

RHEEMARKS: September 6th

Dear Rheem Team Families,

I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy the holiday weekend.

Before we jump into this week's Rheemarks, I wanted to start by sharing some reminders on the importance of keeping everyone safe at school and in the community.

1. **Symptom screener:** Although we are no longer filling out the daily symptom screener like we did last year, we are still asking families to check each morning if their student is exhibiting any COVID symptoms (symptoms can be found [HERE](#)). If they are showing any of these symptoms, please keep your student home.
2. **Close contacts:** If your student is identified as a close contact here at school, we will be contacting you and walking you through the next steps. However, in the event you are contacted by an outside organization (i.e., sports league, theater group, Girl Scout/Boy Scout, etc.) and notified that your student had been identified as a close contact, please be sure to notify the school. We will inform you of what next steps you will need to take to have your student return to campus.
3. **Mask wearing:** Rheem and the Moraga School District strongly encourages students to wear masks when inside and out. The reason we feel it is so important to wear a mask at all times while on campus has as much to do with remaining safe as it does with the county health department's definition of close contacts being considered inside and outside. This means if your child is considered a "Close Unmasked Contact," they will need to quarantine away from campus for ten days, as compared to a "Close Masked Contact" who can return to campus the next day (while following [THESE](#) protocols). Dr. Parks does a wonderful job of explaining close contact protocols on [THIS](#) video (her explanation begins at the 6:25 mark).
4. **Dashboard:** The Moraga School District regularly updates Covid-19 confirmed positive cases and quarantines on campus using [this DASHBOARD](#).
5. **Test requirement:** In the event a student stays home from school because they are not feeling well, before they are allowed to return to campus, families are required to show proof of a negative Covid-19 test, or a note from their doctor documenting a chronic condition or alternative diagnosis, or quarantine for ten days from symptom onset. (*Please*

note that a rapid home test is not considered valid, and we ask that you receive your results from a testing site or medical provider.)

6. **Local Covid-19 Testing Sites:** MSD has partnered with our neighboring districts and communities to provide free access to [Covid-19 testing sites](#). *(I recommend you create an account at this time by clicking [HERE](#). By doing it now, you can save yourself time when you need it most).*

Thank you for indulging me in starting this week's Rheemarks, and please dive right into the rest.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, September 6:

- NO SCHOOL: LABOR DAY

Tuesday, September 7:

- · K-2 Early/Regularly Schedule
- o Early Schedule 8:25-1:55
- o Late Schedule 9:35-3:05

Wednesday, September 8:

- · Wednesday Schedule
- o 8:25 – 1:50 (All K-5th grade students)

Thursday, September 9:

- · Regularly scheduled Thursday
- · “California Admission Day”
- o This Day in History: On September 9, 1850, California was admitted to the Union, becoming the 31st state

Friday, September 10:

- · Regularly scheduled Friday

Annual Rheem Parent Social – Hosted by Rheem’s PTA

Save the date: September 21 from 5:00-7:00 @ the Canyon Club

Please join us for a festive kick-off to the school year at the Canyon Club on Tuesday, September 21, from 5:00–7:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 per person and include two drink

tickets, unlimited appetizers, and the opportunity to connect with other Rheem parents, staff, the PTA, and Mr. Sullivan. There will be games and raffle prizes too! Purchase tickets [HERE](#).

Sip! Sip! Hooray (for Rheem)!

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Do you have a child with an IEP or 504, or suspect your child may need special education assistance? Join the [Community Advisory Committee \(CAC\)](#) to the Contra Costa SELPA meeting on September 22 from 5 pm-6:30 pm via [Zoom](#) to learn about the role of the CAC and SELPA and other resources for families in our area. The meeting is open to the public, and parents are encouraged to attend - the informational presentation will begin at 5:30 pm following the regular business meeting of the CAC. No registration is required. If you need translation or other accessibility accommodations, please contact the SELPA at least one week before the meeting at 925-827-0949 ext. 10.

Zoom Link <https://bit.ly/3D1wRfA> Meeting ID: 811 2185 7355 Passcode: 589008

For questions or concerns, contact Amy Morosini, CAC Moraga Representative @ amy.d.morosini@gmail.com.

Did you Know?

Drop off/Pick up Times: Getting children onto and off of campus takes teamwork. To ensure the safety of all our students, we ask that you do not drop your child off before 8:10 am (early) or 9:10 (late).

There is NO supervision before those times.

If a student is dropped before 8:10 or 9:10 (official supervised times), they will be brought to the office and/or sent to Roadrunner Club (which may result in a charge).

Supervision after school is provided for 15 minutes after the dismissal bell. Students not picked up within 15 minutes will be brought to the school office. Any student not picked up within 20 minutes after their dismissal will be sent to Roadrunner Club (which may result in a charge).

Thank you for ensuring students arrive and are picked up according to the above supervision schedule to ensure their safety.

Need of Volunteers for Late Arrival Supervision

We are still searching for a few more volunteers to help supervise and keep students safe who arrive between 9:10-9:25. (All teachers and teaching assistants provide instruction and support in the classroom between 8:25-9:25). If you can help provide supervision for our students from 9:10-9:25 on either a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, please reach out to me or Mrs. Fitzinger (lfitzinger@moraga.k12.ca.us).

Job Opportunity at Rheem

We are currently searching for two classroom teaching assistants at Rheem to help with students' general supervision and support. Applicants will have the opportunity to work under the direct supervision of a classroom teacher and be expected to assist with the implementation of instructional plans while also supporting students' social and emotional development.

For more information, please reach out to me at bsullivan@moraga.k12.ca.us.

The Last Word...

Before becoming a school administrator, I was a high school and middle school social studies teacher. Since the earliest I could remember, I was fascinated by history and the stories that went with it. An interesting thing about history is the way it is recognized and defined changes over time. From wars to social movements, the origins are often romanticized or told with a slant to favor one groups perspective.

With that said, Labor Day is a national holiday that honors and celebrates workers and their achievements. But the real impetus of Labor Day takes us back to the late 1800s where the average American worker was struggling during the Industrial Revolution. From working 12-hour days, seven-day weeks to scrape out a living. It was a time when the government and big business put all their weight behind suppressing workers' rights and forbidding them to organize and form unions. The oppressed were the poor and immigrant communities who were deemed "expendable." And if it were not for the courage of these very workers and the power of the people, Labor Day would never be.

And so, it is like us as a nation. As much as we've grown and done more to protect the rights of all Americans, there is still work to do. I encourage all of us to celebrate ourselves and the workers in this great nation, and pay extra mind and advocate for those living on the margins, and working as hard as ever just to get by. By modeling this for our children we will undoubtedly grow even stronger as a country.

Thank you for all your support and all that you do to enrich the lives of your children.

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan