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# CALIENTE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 1, 2017

Dear Reader,

***“Work hard for what you want because it won’t come to you without a fight. You have to be strong and courageous and know that you can do anything you put your mind to. If somebody puts you down or criticizes you, just keep on believing in yourself and turn it into something positive.” ~ Leah LaBelle***

## **District News:**

1. **Our weather and roads:** Thank you for your patience and cooperation during our incremental weather. How do we notify parents about school delays or school closure:
  - a) District staff will call parents to notify of delays or school closure.
  - b) KCSOS has delays or closures listed on their website at - kern.org
  - c) News channels/local radio stations will have the information posted and/or announced throughout the day of delay or closure.

District is working closely with KCSOS (Kern County Superintendent of Schools) and CDE in regards to our missed school days and lost instructional minutes due to road damage from recent floods.

**\*\*\* If we do not call, then there is school! Please make sure emergency cards have contact information. Let district know if there needs to be an update to phone or contact numbers! We try our very best to insure everyone receives the information in a timely manner! Thank you!**

**Please read the district letter that was hand delivered to our parents on February 16, 2017. The letter will explain how the district will make up the missed instructional minutes due to recent closures.**

2. **Whiz Kids Event:** February 23, 2017 10-1 pm. Our Whiz Kid Team this year: Remington Schallock, Hayden Comer, Faith Cole, Jenna Mayer, Devin Comer, Erika Penney, and 2 alternates – Spencer Corum and Eliana Comer. Go Team, Go! The event was moved to Elk Hills due to flooded road damage! Thank you Elk Hills!
3. **Music Lessons** – Music lessons are happening every Wednesday at Piute Mountain School! Thank you Mr. Gerry, Dan Whitmore, and Catherine Thaden. Students are able to check out guitars or pianos to take home to practice with during the week. Thank you to our volunteer musicians that share their talents freely with our students!
4. **KEDS Program:** **If you have a student that will be attending Kindergarten next year, 2017-2018, please come in and register her/him and join our Pre-K program!**
5. **Box Tops and other donations** – Thank you to everyone for taking time and sending School Box Tops to the Caliente Union District.
6. **Sacramento/San Francisco Trip** - Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be attending the Sacramento/San Francisco Trip, March 20-23, 2017. Students have applied for jobs at school to help earn money for this 4 day trip costing \$550 - \$600 range Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Becherer for the generous \$300 donation toward the students' trip!
7. PTC – Thank you for providing a Field Trip for our entire student body, K-8<sup>th</sup>, March 9 – California Science Center! Thank you PTC for providing us with an Egg Hunt! Thank you famous Bunny for helping our last day to be special!

February 15, 2017

Dear Valued Families,

I will be submitting a waiver, J13 A form, to Kern County Superintendent of Schools, KCSOS, for the days students missed due to the past flooding and road damage from previous storms. After KCSOS reviews the form, the J13 A is sent to California Department of Education, CDE. Our concerns, Board, staff, parents, and myself - our students have missed out on valuable instructional minutes. Therefore, the goal is to add the missed instructional minutes that equate to: 2,185.

Our multiple storms and maybe some more... After, much thought and calculations, here are the recommendations from our School Board:

- Fridays – starting 2/17 – 2:45 dismissal.
- There are two Fridays – 3/24 dismissal 1:30, June 9 – Noon dismissal – Only those two Fridays have a different dismissal time.
- March 22, 23, and 24 will be a 1:30 dismissal (needed parent conference will take place starting at 1:35)
- March 27 – Full make-up day
- March 28 – Noon Dismissal– Awards Assembly will be this day: K-4<sup>th</sup> 9 am, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> will be at 10 am. There will be an Egg Hunt after the second assembly.

Deficit – 2,185 minutes

The extended Fridays equal 900 minutes

The extended days of March 22, 23, 24 equal 150 minutes

The snow days being used, March 27 and 28 equals 535 minutes

$2,185 - 900 - 150 - 535 = 600$  minutes deficit. This equates to one and a half days of missed instructional minutes. This demonstrates a good faith effort toward meeting the required minutes set forth by the State.

\*\*\* Due to the possibility of the approaching weather this week-end we are sending home Independent Study Packets (5 days' worth of work) in case we are not able to hold school. If the severity of the weather does not cause loss of school days, we ask that you return the packet to the office.

\*\*\*If we find that we still need to make-up days, the days will finish out that first week of Spring Break.

Any questions, please call the office, 867-2301

Thank you for your patience and flexibility!

Kathleen S. Hansen

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8. **Volunteers:** We are in need of volunteers to help read with students. We have a program, Read Live that Mr. Sharman and Mrs. Revelles provide our students with one on one reading. If we had scheduled volunteers for certain days of the week, our students would be immersed into some intensive reading skill building practice. Please contact the office if you are interested in committing to train and then working with students. Thank you in advance! Thank you Mrs. Sharman for coming in once a week and providing our Kindergarten class with extra enrichment! Thank you Mr. Varga for the new staff faucet you provided Piute Mountain School!
  9. **Volunteer Luncheon March 2** – If you have volunteered in any capacity this year, **Please** come to our Volunteer Luncheon, March 2, Piute Mountain School, at Noon! Let us thank you for everything you do for us! You make everything possible!

\*\*\*If you are someone that has a gifted talent or just a love to teach students sewing, cooking, foreign language, gardening, reading to students, please contact my office for a meeting with me. I would love to hear from you!

“A gift consists not in what is done or given, but in the intention of the giver or doer.” ~ *Lucio Anneo Seneca*

\*\*\*Please take time to check us out on our web page at: [calienteschooldistrict.org](http://calienteschooldistrict.org)

#### **Calendar Markers**

**March 2 – Noon – Volunteer Luncheon**

**March 6 – Spring Life Touch Photos**

**March 9 – California Science Center – K-8<sup>th</sup> – All Day Field Trip**

**March 14 – Board Meeting – 6:30 pm**

**March 17 – Assembly – Clean Kids – 9 am**

**March 20 - 23 – 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade History Club Trip to Sacramento/San Francisco**

**March 27-28 – Make-up days**

**March 28 – Awards Assembly – K-4<sup>th</sup> – 9 am & 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – 10 am**

**March 28 – Egg Hunt after last assembly**

**March 28 – Last day for the Third Quarter!**

**April 17 – Fourth Quarter – First day!**

**Thank you for your continued support!**

**Kathleen S. Hansen**