



The Lion's Roar

(Lietz School Newsletter)
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<http://lietz.unionsd.org>

Larry Thomas, Principal
Diane Nunes, Secretary

September 4, 2014

Dr. Jacqueline Horejs, Superintendent
Jenny Torres, Health Clerk

Calendar

September 8: Picture Day!
September 9: Home and School Club Potluck and Meeting at 6:00pm
September 12: Staff Development Day – No School
September 19: Back to School Picnic and Movie

Getting To and From School Safely

Every morning, more than 500 students make their way to Lietz; and every afternoon, more than 500 students make their way home from Lietz. **The safety of our children is a community responsibility.** Daily, we place cones out on the streets around Lietz and we have 5th grade Safety Patrol students posted in the driveway. These have helped slow traffic, but they are only part of the solution. We would like to have crossing guards at the intersections closest to the school. If you are interested in this paid position, more information can be found on the District Website (www.unionsd.org) under "Employment – Current Openings".

The biggest risk to our students is the number of cars on the road. Walking, riding and carpooling will increase the safety of all of our children...and it is good for our health and our environment. Here are some safety tips for walking or riding to school:

Be Alert:

Whether you are walking or riding, watch out for cars turning left or right, or cars coming out of driveways.

Be Predictable:

If you are walking, cross at corners and use crosswalks. Do not make sudden moves that put you out into the roadway. If you are biking, obey all traffic signs and signals. Bikers are expected to yield to pedestrians and follow the rules of the road.

Make Eye Contact with Drivers:

Do not assume drivers see you. Whether you are walking or biking, make eye contact with drivers at intersections when you are crossing or turning.

Do Not Do Things That Will Distract You:

Bikers, of course, should not carry anything in their hands. Even walkers should not be doing things that will distract their attention from the surroundings.

Wear Your Helmet and Buckle it Every Time:

It is California State Law that people under the age of 18 wear a helmet when riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard.

Driving Reminders:

If you must drive, please remember the following:

- Be aware of pedestrians and bicyclists.
- If using our drop off lane, only drop off students along the red curb. You may not park in the drop off lane.
- If using our drop off lane, you must turn right out of our parking lot.
- Please do not stop in the middle of the street, pull into neighbors driveways, or make illegal U-turns as this causes both traffic and safety problems.

Smile – Picture Day is Monday, September 8

Picture Day envelopes went home in the Thursday folder on August 28th. Extras are available in the main office. Please be sure to order online or send your child with the envelope and payment on Monday, September 8.

(Over for more information)

Union School District Board Members: Sheila Billings, Cindy Goodsell, Vickie Brown, Janice Hector and Harold Stuart.

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications:

If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, please get your application in to be processed asap. A new application must be completed each year. Meals are provided for returning students for the first few weeks to give parents time to complete a new application.

New Breakfast and Lunch Prices for 2014-15

Breakfast: served during the morning recess from 10:05-10:25. The cost is \$2.00 for the meal. If students qualify for free/reduced lunch then they automatically qualify for breakfast as well.

Lunch: The cost is \$3.50 for the meal.

Payment for lunch can be made in cash or online. Our school district now offers mySchoolBucks, a convenient and secure online payment and parent information portal! With mySchoolBucks you can deposit money into one or more student accounts, track purchase history, create low-balance reminders and even set-up an automatically recurring payment.

Information on how to set up a mySchoolBucks.com account can be found on the district website under "Food Services". (<http://www.unionsd.org/Page/115>)

After School Program Start Dates

Sign up information for all of the following programs was sent home in prior Thursday Envelopes.

Golf: Begins Wednesday, September 3

Cartooning: Begins Thursday, September 4

Math Olympiad: Begins Tuesday, September 9

Spanish: Begins Thursday, September 11

Soccer: Begins Tuesday, September 16

Basketball: Begins Friday, September 19

Weird Science: Begins Friday, September 19

Kids Club: Begins Wednesday, October 1

Band: Begins Monday, October 6

Superintendent's Monthly Message
by Dr. Jacqueline M. Horejs
September, 2014

There is a great deal of excitement in our schools as we launch our 21st century teaching and learning initiative in classrooms throughout the district. Thanks to the solid support of our parents and community in passing Measure J, we were able to provide over 2,000 mobile devices for teachers and students to start this school year. We plan to have a device for every child in the district by the end of next year. We are currently furnishing demonstration classrooms with flexible furniture to facilitate the collaboration called for by the new Common Core state standards, and we are installing state-of-the-art displays for both teacher and student presentations and interaction. There is definitely a "buzz" in classrooms at all of our schools, and it could be the hum of all those devices but I think it is the sweet sound of imagination and creativity being unleashed! Our goal is to prepare students for their future rather than our past. I feel confident that USD will meet and exceed that challenge!