

Santa Clarita Valley Council PTA

NEW HALL, CASTAIC, SULPHUR SPRINGS,
SAUGUS & HART SCHOOL DISTRICTS

OUR MISSION

The mission of the California State PTA is to positively impact the lives of all children and families by representing our members and empowering and supporting them with skills in advocacy, leadership, and communication.



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MELISSA'S MESSAGE

25, 36, 8, 41 Hut

It is game time for units all over Santa Clarita Valley as everyone gears up for the start of the new school year. It is amazing to see all the passion, dedication and drive that PTA parents possess, and I know that this will be a fabulous school year!

Your Santa Clarita Valley Council PTA has adopted this year's theme... "All the way with PTA".... and we are here for you... all the way..., as you drive down the field towards your goals. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us. We will continue to provide training and

support for all our units throughout the upcoming



Team Work

achieved, and I am going for it! So don't forget to turn in your monthly president's and financial reports, and attend the monthly council meetings – I need you to rack up your points!!

It's early in the first quarter still, the game is far from done, so remember to keep motivated, keep encouraging your teammates, and remember that we are all doing this for the kids.....and together we can go ... "All the way with PTA..."

Melissa Null

SCV Council PTA President

year. One of my goals as SCV Council President is to have 100% of my units achieve the president's circle award. This, to my knowledge, has never been

MEMBERSHIP

What an exciting year we have ahead of us! As this year's Council Membership VP, I would like to put a spotlight on some of our unit's membership drives. We are working hard all year long and sometimes we could all use some ideas from one another. Maybe you may

find an idea that you have not tried or is not working for your school and would like to share your opinion with other schools.

This month's spotlight goes to Cedar Creek Elementary School. Cedar Creek's Membership Chair, Dominic Gallardo who has done

such an amazing membership drive, an inspiration to PTA.

The Cedar Creek PTA membership drive is well underway, gathering momentum every day to reach its goal of 100% participation. Nestled in the...



SANTA CLARITA
VALLEY PTA COUNCIL

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

September 15, 2011 ~ 7pm
Association Meeting
Northlake Hills Elementary
32545 Ridge Route Road, Castaic
Bring: Audit (if ready), Membership Remittance,
Annual Financial Report,
Council Assessment & Insurance payment.

October 20, 2011 ~ 7pm
Mountainview Elementary
22201 W. Cypress Place, Saugus

Find us on the WEB!
www.SCVPTA.com

ALL THE WAY WITH PTA!

MEMBERSHIP

C O N T I N U E D



Membership continued from front page

...foothills of Canyon Country just below Canyon High School, the surrounding community is well established and the make-up of its residents is one of the most diverse in the Santa Clarita Valley. In fact, nearly 50% of all Cedar Creek students who took part in the STAR testing were classified as English learners (2010-11 Accountability Progress Reporting).

As a result, all communication

between Cedar Creek families and the PTA are translated into Spanish. Translators are available during every PTA meeting and all PTA correspondence is translated into Spanish before going home to students.

This year's membership theme is "Working Together to Make a Difference." To start this year off in the right direction, the Cedar Creek PTA has put together a membership package that is appealing in any language. First, all members will receive special discounts to two Southern California attractions, Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach and Legoland California Resort located in Carlsbad. Each offer allows for one free student admission with the purchase of one adult admission.

Second, each member will receive a free meal at Chik-fil-A, located in Valencia adjacent to the Westfield Shopping Mall. In addition, each member will receive a \$3 Cougar Buck voucher, good for any Cedar Creek PTA merchandise including yearbooks, t-shirts, pens, pencils, etc.

Furthermore, as an added incentive to join the Cedar Creek PTA, if the membership

drive reaches a minimum of 80% participation by the end of 2011, the Cedar Creek PTA will offer an additional \$3 Cougar Buck voucher...so there's really nothing to lose when you join the Cedar Creek Elementary School PTA.

As a visual aide in tracking their membership progress, a seven-foot "PTA Membership Thermometer" has been installed on the outer walls of the school and is visible to all. This thermometer will measure percent participation of all Cedar Creek families who become PTA members. As membership numbers increase, the thermometer will "rise" thus providing a real-time visual indication of Cedar Creek's goal of obtaining 100% participation.

Let me know how your school is running it's membership drive. You may be selected to have a spotlight in next months newsletter.

By Julie Gonzalez, Council PTA Membership
Julie.SCVCouncilMembership@gmail.com

HEAPS TREASURES

A Treasure Trove of News!

By Nancy Heaps, Council PTA Treasurer
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Thanks so much to all Treasurers and Presidents who attended Treasurer training on August 18th. In particular, I would like to thank those “seasoned” Treasurers who provided invaluable input that will make Treasurer tasks much more efficient! I would love to hear from other units that have found a better, easier, more sensible way of doing things so that we can all benefit!

Several units mentioned that they would like to attend a PTAEZ training/demo/Q&A meeting. We are hoping to set this up soon and we will provide you with information ASAP.

The Attorney General is now letting units file the CT-1 (initial registration) form and the RRF-1 form at the same time (with the correct supporting documentation of course). The Attorney General’s office is assigning a CT-1 number to all units and putting this number on the RRF-1 form so that units do not have to wait for this number in order to file the RRF-1. Yeah!!!!!!!!!! When you have completed them, please forward a copy of both the CT-1 form and the RRF-1 form to Council Treasurer (me!) I do not need your support documentation however, just the forms themselves.

