

ISSUE # 1-2007/2008 August 29, 2007

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

William McKelligott

This year we are undertaking major educational projects to improve student performance at Santa Cruz Cooperative School. The school staff has worked hard to develop a program to improve student performance in the area of writing. We are seeking to raise the student's ability to write in a manner which will enable them to become successful communicators. Writing is a very important skill that is needed to excel in the university and at the workplace. Since we are "preparing students to be productive citizens, leaders and life-long learners", this writing improvement plan will help us to our achieve mission at SCCS.

We have 7 new staff members this year at Santa Cruz Cooperative School. Mary Joyce will be teaching one of our Prekindergarten classes this year. Natalia Zuazo has been hired to teach Kindergarten, while Georgia Pinto will be teaching children in Second g Grade. Valerie Van Lier and Tracey Barnack have been hired to teach our Third Grade classes in elementary school. At the secondary level we have two new English and science teachers. Patrick Anderson will be teaching Biology and Physical Science, while Ryan Kadow will be working with our students in Physics and Chemistry. Our new secondary English staff consists of Roberto Ollivier and Misty Skidmore.

I believe we have an outstanding professional educators working at Santa Cruz Cooperative School. We unique school in Santa Cruz offering a wide varied of academic and extracurricular activities. SCCS is accredited by Advanc-ED, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the North Central Region of Schools and Colleges. This year we will be hosting the international conference for the Association of American Schools in South America in April 2008. The Advanc-ED Team for school accreditation will be visiting SCCS in October to undertake a Quality Assurance Review Process.

Due to the recent strike, the Director's Advisory Council has been changed until Tuesday, September 18th A.M. in the Board Room. Please contact Yinelda, my secretary at 353-0808 if you plan to attend. At SCCS the Board of Directors, the administration and staff are working as a team to provide the best education environment for our students and staff. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am looking forward to a productive year for your children at SCCS.

Bill McKelligott, Director

NEWS FROM ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Susan Zapata

Welcome to all Jaguars, new and old! We have new students in kindergarten, first, second, third, and fifth grades this year. Make them and their families at home at SCCS, help your child learn to make new friends and be welcoming.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH This year we have some changes in Student of the Month; some months will be only for upper elementary such as August, using and signing agendas and doing homework. We ask parents to check Edline for the category of the month and help children follow through and truly earn their award. Students may be able to earn more than one award this year. The category for September is Knowing Santa Cruz and Bolivia.

JAGUAR SHOWCASE The first Jaguar Showcase is scheduled for Friday, August 31, at 8:00 a.m.

EDLINE Parents of students who were enrolled in SCCS last year have their code to check for information and grades. New teachers are gradually using the system. Information on Edline for parents of second graders will be sent home soon.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Parents of students in kindergarten and first grade were invited to sign up for first semester activities at Back to School Night. Monday and Tuesdays are for T-ball and

sports/games, Tuesdays and Thursdays are for Art, and Fridays are Music. If you were not able to sign up first semester, you have priority second semester.

Students in Grades 2-5 received a sign up form from the office and are welcome to sign up for several activities. If you did not receive a form, ask your child and then call the Office. If there is room for students to sign up for a second or third activity, we will let everyone know with a note home.

TOP STUDENTS, 2006-2007 Awards were presented at the first week of school to the students with the highest academic averages from last year. Congratulations to them and their families, well done!

Third Grade: Michelle Ledermann Pommier and Richard Salvatierra Chavez

Fourth Grade: Michela Ferrari Grau and Naomi Andrade Gonzales

Fifth Grade: Megumi Kamiya Pedraza and Sofia Vallet Garcia

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Mr. Cory Carson, Middle and High School Principal

It is with great joy that I find myself back here in Santa Cruz and once again at SCCS. I must admit that I had a wonderful experience in Brazil during my absence from SCCS, new sights, new ideas, new ways of looking at problems and opportunities. In the end, Santa Cruz is the hometown of my wife, the birthplace of my first son, who now is a student in Pr-kinder at SCCS, and my adopted hometown. It is very nice to be back.

The opening of school has been fantastic. Teachers have been working diligently in preparing their programs for the student arrival. The students have been reacquainting themselves with classmates, past and new teachers and myself. I have much appreciated the smiles I have seen and the positive attitudes that have ushered in this school year. I remind myself that we are only two weeks in, but above all else, we are laying a foundation, a basis upon which we can work to have an outstanding school year.

