

**Canyon Rim  
PTA**



# Roadrunner Review

**September 2011**

**- Issue 11 -**

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*Welcome to the 2011-12 Canyon Rim Elementary School Year. We are so looking forward to Stepping up to the Plate together with you for the benefit of our children!*

— Warmly, Lisa Casciaro and Tracy Fleck, PTA Co-Presidents

**Welcome  
Incoming Kinders,  
Class of 2024!!!**



**Mrs. Baker's Class**



**Mrs. Mann's Class**



**Mrs. Ricupito's Class**

## What's going on around here?

**New bell schedule!** Most important to note is that dismissal time on Wednesdays is now 12:15 for K-3 and 12:20 for 4-6. Dismissal on other days is 2:15 (K-3) and 2:20 (4-6). Check out all the details at [CanyonRimPTA.com](http://CanyonRimPTA.com).

**All day kindergarten!** The youngest Roadrunners will be attending school all day this year, from 8:00 -2:15 (12:15 on Wednesdays). No more early and late starts. This means the parking lot may be a little more crowded at drop-off and pick-up. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.

**Accelerated Reader Enterprise!** Thanks to our generous Canyon Rim families, we have a new and improved AR program. Students will have access to about 140,000 quizzes, compared to 9,000 previously. Plus, teachers, parents, and students can easily track their progress online.

**ST Math!** Mr. Appling was awarded a \$20,000 grant to purchase this cutting-edge math software. Students in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grades will utilize this self-paced program in the computer lab twice weekly. More details can be found at [STMATH.com](http://STMATH.com).

**ExCEL Intervention Time!** Parent donations are being combined with Mr. Appling's funds to hire additional intervention personnel, who will rotate throughout the school, pulling out groups of students for focused instruction. This results in more concentrated, small-group direct instruction for all students.

**Bulletin board updates!** Check out the bulletin board outside the office to get up to speed on the latest Canyon Rim happenings. Everything you need to know for the upcoming month will be posted. Plus, find out how your donations are being used to improve your child's education.

# After-School Enrichment Programs on Tap for 2011-2012 School Year

**C**anyon Rim PTA has been hard at work putting together an exciting line-up of after-school programs for our students this year. We are trying to introduce some new classes while keeping the popular classes that our students and parents have come to enjoy!

Some of the classes that we have scheduled to date, include:

- \* Mad Science - Thursdays beginning on 9/29 - 11/1 from 2:25 - 3:25; open to K-6th grade
- \* Cheerleading - Wednesdays beginning 9/7 - 11/9 from 12:15 - 1:15 (participants will need to bring a sack lunch); open to K-6th grade
- \* Music - Beginning/Continuing Strings – Thursdays, starts on 10/6 from 2:30 - 3:15; open to 3rd - 6th grade. This program runs all year.
- \* Beginning Band – Tuesdays, starts on 10/4 from 2:30 - 3:15; open to 5th & 6th grades. This program runs all year.
- \* Core Plus Performance Training (Fitness Training) – Mondays starting on 10/10 - 12/5, 2:25 - 3:25; open to 1st - 6th grade

Some of the classes we are working on for the second half of the year include:

- \* Dance
- \* Engineering with Legos
- \* Spanish
- \* Chess Masters
- \* Art

Detailed information on these classes will be sent home in your child's weekly folders, so be on the lookout! If you have any questions or need additional information you can contact Karen Westmoreland at karen@karenwestmoreland.com

## A Letter from Our Principal, Mr. Appling

Dear parents and students of Canyon Rim Elementary School,

Welcome back from your summer vacation! I look forward to a successful 2011-12 school year! There is much to celebrate at Canyon Rim Elementary School including great parent involvement, student achievement, and teacher dedication. I look forward to continuing the building of all the relationships with the students and parents. My first priority is to support teachers in **continuing** to implement effective strategies and programs that ensure student success.

I will be entering my third year as Principal of Canyon Rim Elementary School. The past two years have been rewarding for me collaborating with students, parents, and staff of Canyon Rim. Over the last two years, the staff and I have been enhancing the elements that make Canyon Rim successful such as Cognitive Guided Instruction, Thinking Maps, ExCEL grouping, English Language Development, data collection and analyzing, differentiation, and interventions. I have been creating a mantra for the staff "Work smarter, not harder".

