

Ross School



2011-2012

Parent Handbook

415-457-2705

415-457-8923 Fax

www.rossschool.k12.ca.us

9 Lagunitas Avenue

P.O. Box 1058

Ross, California 94957



Welcome to what promises to be a GREAT school year!

I am new to Ross School and VERY excited to get to know everyone and to be able to experience first hand one of the premiere school districts in California.

I enthusiastically come to Ross after being superintendent/principal for nineteen years in a 940 student, high achieving school district in Sonoma County. I have twenty-eight years experience as a site principal at schools in the preschool through 8th grade range (I'm actually not as old as it may sound, just started early!). Prior to becoming a junior high school principal (my first principalship) I was a school counselor, school psychologist, and director of special education. I am now in Ross – an amazing place for students, their families, employees, and the broader community.

We have initiated some wonderful new additions at Ross as we strive to ensure that Ross remains one of the top districts not just in Marin County, but in California as well. We continue to have an exceptionally strong academic program in place for students led by highly skilled and motivated faculty and support staff. As we continue to refine our Response to Intervention Program, we have added a new, very powerful component. Mrs. Courtney Rodgers is moving from the classroom into a new Reading Specialist position. She will be working with students who need an extra boost with reading skills both on a “push-in” and “pull-out” basis. This means that she will be working with identified students both in their classrooms and in the Reading Specialist Room.

In response to the results of the Ross Report Card parent survey, which indicated that student discipline and behavior were the number one concerns of parents, we have made some administrative adjustments. Mrs. Kristi Fish, Vice-Principal (she was called a Dean last year), will be in charge of student behavior and discipline for grades K – 5. Her office is now located behind our school secretary's desk. I will be responsible for students in grades 6 – 8. My office, as Principal, will also be located behind our school secretary's desk. We will both be very focused on creating a positive climate for students, and at the same time insisting on outstanding behavior.

School Counselor, Ms. Anne Brush, will work Tuesdays and Thursdays and focus her attention on our K – 5 students. We have hired an exemplary new academic counselor, Ms. Roxanne Edwards, who will focus on students in grades 6 – 8. Ms. Edwards will be working Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

You will also observe a major focus on the use of our amazing array of technology by students, teachers, and other school employees to strengthen teaching and learning. Mrs. Rodgers, working with the Marin County of Education will lead this exciting effort.

My overarching focus for the year and into future years will be to work with our parents, community, and employees to continue to create a positive, motivating, and stimulating learning environment for our students.

Please stop in often so that we can chat about what a great school district we have!

Dr. Scott Mahoney
Superintendent/Principal

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Ross School District Strategic Plan



Vision

We are a dynamic learning community that keeps the hearts and minds of children at the center of all we do.

Mission Statement

We build upon our small, personalized learning environment and partnerships with parents and community to provide the best educational experience for every child. We will:

- Attract and retain outstanding teachers and staff
- Teach, model and practice ethics, honesty, leadership and respect
- Raise and maintain ample financial resources
- Collaborate with parents and community to increase participation in parent organizations, school events and in the classrooms
- Communicate all relevant school information when appropriate
- Provide a strong academic foundation in which how one learns is as important as what one learns. This includes:
 - Creative thinking
 - Effective communication
 - Problem solving
 - Confidence and courage
 - Leadership
 - Ethics
 - Caring
 - Health and well-being
- Develop innovative teaching methods using technology and research-based best practices

Core Values

The beliefs expressed by our parents, community, teachers and staff:

- Supporting all children to achieve the Ross School Student Profile
- Strong academics and program
- Acknowledging and addressing the individual learning styles of our students
- Excellent teachers as the key to an outstanding education
- Curiosity and a love for learning
- Continuous improvement and innovation
- Teaching and modeling character
- Making a positive difference for others and the world
- Respecting the developmental stages of childhood
- A global perspective
- Strong community support and involvement
- A small community school with small class sizes
- Education as a respectful partnership: student, home, school, community
- Integrity, honesty, transparency and respect
- Decisions based on what is best for children

Parent Communication Protocol

415-457-2705

See pages 4 & 5 for a complete list of faculty extensions

When I Need Information	I Should Call/Email First	I Should Call/Email Second	I Should Call/Email Third
General Questions about Ross School	School Secretary Shari Byrnes Ext. 201	Vice-Principal Kristi Fish Ext. 206	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212
Classroom performance/ Academic progress	Classroom teacher or specialist	K-5 Counselor Anne Brush - Ext. 304 6-8 Academic Counselor Roxanne Edwards Ext. 312	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212
School Policy/Procedures	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212	Vice-Principal Kristi Fish Ext. 206	
Discipline/Behavior/ Academic concerns in school or classroom	Classroom teacher	K-5-Vice-Principal Kristi Fish - Ext. 206 6-8- Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney - Ext. 212	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212
Concerns or Complaints about Personnel	The person about whom there is a concern or complaint	Immediate Supervisor	Superintendent/ Principal * Scott Mahoney Ext. 212
Curriculum/program	Teacher	Superintendent/Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212	Vice-Principal Kristi Fish Ext. 206
Confidential matters regarding personal concerns	K-5 Counselor Anne Brush - Ext. 304 6-8 Counselor Roxanne Edwards - Ext. 312	School Psychologist Julia Vander Vennett Ext. 315	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney Ext. 212
After school classes Enrichment classes Sports offered by local non-profit leagues Recreation departments, etc.	Ross Recreation 453-6020		
Attendance	Attendance hotline: 457-2705 ext. 203	School Secretary Shari Byrnes - Ext. 210	
Health issues/concerns	School Nurse Laura Bauernfeind - Ext. 204	School Psychologist Julia Vander Vennett Ext. 315	Superintendent/ Principal Scott Mahoney - Ext. 212
Day Care questions	Ross Recreation 453-6020		
Special Ed. Concerns	K-5 Kristen Krieger Ext. 311 6-8 Misha Villa-Popescu Ext. 323	School Psychologist Julia Vander Vennett Ext. 315	Superintendent/Principal; Scott Mahoney - Ext. 212 Vice-Principal Kristi Fish - Ext. 206

* If a concern/complaint is not resolved by progressing through these channels, School Board contact is appropriate. Contact Laura Talley for information regarding how to contact the Board of Trustees.

ROSS SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Todd Blake, President tblake@rossschool.k12.ca.us	H: 456-6444
Bob Dickinson bdickinson@rossschool.k12.ca.us	H: 456-8885
Whit Gaither, Vice President wgaither@rossschool.k12.ca.us	C: 259-7229
Robert Hobart rhobart@rossschool.k12.ca.us	H: 925-9301
Elizabeth Robbins erobbins@rossschool.k12.ca.us	H: 459-9331 Pager: 719-3169

The Ross School Board members are elected by the community and serve four-year terms. The Board has responsibilities as defined in the Education Code:

- establish the educational philosophy
- make policy to provide overall guidelines
- employ personnel
- adopt budget and approve expenditures
- set rules and regulations for governing administration and operation of district
- adopt curriculum
- evaluate the education process

Public meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Ross School Library. Parents are encouraged to attend. The agenda is posted online and in the front office the Friday before each meeting. The agenda and minutes are also posted on the Ross School web site: www.rossschool.k12.ca.us. Board packets are available to the public upon request.

The public can view all Board approved policies at:
www.gamutonline.net/district/rosssd/

ROSS SCHOOL FACULTY & STAFF

All email addresses end with @rossschool.k12.ca.us

MAIN LINE: 457-2705

ATTENDANCE LINE: 457-2705 Ext. 203

Administration

Superintendent/Principal – Dr. Scott Mahoney	smahoney@	Ext. 212
Vice Principal – Kristi Fish	kfish@	Ext. 206
Business Manager – Sarah Blackstone	sblackstone@	Ext. 215

Elementary School Faculty

K	Michelle LeTourneau	mletourneau@	Ext. 4303
	Cristina Rossini	crossini@	Ext. 4302
1 st	Jessa Hager	jhager@	Ext. 4307
	Christie Green	cgreen@	Ext. 4306
2 nd	Fritz Dern	fdern@	Ext. 4309
	Jessica Lapid	jlapid@	Ext. 4308
3 rd	Katie Short	kshort@	Ext. 4317
	Stacy Chinn	schinn@	Ext. 4316
4 th	Alison Quoyeser	aquoyeser@	Ext. 4320
5 th	Stacy Olson	solson@	Ext. 4319
	Sarah Thompson	sthompson@	Ext. 4318

Middle School Faculty

Susan Becker	sbecker@	7 th Grade Writing/Lit.	Ext. 4328
Michael Bloom	mbloom@	6 th , 7 th & 8 th Grade Social Studies	Ext. 4333
Katarina Jonholt	kjonholt@	8 th Grade Writing/Lit.; 6 th & 7 th Gr. ELA Support	Ext. 4335
Jason Traut	jtraut@	6 th & 7 th Grade Science, 6 th Grade Math Support	Ext. 4326
Kelly Miller	kmiller@	8 th Gr. Science; 7 th Gr. Math; 7 th Gr. Math Support	Ext. 4327
Rick Norbutas	rnorbutas@	6 th Gr. Math; 8 th Gr. Algebra; Algebra Support	Ext. 4331
Todd Tash	ttash@	6 th Grade Social Studies, 6 th Grade WL	Ext. 4329

School/District Fax: 457-8923

Foundation Fax: 460-2146

Specialists Faculty

Suzannah Barbour	sbarbour@	Librarian	Ext. 4336
Laura Bauernfeind	lbauernfeind@	School Nurse	Ext. 204
Erika Batten	ebatten@	K-8 Music; RTI Literacy	Ext. 4325
Miriam Ojeda	mojeda@	K-5 Spanish	Ext. 4301
Anne Brush	abrush@	Counselor	Ext. 4304
Helene Clarke	hclarke@	6-8 Art	Ext. 4322
Matt Dacquist	mdacquist@marin.k12.ca.us		
		Technology Department	Ext. 314
Roxanne Edwards	redwards@	Academic Counselor	Ext. 4312
Olga Epshteyn	oeptshteyn@	6-8 Spanish	Ext. 4332
David Howitt	dhowitt@	K-8 Music	Ext. 4325
Kristen Krieger	kkrieger@	K-5 Resource Teacher	Ext. 4311
Jessica Meyer	jmeyer@	PE Teacher	Ext. 4339
Nick Mitchell	nmitchell@marin.k12.ca.us		
		Technology Director	Ext. 314
Courtney Rodgers	crodders@	Technology Coordinator	Ext. 314
		Reading Specialist	Ext. 4321
Julia Vander Vennet	jvandervennet@	Psychologist	Ext. 4315
Misha Villa-Popescu	mvilla-popescu@	6-8 Resource Teacher	Ext. 4323
Idie Weinsoff	iweinsoff@	K-5 Art	Ext. 4322
Leslie Whitaker	lwhitaker@	Speech Pathologist	Ext. 4324
Cathie Wiggs	cbyers@	Occupational Therapist	
Molly Williamson	mwilliamson@	Speech Assistant	Ext. 4324

Support Staff

Beth Bailey-Gates	bbaily-gates@	Foundation Admin. Assist.	460-1438
Shari Byrnes	sbyrnes@	School Secretary	Ext. 201
Scott Carroll	scarroll@	Day Custodian	Ext. 338
Jessica Cohn	jcohn@	Resource Aide	
Cecelia Curtis	ccurtis@	Business Clerk	Ext. 214
Gary Feazell	gfeazell@	Resource Aide	
Hannah Hartman	hhartman@	Teacher Aide	
Susan Hartwell	shartwell@	Teacher Aide	
Elizabeth Heitner	eheitner@	Teacher Aide	
Sandrick Jackson	sjackson@	PE Aide	Ext. 4340
Gerri Kahn	gkahn@	Teacher Aide	
Tayseng Kem		Night Custodian	
Stephanie McAfee	smcafee@	Teacher Aide	
Caitlin McInerney	cmcinerney@	1:1 Aide	
Leslie Minton	lminton@	Teacher Aide	
Ailish Mullally	amullally@	1:1 Aide	
Yinh Ngo		Night Custodian	
Lisa Pyron	lpyron@	Administrative Assistant	Ext. 211
Tracy Reid	treid@	Library Clerk	Ext. 4337
Laura Talley	ltalley@	Executive Assistant	Ext. 210

ROSS SCHOOL SCHEDULE

<u>SCHOOL PHONE</u>	(415) 457-2705 - Office hours - 8:00a.m. - 4:00 p.m., M-F
<u>SCHOOL FAX</u>	(415) 457-8923
<u>DISTRICT FAX</u>	(415) 457-6724
<u>FACULTY V.M.</u>	*See pages 4 & 5 for Voice Mailbox Number and Extensions
<u>ABSENCES</u>	(415) 457-2705 - Extension 203

SCHOOL HOURS

Kindergarten	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Grades 1 - 3	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Grades 4 - 5	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Grades 6 - 8	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Recess 1 - 5	10:06 a.m. - 10:26 a.m.
Recess 6 - 8	10:51 a.m. - 11:06 a.m.
Lunch 1 - 4	11:54 a.m. - 12:39 p.m.
Lunch 5- 8	12:39 p.m. - 1:24 p.m.

In addition to regularly scheduled P.E. periods (see individual class schedules), students will participate in a P.E. recess during their lunch block. Students must be dressed appropriately on their scheduled day.

