



SULPHUR SPRINGS
NEIGHBORHOOD
of PROMISE

neighborhood News

October 2015

Newsletter of the Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise

Education is a Priority at School and at Home

Julie Scardino, principal at the Sulphur Springs K-8 Community School, emphasizes that there are three daily items we ask parents to do at home:

Agenda Planner: Review the daily agenda planner with your child, sign it, and ask your child how the day went at school. For sixth graders, ask them to login to Edsby to view their grades and assignments.

Reading: Talk to your child about doing their reading homework and follow up to be sure your child did the homework – all students should be reading nightly for at least 20 minutes.

Uniforms: Send your child to school in the mandatory school uniform.

Ms. Scardino notes that parents often ask two questions:

Why are uniforms so important? When students wear uniforms, they are less distracted and stay more focused on academics and school activities. UNIFORMS ARE MANDATORY AND SOLD AT SCHOOL! (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

“Academics are our priority at school and we need parents to support education at home. Ask your child what they learned to today in school and see what they tell you. Don’t accept “nothing” for an answer! Keep asking them until they tell you.”

JULIE SCARDINO

Principal, Sulphur Springs K-8 Community School

AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES WHO NEED IT.)

What should a parent do if their child is not doing well in school? Parents can call the school at 813-975-7305 and ask for a meeting with the teacher; parents can also write notes on the agenda planner or come to school to request a conference with one of the administrators.



Fourth graders proudly wearing their school uniforms

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GET INVOLVED AT THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Donna Chapman, PTA president and Student Success Squad member

Donna Chapman, PTA chair and member of the Student Success Squad at the Community School, has a second- and a fourth grader in school and she says: “I am a believer now...I know I must be involved in my kids’ education... they cannot do it without me.”

A goal of the Community School is to increase parent engagement in each child’s education. Parents are encouraged to join the PTA, get involved in school activities and support the Student Success Squad. The Student Success Squad priorities include parental support for the uniform policy, good attendance, social and emotional learning (student

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JPMorgan Chase: Contributing to the Revival of Sulphur Springs

Many residents may not realize that JPMorgan Chase & Co., one of the leading financial institutions in the world, is one of the founding supporters of the Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise—a commitment they have kept for five years.

In an interview, Ann Reinert, explains her firm's involvement in Sulphur Springs.



Reinert

"We want Sulphur Springs to thrive and be a vibrant community for generations to come. We started supporting education but expanded our work to promote economic stability through workforce programming and increasing access to safe, decent, and affordable housing in the neighborhood because we want all residents to take part in the revitalization and future of this community."

One of the major initiatives funded by JPMorgan Chase is the neighborhood revitalization effort led by Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, which has rehabilitated 60 homes in Sulphur Springs. Other programs they have supported include Sulphur Springs Elementary School, YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, United Way Suncoast, Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa Bay and the Housing and Education Alliance.

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

JPMorgan Chase works to maximize their community impact by combining their strengths and expertise with those of best in class community partners. The firm is focused on promoting paths to prosperity and growing local economies through small business development, consumer financial capability, strengthening cities, revitalizing neighborhoods, and developing career pathways into high demand industries.

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behavior) and academic performance. This will be a support group to the school's parent activities and to the PTA.

Donna notes that it is very understandable that some parents may feel they need help on how to be an active parent. She emphasizes that there are many resources available to help school parents including Layla's House (for kids at birth to age 5), Devereux Kids, the Sulphur Springs Resource Center and other programs associated with the Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise.

JOIN the Sulphur Springs Community School Group Chat

TEXT Donna at 813-270-4092, and say you would like to join the group chat. It is a great place to ask questions and learn about what is happening at the school.



Assistant Principal Adam Fleischmann joining a sixth-grade class

The Community School Welcomes Sixth Graders... You Are Making History

Sulphur Springs K-8 Community School has its first class of sixth graders this year, with 68 students. (Over the next two years, seventh- and eighth grades will be added). Adam Fleischmann, assistant principal, notes that with the new sixth grade, the school is providing some additional programs:

Laptops: Each sixth grader has access to a laptop for use on campus, to enhance their individual learning, do class assignments and research school projects.

Community Building Meetings: Sixth graders start each day with a community-building meeting, where they talk to classmates, get to know each other and improve their communication skills.

Summer Step: Summer STEP is an opportunity for students to be promoted

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- Learn about over 25 After School Programs for students and families.
- Read the latest newsletters.
- View the SSNOP calendar.

to the grade they are supposed to be in. This summer, Sulphur Springs will be offering the Summer STEP program to all sixth graders who have previously been retained and are passing their sixth-grade courses. Students will complete an abbreviated seventh-grade curriculum during the summer, and if successful, will be promoted to the eighth grade in August 2016. To qualify for summer STEP students must be passing all of their sixth-grade classes. A parent information meeting will be held soon.