

Ruhkala News and Updates: March 6, 2017

Ruhkala Website: <http://rues.rocklinusd.org/>

Follow us on Twitter: [@RuhkalaLeaders](https://twitter.com/RuhkalaLeaders)



The Great Ruhkala Mascot Search and Election

Thank you to all of the students, staff, and community members that voted in our primary election for our Ruhkala mascot. Over three hundred people voted. The candidates that received the most votes are **the Ruhkala Wildcats, the Ruhkala Huskies, and the Ruhkala Wolves**. These choices will now be submitted for sketching and then we will unveil the images. After we have had a chance to view them for a couple of weeks we will do a school wide election day. This election day will be held this spring in order to start next year with our new mascot. It is exciting that part of the strategic plan, that was developed by teachers, parents, and community members two years ago, is in progress. The strategic plan is attached to the end of the newsletter for your reference. The change was identified as an action item under 3.1.

PTSC Column: <http://www.ruhkalaptsc.com>

It's DINNER AUCTION WEEK...Fiesta De Los Gatos is this Friday. Tickets are still available. Order forms are in the front office. Come out and have a great time with friends, Ruhkala teachers, and staff while supporting our school!! You won't want to miss it!!! Our STUDENTS are counting on YOU!!

If you would like to help out at the auction please sign up below

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844A4AE28AB9-fiesta>

Board Positions Open - There will be several PTSC Board Positions open for the 2017-2018 school year. Each term is a 2 year commitment. Please begin to consider if YOU would want to become a part of the PTSC Board.

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Noteworthy Events this Week:

This week is conference week and school will dismiss at 12:10 for Kindergarten and 12:20 for 1st-6th graders on Monday through Friday.

Monday:

Lockdown Drill 8:30

Girls on the Run 12:30-2:00

Tuesday:

ESL Class 6:00-7:30 Cobblestone

Wednesday:

Girls on the Run 12:30-2:00

No Theater Club due to Conferences

No Ukulele Club

Thursday:

ESL Class 6:00-7:30 Cobblestone

Robotics Club 3:30-4:30 Room 25

Friday:

Leader in Me Awards Assembly 7:50 Multipurpose Room - You are always welcome to stay and celebrate the spirit of leadership here at Ruhkala Elementary School.

Our **State Testing Schedule** has been set and we wanted to get the dates to you. Please plan ahead.

Third Grade:

- Week of May 1 to May 5

Fourth Grade:

- Week of April 24 to April 28

Fifth Grade:

- Science - March 30
- ELA - April 4 and April 5
- Math - May 15 and May 16

Sixth Grade:

- Week of May 8 to May 12



Our Aspiration 2016-2019

The mission of Ruhkala Elementary, a community of inspired leaders, is to ignite the passion in each individual student for learning and leading through engaging innovative opportunities, challenging educational experiences, and cohesive partnerships with families.

Objectives: Measures of Success

- A. All students will demonstrate growth toward their personal academic goals on an annual basis through access to an innovative academic program which includes core instruction, intervention, and enrichment.**
- B. Each school year, all students will participate in research based projects utilizing technology.**
- C. All students will be self-reflective to become better problem solvers and critical thinkers.**
- D. All students will continuously increase understanding and application of leadership roles and responsibilities.**
- E. Ruhkala students will continue to benefit from progress towards increased engagement in school culture. This includes opportunities for extracurricular enrichment.**



Strategies and Actions

1. *We will provide innovative and engaging academic learning experiences for all students to be prepared for the 21st century.*

- 1.1. Support student academic growth through authentic, differentiated, and guided inquiry-based learning experiences
- 1.2. Establish a system that provides engaging and stimulating learning experiences, with the incorporation of technology, to identify as a STEAM school
- 1.3. Provide students a culturally relevant enrichment program for development of global competence through self-expression, reflection, creativity, and intellectual growth by partnering with our parent and community population

2. *We will develop leadership skills, self-reflection, and personal accountability.*

- 2.1. Incorporate more leadership involvement in the Ruhkala community to help ALL students choose to be leaders in a nurturing environment that provides them the necessary authentic learning and leadership opportunities, while identifying and cultivating their special gifts and talents
- 2.2. Showcase student and staff interests to promote different leadership styles
- 2.3. Achieve personal accountability through the implementation of a school wide behavior program that teaches children appropriate behavior and behavior expectation
- 2.4. Teach emotional literacy, social competence, conflict resolution, and positive peer relations

3. *We will promote school pride through student, family, and community involvement.*

- 3.1. Create and implement a plan for rebranding Ruhkala Elementary School to ensure a sense of pride and community involvement
- 3.2. Establish a positive environment that will build pride and community involvement
- 3.3. Foster the relationship between school, family, and the community to establish a sense of belonging