MINIMUM DAY SCHEDULE

Kindergarten	8:30 a.m.	12:30 p.m.
Grades 1 - 8	8:30 a.m.	12:45 p.m.

Minimum days are noted on the calendar and held for parent conferences and curriculum planning. Students do not have a lunch period and should bring a snack on these days. Teachers will contact parents and/or have a sign-up list outside their doors for scheduling parent conferences. Parents can also call the office if they would like to schedule a conference.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

1 st period	8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
2 nd period	9:18 a.m. - 10:03 a.m.
3 rd period	10:06 a.m. - 10:51 a.m.
Break	10:51 a.m. - 11:06 a.m.
4 th period	11:06 a.m. - 11:51 a.m.
5 th period	11:54 a.m. - 12:39 p.m.
Lunch	12:39 p.m. - 1:24 p.m.
6 th period	1:27 p.m. - 2:12 p.m.
7 th period	2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

ROSS SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIMES

- **ARRIVAL:** Students are not allowed at school or on the playground before 8:10 a.m. at which time supervision begins on the back playground. School starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. for all grades. A five-minute warning bell at 8:25 a.m. will remind all students to head to class ready to learn. Students who are not in class by 8:30 a.m. should report first to the office for a tardy slip.
- **TARDIES:** Students are expected to be seated in class on time at 8:30 a.m. If students are tardy, they must check in at the school office for a tardy slip to be admitted to class. Office consequences will be assigned for repeated unexcused tardies and parents will be notified. Medical appointments are excused tardies. The school is required to notify parents when their child is absent for more than 3 days with an unexcused absence because the child is considered truant.
- **DISMISSAL:** All students should be picked at dismissal time unless they are involved in school activities or supervised by an adult. Ross School has no supervision for children after their dismissal at 12:30 p.m. for Kindergarten, at 2:30 p.m. for grades 1 – 3, and at 3:00 p.m. for grades four – eight. **Please do not leave your child(ren) unattended from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

2. ABSENCES

Please telephone the school before 8:30 a.m. at (415) 457-2705 Ext. 203 and leave a message on our confidential voice mail each day when your child is absent. Please state your name, your child's name and grade, and the reason for his or her absence. This information is required to complete state attendance reports. Parents will be contacted if their child is absent and the parent has not notified the school. Students will not be admitted back to school unless a parent has verified the absence.

- **EXCUSED ABSENCES:** An excused absence is an absence due to student illness, a medical appointment, or death in the family. Parents are requested to schedule medical appointments before and after school, when possible. The definitions of excused and unexcused absences are in accordance with California's Education Code.
- **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** An unexcused absence is an absence other than illness, medical appointment, or death in the family. Going on vacation during school days is an example of an unexcused absence. **Teachers are not responsible for providing make-up work for unexcused absences.** In the event a student is absent without parent knowledge or permission, no credit will be given for make-up work.
- **MAKE-UP WORK FOR ABSENCES:** Students are responsible for making up work missed during an absence. Homework may requested by contacting the child's teacher by email or by looking for assignments posted on the teacher's website.

3. COMMUNICATION

Parent Communication Protocol

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*** If a concern/complaint is not resolved by progressing through these channels, School Board contact is appropriate. Contact Laura Talley for information regarding how to contact the Board of Trustees.**

- **OFFICE PHONE MESSAGES:** We encourage parents to make arrangements for play dates, dentist appointments, etc. before school starts. During school hours (8:25 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) cell phone use –including texting – is not permitted. In case of an emergency or school related business, please contact the Ross School office and a message will be communicated to your child. Thank you for your support in this.
- **TEACHER/STAFF VOICE MAIL NUMBERS AND E-MAIL:** Parents may leave voice mail messages or e-mail teachers directly. Ways to communicate:
 - Conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring trimesters on minimum days. Parents are also encouraged to request conferences whenever they have a concern. In order to schedule a conference, use our voicemail system (457-2705 + the teacher's extension) or e-mail the teacher. Teachers check their messages once a day.
 - Please keep e-mails short and succinct. Communication through e-mail and other Internet means will be done in the following ways:
 1. Homework. All student homework assignments will be posted on teacher classroom websites. To access the homework page:
 - Navigate to <http://www.rossschool.k12.ca.us>
 - Click on the Faculty tab
 - Select your student's teacher on the list
 - Click on the teacher's homework link
 2. Middle school teachers will be posting assignments weekly and grades will be updated monthly.
 3. The Hip Pocket and other school communication will be posted on the Ross School website and also sent electronically.
- **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION:** Email is used as a communication tool between Ross School staff, students and parents. Students will only be able to email other students and teachers through Bear Mail: <http://mail.bear.rossschool.k12.ca.us>. Students do not have access to external email accounts on their school laptops. For more information please see the Ross School District Internet Acceptable Use Policy in the student rules and expectations section.
- **ROSS SCHOOL WEBSITE:** The Ross School Website (<http://www.rossschool.k12.ca.us>) is a valuable resource including:
 - The master calendar with all school events/programs and all relevant school communications are posted on this site and updated regularly
 - To logon, click the Sign-In button at the top and then logon with the Sign-on Name and Password.
 - Forgot your sign-on name and password? Click the button "Forgot Sign-in Information," type in your email, and an email will be sent to you with your password.
 - If you were never given an account, please contact our Technology Director at extension #314.

- **REPORT CARDS:** K–5 students receive a standards based progress report card at the end of each trimester. Students in grades 6–8 receive a report card at the end of each trimester. In addition, students in grades 6-8 receive mid-term reports each trimester. All final middle school grades are factored into a 4.0 GPA with a “+” being a .3 and a “-“ being .7. Classes meeting zero period at 7:45 a.m. are graded on effort and receive .5 of a whole grade.
- **ON LINE ACCESS TO STUDENT GRADES**
Middle school teachers will be posting assignments weekly and grades will be updated monthly.

4. CONSTRUCTION SITE AND SCHOOL ACCESS

For our school community’s safety this year during the completion of Phase 3 of construction, we are providing you with the following information as well as safety guidelines:

- The construction site is fenced in and off limits to everyone.
- The second floor exit at the back of the 3, 4, 5 hallway is for emergency use only and will be locked from the exterior at all times.
- Please enter through the front doors of the school after 8:25 a.m. The gates surrounding the school will be locked to secure the safety of our children during school hours.
- To insure safety on interior stairways in Ross School both children and adults should always stay to the right when going up or down the stairs (**move to safety**).
- Please use only designated parking spots. **Please do not park in the loading zones.**
- So that you can make informed decisions about your child’s safety when walking to school. Crossing guards will also be available at Lagunitas & Ross Common and Lagunitas & Allen Avenue.
- We encourage everyone to form car pools and walking and biking groups for safe travel to and from Ross School.
- Drop-off zones are for drop-off only. Please do not get out of your car at any time when you are in a drop-off zone. **Allen Avenue parking is for staff only.**

5. DISCIPLINE

The staff at Ross views misbehavior as a teaching opportunity. Each class establishes classroom rules and expectations. The school supports the teachers and staff as we work together to create a safe, positive, respectful environment. The ultimate purpose of discipline is to increase the chance that if faced with the same situation in the future, the student will choose to behave more responsibly. Students may be asked to complete a Think Sheet or a Reflection Sheet (to reflect on behavior, analyze and give corrective ideas) or may receive a Referral Form (a formal form which is sent home to parents).

Possible consequences might include: student 'benched' at recess for 5 minutes, loss of recess, lunch or afterschool detention, writing an apology letter, community service, loss of privileges, in school suspension or at home suspension. **Note: if a student is physically aggressive towards another student s/he will immediately be sent home.**

General School Consequences:

1st Offense: Student is warned

2nd Offense: 5 minute "Time Out"

3rd Offense: Student removed from game, lose recess/receive detention,

Think Sheet or Reflection Sheet completed

4th Offense: Referral Form or Think Sheet completed and signed by parents

Note: If a student consistently misbehaves, 3rd or 4th consequences will apply. See pages 23-30 for more information on School Expectations.

6. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The elementary school is composed of grades K – 5. Students have homeroom teachers for most of the day, a dedicated time every day for literacy and math, and also participate with specialists in the areas of P.E., Spanish, music, and art.

7. EMERGENCY PLANS

The school has a formal safety plan to use in case of a disaster such as a major earthquake, flooding, or a prolonged power outage. Children will be supervised until a parent or an emergency contact person picks up the child. Earthquake, lockdown or fire drills are held monthly through the school year. First aid and emergency supplies are stored on campus as well as in each classroom.

- **EMERGENCY CARDS:** Parents are required to inform the school office whenever there is a change in information on the emergency card. Please contact the school secretary to update our records. Parents living on the east side of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard must have one person on the card from **the west side** in case of flooding.
- **SCHOOL CLOSING:** If the administration declares that school is closed for the day due to an emergency, the following will occur:
 - An e-blast will be sent to all families, if possible.
 - The emergency phone tree will be implemented.
 - An announcement will be placed on KCBS 740 and KGO 810 by 6:00 a.m.

8. FIELD TRIPS

Students must have written parental permission in order to participate in field trips, including trips requiring transportation. Students whose parents/guardians do not wish them to participate in a trip will be provided an alternative educational experience.

Drivers must be registered in the district office and carry proof of insurance in the car. Safety guidelines include no smoking, no talking on cell phones, no videos, not allowing disruptive behavior and securing all passengers in seat belts. No child under the age of 12 should be placed in a car seat with an airbag. Children under 6 years or 60 pounds must be in a car seat.

9. GOVERNING BOARD POLICIES

All Ross School Board adopted policies are accessible on the Internet. To access the policies, go to the Ross School Web Site www.rossschool.k12.ca.us, click on District Policies and follow the directions to access GAMUT Online.

10. GRADUATION

Graduation from the Ross School requires that a student maintain an overall 1.70 or better grade point average (GPA) in all classes during grades 7 and 8. If a student enters the Ross School during the 7th or 8th grade years, the grading period counted toward a 1.70 GPA will be the period in attendance at Ross School.

➤ **Graduation Options:** In March, if a student's combined first two trimesters academic GPA is lower than 1.70, a Risk of Retention meeting will be held with the parents, the student, the Academic Counselor and Administration to consider the following:

1. Repetition of the previous school year at Ross School
2. Repetition of the previous school year at another school
3. Conditional promotion to the next academic level with performance goals
4. Reception of a certificate of completion rather than a diploma. Student must enroll in an accredited summer program to increase subject-area(s) proficiency. After the program has successfully been completed the student will receive a certificate of completion signed by the Superintendent/Principal.

➤ **Participation in Graduation Activities:** In order to participate in the extracurricular graduation activities, a student must:

1. Maintain a 1.70 GPA in his/her eighth grade year.
2. Must complete the eighth grade Ross School curriculum minimum requirements for graduation.
3. At the discretion of the administration, any eighth grader who does not maintain the minimum grade point average and/or satisfactory behavior will not participate in graduation activities, which may include the commencement exercise.

➤ **Graduating with Honors**

Students on the honor roll for at least 6 out of 6 trimesters in grades 7-8 will graduate with honors.

➤ **Graduation Awards**

1. The Ross School Trustee Award – for excellence in citizenship, scholarship, leadership and participation at Ross School.

2. The Ross School Spirit Award – to the most inspirational student who has a motivating influence on and a positive regard for fellow students and teachers.
3. The Ross School Scholarship Award – for excellence in academics to the student who has earned the highest grade point average during the seventh and eighth grades.
4. The Ross School Academic Effort and Dedication Award – for excellence in scholastic development, growth and improvement through effort and dedication to personal progress during sixth through eighth grades.
5. The Ross School Police Association Award – for honoring students who have displayed honesty, forward thinking, competency and inspiration. The Ross School Police Officers Association (RSPOA) presents two awards, one each to an 8th grade male and female.
6. The Community Service Award – honors the student who has accumulated the highest amount of hours providing volunteer service to our community.

11. HEALTH/MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

- **Injury or Illness:** Parents will be notified to pick up their children if they are injured or too ill to remain at school. Ill or injured students cannot leave school unless accompanied by their parent or an adult authorized by the parent. The adult picking up the student must sign the child out in the main office. In cases of serious injury, parents will be immediately contacted and 911 will be called for paramedic assistance.
- **Communicable Diseases:** Please notify the school nurse if your child has been diagnosed with a communicable illness like strep infection or whooping cough so that we may track the illness in the school. If your child has a fever of 100 degrees or greater, he or she should stay home from school until fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- **Medication:** Students who must take prescription or nonprescription medication at school will be assisted by the school nurse or by office personnel if the school nurse is not available. In order to safely administer medication in compliance with California Education Code and legal mandates, the school nurse must have an “Authorization to Administer Medication” form on file which must be completed by the parent and the student’s physician. This form is available on the school website and from the main office. All medications will be locked in the school nurse’s office. The only exception would be emergency medications such as asthma inhalers or Epi-Pens if approved for self-administration by the student with written authorization from the parent and student’s physician.

12. HEALTHY FOOD POLICY

The Board of Trustees recognizes that students need adequate, nourishing food in order to grow, learn and maintain good health. To reinforce the school's nutrition policy, parents are encouraged to support the school's education efforts by joining us in our nutrition mission to find alternatives to the sugary, fat-saturated foods normally associated with classroom celebrations. Please provide healthy foods and beverages for any parties or events that take place during the school day.