If your unit does not know your new Franchise Tax Board entity number (you will need this to file the new 199 or 199N tax form), I have a complete list of units and FTB numbers so please feel free to contact me and I will get you your unit’s number.

If you have any questions on the new California tax requirements or the new Attorney General’s requirements, please feel free to contact me (all other questions are welcomed as well). If I don’t know the answer, I will find out (it’s usually called “Ask Melissa” who has been an incredible mentor and advisor for me...and the year has just started!)

Finally, you are all so appreciated for stepping up to the plate because it is our kids who ultimately benefit from all of the wonderful programs that the PTA provides. A humble thank you!



LEADERSHIP

Tip # 1 ***How to Have a Successful Meeting***

By Suzan Solomon, Council PTA Leadership
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nce the president has opened the association meeting with one rap of the gavel and announces “*This meeting will please come to order,*” it is always nice to follow *the call to order* with an opening ceremony that includes the Pledge of Allegiance, a personal, warm and friendly greeting, introductions of guests and/or an optional inspirational message or song. The rationale is to make everyone feel welcome, a part of something special, and to recognize and validate their work as well as their effort for attending the meeting.

REFLECTIONS



ATTENTION ALL REFLECTION CHAIRS!

School is up and running again and so is the 2011 - 2012 Reflections Program.

The theme this year is "Diversity Means. . ."

Although most students will benefit from the dictionary definition of diversity, remember to encourage students to find a subject matter that is relevant to their age group. Diversity can be as simple as a box of crayons and as complex as the world we live in. August and September are the months to be

sending out your interest flier and forwarding the rules and regulations to those students who have shown an interest. You can also promote your program now by putting up posters or speaking at a school assembly or PTA meeting.

For more information or to download forms go to www.capta.org.
You can also call or e-mail questions to me anytime.

The final date to turn in your entries to Council is November 10, 2011 at the Council Association meeting at North Park Elementary School. Good luck!

LEADERSHIP

SCV Council PTA & You

The Santa Clarita Valley Council PTA aka SCV Council PTA is a group of school PTA units that are organized under the California State PTA to promote collaboration, leadership training and the coordination of efforts among the school PTAs.

In other words, the SCV Council PTA will provide information from state and district PTA's as well as relevant community information, and information on new laws and advocacy efforts; train PTA officers on PTA policies and procedures; work closely with its PTA member schools to coordinate PTA activities in the community or with school districts.

SCV Council PTA may provide opportunities for its member PTAs to collaborate on activities with each other, such as sponsoring a candidate's forum, or co-hosting an Internet safety program night.

The SCV Council itself can implement a program once the majority of its member PTAs votes to support it. The SCV Council PTA has sponsored a valley-wide Special Education conference with our local SELPA; SCV Council has sponsored an annual vendor's night, participated in the SCV local 4th of July parade; and in collaboration with the city of Santa Clarita, co-sponsored the first Patriot's Day commemorating 9-11.

The main objective of the SCV Council PTA is to provide our school PTAs the support they need to achieve their own goals and objectives. Please know that you may contact any member of the SCV Council PTA board to assist you in any matter. Our response time to you will be within in 24 - 48 hours. If for some reason you don't hear back immediately, please contact another member of the council board. It is important to us to be responsive to your needs and that you have the information needed to proceed with your work.

You can find SCV Council PTAs contact information on the roster provided, or E-mail.

Good luck this year! Have fun! Work Hard! Enjoy your role in PTA and always keep in mind the reasons you are involved... for the children and youth of the Santa Clarita Valley.

By Suzan Solomon, Council PTA Leadership
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MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS



ARE YOU?

Are you filing your monthly President's Report online?

Are you submitting all your documents online?

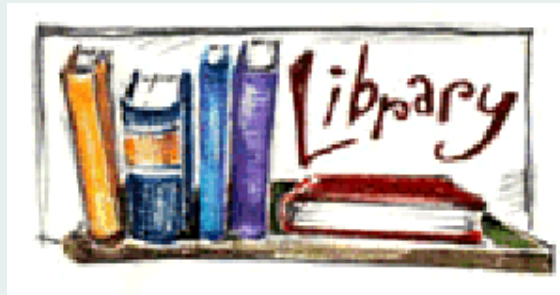
How about your Unit Evaluation Forms... did you get the new form?

Need another copy of a recent flyer we handed out?

Are you set up to receive TXT or EMAIL Blasts?

Well ~ ARE YOU? We've made it easy for ya...

We are building a new LIBRARY on our WEBSITE!
The "Library" will be an accumulation of unique and successful Programs you all have held. "One stop Idea Shopping!". We need your Program Evaluations for inventory, so start submitting them!



PTA PROGRAMS

Don't forget to RACK up those Program Points for the MVP Award given out in June... That's "*Most Valuable Program*".

This is a new award to be handed out to the unit that turns in the most program evaluations, while adhering to the 3-to-1 rule. Programs to be considered are those occurring in the 2011-2012 school year.

34TH DISTRICT TRAINING

TRAIN! - TRAIN! - TRAIN!

Our 34th District PTA will be holding a training workshop/Q & A style on

Saturday, September 24th

at Fair Oaks Ranch Elementary

9:00am

This will be an excellent opportunity to get more training for your board on all positions.

Representatives from Council, District and State will be there.