



# Valley Oaks School

## September 2011



Mrs. Lane—Principal

Important Dates  
To Remember!

### September

1st Back to School Night  
 5th Holiday No school  
 6th PTO Meeting 5:30pm  
 15th Hearing Testing  
 20th Vision Screening  
 21st Picnic on the  
 Grounds/Literacy  
 28th Board Mtg. 7:00 pm

### October

3th Picture Day  
 10th No School Staff Development Day  
 11th No School Staff Development Day  
 14th Minimum Day  
 Red Flag Conf.  
 26th Board Meeting  
 28th VO Carnival



### Important Phone Numbers:

Annette Lane, Principal  
 (209) 745-1564  
 (209) 744-4565 Fax  
 www.galt.k12.ca.us  
 District Office  
 (209)744-4550

## Welcome Back!



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Valley Oaks staff is looking forward to the new school year. We're committed to making our school a place where all students can achieve at high levels. Valley Oaks students are proud of their school, and as a staff we're proud of the growth they have made in learning. Information regarding NCLB was recently released to the public. Our school made a gain of 37 points on the Academic Performance Index. This reflects the tremendous efforts of our students, teachers and parents, especially at a time when schools with similar populations decreased by 17 points on average. Every significant sub-group in our school made significant growth. You can review our school's performance on the standardized tests last Spring by visiting the California Department of Education website [cde.org](http://cde.org).

Valley Oaks Elementary School needs your help. Many wonderful events for children and families can not occur without the help of volunteers. Please contact your child's teacher to find out how you can help Valley Oaks provide enriching experiences for the children in our community. We also need your help to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Please take caution when driving near our school. Please pay close attention to our crossing guards and help your children learn how to safely cross the street using crosswalks. The front of school is very congested when students are dismissed at the end of the day. Please make sure to pull up to the green curb for drop-off and pick-up. No double parking or u-turns are allowed in front of the school. There is a 2 minute maximum standing time along the green curb in front of the school before and after school.

Please welcome our new staff member, Tracey Vitale. She teaches 6th grade Math and Science.

### Things to Remember

**This is a great time for us to remind you of a few things:**

- If you would like to help out in your child's classroom, or go on field trips, you will need to fill out a "**Megan's Law**" Clearance form and submit it for approval.
- We realize Valley Oaks School is a large school with limited parking areas. We appreciate your cooperation and help when transporting your child to or from school.
- Consider using the east gate on Second Street as a drop off or pick up point, in addition to the front of the school. It takes a great deal of patience and tolerance to maneuver through the morning and afternoon traffic. This is a great time to model those character traits for the benefit of your child and the safety of all our children!
- Teachers have been walking students out towards the front of the school. Please wait for your child/children in a designated spot at the front of the school or at the east gate.
- We have no supervision for students on campus before 7:30, so please do not drop them off before then.
- Please remind your child to use the crosswalks when crossing the street. Children may use **the walkway east of the parking lot** to enter school instead of walking through the parking lot.
- **Be sure to sign-in at the office when visiting!**

**START A HABIT** Encourage your child to treat studying as a daily assignment, not just something they do the evening before a test. For example, he/she might study 15 minutes every night for a spelling test on Friday. After they finish their regular homework, they can spend a little more time reviewing their notes and handouts.

For information on Healthy Families / Medi -Cal Insurance Coverage, call (888) 747-1222 or GJUESD Health Dept. at 744-4521