

GGUSD

# Allen Elementary Mountaineer

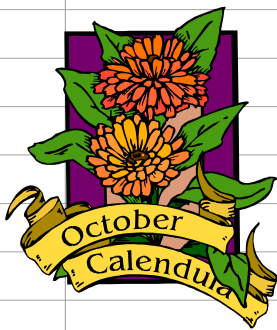


October 2009

## Principal Message

Volume 6  
Issue 2

Greetings Mountaineers! We are in full swing at Allen School. It does not appear that any further classroom changes will be necessary. We have completed our Back to School Night, and I am pleased with the great turnout of scholars and families.



The classrooms are “buzzing” with the implementation of the district’s new math program, Project G. Thinking Maps are continuing to be up-leveled as the foundation for the district writing program, Write From The Beginning. There will be evening parent workshops about Thinking Maps and Project G coming soon.

### Special points of interest:

- **Allen Website**  
[www.ggusd.k12.ca.us/allen](http://www.ggusd.k12.ca.us/allen)
- Student T-shirt and Sweat-shirt orders **will be coming soon!**
- 6th grade students can still sign up for Outdoor Education.
- No school on November 11th for Veterans Day.
- No school on November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving holiday

It is difficult to avoid a conversation about the state budget crisis, so I will briefly address it here. Education has suffered a tremendous loss of funding this year, and we expect this to continue for the next several years. Garden Grove Unified School District is known for its fiscal responsibility and conservative use of funding; however, we will also suffer the results of the budget crisis. We have a plan to get us through these difficult years, which includes the assistance from our Allen families. Firstly, the children will not suffer from lack of materials, and our school facility will continue to be clean. The children have textbooks, and we have no shortage of basic school supplies. The teachers will feel the major cut backs with no support for the extra materials they often use. The outstanding Allen PTA is looking in to ways that they can support the classroom teachers, but this will be a difficult time for the teachers. Any support for the PTA and our teachers is greatly appreciated. As always, we appreciate the cooperation from all our Allen families during this budget

### Tips for Parents

Actions for All Students to Succeed!

1. Attendance at school is mandatory
2. Tell your child “Do your best today!”
3. Parents can help at home by expecting their children to listen, ask questions and follow the rules.

Joan Spiker, Ed.D

## Red Ribbon Week

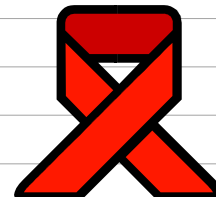
**Monday** (19th)-Red bracelets and pledge cards distributed to all scholars.

**Tuesday** (20th) - “Sock it to Drugs Day!” Wear the craziest socks you can find!

**Wednesday** (21st) - Come sign “thank you” banner at lunch for our brave Fountain Valley Police Officers whose jobs help keep us safe. Remember, we celebrate Red Ribbon Week because a police officer lost his life fighting to keep drugs away from kids.

**Thursday** (22nd) - Sunglasses day. Your future is bright when you make healthy choices. Wear your shades to show how bright your drug free future will be.

**Friday** (23rd) - Wear as much red as you can all day to show your Commitment to achieve your dreams by living a safe, healthy and drug free life.



## Goal Setting Conferences

Goal setting conferences began on Friday, October 23rd and will end Friday, October 30th. We will be operating on a minimum day schedule during conferences. The students will be released from school at **1:35 P.M.** The purpose of these conferences will be to review assessment data from the spring of last year, as well as current assessment the teachers have administered thus far. Together, the teacher, parents, and students will establish goals for the students to work on during the first trimester, as well as for the year. Teachers will send home notices regarding appointment times. Please let the teacher know if you are unable to keep an appointment, and to reschedule.

October 2009

20—School Picture Day

23-30—Parent Conferences

23— PTA General Meeting –  
Movie Night

19—Red Ribbon Week

Begins

30— Halloween Parade

## Safety Concerns

If you have ever been in our parking lot before or after school, you know how important it is for parents to follow all safety rules and guidelines for student safety. Remember to allow plenty of time in the morning so that you arrive at school before 8:30 a.m. School begins at 8:30, so students should be in line by 8:30. . As a reminder, the following parking lot rules are listed below:

1. Do not park your car in the drop off/pick up lanes (white and red curbs).
2. Please, do not park in the staff parking spaces.
3. Never wait or release your child in the outside lane.
4. Never leave your car unattended in the driving lanes. It will be towed and or ticketed by the Fountain Valley Police Department.
5. Only use the south parking lot for drop off and pick up of your scholar. The north parking lot has been designated for buses and employees only.



We appreciate your full and complete cooperation with these safety rules.



## Halloween Parade

The Annual Allen Halloween Parade will be held Friday, October 30th at 9:00 a.m. on the playground. Students may wear their costumes to school, but must change into their school clothes after the parade. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend this event, and enjoy the children's delightful enthusiasm for this holiday. Please sign in at the office upon your arrival. Thank you!