



Carrillo Elementary School

COLTS: Community Of Learners Target Success

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2015-2016 academic year! We hope that this summer was filled with sun, fun, and fond memories for you and your Colts. Our staff has been busy this summer as well, enjoying some much needed rest and relaxation, but also attending math academies, Common Core ELA and technology trainings, and grade-level planning days. We are recharged and ready to provide your students with an exceptional educational experience this year!

We have some exciting events in store for our Carrillo students and their families, and hope that you will join us for our PTO Family Nights, Friday Flag Salutes, pep rallies, and grade-level specific events. We have numerous volunteer opportunities for parents and grandparents on campus, including our classroom volunteers, PTO event volunteers, Arts Attack, Running Club, Garden Club, Playground Parents, Career Spotlight Speakers, and Dads on Campus Club. Our impressive parent volunteer force is a huge component of what makes Carrillo an exemplary, California Distinguished School. The home-school connection and open communication between Carrillo parents and staff foster a true sense of community and partnership here on campus. We welcome your feedback and suggestions as to how to make Carrillo programs even stronger.

At Carrillo, we place a great deal of emphasis on educating the whole child. We value a challenging and rigorous academic program, in addition to personal wellness and character education. We teach our students the "Carrillo Way," which entails doing the right thing, because it's the right thing to do. We strive to model and reinforce this behavior through activities and interactions both inside the classroom and out in the community. Our three standards of behavior: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, foster personal accountability and consideration of self and others. We pride ourselves on being a "Campus of Kindness," and consistently reference Sean Covey's *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids* to teach life skills that will enable every student to thrive. We encourage you to help your children to set goals that will assist them to reach their own personal best.

Superintendent Dr. Kevin Holt's vision entails offering our students opportunities to attain excellence. This year SMUSD will continue our culture of providing a challenging and quality education by taking part in the Future Ready Schools Pledge. SMUSD has made a commitment to work with educators, families, and community members to ensure that our schools are *Future Ready*. By implementing meaningful changes toward a digital learning transition, our district team will develop action plans and metrics to measure our progress in using digital tools to improve teaching and student learning outcomes in San Marcos.

Our "Year of Grit" continues at Carrillo, and we will cultivate passion, perseverance, and persistence across our campus. If you are joining us for the first time this year, welcome to our family! For those returning to Carrillo, thank you for sharing your amazing children with us. It is a privilege and an honor to support your students, and we are exceptionally grateful for your continued support, involvement, and encouragement. We look forward to an incredible year of learning and personal growth for every Carrillo Colt!

Sincerely,

The Staff of Carrillo Elementary School