13. HOMEWORK

Homework is one of the key links between school and home. It offers parents a daily opportunity to have a positive impact on their student's education. Homework is assigned to reinforce and extend skills taught in school. Homework may involve preparing for a test, working on a piece of writing, reading, reviewing math problems, or studying roots of words. It also helps students develop good habits and attitudes about schoolwork. Homework teaches children to work independently, encourages self-discipline and responsibility, and fosters a love of learning.

K - 5 GUIDELINES FOR HOMEWORK TIMES

(Weeknights Monday - Thursday)

Kindergarten	5-10 minutes
1st grade	10-15 minutes
2nd grade	15-20 minutes
3rd grade	25-30 minutes
4th grade	30-60 minutes
5th grade	60 minutes

Reading (read or be read to)

Kindergarten	10-15 minutes
1st grade	10-15 minutes
2nd grade	15-20 minutes
3rd grade	20-30 minutes
4th grade	30 minutes
5th grade	30 minutes

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDELINES FOR HOMEWORK TIMES

(Weeknights Monday - Thursday)

6th Grade – 20-30 minutes per subject

Subjects include 6th grade English/Language Arts and one period of social studies, math, science, and Spanish for a total of five classes. Homework maximum for sixth grade is 2 hours. Spanish homework is 3 nights a week.

7th & 8th Grade – 30 minutes per subject*

Subjects include English/Language Arts, social studies, math, science, and Spanish for a total of five classes. Homework maximum for seventh and eighth grade is 2 hours and 30 minutes.

***Algebra I** – Algebra I is a one year course and homework time may be extended to fulfill the curriculum requirements in accelerated math classes.

Reading – Homework for literature class may be to read a class literature selection, respond to a piece of literature or to read an outside-of-class book. Teachers ask that students read at least two hours during the week. Parents are encouraged to read any of the literature selections students are studying on and discuss these pieces with their child. Students are encouraged to read daily, during weekends and vacations. The benefits of independent reading are immeasurable and help a student develop a lifelong habit of reading.

Time Management – Our staff encourages students to plan their work so that they are able to enjoy outside of school activities and go to bed at a reasonable time. While we are pleased when students become involved with their work and set high standards for themselves, we also want students to learn they need to budget their time, be well organized, and be aware that it is not always possible to do all one might like to do, if time were not a factor.

Coordination of Workload – Teachers coordinate projects, long-term assignments and tests by using the master calendar on our in-house email and posting homework on the Ross School website. Anne Brush, our academic counselor, is available to check in with students about their workload.

Long-Term Assignments – Students are given time in class to work on long-term assignments and are included in the daily homework time. Students are also given time in class to work on long-term assignments. When such assignments are assigned, teachers calendar regular check-in points so that the assignment is completed in manageable parts.

Meeting Individual Needs – These guidelines are based upon estimated actual work time. The policy is flexible to accommodate for individual students' needs. Parents should meet with their child's teachers to have homework adjusted as is necessary. Teachers make every effort to adjust and accommodate for students who need enrichment or remedial work. Teachers are willing to make adjustments to meet a student or family need. If the teacher and parents continue to have a concern they will work with the School Counselor, who will coordinate with the Student Study Team for further follow through. Students do not need an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 plan to formalize accommodations in the homework policy.

14. LAPTOPS

Students in fourth through eighth grade are assigned a laptop for school use. All students and parent/guardians must sign and agree to the Acceptable Use Form. Laptops are the students' responsibility. Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of school laptops. Any damages will result in a fine or the cost of replacing the damaged items. Report cards, yearbooks or memory books will not be distributed to any student owing a laptop fine. Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware or data of another user, INTERNET, or any of the above listed agencies or other networks that are connected to the INTERNET.

This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Also included is vandalism, damage or negligent use of assigned laptop, which would result in a fee to repair damages, as well as possible disciplinary action (including loss of the privilege of using a laptop (loaner) while the assigned student laptop is being repaired.)

15. LUNCHES OR FORGOTTEN ITEMS

Lunches or other forgotten items are to be left at the school office clearly marked with your child's name. In order to respect and maximize instructional time, please do not take items directly to the classroom.

16. MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School is composed of grades 6-8. Students have the same core teacher for writing and literature. Separate instructors teach all other classes including Spanish, which is considered core curriculum.

- ***BEHAVIOR GRADE CRITERIA:***

- **Satisfactory Behaviors (S)**

Ross School students are expected to:

1. Show courtesy
2. Demonstrate good manners
3. Have concern for others
4. Have respect for people and property
5. Be safe

- **Needs Improvement (NI)**

1. A warning needing improvement

- **Unsatisfactory Behavior (U)**

Students can receive a referral for continual misbehavior* and/or severe misbehavior such as fighting, defiance, rudeness, foul language, or destruction of property.

1. Referral = a "U" in behavior in that class for that grading period
2. 2 "U's" = Loss of privileges for until the next grading period.
3. If a student misbehaves with a substitute teacher, upon return, the regular teacher will call home and assign detention (no verbal warning, no time out). The student will receive a "U" for the behavior grade that trimester.
4. Behavior grades are not cumulative. Students start each grading period with an "S".
5. Any student with more than one "U" in behavior is disqualified from the Honor Roll and Merit List.

* after attempted modifications by the teacher (i.e. verbal warning, time out, call home, detention)

- **HONOR ROLL AND MERIT LIST:** Students who achieve a trimester grade point average of 3.6 or better qualify for the **Honor Roll** at Ross School. Students who achieve a trimester grade point average of 3.0 – 3.59 qualify for the **Merit List**.
- **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**
 - **Student Council:** The Student Council is made up of co-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and a representative from each homeroom, grades 4 – 8. The Student Council is responsible for planning school and community service activities. Elections are held in September and January for Student Council officers. Homeroom representatives submit essays for participation on Student Council.
 - **Community Service:** Community Service is a required program where all middle school students volunteer at least 20 hours of service, with volunteer opportunities at Ritter House, Special Olympics, Canal Ministry, Saint Vincent's and other local organizations. Students completing their hours are recognized at graduation. Community Service Forms are located in the office and are to be completed, signed, and returned to the same box or to Mrs. Fish.
 - **Speech Tournaments:** All students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Ross and Margie Burke Speech Tournaments. Students who place in the top positions in each category in the Ross School speech tournaments represent Ross School at the Margie Burke Speech Tournament held in May.
 - **Sports After School:** The school offers the opportunity for 6th – 8th graders to participate in after school sports throughout the year with teams throughout the county. All students are encouraged to participate and take pride in their Ross School athletic wear while modeling positive sportsmanship at all times.
 - Fall – cross country and volleyball
 - Winter – basketball
 - Spring – track
 - **Lockers:** All Middle School students are assigned lockers with confidential combinations. Lockers are assigned by the school office and are accessible from 8:10 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Access to other students' lockers is forbidden. Students are encouraged to keep valuables at home.
 - **Dances:** Three dances are usually held throughout the year, one at the end of each trimester. Dances are from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Students need to be on time and may not leave early unless previous permission has been arranged through the school administration. All students are to be picked up by an adult at 9:00 p.m.. Dances are chaperoned by administration, faculty, and parents from each grade level. A copy of all dance rules and guidelines will be distributed with each dance's permission slip. Dances are held for Ross School students only.

- **Outdoor Education:** Eighth graders attend The Yosemite Institute Outdoor Education Program for one week in October. A parent information meeting is held in September to review and plan for the trip.

17. OFFICE TELEPHONE AND STUDENT USE

Students should use the office telephone to call home as school policy states students' cell phones must be turned off during the school day and kept in their lockers or backpacks during the school day. Students should politely ask office staff for permission to use the office phones.

18. PARENT CONCERNS

Ross School welcomes open and direct communication from parents on any matters concerning their children's education. Children should advocate for themselves first to resolve the problem directly with the teacher. Children may also utilize the school counselor to help in this process. Should a parent need to be involved they should attempt to resolve the problem with the teacher first. If the problem cannot be resolved directly with the teacher, the matter should be referred to the school administration, according to Ross School District Policy. *See Parent Communication Protocol on page 2.*

19. PARENTS/GUESTS/VOLUNTEERS IN CLASSROOMS

We encourage parents to be involved in the culture of our school and help us protect the instructional time with as few interruptions as possible. All parents entering the school must sign in and out at the front office and wear a visitor's nametag while on campus.

20. PARTIES

Please do not distribute party invitations at school. Mailed invitations or telephone calls prevent hurt feelings for both children and parents. (Also, please note our Healthy Food Policy on page 14)

21. PLAYGROUND

The front and back playground is open to Ross School students from 8:10 each morning to the end of the school day. Please do not allow younger siblings to play on the playground during the school day, including the 2:30-3:00 timeframe. The playground is open for public use after 3:30 each school day and on the weekends.

22. PROMOTION/RETENTION

Decisions regarding the assignment of a student to a higher grade level based on the student's achievement of established criteria in the current grade and/or the reassignment of a student to the current grade level during the next school year are made with the discretion of the school administration, the Student Study Team, and consent of the parent/guardian.

23. PUBLICATIONS

- **Hip Pocket:** the purpose of the Hip Pocket is to provide communication from school administrators and staff to the Ross School community.
 - We encourage discretion when submitting advertisements that have been publicized elsewhere. Any advertisement that needs to be communicated to school families or community needs to be submitted for approval by **12:00 p.m. Wednesday's** at and will be sent out in an **E-Blast on Friday's. No exceptions!**
 - Written articles must be **limited to one page** and e-mailed to hip@rossschool.k12.ca.us by 3:00 p.m. **Monday** prior to the publication date on Wednesday of each week. **No exceptions!**
 - Articles are to be typed or pasted into an e-mail without tabs, columns, or returns, and **limited to one page**. Do not send attachments.
 - All submissions are subject to review and approval by the Ross School Administration and will be edited as needed.
 - You may direct questions to our Hip Pocket editor, Tracy Reid at treid@rossschool.k12.ca.us.
- **PTA Bear Tracks:** the purpose of Bear Tracks is to provide week-at-a-glance information to the Ross School community.
 - If you have an event that has not been pre-posted on the school web-site calendar, please send it to Kristi Walker at walker.kristi@gmail.com or Georgette Kenney at georgettekenney@yahoo.com by Friday morning prior to the Sunday night publication.
 - Bear Tracks will be e-mailed to Ross School families Sunday evening and will include two-weeks in advance.

24. RECESS

K-5 Recess is a daily, twenty minute period from 10:06-10:26 and is a time for children to play safely outside on designated, supervised playgrounds. Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders have a fifteen minute morning break from 10:51-11:06. They do not break on minimum days. This is a time for students to eat a mid-morning snack, visit their lockers, and use the restrooms. Students are to remain in designated areas and should respect classes in session.

25. SUPPORT SERVICES

Ross School offers support services to students in the areas of learning, counseling, speech, language and health.

Student Study Team (SST): The Student Study Team provides a forum to discuss and evaluate a student's academic, emotional, social or behavior needs. The SST team consists of the family, the teachers, administration, the counselor, the school psychologist, the school nurse, and the student when appropriate. A SST can be initiated by a parent, a teacher, or by an administrator. The SST provides a problem solving setting for addressing concerns about an individual student. As a result of the SST meeting, a plan is set in place to assist the student that includes measurable goals. A follow up meeting is scheduled within six weeks to evaluate the student's progress. The teacher and SST continue to monitor student progress and will refer a student for further assessment to consider eligibility for special education when appropriate.

School Counselors: The School Counselors provide individual and group counseling regarding academic progress, behavior and social/emotional needs. The school counselor collaborates with parents and school staff to ensure student success. The counselor monitors the academic progress of all students and intervenes as needed. The counselor coordinates and facilitates all Student Study Team meetings, including setting measurable goals for students and monitoring follow through of all accommodations. Additionally, the counselor attends guidance team, IEP, and 504 plan meetings as needed. The school counselor facilitates transitions to high school, coordinates the ambassador group, trains students in conflict resolution, and assists with student scheduling needs.

School Psychologist: The School Psychologist assesses students to identify learning strengths, styles and challenges. The psychologist also participates with the Student Study Team, guidance team and 504 plan meetings. The psychologist works collaboratively with teachers, observes students, and meets with families to ensure that students learning needs are being met. Students are referred for educational testing and assessment through the Student Study Team Process or IEP process. The School Psychologist occasionally provides individual and group counseling support for students in both general and special education. The School Psychologist also creates and maintains behavior plans for students in both general and special education.

Special Education: Students who qualify for special education receive services and supports through the IEP (Individual Education Plan) process. Students qualify through a standardized assessment process. Results from the assessment are compared with federal and state special education eligibility criteria. The IEP team includes teachers, parents, administrators and appropriate services providers, such as a speech language pathologist, psychologist, resource teacher, and/or an occupational therapist, depending on individual student needs.

Learning Support: Ross School provides assistance for students with a variety of learning needs in our Resource Center. Students receiving support in the Resource Center are students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or students who are in Special Education. The Resource Center is staffed by two Resource Specialists and a teacher assistant. Students receive various supports and services in the Resource Center Program, including reading, math, writing and language.

Speech and Language: The Speech and Language Specialist and Speech Assistant work with children who are qualify for services through the Special Education IEP process. This program is designed for students with articulation, speech and/or language pragmatics needs. The Speech and Language Specialist also works collaboratively with teachers, observes students, and meets with families.

