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Mr. Nathaniel Cunningham
Superintendent of Schools SD 201-U

TALALA ELEMENTARY

September 2017



From the Desk of the Principal

Greetings and Welcome Talala Families,

I am so excited to leap into what I know will be an amazing school year. I trust the summer brought lots of exploration to new things, people and places, as well as the anticipation of returning to the 2017-2018 school year.



As you all are aware our start time is 9:00 am and dismissal is 3:35 pm. I am opening the invitation to join our P.T.O at Talala! Feel free to contact the office for those seeking to actively participate. Whether you are a classroom volunteer, a soon-to-be member of the PTO, or a special event volunteer, you are encouraged to be involved! Your participation in your child's education coincides with a greater likelihood of both academic and social success, it is valued immensely.

This will begin my fourth year as principal of Talala. It is my goal to ensure a high-quality instruction, as well as provide an engaging and safe environment for your children. I would like to welcome our new staff members to Talala, we are very excited to have you join our team of exceptional professionals. I am very proud of our dedicated, driven, and devoted staff. We will continue to strive towards excellence as we provide a first-class learning experience for our students coupled with a positive, highly-productive, and uplifting school community.

It is our desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at school. You will receive consistent communication from your child's teacher, monthly school newsletters, current information on our district/school web page as text updates from the principal using the **Remind** app. If you have questions or concerns that arise at any time, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

I am looking forward to furthering our work together as we move Talala Elementary over and beyond our greatest expectations. Here's to a spectacular new school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Michelle Johnson



Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 ~ October 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month.

This celebration began in 1968 when Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which was observed during the week that included September 15 and September 16.

The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month long celebration.

During this month, we celebrate the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

Please visit www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov for more information.

Over the course of this month, we will be sharing information with our students regarding the contributions of individuals of Hispanic heritage to our society.



Sonia Sotomayor,
Associate Justice
of the United States
Supreme Court

*“Although I grew up
in very modest and
challenging
circumstances,
I consider my life to be
immeasurably rich.”
~ Sonia Sotomayor*



Welcome!

We would like to welcome our new staff to Talala!

- ◆ Mrs. Parchman—Cross Categorical Teacher
- ◆ Mrs. Offord—Art Teacher
- ◆ Mr. Mitchell—Physical Education Teacher
- ◆ Mrs. Brinker-Collins—Math Interventionist
- ◆ Ms. Stone—Teacher Assistant
- ◆ Ms. Calleros—Teacher Assistant



Very Important Dates

- September 21—**5th Grade Beginning Band Registration**
 - 4:00—8:00 pm at CMMS Cafeteria
- September 22—**Ice Cream Social with Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Watson** for students who have completed and returned their Summer Math and Reading packets. Students will receive a treat and certificate.
- September 22—**School-wide Assembly** to announce special incentives for students reaching their NWEA MAP Goals (Northwest Education Association Measure of Academic Progress).
- September 27—**1:15 pm Early Dismissal**—School Improvement Day
- September 27—**Curriculum Night, 6:00—7:30 pm**

Mission Statement

Our mission is to establish a safe environment where a diverse community of children, parent, and educators become responsible, life-long learners through respect, support and collaboration.

Very Important Reminders



Morning Arrival

- ◆ Students may arrive as early as 8:45 am. Please be sure your child arrives at school no earlier than 8:40 am. Prior to that time, there is NO supervision available on campus.
- ◆ Breakfast is served at 8:45 am.
- ◆ Students who are tardy (arriving after 9:20 am) are required to have their parents bring them into the office to sign them in. *If this is not done, the tardy will be considered unexcused.*
- ◆ Please be sure not to simply drop students off if they arrive after the 9:20 am tardy time.

Transportation Change

The end of day preparations for dismissal are sometimes quite hectic. When we receive last minute transportation instructions and reminders for your child, we cannot always get them delivered on time.

- ◆ Please try set plans before your child comes to school. Calls to change a child's regular after-school pick-up procedure received after 3:00 pm may not be able to be honored.
- ◆ We will not pull students off of the bus once they are loaded or pulling off.

