on Wednesday, September 2nd. This is the 3rd year in a row that we will be using EPI because it offers a vast selection of beautiful jewelry, quality educational toys, household items, gift wrap and delicious cookie dough, pretzels and brownies. EPI also continues to offer SRE a variety of incentives for the students: a cumulative prize program, daily raffle prizes, special prizes for the top three sellers, a pizza party for the top-selling class in each grade, ice cream coupons from Maggie Moos for the 2nd and 3rd top-selling classes in each grade level, and finally the SRE students of every family who sell a minimum of 10 items will go to the **Mega Party!** EPI is also encouraging on line sales this year – if your order exceeds \$79, the shipping will be free! To make it more enticing, on line sales will be entered in a raffle for one student to win 4 tickets to an Orlando theme park. This exciting fundraiser will run through September 16th. Please help us to make this fundraiser successful – in this day of budget cuts, the money we raise directly affects each and every SRE student. If you have any questions, please call Shirley Dickinson (954) 472-8833.

A DAY FOR CHILDREN

Nova Southeastern University is hosting “A Day for Children” on Sunday, Sept. 13 from 11:00am-5:00pm. They are offering **FREE** health screenings for vision, hearing, balance, speech-language, dental and medical health, and more! There will also be **FREE** games, bounce house, supervised sports activities, and storybook characters. They will also have **FREE** food, fingerprinting and ID cards from Davie PD and Crimestoppers, and free safety and installation demonstration of child car seats. No registration is necessary. Just show up

with your children. All screenings and offerings are for kids ages birth-15 years. For further information, pick up a flyer in the main office, the after care office, or call 954-NSU-CARE.

NEWS FROM SAF

WELCOME BACK FROM SCHOOL ADVISORY FORUM!

Have you heard about Silver Ridge's School Advisory Forum (SAF)? SAF facilitates discussions between parents, students, teachers, administrators, and community members on issues that impact the educational process affecting an individual school. The SAF Chair, with the school's principal, raises concerns which may ultimately be discussed with the Superintendent of Schools and our Broward County School Board. Each school, by school board policy, has a SAF. Everyone in the school community is a member of the SAF. There are no membership dues! The SAF Chair attends South Central Area meetings, Innovation Zone meetings and is also a voting member of Silver Ridge's School Advisory Counsel (SAC). The Chair then reports back to the school community on issues such as attendance policy, dress code, code of conduct, school calendar, safety and security, school boundaries and much more. SAF meetings are held in conjunction with the monthly PTO meetings. Your SAF Co-Chairs for the 2009-2010 school year are Betty Davis and Jackie Matzirakis. If you have any questions you can contact us at 754-323-7501 extension 5688 or we will see you at our next meeting.

District Launches Full-Time K-12 Virtual Education Program

Virtual education is an innovative reality in the 21st century and an effective educational strategy for some students. With an eye towards increasing options and expanding curricular offerings, the District has contracted with K-12 Florida to provide a virtual instruction program for students in grades K-5. The virtual education option offers a viable way for parents who are seeking an alternative to traditional education to maintain enrollment in the Broward County Public Schools system. The addition of K-5 services brings the District into compliance with Florida Statute 1002.45, which requires school districts to offer a full-time virtual instruction program to students in grades K-12. As a result, Broward Virtual School will now offer a K-12 continuum of full-time virtual instruction. For additional information, visit www.bved.net.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

BROWARD SCHOOLS FAMILY COUNSELING PROGRAM

If your student has run into some roadblocks that are preventing him/her from experiencing success in school, there is help available. There are now 2 locations nearby to serve Silver Ridge families with problems related to school, behavior or anger management, ADD/ADHD, phobia, anxiety, depression, issues related to separation/divorce, stress management, communication skills, self-esteem issues, grief and loss, substance abuse, eating disorders, and more. You can contact the Family Counseling Program at Bair Middle School at 754-322-2916 or the Family Counseling Program at Cooper City High School at 754-323-0280. Short-term counseling is available at these locations free of charge for Broward County School students and their families. Bair Middle is located at 9100 NW 21 Manor in Sunrise, one block west of Pine Island Road just south of Sunset Strip. Cooper City High is at 9401 Stirling Road in Cooper City.

Ten Ways to Help Your Child Do Well in School, Continued

In last week's Ridge Review, I began an article entitled "**Ten Ways to Help Your Child Do Well in School**". Tips 1-3 were included in that article. Again, the beginning of a new school year is a good time to review strategies parents can use to help their children succeed in school. Here are tips 4-10.

4) Get involved. Meet with your child's teacher; attend school events and parent trainings. Help your child build self-esteem by helping them set reachable weekly and monthly goals. Praise does not build self-esteem by itself. Reaching a goal builds self-esteem. Praise your child's efforts; not just their results.

5) Read, read, read. Read with your child or have him/her read everyday. Make it meaningful. Talk about what is read.

6) Make home a place for learning. Help your child practice reading (menus, recipes, TV Guide), writing (write those thank you notes, send an e-mail to grandma), math (do some cooking, make change while shopping, ask your child what time it is on a standard clock, ask them to tell you what time it will be in 2 hours, etc.). This helps your child connect learning with real life events.

7) Promote healthy habits. Make sure your child gets the recommended amount of sleep and exercise, and that he/she eats balanced meals. Promote healthy habits such as talking out problems instead of letting anger build.

8) Be a Role Model. Your child learns from what you do, not what you say. Show you enjoy learning and that an education is valuable.

9) Encourage independence. It is OK for your child to make mistakes and necessary for them to learn to accept their consequences.

10) Give your child responsibilities, such as household chores. Help them realize that they are a valued member of your family and of their classroom and that they have something valuable to contribute.

SEPTEMBER BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT

This September, **ALL** students in grades 3, 4, and 5 at Silver Ridge will be taking the Benchmark Assessment on Sept. 9-11. This is a diagnostic tool developed by Broward Schools to help plan instruction. Please make sure your student arrives on time, well rested, and that he/she has had a healthy breakfast on those days. These three simple things can help your child to do his/her personal best.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 2	Open House Grades 3-5	6:30pm
Sept 7	NO SCHOOL	
Sept 9	Open House Grades K-2	6:30pm
Sept 9 – 11	Benchmark Assessment	Grades 3-5
Sept 24	Early Release	noon
Sept 28	NO SCHOOL	

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