

# Alexandria Avenue School Parent Newsletter

Issue 2  
September 24, 1998

## Letter From The Principal

Dear Parents:

I hope that by now you have had an opportunity to meet your child's teacher. It is so important that you work together as a team to provide your child the best education. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher regarding their academic progress or any other concern throughout the school year, you may arrange for an appointment with the teacher. Either come by the main office or call the school to leave a message for the teacher. All teachers are at school by 7:30 a.m. in the morning and may be available to speak to you before they begin instruction. I ask that you first stop by the office so that we may contact the teacher and give you a pass before you go to the classroom.



I want to inform you about an important change at our school. Our school has been selected to participate in a program which provides free breakfast and lunch to every student regardless of their eligibility. As of October 1 and continuing through September 30, 2000, breakfast and lunch tickets will not be required at school. At the beginning of each day, the classroom teacher will take attendance and then give the cafeteria manager the exact number of students who are present each day. This will allow the cafeteria the opportunity to prepare an accurate number of meals for lunch. It is very important that your child be at school on time each morning in order to be included in the daily lunch count.

As you know, there has been a great deal of construction around the outside of the school. This construction required us to continually change the location of our entrance and dismissal gates in order to provide plenty of room for all of the parents and children to enter and leave the school safely. I appreciate your cooperation and flexibility during this period of time.

Now that this work is coming to an end, I can establish a new policy for the entrance and dismissal gates. Beginning Monday, October 5, these three gates around the school will be opened in the morning and afternoon: Alexandria Avenue Gate, Oakwood Gate and Rosewood Gate. In the morning, the children will walk into the school and go directly to the cafeteria if they are eating breakfast or wait on the playground until the instructional day begins. In the afternoon, the teachers will walk the students outside to the playground for dismissal and then the children are to walk out of the appropriate gate. Please discuss and decide with your children which gate you will be waiting for them and also where they are to meet their brothers and sisters. I hope that by opening the three gates, the crowd of people and traffic around the school is more evenly distributed around the school.

Parent Conferences will be coming soon. The Red and Green Tracks will have parent conferences October 12 - 16 and Blue Track from November 9 - 13, 1998. Please make sure you attend the conference to discuss your child's progress.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Carol Labrow  
Principal

### • Parent Conferences • Tracks B & C: October 12 - 16, 1998 • Track A: November 9 - 13, 1998

• Before the week of October 12, parents with children on Track B and C will receive an invitation for a Parent Conference from their child's teacher. During this conference, the teacher will discuss the child's progress during the first few months of school, review the report card grades and the test results from the Spring, 1998 APRENDA or Stanford Test. Parents will have an opportunity to discuss their questions and concerns during a private, one on one conference with the teacher. We hope that all parents have an opportunity to attend these very important parent conferences.

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### • Free LAUSD/INS • Citizenship Preparation Program

• The Los Angeles Unified School District, Adult Division and the INS are now making it even easier for you to become a U.S. Citizen. In this FREE LAUSD/INS Outreach Program, an INS Official will give qualifying applicants INS citizenship interviews at sites in local communities instead of at the Federal Building downtown.

• You don't need to pay anyone to help you become a U.S. citizen. At LAUSD, you'll get free services, free I.N.S. forms (N-400), free I.N.S. 100 questions, free help completing the forms and free practice for your interview. The only cost to you is for the basic application fee of \$95\* for naturalization and \$25 for the fingerprinting service to the INS.

• Even if you've already sent in your citizenship application, they can help you get ready for your INS citizenship interview. At LAUSD, you will see a videotape of an interview for citizenship, practice for your interview, learn English, study U.S. history, government & civics, the rights & responsibilities of a U.S. citizen and more.

• The following schools offer full citizenship preparation services:

- Belmont CAS N. Hollywood- Polytechnic CAS
- 1575 W. 2nd St. 5231 Colfax Avenue
- L.A. CA 90026 N. Hollywood, CA 91601
- (213) 250-9133 (818) 766-8186
- Hollywood-Marshall CAS
- 1521 N. Highland Avenue
- L.A. CA 90028
- (323) 467-6191

• For further information regarding the citizenship programs or for the names of additional schools or centers, please call (213) 625-3276.

• \*On January 15, 1999, the basic application fee will increase to \$225. The fingerprinting fee will remain at \$25.

## 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 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

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## Computer Classes at Virgil Middle School

Belmont Adult High School will conduct introductory computer classes for interested adults at Virgil Middle School. Classes start on September 8 for the Tuesday- Thursday session and on September 9 for the Monday - Wednesday session. Class hours for both sessions will be 6:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. No prior computer experience is necessary. You will learn computer basics including: Windows 95, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excell, the internet and the world wide web. For further information and registration, please call Belmont Community Adult School at (213) 250-9133.

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## Alphabet Junction: Third Annual Reading Fair

Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Speaker of the Assembly, invites you to this year's "Alphabet Junction: Third Annual Reading Fair" at Logan Elementary School on October 3, 1998 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The purpose of the Reading Fair is to promote literacy in our community and strengthen the educational bond between parents and their children. There will be a variety of family oriented activities and free books will be given to all the participants.

Logan Elementary School is located in Echo Park at 1711 W. Montana Street near the intersection of Alvarado Street and Sunset Boulevard. If you have any questions regarding the Reading Fair, please contact Mr. Villaraigosa's office and ask for Liliana Perez at (213) 483-2730.

## School Uniform Dress Code Policy

As of December 1, 1996, our school has implemented a mandatory school uniform dress code policy. All students are required to wear the school uniform or the school colors which are navy blue, white or yellow. Also, we ask that all students wear clothing that is appropriate for the size of the child. The school uniform may be purchased at several stores including Sears and Target. For your convenience, a school uniform vendor will come to our school once a month to sell uniforms. Please call the main office for the next date.

The following process will be followed if a student comes to school dressed in violation of the uniform dress code:

1. The classroom teacher will refer the student to the office.
2. Parents will be contacted and asked to come to school with a uniform or clothing with the school's colors.
3. If parents cannot be located, clothing will be loaned for the day. A note will be sent home notifying the parents of their child's violation of the uniform dress code.

If you have any questions regarding the school's uniform dress code policy, please contact our assistant principal, Dr. Terry Campa.

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## Back-To-School Safety Tips

Walking to School:

- Parents: Choose the best route to school and walk it with your children.
- Obey all traffic signals, signs and street markings (crosswalks).
- Look in all directions (left, right, left, forward and behind you) before crossing.
- Cross the street at a corner or crosswalk only. Do not cross mid-block.
- Stay alert at all times—especially in bad weather.

Riding in a Car to School:

- Every person must wear a seat belt and remain belted until exiting the vehicle. It's the law.
- Children (under 40 pounds or under 4 years of age) must be in a child restraint seat when riding in a vehicle. It's the law.
- Children and infants in rear-facing child restraint seats should sit in the back seat when traveling in a vehicle with a passenger side air bag.
- Riding in the back of a pick-up truck without a camper shell is against the law.
- Children must cross only at the crosswalk—not mid-block.
- Make sure children enter and exit the vehicle on the passenger side—nearest to the sidewalk.

