

Labay On-Line
August 27, 2009

Parents,

Thank you so much for sharing your children with us this first week of school. We have enjoyed getting to know them and recognize their great potential for leadership and success.

When serving 1501 students, their parents, and 130 staff members, accurate communication is critical. Labay On-Line will be emailed electronically each week to provide you with updated information about our campus. This week, I would like to celebrate our successes and address information related to campus decision making, lunch schedules, lockers, traffic, backpacks, and textbooks.

Celebrations:

- Thank you to parents who took time out of their busy schedules to attend our Community Visits the first week of August. It was wonderful to meet you and your children!
- Thank you to our parent volunteers who spent hours preparing first day packets and assisting with school supplies. We appreciate you!
- We welcome 23 new staff members to Labay! The Labay Faculty Web Pages are now available at <http://schools.cfisd.net/labay/index.stm>.
- Labay is getting a fresh coat of paint. Painters began working in the office area this week and will make their way through our building during the first semester.

Information Update:

- Many shared decision making processes are in place at Labay to promote and maintain a quality learning environment for students. Specific grade level decisions are made with input from teachers, team leaders, and department chairs on a weekly basis. Campus wide decisions are made with input from our Campus Improvement Planning Committee (CIP) and our Campus Performance Objective Council (CPOC). Teachers, paraprofessionals, non-teaching professionals, and campus administrators comprise the makeup of these committees. In addition, the CPOC includes 2 parents, 2 community members, and 2 business members. Meetings are held a minimum of five times per year to establish and review the District's and campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and major classroom instructional programs (*Education Code 11.251(b)*). We are in need of 2 parents, 2 community members, and 2 business partners to be a part of the 2009-2010 CPOC Committee. If you are interested, please email me at patricia.mooney@cfisd.net.
- Due to an increase in student enrollment, the 2008-2009 CPOC decided to add a fourth lunch to the school day. Lunches now run from 11:08 am to 1:28 pm. The original lunch schedule design was revamped after the first day of school to accommodate classes of mixed 7th and 8th graders. The new schedule is in place and is improving daily. If a student does not have sufficient time to eat because of long lunch lines, they will be allowed to finish their lunch before going to their next class for the next week without being counted tardy.

- To ensure safety and efficiency in the cafeteria, the PBIS Committee (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) and administrative team (AP's Counselors, DI, and Principal) have beginning of the year procedures in place to teach and practice student expectations for the school year. Beginning today, students will follow the typical lunch schedule and procedures that have been in place at Labay. "Labay Loot" will be used to acknowledge appropriate student behavior; students may redeem their "Labay Loot" for items in the school store throughout the school year. More information about PBIS will be included in future newsletters.
- In August, 2009 the CIP made the decision to implement "locker stops" for students. Locker stops are practiced at many CFISD middle schools for safety purposes and to alleviate tardiness to class. Some logistical issues have arisen at Labay related to locker stops. The CIP Committee met again this morning to review this process, and made the decision to allow students to go to lockers between periods until these issues are resolved. The 6th period locker stop will be the last stop; students will be dismissed directly from 7th period.
- Safety concerns for students prompted a change in car rider's procedures for this school year. Over the summer, the assistant principals and our Precinct 4 Constable piloted a single lane dismissal process. Based on the pilot process, the decision was made by administrators and the constable to continue a single lane dismissal. We appreciate your support in keeping all of our students safe.
- If your child is a car rider, we ask that you pick your child up by 3:18 pm. Students remaining after 3:18 pm will be put on the bus to go home. There are no late buses this year to bring students home should a parent be delayed from getting to school.
- Students may bring string backpacks or small book bags to class with them if they wish. Large backpacks must remain in lockers during the day.
- Textbook request forms will be available in classrooms and online beginning next week at <http://schools.cfid.net/labay/index.stm>. If you would like your child to have textbooks to keep at home for the school year, simply fill out the request and return it to school with your child. Textbooks will be delivered to your child during 7th period as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Pfingsten at aaron.pfingsten@cfisd.net.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Patty Mooney
Principal
Labay Middle School