



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOBLE AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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JOHN E. DEASY, Ph. D.
Superintendent of Schools

LINDA DEL CUETO
Superintendent, Local District One

CARA SCHNEIDER
Principal

Welcome to the 2011-2012 School Year!

Congratulations, Noble Students!
2011 CST Scores Soar to 797!

September 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Noble Avenue School, I am delighted to welcome you and your children to our school for the 2011 - 2012 school year.

It is my honor to be your principal. I am excited about the many events we have planned this school year, and I look forward to the opportunity of meeting all of you and working together to help our students succeed.

We are here to provide students with a rigorous curriculum, meaningful enrichment, and/or targeted intervention in order that all students attain California grade-level standards. We believe that with sustained and directed effort **all** students can achieve. We are excited about the teaching and learning that will be happening this school year, and invite you to become familiar with the specific grade-level standards and expectations for your child.

You are encouraged to be an active participant in the academic success of the students at Noble through events such as Back-to-School Night (scheduled for September 20th), Open House, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Family Math Night, Evening for the Arts, Student of the Month and Power Reader Assemblies, and the many parent workshops we have planned. You will have the opportunity to learn how best to help your children at home in support of the education they receive daily at Noble.

We ask you to emphasize to your child the importance of **attending school, completing homework, respecting self and others, and actively participating in the learning process**. We expect all of Noble's students to put forth sustained efforts to learn, and we commit to providing the expert instruction they need to meet and exceed grade-level standards. If there is anything we can do to better serve the needs of the students at Noble, please visit me in the main office. No appointment is necessary.

The following information should prove helpful as you plan your schedule now and throughout the 2011 - 2012 school year. I recommend that you save this bulletin for reference. Thank you for taking the time to read each of these items.

Sincerely,

Cara Schneider
Principal

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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2011-2012 PARENT OPENING BULLETIN

School Calendar and School Holidays

The 2011-2012 school calendar is enclosed as part of this packet. Please review the calendar closely and remember to check the monthly parent calendars for changes, updates, and special events. The following dates are school holidays:

September 29	Unassigned Day	February 20	Presidents Day
November 11	Veterans Day	March 30	Cesar Chavez Holiday
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday	April 2 – April 6	Spring Recess
December 19 - January 6	Winter Recess	May 30	Memorial Day
January 16	Dr. King Holiday		

School Hours

Regular school hours are listed below. Every Tuesday students in Grades K - 5 will be dismissed one hour early (1:23 PM) to allow teachers to participate in professional development. Parents will be notified in advance when our daily schedule changes for minimum days.

Yard Opens*	7:30 AM	Grades K - 5**	8:00 AM – 2:23 PM	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Breakfast	7:30 AM - 7:50 AM	Early Dismissal	8:00 AM – 1:23 PM	Tuesday
Warning Bell	7:55 AM	Minimum Days	8:00 AM – 12:43 PM	TBA

* Please note that students may not arrive before 7:30 AM. The school playground is not open and there is no supervision for students until that time.

**Kindergarten students will be dismissed at 2:23 at the Noble Avenue gates only. Parents who do not pick students up on time will meet students in the office.

Student Attendance

It is important that your child attend class each school day. When it is necessary for a child to be absent, a written note is required. The note should be brought to the teacher on the morning following the absence. Habits of promptness and regular attendance are established early in the child's school career, so please help your child be successful by ensuring that he/she arrive to school **every day and on time**. We have many positive incentives for students with perfect and outstanding attendance.

- ALWAYS send your child to school except when truly ill.
- ALWAYS send your child to school on time.
- ALWAYS send a note when your child is absent, explaining the reason.
- ALWAYS schedule medical and dental appointments in the afternoon.
- ALWAYS send a note from the doctor when your child is ill or has a medical appointment
- ALWAYS plan your vacations and out-of-town travel during the time your child is on vacation.

Children who have been absent more than five days, or who have had surgery, stitches, casts, etc. must be readmitted through the office. Please bring a doctor's release with you when you bring your child back to school.

Questions: See Liat Broome, PSA Counselor, Room 8.

Before/After School Programs

Ready, Set, Go Program: This is a free, before-school enrichment program for students in Grades K-5. It operates on campus from 6:00 - 7:30 AM daily. Please call the school at (818) 892-1151 for information and/or to register. Students in this program must be walked to the auditorium and signed in daily.

LA's BEST: This is a free, after-school enrichment program open to students in grades K - 5. It operates from dismissal until 6:00 PM daily. Please contact the LA's BEST Office at (818) 830-9139 for information.

Youth Services (YS) operates an after-school playground program for students in grades 2-5. The after-school playground is open until 6:00 PM daily. Please call the school at (818) 892-1151 for more information.

