

G L O R I E T T A

A Letter from Our New GPC Presidents

A

Believe it or not, it's time once again to put the pedal to the metal and embark on a whirlwind schoolyear journey. Many of you are in a state of disbelief that your "baby" has grown into a kindergartner, and others are shocked at how their little kiddo morphed into a hulking 5th grader, seemingly overnight! Wasn't it just last week we pushed them around in a stroller? Between the three of us, we have experienced the full spectrum of these emotions.

B

This year, as we transition to a new system of leadership, our parent population will have three GPC co-presidents to serve you. We are officially the "Three B's:" **Mindy Becker**, **Mimi Bommarito** and **Shelli Brudzinski**. (Perhaps we'll nickname her "Melli" just to be MB consistent!) Mindy and Mimi are the last of the team of two co-presidents; Shelli rings in a new era of one senior (second year) president teamed with one junior (first-year) president, who will be selected by the nominating committee this spring.

Some parents may recall last year's Executive Committee voted to change the structure of the presidency to a second year/first year team to cope with the complex demands of understanding district and state funding issues, as well as to foster a cohesiveness with the other Parents Club presidents, who all utilize the second year/first year scenario. As there are many issues to fill our dance card, we foresee no problem splitting the responsibilities three ways this year.

A bit of bio: Mindy is married to Rob and has three children: David, (7th grade at OIS), Emily (3rd) and Lucy (2nd). Mimi is married to Guy and has three daughters: Marin and Zoe (7th and 6th grade at OIS) and Kyra (2nd). Shelli is married to Randy and both of their two children attend Glorietta: Jaclyn (2nd) and Adam (K).

Our team is thrilled to acknowledge the parents who graciously stepped forward to lead and assist with the many programs that keep Glorietta not only afloat in these tumultuous times, but swimming gold times (yes, that metaphor was for you devoted and overworked swim team parents out there who will barely have time to catch your breath and redirect your energy before school starts!) Many parent leaders are returning to programs they helped to create and grow, and many are taking over the reins for the first time. We owe a debt of gratitude to all of you.

Some of our programs are in a "Pardon Our Dust" state of existence as we attempt to adapt to the serious budget cuts suffered last spring and over the summer. This is, if anything, a year when patience, teamwork and outside the box ideas will be critical.

So, stay positive and stay involved! All three of us know it's one more thing in an already overbooked work week, but the best way to find answers— or at least details and discussion— in the wake of the complex and frequently changing news from the district and from Sacramento is to attend our monthly GPC meetings.

We have made a strong commitment to using less paper, so make a mental note that all program information previously contained in the August GAB and in the colorful flyers in the registration packet can now be found on our Glorietta website.

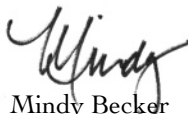
Several parents have worked doggedly over the summer months to put registration information on the website and to put the online registration process in place. We worked with the end user in mind, and strove to make it simple, efficient and even amusing. Please be aware that, as in all first-time endeavors, there may be a few bugs and kinks to work out. We anticipate a smooth transition, and thank you all in advance for your patience.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Kickoff Day on August 25th, from 4:00-6:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room (New Parent Registration begins one hour before, at 3:00 pm), and to an excellent school year to follow.

Sincerely,



Mimi Bommarito



Mindy Becker



PRINCIPAL WENDY SPARKS' LETTER

Campus improvements, a new attendance system, Readers' Workshop Summer Institute.

GOPHER GOURMET

First day is Sept. 8th! New additions to the menu.

GOPHER CLUB

No Kindergarten hours the first day of school.

A Letter from our Principal

Dear Glorietta Families,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! We are delighted to welcome you and your children back to school. You will discover on the very first day a fabulous new program that has been put into place to help expedite the traffic flow in the morning and also assist your children to safely disembark from the car. We have a cadre of well-trained safety patrol members who will greet you every morning! Please be certain to thank them for their hard work. Over the summer, a few campus improvements have been underway – fixing up the Butterfly garden, refinishing the picnic benches that are scattered about the campus, and the addition of a new bench in memory of instructional assistant Toni Russell. We can thank Cameron Stevens and Ross Andrews and Zach Sorenson who completed these projects to support their endeavor to become Eagle Scouts.

We are implementing a **new attendance system**, which will allow the office staff to keep up-to-date records of student absences on a daily basis. We now have a **direct attendance line** that parents must call to report their child's absence. Please do not send a note to the classroom teacher or call the office main phone number. The **24-hour attendance line phone number is: 258-6385**. Please leave the following information:

- Your child's name, please spell the last name
- Estimated length of absence
- If you are uncertain regarding the number of days your child will be out please call the attendance line on a daily basis
- Your name and relationship to the child



Staff members, by grade level, generated a very basic list of school supplies that students will need for the first day of school. Copies of this list were sent home via Friday Folder or email in June. We also have the lists posted on the Glorietta website so you can beat the crowds and purchase your school supplies early. Happy shopping!

