Director's Report

Forest Ranch Charter School
June 2014

From the Director

Dear Forest Ranch Charter Families,

Another year has flown by. I feel like it was just yesterday we started our school; what a long way we have come. In some ways it feels like we are starting over with a few new teachers, new state testing, new Common Core standards, new Junior High and so many other new things. The exciting thing is that this time we have a bit more experience, a little more time and a solid team. I am thrilled to embark on the journey of improving and expanding our practices. We will have time to evaluate what we like, what is working and what we need to re-do. Hopefully, the result will be an even more engaging and dynamic place for our students. I welcome all of you to be involved and join us as we take on this new challenge. Your thoughts and ideas are welcome.

For next year we hired Kristine Copp, our current Outdoor Ed./GATE teacher, to partner with Mrs. Mc Nulty teaching 3rd/4th grades. Ms. Matoes will teach 5th grade and will be working with me on a new, improved Math program and pilot Common Core curriculum. Mr. Ball and Mrs. Stearns will remain at 1st/2nd, Mrs. Palmarini in Kindergarten and Mrs. DJ will teach 6th/7th. If you are interested in providing feedback about your child’s classroom placement for next year please let me know via e-mail, phone or in writing within the next couple of weeks. You may request a teacher, a friend, or let me know if your child struggles to get along with another student. We ask that each family choose one preference area, as it is difficult to balance so many requests. We will do our best to honor requests but also need to create balanced classrooms that work well for everyone.

Christia Marasco
LifeSkill Heroes

At FRCS, we encourage our students to model and emulate positive traits. These LifeSkills are rewarded during our monthly assemblies and the winning students are displayed on the Heroes wall in the school office.

The LifeSkills for April and May were Sense of Humor and Flexibility. Teachers chose the following students whom they felt best represent these traits on campus:

**Sense of Humor**
Kindergarten – Noah A, Bethany H
First Grade – Xander B, MaKena W
Second Grade – Quinn A, Delainey L
Third Grade – Cole B
Fourth Grade – Kyra K, Wyatt M, Ashton B
Fifth Grade – RJ M
Sixth Grade – Frank C, Jacob S

**Flexibility**
Kindergarten – Angelli D
First Grade – Anna P
Second Grade – Jessi W, Elissa A, Jesse H
Third Grade – Ellie W
Fourth Grade – Chidike O, Landon C, Jesse T
Fifth Grade – Olivia G

Student Government Update

**Jog-a-Thon** – The Jog-a-Thon was a great success! We received over $1,000 in donations toward a running track. The winners in each classroom for numbers of laps run are:

Palmarini – Cole F and Eunavae S
Stearns – Gabe S
Ball – Hannah R
Matoes – Charlie D
McNulty – Cole B
Jimenez – Finn M

Overall Laps – Mason W
Overall Money Maker – Sierra H

Last Day of School Bus Schedule

The bus will leave FRCS at 12:15 on Thursday, June 5th, arriving at La Castana at 12:30 and Marsh at 12:40. There will be no Boys and Girls Club drop off (they are not open until later in the day) or Explorer’s Club (after school care) on the last day of school. Please contact the office right away with any questions or concerns you may have about the last day of school schedule.

2014-15 School Calendar

The first day of school for the 2014-15 school year is August 20th. Please make sure to consult the school calendar when scheduling any family vacations for the year. Continuity in attendance during the school year is important for student learning. A copy of the calendar will come home in August or you can find it online at [http://www.forestranchcharter.org/calendars.html](http://www.forestranchcharter.org/calendars.html).

Silver Dollar Fair Art Winners

We had several blue ribbon winners at the Silver Dollar Fair again this year. Pictured here is Sabrina H holding her skirt that she made during the sewing elective.
From Our 6th Grade Graduates

**Jacob S** – My favorite part of sixth grade was Shady Creek. It was so much fun learning in the Raptor Center and playing capture the flag. All of my friends were in my cabin, which was awesome. I also met tons of new people. I am sad that the year is over, but I am ready to go to Junior High.


**Sarah S** – My favorite memory of 6th grade is the first time I met my new teacher and the first day of school.

**Kayla C** – My favorite memory has to be when Mrs. DJ came back from her honeymoon or when I went to camp because I was on crutches. I fell on a hike and fell off my cabin steps. I love all of my great 6th grade friends. Thanks to everyone who made this school what it is today.

**Sofie B** – My favorite moment in 6th grade was our week at Shady Creek. We had so much fun! But I missed the 5th graders. Another favorite moment was when we would hang out with Mrs. DJ and we would laugh really hard. I love you Mrs. DJ.

**Jonah T** – My favorite memory is Shady Creek.

**Frank C** – My favorite memory of the year was hanging out in the 6th area.

**Sebastian P** – My favorite memory is Spring Concert.

**Sam D** – My favorite memory of 6th grade was the Balclutha trip.

**Mason W** – My favorite memory was when I went to Shady Creek. I had lots of fun when we had cabin time. I also like the food they made. But they didn’t give you a lot. I also liked my counselor, he was awesome.

**Hailey F** – My favorite memory was when all of the 6th graders went to 6th grade camp. Also when our class went down to Bidwell Park and ran the 5k. That whole experience was amazing!
Last Week of School Activities

Monday – on Monday we will be having a Code Red/Bus Evacuation drill on campus starting around 9AM. This is a drill only – do not be alarmed if your student discusses disaster with you that day.

Tuesday – Join us for a BBQ lunch hosted by CUSD Nutrition Services. Regular lunch charges apply for students and adults. Directly following lunch is the 6th grade party.

Wednesday – Wednesday is Water Fun Day. Please make sure students have appropriate clothes and footwear for getting wet and dirty. Maybe even send them with a towel. The fun begins at 1PM.

Thursday – End of the year awards will be presented at the assembly beginning at 8:35. Sixth grade graduation will follow awards. The sixth grade vs. the parents tennis baseball game will follow graduation.

Attendance Honors

Attendance is one of the biggest factors surrounding early success in school. We want to take this opportunity to applaud our students and families who were able to achieve superb attendance throughout this school year.

Magna Cum Laude – Katlyn C, Sierra H, Mason M, Tyler P, Abigail R, Hannah R, Tyler S.


Heard About Campus

Kindergarteners will wrap up the school year finishing up our thematic studies with the continent of Australia. We will learn about koalas and kangaroos, as well as aboriginal Australian storytelling. We will mix in a little math as we compare the jump distance of our kindergarteners to that of a kangaroo!

The third and fourth grade students completed their unit on the California Gold Rush with a rousing performance of the musical “Gold Dust or Bust!” Despite having “Gold Fever”, they are soon heading to Shasta Caverns to learn about stalagmites and stalactites. Students are wrapping up their studies of California with an integrated Road Trip project. This trip takes them to many exciting California destinations. Perhaps some students will even travel to these places with their families over the summer.

June is here! It is with a sense of pride and melancholy that I make that statement. It's been an incredible year in 5th/6th grade. Each student has entered into a relationship with our class and me that is as unique as they are which has been my favorite part of the year. I am going to blink and our year will be over. June is fast and furious. We are finishing up end of the year logistics and packing as much academically into our brains as humanly possible. Sixth grade graduation is Thursday, June 5th at 8:35 am in the multipurpose room, followed by an intense student/parent game, so wear appropriate clothing. I am honored to teach at FRCS and to be a part of the lives of my students.