

September 7, 2020

Dear Rheem Team Families,

Between the heat and smoke, I hope everyone has had a chance to relax this Labor Day Weekend. The United States Department of Labor has this to say about Labor Day:

“Labor Day is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.”

Growing up the son of an electrician and secretary, my parents worked very hard to raise their three children in a nice neighborhood with good schools. Their hard work was nothing they ever spoke of but instead just modeled day in and day out. I'm not sure I ever wished my parents a "Happy Labor Day," heavens know they deserved it, so in the event someone has not wished you one today: Happy Labor Day and thank you for all your hard work and all that you do to provide for your children.

And if you're up for a small task on the holiday, I encourage you to dive into the rest of this week's Rheemarks.

This Week at Rheem:

Monday, September 7th:

- LABOR DAY – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 8th:

- Distance Learning Daily Schedule:
 - 8:25 – 12:05 Kindergarten classroom teacher instruction via Zoom
 - 8:25 – 12:15 1st – 3rd classroom teacher instruction via Zoom
 - 8:25 – 12:20 4th – 5th classroom teacher instruction via Zoom
 - Specialty classes
- Moraga School Board Meeting
 - 7:00 – 10:30 on Zoom (Link [HERE](#))

Wednesday, September 9th:

- Storytime Club: 12:30-1:00 (Join Zoom Meeting <https://moraga-k12-ca-us.zoom.us/j/86462128251>
Meeting ID: 864 6212 8251)

Thursday, September 10th:

- Regularly Scheduled Thursday

Friday, September 11th:

- Fun Fridays Club 12:30-1:00 (Join Zoom Meeting <https://moraga-k12-ca-us.zoom.us/j/83401278557>
Meeting ID: 834 0127 8557)

School Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 8th

During this month's school board meeting Superintendent Burns will "present a report explaining three school reopening scenarios: Waivers, Small groups "Hubs/Cohorts", and Return to School via Hybrid Model. The report will include information for each scenario related to guidance data sources, student groups, instructional models, safety, health, timelines and next steps." (9/8/2020 Moraga School District Board packet.)

There are two options for people to participate in the meeting via Zoom:

Option 1: Join Zoom Webinar using a computer and enter

<https://zoom.us/j/98834748675?pwd=OTNLNGpVcnp5MXJxUjZLTEi5VU5sQT09>

Option 2: Call in using a normal telephone; dial 1 669 900 6833 US; Webinar ID:988 3474 8675

Parent Volunteers Needed to Complete 2020-21 Committees

Rheem Site Council Wants YOU!!

We're in need of parent members for this year's School Site Council.

The purpose of Rheem School's Site Council (SSC) is to develop, support, and monitor our school goals. In recent years, the council's work has focused on supporting the district's Strategic Plan by developing and monitoring actions steps to implement the Common Core standards and the Writers' Workshop program. Last year, specific goals were established in Mathematics and Language Arts based on CAASPP data as well as student engagement. Traditionally, our council also develops a "School Climate" goal to promote and maintain a positive learning environment for all students.

Cultural Proficiency Committee

Rheem is in search of a volunteer who is willing to participate on the district's Cultural Proficiency Committee. The Committee's goal is to identify cultural proficiency standards, measures MSD can test/evaluate against these standards and then develop plans to improve our cultural proficiency where there are gaps.

Coordinating Council

And last but not least, Rheem is in search of volunteers who are willing to participate on the district's Coordinating Council, comprised of parents, teachers, classified staff,

administrators, Governing Board members, and the superintendent. The council meets at least four times a year to review and update the District's Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Meetings begin at 3:30 PM and will be held via Zoom. 2020-21 meeting dates: September 16, November 4, January 27, February 24, March 24 and April 21. Meetings are open to the public.

To increase coordination and improve efficiencies among committees, the former Wellness Committee and Student Safety Committee are sub-committees of the Coordinating Council.

If interested in any of these worthwhile committees, please contact me at (bsullivan@moraga.k12.ca.us).

The Last Word...

For years Rheem Elementary has utilized a "[Growth Mindset](#)" approach in the way it teaches our students. From teachers and staff to administration and families, growth mindset allows for student growth and an increase in malleable intelligence for our children. It teaches them that learning is a byproduct of dedication and effort compared to pure genetics. It also shows students how to deal with setbacks and challenges in a healthier way. Challenges, and to some extent setbacks, are an everyday occurrence in today's virtual classroom so the need to support student's Growth Mindset has never been more important.

The seminal study of Growth Mindset found that "a subtle change in how you praise someone can lead to a dramatic shift in their behaviors." When we praise someone for their effort instead of their ability, research found that students were more likely to enjoy challenging assignments and less likely to give up when facing a difficult task.

To promote Growth Mindset I encourage all of us to [choose our words wisely](#) and see what a difference they make. Now more than ever the power of growth mindset can make an improbable situation seem probable. I know Distance Learning is a challenge and your effort and attitude have made a world of difference in your student's experience this year, so if I may quote #11 on the list, "I admire the way you model respect and perseverance with your children."

There's no place like Rheem!

Mr. Sullivan