Parent nights for both Middle School and High School were held last week for small but enthusiastic numbers of new and returning parents. These meetings were important as they allowed us an opportunity to communicate important information regarding this school year such as policy changes, new staff hires and goals for the forthcoming school year. The student and parent handbook is available for download from Edline and has been updated for this school year. The areas of interest will be with regards to extracurricular participation, i.e. academic probation and academic ineligibility, and tardy policy.

As a staff we have identified areas of importance for us to address this coming school year. These goals are broad in nature but do shed light on areas of concern as we head into this school year.

Middle School Goals SY 2007-2008:

Student Responsibility focusing on Discipline, Supervision at Recess, Citizenship and Student Motivation.
Scheduling focusing on SSR (utilizing the time efficiently), limiting Cross-over teachers and addressing issues of Class size.

Student Support addressing Students with academic, behavioral and learning difficulties, Counseling, Transitions from 5-6th and 8-9th, and seeking to prevent kids from "falling through the cracks"

Parental Involvement focusing on improving communication , organized conference time (half days) and having the advisor acts as the bridge between school and home

MS identity by working to further develop a separate sense of being apart from that of a "smaller version" of the High School

High School Goals SY 2007-2008:

Student Conduct by addressing accountability, consequences, discipline, apathy

Attendance, overall expectations for appropriate behavior
Communication inside and outside of school, amongst and between staff, students, parents and administration
Academic Issues by focusing on students with academic issues, increasing Parental involvement and developing systems that provide support for both students and staff.
Scheduling through addressing students doubling up in maths and sciences, revising AP policy to ensure appropriate candidates are gaining entrance to classes and issues of disparity in class size
School Spirit by focusing on concerns of apathy, lack of involvement, alcohol use on campus and students conduct

I am extremely optimistic about the year that lies ahead as we have had such a strong start yet we cannot forget that the challenge ahead of us this year is great. We have academic goals to accomplish, athletic goals to accomplish, accreditation goals to accomplish in addition to addressing areas of concern that have been brought up. The important consideration to keep in mind is that these efforts require teamwork: parents, teachers and students working in concert to ensure success. United we stand, divided we fall it attributed to Aesop some 2600 years ago. This phrase is of particular importance to us as we embark upon this SY 2007-2008, one that is filled with as many challenges as opportunities.

Please feel free to drop by and see me any time, or if you would rather email me, I can be reached at ccarson@sccs.edu.bo.

ELEMENTARY COUNSELOR
Vanessa Krawiec

HOMEWORK TIPS

When parents become involved in their children's schoolwork, the children do better in school. One way you can get involved is by helping your child with homework. It will benefit both your child's school work and self-esteem.

Here are some tips to help with homework:

1. Check your child's agenda when he comes back from school; all homework assignments must be written down and dates clearly marked for tests and project due dates.. Once all the homework is completed remember to sign the agenda.
2. Set a schedule, including both a beginning and an ending time. Most kids need some time to relax after school before they start their homework. Doing it too close to bedtime may make it difficult due to fatigue. Fridays are usually the best day for homework that must be completed over the weekend. Assignments are still fresh in mind and last minute panic rushes are avoided.
3. Encourage your child to divide the homework assignment into "What I can do myself" and "What I need help with." You should help only with that part of the homework your child cannot do independently, such as using flashcards, practicing spelling tests, and clarifying assignments. This builds responsibility and independence in your child.
4. Hold off on watching TV and other fun activities until homework is completed.
5. Provide a home study center for your child with adequate lighting and few distractions. Also always make sure they have all the material they will need at hand: a dictionary, paper, pens, etc., should be readily available and not taken back and forth to school.
6. Use direct praise for doing the homework and even more for accomplishment. "You've spelled 18 out of 20 words correctly--that's the best you've done this semester!"
7. Be available when your child is doing homework, so that you can answer a question if there is confusion. If possible, it is better for you to be in another room, so you are easily accessible and yet not a distraction.
8. Look over the homework when it is completed. Do not correct it unless you have checked with the teacher. Seeing the pattern of errors is often helpful to a teacher.

9. Allow bathroom, drink, and/or snack breaks, but insist on completion of tasks. Make sure that if they are going to be eating that this is done on a separate table to avoid spills or getting the books or homework dirty.
10. Tutors should be used to explain homework, **NOT DO HOMEWORK** with the child. Tutors should show the child and explain what they don't understand and then move into helping them on their weak areas. SCCS does not encourage tutoring unless the administration requests it.

Cuando los padres se involucran en las tareas de sus hijos, los niños tienen a rendir mejor en el colegio. Una forma de involucrarse es ayudando a su nin@ con las tareas. Esto va a beneficiar el rendimiento académico del nin@ como su autoestima.

SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Mike Vande Loo Ed.S, NCSP
Secondary & College Counselor

I am excited to be back for a second year as the Secondary and College Counselor. The second year is always easier than the first, and a great time to build upon what we did last year and only improve our services. A few of our goals for this year are improving the transition program for new students, and for students transitioning to Middle and High school, as well as increasing programs with students in the Middle School with regard to Character Education, and overall support. Additionally we are looking into continuing the Protégé tu Corazon program which helps students problem solve every day life issues related to relationships, alcohol and drugs, peer pressure and sex.

In the Career Counseling Center we are looking forward to hosting a variety of colleges and universities, including at least two new schools this year, The College of St. Scholastica, and Walsh University. Both of these schools gave scholarships to SCCS students last year. School representatives will visit students in the Career Planning class and also visit with parents and students who are interested in these schools in the evening. In addition we will be providing a time on campus for parent and student meetings and interviews so families can get to know the schools more personally

We are happy to announce that we have also purchased a Career Interest Inventory program which all students in the high school can use at their convenience. This will help students get an earlier start with planning their future! Look for future information on the College Counseling website on how to have your child access this great program from home, or at school.

LIBRARY NOTES

Ms. Josie Hanneman

Welcome to a new school year in the Library Media Center. During the first two weeks of school we have reintroduced our students to the library. Teachers are using the LMC resources for a variety of classes, including social studies, economics and psychology. In the elementary we are starting our library classes, introducing new students to our collection and sharing resources with teachers and parents.

We've started the new school year in the LMC with the exciting addition of three copies of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. JK Rowling's highly successful series about the wizarding world has encouraged even our most reluctant readers to pick up a book. Furthermore, over 500 books and 45 magazine subscriptions have been ordered this year, and they should be arriving within the next few weeks. Please visit the library to see the new titles.

New parents will need to open a new patron account if they wish to check out books for their children. The process is simple and quick. If you are a parent and it's your first time in the library, please let us know and we will create and account for you.

For further information check out our website, <http://www.sccs.edu.bo/MediaCenter.php>. It is updated weekly and includes continuing news and announcements.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Heath Kondro, Technology Department Coordinator

The start of the new school year brings with it, a large welcome to all staff, students and parents from the Technology Department. Alejandro Adachi, Carlos Paredes and myself would like to welcome Isabel Rana in new role as the Technology teacher for all Elementary Technology courses. Welcome aboard!

The year also brings with it some important news. SCCS has purchased a one year trial subscription to Atomic Learning. This will provide staff the opportunity to access thousands of online technology-related tutorials at any time, from any internet connection. This will provide staff the opportunity to enhance their technology knowledge and better implement technology into their classrooms. In addition to this, all students will be provided with user accounts so they can work on improving their technology skills from home. This means that you too, as parents, can access these online tutorials and improve your own technological expertise. Please visit www.atomiclearning.com for more details. More news about your child's Atomic Learning account in the near future.

As well, the staff would like to thank Mr. McKelligott and the Board of Directors for their terrific support in our efforts to increase and improve technology use by the teaching staff. Not only do we have year-long access to Atomic Learning, but we will soon have 10 new LCD projectors for use in the school. In addition to the new Smart Board room and a new commitment to technology-focused professional development, these initiatives will all contribute to an improved learning experience for all students.

Finally, the Technology Department will be providing a Safe Internet Seminar for all interested parents on Tuesday October 23, 2007. This will be in the computer lab beside the library. There's a great deal of information out there on the internet, some good, some bad. Please feel free to take advantage of this opportunity to keep your child safe. We take your child's safety seriously when they are on the internet and hope to see a large turnout this year. Please contact the Elementary or Secondary offices to register.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Mr. Nicolaas Mostert, SCCS Athletic Director

Santa Cruz Cooperative School First Semester Sport Program includes: Soccer for boys and girls, Volleyball for boys and girls, Cheerleading, Jaguar Cup in November 2006 (soccer)

The above program is only for Middle and High school students, a separate program will be introduced to the Elementary school.

The Santa Cruz Interscholastic League will start on August 28 at home against Cambridge College. We are proud to announce that the turn out for our JV and Varsity teams have been excellent. The number of students that have committed themselves to playing a sport for the school is absolutely awesome, and we would like to encourage our parents to support our teams. The schedule for all games is posted on Ed-line as well as the practice times.

At elementary level we are introducing more sporting activities and are excited to see the response from our Junior Jaguars. Mrs. Susan Zapata will be notifying the elementary students and parents on the Extra Curricular Programs offered at Santa Cruz Cooperative School. The following sports will be offered; Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Track and Field, Table Tennis, Softball and many more.. We the Athletic Department are dedicated to enlarge our program throughout the entire school to enhance more student involvement in Extra Curricular Activities.