504 Plan: Students who have a diagnosed disability that is shown to have significant impact on their education may qualify for a 504 plan. A 504 plan is a general education accommodation plan that allows students with a diagnosed disability to access the curriculum.

Reading Intervention: The Reading Specialist will head the general education Response to Intervention (RTI) process in which research-based instruction and intervention is provided for learners that have been identified to be at risk.

School Nurse: A nurse is available at Ross School. She secures resource materials and is responsible for health screening (hearing, vision, scoliosis), identification of health problems, and working with the community on the school-wide wellness program. The school nurse develops and coordinates developmentally appropriate, sequential family life education and provides other health education in the school setting based on need and research.

26. TEXTBOOKS

Students are responsible for the care and safekeeping of assigned books. Because staff is sensitive to the weight of textbooks, rental or purchase of extra textbooks for home use may be arranged with classroom teacher and administrators.

27. VISITING STUDENTS

Prior to the visit, the host student picks up a visitor's form from the office and has it signed by the host parent and all teachers of classes that will be visited. The host student then returns the signed form to the office for administrative approval. Visits are restricted to one day only and are primarily for students from out of town who are planning to attend the school in the near future. It is not meant for students from local schools who are on vacation. No students are allowed to visit the last week of school.

Ross School District Student Study Team (SST)

Student Study Team Overview

The **Student Study Team** is a general education program to help teachers and students succeed.

Pre-Referral Interventions

Pre-referral interventions are strategies and behavior interventions designed to modify and adjust instruction and expectations for pupils considered at risk. Any referral to the **Student Study Team** is written to include the implementation, follow-up plan, and any other effects of such intervention.

Process

The following steps outline the pre-referral intervention process:

1. The general education teacher is concerned about a student who may be at risk. The teacher tries logical interventions to provide support for the student.
2. If these interventions fail to produce the intended results, the teacher initiates a **Student Study Referral**. The teacher is responsible for completing the form, detailing "areas of concern," for example: "what I have tried" and "area of new concern."
3. If all the needed information is present, a **Student Study Team Meeting** will be scheduled at an agreed upon time, typically within 30 days of receiving request. (Team members will receive the background information 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting.)
4. The format of the meeting will be to identify the specific learning and/or behavior concerns of the student, accommodations tried and the results. Goals and objectives will be identified. Specific intervention strategies will be selected for the student.
5. With help from the **Student Study Team**, the classroom teacher and parents implement the recommendations and documents the student's progress toward the identified goals and objectives.
6. The **Student Study Team** reconvenes within a reasonable time to determine the student's progress. If a student is progressing with interventions, the **Student Study Team members** are available for support as needed.
7. If the student's needs cannot be met with the recommended interventions, students are recommended for **Assessment Planning** and formal documentation of the student's performance is used as consideration for additional support.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER, and TAKE CARE OF THIS PLACE !

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS AND RULES: We want Ross School to be a place that is KIND, friendly, well organized, and conducive to learning. We expect it to be a safe place where people respect and care for one another and for the learning process. We promote integrity, respect and compassion in our students and want them to take pride in their school. High expectations and rules are necessary for us to function in a positive and successful school environment. Age appropriate positive behaviors and attitudes are expected of students at all times, including during homeroom and specialist classes, lunch times, recess, in the library, at school activities, assemblies, field trips and before and after school.

Students who do not follow these rules may expect any of the consequences outlined under General Behavior. All staff members have a responsibility for assisting in explaining and enforcing school rules. Any adult on campus may correct students. Most disciplining of students takes place at the classroom level by the teacher.

Disciplining that requires only minor actions includes:

- A teacher conference with the student
- A teacher call/email to the parent
- A parent/ student/ teacher conference
- A referral to the counselor for problem solving and/or conflict resolution
- Classroom detention (If after school; 24 hour notice will be given to parent)
- Loss of classroom privileges

Serious and/or persistent problems referred to the Administration and may result in:

- Parent Conference
- Suspension from the class where the infraction occurred (2 days maximum) followed by a parent conference with the teacher and student
- Administrative Detention at Lunch (advance notice not given; time is given for students to eat lunch)
- Administrative Detention after school (24 hour notice given)
- School Service/Campus Beautification
- Parent Escort in class or at an activity
- Loss of Privileges/Activities
- Violation of the California Education Code will result in Suspension.
 - A suspension can be either "In-House" in the office or removal from the school for a period of time depending on the severity of the infraction.
 - When a student is suspended out of school, he or she is not allowed on the school campus until the date of return noted on the suspension form.
 - A suspension must be followed up with a parent/student/counselor/administrator conference on the day the student is welcomed back into the school community.
- Referral to Outside Authorities
- Referral to the Board of Trustees for Expulsion in matters as outlined in California Education Code

Due Process: All students are entitled to this process. These procedures are contained in Board Policy. If suspension or expulsion is being considered, both the student and his/her parent(s) may be given a copy of these policies at that time. Suspension will be assigned according to due process, which includes a parent conference by phone or in person. After suspension/s, the student and parent must return to school for an administrative conference before being allowed to return to class. The student may be excluded from the next activity.

Take Care of Each Other

Respecting Other People

Assembly Behavior: Students are to be escorted to and from assemblies by their classroom teachers. Teachers should lead their students into the assembly area and make sure they are in line, quiet and entering respectfully to proceed to their assigned seats. Respectful listening and appropriate recognition of performances including clapping are encouraged. Hooting, hollering, and clapping that go beyond an appropriate response are not permitted. Chair legs are to remain on the floor. Dress code applies at assemblies.

Bullying: A student is being bullied when he/she is exposed repeatedly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more students. Negative actions can be carried out through physical contact, written comments, words, pictures, verbal abuse, and derogatory comments about physical appearance or gender orientation. Making faces, intimidating or intentionally excluding anyone from groups is also considered bullying. Bullying is not allowed anytime or anywhere on the campus including within classrooms, in the hallways, restrooms, playground areas, or any other areas on the campus or en route to and/ or from the campus.

Bullying and Harassment in any form are not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the California Education Code. We all need to feel safe at school. Students are required to avoid harassment in any form. Harassment is any action that makes others uncomfortable through the use of words or specification, which cause others to suffer, including mean teasing.

Cyber Bullying is the use of technology to degrade or humiliate another person or group. Cyber bullying can occur directly, such as when a hateful message is sent to a target, or indirectly, as when a message, web site or photograph is sent to others and results in later bullying behavior toward the target. Any of the above will not be tolerated. Our school technology prohibits this; however, cyber bullying that begins at home can then result in bullying behaviors or relational aggression at school. When these cyber bullying incidents *invade* the school environment and seriously distract from or impact that learning, school consequences can range from detentions, loss of activities, privileges, and/or suspension and will be consistent with California Education Code. Students should immediately report incidents to a teacher, counselor, or administrator.

Harassment includes grabbing or touching somebody or making, writing, drawing or texting unwanted comments that make a person feel uncomfortable. It can be about how a person looks, acts or dresses. Harassment can happen to boys or girls and can be about power: the power to make someone feel bad, to try and impress or influence someone, or to be mean, rude, or unkind.

Gender/Sexual Harassment is not just teasing and not a game; it is illegal. Students need to think before they act. Is something they are going to say or do embarrassing or hurtful to someone? All students have the right to be treated with respect and have the power to change things if they are not. If someone is doing something to a student that causes her/him to feel badly, feel hurt; embarrassed or uncomfortable, that student needs to tell the person harassing to stop. If he or she doesn't stop, then students are to tell an adult with whom they feel comfortable. Students can help stop harassment by recognizing it and telling the person who is doing it to stop now! Students need to put power where it belongs: in their own actions.

Profanity is not allowed on the Ross School campus. All adults and upper grade students are to behave as positive role models who set good examples for our younger students.

Take Care of this Place

Respecting Property

Laptops and Books are the students' responsibility. They are responsible for the care and maintenance of school laptops, textbooks and library materials. Textbooks should be covered. Any damages will result in a fine or the cost of replacing the damaged items. Report cards, yearbooks or memory books will not be distributed to any student owing a laptop, textbook or library fine.

Clean Campus: We all should take PRIDE in our school. Gum is not allowed on campus. Drinking and eating during class time are not allowed unless during an organized, in-class activity. Litter and garbage should be disposed of in trashcans that are placed in strategic areas around campus. Containers are strategically placed in the lunch area for lunchtime composting and recycling. Students and adults are expected to work hard together to maintain a clean campus.

Property Damage: Stealing or disrespecting property of others will result in an office referral, appropriate consequences that may include detention, loss of an activity, restitution and/or suspension.

Take Care of Yourself

Promoting Learning

Class Standards are high. Students are expected to meet each teacher's standards concerning such class procedures. Being tardy, talking out of turn, leaving without permission, and eating in class are distracting to learning.

Cell Phones, iPhones, Blackberries must be kept in backpacks or lockers and turned off during school hours. (8:25-3:00) If on or used for either talking, texting, taking photos, videotaping, recording, accessing the internet, etc. during school hours, they will be taken to the office and returned only to a parent or guardian. After multiple infractions (2 or more) cell phones will be returned only after a parent/student/administrator "in-person" conference occurs. This may also result in losing of privilege of bringing the phone to school for an assigned period of time or for the duration of the school year. Students are allowed to use the office phone if they need to phone home or in case of an emergency during the school day.

Distracting Items that have no relevance to education should be left at home: Laser pens/ pointers are illegal and against the Ed code. Any student in possession of any kind of laser device will be suspended for a day. If the pen or pointer is actually used, a longer suspension may be assigned. Radios, shocker pens, sports equipment, spray cans, toys, walkmans, water balloons, water/squirt guns, and wallet chains are not allowed at school at any time. If brought to school, they will be confiscated and disciplinary action such as teacher or administrative detention, or loss of activities may follow. The school is not responsible for loss of these items if brought to school. To minimize distractions, unauthorized visitors, balloons, pizza delivery, etc. are not permitted. Party Invitations are **not** to be delivered anywhere on the school grounds.

Dress: Students are expected to dress in a manner that:

- 1) Allows participation in the learning environment
- 2) Is not a distraction to the learning environment
- 3) Does not pose a health or safety risk to the student or to others
- 4) Promotes a positive self image

Specifically:

- Students should not wear clothing that advertises drugs, alcohol, tobacco, nor anything that has suggestive or vulgar language or gestures. This applies to backpacks, binders, jewelry, etc.
- No pajamas (except on pajama dress up spirit days) are allowed
- A wholesome and age appropriate look with little or no make-up
- Concealer make-up is allowed for medical purposes

Informality is acceptable, but immodesty is not.

- Tops must be long enough to keep the midriff covered (A good test is that the midriff should remain covered when a student rises up her/his hands)
- Tops with shoulder straps less than one inch wide are not allowed, nor are any kind of spaghetti straps
- Underwear should not be visible at any time
- Micro-mini skirts and short tennis type skirts are not permitted. Shorts/skirts must reach below the length of the fingertips (arms extended down to the side)
- The wearing of pants below the waistline is also not acceptable
- Hats/caps are not allowed in classrooms, office, library or assemblies unless for medical or religious reasons

Students out of dress code will be asked to cover up with a sweater or jacket of their own, may be asked to call home for a change of clothes or wear a t-shirt or long, baggy gym shorts compliments of the office. Repeat offenders will be referred to the office for office consequences.

PE: Athletic shoes and socks are required for participation in P.E.

Library books are to be turned in on time to the Ross School library. Overdue books may result in detention or other consequences determined by the librarian.

Personal Electronics are not allowed to be on, used or visible during the school day; if brought to school they should be stored in backpacks or middle school lockers during the school day. If such a device is needed for a class assignment, it must be used only in the classroom with teacher permission and left with that teacher during the school day. If on or used during the school day, they will be confiscated and returned to parents only. Classroom or office consequences may also follow.

Safety

Bicycles, skateboards, in-line skates and razor scooters are not allowed to be ridden anywhere on campus from the hours of 8:00-3:15. Students should walk their bikes, razor scooters and skateboards in front of the school and on school grounds. When riding to school using any of these transportation devices, helmets must be worn according to state law for anyone under 18. Students are expected to follow all safety rules for transportation, riding with traffic as close to the right side of the road as possible, stopping at stop signs, riding solo and in single file, using paths when provided, and walking bikes, razors and skateboards across crosswalks. Bicycles are to be locked securely in the bike racks provided at school; they are not to be left in these bike racks overnight. Ross School is not responsible for theft or damage to bicycles, in-line skates, skateboards or razor scooters while on school property. Violations of any of the above may result in detentions, school clean up, confiscation of equipment or citation by the Ross School Police Department.

Buying and/or Selling: Students are not allowed to buy, sell or trade merchandise for personal profit on campus.

Closed Campus: Students are not allowed to leave the Ross School campus during school hours unless accompanied by an adult on a school authorized field trip or activity.

Crosswalks: Students are expected to stop, look and listen before entering any crosswalk. If a crossing guard is present, students are expected to follow their directions. Students are also expected to greet the crossing guards and thank them.

Dogs are not allowed on campus per board policy. Service dogs are an exception.

Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco: Because the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful, and has serious social and legal consequences, the Governing Board has adopted policies to keep our school free of these substances. Instructional programs will be provided which help students obtain and use current and accurate information, develop and maintain a positive self-concept, and exercise appropriate social and personal skills to resist the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Tobacco, alcohol and other drugs including chewing tobacco and drug paraphernalia are forbidden.

Emergency Drills are held monthly during school hours. All students and school personnel participate in a monthly emergency drill. Students are to walk silently to their assigned area with their classroom teacher.

Roof: No students are allowed on the roof at any time for any reason.

Rough Housing in the halls, eating areas, and playground threaten the safety of others and is not permitted. Spitting and throwing of tan bark and sticks are not allowed. Any kind of play fighting, grabbing, neck locks, or headlocks, "dead arming" or punching is also prohibited. Inappropriate or unsafe games are not permitted including table topping, piggy back, rugby, tackle football, etc. Tackling, tripping and piling on during games are dangerous and are not allowed. Causing or threatening to cause physical injury to another student is forbidden.

Stairs: Students should use stairs with caution and care. Walking up and down the stairs is a must. The back exterior stairs in the new school outside of the 4th grade classrooms are for emergency exit purposes only.

Balconies: No leaning or horseplay of any kind anywhere near 2nd floor balconies is permitted.

Weapons, look alike weapons, explosives, firearms, firecrackers or knives, laser devices and other dangerous objects are forbidden at any time during school, at school activities or on the way to or from school. According to California Education Code, bringing any of these items to school will result in suspension and possible loss of an activity.

Serious Behaviors

These are **suspendable** offenses according to the California Education Code.

- Causing, attempting to cause, and threatening to cause physical injury to another person
- Possessing, using, selling or furnishing any drug paraphernalia, knife, explosive, firearm, laser pen/pointer, or other dangerous object
- Offering, arranging or negotiating to sell or deliver any controlled substance or alcohol or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol
- Committing or attempting to commit robbery or extortion or knowingly receiving stolen school or private property

- Caused or attempted to cause damage or stealing or attempting to steal or stealing school or private property
- Possessing or using matches, tobacco or nicotine products or imitation firearms
- Committing an obscene act or engaging in habitual profanity or vulgarity
- Disrupting school activities or willfully defying school authorities
- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault
- Harassing, threatening, or intimidating a student who is a complaining witness in a school disciplinary proceeding
- Offering, arranging, negotiating, or selling drugs
- Engaging or attempting to engage in hazing
- Committing sexual harassment, causing, attempting to cause, threatening to cause or participating in an act of hate violence
- Creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment
- Making terrorist threats against school officials or school

HONOR/INTEGRITY CODE

Academic Honesty is the foundation of personal honor and integrity.

It is doing what is right, both on and off campus; cheating is unethical and wrong. Students who cheat are:

- Taking credit for something they did not earn
- Not taking responsibility for their grades or conduct
- Devaluing the hard work of other students who earn their grades

Plagiarism is the using of the words or ideas of another person as one's own, including:

- The use of another person's work, in part or in full. This includes copying homework.
- Using another person's words without giving credit through clear citations

Cheating is dishonest conduct, including:

- The use of another person's test/answers either before or during an assessment
- The use or possession of notes, answers, cheat sheets, electronic devices, or other sources not approved by the teacher during an assessment
- The taking/receiving of assessment papers prior to the assessment
- Discussing an assessment with someone who has not yet taken it
- Marking/changing answers after an assessment is over
- Marking/changing answers during the correction of an assessment
- Permitting someone to copy your work
- Forging a parent's/guardian's signature
- Using a prior year's assignment and turning it in as if it were current work

Group Work/Cooperative Learning

- Group work/cooperative learning occur when students work together, sharing ideas and information to complete an assignment
- All assignments are assumed to be individual work unless the teacher clearly states otherwise
- Students who wish to work together on an assignment that the teacher has not designated as a group assignment, must obtain prior permission from the teacher before beginning the assignment as a group
- All participants must be listed on all work submitted

Consequences for violating the academic honesty standards are:

1st Offense

- Teacher will confer with student and contact parents
- Teacher will inform administration
- Student will be counseled
- Student will receive no credit on the assignment or assessment but must redo and complete the assignment
- Teachers will confidentially inform other grade level teachers (as needed)

2nd Offense

- All consequences generated by the first offense
- Student will meet with the Dean and parents
- Student will be subject to a 1-day in-house suspension and loss of a school privilege, as determined by administration

- Student will be removed from membership in leadership organizations
- Counselors and teachers reserve the right to rescind letters of recommendation

3rd Offense

- All consequences generated by the first and second offenses
- Student and parents meet with site administration at a specially convened SST
- Student will be suspended from school for two days, followed by five days of administrative lunchtime office detention. Completion of a reflection essay will be required prior to being admitted to class
- Student and parents will be notified in writing that the student's next school of attendance will be informed of this third offense violating the Ross Academic Integrity Policy

Technology Acceptable Use Agreement

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

INTERNET access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to receive.

In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and agree to and understand(s) their significance.

It is the responsibility of all Ross employees, students, and others who use or access Ross technological resources to understand and follow this Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) on the following page.

All access to Internet sites are routed through a "technology protection measure" designed to filter out material that is in violation of the district Internet policies. This filter will block most objectionable material, but users must be aware that the filter may miss some objectionable material and these sites should be reported immediately for review. A review process is available to block sites with objectionable material. There is also a review process to request the unblocking of sites that users believe contain material that has educational benefit. The Marin County Office of Education provides content filtering for Ross Elementary School District.

Definitions

- System/Network shall mean the technology services and equipment owned and/or provided by Ross School District for the use of Ross School employees and students and other authorized users, including but not limited to: computers, Internet, Google Applications, telephones, fax machines, voice mail, email, electronic pagers, cell phones and radios.
- Access to the Internet – A computer shall be considered to have access to the Internet if such computer is equipped with a network port, wireless card, wifi or is connected to a computer network, which has access to the Internet.
- Minor/Student shall mean an individual who has not attained the age of 18.
- Obscene shall have the meaning given such term in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code.
- Child pornography shall have the meaning given such term in Section 2256 of title 18, United States Code.
- Harmful to minors shall mean any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
 - taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeal to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
 - depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
 - taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
- Hacking shall mean attempting to gain unauthorized access to computer and network system connected to the Internet.
- Gaming shall mean the practice of gambling including the playing of games that simulate gambling whether or not the gaming involves a monetary transaction.
- Technology protection measure shall refer to a proxy server managed by Marin COE that blocks and/or filters Internet access.
- Authorized employee/student as used herein shall refer to an adult staff member or student appointed by Ross School District

Acceptable Use Policy

INTERNET - Terms and Conditions

1. **Acceptable Use** - The network is provided for employee/student to conduct research and communicate with others on academic topics and to engage in legitimate School District business. Individual users of the district computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications on those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with district standards and will abide by the policies specified herein. Violations of the district policy described will result in access privileges suspended or revoked as well as other disciplinary action as warranted. Any commercial, political, or unauthorized use of those materials or services, in any form, is forbidden. All copyright laws must be observed.
2. **Unacceptable Use** - Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state statute or regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyright infringement, threatening or obscene material, or inappropriate use of material protected by trade secret or illegal gaming. Use for commercial activities is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited. Any transmission or reception of pornographic material is expressly prohibited.

Employee's/Students are responsible for following generally accepted social standards for use of a publicly owned and operated communication tools. Employee's/Students will maintain high standards of ethical conduct while using the system. Examples of unethical, unacceptable use of District technology equipment includes the following:

- Sending, displaying, or accessing pornographic, abusive, obscene, or other objectionable language, graphics, or other media
- Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information about students or employees
- "Hacking" or otherwise engaging in unlawful activities while online
- Using obscene language
- Cyberbullying
 - **Flaming** – Online fights using electronic messages with angry and vulgar messages
 - **Harassment** – Repeatedly sending nasty, mean and insulting messages
 - **Sexting** - is the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically, primarily between mobile phones.
 - **Denigration** – "Dissing" someone online, Sending or posting rumors to damage a person's reputation
 - **Impersonation** – Pretending to be someone else and sending material to get that person in trouble
 - **Outing** – Sharing someone's secrets or embarrassing information or pictures online
 - **Exclusion** – Intentionally and cruelly excluding someone from an online group
 - **Cyberstalking** – Repeated, intense harassment that includes threats and creates fear
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- Intentionally damaging computers, computer systems, data, files, information or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using or distributing another's password
- Trespassing in another's folders, work, or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for outside business or commercial purposes
- Sending or receiving of unethical, illegal, immoral, inappropriate, or unacceptable information of any type
- Engaging in activities that cause disruption to the network or its systems
- Attempting to bypass the system security measures
- Reposting or forwarding a message that was sent to you privately without permission of the person who sent you the message

- Posting chain letters or engaging in "spamming" - i.e. sending an annoying or otherwise unnecessary message to a large number of people
 - Any other activities not appropriate in an educational forum
3. **Privileges** - The use of INTERNET is a privilege, and unacceptable use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The Technology Department, in collaboration with school administration may close an account at any time as required for inappropriate use. The school district administration may request the Technology Department to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts. The violation of any item contained in this policy may result in the loss of computer access and/or other disciplinary action, as well as possible punitive action as provided for by local, state, and federal law.
 4. **Network etiquette** - *You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:*
 - *Be polite.*
 - *Use appropriate language.*
 - *Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers of students or colleagues.*
 - *Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the Technology Department and school administration.*
 - *All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be Ross School private property.*
 5. Ross School District makes no guarantees of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Ross School District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by it's own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the INTERNET is at your own risk.
 6. **Security** - Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially any system that has many users and/or Internet access. **Students/staff shall not let others use his or her account or password, as he or she is responsible for all actions related to his or her account.** Students/staff must notify school administrators immediately if their password is lost or stolen or if they think someone has access to their account. Students are to use only the network directories and resources that have been assigned for their use. Unauthorized access to any other level of the system, or other system resource, is strictly prohibited. Users will make no attempt to bypass the district anti-virus software, firewall, filtering and safeguards. When finished with a computer, the student is expected to logout where appropriate. If you can identify a security problem on the INTERNET, notify the administration immediately. Do not use another individual's account. Attempts to login to INTERNET or any district computer as a system administrator will result in suspension or cancellation of user privileges.
 7. **Vandalism** - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware or data of another user, INTERNET, or any of the above listed agencies or other networks that are connected to the INTERNET. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Also included is vandalism, damage or negligent use of assigned laptop, which would result in a fee to repair damages, as well as possible disciplinary action (including loss of the privilege of using a laptop (loaner) while the assigned student laptop is being repaired.)
 8. **Access to Internet and Other Technologies by Adults/Students** - Adults/Students accessing the System/Network when working as an employee/student or volunteer of Ross School District; when attending trainings, meetings, conferences, or other events sponsored by Ross School District or at a facility of which Ross School District has otherwise been granted permission of use shall be subject to the rules and regulations specified in the Acceptable Use Policy and the Child Internet Protection Act.
 - The employee/student in whose name an on-line account is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Employees/student shall keep account information, home addresses and telephone numbers private. They shall use the System only under their own account number.

- Employees/students shall use the system primarily for purposes related to their employment within the County. Commercial use of the system is strictly prohibited.
- Any illegal use of Ross School District, Marin County Office of Education or K12 High Speed Network systems, or use in support of illegal activities is prohibited. Illegal use includes use that violates local, state and/or federal law. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: stalking others, transmitting or originating any unlawful, fraudulent or defamatory communications, transmitting copyrighted material beyond the scope of fair use without permission of the copyright owner, or any communications where the message or its transmission or distribution, would constitute or would encourage conduct that is a criminal offense. Users shall not use any technology or system to promote unethical practices or any activity prohibited by law or district policy.
- Activities that interfere with or disrupt network users, services, or equipment are prohibited. Such interference or disruption includes, but is not limited to, distribution of unsolicited advertising or mass mailings, "spamming," propagation of computer worms or viruses; and using district, county systems or the K12 High Speed Network to make or attempt to make unauthorized entry to other computational, informational or communications devices or resources. For the purpose of this AUP, "unsolicited advertising" includes any transmission that describes goods, products, or services for sale, except as permitted in the electronic Bulletin Board service as set forth herein.
- Users shall not transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion or political beliefs, or otherwise inappropriate for training or school/work-related uses.
- Users shall not engage in any type of gaming activities on the system.
- Users shall not engage in the playing of computer games (i.e. solitaire, free cell, etc.) except for instructional purposes when approved by the teacher.
- Users shall not use the system to engage in unauthorized hacking or attempts to otherwise compromise any computer or network system's security. Unauthorized review, duplication, dissemination, removal, damage or alteration of files, passwords, computer systems or programs, voicemail messages or other property of Ross School District or improper use of information obtained by unauthorized means, may be grounds for disciplinary action.
- Users shall not connect any equipment to the system/network without prior approval from a staff member. An individual will not move equipment unless the Technology Department in collaboration with school administration, has given permission.
- Users shall not connect any personal or school computer while on the Ross School District Network/County Office Network to any other Internet service provider or network (Unauthorized wireless). Users shall not connect a network computer to the Ross School District Network without prior Technology Administration approval.
- Copyrighted material may not be placed on the system without the author's permission. Users may download copyrighted material for their own use only and only in accordance with copyright laws.
- Users shall not read other users' electronic mail or files; they shall not attempt to interfere with other users' ability to send or receive electronic mail nor shall they attempt to read, delete, copy, or modify other users' mail without authorization. Users shall not forge other users' mail.

