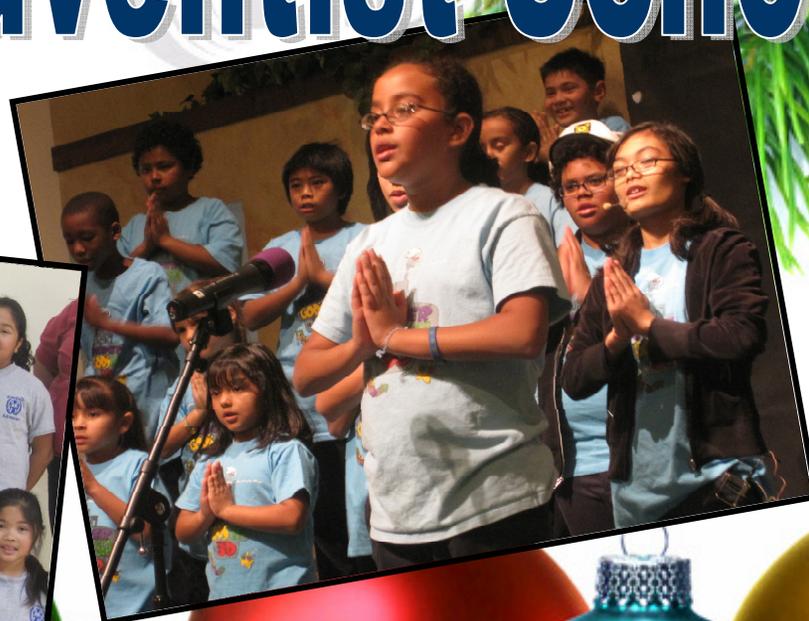




Foothill Adventist School



1991 Landess Avenue Milpitas CA 95035 (408) 263-2568 ❖ (408) 263-1994

JOIN THE PTO



USagain Recycling Bin

There is a big bin located in front of Discoveryland Preschool, on the right hand side as you drive into our parking lot. Instead of throwing away your unwanted clothes (*shoes, coats, underwear, socks, towels, blankets, hats, gloves, linens, and bags*) in the trash, bring it to school and drop it in the big white and green USagain bin. The clothes dropped in this bin are diverted from landfills to be re-worn, reused, recycled, and also sent to struggling world countries who cannot afford new clothes. Our school gets \$.02 (two cents) per pound. This is an all year round project. For more information go to www.usagain.com.

Save Your CapriSun Drink Pouches and turn used drink pouches in to money for 7th/8th

We are helping 7th/8th graders collect these pouches for money. PTO will place some containers around the school and classrooms to help collect these empty pouches. While students will drop their caprisun pouches used at school in these containers, we ask parents to send the empty pouches from home. Each pouch is worth \$.02 (two cents).

S.H.A.R.E.S. Cards and Box Tops

Wow! Keep swiping those SHARES cards at Luckys, Savemart, and Safeway stores. *We have just received a check for \$274.56* from Savemart Supermarkets! Your every cent counts!

Thank you, everyone!

I hope many of you have had the pleasure of walking around our schools to get a glimpse of the happy surroundings your students enjoy everyday. Well, all the thanks go to each and everyone of you. You many not realize how much your contributions, efforts, and support go into helping our schools. All you have to do is look around our schools; both inside and out. Better yet, just ask the students. 😊

Post Cookie Dough/ Perfect Present Fundraiser

Many thanks to all who participated. We sold almost \$12,000 (twelve thousand dollars).

We keep 40%. Not bad at all. On a side note, we have extra items for sale. If you are interested, contact the office.

- 1 - Fudge Brownie
- 3 - Gourmet Breadsticks
- 2 - Vanilla Sugar Sweeties
- 1 - Lots-O-Dots
- 1 - Pretzel Dogs



Foothill Christmas Program

December 16, 2010

6:30pm

You are invited to join us for our annual Christmas program, celebrating the birth of Jesus, Thursday evening, December 16.

Please bring a wrapped gift for our annual toy drive benefiting a local charity.

All students are required to wear formal clothing:

BOYS: Black dress pants, dress shirt with a tie (if you have a suit, wear it), black dress shoes

GIRLS: Formal dress, stockings, dress shoes

Happy Birthday

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 4 | Lyam Samson (6) | 28 | David Portales (8) |
| 17 | Michelle Nguyen (K) | 30 | Daniel Gonzalez (K) |
| 18 | Vivian Nguyen (K) | 31 | Hannah Arciaga (3) |
| 23 | Daniel Flores (8) | | |



Lunch Menu



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 Vege Meat Loaf Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Apple Slices Dinner Roll Milk | 2 Turkey Chow Mein Baby Carrots Diced Peaches Milk | 3 Stripples, Lettuce, Tomato Sandwich Mixed Fruit Cocktail Milk |
| 86 Spaghetti Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Mixed Fruit Cocktail Milk | 7 Corn Dog Tossed Salad Diced Peaches Bread Milk | 8 Corn Chowder Apple Slices Bread or Crackers Milk | 9 Teriyaki Choplets Brown Rice Baby Carrots Diced Pineapple Milk | 10 Cheeseburger on a Bun French Fries Mixed Fruit Cocktail Milk |
| 13 Mac & Cheese Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Mixed Fruit Cocktail Milk | 14 Tacos Spanish Rice Corn Diced Pineapple Milk | 15 Alphabet Soup (Peas, Carrots, Celery) Orange Slices Bread Milk | 16 Fried Rice Chicken Strips Peas & Carrots Diced Peaches Milk | 17 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Diced Pears Milk |
| 20 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 21 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 22 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 23 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 24 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare |
| 27 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 28 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 29 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 30 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare | 31 Chistmas Vacation No School/No Daycare |

Lunch tickets are available in the school office:

\$3.50 each
\$35 – 10 lunches
\$70 – 20 Lunches

Please note: All meals are vegetarian.

