



## *Inside the Issue*

### **NEW HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

Beginning Sept. 3, 2019. Learn about the breakfast and lunch daily offerings and how to sign up.

### **WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

Attendance equals classroom success.

### **INNOVATION AND DESIGN**

Our new STEM curriculum brings exciting opportunities for school-wide hands-on learning each Friday.

## **BACK AGAIN**

Welcome STA students and families to the 2019-2020 school year! I hope you are all as excited as I am. I am sure it has been a long summer, but hopefully filled with some relaxation and a little fun.

Over the summer we were sad to lose 4 of our faculty.





Welcome our new faculty!  
From L to R:

Mr. Jeremy Chafatinos  
(7th Gr. HR/Middle School  
Math/Science)

Mr. Cody Vassar  
(8th Gr. HR/Middle School  
Humanities)



Ms. Belen Peña  
5th Grade

Ms. Jennifer Mendiaz  
Second Grade

## WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

*Excerpt from "Effects Of Tardiness On Your Child's Education". 2016.*

We all run late sometimes. For your child, arriving late to school occasionally won't cause major disruption. Inevitably, children will feel sick or tired some mornings, or other situations will prevent them from being on time. But chronic lateness eventually takes its toll on a child's overall educational experience. According to the national initiative Attendance Works, missing just 10 percent of the school year in the early grades causes many pupils to struggle in primary school, and lateness in later grades is associated with increased failure and dropout rates. Fortunately, parents can help prevent tardiness from becoming frequent enough to negatively impact their child's school life.

### Disrupted Routines

One of the most important aspects of school is that it is organized, scheduled and predictable. Children depend on the structure of the day. They know where they have to be and when. They know the main purpose for being in school is to learn and that routines are in place precisely to help them focus on that learning.

## NEW HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

Sept. 3 begins our new hot lunch program provided by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Each month, parents have the option of ordering breakfast and/or lunch for each of their children. Prices vary, based on income, but range from \$0.30-\$1.75 for breakfast and \$0.40-\$3.00 for lunch, per day.

Orders and payments are due to the school office the week prior to the start of each month. All orders for the month must be made at that time.

Students who do not use the hot lunch program can bring a lunch to school daily. Fast food is NOT ALLOWED to be delivered via a food service or brought in by parents this year, as it violates our contract with the Archdiocese.

If you plan to have your child use the hot lunch program at all this year, please fill out the application. All students who place orders, even if they pay full price, must have an application that was submitted.

You can get an application in the school office, if you have not received one. The September menu will go out the first day of school, after which payments can be turned in.



## BACK AGAIN (CONT. FROM PG.1)

Mr. Anguiano decided to switch career paths. Ms. Berruz moved to Rancho Cucamonga and accepted a teaching job in her new hometown. Ms. Cecena accepted a high school Science position in Orange County, much closer to her home. Finally, Ms. Martinez accepted a position with L.A. Unified to teach art at several school sites. It was sad to say goodbye, but we are thankful for the time these teachers gave to STA.

Turnover is difficult for any school, however we move forward. Our mission is greater than any one of us. With that, I am excited to welcome our 4 new faculty members: Jennifer Mendiaz, Belen Peña, Jeremy Chafatinos, and Cody Vassar. Each one of these teachers have a passion for working with children and are dedicated to helping each student in their classroom succeed.

A few other changes to note...Ms. Villasenor will be teaching TK Language Arts and Math during the morning breakout sessions, in addition to Spanish in each grade.

Ms. Gutierrez is moving from the front office to the back office, as our new bookkeeper. To reach her via email: [accounting@stampkschool.org](mailto:accounting@stampkschool.org).

Ms. Urena is now our administrative assistant in the front office. Email: [info@stampkschool.org](mailto:info@stampkschool.org).

Bookkeeper hours are M-F from 8a-3p and front office hours are M-F from 7:30a-3:30p.

## INNOVATION AND DESIGN

We are excited for our Fridays this year thanks to our new STEM curriculum. Each Friday will be dedicated (school wide) to hands-on innovation and design activities focused in STEM.

We look forward to sharing the creativity and ingenuity of our students in the Eagle Newsletter, which will be written by students in the 5th-8th grade Journalism elective.

We also have a new Robotics Club which will take place after school on Thursdays from 3:15-4:15p, beginning on September 5. The cost to join for each student will be \$30 for the school year. This club is open to students in grades 3-8. Students will work with high school volunteers from Ramona Convent and Don Bosco Technical Institute. They will learn to build and program Lego Mindstorms kits, and work various coding apps. We will have sign-ups for Robotics Club at Ice Cream Social and Back to School Night.

# WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

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When children are repeatedly tardy, these routines are disrupted. Children who are often late have trouble settling in and mastering routines. Tardiness can throw off their whole morning or even their day, especially if the late commute to school was stressful.

At STA School, our attendance policy states that excessive absences and tardies are an issue for the school. Excessive absences and tardies result in a loss of learning minutes for each student, thus affecting their overall performance.

## Tips to avoid excessive absences/tardies:

1. Set attendance goals with your child and keep track of his/her attendance on a calendar.
2. Help your child get a good night's sleep.
3. Prep the night before to streamline your morning.
4. Try to schedule dental or medical appointments before or after school hours.
5. Schedule extended trips during school breaks.
6. Don't let your child stay home unless he or she is truly sick.
7. Talk with your child about the reasons why he or she does not want to go to school.
8. If your child has chronic health issues which affect attendance, talk with your pediatrician about developing an action plan.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

8/16-Ice Cream Social (school supply drop off/teacher meet & greet) (6p-7:30p)

8/19-First day of school (8:00a-3:00p)

\*Morning care begins at 7:00a each morning, in the TK classroom. Please make sure you have signed up for morning care in the office if you will have your child there.

\*After-school care is from 3:15p-6:00p M, T, Th, F. On Wednesday, it is from 2:15-6p. Please sign up in the office if your child will attend.

8/20-Eighth grade parent meeting (6:30p in the 8th grade classroom)

8/22-Decathlon info. meeting (changed from original date) (6p in the 4th grade classroom)

8/23-September Hot Lunch order forms are due with payment to the office.

8/28-Back to School Night (6-7:30p)

9/3-Hot Lunch/Breakfast program begins.

\*Every Wednesday we have early dismissal for the entire school (1:45p) so that teachers can have planning/training meetings.