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Newsletter

for Homework Central...fostering academic success through tutoring & family support

In this Issue

- Math Night
- Sunnybrae Site
- Park Site
- Advisory Board
- Snack Angels

Calendar

details and locations at:
www.smhwc.org

Tutor Training

Saturday, 02/21/15 9am
Tentative 03/07/15 9am
Tentative 03/21/15 9am

Family Night

Wed, 03/25/15 6pm

NHT (see below)

Fri, 04/10/15 6pm

Spring Break (no tutoring)

03/30/15 - 04/06/15

SVGives

Tues, 05/05/15

Last Tutoring Day

Thur, 05/21/15

Children+Parents= Math FUN

by Karen Jolliffe

Math Night is always one of the most exciting parent/children events because everyone can participate. Held on January 28, it was our largest event yet. There were between 57 and 64 children that night as well as parents and guardians. Have you ever tried to count moving children in a large room with ten tables? It taxes the best of us – even the math wizards in our organization.



The games included Rubik's Cube, Guestimations, Math Bingo and Dice Games. Everyone gets involved even the very youngest. Prizes included 142 colored pencils, jump ropes, M&M's, puzzles, sidewalk chalk, small boxes of raisins and various other sundry items kids love.

Children feel very valued when they succeed and the goal of the night was to allow as many children as possible to participate. So if you have won in one game and won again, the next runner up was given the prize.

A great suggestion from a member of the Parent Advisory Board suggested that we increase the number of events for the very young children.



Save the Date

**No Homework
Tonight**

Friday, April 10

6:00 to 9:00

Congregational Church

Sunnybrae School

by Linda Forsberg

My Site is Sunnybrae Elementary. It's a great school to be working at for Homework Central. There are several advantages being at the school. I have direct contact with the teachers. They can come to my room to discuss one of their students if and when necessary. I can contact one of them if I need to communicate for any reason.

I have three very capable and efficient Paid Interns who are looked up to and respected by their students. Some of our volunteers come two days a week. They are so helpful and dedicated, we could not succeed without them and they are truly appreciated.

I have been with Homework Central for eight years now. I was hired after I retired from a job teaching English as a Second Language in Hillsborough and at night in San Mateo Adult School.

Homework Central is an excellent program and I'm proud and thankful to be part of it. I thoroughly enjoy working with these third, fourth, and fifth grade students. They work hard and are eager to progress. They appreciate what we are doing for them. Their parents are truly grateful for our program.

Homework Central thanks Oracle for their generous donation which has purchased chrome books for all four sites. All children must use the chrome books for Common Core testing. This is a welcome addition to each site and will assist in preparing the children for their testing, technology enrichment and learning experience.

Park School

by Molly Wagner

What an exciting first couple of months it has been at the Park School Site! I started slightly over-capacity due to the great need and enthusiasm for HWC at Park, but have found a great balance due my enthusiastic volunteers and committed high school interns- one of whom is a former HWC student herself! In December, the parents organized a lovely potluck to "show their appreciation." Everything from salad to pizza to homemade flan arrived around 4pm on our last day before break; there was enough food for all the parents, staff, students and their siblings. It was such an honor to be included around the holidays. Looking into next year, I am thrilled to be a part of the technology implementation team at HWC. Not only I but my interns and the Park School teachers are all excited to provide Chrome Books during program for the students to gain tech competency and prepare for their use in the upcoming Common Core assessments.



Advisory Board

by Matt Feuer

Homework Central is pleased to announce the formation of an Advisory Board. The board is charged with providing counsel, guidance, and making recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the strategic direction of Homework Central, its long range plans, and matters of concerning fiscal policy.

Joining the Advisory Board as founding members are:

Cynthia Simms, PhD. Dr. Simms is Superintendent of the San Mateo Foster City School District. She brings over 26 years of combined experience as a superintendent. Previously, Dr. Simms served as superintendent for the Walnut Valley Unified School District in Washington and Steamboat Springs school District in Colorado. In her words "Our job as educators is to ensure that all students achieve at a proficient or advanced level academically as well as socially, emotionally, and physically—learning through programs of instruction that best match their interests and learning styles. Dr. Simms received her Ph.D. in School Administration from the University of Denver.