We are excited to announce that SCCS will be hosting the Friendship Games November 8-10, 2007. All of our Varsity teams, Soccer, Volleyball and Cheerleading will be competing in this event. The games will, and has always been, a tradition at our school and we are doing everything to the best of our ability to make this a reality. Schools from La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz will be part of this unique program.

The athletic department of the Santa Cruz Cooperative School would like to take this opportunity to thank all coaches, athletes, and parents for their support during the first half of the season and let's strive for success on our sports fields.

CAFETERIA

PAYMENTS 2007-08

Dear Parents:

We would like to remind you that Cafeteria payments are as follows:

> Minimum payment period: weekly in advance.

Cost per tray: K - 5 = Bs. 15.00

6 + = Bs. 14.00 (Salad Bar)

= Bs. 14.00 (Light Line)

= Bs. 16.00 (Hot Line)

> You can make monthly, semester or annual payments based upon class days for each month as indicated in the official School calendar.

August	= 18 days	January	= 13 days
September	= 17 days	February	= 19 days
October	= 22 days	March	= 16 days
November	= 19 days	April	= 18 days
December	= 10 days	May	= 20 days
		June	= 3 days

> Payments are received in the Cashier's window in the Cafeteria.

> For each payment you will be given the computerized receipt emitted by the computer; all payments are computerized.

Important: Only students who regularly bring their lunch from home will be allowed to purchase lunches on a daily basis.

Students who can't come to school due to illness, may utilize those days for a later payment period, bringing a note from their parents.

Payments will be received at the Cafeteria Cashier from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Students will continue to select from the Menu according to their preferences as part of the nutrition education program.

The Cafeteria is non profit. It's only purpose it to provide the best nutritionally balanced service possible to students.

The norm in the Cafeteria is to never leave a student without lunch, please help us comply by paying on time in advance.

Non payments require that the Cafeteria sent out two notices to parents. A third notice requires the list be sent to the Director's Office.

THANK YOU...

S.C.C.S. CAFETERIA

BASIC NUTRITION INFORMATION

For your information:

- The Cafeteria only uses natural products, no canned goods, no additives, no strong condiments.
- All of our foods are produced on premises including items in the Snack Bar.
- All foods: meats, vegetables, fruits are disinfected with specific products designed for foods.
- All our plate and silverware, utensils and equipment are sanitized with specific approved products.
- All foods are purchased from approved suppliers who provide us with their sanitation certification and whom we visit regularly to verify quality.
- All our personnel is checked clinically periodically.
- All our personnel is trained continuously.
- Our facility is maintained clean throughout the day with specific approved products.
- Our full tray is nutritionally balanced according to international norms.
- The K-2 tray contains 600 kilocalories according to age.
- The 3-5 tray contains 700 kilocalories according to age.
- The 6-8 tray contains 800 kilocalories according to age.
- The 9+ tray contains 900 kilocalories according to age.
- All trays contain a nutrition distribution revised annually: 20% proteins, 35% fats, 45% carbohydrates.
- We provide additional calories to cover the needs of those students who come without eating breakfast, for whom we also provide the Breakfast Program.
- We follow a “prudent” pattern where the minimum amount of sugar, salt, and fat are used as recommended and in a proportion of 2:1 vegetable to animal fat relation, and our production processes comply with this and with other rules under the latest parameters.
- The menus for each season of the year contain foods which are seasonally fresh and cover the cultural diversity of the group in the School.
- The Cafeteria is part of the nutrition education system and therefore the service process is a part of student education and creates independence and selection capabilities for foods which are adequate, such as, Friday’s “Fun Foods”.
- Our foods are not recycled.
- Production is controlled statistically including wastes. All processes are controlled for quality, temperature and service.
- Cooperate with the Cafeteria by learning about its norms and following them.

THANK YOU...

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 MS /HS Writing Prompt	4 MS /HS Writing Prompt	5 MS /HS Writing Prompt	6 ES Progress Re-ports. College of St. Scholastica visit 6:30pm	7 ES/MS/HS Early Dismissal MS/HS Progress Re-ports	8
9	10 Elementary writing Prompt	11 Elementary writing Prompt	12	13	14 Mother's Club Staff Dinner 7:00pm	15
16	17 Walsh University visit 6:30pm	18 Parents Advisory Council	19	20	21 Student's Day No School	22
23	24 Santa Cruz Day No School	25	26	27	28 Jaguar Showcase 8:00 am	29
30						