- Users are encouraged to keep messages brief. Personal use of the e-mail system is permitted so long as that use is appropriate, does not violate any other district or county policies, and is acceptable to the individual employee's supervisor.
 - The following practices are prohibited:
 - Sending or relaying chain letters
 - Sending unsolicited jokes or similar material
 - Use in support of partisan political activities
 - Use for private or personal activities that exceed Ross School District, Marin County Office of Education or K12 High Speed Network related research, instruction, or administrative applications
 - Visiting pornographic, racist or otherwise objectionable web sites
 - Any other use that is unacceptable or not in keeping with the role, mission or goals of Ross School District as determined by the Technology Department and School Administration
 - Users shall report any security problem or misuse of the system to the Technology Department, School Administration, or designee.
 - Users shall not load or download from the Internet any software on Ross School District equipment without prior authorization from the Technology Department. This includes media players, screen savers, wallpapers, games, widgets, etc....
9. **Access to Internet by Minors/Students** - Minors/Students accessing the system/network when working as an employee/student or volunteer of Ross School District; when attending trainings, meetings, conferences, or other events sponsored by Ross School District or at a facility of which Ross School District has otherwise been granted permission of use shall be subject to the rules and regulations as adult users. In accordance with the **Child Internet Protection Act**, minors shall be subject to the following rules:
- Minors shall not access material that is obscene, child pornography, harmful to minors, or otherwise inappropriate for educational or work-related uses
 - Minors shall only use electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications for purpose related to education within the context of a school-related assignment activity or for purposes related to work, including volunteer, at Ross School District.
 - Minors shall not disclose personal identification information of any kind on the Internet.
10. **Privacy** - Employees/Students have no right to privacy as to any information or file transmitted or stored through the system, including the Ross School District computer systems, voicemail, text messaging, electronic mail or other technical resources. Ross School District reserves the right to retrieve and read any message or file. All users should be aware that when a message is deleted, it may still be possible to recreate the message; therefore, ultimate privacy of messages cannot be guaranteed to anyone. The reliability of passwords for maintaining confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.
11. **Policy Violation** - Any violation of this policy and regulation may result in the loss of access to the system, or any component part by Ross School District, and may be referred to applicable law enforcement agencies when necessary. Any violation of this policy by a Ross School District employee/student may also be grounds for disciplinary action.

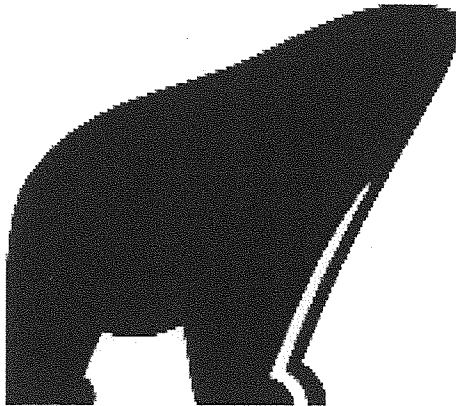
12. Public Records and Retention:

- Information stored on the system or Ross School District equipment, including e-mail, e-mail attachments, web postings, and voice mail messages may become records of Ross School District. Ross School District records pertaining to Ross School's business, whether paper or computerized, are considered public records and, therefore, may be subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act ("PRA") and Title 5, section 16020, et seq., of the California Code of Regulations, pertaining to the retention and destruction of school records.
- A Ross School District e-mail/bear-mail account is not intended for permanent storage of e-mail. Ross School District may retain or dispose of an employee's e-mail, whether an employee is currently or formerly employed by Ross School District. E-mail account in-boxes and out-boxes may be purged as often as every 90 days by MCOE/Ross School District.
- Employees/Students shall remove or delete e-mail and other electronic files from the Ross School District e-mail and bear-mail accounts regularly. E-mail and other electronic files that are classified as Ross School District records shall first be preserved in either of the three manners described in paragraph (2) above. If, for any reason, an employee believes an e-mail, voice mail, text message or other electronically-stored record should be preserved in electronic form, the employee shall notify the Technology Department that the record should be preserved in electronic form.

I understand and will abide by the above Terms and Conditions for Technology Acceptable Use Agreement. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action.

ORGANIZATIONS

2011-2012



August 29, 2011

Dear Parents:

We hope you and your children have a happy start to the 2011-2012 school year. For those of you new to Ross School, welcome!

As advocates for every child at Ross School, the PTA has a long-standing tradition of promoting proactive parental involvement in our community school. We work with teachers, staff and the administration on a daily basis to maintain the standards of academic excellence at Ross School and a help provide a sense of belonging and acceptance for each student.

The work of our volunteers and the support of the parent community enable the PTA to make significant volunteer and financial contributions to fine arts, music, language arts, theatre, teacher grants, parent education, safe routes to school, and state of the art technology in each classroom.

We also partner with the other parent-lead volunteer organizations at Ross School: Every Kind of Mind (EKOM), Friends of the Library (FOL) and the Site Council. We share information, programs, financial resources and volunteers to support students, parents and faculty to realize our common goals.

This would not be possible without the commitment and dedication of the eight officers of the PTA Executive Board and the 100+ volunteers who chair and organize our many events.

We welcome your input and ideas and hope you'll get involved as a volunteer. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us to learn more about the PTA, to join and to get involved!

Best regards,

Kristi Walker
PTA President, 2011-2012
walker.kristi@gmail.com

Georgette Kenney
PTA 1st Vice President, 2011-2012
georgettekenney@yahoo.com

2011-2012 ROSS SCHOOL PTA

Officers:

President	Kristi Walker H: 459-4786 C: 279-7485 walker.kristi@gmail.com
1 st VP Events	Georgette Kenney H: 259-4685 C: 847-4514 georgettekenney@yahoo.com
2 nd VP Programs	Anna Lushtak H: 456-9131 C: 350-1109 annalushtak@comcast.net
3 rd VP Hospitality	Lisa Leigh Abrahamson H: 785-3338 C: 672-0609 lisa@lisaleigh.com
4 th VP Middle School Liaison	Suzanne Galuszka H: 454-6120 C: 420-4269 galuszka1@comcast.net
Treasurer	Brenley Brotman H: 456-4506 C: 419-7479 brenley@aol.com
Secretary	Sue Rogers H: 453-3000 C: 328-4184 suerogers106@gmail.com
Past President	Liz Welsh H: 453-5332 C: 717-9881 lizwelsh@comcast.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2011-2012 PTA MAJOR EVENTS

For the complete 2011-2012 School Calendar, please go to "View Calendar" on the home page of the Ross School website at:
www.rossschool.k12.ca.us

Friday, August 26	Back to School Lunch
Thursday, September 1	New Family Reception
Sunday, October 2	Family Day/Brian Maxwell Run
Saturday, October 29	Halloween Party
February 2012	Wine Fest
Saturday, May 5	Patron Party
Saturday, May 12	Behind the Garden Gate: Ross Garden Tour

ROSS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Leadership Cabinet
2011-2012

Mission Statement

"Coordination and Communication"

The Superintendent/Principal holds a Leadership Cabinet meeting with the Board President, the president of each organization and advisory committees, as well as community members. This forum allows us to keep the lines of communication open, to receive input from key stakeholders, and to coordinate school, parent and community activities and events.

Meetings are 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Ross School Conference Room.

September 2	October 7
November 4	December 2
January 6	February 3
March 2	April 6
May 4	June 1

Members:

Scott Mahoney	Superintendent/Principal	457-2705 ext. 212	smahoney@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Todd Blake	Board President	456-6444	tblake@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Jennifer Coan	Friends of the Library	450-0210	jccoan@comcast.net
Ann Sutro	School Site Council	461-2558	annsutro@sbcglobal.net
Bob Jacobson	Financial Advisory Committee	485-1807	bobj@mixon.com
Jay Kern	Foundation President	772-8215	jay@kernwhelan.com
Tanya Rauzi	Every Kind of Mind	457-5727	tbrauzi@comcast.net
Tammy Mobley	Co-Chairs	457-7978	lagunitas140@comcast.net
Shawn Gillam	Ross Recreation President	265-6685	shawn@shawnmillerassociates.com
Kristi Walker	PTA President	459-4786	walker.kristi@gmail.com
Eileen Sheldon	Ross Rec Auxiliary	601-8074	eamsheldon@gmail.com
Sarah Blackstone	Citizens' Oversight Committee	457-2705 ext. 215	sblackstone@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Dave Peterson	Endowment Fund	454-5786	Dpeterson307@aol.com
Iris Winey	Ross Property Owners Association	456-6829	
Carla Small	Town Council	457-5999	carlasmall@aol.com
Jessica Hart	Distinguished Senior Leader	454-2070	jessicahart@comcast.net

Ross School Foundation 2011-2012

Mission Statement

The Ross School Foundation is the primary non-profit organization that raises funds to benefit educational programs for Ross School students. It enables parents and community members to donate much-needed financial support to the Ross School, on a tax-free basis.

The goal of the Ross School Foundation is to “Fill the Gap” or shortfall that exists between State and Local funding, and the significantly higher actual cost of educating each Ross School student. With financial support from parents and community members, the Ross School can continue to attract and maintain excellent faculty members and educational programs.

The Ross School Foundation seeks 100% parent participation in contributions. The Foundation solicits contributions from October through March. Last year the Foundation was successful in raising close to 20% of the revenues needed to support the school.

Funds collected by the Ross School Foundation are disbursed according to the determinations made by the Ross School Board of Trustees.

Meetings

The Foundation Board meeting schedule is as follows:

7:00 PM- Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Mar. 6, 2012
7:00 PM- Tuesday, Apr. 3, 2012
7:00 PM- Tuesday, May 1, 2012

Meetings will be held in the Ross School Library on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Dates are posted in the Hip Pocket and on the Website Calendar.

Ross School Foundation Board Members 2011-2012

President

Jay Kern

Vice President

Steve Sutro (First VP)

Marisol Bush (Second VP)

Treasurer

Seth Reicher

Secretary

Beth Bailey-Gates

Albie Berger

Chris Catton

Caskie Collet

Bill Conrow

Dani Connor

Patricia Duffy

Josh Fisher

Matt Gillam

Kailey Lewis

Todd Lyon

Scott Mahoney (ex officio)

Steve McKinney

Lesley Reidy

John Rogers

Mark Sanchez

Barney Schauble

Susan Skinner

Clay Walker

Stephanie Robinson, President Emeritus

ROSS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Endowment Fund
2011-2012

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ross School Endowment Fund, as a supporting organization to the Ross School Foundation, is to assist Ross School by helping it retain and attract excellent faculty, maintain small class sizes and provide excellent academic programs, while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Our goal is to grow the Endowment, with income, appreciation and contributions, to reach a level sufficient that the income and appreciation would be available to supplement operating revenue.

Building the Ross School Endowment is an intelligent investment in our community, providing excellent faculty and programs to ensure well-educated graduates. It will leave a legacy for our community and ensure the continued excellence of Ross School, the core asset of our community.

Endowment Fund Board

Title	Member	Email Address
President	Dave Peterson	dpetercom307@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Lyons	Jlyons55@gmail.com
Board Member	Bill Conrow	wconrow@aol.com
Board Member	Bob Jacobson	bobj@mixonix.com
Board Member	Tucky Pogue	
Ex-Officio	Jay Kern-Foundation President	jay@kernwhelan.com
Ex-Officio	Todd Blake- Board of Trustees	tblake@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Ex-Officio	Scott Mahoney-Superintendent/Principal	smahoney@rossschool.k12.ca.us

ROSS SCHOOL
FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2011-2012

Mission Statement

The role of the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) is to review the Ross School District budget on a periodic basis and to advise the Board about the current and projected fiscal health of the school. The Board may also request the committee to review and make recommendations on any financial proposals or issues which might have a significant financial impact upon the school. Parent and community members are selected and appointed by the Board and serve a three-year term.

Meetings

Meetings are open to the public and held 4-6 times a year in the Library.

Preliminary Roster of FAC Members

Name	Affiliation	Year Joined	E-Mail
Bob Jacobson	FAC Chair	September 2009	bobj@mixon.com
Sarah Blackstone	Ross School Business Manager	January 2011	sblackstone@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Noel Lindsay	Parent	September 2010	noel@lindsayfamily.org
Greg Wolkom	Parent	September 2008	greg.wolkom@kimptongroup.com
David Howitt	Music Teacher/Faculty Red	September 2010	dhowitt@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Scott Mahoney	Superintendent/Principal	September 2011	smahoney@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Jeff Lyons	Community Member	September 2009	jlyons55@gmail.com
Jay Kern	Foundation President	September 2010	jay@kernwhelan.com
Whit Gaither	Board of Trustees Liaison	December 2010	wgaither@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Frank Doodha	Community Member	September 2009	fdood@aol.com
Steve Sutro	Foundation Vice President	September 2011	SHSutro@duanemorris.com
Stephanie Robinson	Parent	September 2009	s_robinson@mindspring.com

ROSS SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

2011-2012

Education Code Section 52852 (formerly 52012) specifies that a school improvement plan shall be developed by a school site council (SSC). School Improvement is a program for elementary, intermediate, and secondary schools to improve instruction, services, school environment, and organization at school sites according to plans developed by School Site Councils.

