

A P R I L 2 0 1 6

The Blues News

Important Dates

April

- 14th – Dance-a-thon
- 23rd – Run For Education
- 26th – Founder's Day Tea

May

- 2nd-6th – Teacher's Appreciation week
- 19th – Open House

June

- 3rd – Spring Sing
- 6th – Talent Show
- 8th – 5th Grade Culmination
- 9th – Last Day of School



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The President's Message

Dear Richmond Street Families,

Less than 50 days left in the school year! Can you believe it? I have loved this year and I have gained a greater appreciation of everything our teachers, administration and the Rock Star parents do. I love school. I love everything about it: from the classrooms (tiny desks filled with school supplies, the calendars and job charts, the smell of pencil shavings and crayons and old books) to chatting at drop-off with the parents and teachers, to the worksheets and homework organizers. School touches both the child in me and that side that gets deep satisfaction from seeing everything in its place. Plus the few hours it affords me to regain my sanity!

So when it's time to fundraise, which we are supposed to ask our friends and family to support, I cringe a little. Fundraiser: yucky. School: yummy.

Why? 2 reasons:

1. I hate asking people for money. I mean I really loath it.
2. It reminds me that a public education, at least the one I want for my kids, is NOT free.

Therefore, when the fundraising team approached me last year with ideas, I was nervous. How can we come up with something that isn't time consuming, that doesn't include selling cheap goods marketed by a company that gives us very little back *and* is inline with the mission of our PTA and our school: healthy lifestyles (think Garden, Growing Great, Run Club!).

A Dance-a-Thon! That's right it's our 2nd Annual Dance-a-Thon! It's time to dance with our friends, and boogie with our teachers. How fun is that?

Every student participates and every students dances. No matter what they have raised. No one is left out!

The PTA has listened to the parents regarding fundraising and selling items. Yes, we still need to raise money and yes, we will need to ask our family and friends for support. However, "selling" them on the idea of dancing and moving, is SO much easier. Even for a big baby like me!

PTA is an organization that works for our children. We partner with our parents, teachers, staff and community on many levels to bring fun and educational programs, events, services and opportunities to our children to enrich their academic experience. All of this comes at a cost. The cost for the PTA to fund these important programs is approximately \$75,000 a year. We are hoping that all of our families will participate in this fundraising event at some level. We truly appreciate your support and dedication!

Sincerely,

Bethany Gianusso

President, Richmond Street School PTA

richmondstreetpta@gmail.com

<http://www.richmondstreet.org>

The Principal's Message

Dear Richmond Street Families,

It's hard to believe that we are heading into the final two months of the school year! Our Richmond Street students and community have already accomplished so much, including, most recently, the amazing **STEAM Night**, and we still have the much anticipated **Dance-A-Thon** quickly approaching on **Thursday, April 14th**, yet there's more to come!

On Friday, April 22nd, our 5th grade students will be having their annual **Colonial Day**, a culminating celebration of their social studies unit and experiencing a day-in-a-life from the Colonial Days. All 5th grade students participate in playing colonial games such as making corn husk dolls, making pomander balls as air fresheners, weaving by hand, and listening to a presentation by Ben Franklin!

Run for Ed! will be held on Saturday, April 23rd. In preparation for the run, we have a newly established Richmond Street Running Club that meets every Thursday morning from 8:00am - 8:15 for Early Birds and students in Grades 3-5, and 8:40am - 8:55am for Later Gators. Students will earn a running charm for every 3 miles completed!

PTA-funded field trips continue this month with our Kindergarten students who just returned from the Los Angeles Zoo, braving the drizzle, our 3rd grade students who visited the Manhattan Beach Roundhouse, the 4th grade students visiting the Ballona Wetlands, 1st graders trekking to the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, and the 2nd graders to the Star Eco Station!

It truly takes a village to ensure that our students receive the best and enriching experiences, so thank you parents for all that you do for Richmond Street School!

Warmly,

Dr. Alice Lee, Proud Principal
Richmond Street School
310.606.6831

The Teachers Corner



Dear RSS Families,

I have had to pleasure of meeting with many parents in varied grades to talk about math. Parents have attended some great math mornings and we have gotten a chance to watch math in ACTION in their child's classroom, which has been amazing.

I am often asked the question, how can I support my child in math? With math instruction shifting from teaching procedures to deep understanding, helping your child can be a difficult task. However, your involvement in your child's math learning and development is welcomed and encouraged.