English Learners

Our students who are learning to speak English are provided instruction daily to achieve the English Language Development standards. ELD lessons introduce new vocabulary and language forms to students. In addition, students interact with English-speaking students and teachers to practice new language and receive academic instruction in English.

Special Education Services

We are committed to serving the educational needs of each of our students. Children learn in a variety of ways and most of our students can learn in a traditional setting. Sometimes children have difficulties that interfere with their ability to learn and may require special education services. The attached brochure, "Are You Puzzled by Your Child's Special Needs?" contains important special education information for parents.

Homework

Homework is an important part of your child's instructional program. Noble Elementary students have homework daily Monday through Thursday; older students may occasionally need to continue homework on Fridays and weekends. Please make sure your child has a specific time and place to complete their homework. Homework provides students the opportunity to reinforce, strengthen and/or enrich skills learned in the classroom. Students also learn to budget their time, organize their materials, and increase their ability to work independently.

Student Safety

Emergency Information

State law requires that every student who attends school must have on file the name, telephone and work phone of the adult(s) responsible for him/her. We also need the **current phone numbers of three adults who can be reached readily in an emergency**. This information is extremely important for the protection of your child in the event of any emergency or if your child becomes ill at school. Please complete the emergency card attached to this packet and return it to your child's teacher by **Friday, September 16, 2011**. If the information listed on the emergency card changes, please visit the office so that we may update your child's card.

Campus Safety

We welcome you on campus and hope to see you here on a regular basis. Please remember that, for the safety and security of students and staff, all parents and visitors must receive a Visitor's Pass in the Main Office when on campus or visiting classrooms. If you would like to volunteer in your child's classroom, we invite you to visit our Parent Center in Room 4B. If you have any specific security concerns, please talk to any of our administrators.

Become a Watchful Eye

Please keep a watchful eye on our school, especially in the evenings and on weekends. If you have information concerning improper activities on the school campus, please call the Los Angeles Police Department or the LAUSD school police.

LAPD – Van Nuys Division	(818) 838-9800
LAUSD – School Police	(213) 625-6631

Walking To and From School

Attached is a map of safe walking routes to Noble Avenue School. Please take the time to walk the safest, most direct route to and from school. **Students should never walk alone, especially early in the morning.** Parents and students are reminded of the following safety rules:

- Cross streets only at marked intersections or with traffic signals or crossing guards. Always look both ways before crossing the street.
- Children must not talk to strangers.
- Children must not go to a friend's house after school without making previous arrangements with their parents.
- Students are not to be walked through or dropped off in the parking lot. It is reserved for staff parking only.

Safe Driving

The L.A. Police Department patrols the school on a regular basis to help ensure pupil safety around the school, especially at arrival and dismissal times. Citations have been issued for violations such include loading or unloading of students in the school parking lot, double parking, illegal U-turns, speeding, and failure to make complete stops at stop signs. We urge parents to follow these and all traffic regulations.

Buying Food from Vendors

There are many vendors selling food around Noble, and they present a serious health and safety issue for our students. Most of the vendors are unlicensed, which means that there is no way to monitor the cleanliness of their carts. Also, they create extra traffic congestion and litter around the school, which has a negative impact on us all. **For the safety of all students, please do not allow your child to purchase food from one of these vendors. The YS and LA's BEST coaches provide healthy snacks for all students who stay after school, so students are not permitted to leave campus to purchase a snack.**

Bicycle Safety

For their protection, only children in Grades 4-5 may ride their bicycles to school if these conditions are met:

1. Both parent and pupil have signed a Bicycle Registration card and it is on file in the school office.
2. The bicycle has been licensed and registered.
3. The following safety rules are observed:
 - a. Bicycles must be walked on the school grounds.
 - b. Bicycles will be parked in racks located on the yard.
 - c. All bicycles must be locked.
 - d. Student wears a helmet.

Students Leaving During School Hours

If a student must leave school during school hours, the parent or other adult listed on the emergency card must come to the school office to pick up the student and sign a release form. Students may not be released to anyone unless permission is on file in the office. If you wish more than one person to pick up your child, please list their names on the emergency card. For the protection of your child, release cannot be granted by phone.

Closed Campus Policy

In order to ensure your child's safety, Noble is at all times a closed campus and **all adults** must sign in and enter and exit the campus through the Noble Avenue gate. We appreciate your assistance and understanding in enforcing the closed campus policy.

Picking Up Children at Dismissal

Students in Grades 1-5 are to be dismissed at the Chase Gate only. Parents are advised to set a prearranged place and time for meeting their children. **Do not double-park or ask your child to cross the street between cars in the middle of the block.** The streets around Noble Avenue School are very congested and it is unsafe to ask children to cross the street except at the corners. Remind your child to wait inside the school or on the sidewalk until you are parked on the school side of the street. Use the front gate on Noble Avenue for picking up students after 3:00 PM. Students are not permitted to wait in front of the school to be picked up after school; all students in Grades 2-5 must wait on the playground.