The California *Education Code* requires the school site councils to:

1. Measure effectiveness of improvement strategies at the school.
2. Seek input from school advisory committees.
3. Reaffirm or revise school goals.
4. Revise improvement strategies and expenditures.
5. Recommend the approved single plan for student achievement (SPSA) to the governing board.
6. Monitor implementation of the SPSA.

Method for selection to serve on Site Council: The law says, "The SSC shall be composed of the principal; representatives of teachers selected by teachers at the school; other school personnel selected by peers at the school; parents of pupils attending the school selected by such parents; and, in secondary schools, pupils selected by pupils attending the school." Parents or community members on the SSC may not be employed by the school district.

Meetings

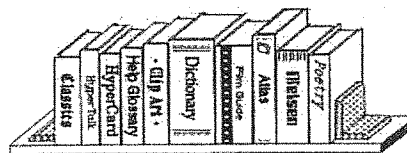
The following is the meeting calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. The meetings are held from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. in the Ross School Conference Room. Agenda's are posted on the website.

Dates

Tuesday, September 13
Tuesday, October 11
Tuesday, November 15
Tuesday, December 13
Tuesday, January 10
Tuesday, February 14
Tuesday, March 13
Tuesday, April 17
Tuesday, May 8

<u>Parent Representatives</u>	<u>School Employee Representatives</u>
Ann Sutro, Chair	Scott Mahoney, Superintendent/Principal
OPEN	OPEN, Teacher
OPEN	Kristin Kreiger, Teacher
Tanya Rauzi	Jessica Lopic, Teacher
Julie Siler	OPEN, Other School Personnel

**ROSS SCHOOL
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
2011-2012**



MISSION: We're a group of parents who support the Ross School Library and encourage a love of reading.

FOL PROMOTES READING THROUGH:

The Book Fair: December 6th-9th A partnership with local bookseller, Book Passage.

>Student Book Talks: Tuesday-Wednesday, December 6-7

>Book Talk at Book Passage: Wednesday, December 7

>EKOM Luncheon: Thursday, December 8

Pajama Story Night: February 9th, 6-730 pm

A special evening of readings by teachers followed by milk & cookies.

Dr. Seuss's birthday: March 2nd, 8-830am Our annual celebration includes reading Dr. Seuss stories in class, eating green eggs and ham, and welcoming The Cat in the Hat!

Book Talks and Author Events to generate excitement about new books and inspire a sense of community: **Lost Hawaii Luau January 26th** & **Wine & Cheese Book Swap March 22nd**

The Read-a-thon during the month of April

A month-long event to encourage and inspire reading among all grade levels

"Kids helping Kids Read" activities, including fundraising through adopt-a-school and used book drives. Ross students raise money or donate books to kids and communities in need.
Used Book Drive: October 10-15

Mini Book Fair: May 21-25

Book talks for all students highlighting new books and summer reading

FOL Appreciation Lunch (June 6, 1130am) Recognize all parent volunteers who have volunteered for and in the library

FOL SUPPORTS THE LIBRARY:

Gift Book Donations: With your donation, a new book is purchased by the library in your child's name.

Parent volunteers: Provide assistance in the library during your child's library time, checking out books, helping students, re-shelving, and doing inventory. Parents provide about 1,000 hours of assistance in the library each year! We need you!

FOL promotes library news and activities through Hip Pocket articles and themed library displays.

THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SUPPLEMENTS LIBRARY SALARIES, HOURS AND BOOKS

**ROSS SCHOOL
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
2011-2012**

All parents are welcome to attend the FOL meetings and participate in our events. We have lots of new ideas and there are many ways to get involved with our beloved library!

Look for information on upcoming meetings, activities and FOL news in the Hip Pocket or contact Jennifer Coan at any time.

Meetings will be held in the Library on the first Tuesday of each month, from 8:30 am – 9:30 am.

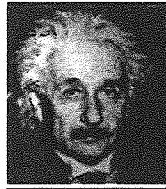
Dates include: September 6, October 4, November 8, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3 and May 1.

FOL Event Chairs

Co President	Jennifer Coan	450-0210	jccoan@comcast.net
Co President	Laura DeFrino	686-2796	ldefrino@comcast.net
Book Fair Co Chairs	Alexandra Treene	454-8323	atreene@sbcglobal.net
	Jill Baker	233-1499	jgisvold@hotmail.com
Bookmarks	Trish Goodman	497-0689	trishgoodman@att.net
Gift Books	Tia Dong	342-6298	etstp@comcast.net
Library Volunteers	Catherine Pedenault	456-8885	catpedenault@hotmail.com
Pajama Story Night	Alexandra Treene	454-8323	atreene@sbcglobal.net
Read-a-thon	Tallie Fishburne	785-3871	tallie.fishburne@gmail.com
Adopt-a-School& Used Book Drive	Alexandra Treene	454-8323	atreene@sbcglobal.net
Book Swap	Temple Schauble/Susan Skinner		temple.schauble@comcast.net
Lost Hawaii Luau	Liz Welsh	453-5332	lizwelsh@comcast.net
Spring Mini Book Fair	Jill Baker	233-1499	jgisvold@hotmail.com
Board Liaison	Bob Dickinson		bdickinson@rossschool.k12.ca.us
School Liasons	Suzannah Barbour	457-2705	sbarbour@rossschool.k12.ca.us
	Tracy Reid	457-2705	treid@rossschool.k12.ca.us

ROSS SCHOOL EVERY KIND OF MIND (EKOM)

2011-2012



Albert Einstein: Famous Unique Learner

EKOM began in **1998** in response to parent and school concern about how to best educate children with special or challenging learning profiles and how to better differentiate learning instruction (or DI) at home and in the classroom. EKOM supports parents, teachers, and administrators in a joint endeavor to promote academic and social success for ALL children. Our unique learners show variations in areas such as:

Advanced Learners or Giftedness
Emotions/Behavior/ Social skills
Styles
Organization/Executive Functioning

Attention/ADHD
Gender Differences
Memory
Processing

Dyslexia
Language or Speech Learning
Motor skills
Reading or math

EKOM goals include:

- Providing information and resources to help parents and educators to understand, identify, parent, and teach unique learners.
- Building a network of support for parents of unique learners.
- Providing feedback to teachers and administrators about student and parent needs and the school programs that respond to these needs.
- Collaborating with in-school organizations and with organizations outside of Ross School on the county, state, and national level.

EKOM holds regular parent-to-parent support meetings held on the **3rd Tuesday** of most months right after drop-off (coffee at 8:30am, speaker from 9:00-10:00am) and sponsors a variety of Parent Education/Keynote speaker events throughout the school year.

EKOM is also a member of **PEG** (Parent Education Group) of Marin sharing and collaborating with local area school districts to present joint parent education events. Look for announcements about meeting topics and locations in the Hip Pocket, on the EKOM school web page, or our new website at **www.everykindofmind.com** or **www.marinmomsofboysinitiative.com**.

In addition, an Advisory Committee of representative parents, teachers, and administrators meet three times during the school year to share perspectives on the challenges and rewards of meeting our children's special educational needs. Members include:

Co-Chair:	Tanya Belz-Rauzi	tbrauzi@comcast.net
In-coming Co-Chair:	Elizabeth Bradburn	ejbradburn@yahoo.com
Out-going Co-Chair:	Tammy Mobley	lagunitas140@comcast.net
Board Liaison:	Todd Blake	toddblake@comcast.net
Admin Rep:	Scott Mahoney	smahoney@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Psychologist Rep:	Julia Vander Vennett	jvandervennett@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Counselor Rep:	Ann Brush	abrush@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Academic Counselor Rep:	Roxanne Edwards	redwards@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Teacher Rep:	Christie Green	cgreen@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Resource Rep:	Kristen Kreiger	kkreiger@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Resource Rep:	Misha Villa-Popescu	mvillapopescu@rossschool.k12.ca.us
Reading Specialist Rep:	Courtney Pappas	croddgers@rossschool.k12.ca.us

ROSS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-2012 TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE



The Ross School District Technology Committee is involved in developing and implementing the Technology Plan and provides ongoing support to classroom teachers, classroom specialists, students, administrators, library media specialists and parents, all of whom are stakeholders in the plan.

Strategic Plan Goal:

Provide students with the skill and tools for learning in the 21st century.

Rationale:

Students need the training necessary to best utilize the information and rapidly changing technology of the 21st century. The rapid explosion of information requires expanded skills in identifying relevant and reliable information. Time management becomes increasingly important as students advance to middle school and beyond. The many emerging and powerful technologies create new opportunities as well as the potential for misuse.

The Technology Committee will generally meet on the first Monday of the month at 3:15 (unless otherwise noted in bold) in the District Office Conference Room.

Professional Development Focus:

- To focus on professional development training for teachers in hardware and software in relation to skills/expectations/experience
- To focus on yearly assessment training of staff's technical operations to include ongoing support in the following areas: communication software, administrative software, teacher productivity software, presentation software, network services
- To focus on supporting curriculum team in creating benchmarks and assessment tools for technical skills per grade level
- To focus on providing all students and teachers with hands-on-experience with technology

Meeting dates are as follows:

September 12, 2011
October 3, 2011
November 7, 2011
December 5, 2011
January 9, 2012
February 6, 2012
March 5, 2012
April 2, 2012
May 7, 2012

Members, determined in the early fall, are made up of trustees, administrators, the Technology Department, parents, and teachers.

**Ross School District
Citizens' Oversight Committee
Measure B & A**

Mission:

To oversee expenditures of bond proceeds and to communicate its findings to the Board and the public.

Purpose:

The purpose of the committee is to review, ensure and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayers' money for school construction, as provided by Measure B & A, and to advise the public as to whether the District is in compliance with the Measure B & A stipulations and goals. The committee shall convene periodically to provide oversight for the following:

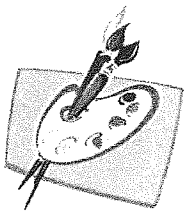
- Ensuring that Measure B & A bond revenues are expended only for the purposes described in Measure B & A.*
- Ensuring that Measure B bond revenues are not used for any teacher or administrative salaries or other school operating expenses not specially required to achieve the completion of the facilities authorized by Measure B & A.*

Members:

<i>Michael Baum</i>	<i>Parent</i>
<i>Jules Becker</i>	<i>Community Member</i>
<i>Loraine Berry</i>	<i>Community Member</i>
<i>Thomas Gaffney</i>	<i>Community Member</i>
<i>Glenn Greenberg</i>	<i>Parent</i>
<i>Susanne Lyons</i>	<i>Community Member</i>
<i>Nancy McCarthy</i>	<i>Community Member</i>

<i>Board Liaison: Elizabeth Robbins</i>	<i>Board of Trustees</i>
<i>District Staff: Scott Mahoney</i>	<i>Superintendent/Principal</i>
<i>Sarah Blackstone,</i>	<i>Business Manager</i>

The Ross School District Citizens' Oversight Committee meets quarterly. The agenda is posted 72 hours in advance. Minutes of the Committee's proceedings and all documents received and reports issued shall be made available for public viewing on the Ross School District's Internet website.



FINE ARTS COMMITTEE

The Fine Arts Committee works in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, school administration, and the PTA to support and enhance the visual and performing arts programs at Ross School. Parents and community members are welcome to participate.

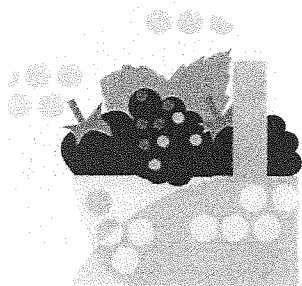
2011-2012 Co-Chairs:

Elizabeth Gorek	newbornngreen@yahoo.com	455-8050
Jackie Wood	jackie@jsveda.com	987-3793

2011-2012 Committee Members:

Ruth Krueger
Stephanie Lamarre
Bettina Moore
Liz Welsh
Kristi Fish, Vice-Principal
Erika Batten, Music Instructor
David Howitt, Music Instructor
Idie Weinsoff, Visual Arts Instructor

In 2011, we will be asking for a volunteer from each class to participate in the Fine Arts Committee. Please look for this volunteer opportunity on the classroom volunteer lists facilitated by each homeroom focal in the fall.



ROSS SCHOOL WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Mission and Goals

The Ross School District recognizes the link between student health and learning. It is the desire of the Wellness Committee to provide a comprehensive program which promotes healthy eating and physical activity in all our students.

Our goals are to establish both a nutrition and physical education curriculum in grades K-8 that is part of a sequential, comprehensive standards-based program, develop district nutrition guidelines, and establish a plan for measuring implementation.

Roster

Michelle Batelle	Parent
Laura Bauernfeind	School Nurse
Kristi Fish	Administrator
Debbie Gam	Parent
Rob Hobart	Board of Trustees
Orna Meyer	Parent
Jessica Meyer	PE Teacher
Alexa Price	Parent
Alexandra Treene	Parent

Meetings

The Wellness Committee meets quarterly in the Ross School Conference Room at 8:40-9:40 AM. The 2011-2012 meeting dates are:

November 2
February 1
April 4
June 6



Welcome to the 2011-2012 School Year

Safe Routes welcomes any interested parents and kids,
to join us in encouraging our school community to
WALK 'n ROLL to school each and every day!