Make checks payable to Discoveryland.



For Real Reform Take a Cue From the Adventists

Education reform has taken center stage lately as Americans struggle to close the oft-condemned achievement gap. But quietly in our midst, the second largest Christian school system in the world has been steadily outperforming the national average across all demographics.

The Seventh-Day Adventists' holistic curriculum serves as a model for how to overcome that gap the disparity in academic performance between

low-income and minority students and their peers in higher-income communities. But even more, it shows how to narrow the gap between mind, body, and spirit, truly educating students for success.

Now, I'm not advocating for religious instruction to be included in school curricula. Rather, what my research indicates is that holistic learning an education that doesn't erect artificial barriers among disciplines and between mind, body, and spirit does indeed result in greater student achievement.

Adventist schools outperform their peers since 2006, as part of the Cognitive Genesis study, two colleagues and I have gathered data on more than 50,000 students enrolled in Seventh-Day Adventist schools. (Unbeknownst to many, the Adventist Church runs a Christian school system second only in size to the Roman Catholic parochial schools.) While we have long believed in the effectiveness of the holistic approach Adventist schools take, we wanted to quantify, empirically, how well students in Adventist schools perform.

Even we were surprised by the results. Our four-year, independently financed study showed that students at Adventist schools outperformed their peers at the national average in every subject area.

Between 2006 and 2010, my colleagues and I analyzed test scores of 51,706 students, based on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills for Grades 3-8, the Iowa Test of Educational Development for Grades 9 and 11, and the Cognitive Abilities Test for all grades, as well as surveys completed by students, parents, teachers, and school administrators.

In each subject category, students attending Adventist schools scored higher than the national average. They also scored higher than their expected achievement based on assessment of individual ability a factor few other schools measure.

One of our most dramatic findings is that students who transferred to Adventist schools saw a marked improvement in academic achievement. The more years a student attended an Adventist school, the more his or her performance improved.

Socioeconomic status and funding aren't factors a skeptic might argue that private schools such as those run by the Adventists are made up primarily of wealthy, white, upper-middle-class students, hence the reason for higher achievement. Not so.

Our research shows the demographics of Adventist schools are closer to those of public schools, with high economic and socioeconomic diversity. Enrollment is open, meaning students are admitted without the kind of screening for ability that many other private schools employ. In North America, the Adventist Church runs almost 1,000 schools, many of which are small and rural. We found no relationship between the size of the school that students attended and achievement.

Significantly, in this time of decreasing budgets for public schools, we found no link between per-pupil spending and student achievement. Research by Dave Lawrence, a graduate student at La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif., indicates that students at Adventist schools that spend as little as \$2,000 to \$4,000 per pupil are roughly at the same achievement level as students in schools that spend as much as \$12,000 per student. Mr. Lawrence found no significant correlation between a school's budget and student achievement.

The advantages of a holistic approach so how do we account for the Adventist advantage? We believe it lies in the holistic approach these schools take a commitment to educating mind, body, and spirit. Unlike public schools, Adventist schools across the country have a standard curriculum. It includes the traditional "three R's" along with emphasis on spiritual and physical development. There's coherence and a connectedness between Adventist schools that doesn't often exist in other systems.

Some of the biggest predictors for student achievement, according to statistical models we developed, include whether students have a positive spiritual outlook, have a healthy relationship with their parents, and take care of their own health. These are all attitudes that can be cultivated, and they point to the importance of a holistic approach to education.

In recent years, the Adventist Church has been the subject of much public fascination because of its focus on health, longevity, and wholeness. (PBS ran a documentary earlier this year, "The Adventists," and the book "The Blue Zones" came out in 2008.) But our research shows that Adventist education can also be a learning lab, showing how K-12 students nationwide can excel beyond expectations.

True reform of the public school system will take hard work and innovation, but the Adventists provide a model that can help reformers hit the "reset" button. Eliminating artificial barriers between subjects and helping students see the link between how they live and how they learn are first, but crucial, steps in laying the foundation for true reform.

Elissa Kido is a professor of education at La Sierra University, a Seventh-Day Adventist college, where she directs the Cognitive Genesis Research project.

Lost and Found:

Our lost and found pile is growing. Please make a point to check the lost and found everyday as the longer an item is left the greater the chance that it may not be there when you eventually come looking for it. Keep in mind it's easier to locate and return things that are labeled, so make sure you label all uniforms, lunch containers, back packs, etc. Also, please check the items you or your child brings home. It's very easy to mistakenly pick up another student's jacket, school uniform or PE uniform. Thank you.

Have a Blessed and safe Christmas break!



Foothill Calendar

December

- 1 Bookmobile
- 5 Volleyball Tournament
Miramonte School - 9:30am
- 15 Bookmobile
- 16 Christmas Program -
6:30pm
- 17 School out at 12noon -
Christmas vacation begins
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's eve

January 2011

- 1 New Year's Day
- 3 School resumes

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**