



August 18, 2011

Dear Finley Parents,

Welcome back to the 2011-12 school year! I do hope that your summer was enjoyable and restful! Many things have occurred at Finley during the summer break. Once again, Mrs. Chaney hosted the summer library each Wednesday from June 22- August 24. The first day of the summer library, 95 eager students attended and checked out as many as 5 books each! Then from August 15-26, approximately 65 students attended the Jumpstart program at Finley to increase their English language development in preparation for the California English Language Development test which will be administered the week of September 19, 2011. Throughout the summer, our school underwent deep cleaning and all classrooms received document cameras. Twenty-five computers were replaced in the K-2 computer lab in order to accommodate the upgraded ST MIND math software which we will use in all grades from k-5.

On another note, construction began at Johnson Middle School which has resulted in fewer parking spaces for Finley staff, parents, and guests. We will all need to continue to work together to ensure the safety of all students, parents, and staff given the reduced number of parking spaces and the very limited access.

We are excited about beginning our second year of implementation of the Positive Behavior Intervention System (for positive behavior) and the Guided Language Acquisition Design strategies to help all of our students to continue to increase their skills in English as well as the content areas. Finally, we are truly elated that Ms. Herrera and Mrs. Pirkle will once again join our preschool team at Finley!

We look forward to a safe, productive, and successful 2011-12 school year following the 3A Eagle Way (Acting Respectfully, Acting Responsibly, and Acting Safely).

In Partnership,

Maria Gutierrez-Garcia, Finley School Principal