

FAITH NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Our Mission is to give hope to disadvantaged children by showing them God's unconditional love and by guiding them into becoming whole persons – socially, intellectually, physically and spiritually



June 2008

THANKS FROM

- Thank you for remembering Burckhalter teachers on "The Day of the Teacher". The gift bags were given to the teachers during the morning assembly. A student from each class gave the surprised veterans the cheerful bag and students gave a "2, 4, 6, 8 Who do we appreciate? The teachers!" We also shared the gift bags with our instructional support members. They all loved the goodies!

-Dhameera Ahmad,
Principal

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for our students going to camp this summer with TYM and Mission Springs - a special time to enjoy the great outdoors and the love of an extended family, while camping in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

CONTACT

Interested in volunteering?
Contact us:

Email: info@faith-network.com
Phone 510/836.5100
Fax 510/836.5105

Business Writer Shares Experience as Writer Coach

Pam May is a writer coach for the Writer Coach Connection (WCC) at Longfellow Middle School in Berkeley. There she works one-on-one with seventh grade students to help them develop writing and critical thinking skills. Meeting once a week, Pam tutors various students on experiential and other English writing assignments, coaching them through the draft and editing processes of writing.



Pam May coaching a Longfellow student

In this manner, students learn by discussing conceptual and mechanical decisions regarding their work, which contributes to them becoming better writers. Pam is a professional writer and owns a copywriting company called TechScribe Communications. TechScribe provides business writing services to small and medium-size organizations. Pam likes helping students to discover the value of writing and the opportunities that it can afford. She notes, "I especially enjoy helping students realize that writing can be fun." The WCC is a writer improvement program of the Community Alliance for Learning, with whom Faith Network is a collaborative partner



It's Not Too Late!

Join us for our **Benefiting Our Children BBQ Dinner, Silent Auction and Drawing!**

Friday, June 13th at 5pm. \$45 per person.
Metropolitan Golf Links
10051 Doolittle Drive, Oakland

- Meet and mingle with Faith Network supporters.
- Browse and bid on silent auction items.

RSVP deadline is June 3rd.

Purchase drawing tickets for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The Grand Prize drawing is a pair of round trip tickets with **Southwest Airlines**. You don't have to be present to win.

Call our office to buy drawing tickets or to RSVP for dinner (510) 836-5100.



RANDY ROTH

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Recently I participated in a Coalition for Community Schools conference in Portland, OR, which drew over 1,000 attendees from across the U.S. Although I wasn't familiar with the term, I quickly realized that the concept of a Community School is what Faith Network is seeking to foster. Here's the reason: Too many of our students come to school hungry, neglected, and in turmoil because of personal exposure to abuse and violence. A disproportionate number of low-income children lack stable housing, and access to health care and counseling services. You can understand why reading, writing and arithmetic may not be on forefront of our students' minds.

After serving 7 years in the trenches of school campuses, we know first-hand that teachers and administrators are overwhelmed by the needs of their students and families. They neither have the time, energy or necessary skill-sets to address these non-academic concerns. Put simply, schools cannot meet the needs of our disadvantaged children without the support of the wider community.

Community schools are those that welcome private and public resources to address the health, safety and emotional needs of students, so that the schools can concentrate their attention on serving their educational needs. Faith Network's urban school partnership program is seeking to mobilize community resources by building a network of supporting churches and organizations. It's all about TEAMwork: Together Everyone Achieves More!

For the children,

Randy

P.S. As I was writing this article I received a call that the father of one of our 3rd graders was shot dead last night, by a teenager. Please pray for Taz'jay, her mom and siblings in this hour of profound grief and loss. Taz'jay is scheduled to attend one of our summer camps.

MOST WANTED

Golf Classic

- 1) Golfers
- 2) Sponsors
- 3) Volunteers
- 4) Auction Items

If you can help in any way, contact our office:

510.836.5100
info@faith-network.com

STAFF

- Randy Roth, *President*
- Jocelyne Birren, *Grant Writing*
- Chelsea Boniak, *Executive Administrator*
- Norman Brooks, *Director Science Horizons*
- Rebecca Buckley, *Associate Director*
- Charlotte Martinez, *Director Health4Kids*
- Carolyn Piraino, *Director Excel Reading Clinics*

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Planting a Sense of Ownership

by Malin Ramirez *Beautification Coordinator, Korematsu & Esperanza Academy*

Thank you for working alongside our children in planting gardens and trees. The students and school staff are still in awe of the work completed that day. Even the security guard came up to me and said, "It now feels like a real school." Charity is a rare act in our community...

Already I can see the character of the school community changing. Parents are donating fruits and vegetables to our school garden. Kindergarteners are watering the plants without being asked. We have planted a sense of ownership and pride across the entire school community. Seeing this makes my heart swell in gratitude. These are the precious moments that give me hope for the future.

Many of the students who helped with the garden project had earlier attended Science Horizons outdoor science camp at Mission Springs. Thanks to a generous donor, Faith Network was able to contribute \$1,000 toward the Korematsu/ Esperanza Beautification Project.



Mission Springs volunteers work alongside students