

Letter From The Principal

Dear Parents:

One fourth of the school year is now over! During these past three months, we have had many exciting programs and changes at our school.

On August 6, 1996, we sent home a letter asking parents to express their opinion on mandatory school uniforms. On August 13, the school's Governance Council, comprised of parents and teachers, invited all parents to attend a meeting on the discussion of school uniforms. As a result of your input, we will implement a mandatory school uniform policy beginning December 1, 1996. School uniforms may be purchased at many department stores or at stores such as La Ciguena which specialize in uniforms. For your convenience, uniform sales are scheduled once a month at school. If you have any questions regarding uniforms, please contact Mrs. Rodriguez, our assistant principal.

The State of California has provided the funding for us to reduce class size in first and second grades to 20 students. On August 27, parents were invited to attend a meeting to discuss Alexandria's plan to reduce primary classroom size to "twenty to one". At that meeting, the parents agreed to support the implementation of our plan. We are very excited

about the opportunity to offer your primary age child more individual assistance with their learning.



On August 29, the Parent Institute for Quality Education held its Graduation Ceremony for the almost 400 parents who attended the series of parenting classes at our school. The school's Parent/Community Involvement Committee plans to schedule additional parent classes on various topics throughout this school year. Please come and see Mrs. Inabu, our assistant principal, if you have a suggestion, question or concern regarding parent classes.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Red (B) and Green (C) Track students will be scheduled during the week of October 14. Please be sure to attend these important meetings with your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

Carol A. Labrow

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School Dress Code at Alexandria Avenue School

On August 13, 1996 the school's Governance Council, comprised of parents and teachers, invited all parents to attend a meeting on the discussion of school uniforms. On August 6, we sent home a letter asking parents to express an opinion on mandatory school uniforms by returning the tear-off. At that meeting, the results of these tear-offs were presented. Also, the parents in attendance were allowed the opportunity to voice their opinion regarding the school dress code. As a result of your input, we will implement a mandatory school uniform policy beginning December 1, 1996.

The adopted school uniform may be purchased at several stores, including Sears, Target and La Ciguena. For your convenience, a school uniform vendor will come to our school to sell the uniforms on the following dates (once a month on Wednesdays):

September 11, 1996	October 9, 1996
November 13, 1996	December 4, 1996
January 15, 1997	February 12, 1997
March 12, 1997	April 9, 1997
May 14, 1997	June 11, 1997

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our school uniform policy, please contact Mrs. Alejandra Rodriguez, assistant principal.

Loitering/Truancy Ordinance

The Los Angeles City Council and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have passed a Loitering/Truancy Ordinance. This Ordinance prohibits any person under the age of 18 and subject to compulsory school attendance, from loitering in or upon the public streets, highways, roads, alleys, parks, playgrounds, or other public grounds between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on days when the student's school is in session.

The exceptions to this are as follows:

- a student is accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- a student is on an emergency errand directed by a parent or guardian.
- a student is going directly or coming directly from his/her place of gainful employment.
- a student is going to or returning from a medical appointment.
- a student has permission to leave campus for lunch and has in his/her possession a school-issued permit.
- a student is going to or returning from a public meeting.

If a student is found to be in violation of this Ordinance, he/she will be issued a citation. This will require the parent to appear in court with the youngster and may include a fine of \$250. The Ordinance will be enforced through the Los Angeles City Traffic Ordinance Citation Program and has become effective in the County on April 15, 1996.

LAPD Enhanced Curfew Enforcement Effort

The Los Angeles Police Department has enforced the curfew law for many years. The curfew law prohibits anyone under the age of 18 from loitering during the hours of 10 p.m. until sunrise. Throughout the years, it has proved to curtail youth endangerment and crime throughout the city. This year, LAPD is enhancing its efforts regarding curfew enforcement by informing students, parents and community.

POLICE OFFICERS WILL.....

1. Select enforcement at:
 - * High crime locations
 - * Gang activity areas
 - * Known narcotics locations
 - * Complaint areas
 - * Be alert for runaways
2. Cite minors who are at these locations without adult supervision after 10:00 p.m. Violators are given a traffic citation to appear in Court and, if they have transportation, may be released.
3. Those youths determined to be "AT-RISK", (as per 601 WIC) will be transported to a police facility.
4. Officers or volunteers will notify parents and request their response to the station to take custody of their children.
5. On Duty Probation Officers will be available to process those juveniles who are arrested.

JUVENILE COURTS WILL.....

1. Issue NO-BAIL WARRANTS for failure to appear. Youths will be detained and arrested.
2. Fine subjects OR... Order enrollment in a Diversion Program in lieu of a fine.
3. Youth may be referred to the Referral Unit at selected police stations. The minor will be assigned to a community agency for:
 - * Community Service
 - * Athletic Activity
 - * Diversion
 - * Tutoring
 - * Alternative Education
 - * Counseling
4. Parents may be assigned to Community Parenting Classes by the courts.
5. ***Having complied with the Court's requirements, parents and subjects must return to Court for final disposition.***



Too Sick for School?

Recently in the Los Angeles Times newspaper, there was an article which included some guidelines for parents to use to determine if their children were too sick for school. While each case is different, here are some points to consider:

If a fever is 100-104 degrees Fahrenheit, you might consider calling the doctor and keep the child home.

If the fever is 104 degrees or above, you should call the doctor and keep the child home.

A child who is vomiting or has diarrhea should stay home.

It's the Law!

Children ages 17 and under must wear a bicycle helmet whenever riding a bicycle. A 1993 California State law requires all children ages 17 and under to wear a bicycle helmet whenever riding a bicycle. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics indicate approximately 350 bicyclist fatalities and 35,000 crashes in the 5 to 20 year-old group annually.

Wearing a bicycle helmet has been proven to prevent up to 85% of bicycle-related head injuries to children.

Make sure the helmet is fitted properly on the child's head for maximum protection:

- * The straps must form a "V" on either side of the ears.
- * The chin strap should have a 1/2 inch play.
- * The helmet sits just above the eyebrows.

U.S. Citizenship Classes

The Garfield Community Adult School has a counselor* available to answer your questions regarding U.S. Citizenship Classes.

Their offices are at two locations:

GARFIELD CAMPUS
5101 East Sixth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90022
(213) 262-5163

Office Hours/Days:
Monday & Wednesday
6:15 - 9:00 p.m.

*Counselor on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

EASTSIDE LEARNING CENTER
831 North Bonnie Beach Place
Los Angeles, CA 90063
(213) 264-4057

Office Hours/Days:
Tuesday & Thursday
6:15 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

*Counselor on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
and Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Alexandria Avenue Elementary School
4211 Oakwood Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90004-3299
Telephone: (213) 660-1936

