

C.E.A. NEWSLETTER

CONCHITA ESPINOSA - FOUNDER

SEPTEMBER

2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR



Welcome Back

What an exciting back to school it's been! Students, parents, teachers, and staff have returned with fervor to make the most of the year. The new technologies we have incorporated (interactive white boards, OnCourse, Discovery Science, Discovery Streaming, and 30 new Apple computers for Middle School) are challenging and spark new interest in teachers and students alike. Our new Kindergarten Learning Center is a marvel. It is a direct reflection of the hard-working, generous parents we have here at CEA. The feelings of returning home, greeting old friends, making new ones, and the endless possibilities and opportunities that come with a new school year fill the air and create this space where dreams can be realized and nothing is impossible.

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! We're ready to go!

Back to School Orientation Nights

Don't forget our Back to School Orientation Nights. It's important that all parents attend, but please make arrangements to leave your children at home. These meetings are designed to share information and keep the lines of communication open.

Tuesday, September 7, 7:00 p.m. – 1st and 2nd Grades

Wednesday, September 8, 7:00 p.m. – 3rd and 4th Grades

Thursday, September 9, 7:00 p.m. – 5th and 6th Grades

Wednesday, September 15, 7:00 p.m. – 7th and 8th Grade



2010-2011 Staff and Faculty

As we begin our 2010-2011 school year, we want to welcome to our C.E.A. family the following members:

3rd Grade – Vanessa Lopez

Kindergarten – Margaret Henriques

Music 2nd – 4th Grades – Yirka Ledon

We are proud they have chosen to be a part of our learning community and thank them for the gifts they bring to us.



Conchita Espinosa Conservatory of the Arts

Conservatory classes begin Tuesday, September 7. We are excited to announce and welcome the following additions to our faculty:

Afro-Fusion – Augusto Soladade

Piano – Yirka Ledon

Students will benefit from our new studios, new dressing rooms, and new music rooms. It's a great year to be part of the Conservatory. For information and registration, please call 305-227-1149.



Gift Wrap Sale

Our P.P.A. sponsors two major fundraisers a year – Walk for the Future and our annual gift wrap sale. This fund-raiser is beneficial to those who participate and to our school also. The paper is great quality and family and friends are usually eager to support this effort. The deadline is Friday, October 1.

Remember that your efforts in our fund-raising allow us to keep our tuition affordable and help provide for the extras of school. The improvements we have made to our facilities, the new Kindergarten Learning Center, and new technology are directly related to our fund-raising efforts. We expect 100% participation in the school. So, please take the time to approach your family and friends. Take the order form to your work place. Ask your neighbors. Every little bit counts, and we need everyone's commitment.



Box Tops for Education

We participate in the General Mills Box Tops for Education program. You can help, too! All you need to do is clip the Box Top logos from participating General Mills products and send them to school. There will be a Box Top collection box in each classroom. Our school gets 10¢ for each Box Top we collect.

Please save Box Tops for education logos from General Mills products such as:

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| *Cheerios | *Hamburger Helper | *Lucky Charms | *Chicken Helper |
| *Total | *Tuna Helper | *Fruit Roll-Ups | *Potato Buds |
| *Fruit Gushers | *Bisquick | *Bacos | *Yoplait Go-Gurt |

*Betty Crocker frosting *Betty Crocker supreme dessert bars
*Betty Crocker supreme brownies *Betty Crocker potato side dishes
*Yoplait yogurt multipacks *Super Moist cake mix
You will also find Box Top coupons on participating Pillsbury®, Green Giant®, Totinos®, Old El Paso®, and Gold Medal products.
AND MANY MORE

Visit www.boxtops4education.com to find other ways you can easily help raise money for our school. This is a simple act that can reap great rewards. Thank you for supporting our school.



Tardies

Punctuality shows organization, consideration and respect for the time and work of others. It is a quality employers expect of their employees. Being punctual is a habit one develops from an early age. It is one we want our students to learn.

Students arriving after 8:15 a.m. (grades 6 – 8) or 8:30 a.m. (Kinder-5th) are considered tardy and must report to the school office for an “admit to class.” A \$5.00 fee will be assessed for each tardy. Tardiness will also be reflected on your child’s report card in the effort and citizenship areas. Students who have doctor’s appointments in the morning, still must report to the office, but there will not be a \$5.00 assessment.

Children and adults like having those few extra minutes to talk, relax and prepare for the day’s events. Please be on time.



Communication

Communication is vital for a productive year. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, encouragement, etc., don’t hesitate to contact us.

To contact your child’s teacher, you may call the office at 305-227-1149, or you may email him/her. If you don’t know the email, it’s your teacher’s first initial, last name @conchitaespinosa.com or call the school office. Teachers will contact you as soon as possible.

If you have not been receiving our email blasts, please contact Carol Diaz-Zubieta so we can check the address we have.

