Rancho Cordova Elementary School

"Still Charging Ahead"
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Anna Koulis Chitwood, Principal akchitwood@fcusd.org

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to an incredibly historic and exciting new school year! We hope your summer was filled with rest, joy, and quality time with loved ones. As we lace up our sneakers for the 2026-2027 school year, we are thrilled to reconnect with our returning families and extend an enthusiastic welcome to those joining our school community for the first time.

This year is momentous for Rancho Cordova Elementary. Not only are we kicking off a brand-new year of learning, but **we are also celebrating RCE's 70th Anniversary!** For seven decades, our school has been a cornerstone of this community, shaping minds and building bright futures. As we honor our rich history, our eyes are fixed firmly on the future. That is why our theme for this school year is **"Still Charging Ahead!"** At RCE, we remain fiercely committed to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been hard at work preparing classrooms, planning dynamic lessons, and creating spaces that inspire curiosity and a lifelong love of learning.

To help you plan, please review our important dates and bell schedules below.

📅 Important Dates to Remember

- **Monday, August 3rd (after 4:00 PM):** Class assignments will be emailed out.
- **Tuesday, August 4th (2:15 PM – 2:45 PM):** Sneak Peek Meet & Greet! Pop by your child's classroom for a quick hello and to meet their teacher.

- **Thursday, August 6th:** First Day of School!
- **Thursday, August 27th:** Back to School Night (5:00 PM-6:30 PM) Child supervision for school age students will be available outside on the primary playground area.
    - 5:00-5:30: TK-2nd Grades + Cerra/ Younger (Meetings in the classrooms)
    - 5:30- 6:00: TK-5th Grades in the Multipurpose Room - General (Title I) Meeting
    - 6:00- 6:30: 3rd-5th Grades + Wirth (Meetings in the classrooms)

⏰ Standard Bell Schedules

Our elementary school will continue with the same daily schedule as last year.

Grade Level	Regular Days (M, T, W, F)	Every Thursday (Planning Days)
Transitional Kinder (TK)	8:00 AM – 11:21 AM	8:00 AM – 11:21 AM
Grades K–5	8:15 AM – 2:45 PM	8:15 AM – **1:15 PM**

***Note**: Early Thursday dismissal begins on the very first day of school, August 6th.*

⏱️ Special Assessment Schedules (First Weeks of School)

To allow our teachers time to assess our younger scholars, **grades K–3 will follow a minimum day schedule** for the first few weeks.

- **4th and 5th Grade** will follow the regular dismissal schedule right from the start.
- *Reminder: Thursday dismissal is always 1:15 PM for everyone.*

Kinder & 1st Grade Assessment Period

- **Dates:** August 7th – August 21st
- **Schedule:** 8:15 AM – 1:21 PM *(Thursday Dismissal: 1:15 PM)*

2nd & 3rd Grade Assessment Period

- **Dates:** August 7th – August 14th
- **Schedule:** 8:15 AM – 1:21 PM *(Thursday Dismissal: 1:15 PM)*

We are incredibly proud of the hard work our staff, students, and families put in last year. As we cross this incredible 70-year milestone together, we look forward to partnering with you to ensure your student has the absolute best experience possible.

We are looking forward to a powerful, positive, and historic year. We can't wait to see you on August 6th as we keep **Still Charging Ahead!**

Warmly,

Anna Koulis Chitwood, Principal
akchitwood@fcusd.org

Please take a few minutes to review additional information and resources:

Parent Square: All future communication will be going through Parent Square. **PLEASE** download the app on your phone and sign-up so you receive communication from teachers, admin, and district office.

Volunteering: Under new legislation (SB 848), all school volunteers must show proof of annual training as Suspected Child Abuse Mandated Reporters at the start of each school year. Volunteers can meet this requirement by completing the free PublicSchoolWorks Suspected Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training on our Volunteer Procedures webpage. Training must be completed by September 11. Volunteers who do not meet this deadline will be deactivated until they complete this legal requirement.

Incoming Kinder Parents ONLY: Please review the letter previously shared regarding the "get to know you period". English

Bell Schedule- please pay attention to all the pre-scheduled minimum and super minimum days.
Parent Bell Schedule for 2026-2027 Parent Bell Schedule for 2026-2027 Spanish

Instructional Calendar for 2026-2027

RCE Parent Calendar: This is a working document and is subject to change.. It will be updated as new events are planned. It is highly recommended that you bookmark this link so that you can have quick access to it throughout the school year. All calendar dates will also be on our website. https://rce.fcusd.org

Tri-Fold 2026-27-English and Tri-Fold 2025-26- Spanish - A quick guide to RCE

Communication Flow Chart

Parent Handbook-English Parent Handbook- Spanish

Volunteer Handbook

School Website: https://rce.fcusd.org/