The official WALK 'n ROLL dates follow,
but you can walk, roll, skip, jump to school **EVERY DAY!**

September 7th and 21st

October 5th - *International Walk to School Day*

October 19th, November 2nd and 16th

March 12th - April 6th - *Go For The Green Contest*

March 14th and 28th

April 18th - *Earth Week*

May 2nd

May 16th - *Bay Area Bike to Work (and School) Day*

May 30th

If interested in helping in any way, big or small,
please contact Alexandra Treene 454-8323 or atreene@sbcglobal.net

Green Ways to School



Less CO2! Less Traffic! It's Healthy! It's Fun!

ROSS RECREATION

2011-2012

Mission Statement

The Ross Recreation Department ("Ross Rec") is a nonprofit agency formed in 1972 to provide recreational enrichment and community service for the residents of Ross and their neighbors. For over thirty years Ross Rec has successfully provided programs for the community. Working with the town and the school, Ross Rec continues to grow and expand to meet the changing needs of the community. The Department now has programs for everyone from toddlers to senior citizens, including classes in art, cooking, garden lectures and tours, music, science and a great variety of sports. Ross Rec offers two excellent preschools for three and four year olds, providing a much needed community service.

Director:	Pam Riley
Assistant Director:	Judi Gatti
Assistant Supervisor:	Sue Talmage
Board President:	Shawn Gillam
Registrar/Assistant:	Eda Lochte

For more information call 415-453-6020

Fax number: 415-453-2014

Ross Rec Board meetings will be held on the **1st Tuesday** of the month, except when school vacations interfere. Meetings will be held in the Ross Recreation Community Room beginning at 7:30 pm.

Meeting Schedule:

- ❖ September 13
- ❖ October 4
- ❖ November 8
- ❖ December 6
- ❖ January 10
- ❖ February 7
- ❖ March 6
- ❖ April 3
- ❖ May 8

No meeting in June.

ROSS RECREATION AUXILIARY

2011-2012

Mission Statement

The Ross Recreation Auxiliary is comprised of women volunteers living in the Ross community. Our goal is to support the Ross Recreation Department, to build and foster relationships within the town of Ross, and to provide Ross residents with an enhanced sense of bonded and engaged community.

The Auxiliary strives to obtain its goals by organizing social events that bring all community members together, while simultaneously raising funds to support the Ross Recreation educational and enrichment programs. These programs include athletic programs for children and adults, early childhood education, music, dance, science, math, cooking and outdoor adventures. Classes are open to all individuals and families.

Projects and Fundraising

Traditionally, the Ross Recreation Auxiliary works on one of two alternating large fundraising events each year for the continued success of the Ross Recreation Department. The Auxiliary produces the Ross Community Telephone Directory every two years, and organizes the Winter Dinner for the entire community of Ross town residents every other year.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 9:15 am at rotating members' homes.

Annual Community Events

Holiday Sing at St. John's Church	December
Spring Fling Easter Egg Hunt	March or April
Movie Night on the Green	June

Contacts

Eileen Sheldon, President	601.8074	eamsheldon@gmail.com
Courtney Smith, Vice President	785.7656	courtney.b.smith@gmail.com
Temple Schauble, Secretary	747.4041	temple.schauble@gmail.com

ROSS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-2012 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Month	M	T	W	T	F	Workdays/Holidays	Days Students Attend/Teacher Work Days
August	1	2	3	4	5	Aug 19 Teacher Work Day 22-24 Teacher Work Days 25, 26 Staff Development Days 29 First Day of School	3/8 (9)
	8	9	10	11	12		
	15	16	17	18	19		
	22	23	24	25	26		
	29	30	31				
September				1	2	Sept 5 Labor Day 30 Mid-term Ends	21/21
	5	6	7	8	9		
	12	13	14	15	16		
	19	20	21	22	23		
	26	27	28	29	30		
October	3	4	5	6	7	Oct 14 Mid-term Reports mailed 6-8 18,20,24,26 Conferences (min. days)	21/21
	10	11	12	13	14		
	17	18	19	20	21		
	24	25	26	27	28		
	31						
November		1	2	3	4	Nov 1 Staff Development Day 11 Veteran's Day 23 Trimester Ends 23 Minimum Day 24-25 Thanksgiving Break	18/19
	7	8	9	10	11		
	14	15	16	17	18		
	21	22	23	24	25		
	28	29	30				
December				1	2	Dec 16 Report Cards mailed K-8 19-Jan. 2 Winter Break	12/12
	5	6	7	8	9		
	12	13	14	15	16		
	19	20	21	22	23		
	26	27	28	29	30		
January		3	4	5	6	Jan 16 MLK Day 20 Mid-term Ends 23 County-wide Staff Dev. Day	19/20
	9	10	11	12	13		
	16	17	18	19	20		
	23	24	25	26	27		
	30	31					
February			1	2	3	Feb 3 Mid-term Reports mailed 6-8 20-24 Mid-Winter Break 20 President's Day 24 Lincoln's Day	16/16
	6	7	8	9	10		
	13	14	15	16	17		
	20	21	22	23	24		
	27	28	29				
March				1	2	Mar 6 STAR Writing Assessment 4/7 7 STAR – writing make up day 14 Trimester Ends 27,28 Conferences (min. days) 30 Report Cards mailed K-8	22/22
	5	6	7	8	9		
	12	13	14	15	16		
	19	20	21	22	23		
	26	27	28	29	30		
April	2	3	4	5	6	Apr 9-13 Spring Break	16/16
	9	10	11	12	13		
	16	17	18	19	20		
	23	24	25	26	27		
	30						
May		1	2	3	4	May 1-11 STAR Testing 2-8 4 Mid-term Ends 18 Mid-term Reports mailed 6-8 28 Memorial Day	22/22
	7	8	9	10	11		
	14	15	16	17	18		
	21	22	23	24	25		
	28	29	30	31			
June					1	June 14 Trimester Ends 14 Last Day of School (min. day) 14 Graduation-2:00 pm 15, 18 Teacher Work Days	10/11 (12)
	4	5	6	7	8		
	11	12	13	14	15		
	18	19	20	21	22		
	25	26	27	28	29		
CAL 11-12	Board Approved: 2/9/11						180/189

Back to School Nights
Kindergarten-September 1, 5:30
1st-3rd-September 8, 5:30-6:15
4th-5th- September 8, 6:15-7:00
6th-8th-September 8, 7:00-8:30

First Day of School
August 29

Teacher Work Days (no school)
August 22, 23, 24
June 15
August 19 or June 18

Staff Development/Training Days (no school)
August 25, 26
November 1
January 23 (County-wide)

Minimum Days
October 18, 20, 24, 26-Conferences
November 23
March 27, 28-Conferences
June 14

Holidays (13)
September 5
November 11
November 24, 25
December 22, 23, 26, 30
January 2, 16
February 20, 24
May 28

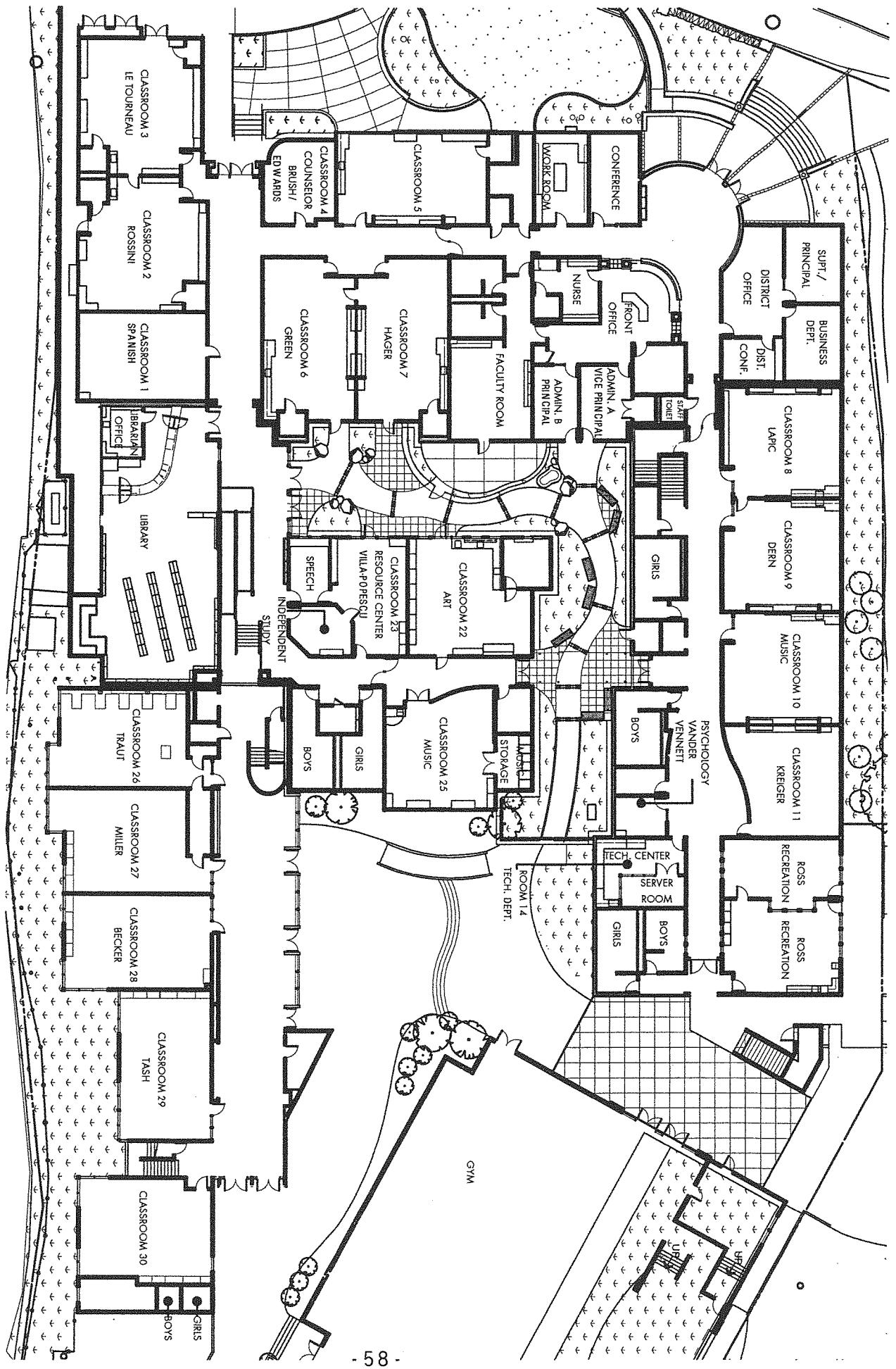
Thanksgiving Break
November 24-25
Winter Break
December 19-January 2
Mid-Winter Break
February 20-24
Spring Break
April 9-13

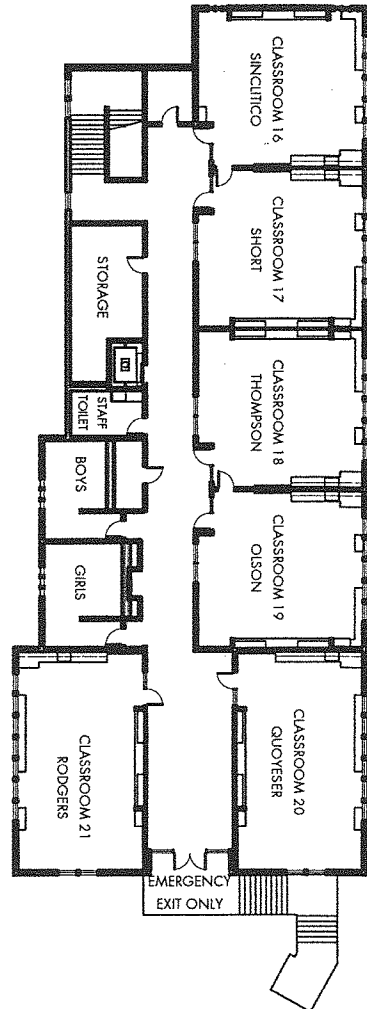
Elementary 1st Trimester Ends
November 23
Elementary 2nd Trimester Ends
March 14
Elementary 3rd Trimester Ends
June 14

Last Day of School
June 14

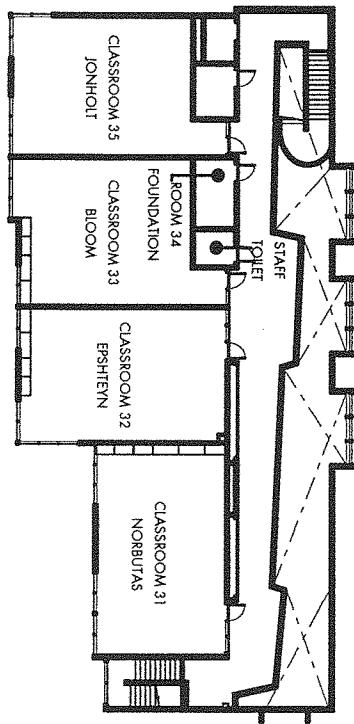
☐ Local Holidays-No School

☒ Legal Holidays-No School





EAST SIDE SECOND FLOOR



MIDDLE SCHOOL SECOND FLOOR

ROSS SCHOOL

AUGUST 2011

