

October 1, 2007  
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Sharon Fabian, Principal  
Lisa Yamashita, Assistant Principal



## Principal's News

There is nothing slow moving about Clover Avenue Elementary School (CAES)! We are off and running . . . with summer vacation just a vague memory.

I thought I would take advantage of this issue of *the Cloverleaf* to take stock of where Clover is today, and where we hope to be as we work our way through the 2007-2008 school year.

School opened smoothly, though with more boys and girls than we originally anticipated. We welcome **Maria Oh** to our Kindergarten team and will soon be adding an additional second grade teacher and classroom. Second grade reorganization is in process and we hope to have the new classroom soon.

Our CST/CAT6 scores continue to soar. This year we increased by **19** points! Our Academic Performance Index (API) is now an amazing **938!** Clover ranks as the seventh highest performing school in the district. We can attribute this success to our truly dedicated community of staff, students and parents, working together to create life-long learners.

Our school beautification projects continue. Last year we received a **Community Beautification Grant** to revamp our garden as well as to add bench seating around the trees in the patio. The auditorium received a much-needed renovation which included a new lighting and audio visual system, curtains and paint.

This year, our Garden Committee is planning to begin a school-wide garden education project. Please visit our **Sunshine Garden** and **Eco pond** and see our eight-foot high sunflowers, as well as our corn, tomatoes and squash.

We are in the process of applying for another Community Beautification

Grant, this time to create a walkway from the sidewalk to our Main Office. We are very proud of our school and we want to make our entrance easier for visitor's to find!

In an effort to become "greener," Clover students will embark on a new service learning project designed to make them more ecologically-aware as they learn about conservation and recycling. Multiple blue recycling bins are now scattered throughout the campus for the collection of recyclables. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have assumed the responsibility of weekly bin removal for pick-ups.

**The Arts Program**, began at Clover last year for grades 3-5, was a huge success with both students and teachers. This year, the Program will include 2nd grade as well. Students will receive instruction in visual art, dance and theater.

Our P.E. program provided by **STAR** will be starting up again the first week of October and Young Storyteller's will be returning for our aspiring 5<sup>th</sup> grade writers.

After school, we continue to offer **STAR Enrichment** courses, **Youth Services** and **instrumental music lessons**. This year we will also offer French classes taught by the **Alliance Francaise**.

We have much to celebrate as we start this new year and our challenge will be to continue on our path of excellence!

I wish us all a wonderful year.

Warmly,

Sharon Fabian, Principal

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT  
CLOVERLEAF IS TUESDAY,  
November 19th**

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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Meet the Middle Schools Night**
- ◆ **Halloween Night, Oct. 26th**
- ◆ **Clover Cares Gears up**

## From the Booster Club President

Welcome to all Clover families, new and returning! I truly believe we are going to have an amazing year. As your new Booster Club President, I am very excited about the upcoming year. But I have to be honest; I have some big shoes to fill. **Kristen Baldrige**, our president for the past two years, did such an amazing job guiding the Booster Club in a new and fresh direction. My goal this year is to take what I have learned from Kristen and continue to move the Booster Club in the same direction, but I need your help. Please make it your goal this year to help out with one of our events, fundraisers, in the garden, or on our School Beautification Day. Every minute you give helps in so many ways. Please come to our Booster Club meetings and be a part of an amazing group of parents. I promise you won't regret it. If you have any questions, or ideas, or if you are looking for ways to get involved, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to meeting you!

**Jami Kaltman**  
Booster Club President  
(310)390-5513  
[jami.kaltman@ca.rr.com](mailto:jami.kaltman@ca.rr.com)

**“Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are.”**

**Nkosi Johnson** - A Zulu Grade School boy. From the book, **We Are All the Same: A Story of a Boy's Courage and a Mother's Love,**

by  
Jim Wooten



## A Note from the

Welcome Back to School! It is so nice to start the school year already knowing so many of the children by name. I get to meet and greet each of them on the playground during recess and lunch. I often ask, “how is your day going,” or “what were you learning about in class” and they seem to respond positively. I am so pleased to return to Clover for a second school year.

Although I am not new any more, we do have a couple new members of our Clover Special Education Team I'd like you to get to know a little better. **Kristen Baldrige**, our past Booster Club president, is now our Resource Specialist Teacher. She will provide academic and instructional support to students and teachers here at Clover. Before taking a twelve year leave to raise a family, Kristen worked as a special education teacher for Los Angeles Unified. She has also been a tutor and private educational consultant. Kristen's favorite place is the beach. She also loves to spend time reading books, doing yoga and being an active member of her church.