Food Service

Please remember that all student lunch accounts need to be kept up to date. Once a student's lunch account reaches -\$10.50, the student will be given a courtesy lunch.

The Crete-Monee School District utilizes an online payment program called e-Funds for Schools. This program offers various options for parent/guardians who choose to make payments online. There is no fee for using this payment program. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Hands at 367-2564.



NEED SCHOOL SUPPLIES?

A limited supply of book bags and school supplies are available to students in need. Please contact Mrs. Perkins, Social Worker, for further information: (708) 367-2577.



Parent Communications

Keep your eyes open for a variety of ways we hope to improve our school to home communication. Our teachers will be asking for e-mail and other contact information throughout the year. Please provide this information so we can better ensure that you receive important information about your child's school.

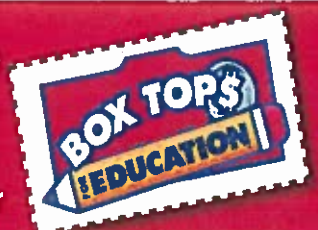
Also, please check out our ever-expanding page of school information and resources on Talala School's website. Classroom news, student spotlights, principal's letter, and parent involvement events are available at your fingertips.

Box Tops & Labels for Education

We collect Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education all year. All monies raised goes towards student activities for the year. Please help support our students by collecting and turning in box tops and labels. Thanks in advance!

No se olvide
de entregar

Don't forget
to turn in your



Math facts here, Math facts there, Math facts EVERYWHERE!

For elementary students, learning math facts is important to success in math. Students are expected to master their facts before starting 4th grade. Below are the expectations for what students should master for each grade level, Kindergarten – 5th grade.

Kindergarten Addition and subtraction facts to 5

1st Grade Addition and subtraction facts to 10

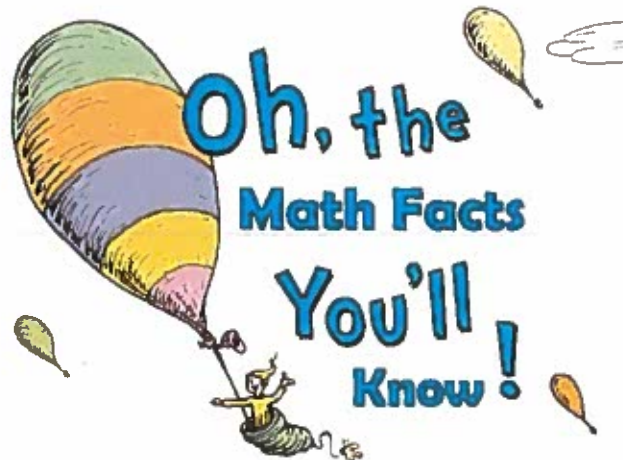
2nd Grade Addition and subtraction fact to 20
Addition and subtraction within 100
(paper/pencil)

3rd Grade Multiplication and division facts to 100
Addition and subtraction within 1000
(paper/pencil)

4th Grade Facts Mastered
Addition and subtraction within 1,000,000
(paper/pencil)

5th Grade Facts Mastered
Multi-digit multiplication

Our district has a math fact plan in place to help students achieve these expectations. The plan includes support for students who do not master their math facts by the end of 3rd grade.



Dr. Seuss

THINK
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TALALA ELEMENTARY

Curriculum Night

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

6:00—7:30 pm

This is a reminder to all families of our annual **Curriculum Night**. You will find out what your child is learning and what you can do to help your child be even more successful in school.

We will begin in the gymnasium at **6:00 promptly** with an introduction to our staff and a brief presentation by the principal. We will then dismiss parents to move to individual classrooms for teacher presentations and activities. We hope to see each and every parent attend!

- ⇒ *Grade level curriculum and new initiatives*
- ⇒ *Classroom management procedures*
- ⇒ *Homework expectations*
- ⇒ *Review parent participation guidelines*
- ⇒ *PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports*
- ⇒ *Schedule parent-teacher conferences*
- ⇒ *Receive student handbooks*
- ⇒ *Volunteering information*

