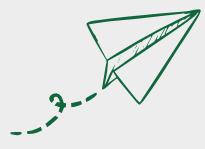


Foresthill Union School District



WHAT'S WHAT SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2023



BACK TO SCHOOL

A message from
Dr. Camille Taylor, Superintendent

Oh my goodness, it was just wonderful to welcome students, staff, and families back to school. We are incredibly grateful to the Foresthill Lions Club members who were on campus in full celebration of our first day back!! The all-school assembly, facilitated by our extraordinary student council leaders, was a great way to kick off the school year on a positive note. In the weeks ahead, ask your child about the Mountain Lion Money and Student Store!

I had the pleasure of visiting Mr. Mason and Mr. Peres' 5th grade classes to explore various flexible seating concepts with our 5th grade students. As a former 5th/6th grade teacher, I honestly cannot remember working with a more respectful and engaged group of 5th graders on the first day of school! What a joy!! We began the process of considering how and what to transform to create a more student-centered learning environment. We hope you'll notice and appreciate the changes when you're on campus for Back to School Night next week!

Our school and district are growing, our staff is growing, and our educational program is growing...it is truly an exciting time to be a part of the Foresthill learning community. Thank you for taking the time to be a well-informed member and for partnering with us to support your child's growth and success this year. I have so many things to share, but don't want to overwhelm, so here are MUST KNOW things for the remainder of August...

ATTENDANCE HEROES

Why Is Consistent Attendance at School Important?

Missing school negatively impacts student learning. Falling behind happens quickly, and it can be difficult to catch up. Low attendance often leads to below-grade-level reading skills—an indicator that a student is at a higher risk of not graduating from high school. Studies show that it takes 1-1/2 days to catch up for one missed school day. When a student is absent “only a couple of days each month” over the school year, that adds up to missing 10% of their instruction for their grade level. Missing 10% (18 days) of school is considered chronic absenteeism. Chronically absent students are supported through the SST and SARB process.

In addition to the negative impact of absences on individual students, there is also a negative financial impact on the school/district. For each percentage of absence lost over the course of the school year, our district loses approximately, \$72,500. Last year, the school's attendance rate was 90%, which means that this year, our budget has to operate with approximately \$725,000 (10%) less than what we could have potentially received in federal, state, and local revenues.



That's a LOT of resources lost! We are sharing this information with staff and families so that we can work together to improve our individual and overall attendance rate this year for student success and maximize resources for everyone! Of course, it goes without saying that if your child is sick (fever, vomiting, etc.) please keep them home!

Who are the Foresthill Attendance HEROs?

H.E.R.O. is an acronym for **H**ere **E**veryday and **R**eady to Learn **O**n Time! Students who maintain an attendance rate above 96% are Foresthill **Attendance HEROs**. At Foresthill Divide School, we want the best for our students, and just by showing up, we can help them achieve their potential! Attendance is critical for each student's success, and together we can be HEROs.

BACK TO SCHOOL

As we return to the swing of things, we are excited for our **Back to School Night!** We will celebrate alongside you on August 30, 2023, from 5:30 pm -7:30 pm. Look at your child's classroom, meet our incoming Principal, Mrs. Lawson, and learn about the coming school year. We will have booths and tables with information about our community and resources offered to our students and their families. A **Livescan Van** offering reduced fingerprinting fees will be on site for those who need to be fingerprinted in order to serve as a volunteer on campus. The BBQ with the Lions Club starts at 5:00 pm. For only \$4, you can fill your stomach with a hot dog, a bag of chips, and a drink! For more details about back to school night visit our [PTO page](#). A HUGE shout out to our Foresthill PTO partners for all their efforts in making this year's Back to School Night an amazing event. We hope to see all of our families there!



EXPANDED LEARNING OPPURTUNITY AT FORESTHILL

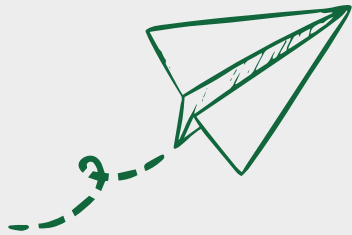
Our Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) is growing quickly and taking off. Through this program, we have exciting news!

Beginning August 17, 2023, the Kids Club before and after school care is now free to students who have current ELOP Registration and a current Attendance Calendar on file.

Due to increased demand, please note the following:

- **Current ELOP Registration must be on file before your student can participate in any ELOP programs.**
- **Without a current monthly Attendance Calendar on file, your child is not guaranteed a space in Kids Club.**
- **If there is space available, but you haven't given at least 24 hour notice, you will be charged a \$20 drop-in fee.**
- **If space is not available or your child is not registered, you will be called to pick up your child from the school office.**
- **These conditions apply to all FDS students, regardless of FRPM or child-of-staff status.**

Non-School Day Kids Club participation remains free for students of families who have completed the applications and qualify for FRPM, foster youth, and homeless students. For families who do not qualify for FRPM, the sliding-scale will apply (see [ELOP Handbook and Registration Form](#) for details). Printed ELOP Registration Forms and Handbooks will also be available at the Kids Club Kiosk.



ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Last year, we introduced after-school Enrichment Classes to the ELOP program, which took off and inspired teachers and students to try new things. Enrichment Classes are back again this fall! To register for Cycle 1 Enrichment, complete an ELOP Registration Form and sign your child up for an [Enrichment Class](#). For more information on the Foresthill Expanded Learning Opportunities Program, see the Handbook and Registration forms on the Expanded Learning page of our website.



NEW WEBSITES!!!

We are excited to announce the launch of our new websites, [Foresthill Union School District](#) and [Foresthill Divide School](#)! Take a look, explore, and enjoy the new look. We will post events, announcements, important documents, opportunities for involvement, job opportunities, and celebrations. Our websites are critical tools to help you stay well informed on What's What in our learning community. Let us know what you think!



As a quick reminder, we will not have school on Friday September 1 and Monday September 4