We also have an occupational therapist new to Clover as well. **Amy Quan** is a NYC transplant who received her Masters in Occupational Therapy at Columbia University. She loves living in Los Angeles because, as she said, “You can't beat the weather.” Every chance she gets, Amy loves to go to the opera, symphony, theater and the Hollywood Bowl. Amy's role is to help students achieve their best work at school by helping them to develop their fine motor skills and other areas related to sensory input and balance.

I want to encourage you to meet these wonderful new staff members! You can reach any member of our special education team by calling Molly in the main office and leaving a message, or email me at [lmy5096@lausd.net](mailto:lmy5096@lausd.net) and I will forward the message on to the appropriate party.

Best wishes for continues success in the new school year,

## From the Desk of the PTA President

Greetings Clover friends! And a special welcome to our new Clover families! We are glad to have you!

I am back for my second year as PTA President and look forward to a terrific school year. I'm excited to be working closely with our new Booster Club President, **Jami Kaltman**, to make Clover an even better place to learn. A lot of great things are planned this year.

The PTA begins a new program this year - **Clover Cares**. This community service program will involve the entire Clover community: students, teachers and parents. Its goal is to teach our kids the importance of volunteering within our community, assisting those less fortunate and, in general, being involved. Several programs are in the works. If you have any ideas or want to get involve, contact **Jennifer Halbert** at (310) 915-7514.

I hope you all will join us for our evening PTA meetings. The topics and speakers for our meetings are for parent enrichment. Child care is always provided. Our October meeting will be **Meet the Middle Schools**. Area middle schools will give presentations about their school and answer your questions. I hope to see you in October and at our other evening meetings. Our **2007-2008 Clover PTA membership drive** is underway. I hope every Clover family becomes a PTA member. Your membership not only benefits Clover, but the many programs offered by the Los Angeles, State and National PTAs. The membership letter sent home outlines the benefits to you.

Last, but not least, Clover did not become one of the highest performing LAUSD schools by chance. It is due to the hard work of our dedicated teachers, staff, administrators and PARENTS.

We need you, our involved Clover parents. There are volunteer opportunities for everyone. Look at the Parent Pack to see where you can best fit in. Sign up for the school-wide e-mail. Read the flyers that go home. Talk with your teacher (or teachers). I encourage you to get involved in your child's education.

Steve Marquez, PTA President

## Valet Drop-Off is Here!

Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, saw the beginning of the **Clover Avenue Valet Drop-Off** program for 2007-08. This is convenient, safe and efficient way for our Clover families to drop off their children in the morning.

There are Valet Drop-Off locations on Clover Avenue (front of school), Military Street (east side) and Queensland Avenue (south side), making a Valet Drop-Off available to

## Pledge Drive Revs Up

The Clover Avenue Pledge Drive is going great and with about 10 percent of our school already participating, we're well on our way to reaching our goal. We'd love to get 100% family participation for our school. Every donation, no matter how small, brings us closer to our goal. If you haven't made your contribution, don't hesitate! And, if you need a new donation form, they are available in the office and by contacting Trista Eastland at [tristaeastland@verizon.net](mailto:tristaeastland@verizon.net).

## On the Runway: Fall Clover Wear!

### Extra! Extra!

Newly-designed **Clover shirts** are coming soon to a class room near you. Please stay tuned for our announcements and order forms. Show your love and pride for Clover and order one for each of your family members (and friends).

For those of you who are new to Clover, these T-shirts are really important for field trips, and are worn on Fridays to show your school spirit. These shirts flatter all body types, skin tones, ages and hair styles. They make fashionably great Holiday gifts. And, last (but never least), proceeds of the sales will directly benefit our Clover citizenry. So stock up!

Hien McKnight  
Cloverwear Chair

everyone, regardless of which direction you approach the school. We encourage everyone to utilize this program.

This program is only possible with the help of parent volunteers. If you have 30 minutes one day a week in the morning before school, come help make Clover safe for our kids. Contact **Alicia Russo** at (310) 428-5171 or **Haruko Takeshita** at (310) 838-2964, for volunteer opportunities or questions regarding the Valet Drop-Off program.