Many of the Glorietta staff members joined me and attended a Summer Institute on teaching Reader's Workshop in June. The presenters were two of Columbia University, Teachers College, best trainers and the intense training was inspiring and stimulating...we all look forward to applying our newfound knowledge to the literacy program we offer students at Glorietta. We also plan to devote some quality time educating our parent community about the benefits of this method of teaching.

As you know public education continues to face many challenges and we have all learned flexibility is a key factor in dealing with all of the uncertainty. Families will learn who their child's classroom teacher will be on August 25th, which is the official kick-off/registration day. Historically, in my many years as an administrator, there have always been last minute staffing changes, so it is prudent to wait until the final hour before the start of school to firm up class lists and staffing decisions. Thank you for your understanding.

I am so excited to see your children again...it is going to be a FANTASTIC year!

Warm regards,

Wendy Sparks

GOPHER GOURMET

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH IS THE FIRST DAY OF GOPHER GOURMET

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful, relaxing summer. We are ready for another great year at Gopher Gourmet.

I would like to welcome the 2009-10 Gopher Gourmet committee members: Cathryn Coons -Asst. Chair, Adam Nathanson-Email Notification, Tina Frechman-Volunteer Coordinator, Jenn Rogers-Database, and George Minowada-Bagel Delivery. Kitchen Manager Marie O'Brien will be returning to work on Wednesdays and Fridays.

There are still plenty of volunteer kitchen shifts left to fill. Please stop in the kitchen soon and sign up or email Tina Frechman at tfrechman@comcast.net.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS! OUR GREAT LUNCH PROGRAM COULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT THE DEDICATION OF OUR KITCHEN SHIFT VOLUNTEERS!



NEW THINGS COMING TO GOPHER GOURMET IN SEPTEMBER

Gopher Gourmet is committed to providing interesting, yummy, nutritious meals for our children. We are pleased to announce some new menu items. Please let your children know that in addition to their usual favorites, we are planning to offer mini hamburgers again and new smoothie choices. For the vegetarian kids there will be a meatless (Boca-type) burger option.

We are starting our hot lunch service a whole week earlier than the other schools. (We don't like to make lunches any more than you do!) In order to help us with this ambitious goal, we need to get your orders in by the deadline of August 26th- the first day of school. PLEASE try to sign up before kick-off day.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH IS THE FIRST DAY OF GOPHER GOURMET.

See you in the kitchen in September!

Lori Strand and Cathryn Coons
Gopher Gourmet Chair and Asst. Chair



GOPHER CLUB

So Much Fun!

Gopher Club is Glorietta's on-site before and after school childcare program and is open for the 2009-2010 year starting with the first day of school. (Please note: there will be no Kindergarten hours the first day of school.) Hours are from 7:00am to 9:30am, and from 1:10pm to 6:15pm each school day.



Gopher Club, a service provided by the Glorietta Parents Club in cooperation with the Orinda Union School District, is a program dedicated to safety and fun. The facility includes such features as a separate homework/quiet room, a built-in craft area, computer center, reading nook, bathrooms, and a kitchen! Some of the activities featured in the program include arts and crafts, team sports, science activities, cooking projects, and group games. A monthly calendar is always provided so that you and your child will know what activities and snacks are planned for each day.

If you are a new parent to Glorietta, please feel free to stop by Gopher Club to get a look at the facility and to meet GC director Paula Day and her dedicated staff. And if you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to give Gopher Club a call at 254-1726.

CALENDAR

KEY UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 23	Kindergarten Picnic, 5:30-7pm at Glorietta
August 25	Kickoff Day , New Parent Orientation 2:00-3:00pm New Parent Registration 3:00-4:00pm, Returning Parent 4:00-6:00pm
August 26	First Day of School
August 26	Gopher Gourmet Session 1 orders due
September 1	Welcome Coffee with Principal Wendy Sparks, 8:00-9:00am
September 7	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day Holiday
September 10	Back to School Night
September 11	Gift Wrap Sales Begin
September 15	Early/Late Birds Start (1 st -3 rd)
September 15-16	School Photos - Mugshots
September 16	GPC General Meeting
September 21	TB Testing
September 21	ASP Registration Begins
October 5	Spanish Session I begins
October 17	Fun Fest
December 11	Family Fun Night
February 20	Glorietta Auction