Rose Castillo Guilbault. Ms. Guilbault is among the most influential Latina women in California. She is a former communications and public affairs executive who has been recognized for her significant contributions as a leader in business, media, and the community. Most recently, Ms. Guilbault was a key member of the executive team and Chief Communication Strategist to the CEO and Board of Directors of AAA Northern California, Nevada and Utah Insurance Exchange. An expert in building relationships, inspiring collaboration and driving results for organizations. Ms. Guilbault currently serves as a director on multiple corporate and non-profit boards. She is a published author, an accomplished public speaker and is the recipient of numerous awards, including an Emmy Award in Broadcast Journalism. Ms. Guilbault holds MBA and MA Degrees from Pepperdine and the University of San Francisco, respectively.

Mary Woodward Ms. Woodward and her husband have been long time supporters of Homework Central. Ms. Woodward has tutored students of Homework Central for 14 years. She has tutored at three of our four homework sites, and recently assisted in helping us launch our newest site at Park Elementary School. She has provided counsel to the operating board on initiatives including the introduction of technology, the development of our library, operations and fund raising. The Woodward family has been a generous financial supporter of Homework Central for many years. For 20 years, Ms. Woodward's vocation was public relations, while her avocation throughout her life has been education, especially as regards to teaching methods and materials. Mr. Woodward holds a B.A. in English from Carleton College in Minnesota.

Reverend Benjamin Meyers. Reverend Meyers is an ordained Unitarian Universalist Minister. He currently serves as the settled Minister at Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo ("UUSM"). His church is one of the three founding congregations for Homework Central 18 years ago. Reverend Meyers in an impassioned minister who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of all people and exemplifies this in his work. He is a strong advocate of UUSM's Social Justice Ministry which serves those in need in local and global communities. Over the course of his life, Reverend Meyers has modeled his beliefs by putting his talents to work in community based and for-profit organizations plus serving on board that have dealt with food procurement for those in need, affordable housing, and lad preservation. He brings additional expertise to Homework Central in organizational development, growth modeling, and business operations. Reverend Meyers received his Masters of Divinity from Starr King School for the Ministry and MBA from San Francisco State University.

Charles Du Mond, Ph.D. Dr. Du Mond and his wife have been Homework Central champions for many years. They have served as volunteer tutors and have supported our program through their generous financial endowments. Ms. Du Mond was also a member of our Board of Directors for several years. Dr. Du Mond has served in leadership roles in several Silicon Valley biotech companies. His technical expertise is in the fields of biometrics, statistics and biostatistics. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Dr. Du Mond is a social activist who supports a number of organizations at the board level. He brings great expertise in non-profit organizational development, strategic planning, operations, education and philanthropy. Dr. Du Mond received his Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Iowa.

Homework Central

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VOLUNTEER TUTORS are always needed. For more information, please check our website at: www.smhwc.org

Snack Angels Wanted

by Karen Jolliffe

For those of you have volunteered, been to our No Homework Tonight event or had children of your own – after school definitely lends itself to a snack. Our goal is to provide one or two healthy snacks to our children each day they are on site. We have approximately 20-25 children at each of our Homework sites. If you are looking to get involved with Homework Central in an easy “Non Math” way consider being a Snack Angel. This may be the opportunity you’ve been looking for. Volunteer to bring snacks for a day for a site. Examples below are easy to pick up at the grocery store, Costco or one of my favorites – Target.

Fruits and Vegetables	Cheese	Grains
Bag of Cuties (mandarin oranges)	24 String Cheese	1 Box Graham Crackers
Bag of baby carrots	24 Jack/Cheddar Cheese Slices	1 Box Ritz Crackers
24 Celery Sticks	24 Cheese/Cracker	1 Box Wheat Thins/Triscuts
24 Small boxes of Raisins		1 Box Goldfish – large
Bag of Yogurt covered Raisins		24 Granola Bars
		24 NutraGrain Bars

Each site is set up differently and access to storage and refrigerators is limited. Contact Holly Miner by email volunteer@smhwc.org or phone 650-571-8831 and she will assist with getting you set up with a site.