## Support La Comunidad Hispana at Clover

**Hola!** My name is **Isela Sanchez** and I am your Hispanic Community representative, this year. I will act as your communication liaison between you and teachers, office staff, et cetera. The Hispanic Community works the **Bazar Navideno** in the month of December and in April, in association with the other diverse communities here at Clover, we help plan the Annual International Festival. In addition, we put on/support many other activities throughout the school year.

I am available to all who might need me. Usually, in the mornings, I am near the Room 17 line. You may also call me at (310) 558-8410 or e-mail me at [iselalea121@msn.com](mailto:iselalea121@msn.com).

**Hola! Mi nombre es Isela Sanchez y este año estare representando a la Comunidad Hispana. Pueden comunicarse conmigo para cualquier cosa como comunicarse con su maestra, personal de la oficina, etc. La Comunidad Hispana tiene a su cargo lo que es el Bazar Navideño en el mes de Diciembre y ademas en Abril en union con las diversas comunidades existentes en Clover organizamos el Festival Internacional, ademas de decenas de actividades durante todo el año en las que nos podemos envolver sin importar que idioma hablamos.**

## Traffic Safety Around Clover

As we all know by now, the traffic and parking situation around Clover in the morning is difficult. We ask that our Clover families remember the basic traffic laws and drive safely. Give your self time in the morning to safely drive to school and drop your children off. PLEASE, remember NO jaywalking and NO double parking. Traffic officers from LAPD will be patrolling the streets around Clover regularly and will issue traffic citations. We highly recommend using the Valet Drop-Off service. Utilize the map sent home in the Parent Pack to locate drop-off locations, recommended parking locations and no parking areas. Please be aware of pedestrians and your fellow drivers. Be courteous of our neighbors and do not block driveways or honk your horn unnecessarily. If you have questions or concerns about traffic safety around Clover Ave School, contact Steve Marquez at [cloverpta@yahoo.com](mailto:cloverpta@yahoo.com)

**Estoy aq ui para ayudarles en lo que necesiten. Usualmente estoy todas las mananas cerca de las linea de Room 17 o pueden llamarme por telefono al (310) 558-8410 o a mi correo electronico iselalea121@msn.com**

Thank you! / **Gracias,**

**Isela Sanchez**  
La Comunidad Hispana  
Representative

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Korean Community leader (Jenghwa Chung)

반갑습니다. 2007-2008년 한인 학부모회를 이끌어갈  
정정화 입니다.

Clover Ave. School 에서 생활하는 아이들을 위한  
학교생활 정보 공유와 학교 행사에 많은 참여 부탁  
드립니다.

[jjchefhouse@nate.com](mailto:jjchefhouse@nate.com)

310-313-0575

## Clover Halloween Costume Sale! Now thru Friday, 10/5/07

Hurry to the quad area after school this week for the best selection of gently/never used Halloween costumes. What a great way to get ready for Halloween Hurrah coming soon. All proceeds benefit Clover. Special thanks to those who donated the costumes!!! Question? Contact Haruko 310.838.2964



## Join the Clover Japanese Community - *Clover no Tomodachi*

If you are interested in Japanese Culture or learning Japanese, this is your opportunity to be our *Tomodachi* ("friend" in Japanese) We participate in the International Festival in April and plan other school-related activities. Contact Haruko (310-838-2964 or [harucarlo@yahoo.com](mailto:harucarlo@yahoo.com)).

## "クローバーのともだち" になりませんか?

"クローバーのともだち" は、クローバースクールの日本人/日本に興味ある家族のカジュアルな集まりです。皆さんの御都合にあわせて、学校のボランティア活動に参加したり、イベントの企画をしています。気軽に御参加ください! Co-chairして下さる方も、募集しています! 質問、感想等は 竹下 晴子(310-838-2964, [harucarlo@yahoo.com](mailto:harucarlo@yahoo.com))まで、いつでもどうぞ!

## From the Chinese Community

各位华人学生、家长新学年好：  
我是学校这学年的华人社区代表。如果您有任何建议和意见或需  
与我联系。希望有更多的华人加入学校义工的行列，使我们的孩  
子生活！ 张红春 联系电话：310-619-5215。电邮：[zhc2](mailto:zhc2)

## Editor's Notes

Greetings, Clover family! I am happy to return as editor of **the Cloverleaf** this year. Thanks to **Tonya Hollis** for all of her fine work keeping the newsletter going. This year, **the Cloverleaf** will feature a supplement, **Clover Blooms**, to highlight work by Clover students (submitted by teachers or by students themselves in office's **Cloverleaf** tray).