School Clothing

The Local School Leadership Council, which is comprised of parents and school staff, adopted a School Uniform Policy for the students of Noble Avenue School. The uniform consists of white or blue shirts with jeans, dark blue or black pants and skirts. Comfortable, sturdy clothing is best for school. Athletic shoes with rubber soles are the safest and most long-lasting school shoes. (See School Uniform Policy.)

Please remember to check the Lost and Found for items your child may have left at school. The Lost and Found is located in the small lunch pavilion. Every year, we donate thousands of dollars worth of clothing left in the Lost and Found area to Good Will. Help us help your family save money by writing your child's name on sweaters and jackets.

Backpacks

Only students in the 5th grade are allowed the privilege of bringing backpacks to school. This privilege may be taken away if a student does not follow school rules. All other students may bring book bags or tote bags. This rule was developed with student health and safety in mind, and we appreciate your cooperation. Please talk to your child's teacher if you are unsure whether your child's bag meets this regulation. For your convenience, Noble Dolphins book bags are on sale in Room 22 for only \$5.00.

Personal Items (Toys, Video Games, etc.)

Children often misplace or forget about personal property. Toys and other personal items should not be brought to school. These items include, but are not limited to, skateboards, balls, CD players, radios, electronic games, sports or other trading cards, special jewelry, and cash. Please check your child's bags periodically and remind him/her to keep these items at home.

Cell Phones

Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school to communicate with parents or to use in an emergency. However, phones must be kept in the student's book bag and turned OFF at all times during the school day. Students may only use cell phones before or after school. Cell phones will be confiscated if students violate this rule.

Medication

Students may not carry any form of medication on school grounds. If your doctor prescribes medication that your child must take during school hours, please contact the School Nurse immediately. Signed doctor's orders must be on file in the office before your child may take medication at school.

Child Abuse Reporting

State law requires all school employees to report suspected cases of child abuse. All staff will abide by state law and District policy.

Cafeteria and Federal Meal Program**Kindergarten – Fifth Grade Breakfast and Lunch**

We will continue our school-wide free meal program. All students are offered one free breakfast and one free lunch at school each day. Children who do not eat breakfast before school may eat Second Chance Breakfast at recess time. You may also wish to send a healthy snack to school with your child. Junk food such as Hot Cheetos, candy, gum, and sodas may not be eaten at school. Monthly cafeteria calendars are available in the Main Office and on our website, noblek5.com.

School Telephone

The school office is open from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM on school days. We will not interrupt your child's instructional program except in emergency situations. Do not ask the office personnel to leave a message for your child in a non-emergency situation. Please make all arrangements with your child before school.

School and Classroom Visitations

The first two weeks of school are critical for children and teachers to become acquainted with each other and to develop classroom routines. Please give your child's teacher this time to know your child as an individual and to assess his/her academic readiness and/or progress. After this get-acquainted period, parents will be invited to Back-to-School activities. Please save **Tuesday, September 20th** for this important event. You are strongly encouraged to attend and become knowledgeable about your child's instructional program for this year.

Parents who wish to visit their child's classroom during the school day must check in at the office and receive a visitor's pass. Please remember to enter and leave the classroom as quietly as possible.

Teachers conduct parent-teacher-student conferences twice a year. The purpose of these conferences is to discuss your child's recent assessment results and his/her progress towards meeting grade-level standards. You will be sent an appointment for these conferences, which will take place in early December and late March. Teachers are available for conferences at other times by appointment. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Teachers may not conference with parents during instructional hours.

Classroom Celebrations

Classroom celebrations are appropriate at the end of the first semester (before winter break) and also at the end of the school year. Individual student birthdays are best celebrated at home with family and friends, and are not part of the school day.

Please return the following items by Friday, September 16 or as soon as possible:

- **Emergency Card (except for new enrollees)**
- **Three – Way Compact**
- **Student Code of Conduct**
- **Parent Agreement for Participation in Youth Services (Grades 2-5 only – optional)**
- **Acceptable Use Policy (for computers)**

The classrooms that turn in these materials first will receive a special incentive. Please help your child's class win, and return these materials promptly. Thank you!

Please see attached special items. Contact our office if you would like further information:

- **Bell Schedule**
- **2011 - 2012 School Calendar**
- **School Uniform Policy**
- **Are You Puzzled?**
- **Safe Walking Routes**
- **Pupil Accident Information**
- **Uniform Complaint Procedure**