As a Professional Learning Community, we will continue to work together to:

- Ensure that targeted and planned learning is an ongoing influence in the workplace
- Create a culture and environment where teacher improvement is nurtured and expected
- Help teachers keep their curriculum knowledge current and their classroom skills sharp
- Cultivate channels of communication, collaboration, and leadership
- Implement innovations that engage both educators and students

I structured the year so that all stakeholders would be sharing goals that

were directed toward student achievement, student engagement, a safe and welcoming school, and parent/community partnerships. Response to Intervention for the last two years was given a foundation at the school as the Student Success Team and the staff researched the effectiveness of the RtI process and its make-up. This foundation has been set giving the 2011-12 school year the fresh start of Canyon Rim's full implementation with Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III interventions and strategies.

ST Math, a technology math program, designed to teach and reinforce the learning of grade-level math standards will be provided to students twice a week in the computer lab. The program was developed through the Mind Institute and was awarded to our school through a grant donor. We are very fortunate to have this very expensive program and will begin implementation this year for grades 2, 3, and 4.

Working with parents and maintaining their involvement is a huge part of student success. When children see parents on campus, it reflects that school is important and that their learning matters. Teachers at Canyon Rim welcome the support and help each and every day.

I am thrilled to begin another year collaborating with the teachers, parents, students, and community of Canyon Rim continuing to move forward achieving student success.

Again, welcome back-

David A. Appling, Jr.  
Principal

## Take a Snapshot!



**Calling all budding photographers:** Moms or dads, how would you like to become a Canyon Rim photographer and take snapshots at school events for inclusion in our Yearbook? We are in need of a pool of two or three photographers who can take photos of our kids throughout the year, especially at evening events or special days.

In addition, we are looking for two parents from each grade to coordinate the

pages for that grade in the upcoming Yearbook. Tasks will include collecting photos, inserting them on the grade pages, and ensuring that everything is done in time for deadlines. Don't worry, training and help is readily available!

If you are interested, or want more details, please contact Asifa Shah, Yearbook Coordinator at [asifashah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:asifashah@sbcglobal.net).

# Roadrunner Rant

**S**ince the day we were elected PTA co-presidents, we (well, mostly Lisa) have been bombarded with questions (some polite, some not) about Canyon Rim. We'll be using this space each month to address your questions, comments, and con-

cerns. To start the year off with a bang, we address everyone's favorite topic: fundraising.

**Why is Canyon Rim constantly asking me for money?** Throughout the school year, Canyon Rim families are asked for

donations and purchases by a number of groups. Without the continued support of Canyon Rim families, our students will be deprived of many programs and supplies essential for a quality, well-rounded education.

## UNZUR-ARRAZOZ

Who	When	Goal	Used for
Canyon Rim PTA	September (direct donations), October (silent auction), Spring (Fun Run)	\$43,100	Academic assemblies, instructional aide, technology, Art Masters, library & classroom supplies, AR Enterprise, plus much more
Principal	October (catalog sales)	\$10,000	Technology and instructional personnel
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Ed	September – May	\$10,000	Tuition, busing, and teacher stipends
Student Council	Quarterly	Varies	Charity
Teachers	Varies	Varies	Field trips, academic programs, and classroom supplies
Room Parents	Quarterly, plus May (teacher appreciation)	Varies	Classroom parties and teacher appreciation week

**That can't be right! What about Bingo night?** Canyon Rim PTA organizes numerous activities and programs throughout the year that are not fundraisers. Family Fun Nights [e.g., Concert in the Canyon, Fall Festival (except Silent Auction), Bingo night, tile night], Canyon Rim T-shirts, and our yearbook enrich our children's education by fostering a sense of community in our school. The PTA does not profit from these programs.

**Does the Principal really need a separate fundraiser?** When the Principal came to Canyon Rim two years ago, the staff and students were using 12-15 year-old technology equipment. Each grade level had to share an ELMO and LCD pro-

jector. Teachers had no laptops. Classrooms had old computers of which more than half of them were not working. These funds from the Principal Fundraiser have provided updated teaching technology equipment (each teacher has a laptop, each classroom has 2-3 updated and current PCs for students, each teacher has an ELMO and LCD projector). Yes, it is very imperative that the Principal continue on with his fundraiser to support our children and staff with the best opportunities for learning, including the technology they will use.

**I paid my \$8 membership dues. I'm done for the year.** More than half of the \$8 membership dues are remitted to

the National and California PTA organizations to pay for training and materials. The remainder pays for insurance for PTA volunteers (without which there would be no PTA), as well as printing and supplies throughout the year. Membership dues do not fund school programs or supplies.

Have a question or concern? Need to vent about something at our school? Just leave us a note (anonymous is fine) in the PTA mailbox in the office or email [PTACanyonRim@gmail.com](mailto:PTACanyonRim@gmail.com).