Please click [here](#) to read about 6 concrete and simple ways you can support your child's math development from youcubed.org. There also many resources attached which give great ideas for games, parents' tips and information about growth mindset.

Happy Learning!
Christine Quinn

Please email me with any questions at cquinn@esusd.k12.ca.us.

2016 PTA Book Fair

The 2016 Book Fair was a HUGE success! Our sales totaled just over \$23,800! We will receive 50% of our sales in Scholastic credit, which will be used by our teachers to purchase books for their classrooms and/or other educational tools from the Scholastic Resource catalog! The Raffle raised \$2,400! This means both Richmond's library and YES Academy received \$1200 worth of books. Also, Scholastic donated 2,400 books to a non-profit of their choice. It was a true win-win. Thanks to all our parents, families, and kids who shopped and supported our fair.

PTA Book Fair THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone for a hugely successful PTA Book Fair. Thank you to the many AMAZING parent volunteers who worked tirelessly to decorate, give book talks, staff the book store, work family night and set-up and pack-up the fair. We simply could not have done it without your support! Thanks to the entire Richmond Street School staff for their support. And thanks to our Richmond Street School parents and the community for visiting and shopping at our Book Fair. Your support not only means success for this PTA fundraiser, but it will also mean the success of Richmond Street School students.

Sincerely,
Caroline Dawes, Marissa Heredia, Yvonne Lopez, and Michelle Nieves
Book Fair Co-chairs



Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 23rd at 8:00 am for PTA's **RUN 4 EDUCATION** (located in front of the High School). This is a huge event for our Council PTA and last year this event gave \$5000 back to our school.

This year we are giving away blue wristbands to any student who registers before April 20, but any student who registers before April 15 will also receive a special headband. We will also be providing a Popsicle party to the class with the highest participation percentage.

The Run 4 Education requires many volunteers ranging from corner volunteers to registration help. The elementary schools are in charge of registration this year. If you can help, please sign up at www.esrun4education.com and click on SIGN UP NOW. This will take you to the home page and click on VOLUNTEERS. We need help on Thursday, the 21st and Friday, the 22nd and Saturday, the 23rd.

RSS PTA Run Chair, Amanda Loiacono is also available to answer any questions you may have. Her email is amandarun4ed@gmail.com.

Hope that many of you can help us out and see you on the streets of El Segundo in a couple of weeks!

Richmond Street Running Club

Run with your RSS friends and family every **THURSDAY MORNING**
at the Richmond Street Field starting April 7th.

8:00am - 8:15am for Early Birds

8:40am - 8:55am for Later Gators

Earn a running Charm for every 3 miles you complete!

Running with friends is so fun!

Honorary Service Award

Congratulations to this years award recipients!

Bethany Gianusso, Peter Gianusso and Holly Kobzina will be recognized for the Honorary Service Award.

Dawn Whitney-Hall will be recognized as Very Special Persons.

Amanda Igi will be recognized as Outstanding Teacher Award.

Honorees will be awarded at the annual Founder's Day Tea on Tuesday, April 26th at 3:30pm at the United Methodist Church!

Congratulations once again to this years recipients and a special thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers! You are such a vital part to Richmond Street School!



Richmond Street School

615 Richmond Street
El Segundo, CA 90245

www.richmondstreetschool.org

Richmond Street PTA Officers

President:

Bethany Gianusso

1st VP-Leadership:

Kirstin Stickland

2nd VP-Programs:

Casey Gruber

3rd VP-Fundraising:

Danielle Christian

Recording Secretary:

Becca Blake

Historian:

Lupita Henriquez

Financial Secretary:

Lisa Thiel

Treasurer:

Sasha Taylor

Auditor:

Melissa McCaverty

SAFETY ISSUE:

To resolve an ongoing problem of illegal parking, parking congestion and in concern our children's safety, we parents and citizens of El Segundo would like to propose the following. The creation of two no parking, "School Zone - Pick Up" areas on the parameters of the Richmond Street School. The zones being, the South side of Palm from Richmond Street to Virginia Street and on the North side of Mariposa from Richmond to Virginia. The time period would be from 1-3 on days when school children are present.

Click on the link below to sign the petition:

[Proposed School zone drop off areas for Richmond Street School - EL Segundo](#)