To facilitate this endeavor, **Mikel** will be the newsletter's "Man on the Street" ("Student on the Campus?") to remind and gently prod teachers and students to meet deadlines. The first deadline is **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23rd**. **Mikel's** other role will be to maintain his column, **Mikel Around and About**. Other quick notes:

if you haven't already, please join the more than 100 new Clover family subscribers to our school e-mail list! **Carline Jorgensen** keeps us all up-to-date on all things Clover (but only if you subscribe). Also, our e-mails are sponsored (meaning more money to support programs at Clover). If you, or anyone you know, would like to become an e-mail sponsor, please contact Carline at 310-867-4988 or at [kaplan@kaplancommunications.com](mailto:kaplan@kaplancommunications.com)

Next, hopefully, you've done your part by making a phone call or writing a letter, but please keep the payroll crisis at LAUSD affecting our dedicated teachers in the forefront of your mind. Teachers, aides, cafeteria workers and others at LAUSD cannot count on full and accurate paychecks due to LAUSD's revamped payroll system. Clover teachers (and teachers, District-wide) are now boycotting faculty meetings in protest. Also on hold are teacher & staff development meetings at Clover. What can WE do? Call Superintendent David Brewer (213) 241-7000 & Board Member Marguerite LaMotte (213) 241-6382 and let them know we want this situation to be fixed.

An enjoyable month to all!

Michael Robinson,

## Mikel Around & About

*Editor's Note: Friends of Griffith Observatory were invited to witness (or not) a meteor shower - dubbed the Aurigid meteors because they would seem to, more or less, emit from the constellation Auriga predicted to peak between 4 AM and 5 AM on Saturday, September 1. An international effort, the prediction was made by Peter Jenniskens of the SETI (Search for ExtraTerrestrial Intelligence) Institute ([www.SETI.org](http://www.SETI.org)), working with Esko Lyytinen of Finland and Jeremie Vaubaillon of Caltech.*

*The source of the shower is considered to be Comet Kiess, which swung through the inner solar system 2,000 years ago and again in 1911. Dust from its tail has been drifting toward the Earth's orbit, creating outbursts of the Aurigids recorded in 1935, 1986, 1994 and, now, 2007.*



At 2 o'clock in the morning (that's A.M. not P.M.), my Dad, brother and I drove to the new and improved Observatory in Griffith Park. Once there, we entered the colossal white building and saw an exhibit called the **Foucault Pendulum**. It was a golden sphere that hung from the ceiling and moved back and forth, eventually, hitting dominos down.

To the left was a room with many other exhibits. The one that caught my attention was a small tower with a sphere that shot out purple lightning. It was called a **Tesla Coil**.

Eventually, it was time for the 4 AM lecture that my Dad was interested in. We went and I learned the difference between a "meteor" and a "meteorite." (A "meteor" burns up in the atmosphere and "meteorites" don't - they crash into the earth.)

After the lecture, we went outside, laid down on a sleeping bag and waited. Finally, we saw some. Meteors streak across the sky, leaving a trail of brilliant dust behind.

We're on the Web!

## Halloween HURRAH! Raffle

Our Halloween Hurrah is just a few weeks away. This year, we are selling raffle tickets to raise much needed funds to cover expenses associated with producing this huge event. We have great raffle prizes and some amazing incentives for the kids! The drawing will be held at the Hurrah on October 26. A separate drawing will be held for the kids prizes on October 29 in the morning.

The tickets will be sold for \$1 each and are 100% tax deductible. If you do not wish to sell tickets, please return them to school and we will sell them at the Hurrah. Please return the completed tickets stubs and payment by Monday, October 22.

Thank you for your support and stay tuned for more details regarding the Hurrah coming soon

## Library Prize Donations Needed

Our Clover librarian, Miss V, is seeking donations for the Library's prize shelf. Any items will be greatly appreciated, but the library is requesting the following items in particular:

- stickers
- crayon/marker/colored pencil sets (new)
- decorative pencils and erasers
- small toys in bulk
- new or gently used stuffed animals
- bulk theme items (anything you might use for a party goodie bag)
- paperback picture or early chapter books in good condition
- anything that has Pokemon on it
- misc. items one might find at Big Lots or the 99 Cents Store, or when Staples has a sale.

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