## Mark Your Calendars: Canyon Rim Fall Festival Set for Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>



Back by popular demand, the Canyon Rim Fall Festival is set for the evening of Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

This family fun night will include popular carnival-style games, a Game Bus, fun booths such as crazy hair, face painting and more, as well as a Pumpkin Patch with pumpkins for purchase. New to this year's festival will be a pumpkin decorating contest: students are encouraged to

bring a decorated pumpkin to school the day of the event, with awards being given out that evening at the Festival. Fall Festival attendees will also be able to participate in a Silent Auction.

Since the Fall Festival is categorized as a family fun night, the PTA is asking for any donations in terms of services (including printing of programs for the silent auction). In addition, donations are welcome for the Silent Auction. Donation ideas include: sporting event tickets (Angels, Ducks, Chargers, Lakers, Clippers,

Galaxy, etc.); signed sports memorabilia; any sport-related activities such as rounds of golf; Sunday brunch or chef for a day; vacation weekends (homes, timeshare, etc.); musical instruments; Razors, Skateboards; tickets to entertainment venues (television shows, Disneyland, etc.), and more.

If you are interested in donating items or volunteering for the Fall Festival, please contact the Fall Festival Committee Chair Deanna Drum at [deedrum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deedrum@sbcglobal.net) or 714-350-00015.

### Concert in the Canyon: Friday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**P**ack up your family, a picnic, chairs and a blanket, and enjoy free music while your kids play! Come to Canyon Rim by the playground/grass area.

For questions email:  
[PTACanyonRim@gmail.com](mailto:PTACanyonRim@gmail.com).

### Find a Penny, Pick it Up... Pennies for Prevention Slated for October

Remember to start saving your pennies for Pennies for Preventions during Red Ribbon Week, which is slated for October. The class with the most pennies will win a prize! Stay on the look-out for more details...



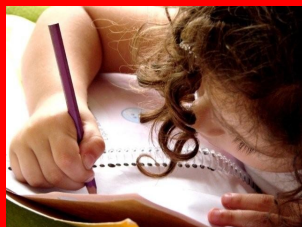
## 2011-2012 PTA Reflections Program: "Diversity Means..."

**P**TA encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts Reflections Program. This contest is an opportunity for students to create works of art for fun and recognition. Using their artistic vision to portray the theme "**Diversity Means...**" students can create and submit works of art in one or more of the six areas:

- \* **Visual arts** (which includes art forms such as drawing,

painting, print making, and collage)

- \* **Photography**
- \* **Literature**
- \* **Musical composition**
- \* **Dance choreography**
- \* **Film production**



The grade divisions for entries are Primary: kindergarten-grade 2, Intermediate:

grades 3-5, and Middle/Junior: grades 6-8. Entries are due in October. Each entry is the original work of one student without help from an adult. All entries will be displayed, and winners and participants will be recognized at an awards reception. First place entries in each division from Canyon Rim will move on to the next level of judging. Students can start working on their art work now!

Contact Janet Brown at [crrreflections@att.net](mailto:crrreflections@att.net) for information and entry forms.



**CANYON RIM  
PTA**

To get the latest on  
Canyon Rim, please visit  
[www.CanyonRimPTA.com](http://www.CanyonRimPTA.com)

## Save the Date!!! September 2011

**9/1**

**PTA Meeting**  
8:15 a.m. in the MPR



**9/2**

**School Packets Due**

**9/5**

**Labor Day — No School**

**9/8**

**Back to School Night**  
6:00 p.m. — Upper Grades  
6:45 p.m. — PTA/Principal's Address  
7:15 p.m. — Primary Grades

**9/9**

**School Pictures**

**9/12**

**Patriot Day**

**9/9-9/16**

**Canyon Rim PTA Direct Donation Campaign**

**9/23**

**Concert in the Canyon**  
6:00 p.m.

**9/25**

**Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure**

If you would like to sponsor our 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Budd's "Team Catfish" for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on September 25th at Fashion Island, you can donate on-line at <http://www.komenoc.org/race/teamcatfish>.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**9/30**

**Art Master's Assembly**

## October 2011

**10/3-10/7:** Art Master's Classes

**10/6:** PTA Meeting at 8:15 a.m. in the MPR

**10/10-10/14:** 6th Grade Outdoor Ed

**10/17-10/28:** Principal's Fundraiser

**10/21:** Canyon Rim Fall Festival & Silent Auction

**10/24-10/28:** Red Ribbon Week / Pennies for Prevention

**10/28:** Minimum Day