



BOUSE

# BULLDOG News

Bulletin No. 1  
July 27, 2011

## Calendar of Events

Monday, August 15 . . . School Staff Returns

Monday, August 15 . . . Regular School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Monday, August 22 . . . First Day of School



A letter from the Principal's office...

I hope you are enjoying the summer vacation and are looking forward to a new and exciting school year. As the new Superintendent / Principal I am anticipating an excellent year. The focus this year will be on Character Traits and Writing Skills along with test preparation and exceeding the State Standards. In addition to my Superintendent / Principal duties, I will be teaching music in Preschool – Second grade, and will be directing choir for interested students in grades 3-8.

After reviewing the test scores from last school year, Bouse has once again topped the list for academic achievement in the county! And, although our students are making progress in school we need to be aware of "The Summer Slide"!

Summer Slide. Brain Drain. Whatever you call it, it is a threat to our kids' learning. Research shows most students lose academic skills in math during the summer months: 2.6 months of grade level equivalency on average. Students experience a significant loss of reading/literacy skills over summer vacation also, amounting to approximately two months of lost reading skills. But, this doesn't have to be the case. The problem lies in how one defines learning. It is so much more than the three Rs and all that is associated with classroom activities. Learning is about thinking, exploring, questioning, expanding your horizons, having new experiences and using and growing the skills you have cultivated all year.

I am currently working on a project to bring summer learning to Bouse Elementary School next summer to help combat the "summer academic slide". This program will be theme oriented, half day session beginning in late June or July. It would take the place of the Accelerated reader / math nights. I am looking at funding sources that may make transportation and meals available for this program also.

However, for this summer... as parents, we can keep our kids' brains active and sparking, with new synapses forming all summer long. Some of this happens with our help, and some happens if we leave our kids alone (and unplug the enemy screens). Remember, kids need time to play, with and without friends. In those unstructured, unscripted, unplanned times, they are growing ideas. Isn't that learning?

In the summer, the parent becomes a teacher of a different sort, seeing opportunities and potential in everyday activities and adventures. Whether you are in your own home, running errands, taking a family field trip, there are learning opportunities aplenty. With a little creativity and a dash of resourcefulness, parents can help children see that learning is fun and active and happens outside of the school walls.

**Check out the back side for suggestions to combat the Summer Slide, bus schedules for the first day of school, Preschool time Change and Assessment, dress code reminder, summer shopping suggestions and registration.**

*New Faces at  
Bouse  
Elementary  
School*

*This Coming  
School year  
there will be  
three new faces  
on campus!*

**Rebecca  
McClenning**  
*new  
Superintendent  
/ Principal*

**Dan Weimer**  
*new  
3<sup>rd</sup> /4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Teacher*

**Melissa  
Williams**  
*new School  
Board Member*

*"Intelligence  
Plus Character  
...that is the  
true goal of  
education."*

*Dr. Martin  
Luther King Jr.*

## Some suggestions to help combat the Summer Slide

### Car games for kids

- Play "I'm Going on a Trip" and practice memory and alphabet skills. (Each person adds an item, going A to Z, and each turn repeats the whole list. Person No. 3 says *I am going on a trip, and I am taking an Apple, a Basketball, and a Caterpillar.* And then onto the next person. I am going on a trip, and I am taking a ...
- Play "I spy" using shapes in the world that is passing you by (Who can find a triangle shape?)
- Play "Out of State License" spotting.
- Play spotting games of all kinds: Who can find a license that has a G in it? Who can find a license plate whose numbers add up to more than 10?
- Play math word games: *Daddy can eat 3 pickles in 5 minutes. How man pickles can he eat in an hour.*

### At the grocery store:

- Enlist your child's help in writing the grocery list. (I do this one with my daughter all the time on our way to the store!)
- Give your child their own a list to fulfill.
- Involve your child in guessing the weight of produce, the total cost at checkout.

### At the bank:

- Enlist your child's help in filling out the deposit (withdrawal) form.
- Have your child practice counting money.

### At the gas station:

- Estimate how much gas your car will take, and watch the pump numbers soar.
- Guess how much it will cost to fill up the tank. (Yikes!).
- Show your child under the hood of your car, where the oil goes, for example.

**Visit The Bouse Library!!**  
 Open:  
 Tues.-Thurs. 10am - 4pm  
 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10am-3pm  
 "We have tons of  
 New Kids' Books!"

\*Be at bus stop at least 15 minutes ahead of schedule.  
 \*Stay at least 10 feet back from the road way.  
 \*Look both ways before crossing the street.  
 \*Do not approach the bus until it comes to a complete stop.



Approximate time	Bus stop
7:06am	McVay/Hwy 72
7:22am	42E/Mile Marker 8
7:28am	42E / Eagle Dr.
7:33am	Mountain View
7:34am	41-1/2 E
7:01am	Winema / Ochoco
	Moon
7:06am	Mtn./Yellowbird
7:10am	Bouse Ave. / Norris
7:12am	McMahon St./Hwy 72
7:16am	Chollia
7:18am	Rayder Rd.
7:20am	Main/Broadway
7:22am	Murphy/Stone
7:28am	Jericho/Stage Coach
7:32am	Vasarhely
7:37am	Rainbow/Ironwood
7:39am	Gold Nuggett
7:41am	Arrive School

## K.I.D.S. Fair

(Kiddo and Infant Developmental Screenings)  
**is coming to your town!**

**WHAT:** FREE screening for children ages 0-5 that includes:

- Hearing
- Vision
- Gross motor skills
- Fine motor skills
- Social/Emotional skills
- Cognitive skills
- Communication skills

Resources for health insurance, area physicians, area schools, developmental play activities, and other agencies will be available.

**WHEN:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 8 AM to 2 PM  
 Screenings will take about 1 hour per child

**WHERE:** Parker Public Library  
 1001 Navajo Ave. Parker, AZ 85344

Please call (928) 854-5439 to set up an appointment.  
 Walk-ins Welcome

[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

### School Shopping List

1. Pencils
2. Folder
3. Notebook paper
4. Gym shoes for safe play-ground use.

### Preschool Announcements for 2011-2012 School Year

Bouse Elementary School provides a free preschool program for children ages 3 and 4.

This year **Preschool hours** of instruction will be from **11:30am-3:35pm in the Afternoon.**

There will not be bus transportation in the morning. Parents are to drop their child off at 11:30am for lunch. Students may ride the bus home after school.

Preschool enrollment and testing will take place on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Please call the school office August 8-12<sup>th</sup> to schedule an appointment with Mrs. Kimberlin the preschool teacher.

New Student registration begins August 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm or by appointment. Returning students do not need to register for the New Year.

Dress Code Reminders:

- No torn or cut clothes permitted at school.
- Sleeveless shirts must have at least a 1 1/2 inch strap on shoulder.
- Shirts must be long enough to tuck in.
- Underwear must be covered at all times.
- Only closed toed shoes are permitted on the playground.
- Shorts and skirts must be longer than fingertips when arms are held at sides.
- No bandanas or gang related clothing or accessories.
- No inappropriate slogans on clothing or accessories.