To contact a member of the administration, you may call 305-227-1151 or contact us by email at

mzubietadiaz@conchitaespinosa.com - Maribel Zubieta Diaz, Director
cjolliff@conchitaespinosa.com - Cassandra Jolliff, Elementary Principal
cdiazzubieta@conchitaespinosa.com - Carol Diaz-Zubieta, Middle School Principal
lnova@conchitaespinosa.com - Loriana Novoa, Ed.D., Educational Advisor

adiazzubieta@conchitaespinosa.com – Ana Diaz-Zubieta, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist

rdaniels@conchitaespinosa.com - Ronn Daniels, Conservatory Artistic Director

mgarmas@conchitaespinosa.com – Maria Ofelia Armas, Conservatory Events Coordinator



We look forward to hearing from you.

Emergency Closings

Hopefully we won't have to use this again, but if we do need to close school for an emergency, remember that on page 21 in our Parent Student Handbook it states, "If the Miami-Dade County Schools close due to hurricane or other inclement weather, Conchita Espinosa Academy will also close. We will notify the local radio and television stations. We will reopen when the Miami-Dade County Schools open or you will be notified by a Parents Partnership Association member via our telephone tree."



Lunch and Tuition Payments

You should have already received your coupon booklet for tuition. Tuition needs to be paid no later than the 10th. After the 10th a \$30.00 late fee is assessed. Lunch is \$90 a month and due on the 1st of each month.



Dismissal Procedures

All students will be picked up in their classrooms. Parents should wait outside the east entrance door. Once children have been picked up, please leave the building through the front (south) entrance.

2:45 The green gate will be opened so parents may enter the campus.

2:50 Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students may be picked up in their classrooms. If you have students in older grades, please pick up your younger children at 3:00 p.m. so you may then go to the older child's pick-up.

3:00 Parents of 1st grade children will be asked to come in to pick their children up. Once they have cleared the halls, parents of 2nd graders will be asked to come in to pick up their children.

- 3:10** 3rd – 5th grade parents will be called. Parents of 4th and 5th Grade students in upstairs classrooms need to enter through the east door and go up the north stairs. After students have been picked up, please exit the north stairs and go out the front (south) door.
- 3:35** Students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade will be dismissed from their classrooms. Parents will go up the east stairs to get their children.
- 3:30** Students in grades K-5th who are to be picked up at 3:00 will be sent to afterschool. Parents will be charged a \$10.00 fee per child for those students who have not been picked up at the appropriate time.
- 3:45** Students in grades 6th – 8th who are to be picked up at 3:30 will be sent to afterschool. Parents will be charged a \$10.00 fee per child for those students who have not been picked up at the appropriate time.

Please remember that dismissal time is not the time for a conference with your child's teacher. He/She is responsible for the children remaining in the classroom and cannot give you and your concerns the attention they deserve. Once you have picked your children up, please leave the parking lot as soon as possible so those who have later pick ups will have a spot. Also, please remember that especially upstairs, there are classes going on. Middle School is not dismissed until 3:30. Please be extra quiet when picking up your children.

If your child is to leave with someone other than the person who normally picks him/her up, you must send a note to the office in the morning. Students are not allowed to call on a school phone or cell phone to ask permission to leave with someone else. Please don't give your cell phone to students to use. Students will not be released to anyone not on your authorized list or without a note if it's a special circumstance. This is for the safety of our children.



Forgotten and Lost Items

Please remember that we are working to help our children be responsible for themselves and their things. Therefore, if something is forgotten when the day starts, it is forgotten for the rest of the day. We cannot accept forgotten lunches, homework, tennis shoes, etc. Children who forget their lunch will receive lunch from school, and you may pay the following day. Students need to realize that there are always consequences to their actions and they need to be the ones who face them not you. Thank you for your support in this matter.

It is vital that ALL items be marked with your child's name, including shoes. Lost items will be returned if they are marked. However, after the 3rd time, students will donate \$1.00 that will go to our sister school in Haiti. Items that are not marked or claimed in the week will be donated. We want students to be mindful of their things and need your support in this.



Allergies

We do have children in our classes who are allergic to many things, but one of the most common is peanuts. If you are bringing goodies for a class snack or birthday, do not bring items with nuts.



Ready to Learn

Success in school is based on many factors. One is coming to school ready to learn. Routines are one way of helping children come prepared to learn. Consider the following routines to help your child feel more...

Relaxed. Music can help your child avoid the morning rush. Play a soothing tape and ask him to be dressed and ready by the time it's over.

Energized. A good breakfast increases concentration. Offer your youngster healthy choices. Examples: a whole-wheat bagel with peanut butter; orange juice blended with fruit and yogurt; instant oatmeal.

Connected. Talking about the school day lets your child know you care. Ask him to share two good things that happened during the school day. Prompt him with specific questions, such as "Which multiplication tables did you practice?"

Prepared. Studying a little every day is the best way to learn new material. Help your youngster choose a time for homework when he is most alert- and try not to change it.

Rested. A set bedtime helps kids fall asleep more quickly. Suggest that your child get in bed 15 minutes early to read, make up stories, or talk quietly with you.

Be prepared for EXCELLENCE!

Maribel Zubieta Diaz

**Carol Diaz-Zubieta
Principal**

**Cassandra Jolliff
Principal**

**Ana Diaz-Zubieta, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist**

**Loriana Novoa, Ed.D.
Educational Advisor**

